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# The Cape Courier

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An Independent Not-for-Profit Newspaper  
Serving Cape Elizabeth Since 1988

capecourier.com

*In the Spirit of Community*

## Cape Elizabeth History Center and Fort Williams Museum opens



Contributed photo

The former Bachelor Officer Quarters at Fort Williams Park is just a short walk from the Portland Head Light.

The Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society (CEHPS) is pleased to announce the public opening of the Cape Elizabeth History Center and the Fort Williams Museum. Both are in the former Bachelor Officer Quarters at Fort Williams Park, just a short walk from Portland Head Light.

The Cape Elizabeth History Center, through accounts, documents, photographs and artifacts traces "The Cape Elizabeth

Story" from a time when Wabanaki natives freely roamed the area to more recent "suburbanization." The epic saga of Man vs. Nature defined early Cape Elizabeth. The inherent struggles of farming in an often inhospitable climate are chronicled along with tales of shipwrecks on a storm-lashed and/or fog-bound coastline (some with dramatic

-see HISTORY page 6

## Happy 100th birthday, Suzanne!



Contributed photo

Cape Elizabeth resident Suzanne Nichols celebrated her 100th birthday on May 26. She is pictured (seated in striped shirt and blue pants) surrounded by some of her family, including her son and daughter, George and Nancy, 3 grandchildren, Suzanne, Drew and Leslie and 2 great grandchildren, Mikey and Acadia.

## Let's go gnome around!

By Dave Croft



Contributed photo

Dylan Croft and Behr Dennison hanging their gnome house.

Looking for something fun to do with the kids that gets them outside and exploring the great trails in Cape Elizabeth? Cape Elizabeth 5th graders have been working collaboratively with the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust, Friends of Fort Williams Park, and the Cape Elizabeth Middle School art teacher to bring a magical experience to a few walking trails in Cape Elizabeth.

The Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation (CEEF) graciously funded a project where partners built gnome houses which are now nestled amidst the trees on these trails. They each created a uniquely named gnome out of clay which lives in the gnome house. Visitors to these trails can download/print or pick up a punch pass at CELT's office, The

Lumbery, Community Services and the Thomas Memorial Library. This will provide visitors a map of the trail with the various locations of gnome homes. Visitors can use the unique-shaped paper punches found inside each gnome home on the punch pass.

Also inside the 'gnome home' will be a QR code on the door. Once scanned, visitors will be able to read a story or poem about their gnome written by the 5th grader who built that particular gnome and house. The gnome homes are located on 5 different trails in Cape Elizabeth-Turkey Hill Farm, Fort Williams Children's Garden, Nordic Trail, Great Pond, and Willow Brook Trail. You can scan the QR code to find a link to the maps as well! Can you find them all?

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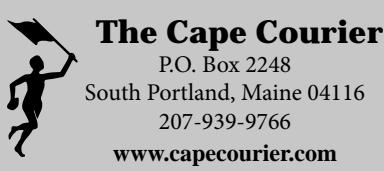


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The mission of The Cape Courier is to foster a sense of community by presenting news specific and unique to Cape Elizabeth and its residents, and, whenever possible, to promote volunteerism within our community.

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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: July 3rd**  
**DEADLINE:** Noon, June 21st

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## 'Thrilled and incredibly honored'

I would like to thank all the Cape Elizabeth voters who cast their ballots for me in the primary election. I am thrilled and incredibly honored to be the Democratic candidate for the Maine House. Thank you for placing your trust in me. Even if I wasn't your first choice, I look forward to working hard to make you proud and working hard to win the election in November. I would also like to express my deep appreciation

for my opponents, Cynthia Dill and Kim Monaghan. Thank you both for all you've done for our community.

I look forward to having the opportunity to meet even more Cape Elizabeth voters as I campaign across the district during the next five months. Thank you again!

Michelle Boyer

## 'Encouraged' by solution presented

I was very encouraged by the "Middle Ground" solution that was presented by Harriman at the recent joint workshop of the School Board and Town Council. While addressing crucial needs at the Elementary and High School, it also provides for the construction of a new middle school while maintaining a palatable price tag (as evidenced by SBAC survey results.) Lisa Sawin of Harriman also thoughtfully addressed several questions that had been posed by Councilor Anderson regarding reduction in scope and cost. Best of all, this plan results in minimal disturbance to the student body and avoids the need for costly and disruptive portable classrooms.

Importantly, I'm not alone! The presentation drew positive feedback from mem-

bers of both bodies – with town councilors and school board members sharing their positive impressions and pledges to support the project. Please join me in thanking the Town Council and School Board for their spirit of collaboration, praising the ongoing professionalism of Lisa Sawin and her team from Harriman, and commending our community for seeking constructive consensus.

I'd welcome the opportunity to advocate for a "Yes" vote on the Middle Ground this November!

Scott Mazuzan

## THANK YOU!

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

Flora Arndt  
New Neighbor

As I sat at Town Hall during the June 17 joint Town Council/School Board workshop on the "Middle Ground" school design, I was pleasantly surprised by the spirit of compromise in the air. The \$89.95 million dollar plan (nearly \$30 million less than what went to referendum in 2022) gets Cape a new middle school, addresses critical needs at Pond Cove and the high school, and will not require any student disruption. Interim Town Manager Mike McGovern confirmed during the meeting that tax increase for a median value home in Cape (currently \$720,000) would be \$900-a-year at the highest point (a per-day tax increase that is less than a large coffee at Dunkin).

Town Councilor Stephanie Anderson said "this proposal is fabulous." Councilor Jeremy Gabrielson added "this is a strong proposal." Councilors Penny Jordan and

Tim Thompson, who previously voted for the renovation/addition-only plan while on the SBAC, also signaled support for the "Middle Ground" plan. Councilor Thompson felt Harriman and the School Board had done "a really nice job coming together with a compromise that we can get behind," while Councilor Jordan went as far as to say "you've done a fabulous job. I can support this. I will support it."

While the (as of this writing) town council vote on August 19th is still over a month away, the June 17 meeting gives me hope that they will send this "Middle Ground" plan to referendum in November and let Cape voters decide if it works for our town.

Rob Krauser

## CELT summer programs

**Tidepooling the Rocky Shore**

Explore the rocky intertidal zone of Maine and see what kinds of plant and animal critters thrive in this special habitat. Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Education Program Coordinator Ali Gustavson on this summer program to search for crabs, snails and other marine life.

Each family will receive a visual identification guide to some of Cape's most common organisms. It is recommended that participants wear closed-toed shoes that can get

soaking wet. The program will take place on Kettle Cove Beach. Note: This program is oriented towards families, but all ages are welcome. All participants must register at least at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Friday, July 19 3:00 -5:00 p.m.

Kettle Cove Beach

\$10/ family

Max 10 families/ Min 2 families

**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*

## 'Take the party back'

Let us not traffic in sophistry or speak in platitudes. The January 6 insurrection was exactly that...an insurrection. Donald Trump lost the election, full stop. Everyone who states otherwise is a liar or deceived. I could go on, but why? The Dunning-Kruger effect has too firm a hold on the MAGA masses. If you think I'm speaking ad hominem, well, I am. Sometimes in life there is actually right and wrong. That used to be a conservative axiom! Take the Party back before it's too late.

Reedy Haggard

## 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](mailto:bethowens1@gmail.com).

*Let us hear from you!*  
We love feedback!  
[editor@capecourier.com](mailto:editor@capecourier.com)

# Vehicle passes stopped bus, theft of gift cards from residence reported

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 6-4 An officer responded to a residence in the Ocean House Road area for an assault complaint.
- 6-5 Two officers responded to a residence in the Mitchell Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 6-5 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area regarding a harassment complaint.
- 6-5 An officer met with a resident of the Old Ocean House Road area regarding an assault complaint.
- 6-6 An officer met with a resident of the Wells Road area regarding a suspicious person complaint.
- 6-6 An officer met with a resident of the Two Lights Road area regarding a harassment complaint.
- 6-7 An officer met with a school bus driver regarding a report of a vehicle that passed a school bus when stopped and picking up a student.
- 6-8 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area regarding a harassment complaint.
- 6-10 An officer spoke with a resident of the Mitchell Road area regarding an assault complaint.
- 6-10 An officer met with a school bus driver who reported a vehicle passing his bus while stopped with lights on and picking up students. The bus driver provided a license plate number for follow up.
- 6-11 An officer responded to a location in the Shore Road area for a well-being check.
- 6-11 An officer met with a resident of the Two Lights Road area regarding a theft complaint.
- 6-15 An officer responded to a loud noise complaint in the Fort Williams/Delano Park area.
- 6-16 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area regarding a suspicious person complaint.
- 6-16 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area who reported that someone had entered her residence while she was out. Several gift cards are missing from the residence.

## SUMMONSES

- 6-6 Portland resident, unregistered vehicle, Old Ocean House Road, \$85
- 6-7 Scarborough resident, failure to produce insurance, Sawyer Road, \$186
- 6-8 Portland resident, failure to produce insurance, Scott Dyer Road, \$186
- 6-8 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 6-8 Cape Elizabeth resident, failure to produce insurance, Bowery Beach Road, \$186
- 6-11 Cape Elizabeth resident, failure to produce insurance, Sawyer Road, \$186
- 6-12 South Portland resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 6-12 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 6-12 Farmingdale resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, failure to produce insurance, \$271
- 6-13 Portland resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, Cottage Road, \$85
- 6-13 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle using hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85
- 6-13 Portland resident, failure to produce insurance, Ocean House Road, \$186

## ARRESTS

- 6-14 Portland resident, outstanding warrant, Two Lights Road

## ACCIDENTS

- 6-4 Marc Hoffman, accident on Oakhurst Road
- 6-5 Denise Gagne, Henry Brown, accident on Warren Avenue

## FIRE CALLS

- Fire: 13
- Rescue: 32

# News from June 18 Planning Board meeting

By Hanna Gilley

## Joncas Elizabeth Farms Lot 14 Subdivision Amendment

Craig Joncas, the applicant, requested an amendment to a previously approved plan for Lot 14 at Elizabeth Farms - Cole Field located at 4 Cole Field Road.

