

# The Cape Courier

Volume 38 Number 5  
Mar 26 - April 8, 2025

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

capecourier.com

*In the Spirit of Community*

## Two Lights State Park closed for improvements

By Jeff Mandell



Photo by Jeff Mandell

*Two Lights State Park is currently closed for improvements and renovations. It will reopen later this spring; the exact date is to be determined.*

Two Lights State Park is currently closed for improvements and renovations for the next several weeks. It will reopen later this spring, the exact date is to be determined. The most significant changes are to the entrance to the park and to the parking lot. The 41-acre park was the eighth most-visited state park, with 157,284 visitors in 2021.

The work at Two Lights is part of a state-wide series of infrastructure projects funded by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2022 granting \$50 million for improvements in the 48 state parks and historical sites in Maine.

Construction of the new entry and upgrades to the roadway are well underway. Some construction materials, including the asphalt to pave the new roadway, will not be available until May. The major improvements include:

- Construction of a new ADA-accessible gatehouse with room for two or more rangers. It will be heated and air-conditioned, powered by a heat pump.
- Widening and straightening the road from the park entrance to the parking lot with improved sightlines.
- Addition of a pedestrian and bicycle path along the new entrance road.
- Underground utility upgrades.

The new gatehouse and park entry will be located at a new entrance to the parking lot in an area that had formerly been ledges, which were removed by blasting to create a new space. The park entry will now consist of two lanes to enter and one to exit, replacing the single entry.

Some materials for the improvements are recycled from the construction, in-

cluding rock that was blasted from the ledges that made room for the new gatehouse. The larger rocks will be used for new barriers and walls along the entrance road.

According to Kurt Shoener, manager of Two Lights, Kettle Cove, and Crescent Beach State Parks, the improvements will allow visitors to see the park and the ocean before reaching the gatehouse. The idea is that visitors who are told at the gatehouse that there are no lighthouses in the park will want to enter for the trails and ocean views, rather than turn around and leave, as often happened with the old gatehouse near Two Lights Road.

For visitors who decide to leave the park, the area for turning around will be enlarged to alleviate the problems of congestion due to the previous narrow turn-around area. On busy summer days, rangers have reported that 200 or more carloads ask if there are lighthouses in the park, many of whom leave when told there are none. There are two lighthouses on private properties at the end of Two Lights Road that are not available to the public.

To receive updates on the work at Two Lights and other state parks, sign up for emails and text messages by visiting [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEDACF/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=MEDACF\\_203](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEDACF/subscriber/new?topic_id=MEDACF_203) or call the parks at 207-799-5871. Other nearby parks, including Kettle Cove, Crescent Beach and Fort Williams, will be open to visitors while Two Lights State Park is closed. The parks are open, and fees charged year round.

## Popular street festival returns to Cape Elizabeth

Do you still have fond memories of the early summer festival that used to be held in Portland every June? The incredible variety of food, entertainment, the craft show... throngs of people attended, and it was the perfect kick-off to the summer season.

Sadly, 2019 was the last festival and due to its popularity, reviving it has been a hot topic in several communities in the Portland area. As always, the roadblocks to rejuvenating such an event is first, organization and second, funding.

The first obstacle has actually been tackled, and should come as no surprise that a group of ambitious and motivated Cape Elizabeth go-getters has been meeting for several months, launching a grassroots effort to bring back the festival, with the location being in Cape Elizabeth.

"A necessary component for a festival of this size is intersecting roads so the event can be in a compact area," explained the committee chair, "and obviously Cape, with so many neighborhoods has numerous pos-

sibilities for the set up. We actually have several in mind, based on the theme we're trying to infuse into the planning."

Although there was generally no theme to the Portland festival, organizers recognize that the success of such a street fair is often tied to the celebration and recognition of a town or neighborhood legend, and have selected Edward (Ned) Fowler as this year's notable figure. Born in 1895, son of the legendary Fowler family of Cape Elizabeth, he died in 1931 at the age of 36. Ned was a kind and simple man, often seen riding his bicycle around town, doing odd jobs for wealthy residents, often bartering for his services, bypassing the Prohibition regulations of that time period.

The committee put together a comprehensive agenda, taking great care not to duplicate any of the activities already planned by the Family Fun Day Committee.

"The focus of the beloved Family Fun Day

-see STREET FESTIVAL page 12

## Pond Cove Chess Club wins Maine Scholastic Chess Championship



Contributed photo

*Pictured above is the Pond Cove Elementary Chess Club: Sebastian Holbrook, Jay Mower, Adrian Reichl, Harris Hayat, Holton Kang, Silvio Cimato, Teddy Bakis, Jack Leen, Sam Ferraro, Sullivan Sweet. Coach: David Cimato.*

On Saturday, March 8, the Pond Cove Elementary Chess Club participated in the Maine Scholastic Chess Championships at Hampden Academy against nine of the best elementary chess programs in the state. After three rounds, Pond Cove was tied for first with Mary Snow Elementary at 11.5 points. This mirrored 2024 when both schools entered the fourth and final round tied. That year, parents, coaches and players waited on edge as the championship came down to just a single board. It ended in heartbreak when Mary Snow was able to claim victory by a half point. The pain of that loss stayed in our minds as play began in this year's fourth round.

With key victories by Jay Mower, Sebastian Holbrook, Silvio Cimato, Harris Hayat, Jack Leen and Holton Kang, Pond Cove was able to avenge 2024's loss and take the title. Pond Cove ended the tournament with 15 points to 13.5 from Mary Snow Elementary.

Teddy Bakis earned the upset of the day with a draw against the top-rated player in the state. Jay Mower was named the team MVP for the strongest performance of the tournament for Pond Cove. Adrian Reichl, Sam Ferraro, and Sullivan Sweet all contributed with multiple victories. After the team was announced as the 2025 Maine Scholastic K-5 Chess Champions, we found out we had won another honor. Pond Cove also won the coveted Scholastic Grand Prix Championship for the best team over the course of the season. The team's consistency and dedication dating back to September had paid off.

While the Pond Cove Chess Club was battling in the elementary division, Maxim O'Hagan, Lucas Haddad and Theo Reichl of CEMS were pushing up the leaderboards in

-see CHESS page 4



**The Cape Courier**  
 P.O. Box 2248  
 South Portland, Maine 04116  
 207-939-9766  
[www.capecourier.com](http://www.capecourier.com)

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
 Roger Bishop,  
 Debbie Butterworth, Jerry Harkavy,  
 James Wagner, Ed Pfueller and Peter Carignan

**Publisher:** Tara Simopoulos  
[info@capecourier.com](mailto:info@capecourier.com)

**Editor:** Marta Girouard  
[editor@capecourier.com](mailto:editor@capecourier.com)

**Community Reporter:** Kevin St. Jarre  
[community@capecourier.com](mailto:community@capecourier.com)

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

**Bookkeeper:**  
[billing@capecourier.com](mailto:billing@capecourier.com)

**Proofreaders:**  
 Chuck Rzeszutko

**Photo finishing:** Ann Kaplan

**Distribution:** William Alexander

For general information:  
[info@capecourier.com](mailto:info@capecourier.com)/207-939-9766  
 For Advertising:  
[advertising@capecourier.com](mailto:advertising@capecourier.com)

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

**Photographers:** Martha Agan, Joanne Lee

*The Cape Courier is printed by Maine Trust for Local News in South Portland and mailed free to Cape Elizabeth residents 22 times a year. We disclaim all legal responsibility for errors, omissions or typographical errors. All reasonable care is taken to see that errors do not occur. We print corrections upon timely notification.*

**LETTER & SUBMISSION POLICY**  
 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 9**  
**DEADLINE: Noon, Mar 28**

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
 \$21.10/year in Maine; \$25 out of state  
 \$15 student (9 months)  
 \$12 half year  
*(These amounts include state sales tax, which The Cape Courier is required to charge.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**  
 The Cape Courier  
 P.O. Box 2248  
 South Portland, ME 04116

## 'We need our elected officials to fight for us' 'We're all in this together'

I am writing as a resident of Cape Elizabeth. I'm calling on Senator Susan Collins to do more to prioritize our health, climate and future. This includes:

- Stopping efforts to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act's climate and clean energy policies that will put us on a path to cut climate pollution 40 percent by 2030, create 9 million jobs, and lower energy prices.
- Blocking the Trump administration and unelected billionaire Elon Musk from cutting vital government programs and staff to pay

for tax cuts for the wealthy.

- Resisting attempts to eliminate various environmental protection laws.

As a local business owner who has recently invested in solar panels to power our rental properties, these issues have a huge impact on me and on all our guests and customers.

I urge Senator Collins to protect people in our beautiful state over corporate polluters. We need our elected officials to fight for us!

**Amanda Avallone**

## Cape built a school during the depression

In 1934, during the height of the Great Depression, Cape Elizabeth built a school. Despite being in the middle of one of the worst economic periods in history, the people of Cape Elizabeth came together and built a school because that was what was needed. They understood the value of education and did the right thing despite what was happening all around them.

With the current state of the national economy and our local municipal budget, we sit at a similar crossroads. Cape needs to build a new school. The No votes on the school bonds in 2022 and 2024 don't change the needs. And despite some private citizens with no architecture experience trying to draft solutions, for various reasons it's best

to trust Harriman, who have literally been building in Maine since 1870.

Cape has known since at least 1993 that our school buildings would need to be replaced. The town has been studying the problem since 2017. We've hired experts, the real kind not the armchair ones, and they have a plan that will benefit generations of Cape kids. Despite turmoil all around us, we can and should work hard to control what happens in our town and do what's right for Cape now and in the future.

**Rob Krauser**

**-see more LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 4**

# THANK YOU!

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

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Anonymous

Let us hear from you!



We love feedback!

[editor@capecourier.com](mailto:editor@capecourier.com)

## 'Renovating a crumbling school is foolish'

Over the past few weeks, community members and elected officials have worked to craft a new school bond proposal that addresses concerns about safety, costs and improvements to Cape schools.

Yet, a vocal group of neighbors continues to provide disingenuous criticisms and prevent any meaningful investment. Their strategy is clear: propose financially irresponsible alternatives and undermine any person or process that contradicts their anti-education agenda.

They've attacked architects, the nonpartisan owners' representative—whose job it is to advocate for Cape taxpayers—and school board and town council members. They first claimed the previous bond was too expensive, but now they complain that the new version cuts too much. Which is it?

And that's the answer: Their bottom line is that nothing will ever be good enough and they will continue to find holes in any plan or expert, all in an attempt to keep their taxes low and ensure nothing meaningful is done.

Renovating a crumbling school is foolish. Multiple independent experts have stated our middle school has reached the end of its useful life. If we renovate, we'll still need a new middle school in as few as 10 years—forcing Cape into another tax hike, decades before the first 30 year bond is paid off. I certainly can't afford to pay twice in my time here.

It's time to bring the new school bond to a vote. This is the best thing for our taxpayers because our town has been told repeatedly: The longer we wait, the more expensive it gets.

**Ben Hagopian**

2025 Publication schedule		
Issue No	Ad/Copy Due	Issue Published
01	Jan 3	Jan 15
02	Jan 24	Feb 5
03	Feb 7	Feb 19
04	Feb 28	March 12
05	March 14	March 26
06	March 28	April 9
07	April 11	April 23
08	April 25	May 7
09	May 9	May 21
10	May 23	June 4
11	June 6	June 18
12	June 20	July 2
13	July 4	July 16
14	July 25	August 6
15	Aug 8	August 20
16	Aug 22	Sept 3
17	Sept 5	Sept 17
18	Sept 19	Oct 1
19	Oct 10	Oct 22
20	Oct 31	Nov 12
21	Nov 14	Nov 26
22	Dec 5	Dec 17

# IT'S GROUNDHOG DAY ALL OVER AGAIN!



**\$87M SCHOOL BOND = NEARLY 12% TAX INCREASE\* PLUS \$19 MILLION IN HIDDEN FUTURE TAX INCREASES.**



\$15M in essential repairs for the elementary and high schools have been stripped from the bond and dumped into the UNFUNDED Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).



Abandons the historic 1934 building and cuts \$4.8M needed to restore heat, electricity, water, and sewer.



Total Cost? Over \$106 MILLION when you include deferred repairs, while offering less than the defeated 2024 proposal.

*\*Based on current market rate of 3.9% for 30-year, level P&I, AAA bonds*

## WHY THE RUSH TO A JUNE VOTE?

A low-turnout June election could allow a tiny minority of voters to approve ~\$87M in new debt.

A November referendum is the responsible choice:



*More voters will have a say on this major project.*



*Gives the School Board plenty of time to explore alternatives.*



*More time to consider new state funding options that may become available this spring per Gov. Mills proposed reforms.*

## SCARBOROUGH LISTENED. WHY WON'T CAPE?

After Scarborough voters rejected a costly school plan, they formed a citizen advisory group to explore alternatives.



Scarborough, also working with Harriman architects, put forward seven options to the public.



Cape's School Board shut down discussion and refused to consider any alternatives.

## AND WHAT ABOUT STUDENT ENROLLMENT?

The October 2024 NESDEC Report projects declining enrollment over the next decade:

- Overall school enrollment is expected to shrink by ~1% by 2035.
- Middle school enrollment has declined 27% since 2004 (from 619 to 448)

## SMARTER ALTERNATIVES THAT OFFER STUDENTS MUCH MORE.

Former members of the School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC) proposed a true Three-School Solution that:



Saves at least \$23 MILLION compared to the current plan.