Joncas wants to initiate a "backyard renovation" that includes the installation of a pool. He requested an amendment to change the easement boundary put in place for the home association's leach field and pump stations as part of their shared septic system. This septic system is no longer in use as the Association installed a new, state of the art system ten years ago. Joncas says the current easement is no longer necessary and is requesting the amendment to increase the building envelope of his lot to accommodate the renovation and pool.

Chair Sahrbeck said he had "no issue" approving the amendment. He considered the agreement between Joncas and the Homeowner Association Board and

in "changing an imaginary line that's no longer necessary."

The motion to approve the request was introduced by Jim Huebener and seconded by Derek Lavalle. The board unanimously voted to approve the amendment request.

## Administrative Assistant Wanted

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church, a progressive Christian congregation seeks a part time staff member for 10 hrs/wk in person, \$20/hr. Tasks: Assistant to half-time pastor and coordinator of congregation and building. Skills: administration and office management; people skills and communication; self directed and ability to work with direction.

Contact: Kathleen at 799-8396 or capeelizabethumc@gmail.com.

# Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

## Moving Scams

Summer seems to be the season for moving. Whether you're relocating for work, downsizing or sending a child off to college, who you hire to help with the move matters a lot. Cutting corners to save money on your move could lead you right to a criminal scammer.

Moving scams are committed by rogue operators that exist primarily online. They solicit business by offering lowball estimates, often without so much as laying an eye on what's to be moved. They might demand a hefty deposit, or even full payment in advance. With your deposit in hand, the "movers" might simply not show up at the appointed time and place. Or they'll try to change the deal at the last minute by raising the price. Worst of all, some companies will pick up your belongings but then demand more money to deliver them.

To avoid these scams, make sure to get multiple quotes and check the references of any company you hire. While we are all looking to save money, when it comes to moving your personal goods safely and securely, cheaper isn't always better.

## Lost Wallet? What's Next

We've all been there; you reach for your wallet and find nothing in your pocket or purse. The panic we feel in that moment is real because our wallet can be a treasure trove for criminals, who can go on to perpetrate credit card fraud or identity theft.

Most times that feeling is short lived but sometimes that wallet really is gone. Here's what to do if this happens to you. First, cancel all debit or credit cards. By reporting them lost or stolen ASAP you may be able to avoid illegal charges. This is especially important for debit cards which are gateways to your bank account.

Next, file a fraud alert. With your driver's license in hand, identity thieves can do a lot of damage. You can request that the credit bureaus — Experian, TransUnion and Equifax — place a fraud alert on your credit. (Contact one and the others will add the fraud alert, too.) A fraud alert notifies creditors, lenders or anyone viewing your credit report that someone may be trying to apply for credit in your name.

Lastly, if you think your wallet has been stolen, call your local precinct to get a police report on record. Even though the police may not be able to recover your missing wallet, it's a crucial piece of documentation to have on hand.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. The AARP Fraud Watch Network is a free resource for all.

Learn how to proactively spot scams or get guidance if you've been targeted. Visit [aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) or call our dedicated helpline to speak to a fraud specialist at 1-877-908-3360.

Need a scam prevention speaker for your group? Click the link to fill out our online form or send an email to me@[aarp.org](mailto:aarp.org).

# May 2024 Cape Elizabeth real estate transactions

NEW OWNER	LOCATION	SALE PRICE
Chritton Laura B	17 GLEN AVE	\$1,317,000
Calder Sarah	30 OCEAN VIEW RD	\$1,000,000
Carrellas Kelsey L	12 STONYBROOK RD	\$1,200,000
Pezzuti Roger T	41 MAXWELL WOODS DR	\$1,300,000
Thomas Paul W	36 CONCORD PL	\$490,000
Zhao Yuan	111 SCOTT DYER RD	\$625,000
Pang Bo	18 BROAD COVE RD	\$827,875
Herr Daniel J	9 HIGH VIEW RD	\$901,000
Baske Abigail	8 DYER POND RD	\$2,400,000
Kleinbord Brian Scott	13 PEPPERGRASS RD	\$2,200,000

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# News from the superintendent

By Dr. Chris Record

Happy 4th of July! I hope your summer has started off well. A big thank you for the recent strong support you showed our schools with the budget vote for the 2024-2025 school year. I am very proud of this budget that was created by the District Leadership Team beginning in October and approved unanimously by the School Board on April 9 and the Town Council on May 13. I believe we created a budget that is fiscally responsible for our taxpayers (2.51% tax increase) given the cost challenges we are facing, aims at meeting the School District Strategic Plan Goals and School Board budget goals, and it also moves our district forward to continue to offer excellent educational opportunities for our students.

Please join me in sharing a huge congratulations to our Class of 2024 graduates and their families. We are excited to see what is next for each of them on their life journey and believe we have prepared them well. We were also thrilled to graduate our first Pre-K class of thirty students at Cape Care. Please read below for highlights of the year from each school and department. Also, please visit our school website for regular updates and celebrations ([www.capec.k12.me.us](http://www.capec.k12.me.us)).

In terms of the school building project, the School Board determined to not pursue either option that SBAC split votes on (4-5 and 5-4) and instead directed the district leadership team to work with the Harriman architect team to create a compromise design. This led to the creation of the "Middle Ground" design that is under consideration by the School Board. In fact, by the publication of this issue, the School Board may have voted to move the "Middle Ground"

design forward to the Town Council for their consideration. Key aspects of the design include a new middle school and important upgrades at Pond Cove and CEHS at an investment dollar figure the community would likely support.

The following are a few highlights from each school and department for this school year:

Pond Cove Principal Tiffany Karnes shared, "The staff at Pond Cove has been diligently working on the district ELA Curriculum Review. Currently, we are piloting new phonics programs and will continue this work in the 2024-2025 school year by evaluating our core reading and writing curriculum. This year, staff have had numerous opportunities to engage in professional development focused on literacy. Presently, 13 staff members are participating in LETRS Training. LETRS equips teachers with the knowledge and skills necessary to master the fundamentals of reading instruction, grounded in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy practices. LETRS professional learning enhances teachers' understanding of language structure, including phonology, syllable types, morphology, spelling generalizations, semantics, and syntax. It demonstrates how each of these elements contributes to developing the reading brain, fostering skilled and proficient readers. We are enthusiastic about this work and look forward to continuing our learning journey in the 2024-2025 school year. We were also pleased to successfully offer our first year of public Pre-K to thirty students at Cape Care and are very appreciative of the staff at Community Services."

CEMS Assistant Principal Jake Haugevik highlighted, "One of the amazing commu-



Contributed photo

*First-year teachers and their incredible mentors.*

nity pieces as we close out the year has been having a number of high school seniors in the middle school for their Senior Transition Projects. Watching these soon-to-be graduates interact with our middle schoolers and their former teachers has been such a powerful insight into this community. Some of these students had their ups and downs in middle school and knowing they want to come back as they close out their experience speaks to the culture our schools create."

CEHS Principal John Springer offered, "Among many things, we had a great full school Unified Basketball game vs. Saco Valley for spirit week. The Speech & Debate and Robotics Teams qualified for the Nationals and Worlds Competitions. Also, Hadley Johnson's students' only "Afterthought" musical hit the stage in the fall and students opened a chapter of Active Minds this spring. Assistant Principal Nate Carpenter added, "The Best Buddies walk was also a success and the Best Buddies Organization won best chapter. The CE Emergency Management Committee work reinvigorated in the spring of '24.; Active Minds Club/Natural Helpers and Kristen Tevanian organized a 'stress less week.' May is mental health awareness month and this was a great event."

Student Services Director Ryan Fairchild shared, "The Student Services

Department has done a wonderful job supporting children with disabilities within our schools. From Unified Athletics to the Best Buddies program, to the host of educational and related services the districts provide; students with disabilities are making progress and learning alongside their nondisabled peers."

The Director of Educational Technology highlighted, "The Tech. Dept. had a terrific year supporting the learning and growth in our schools. The start of the year allowed us to expand the conversion of the high school student devices from iPads to MacBooks by adding the 10th graders to being MacBook users. We created a Tech Team for Pond Cove. The Tech Team is composed of 4th grade students who create a variety of tech related projects (3D design and printing, robotics, coding), learn basic troubleshooting techniques to help in the classroom, leading and supporting younger students as appropriate. Our Tech Integrators developed a monthly focus. Focus on specific skills (e.g. Infographics, Video, Assessment, etc). With the monthly focus topics as a starting point, the Technology Integrators worked with a wide variety of teachers to help integrate technology which focuses on student learning. The Core Technology Team also has been focused on security. A lot of this work necessary is done 'behind closed doors.' However, we participated in a statewide Cyber Security tabletop exercise. We have also implemented a range of procedures and devices to continue our efforts at keeping everyone safe."

Athletic Director Jeff Thorek offered,

-see SUPERINTENDENT page 5

## 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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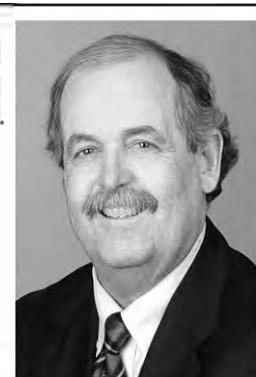


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## Cape native is successful actor and artistic director of Portland Theater Festival

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo courtesy of Sonia Friedman Productions

*Josh Malina (left) and Dave Register performing in the 2023 Tony Award Winning Production of "Leopoldstadt" on Broadway.*

Dave Register graduated from Cape Elizabeth High School in 2006 and set out for New York City to study acting. He made his Broadway debut in "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" shortly thereafter.

Register starred in another Broadway show last season—Tom Stoppard's "Leopoldstadt," which won the Tony Award for Best Play. He most recently had a leading role in Amazon Prime's new hit show "Fallout," which just reached a global viewership of 100 million people recently. He started filming season 2 in Los Angeles in November.

The actor would like to draw attention to the Portland Theater Festival, a professional theater company he founded in 2021, of which he is the Artistic Director, and it's now entering its fourth season. "I started the company during the pandemic as a way of generating more professional performing arts opportunity for Mainers, and the company has now morphed into a collective of over fifty artists. We produce three shows a summer, change venues with each season, and reach an annual audience of over 3,000," Register said.

The fourth season has launched, and Register said, "The festival is off to its most successful start to date; its first weekend of shows [were] all entirely sold out...The unusual, shifting venues, coupled with the high production value and evocative content of the performances seem to be sending audiences in droves."

Register is performing in this season as well, in a two-person play called "A

Case For The Existence of God."

The Cape Elizabeth native said he started acting in community theater productions at Lyric Theatre while still in elementary school, but began taking it more seriously while at CEHS. Register said, "I had the privilege of studying at CEHS under the late and great Dick Mullen, who would go on to become an influential mentor of mine until his passing last year. I studied Spanish and Journalism in undergrad, but pivoted back to acting shortly thereafter, eventually earning my MFA in Acting from Columbia University in 2015. I've been working professionally ever since."

Those interested can learn more about the company at [www.portlandtheaterfestival.com](http://www.portlandtheaterfestival.com). The best ways to support are by buying tickets and attending shows, spreading the word to other potentially interested parties, Register said, and to consider making a fully tax-deductible contribution through the website.



## Superintendent

Continued from page 4

"2023-24 Individual & Team Awards: Girls Soccer - Class B Regional Runner-up Boys Soccer - Class B Regional Runner-up Boys Alpine Skiing - Western Maine Conference Champions + Class B State Runner-up + Keegan Lathrop (Class B State Champion - Boys Slalom) Girls Swimming & Diving - North Southwestern Champions + Class B State Championship + Brooke Mahoney (Outstanding Performer of the Meet) Boys Swimming & Diving - North Southwestern Champions + Class B State Championship + David Steinbrick (Outstanding Performer of the Meet) Girls Basketball - Class B South MPA Sportsmanship Award Spring Sports TBD.....Overall the 2024 Senior Class - 4 years participating in Athletics at CEHS 15 Conference Championships 9 Regional Championships + 8 Regional Runner-up 14 State Championships + 10 State Runner-up 3 Maine Principals Association Sportsmanship Awards."

Business Manager Marci Weeks shared, "We implemented a new Tyler Technologies financial software that went live on July 1, 2023. The second phase of this project was to implement a new Tyler Technologies human resources management (including payroll processing) system that went live on January 1, 2024. The combined time to execute this implementation was a year and a half. Managed a new public pre-k program that included state allocation money, and an awarded grant from the State Department of Education. The School Department has partnered with Cape Community Services Cape Care. Managed a successful audit and budget process. Assisted David Bagdasarian with the LED lighting project for Pond Cove and the middle school. In addition to the grant for the public Pre-K program and the LED lighting project, other new state and federal grants added to the school department this year included a grant from Catholic Charities for our multilingual program, a grant from the State

Department of Education for McKinney-Vento students, a grant from the State Department of Education for literacy, and a grant from the State Department of Education for our multilingual program."

School Nutrition Director Robin Taylor highlighted, "Our average meals per month served is 27,864. While last year the average was 18,693 per month. Now that we are fully staffed we are doing more scratch cooking and the deli bar is back in business."

Transportation Director Monica Cooke shared, "We have set a record number of bus trips this year. Between athletics and field trips we will have completed by the end of the year over 410 bus trips. Hats off to all of our drivers!"

Facilities Director Dave Bagdasarian highlighted, "The standout achievement of the Facilities Department this year was undoubtedly the implementation of LED lighting throughout Pond Cove and the middle school. This was the most significant project we've undertaken in over a decade. By addressing one of the most crucial deficiencies, this upgrade has positively impacted the entire school community daily. Through innovative financing solutions, we were able to accomplish this major project, which would typically be beyond our reach."

Assistant Superintendent Michelle McClellan offered in the areas of Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment, "Phase 1 of the ELA Curriculum Review was completed this year. This complex work was completed by a large group of teachers and administrators and has culminated into the district implementation plan. The review process relied on qualitative and quantitative data to comprehensively understand the strengths and needs of our current teaching practices and student growth and achievement."

In closing, thanks for your continuous support of our schools. We have so much to be proud of as a community ([crecord@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:crecord@capeelizabethschools.org)). Have a wonderful summer!





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## chickadeeds organization provides access to community service opportunities for youth

By Marta Girouard



Contributed photo

*chickadeeds co-founders Jennie Coyne and Lauren Glennon accepting the 2024 Governor's Award for Service and Volunteerism.*

In 2022, Jennie Coyne and Lauren Glennon founded chickadeeds to address the scarcity of family-friendly community service opportunities in Southern Maine. Most area nonprofits cannot work with volunteers under the age of 14 due to limited capacity, staffing, liability or resources, explained the two co-founders.

The mission of chickadeeds is to spark and support connection, center community action and impact the local ecosystem. "chickadeeds believes that connected communities are built through collaboration and that inviting children to participate in values-based work will empower them to become agents of positive change in our world," said Coyne and Glennon. "We deliver on our mission by

designing family-friendly volunteer events with community partners for a hyperlocal impact."

The organization is led on a day-to-day basis by Coyne and Glennon and supported by a Board of Trustees and an Advisory Council. Board and Advisory Council members lead volunteer stations at events, spread the word of event offerings and keep chickadeeds connected to a growing list of nonprofit partners, event partners and sponsors. Each event begins with a primary nonprofit partner and then event partners and event hosts are added to utilize talents and resources of all involved to create practical extension activi-

-see CHICKADEEDS page 15

## History

Continued from page 1



Contributed photo

*The Fort Williams Museum recounts the 90-year history (1872-1962) of the 90 acres of shoreline real estate that became a key element in the defense of Portland Harbor through three wars.*



Contributed photo

*The Cape Elizabeth History Center traces "The Cape Elizabeth Story" from a time when Wabanaki natives freely roamed the area to more recent "suburbanization."*

rescues). On display are magnificent scale models of Cape Elizabeth's town center, ca. 1930 (complete with working trolley), and the Cape Cottage Casino (destination for pleasure-seekers in the early 1900s). Cannon balls from the British merchant ship "Three Friends," sunk in 1711 at Portland Point, are on exhibit, as are replicas of 17th century coins and an earthen jar found on Richmond

Island in the 1800s...and much more! Concise narratives make it easy to travel through time, and hopefully to stimulate interest in researching in the society's stored archives, which are gradually becoming available online.

The Fort Williams Museum recounts the 90-year history (1872-1962) of the 90 acres of shoreline real estate that became a key element in the defense of Portland Harbor through three wars. Donated artifacts of Maine Civil War hero and namesake of the Fort, Bvt. Maj. Gen. Seth Williams are featured. Another principal attraction in the Museum is a detailed scale model of the Fort as it appeared between the two World Wars. At various times, "The Fort" was home to regular Army and National Guard troops, as well as two companies of FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps. The eleven thunderous cannons which once sat on the six fixed concrete gun batteries are long gone, but their memory lives in vintage 16 mm film, as well as in the recorded interviews of soldiers who served at, and people who grew up, or who had interesting experiences on the base. Pivotal stories of notable individuals in the Fort's history are shared. The interesting tale of the ill-fated Goddard Mansion and its enigmatic owner is told. Vintage post cards, uniforms and other memorabilia also help tell Fort Williams's proud past.

The Cape Elizabeth History Center and Fort Williams Museum are currently open to the public at the following times:

Monday and Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Bob Dodd at 207-767-1352 or visit our website at [www.cehistory.org](http://www.cehistory.org).

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# Cape Elizabeth Resident Capt. Amy Florentino retires as Commander of U.S. Coast Guard Sector, Northern New England

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

Since assuming command in June of 2021, Captain Amy Florentino has directed all missions and led more than 1,000 personnel of the U.S. Coast Guard in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and northeastern New York. Units under her command operated six multi-mission cutters, eight life-saving stations, two marine safety detachments, and three Aids to Navigation Teams, all along 5,000 miles of coastline.

I was first introduced to Captain Florentino a few years ago at a ceremony honoring Jeanne Gross, then director of Portland Head Light Museum, at the U.S. Coast Guard Station in South Portland. Surrounded by her command staff, and quick with a smile and a firm handshake, it's was easy to see she had earned their respect.

Originally from Norwich, Connecticut, Florentino grew up in a family that encouraged her academic and athletic achievements. Growing up with her two older brothers prepped her well for the rigorous environment at the Coast Guard Academy. Her mother's untimely death brought her family even closer together, and while still in high school, Amy knew she wanted to join the military. After looking at all the service academies as a way into the military, in 1995, the Coast Guard was the only branch where all jobs and specialties were open to women. With the promise of practically unlimited potential and the Coast Guard's challenging peacetime missions, she chose the Coast Guard Academy.

Today, as an experienced and respected leader, Florentino has more than nine years of sea time and multiple operational commands. Before taking command of Northern New England Sector, she completed a variety of tours including being stationed aboard five Coast Guard cutters: CGC Eagle, CGC Buttonwood, CGC Juniper, CGC Katherine Walker, and CGC Cypress which patrolled the Caribbean Sea. Her staff tours included Instructor at the Coast Guard Officer Candidate School, and the Office of Fi-

nancial Transformation and Compliance at Coast Guard Headquarters. Florentino holds a Bachelor's degree in Operations Research from the Coast Guard Academy and an MBA from the Tuck School at Dartmouth.