Builds 53,000 sq. ft. of new space for the middle and elementary schools.



Delivers modern classrooms, dedicated performing arts center, improved STEM spaces, and better cafeteria facilities—enhancing education and student experience at every grade level, K-12. Substantial savings by building on the current footprint.



Fully funds critical high school upgrades. School Board insists on future tax increases to fund these necessary investments.



Covers 100% of essential needs for ALL THREE SCHOOLS instead of throwing them into future CIP budgets, creating budget security for the next generation of Cape Elizabeth residents, and protecting future budgets for teachers and staffing needs.

## WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

Tell the Town Council to STOP the rush to a June vote and take the time to fully consider alternatives.

**ACT NOW!** Visit [CapeVoters.com](http://CapeVoters.com) to learn more and contact your Town Councilors TODAY.



## ‘Let’s move forward together’

Cape Elizabeth hasn’t built a new school in 50+ years. Seeing our community divided again is heartbreaking.

As a School Board member and former co-chair of the School Building Advisory Committee (SBAC), I’ve been involved in this project since my election in 2020. This process has been long and difficult. Unfortunately, misinformation continues to circulate, including attempts to discredit our Superintendent, School Board and the professionals guiding this process.

After the first referendum failed in 2022, I saw it as an opportunity to listen and lead a collaborative effort to address our school infrastructure and educational needs. We partnered with experienced public school construction professionals and prioritized community engagement. Based on community input, we brought in an Owner’s Representative for an independent review of the numbers and process.

The joint Town-School Building Advisory Committee was unprecedented.

This nine member committee selected the Owner’s Representative and Architect through an open RFP process, with both firms unanimously approved by the Town Council and School Board. These firms have acted in the town’s and schools’ best interests. Suggesting otherwise undermines the integrity of this process and the dedication of our staff, volunteers and professionals.

Now, facing our third referendum, opposition continues using the same tactics—sowing doubt and fear about a fully vetted, fiscally responsible plan developed by Harriman Architects and endorsed by the School Board. Meanwhile, every delay increases costs.

Our focus should be on what’s best for our children, schools and community. Let’s move forward together.

**Cindy Voltz**

*This statement is my own. It is not on behalf of or endorsed by the Cape Elizabeth School Board or School Department.*

## A message from the Library Director

The Thomas Memorial Library is proud to join libraries across the US in celebrating National Library Week from April 6-12. As part of our celebration, we are excited to announce our premier film screening of “Free for All: The Public Library” on Tuesday, April 8, in partnership with the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society. This film explores the history and ongoing importance of public libraries in America. The screening will be followed by a discussion and Q&A about the history of our own library in particular.

April 8 is also National Library Workers Day, and I want to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff: Allyson, Amy, Jenny, Julia, Kevin, Michelle, Pat, Sara, Sarah, Sasha and Sierra. Their passion and commitment to public service are evident every day, and I couldn’t

be more proud to work with them. Our team works tirelessly and collaboratively to ensure that the Thomas Memorial Library remains a vital resource for our community, fostering connections and providing access to information for all. Please join me on April 8 in thanking them for their invaluable contributions.

**Rachel Davis, Director  
Thomas Memorial Library**

## Chess

Continued from page 1

the middle school division. Theo ended the tournament with a perfect 4-0 record, Lucas continued his strong play by going 3-1, and Maxim added two points to the team total. Together, these nine points were enough to tie for second place. After tiebreakers were calculated, CEMS settled for third place. Following the trophy presentation, Cape soon learned they also had won the Scholastic Grand Prix Championship for the middle school division.

## News from March 10 Town Council meeting

By Hanna Gilley

### Item #39-2025 The Good Table Liquor License Renewal

The Good Table restaurant at 527 Ocean House Road is operating with a temporary liquor license that will expire on March 20, 2025. They requested renewal for a liquor license for which the town council members voted unanimously to approve.

### Public Hearing - Planning Board Recommendation on Supplemental LD 2003 Amendments

Many residents and community members shared their opinions on the supplemental LD2003 amendments.

Paul Tarantola spoke on the “housing stock and affordability crisis” in Cape Elizabeth. He said the town needs to prioritize “creative solutions” which “leverage our existing infrastructure” and is in support of the supplemental amendments. Kevin Justh is also in support of the supplemental amendments, saying that “the town says it is in support of seniors, housing diversity, and young families” and that our actions as a town should reflect that.

Cynthia Dill shared that she opposes the amendments because they go above and beyond what the state law requires, adding that the amendments allow for “people to build really big ADUs and then ‘condo-ize’ them.”

Eliza Matheson supports the amendments and says that it is “overreach” when there is too much control over what residents can do with their own property. She said, “if you have a large enough piece of land, and the code enforcer says you can do it, who am I to say that they can’t?” She added that she believes the quiet part was said out loud [during the public hearing] that the town wants some people to be able to build equity in the community but not certain other people.

Chris Gorski also supports the amendments and asked the Council to “make the responsible choice for our present needs and future generations” by approving them. By not supporting the amendments he said it would “create unnecessary pressure for land development” and that Cape “needs smart land use policies that balance growth and conservation.”

### Item #38-2025 Planning Board Recommendation on Supplemental LD 2003 Amendments

Councilor Jonathan Sarhbeck asked if the Town Manager, Patrick Fox, could look into the covenants on some of the developed neighborhoods from the last 35-40 years so that residents can have the information on what they can and cannot do with their property, including any that restrict a homeowner from tearing down their house and building a condominium or multi-unit.

Councilor Caitlin Harriman made the motion to approve the supplemental amendments as presented except for changing the maximum ADU size from 1,600 square feet to 1,100 square feet. Harriman said she amended the maximum size because of previous feedback from residents in other meetings and public hearings. Her motion was met with opposition by Councilor Thompson who had “significant problems” with how the amendments go above the requirements of state law. Thompson also asked that the vote go through the “regular process” and that it was stated in the agenda that the Council would take a vote on the amendments during the April meeting.

Councilor Stephanie Anderson also thought that the vote would take place in April and that her concerns with the amendments included the maximum ADU size, the absence of a site plan review requirement for multi-family residences, and that the amendments allow for an ADU to be converted to a condo and then sold, none of which are required under the state law for LD2003.

The council unanimously voted to send the item for vote during the regular April Town Council meeting with the requested presence of Town Attorney Mary Costigan.