When faced with a crisis, Florentino said she depends on "Swarm Leadership" and her personal leadership philosophy, based on life experiences, which is to create an environment that motivates, nurtures and values every member of her team, while inspiring them to work in concert. She credits her first shipboard Captain, Anne Ewalt, with inspiring her to work hard, pursue excellence and respect others for their achievements.

The 9/11 attacks on The World Trade Center are one of Florentino's most vivid memories from all of her service. She was Operations Officer aboard The Jupiter at the time and arrived in New York Harbor to find the twin towers ablaze. She was also a member of the team that responded to the crash of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 that crashed into the Pacific Ocean in January of 2000. Honored by the opportunity to serve, Florentino said the U.S. Coast Guard is a great opportunity for those wishing to join the military.

Recently retired, Capt. Florentino is proud of the women and men of the Coast Guard who, in a volatile and uncertain environment, continue to provide the American public with the highest level of mission excellence. Always ready to respond, they strengthen security across the maritime transportation system, protect safety of life at sea along a treacherous coast, and enhance the sustainability of the marine environment through fisheries enforcement and pollution response. Of the Northern New England Sector, she said, "It was the best command and team I was assigned to while in the Coast Guard".

Florentino is married and has two young children who attended Cape Elizabeth Schools. When speaking of her husband, Robert Barton, she reflects "He has always been supportive of our family, my career and our shared life

goals. He's a partner both professionally and personally."

What's next? After 25 years in the Coast Guard and 4 years at the Coast Guard Academy, Florentino will surely continue to demonstrate the Coast Guard motto, Semper Paratus (Always Ready) as she embarks on a new adventure as adjunct professor at The Tuck School

of Business at Dartmouth College, Vermont.

Cape Elizabeth will miss the her family in our schools, our community and on our water. As we thank Captain Amy Florentino for her service, and wish her and her family the very best.



Photo by Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

*Capt. Amy Florentino stands by the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter "FINBACK" in Portland.*

## The "KID" Courier

### Maine

By Nima Dana

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## CEMS 8th graders connect with immigrants

By Laura M. Briggs

This spring, 37 eighth graders from the Briggs-Price team at CEMS interviewed nineteen Portland-area immigrants to learn more about their countries of origin, their immigration journey and their experiences living in the United States.

The students met with people who had lived in Fiji, Hong Kong, Singapore, Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Angola, Ghana, Somalia, Spain, France, Poland, Germany, Mexico, Venezuela and Argentina. The interviewees included a physician, a lawyer, several small business owners, an artist, an author, a city planner, a Marine Corps enlistee, teachers and several community activists. More than one-third of those interviewed either lived or worked in Cape Elizabeth. Some arrived here more than thirty years ago, while others had only moved here in the past couple of years.

After conducting background research and detailed interviews, the students wrote ethnographic essays about the immigrant, describing the reasons why they had immigrated, the opportunities and challenges they'd faced, and the lives that they had built since arriving in the United States.

Students then created multimedia projects about each immigrant, which they shared during a Celebration of Learning – complete with an array of international foods – held at the CEMS Library Learning Commons on Wednesday, June 12.

Projects ranged from a digital story map presentation about the life of Somali author Abdi Iftin to an immersive multi-sensory experience (combining a podcast, slideshow, and spice-filled authentic marketplace) about Angolan job coach Selma Tinta. Local businesses – Lucia & Tito Cleaning Services and FG Life Services – were profiled through a recipe-based and animated digital timeline and painted ceiling tiles at the middle school respectively.

The six-week project proved eye-opening for both students and the inter-

viewees. As 8th grader Oliver Mitchell observed about recent CEHS graduate Ian Giacobazzi, "When you first see Ian, a tall, fit, young African-American male wearing casual popular clothing, most people would just assume that he is your average high schooler, not knowing that Ian has lived on three different continents, and [...] speaks four different languages!" Oliver and his interview partner were surprised to learn that 19-year old Ian, who was born in Rwanda, had lived in Hong Kong for seven years before moving to Cape Elizabeth, which seemed very quiet in comparison to the excitement of a cosmopolitan city.

Similarly, Mary Gonzalez, the Venezuelan co-owner of FG Life Services, a construction and remodeling company in Cape Elizabeth, shared how meaningful the experience had been for her, noting, "I've been so busy these past six years, building up my business and new life in America that I hadn't had a chance to slow down and reflect on the experience. Speaking with these students gave me the opportunity to do that." All in all, everyone involved had an opportunity to learn about the diversity that exists right in our back yard and to learn more about the many community efforts underway to support newly-arrived immigrants in Portland.

We hope to have copies of the book of student essays available at both the Cape Elizabeth Middle School and Thomas Memorial libraries for those who'd like to learn more about their immigrant neighbors. We also hope to undertake similar work with next year's 8th graders.

If you know of or are yourself an immigrant to the United States and would be open to being interviewed by 8th grade students next year, please contact Sarah Plummer, the CESD Student Pathways Coordinator at [splummer@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:splummer@capeelizabethschools.org). We'd love to learn your story!



Contributed photo

*Alyssa Morissette, Ella Fick and long-time Cape resident Shukria Wiar discussed the way Wiar balanced family life, a career and her experiences growing up in Portland as both an Afghani and an American. The girls then created a poster and diverse array of tasty Afghani dishes to capture Shukria's life story.*



Contributed photo

*Price Woolls and Tina Johnson show Ghanaian artist Ebenezer Akakpo the mural they made about his philosophy of life and work.*

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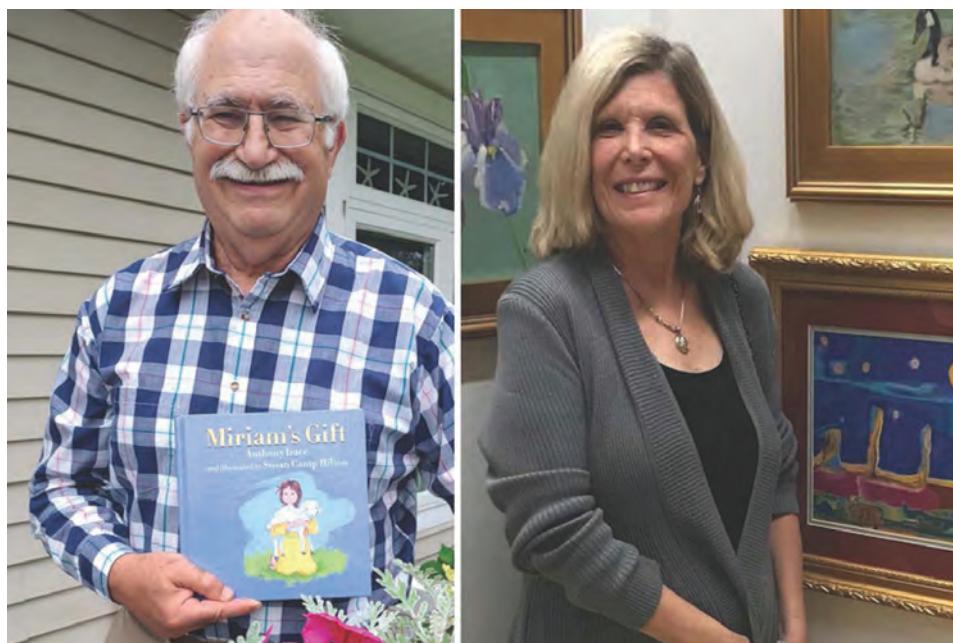
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## Cape author collaborates with Scarborough artist on ‘Miriam’s Gift’

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

*Cape Elizabeth author Anthony Irace collaborated with artist and illustrator Susan Camp Hilton from Scarborough, on a new book titled “Miriam’s Gift.”*

Author Anthony Irace is a retired attorney and has lived in Cape for over 30 years. He said he enjoys writing simple humorous poems, as well as writing music, screenplays and children’s books.

“Miriam’s Gift” is a new book published by RoseDog Books about a little shepherd girl, the youngest child in her family, who tries to help but does not always get the desired result. Then one day an event happens that leads her to discover her special gift and to help a young family.

Readers are reminded that no matter how young, poor, or seemingly insignificant a person may be, he or she can have something to contribute, and that sometimes the best gifts come from the most unusual or unlikely sources.

Irace was born and raised in Portland, and attended the University of Maine, Western New England University School of Law, and practiced as an attorney in Portland before retiring in 2015.

Irace is married with two grown children, is on the board of two local nonprofits and is a ukulele enthusiast. He collaborated with artist Susan Camp Hilton from Scarborough to produce “Miriam’s Gift.”

Irace explained that the book is the story of a very young shepherd girl back in Bethlehem who learns of Jesus’ birth and wants to give the family a gift. “Since her family are poor shepherds, they have little to offer, and they struggle to come up with something to give the family. Miriam, although very young and sometimes a little awkward, convinces them that even the poorest shepherds can have something to offer, and in a larger sense everyone can find a way to use what little means they have to encourage others, and also, that the act of giving itself may be just as important to the giver as to the recipient. It is also about encouraging the empowerment of young children. I was inspired to write the story after I saw an illustration done by Susan of a little girl sitting on a hillside hugging a lamb gazing at the stars,” Irace said.

As for other writing, Irace said he has enjoyed writing simple, funny poems for various special events such as anniversaries, birthdays, for as long as he can

remember, sometimes putting some of them to simple original music. “I have played the guitar since I was a teenager and am currently a member of a ukulele group, ‘The Flukes.’ I’m not sure what possessed me to write screenplays. I doubt any of them will ever be an actual movie- it’s more of a hobby,” he said.

Irace said, “I am currently working on a screenplay, ‘The Captives’ Choices,’ which is about my wife’s ancestors, Lydia and John Longley.” Irace said they were Puritans, and were kidnapped back in 1694 in a Native American raid in what is now Groton, Massachusetts. “Lydia eventually was sold to the French in what is now Canada. She converted to Catholicism and became the first American-born Catholic nun. John, incredibly, chose to live with the Indians for 5 years before returning to Groton,” he said.

Irace said that his new book, “Miriam’s Gift,” is a book for young children and is written in simple rhyming verse, “almost like a Dr. Seuss book.” He said, “It is a style a young child can relate to, and which almost anyone can write. I don’t consider myself to have any specific style. It changes with the topic or material. Aside from its message and the cute verse, it’s really the charming and endearing illustrations by Susan which I believe sets this book apart, and makes it a special book that very young children will enjoy it being read to them.”

The author said he wishes he had attended more writing workshops. “One learns not only about writing through them, but also about the publishing part which can be daunting,” he said. Irace also said he would advise any budding writers to take more writing courses, but more importantly to attend workshops and join writing groups, either in person or online.

“Miriam’s Gift” is a 34-page hardcover with a retail price of \$24.00 (eBook \$19.00). The ISBN is 979-8-89127-825-7. It was published by RoseDog Books of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The book is available at the South Portland library and also online through Barnes and Noble, Amazon, local bookstores and the publisher’s link: <https://rosedogbookstore.com/miriams-gift/>.

## Cape Elizabeth Service Center has new local owners

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)

I recently met the new owners of Cape Elizabeth Service Center on Shore Road. Cape Elizabeth residents Lisa and Jeffrey Larrabee purchased the garage in January with the intention of honoring its hometown feel while updating its operations and infrastructure.

Jeff Larrabee first met the service center’s former owners, Ray and Michelle Clark, when he and Lisa moved to the area from upstate New York in 2010, and Jeff opened a Mac Tools business. This venture ultimately resulted in the Clarks approaching Jeff and Lisa as they planned their retirement. Ray and Michelle were looking for someone they could trust, who felt the same way they do about delivering quality service to customers in and around Cape Elizabeth.

Most of Jeff’s first six months at the service center have been spent getting to know his customers and introducing them to his staff, two of whom are graduates from Cape

Elizabeth High School – three, if you count their daughter, Rosa, a Cape High School graduate who works part time while attending college.

It’s important to the Larrabee family that customers feel comfortable and welcome as well as confident in the service they receive. Their small but talented staff includes Matt Hussey, Jake Hall, Mike Babine, David Thomits, Scott Billings, and the Larrabees’ daughter Rosa. Each member of the team has their own unique skills, experience, interests and home life. Several are raising families in and around our community, their interests range from motorsports to sailing and you likely remember Rosa from her days at C-Salts Gourmet Market.

Cars are more complex all the time, but the principles of good business remain the same. Good work from people you know. Cape Elizabeth Service Center is a garage “where everybody knows your name.”



Contributed photo

*Pictured from left to right: Lisa Galea Larrabee, Jeff Larrabee, Rosa Larrabee, Matt Hussey, Mike Babine, Elliot Brown, Jake Hall and David Thomits.*



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# From the start, Cape VEX Robotics has huge support from school, community, CEEF

By Kevin St. Jarre

From its inception, the extremely successful Cape VEX Robotics program has seen support from the schools, the community and the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation (CEEF).

Evan Thayer, a science teacher at Cape Elizabeth High School was its founding coach and advisor. Thayer said, "In many ways, the start of the Cape Elizabeth VEX Robotics Team was a case of the right place, right time. Its growth from its first year to what it is today is attributable to a marvelous cycle of interest and support from students, school administration, families, community volunteers and the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation."

Thayer said that in 2004 there were already several robotics-related competitions for middle school and high school students both within the United States and inter-

nationally. However, there seemed to be coalescing around a couple of particular programs. "With that in mind, then-principal Jeff Shedd approved the purchase of a couple of entry-level robotics kits for me to explore," Thayer said.

He said he will always remember the first meeting with interested students after announcing the new robotics club. According to Thayer, "There was a packed classroom of students and two robotics kits. The student interest was there, but there was not enough equipment to be effective. Conor Dodd was one of the students who joined the nascent club. He would come in after school and build marvelous creations. A robot dog that walked and moved its mouth was one of my favorites. Conor and a handful of other students then participated in a robot 'Collect the Cans' competition in front of the school board. This was proof of concept for what a robotics club could be."

In the autumn of 2005 Thayer applied for, and was awarded, a grant from CEEF, for just over \$5,000. He said this grant was definitely the capital push that was needed to meet student interest and need. "We registered our VEX Robotics Team in 2006 and were assigned Team Number 56. Today, registered team numbers are in the ten of thousands. Fun fact!" he said.

Of Thayer's aforementioned marvelous cycle of interest and support from students, school administration, families, community volunteers and CEEF, he said three of the most committed community volunteers were Eric Jensen and Tim Jones, both now retired from our program, and Tom Waecker, who is still volunteering. "All three brought decades of professional engineering experience to the program and our students. Teams have learned a lot from these engineering mentors," he said.

As the program has grown, more space has been needed, Thayer said, and school administration has been "incredibly supportive." Thayer explained that what started as two tables in the back of a classroom, grew into a small conference room, which grew into the space they have today that includes a full-size practice field. As teams work through the engineering design process, they can test their coding and their robot mechanisms in competition-like scenarios.

Thayer said, "Lastly, the families of robotics students are amazing. Families fill in when needed to provide adult lab supervision, help ensure students can attend the numerous competitions each year, and families 'get things done' in all the behind-the-scenes ways that enhance the sense of community for our teams. Pizza party!"

The former CEHS student and VEX Robotics team member that Thayer mentioned, Conor Dodd, remembers the program fondly, saying, "I got started with Robotics before it was Robotics. Back then it was just a few unused Lego Mindstorms kits a new Math teacher, Evan Thayer, had sitting on a shelf in his room. He graciously let me come in and build robots during lunch, and soon I was coming in every day, after school as well. It was something I had never really been able to do before, innovate without rules. Just build something that could do something I hadn't done before, from walking machines to wheel-throwers, to wall-climbers. Everything else in school was an assignment you were given, but in Evan Thayer's room you had to define the problem as well as solve it. It completely changed my outlook on what I wanted to do, and I've kept that outlook throughout my education and career. I made a career out of being the inventive guy, the one who could take on the weird problems that stumped others."

Dodd said during his time at CEHS, a few of the machines he built got some attention as they ran around the school, and in a couple of years they had accumulated enough interest in building a real robotics team. "My senior year was when we first registered for a competition. From there I simply never stopped. I moved on to robotic semi-trucks, eventually leading a department of young engineers doing exactly what I had been doing in that room with the Robotics kits. We found problems no one had solved and came up with solutions to fix them, accumulating a fleet of robo-trucks in the process. I went on to run my own robotics teams and have always tried to create a free innovative atmosphere, and kids that have graduated from my teams are now coaching their own teams in turn," Dodd said.

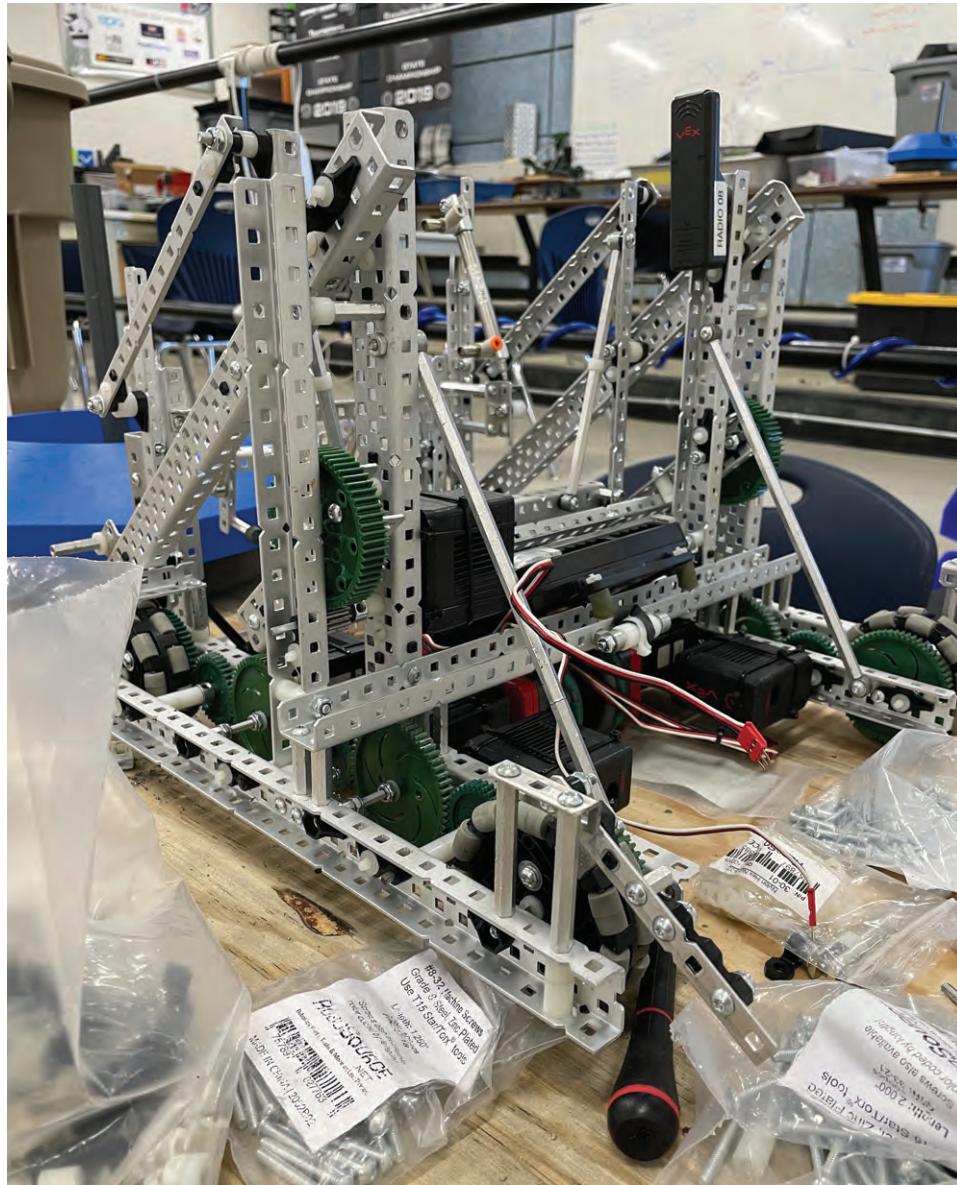
Another student team member, Sarah Hagen, said, "The Cape Robotics program was one of the highlights of my high school experience. I have so many fond memories of late nights finishing our bot in the lab, hanging out with friends. It inspired a passion in me for both coding and engineering which I have taken with me to Columbia to study Computer Science in the Engineering school. I also believe the strength of the program and our very competitive team and our ability to compete at the state and global level was one of the strongest parts of my college application. It remains one of the best team experiences I've ever had, yielding some of my closest friends, as well as working knowledge of how to contribute to a team. Now, in college, VEX robotics is a shared experience that has helped me make new friends and it inspired me to join similar minded new clubs, helping me find a community of other robotics and engineering people."