### Item #40-2025 School Board Recommendation for School Construction Referendum

Prior to the presentation of the most updated option for the Cape Elizabeth school project by the school board, several residents shared their opinions and concerns. Chris Gorski urged the town council to schedule a referendum for the school construction bond to a date as soon as possible. He said that each passing month “erodes the purchasing power” and that the “fiscal

-see TOWN COUNCIL page 15

Got a story to share? Email us!



editor@capecourier.com

Full Service  
Veterinary  
Center in the  
Heart of Cape  
Elizabeth

**VETERINARY AND  
REHABILITATION CENTER  
OF CAPE ELIZABETH**

Cat Friendly  
Practice *gold*

AAHA  
ACCREDITED  
The Standard of  
Veterinary Excellence

“YOUR OTHER FAMILY DOCTOR”

207 Ocean House Road (Route 77), Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
(207) 799-6952 | info@vrcce.com | www.vrcce.com

## TVK Construction

ALL JOBS - Big or Small

Terry V. Keezer, Owner

Fully Insured

---

207.252.7375

www.TVKconstruction.com

## COASTAL

Plumbing & Heating

New Construction  
Remodeling • Service

Oil • Propane • Natural Gas

(207) 939-5822

www.coastalplumbingme.com

## RE/MAX

OCEANSIDE

### Frank S. Strout

Broker

1237 Shore Road, Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107  
Office: 207.799.7600 x104 Cell: 207.776.4245

FrankStrout@remax.net    www.OceansideMaine.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

# News from the School Board

By Phil Saucier

It is hard to believe that spring is just around the corner and we are in the last third of the school year! There is a lot to celebrate in our schools. I would like to specifically highlight our terrific music program this month. The Cape Elizabeth Middle School bands program, directed by Caitlin Ramsey and Missy Shabo, was a recipient of the 2025 Music for All Advocacy in Action Award – a truly deserved honor – and the School Board heard a presentation about this award at our February business meeting. Our school music programs, from Pond Cove, the middle school and the high school are a true treasure of our community.

### School Building Project

On February 24 the School Board unanimously approved a Phased Three-School Building Plan developed together with Harriman Architects after receiving thoughtful feedback from the community over the last several months. We believe this plan is the best long-term plan for taxpayers and our students.

At the Town Council meeting on March 10, Cape Elizabeth's independent owner's representative, Chuck Adam from Turner & Townsend Heery agreed with the School Board's Phased Three-School Building Plan, and specifically acknowledged that Cape Elizabeth Middle School is on borrowed time and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. At the meeting he said the best value for the Cape Elizabeth tax dollar is to build a new middle school. "The town has extended the life of the current middle school beyond what is appropriate," he said. Based on the assessment from Turner & Townsend Heery, putting more money into the current middle school is not an effective use of taxpayer funds. This is because the building cannot be reasonably modified to adequately address the basic educational needs, including personnel safety, technology advancements in the classroom, and team learning spaces.

Turner & Townsend Heery's charge is to provide an independent review of our building conditions, of the proposed new designs, and to safeguard our taxpayer dollars, and I hope Mr. Adam's words carry as much weight with you as they did with me.

The Owner's Representative also touched on some of the proposals and feedback the School Board has received over the last months and years and concluded that the best solution is to reset the clock on one of our aging buildings – and specifically replace the middle school.

To address the most pressing facilities issues at the high school and Pond Cove as quickly as possible, the School Board is recommending that the funds included with the District's Capital Improvement Plan ("CIP") be used to tackle these issues as soon as possible. The current FY2025 budget includes \$1.29 million for CIP, maintenance, and repair, consistent with the currently proposed FY2026 budget. Properly funding the CIP is a foundational element of the school budget process – it is the fiscally prudent approach. The District's Director of Facilities will work

with Harriman and the Owner's Representative to prioritize the projects and start work as soon as the budget monies become available.

On a personal note, I serve as the School Board Chair, but I'm also a taxpayer and resident of this great community. If voters approve building a new middle school my children may never set foot in that school. Yet I still fully support this plan because it represents the best long-term financial plan for our community and its taxpayers – and is also best for our students, teachers and school staff. I know I speak for the entire Board when I say it is our duty to advocate for nothing less. You can learn more about the plan at [www.cape.k12.me.us/page/buildingproject](http://www.cape.k12.me.us/page/buildingproject)

### Budget Update

The Board continues its work on the school budget and held a workshop on February 25 where we received answers from the District Leadership Team to our questions about the operating expense portion of the budget, reviewed two administration pilot programs, and reviewed newly proposed positions. Some costs are still not yet known, including insurance and the outcomes of three ongoing contract negotiations.

As I noted during my last update, one of the most significant challenges this year is a reduction in Cape Elizabeth's state education subsidy for FY26. Our state funding is expected to drop by nearly 25% - a decrease of approximately \$800,000 - from \$3.3 million in FY25 to \$2.5 million in FY26, primarily because of an increase in our municipal valuation.

Despite this challenge, the Board remains committed to crafting a fiscally responsible budget, keeping operating expenses flat, and continuing to provide an excellent education for our students.

The Board's next budget workshops are scheduled for March 25, March 26 (if needed), and April 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school library. The Board will vote on the budget at its April 8 regular business meeting.

Our regular meetings are on the second Tuesday evening of every month in the Council Chambers, our workshops are held on the fourth Tuesday evening in the High School Library, and our committees meet regularly throughout the month with dates and times posted on our website. Please reach out to us at [cesb@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:cesb@capeelizabethschools.org) anytime.

# Protecting vulnerable children from doxing

By Sen. Anne Carney

Being a kid is hard, and having your personal information shared on the internet in ways that jeopardize your safety or hurt you doesn't make it any easier.

Legal protection against doxing is desperately needed in today's world. As more children and adolescents gain access to social media and other online platforms, their risk for being doxed increases. That's why I'm co-sponsoring LD 537, "An Act to Prohibit the Doxing of a Minor and to Authorize a Related Civil Action," introduced by Rep. Melanie Sachs of Freeport.

Doxing is when a person's identifying information, like their name and address, is disclosed publicly without their consent and with the intent to cause harm. Currently, there aren't any criminal or civil penalties for doxing in Maine — LD 537 would ameliorate this.

Doxing makes a bad situation worse for vulnerable teenagers. A study supported by the National Institute of Health determined that the United States is facing "an adolescent mental health crisis." Children experiencing depression are at risk for engaging in self-harm and in some cases, suicide. The public disclosure of their private information can further worsen their mental health.

This bill would protect the children of Maine from cyberbullying and give parents an effective response to online behavior that demeans children, exposes them to ridicule and can inflict severe emotional or physical harm. It comes at a time when vulnerable groups need it most. Depression in young girls is rising over three times faster than in boys.

And according to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), "[Lesbian, gay and bisexual] youth are more than twice as likely as their heterosexual peers to experience persistent sadness or hopelessness, and transgender and gender diverse (TGD) youth are more than twice as likely as their non-TGD peers to experience depressive symptoms, serious suicidal ideation, or suicide attempts."

Growing up is a deeply personal journey that every child navigates along their own path. LD 537 would protect all Maine children. Doxing violates not only these children's privacy, but also their sense of personal safety. LD 537 would create an avenue for the families of at-risk youth to protect their children if they're doxed. It enables them to bring a civil action on the child's behalf to stop the conduct and receive compensation for harm.

By creating a pathway towards justice for doxed children and their families, we're protecting Maine's most vulnerable and taking meaningful steps towards creating a safer state for everyone. No child deserves to be subject to cyberbullying and doxing, no matter what challenges they may face as they grow up. I am proud to support this bill and firmly believe in the privacy and safety of children that it seeks to safeguard.

You can stay tuned for updates in my biweekly e-newsletter, which you can sign up for at [mainesenate.org](http://mainesenate.org). You can also reach out to me at [Anne.Carney@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Anne.Carney@legislature.maine.gov) or call my Senate office at 207-287-1515 if you have questions about LD 537 or anything else in state government.



**Kathleen O. Pierce**

Vice President  
Real Estate Advisor

207.232.4030

[kpierce@advisorsliving.com](mailto:kpierce@advisorsliving.com)





**CAPE DOG WALKING**



207.807.7206  
[capedogwalking.com](http://capedogwalking.com)  
BONDED • INSURED

*Winter is the time to...*

- Assess and prune ornamental trees and shrubs
- Rejuvenate overgrown hedges and fruit trees
- Consult, plan and design gardens in time for the upcoming growing season

**GET IN TOUCH TODAY TO SCHEDULE AN ESTIMATE!**



508-233-8211  
[Thgarden207@gmail.com](mailto:Thgarden207@gmail.com)  
[@thos.hill.garden.design](http://@thos.hill.garden.design)

**Vindle Builders**  
Ron Spidle, owner  
Custom framing to fine carpentry

*Where integrity means business*  
**207-329-9017**  
Fully insured  
[vindlebuilders.com](http://vindlebuilders.com)



## CE Owner's Representative supports School Board's Phased Three-School Building Plan

(Press release) - At the March 10 Town Council Meeting, Cape Elizabeth's Owner's Representative Turner & Townsend Heery, represented by Chuck Adam, officially provided their professional opinion on the School Board's Phased Three-School Building Plan. Turner & Townsend Heery—one of the largest Owner's Project Management (OPM) firms in the United States—has nearly 50 years of experience advising towns on K-12 building projects.

"Since the beginning of 2021, we have agreed with all of the design professionals who have worked on this project: the replacement of the middle school should be the first thing that you do," said Adam. "The middle school has passed its useful life. The mechanicals are not supplying the quality of services required for school buildings. You have to provide a building that provides safe educational spaces. The Cape Elizabeth Middle School can no longer do that."

Adam emphasized the safety concerns identified by design professionals with the current middle school. "There is no denying major security concerns with that building. The need for delivery personnel to travel in the corridors with students is frightening. The large number of exterior doors on this building because of the iterations... need constant monitoring. It's a security concern."

Adam also addressed the financial implications of the plan. "We have looked at the cost implications and have not come to this decision lightly. This is all about protecting [Cape Elizabeth] tax dollars for us. We want to make sure you are getting the best value for your money, and we believe if [the town builds] a new middle school, that's the best value for your money."

Beyond the financial considerations, Turner & Townsend Heery agreed with the school administration and design professionals that the current buildings are limiting educational opportunities for Cape Elizabeth students. "The building is not allowing the educators to do what they want to do because of the physical constraints of the building," he said.

Adam also agreed with the School Board's plan to use the Capital Investment Plan to address needs at the high school and Pond Cove. Acknowledging that the town is currently unable to replace both the middle school and Pond Cove, Adam stressed that

the best solution is to prioritize the middle school while allowing the facilities team to address repairs to the other schools. "This is the best option for what you've told us your budget constraints are," he said.

"Building the middle school allows Pond Cove to breathe—Pond Cove is restricted by the age and condition of the middle school," Adam added. "[In the current plan] a new mechanical wing is added- that will improve the mechanicals for that building. The project will provide a new, safer entrance. All of that couldn't be done with the middle school where it currently is."

Adam acknowledged the extensive planning and exploration that has already occurred. "You've been looking at this for seven years. You've explored all the options," he said, endorsing the School Board's Phased Three-School Building Plan.

He also supported the School Board's strategy to "reset the clock" on one of the three schools, allowing the facilities team to focus on addressing needs at Pond Cove and Cape Elizabeth High School.

As the town's Owner's Representative, Turner & Townsend Heery provided an independent review of every building condition in the Cape Elizabeth school district. They have personally evaluated each of the three buildings, from the roof to the basement and everything in between. Since being contracted by the town, the team at Turner & Townsend Heery has conducted independent reviews of every design iteration intended to address Cape Elizabeth's aging school buildings.

Adam underscored the urgency of addressing the middle school's condition. "Those of us who drive cars with 200,000 miles on them know we are on borrowed time. You have a building that far exceeds a car with 200,000 miles on it," he said.

The Cape Elizabeth School Board unanimously approved the Phased Three-School Building Plan in a special meeting on February 24 and urged the Town Council to place the bond on the June ballot, warning that delaying the vote until November would increase project costs by at least \$1 million. Residents can share their thoughts about the project with the council at the March 24 public forum.

## Altercation between dog walkers, vehicle passes stopped school bus

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

### PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 2-26 An officer met with a resident in the Shore Road area who reported a bat in the house after being alerted by the family dog. The bat was captured and transported for rabies testing.
- 2-26 An officer responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road for a well-being check.
- 2-26 An officer met with a resident of the Ocean House Road area who had received an Apple account bill via a text message and was asked to call if the amount due was incorrect. The victim called the number and was told the charge was fictitious, but that pornography was found on the victim's phone and it would cost several thousand dollars to remove the pornography and avoid criminal charges. The victim was told not to tell anyone about the transaction. The victim got the money from the bank and was told to add the cash to a Bitcoin ATM. The victim complied, and was again contacted, and this time realized it was a scam.
- 3-2 An officer met with a resident at the police station who turned over a wallet that had been found at Fort Williams. Attempts to contact the owner have been unsuccessful.
- 3-3 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area who reported he had received a letter from a collection

- agency for payment for a loan the victim was alleged to have co-signed for. The victim had not cosigned for any loan.
- 3-3 An officer responded to Crescent Beach for a report of an altercation between two dog walkers on the beach.
- 3-4 An officer met with a resident in the Spurwink Avenue area regarding a vehicle passing a stopped school bus with the red lights on and the stop sign deployed. A plate number was obtained for a follow up investigation.
- 3-6 An officer met with a subject regarding a road rage incident in the area of Ocean House Road that the subject wished to have documented.
- 3-8 An officer met with a subject in the lobby of the police station to discuss a possible assault that occurred in the Shore Road area.