When Thayer decided to step aside, a newer teacher to CEHS took over, Alex Anesko.

"I first started assisting with Evan Thayer's robotics program at Cape during our year of hybrid learning. Even absent in-person competitions, the dedication and enthusiasm of our robotics students was palpable. The junior engineering program Evan built nearly twenty years ago fostered a culture in which students learned by doing, and learned from each other. Hundreds of kids found Cape Robotics over the years because it spoke to them, and it gave them a place where they could own their own education. Following the return to in-person learning, I took the reins of a program that has since renewed itself with an energy and with numbers I did not foresee. This past year, Cape Robotics served roughly 70 kids, from 5th through 12th grade, numbers that at times stress even our generously sized lab space! But, success breeds interest. Building on three consecutive seasons in which Cape Robotics has sent three teams to the VEX Robotics World Championship in Dallas, the program stands to continue growing," Anesko said.

Anesko also said that a big reason for the continued success of Cape Robotics has been the financial support of our community, our schools, local businesses and especially CEEF. He said, "Beginning in 2005, CEEF has donated over \$31,000 to Cape Robotics, for everything from getting the program started, to expanding support to lower grade levels, to high cost items not covered by our budget. These investments have helped students form a lifelong love of STEM which often translates into higher education in STEM fields such as engineering, physics or computer science, and careers in these fields. As a former engineer myself, I am thrilled to see these students find their way into such fields, so very much in demand domestically, and critical to our shared interest in building a better future."

Liz McEvoy, Executive Director of CEEF, said, "This is what it's all about, the chance to jumpstart a program like robotics with a CEEF grant and watch it blossom into a career." She added, "We are always looking for more opportunities like these to invest in our students and teachers. One of the best aspects of all of this is our community of donors. Every dollar counts. And when you pull together small and large donations, you can really make an impact. So many people reading this article have made a difference for this grant over the years. And we are so grateful."



Contributed photo

*For nearly two decades, the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation has supported the Cape Robotics program donating over \$31,000, from getting the program started, and expanding it, to covering high-cost items not covered by the program's budget. Students have said the program was outlook-changing and a highlight of their education.*

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Cape Elizabeth, ME**

## Nature scene around town



Photo by Martha Agan

*Eider chicks out for a swim at Kettle Cove with a parent escorting them along. The Eider is a large duck with a distinctive long, sloping frontal lobe of the bill that extends almost to the crown. It builds its nest close to the sea.*



Photo by Martha Agan

*Daisy in bloom. This perennial flower grows to about a height of two feet.*

## Dean's list announcements

**Haley McIntyre** was named to the honor's list for the spring 2024 semester at Thomas College in Waterville.

**Isabella Grace Eremita** was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York.

The following students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts:

**Caitlin Knauft**, majoring in Business Creative Enterprises and is a member of the Class of 2025.

**Benson Offit**, majoring in Political Communication and is a member of the Class of 2025.

The following students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts:

**Josephine Boeschenstein**  
**Thomas Carignan**

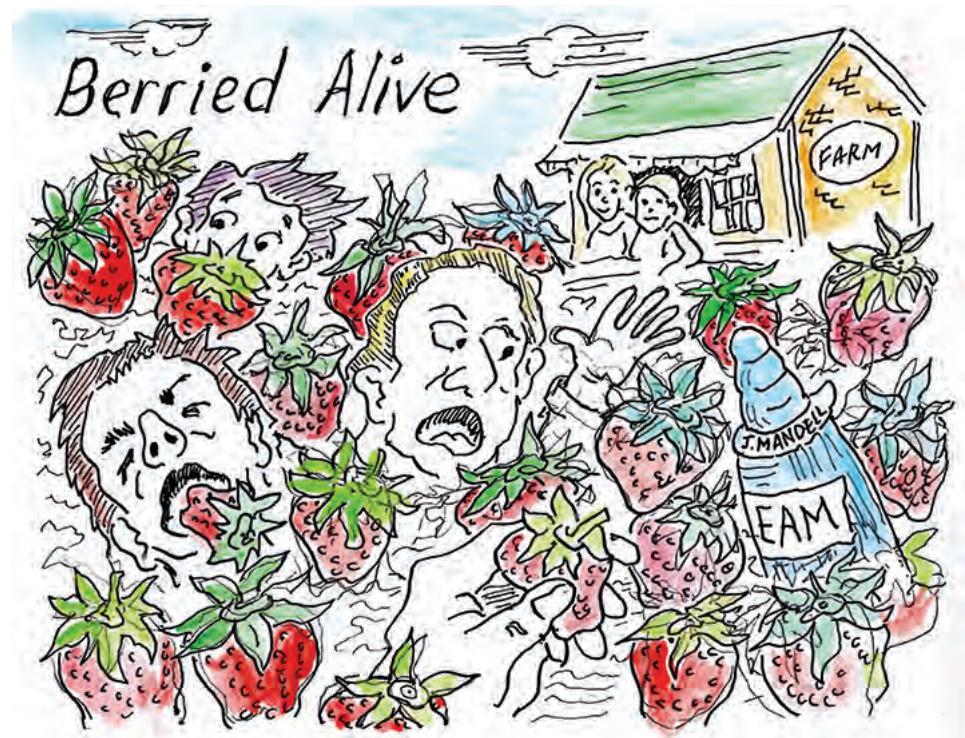
The following students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts:

**Thomas Gray**, class of 2027, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

**Cody LaBonty**, class of 2026, majoring in Computer Science

## Capetoons: 6th Anniversary Toon

By Jeff Mandell



## Drying off after a dip

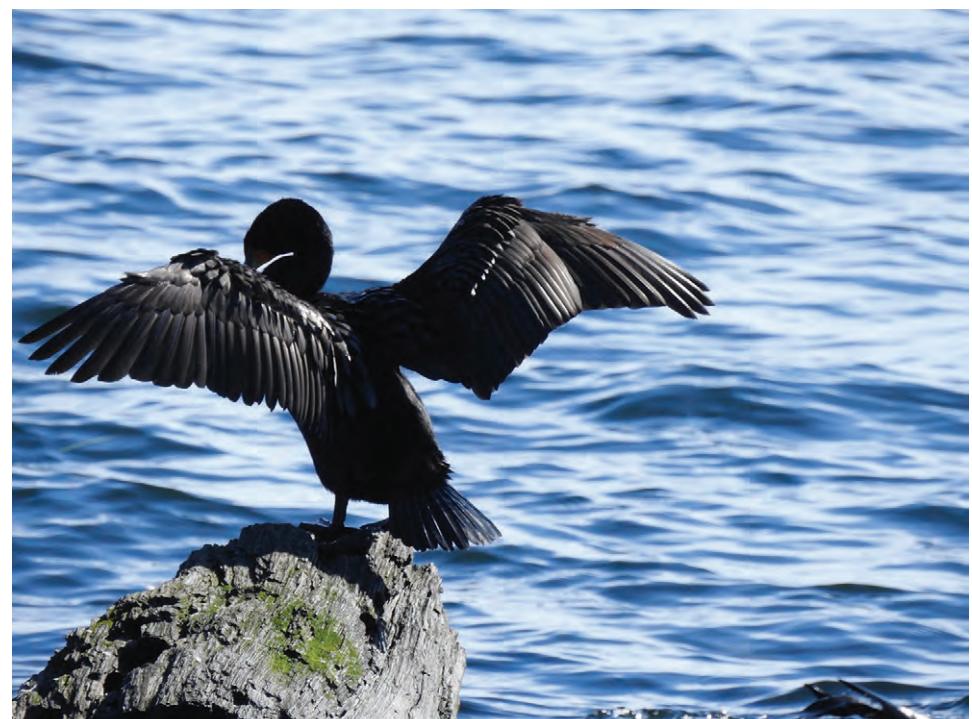


Photo by Martha Agan

*A Double-crested cormorant drying its wings at Kettle Cove. Wing spreading is a technique this bird uses to dry its feathers after swimming, as it lacks waterproof feathers.*

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# Library offers virtual adventure canoeing program, Portland Camera Club on exhibit in Stier Family Gallery

## Holiday Closure

The library, along with several other town departments, will be closed for Independence Day on Thursday, July 4.

## Summer Reading Programs Continue

The library's annual summer reading program for adults and older teens begins in July, while the programs for youth began on June 17 and continues throughout the summer. This year's theme is "Into the Woods: A Reading Adventure."

Adults and teens will receive a reading bingo card and earn tickets to win a number of nature-themed prizes. For complete details, please visit the library's website.

## 125 Years of the Portland Camera Club in the Stier Family Gallery

The Portland Camera Club will be exhibiting photographic images in the library's Stier Family Gallery during the month of July as part of their 125th Anniversary Celebration. The images represent members' styles and techniques over the past twelve decades since the founding of the club in 1899. The Club was one of the earliest in the country and it was one of the few to encourage women to join. Club members contributed to a lantern slide exchange program and held an Annual Exhibition each spring. Francis O. Libby joined as a young man and eventually became President of the Club.