### SUMMONSES

- 3-4 Cape Elizabeth resident, improper passing, Spurwink Avenue, \$180
- 3-6 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using a hand held device, Ocean House Road, \$85

### ACCIDENTS

- 2-26 Hanna Perkins, Nancy Trueworthy, accident on Spurwink Avenue.

### FIRE CALLS

Fire calls: 13; EMS calls: 30

## Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

### Gift Card Balance Scams

The holidays have passed, and for many, that means a stack of gift cards just waiting to be used. But before you check your balances online, beware of fake gift card balance-checking sites designed to steal both your post-holiday joy and your money. Just because a website to check your gift card balance appears at the top of internet search results does not mean it's legitimate. Search results can be filled with fraudulent gift card balance-checking sites, and scammers are constantly finding new ways to get their pages to show up at the top of results. A safer way to check the balance of a gift card

is to refer to the back of the card for a phone number or web address. If it's not provided, proceed with caution. Avoid entering your gift card details into any search result labeled as "Sponsored" or "Ad." In addition, be cautious of any site title that appears in wacky fonts or next to odd emoji's; this is a common tactic scammers use to make their fraudulent web pages both visually pop and appear towards the top.

### Getting Help After a Scam

Dealing with fraud in the aftermath can be fraught – not knowing where or if you should report (you should – it's a crime), feelings of shame (even though it's not your fault – blame the perpetrator), and an often-overwhelming emotional toll – let alone the financial impact. One resource is the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline. Every weekday from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. EST, trained AARP volunteer fraud fighters are helping victims and their families understand what happened, report the crime, and plan next steps to put their lives back together. That number is 1-877-908-3360.

AARP also offers an online small group victim support program to help address the emotional harm fraud victimization causes. These conversations are completely confidential and are a wonderful way to receive support from others. Sign up for a session today at [aarp.org/fraudsupport](http://aarp.org/fraudsupport). Experiencing a scam can be devastating, but it doesn't have to define you. If you or someone you know has been the victim of fraud, make sure to file a report with local police; among other things, this may be useful in the event restitution becomes possible down the line.

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.

### MITCHELL DOMAGALA

"I absolutely love the great Maine outdoors, it's where I've grown up and it's where I truly like to spend my time. I am a 7th generation Mainer and University of Maine graduate, with knowledge of, and love for the small communities that make up our unique state. I get truly excited to help new and experienced home buyers alike. As an active real estate investor myself, I understand the ins and outs of the investment world. Whether you're interested in single-family or multi-family properties, I am your agent! Filled with ambition and dedication, I am eager to help with your real estate needs. I look forward to building lasting relationships and helping you every step of the way through your big decision. *Let's get started together!*"



Mitchell Domagala  
Office (207) 799-7600  
Cell (207)460-6900  
[mitchell@remax.net](mailto:mitchell@remax.net)

Buy Mitchell's Maine on Facebook and Instagram!  
<https://mitchell.dremax.com>

# What is Project Graduation?

By Cape Project Graduation 2025 Committee

Project Graduation is a time-honored tradition that began in Maine over 40 years ago. Sadly, this was because of seven alcohol and drug-related teen deaths during the commencement season in 1979, and the town of Oxford Hills organized the first Project Graduation event in 1980. The intent of Project Graduation (PG) is to provide an environment where graduates do not have to deal with peer pressure on graduation night to consume alcohol, drugs, or ride with a driver who is under the influence. Traditionally, the event runs from late afternoon following graduation until sunrise the next day, and includes transportation, meals, and a night of exciting activities and entertainment for all graduating seniors.

Plans are underway for this special event honoring our CEHS Class of 2025. This past fall, a committee of volunteers came together to begin planning the Project Graduation 2025 celebration and the fundraising efforts needed to cover the associated costs. Our group was surprised to learn the actual costs involved in keeping our 129 CEHS 2025 graduates and the community at large safe on graduation night.

PG is a large fundraiser undertaking, but we recognize that a fun-filled alternative to drinking and driving far outweighs the expense. Fortunately, each year, our amazing Cape community comes together through various fundraisers and donations to support the graduating class. We simply cannot pull this off without your generous support.

Some of our past and current fundraising events have included our annual Po-

lar Plunge on New Year's Day at Kettle Cove, Maine Mariners hockey tickets and raffle, our annual Inn by the Sea Staycation Raffle, and our Live Auction coming in April.

Our current fundraiser is a raffle for a one-night stay and three-course dinner at Inn by the Sea at Crescent Beach with a drawing date of March 31. You can take a chance on this dog-friendly, slice of heaven for \$25/ ticket. Payments can be sent through Venmo @CEHS-PG-25 memo: PG25 IBTS Raffle/ Name/ Phone or drop off a check to the high school payable to Cape Elizabeth High School, memo PG25 IBTS Raffle. Drop off to front desk at the high school or mail to: Treasurer PG25 % CEHS 345 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107.

For the latest information and fundraiser details, follow CapePG25 on Facebook and Instagram or visit our website [www.capeprojectgraduation.com](http://www.capeprojectgraduation.com)

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Susana Measelle Hubbs at [susanameasellehubbs@gmail.com](mailto:susanameasellehubbs@gmail.com) or [joey.lynn.terry@gmail.com](mailto:joey.lynn.terry@gmail.com).

It takes a village and we need the entire community of Cape Elizabeth to rally behind our seniors who are graduating on Sunday, June 1.



# CEMS Drama Club to perform Disney's Frozen Jr.

Do you want to build a snowman? You'll love this fanciful and heartwarming stage adaptation of the top-grossing animated film of all time! Join Anna, Elsa, Olaf, and all of your favorite characters as they embark on an epic, ice-filled journey of self-discovery, camaraderie, and the real meaning of true love. Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favorite Frozen songs such as "Love Is an Open Door," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," and "Let It Go," as well as wonderful new songs from the Broadway production.

The cast and crew of this year's CEMS spring production, Disney's Frozen Jr. have been rehearsing since late January and are

getting excited to perform for our community soon.

Opening night of the production is Thursday, April 10, at 7 p.m., with another 7 p.m. performance on Friday, April 11, followed by two 2 p.m. matinee performances on Saturday, April 12, and Sunday, April 13. The show runs about an hour. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults and are available online and at the door prior to each performance. Performances will be in the CEMS auditorium.

We hope that you can make plans today to attend a performance of Disney's Frozen Jr. and celebrate spring with us by supporting another of our community's wonderful performing arts offerings. See you at the show!

# CEEF supports new curriculum

The kindergarten team at Pond Cove Elementary has launched an innovative new curriculum this year called K for ME. This exciting program allows young learners to dive deep into their imaginations, creating and exploring through various art and sensory-based projects. The curriculum focuses on four key themes: community, animals and habitats, construction and our earth. These themes are designed to captivate the students' curiosity and enhance their understanding of the world around them.

To fully support this new curriculum, the kindergarten team required high-quality, sturdy sensory tables and art easels. Unfortunately, the ones on hand were either weak, failing, or broken, hindering the children's ability to engage fully in their creative endeavors. Sensory tables and art easels are vital tools for young learners, as they allow

them to experiment with different textures, materials, and artistic techniques, fostering their development and creativity.

With this CEEF grant requested by kindergarten teacher Nicole Carey, the school purchased six new art easels and six new sensory tables, ensuring that every kindergarten classroom at Pond Cove has the necessary tools to support the K for ME curriculum. These new resources are already being put to good use, empowering the children to engage in meaningful, hands-on learning experiences, nurturing their creativity and curiosity in a supportive and enriching environment.

The Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation was founded in 2002 by dedicated parents who wanted to expand opportunities for Cape teachers and students. For more information and to donate, please visit [ceef.us](http://ceef.us).

## Cape Elizabeth Weighs Two Critical Sets of Zoning Amendments

### Q&A: "LD 2003 Supplemental" Zoning Amendments Take Aim at Cape's Neighborhoods

**Q: Is it true that the Town Council is making "supplemental" changes because they are required to by state law LD 2003?**

**A:** No. This ubiquitous but false claim has been repeatedly debunked during public meetings and other forums. **Listen carefully.** Rather than saying the changes are "required" by LD 2003, phrases such as "allowed by" or "consistent with" LD 2003 are now employed by the Town Planner, Town Attorney, and some Council members.

**Q: What is the impact of voluntarily increasing the size allowance for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) up to 1,100 square feet?**

**A:** Prior to LD 2003, Cape required ADUs to have off-street parking and be attached to the primary residence. **LD 2003 now prohibits those requirements.** Given this change, allowing ADUs up to 1,100 square feet—comparable to many existing homes in Cape—could lead to **significant unintended consequences** across neighborhoods. Notably, LD 2003 only mandates an allowance of 190 square feet, and Cape already increased its ADU limit from 600 to a generous 800 square feet last year.

**Q: What is the impact of voluntarily reducing Cape's minimum lot size requirements?**

**A:** LD 2003 mandates that towns allow multi-family housing in single-family neighborhoods. **Cape Elizabeth already complies.** Voluntarily lowering Cape's minimum lot size requirement would clear the way for developers to build hundreds of small apartment complexes (up to four units each) in neighborhoods throughout Cape.

**Q: Have affected property owners and their neighbors been notified so they can have a say in these proposed "LD 2003 Supplemental" policy changes?**

**A:** No. The Town Planner has identified **over 400 affected properties**, but the town has failed to notify Cape's affected property owners and their abutters.

**Q: Are there additional concerns about the proposed "supplemental" changes?**

**A:** Yes. The site plan review process for these apartment developments would be **eliminated**, removing important safety, environmental, and design oversight. Additionally, when the developers show up, neighbors will receive no notification and will have no say.

### Town Center Zoning Amendments: On Hold, Pending Citizen Referendum

In the last Courier, Cape Neighbors reported on a successful citizen-led petition effort that paused the Town Center zoning amendments and sent them to referendum. However, Town Council leadership attempted to bypass the process by introducing a slightly modified version of the amendments on their March agenda.

This move raised serious ethical and legal concerns, including potential violations of the Town Charter, failure to follow mandated procedures, and infringement on Cape citizens' Maine State and U.S. Constitutional rights to petition. When challenged on these legal issues, the Council tabled the newly proposed amendments.

We will closely monitor this important issue and strongly encourage the Council and Town leadership to uphold Cape citizens' fundamental right to petition.

### What is the Cape Neighbors Alliance?

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

## TML offers programs on rug braiding, emergency preparedness

### PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, TWEENS & TEENS

Please visit the library's website for information about weekly story times and other recurring programs. We have something going on every day of the week.

#### Sewing Adventures: Sewing Studio

Saturday, March 29, 1-2:30 p.m.

ALL Levels. Ages 7-18. Ages 10 and under must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Do you want to sew on sewing machines or do embroidery? Want to sew, but don't know where to start? Do you love to sew, but can't find time? Make time to sew with us. We will have a range of projects to choose from like recycled hats and mittens, giant and tiny pillows, zipper pouches, bean bags, felt animals, draw your own stuffies with fabric markers, and more, with sewing teachers available to assist you as needed. You are welcome to bring your own project, or use TML's sewing resources. Families are welcome to attend with new sewists.

#### Venture Club

Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. (when school is in session) (Ages 14+)

Venture Club is a teen-led board/card game and D&D club, with an emphasis on board games. We'll try to play new games every week. No registration is necessary.

#### Music Lab: Ukulele

Thursdays, April 10 - May 15, 3:30-4:15 p.m.

This six-week program is designed to teach the basics of how to play a ukulele

for kids ages 7-9. We will learn songs, play musical games and explore storytelling through song. The last class will culminate in a performance at the library for parents, friends and members of the community. Ukuleles (made possible by Thomas Memorial Library Foundation) are provided for the duration of the program. Caregivers must be present in the library during the program. Registration required, please visit our website for more information.

### FOR ADULTS

For information on our regular recurring programs, please visit the library's website.

#### Cape Elizabeth Garden Club Presents: Opening Your Garden in the Spring

Thursday, March 27, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Natalie Johnson of O'Donal's Nursery in Gorham will talk about the process of preparing your property in the spring at the start of the growing season. Her presentation will include seeding, fertilization, trimming and pruning of turf grass, woody plants and herbaceous perennials. Natalie Johnson was born and raised in Southern Maine and went to the University of Maine in Orono for Wildlife Ecology and Conservation and SMCC for Horticulture. She currently works in the perennials yard at O'Donal's Nursery but also helps people with woody plants, annuals, turf grass or mixed lawns. She loves planting and contributing to the stewardship of the land that we live on. Natalie is the proud owner of a small orchard, a rain garden, perennial beds and a vegetable/fruit garden.

#### Support Circle

Saturday, March 29, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Parents of children and adults with disabilities are invited to participate in an informal monthly discussion group to share and learn from each other. Meets on the last Saturday of every month in the library's Community Room. Light refreshments will be provided, please register on our website.

#### Beginning Rug Braiding: How to Make a Mug Rug with Pam Rowan and Cathy Winship

Saturday, March 29, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Have you ever been curious about rug braiding? This workshop is the perfect place to start your journey! Taught by Pam Rowan and Cathy Winship, this class will teach you rug braiding basics such as how to make a T-start and double corners, and you will come away with the skills to finish making your own little mug rug—the same skills needed to braid a chair pad or round rug. Limited to 12 participants.