Other prominent past members whose images will be displayed include Leyland Whipple, Ethel Wight, Horace Latimer, Joseph Kahill, Eddie Richardson

and David A. Kirkwood. In addition to the historical images, there will be prints by several current members, including Kevin Schochat, Susan Partridge, Mary Powers, as well as Mike and Linda Culivan. On July 18, current Club President Richard Sawyer will do a short presentation highlighting the images (details further in this article).

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Sewing Adventures: Travel Sewing Kit, with Mary Ellen Chadd

Saturday, July 13, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (ages 8 - 12)

Design an organizer for your favorite sewing tools to take with you anywhere. Make a coordinating pin cushion, a needle dock, and pockets for threads and elastic loops to hold your thread snips in place. Stitch it up by hand or machine or both. Use a combination of felt and fabrics; you're the designer. Close it with an elastic loop, a button, a zipper, velcro, clip or ties. Beginning sewists welcome.

No prior experience necessary but complete beginners must be accompanied by their adult to work one on one in learning basic skills of threading a needle and tying a knot for their first few meetings. All materials provided. Please register on the library's website.

### 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 chil-

dren's room for appointment availability and to "meet" our dogs, or call the children's room for more information.

### 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

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 wiggles, 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.

## FOR ADULTS

### Dates TBD (Ages 11+)

Calling all wizards, warlocks, rangers and rogues! TML's Dungeons and Dragons campaign is open to teens and tweens who want to explore their character through interactive storytelling. Please visit the library's website for updated dates and times, and to register.

### Young Writers at TML (Ages 11-13)

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

Are you a young writer looking for a way to practice your craft? Join us at TML for our own budding writers group. Designed for students between the ages of 10-12, this group will focus on exploring the imagination through fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction. With monthly meetings on the first Thursday afternoons, this program is full of fun journal prompts and creative group exercises. Upcoming date: July 11 (one week late due to July 4 holiday.) Register on our website.

### TML Teen Writing Group

Second Saturday of Each Month, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Ages 14+)

Are you a teen who loves writing? Or are you someone who just loves to read, and feels like trying your hand at creative writing that isn't for school? In either case, our teen writing program is for you. Join us for monthly meetings where we explore different styles of writing and work on the projects you're most passionate about. Upcoming date: July 13. Register on our website.

## Coloring Contest Winners



Contributed photo

Congratulations to our Summer Fun Coloring Contest winner, Acadia Bohlmann. And congratulations to our runner up winners; Marina Gorski, June Pidhajecky, Cora Bevins, Clementine and Adelaide Chadd, Finn Bridgewater, Georgia Bridgewater, Grace Boyer and Marley Harris. Happy Summer!

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-see LIBRARY page 13

## Great Pond Boardwalk closed at Alewives Brook



Contributed photo

Residents should note that the Great Pond Boardwalk is closed at Alewives Brook. The Great Pond trails remain open, but please reverse direction at the boardwalk. Several posts are rusted, some have failed and the boardwalk frames will be damaged if people walk on the boardwalk in this condition. The boardwalk is scheduled for repairs in the next 2 weeks. Please check the town website for updates.



## High/low tide chart

	High Tide			Low Tide			
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	
3	Wed	9:44	8.9	9:54	10.6	3:31	-0.3
4	Thu	10:40	8.9	10:46	10.6	4:26	-0.4
5	Fri	11:32	8.9	11:37	10.6	5:18	-0.5
6	Sat			12:22	8.9	6:08	-0.5
7	Sun	12:24	10.4	1:08	8.9	6:54	-0.3
8	Mon	1:10	10.2	1:51	8.8	7:37	-0.2
9	Tue	1:53	10.0	2:33	8.8	8:18	0.1
10	Wed	2:35	9.6	3:15	8.8	8:58	0.4
11	Thu	3:19	9.2	3:57	8.7	9:38	0.7
12	Fri	4:05	8.8	4:40	8.7	10:19	1.0
13	Sat	4:53	8.4	5:24	8.8	11:01	1.3
14	Sun	5:43	8.0	6:08	8.8	11:44	1.6
15	Mon	6:36	7.8	6:56	8.8	12:27	1.7
16	Tue	7:33	7.6	7:47	9.0	1:22	1.6
						1:23	1.9



Have something to sell?  
Having a yard sale? Want to spread the word about a new business or service?  
**Tell them here!**  
**Classifieds in The Courier work!**

## Library

Continued from page 12

### 125 Years of the Portland Camera Club, with Richard Sawyer

Thursday, July 18, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

In conjunction with the July exhibit in the Stier Family Gallery, Richard Sawyer, current president of the Portland Camera Club, will discuss the 125 year history and share images representing members' styles and techniques since the founding of the club in 1899. The club was one of the earliest in the country and it was one of the few to encourage women to join. He will also be discussing "Seeking the Magic Light-A Chronicle of the First 100 Years of the Portland Maine Camera Club," a book written by the late David Kirkwood and long time member of the club. The exhibit is dedicated to Kirkwood. Anyone with an interest in photography or Maine history will enjoy learning more about the exhibit and the Portland Camera Club. All are welcome.

### Allagash—New England's Wild River with Tim Caverly

Friday, July 19, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Narrated by retired supervisor of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Tim Caverly, this program will bring the audience on a virtual adventure canoeing the 92-mile Allagash River.

Join us for this thrilling ride and learn about the wonder of this magnificent river along with the lore and legends of Maine's wilderness. Tim Caverly began working as a ranger at Sebago Lake State Park for the State Parks and Recreation Commission in college. After Sebago, he continued his employment with the Department of Conservation with assignments as a manager of Aroostook and Cobscook Bay State Parks as well as a regional supervisor of the Allagash Region, which included the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and the Penobscot River Corridor.

Anyone interested in exploring our beautiful state will enjoy this presentation.

### Adult Forest Bathing, with Davinica Nemtzow

Saturday, July 20 at the Robinson

Woods Pond Trail, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Join Cape Elizabeth Library and Kanelle for an amble through the woods. Through this slow and mindful practice, you'll deepen your relationship with yourself and the land you inhabit.

After some guided breathing and gentle movement, we'll amble along the trail, engaging our curiosity, awakening our senses, and enjoying the serenity of Robinson Woods. What is forest bathing? Forest bathing comes from the Japanese term, Shinrin-yoku. The phrase simply means "taking in the forest atmosphere". The modern techniques of forest bathing as a preventative medicine were developed in Japan in the 1980s, though they were developed from the ancient arts of mindfulness and meditation. No previous meditation experience is necessary; all are welcome. Please register in advance on the library's website.

### ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS:

#### Songwriting Workshop (with Jud Caswell)

First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

In person

Next meeting: August 6

#### Eldering Conversation Group

Wednesdays

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

in person AND via Zoom

#### Writing Hive

Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Bring your laptop or your favorite notebook and join us for tea and quiet writing time. Meets weekly on Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:30 p.m. All are welcome! Register on our website to receive reminders.

#### Adult Book Group

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

In person AND via Zoom

Next meeting: July 18

This month's book: "More Than Petticoats," by Cape author Kate Kennedy

## Wish List

### HOME IMPROVEMENTS

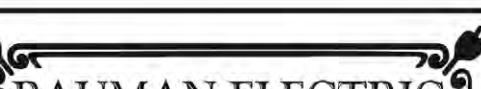
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## CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

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

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

**Thursday, July 4**

Recycling Committee, Public Works Department, 7 p.m.

**Monday, July 8**

Town Council, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 9**

Conservation Committee, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 10**

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

**Tuesday, July 16**

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Ongoing each week**

Al-Anon, 7 p.m. Fridays, First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland. Parking in rear.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 2 p.m.

**CABLE GUIDE****CETV CHANNEL 1302**

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

**Nothing scheduled for July 3 - 16**

**YOUR PLACE FOR LOCAL**

**Strawberries for Fourth of July**  
Call ahead 767-2740  
to find out about Pick Your Own  
And grab some Biscuits and Cream

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Cucumbers, Zucchini,  
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**SERVICES****Cape Elizabeth Church  
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499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)  
**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.bethahaam.org](http://www.bethahaam.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.RedemeerMaine.org](http://www.RedemeerMaine.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)

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

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**Dean's list announcements**

The following students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 academic semester at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island:

**Emma Ouellette**  
**Molly Woodhouse**

The following students were named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island:

**Killian Lathrop**  
**Tiernan Lathrop**  
**Nathan Patterson**

**Ander Erickson** was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.

**Allie Lynch**, majoring in Finance, was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Ada Smith** was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Emmanuel College in Boston, Massachusetts.

**Sonia Wold** was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

**Quinn Collins**, majoring in Social Welfare, was named to the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**chickadeeds**

Continued from page 6

ties. The monthly community service events that chickadeeds designs and offers spotlight local environmental or humanitarian causes. Some notable events include:

**November 2023: Kit Mania**

**Partner:** Maine Needs

**Event Partner:** GoGo Refill

**Event Host:** Bissell Brothers Brewing

**Volunteers:** 100 volunteers of all ages

**Impact:** 300 kits assembled with handmade cards; 18 community blankets made, and 300 warm winter clothing items collected for donations

**Event Extension:** GoGo Refill partnered with chickadeeds to run a bottle collection drive to make our kits low waste and hosted chickadeeds youth and teen wing leaders at GoGo Refill's South Portland store to pre-fill toiletry kit items with donated low waste cleaning solutions.

**April 2024: Plant Maine's Future**

**Partner:** Living Lands & Waters

**Event Partner and Host:** Portland Museum of Art

**Volunteers:** 200 volunteers of all ages

**Impact:** 500 nut bearing, native hardwood tree saplings distributed for planting throughout Southern Maine

**Event Extension:** chickadeeds distributed 500 tree saplings for planting from the PMA's central front plaza. Any volunteer family that signed up to adopt, plant, and steward a baby tree received complimentary admission to the PMA and a tree-themed scavenger hunt to find images of trees throughout the museum.

This spring, chickadeeds received the 2024 Governor's Award for Volunteerism and Service for its Outstanding Volunteer Program. Since 1987, the Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism have recognized the role of citizen volunteers in the success and vitality of Maine communities. "We are deeply inspired after the 2024 Governor's Award Ceremony for Service with other awardees and elected officials -- and we share this award with our whole community of co-creators: our dedicated Board of Trustees, Advisory Council, volunteers, youth and teen wing leaders, community partners, and sponsors," said Coyne and Glennon. The two co-founders have many ambitions for chickadeeds and hope that in 5-10 years, the organization has grown awareness around how every person can make a unique contribution in their community and for the planet. They would like to continue to mobilize new volunteers and resources and want to grow the causes, efforts and activities that matter to the organization's volunteer base.

chickadeeds events are free, kid-friendly and open to the public. Families can sign up for events as well as a monthly newsletter on the chickadeeds website, <https://www.chickadeeds.org/>, or follow along on social media for event announcements: @chickadeeds\_maine on Instagram and @chickadeeds on Facebook. Those with questions may also email chickadeeds at: hello@chickadeeds.org. Of their experience with chickadeeds, 12-year old volunteer Laughlin said: "It's really fun and I like helping other people like at the Boys and Girls Club and working on the environmental projects. It's important to help people and the environment. I also like my new friends that I've met."

Coyne and Glennon would love to hear from the Cape Elizabeth community: "What would you like to see for chickadeeds' future? Do you have a favorite local nonprofit or cause that you'd like to connect around? Get it touch and let's make it happen!"

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# **G** "THE MIDDLE GROUND" DESIGN CONCEPT

A compromise that meets educational needs and financial parameters

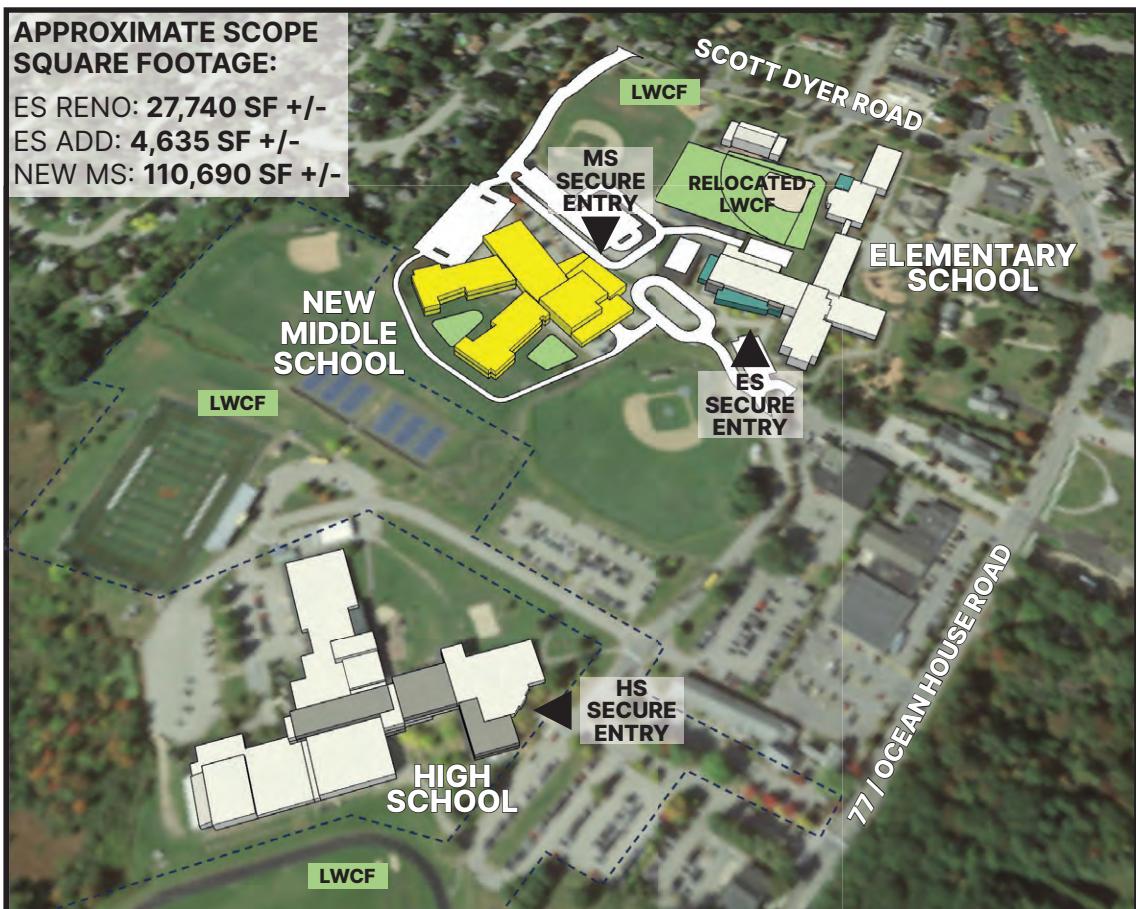
**COMMUNITY-DEVELOPED DESIGN STATEMENT:** "A secure and nurturing community hub that fosters a joy of learning and collaboration by supporting students' discovery of their full potential."

**ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$89.95M +/-**

(does not include estimated savings of \$800K+ in Efficiency Maine Incentives)

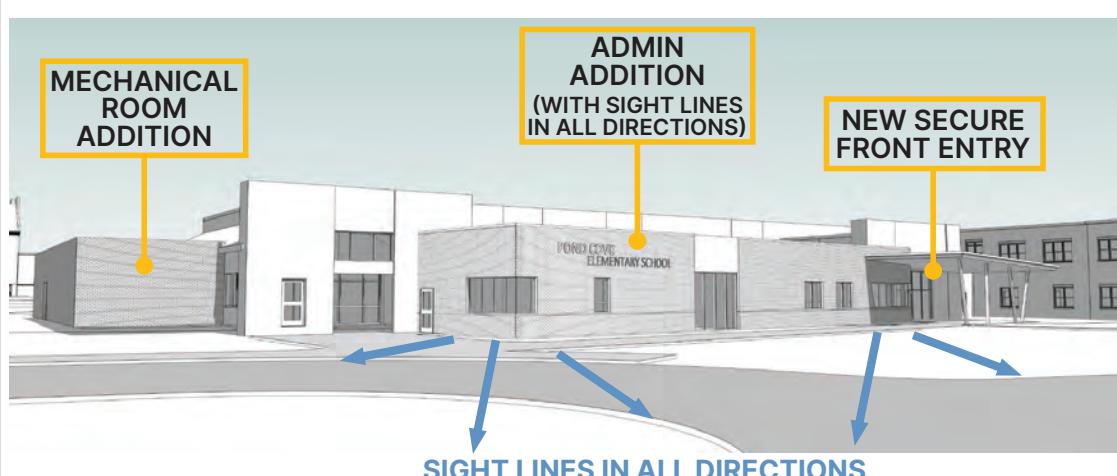
APPROXIMATE SCOPE  
SQUARE FOOTAGE:

ES RENO: 27,740 SF +/-  
ES ADD: 4,635 SF +/-  
NEW MS: 110,690 SF +/-

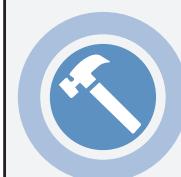


LEGEND: □ EXISTING BUILDING ■ RENOVATION ■ MS NEW BUILD  
■ ES ADDITION ■ LWCF: LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

## PRELIMINARY RENDERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SECURE ENTRY & ADMIN ADDITION



### 0% STUDENT DISRUPTION:



Students will not experience learning disruption due to construction. Students will remain in the existing MS while the new MS is constructed; after MS students move over to the new school, the existing MS will be demolished; ES & HS work is achieved over summer & school breaks; no student relocation cost is required.

### ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL SCOPE:

#### EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ADDRESSED:

- Refer to the June 24, 2024 Community Forum materials for detail about how the design addresses the *Identified Barriers to Education*

#### SITE NEEDS ADDRESSED:

- Addresses vehicular and pedestrian circulation
- Maintains current number of athletic fields and quantity of green space

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEEDS ADDRESSED:

- Addresses ES repairs that are most efficiently done as part of a large project (see 6/24/24 Forum materials for detail), including mechanical, new flooring in classrooms & hallways, new ceilings in classrooms, and paint to assist with wayfinding & identity
- New secure entry vestibule with administrative offices and adequately sized nurse space with daylight
- Lobby renovations double as collaboration spaces
- STEM addition next to the Library

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL NEEDS ADDRESSED:

- New MS: Demolition and abatement of existing MS and construction of a new MS on current soccer field (field relocated on site). New MS "resets the clock" on 1 of 3 schools; provides a comprehensive approach to safety and security; is an energy efficient building that complies with existing energy codes; includes a secure entry vestibule, a HS-sized gym with 300 bleacher seats, cafeteria, performing arts spaces that meet required sizes, stage for 100+ band members, library/STEAM space, and (2) two-story classroom wings with right-sized/flexible educational spaces.
- Full building cooling included – VRF system provides electric heating and cooling; a backup heating system is provided in the event of power outages
- Roof is solar ready
- Includes MS team neighborhoods with team collaboration and presentation areas
- Plan includes areas for potential future classroom & performing arts additions
- Stage can open to both sides allowing varying sizes of audiences and multiple uses of spaces, with sound mitigation between spaces

### HIGH SCHOOL SCOPE:

- Address HS repairs that are most beneficial to address with large construction project (refer to 6/24/24 Community Forum materials for detail)

## PRELIMINARY RENDERING NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