#### Songwriting Workshop with Jud Caswell

Tuesday, April 1, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Register to join our monthly songwriting workshop on our website. You can come to share a song you are working on, or just to listen and offer feedback to those who share. Either way, it's a fun and rewarding way to spend an evening, and Jud is an excellent coach!

#### Color Analysis with Julie Cunningham

Tuesday, April 1, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Back by popular demand! Join us for the first in a series of programs for color professional Julie Cunningham. Color analysis is one of the big secrets of the universe. It is the fastest way to help a person look their best. It gives you an immediate psychic boost, and this feeling translates into more energy and a more positive attitude about life. Color analysis may seem superficial at first, but this is a very powerful and soul satisfying procedure. Professional color analyst Julie Cunningham will unveil her process for finding everyone a wonderful personal color pattern that one can easily bring out with harmonious colors, while knowing that everyone is perfect exactly the way they

are. No registration required.

#### Emergency Preparedness, with Charlie Kennedy and Brittany O'Neil

Thursday, April 3, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (in the library's Community Room)

Help relieve anxiety and keep yourself and your family safe by learning about practical steps you can take to be prepared in the event of an emergency. Charlie Kennedy, Cape Elizabeth Emergency Preparedness Director, and Brittany O'Neil, Response Coordinator for the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency, will share their expertise, provide tips and resources, and answer any questions you may have. No registration necessary.

#### Death Café

Thursday, April 3, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (in the library's Conference Room)

Join us for this monthly discussion group facilitated by Davinica Nemtsov of Kanel. At a Death Café people, often strangers, gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death. The objective is "to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives."

A Death Café is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counseling session. No registration necessary.

#### Repair Café

Saturday, April 5, 1-4 p.m.

Join us for TML's very first Repair Café! With the help of volunteer fixers, you are invited to bring a household item that you'd rather try to save than throw away and replace. Our volunteers welcome you to bring things that entail mending, jewelry and clothing repair or mechanical, electrical repair (for small appliances, not electronics). Help our community reduce waste by repairing instead of replacing. If you are interested in volunteering, email Sasha at [skohan@thomas.lib.me.us](mailto:skohan@thomas.lib.me.us).

#### CEHPS and TML present "Free For All: The Public Library": A Documentary Event and Discussion for National Library Week

Tuesday, April 8, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

TML is thrilled to partner with the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society for an Indie Lens pop-up event featuring a brand-new documentary all about public libraries. Join us for the 60-minute screening of "Free For All: The Public Library" followed by a Q&A with TML director Rachel Davis, who will share some details of the story behind our very own library. This movie is perfect for anyone who appreciates their library or is eager to learn more about the history of this crucial institution. There will be two more chances for you to watch the film and engage in our special library-centric activities; youth and families are invited to join us on Saturday, April 26 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., and another all-ages presentation will be held on Tuesday, June 3 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. featuring a panel of TML librarians. We hope to see you at one or more of these events.

#### Senior Social Hour: Wednesdays, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

March 26: Coffee & conversation

April 2: Live music with local musician Kafari

Come stop by for our usual coffee, tea, snacks, and conversation. Check our website for special guests and topics.

April 9: Coffee & conversation

**monica dambach**  
Partner & Broker  
Residential Real Estate

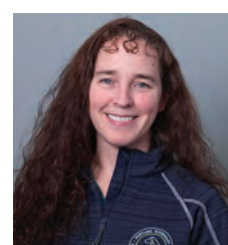
**Waypoint**  
BROKERS COLLECTIVE

BuySellMaine@Gmail.com  
(207) 749-4170  
Selling Vacationland!

## Portland Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Care



We provide expert specialty and emergency care for your pet — and peace of mind for you.



Dr. Marta Agrodnia  
DVM, DACVS-SA

739 Warren Ave.  
Portland

2255 Congress St.  
Portland

[pvesc.com](http://pvesc.com) | 207-878-3121

EMERGENCY COVERAGE AT WARREN AVENUE LOCATION



# Jazz Cabaret returning, chance to support Cape music

By Kevin St. Jarre

The Jazz Cabaret is returning once again. This year, it will be held on March 28. Organizer of the event, Laura Marston, promises “a fabulous night of music...with visiting artists, multiple jazz ensembles, a jazz choir and even the 8th grade jazz band.” She said that there will also be a raffle and a silent auction.

The Cabaret was started by Cape Elizabeth High School band director Norm Richardson in 1995. The objective was to provide a community event in which all Cape jazz musicians could be heard. It began with a Friday evening concert, and also a Sunday afternoon concert. The parents provided dessert and coffee, with the kids working as servers. In 1998, under the direction of Terry White, the Cape Elizabeth Middle School 8th grade jazz band joined the Cabaret.

It eventually transitioned to be just a Friday night event.

When Tom Lizotte became the CEHS

band director in 2003, the event was expanded to include guest soloists from the performance world and academic settings. Among the guest artists were Dave Demsey from William Patterson College, John Cooper from the College of the Atlantic, Mike Sakach of the Portland Jazz Orchestra, Nate Jorgensen of the University of New Hampshire, professional saxophonist Russ Norgrad, clarinetist Joe Stacy (former director of music for the Detroit schools), the Portland Jazz Orchestra and the Fogcutters Big Band.

During Covid, the format changed, with a concert in the auditorium, with the coinciding silent auction, and it has remained that way.

The Jazz Cabaret is the main fundraiser for the Cape Music Boosters, according to Marston. People can buy tickets in advance at capemusicboosters.org or at the door.



Photo by Rob Wheeler

One of the CEHS combos in a masterclass with the 2024 Cabaret artist-in-residence Javon Jackson.

# CEMS band selected to host renowned composer in residency and performance

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

CEMS Band Directors Caitlin Ramsey and Missy Shabo with Composer JaRod Hall at Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago last December.

Cape Elizabeth Middle School has been selected to host Texas-based composer JaRod Hall for the Beyond the Notes 2025 ComMission Possible Project’s World Premiere performance.

According to a press release, out of 38 middle schools across the country participating in this consortium commission, CEMS was chosen as the sole recipient of the artist residency and the honor of performing the world premiere.

The CEMS 8th Grade Band will present the debut of Hall’s new composition, “Tock.” The piece’s title references the passage of time, as in “tick-tock” and reflects the journey of middle school band students as they grow and transition into the next stage of their lives.

Throughout the fall, the CEMS 8th

Grade Band, along with other participating middle school bands, engaged in various creative activities designed to inspire and shape the new composition. As part of this process, CEMS students received video updates from Hall throughout the fall and winter, offering insights into the compositional journey.

JaRod Hall is a composer, educator and performer. He holds a bachelor’s degree in music education from the University of North Texas where he studied conducting with Nicholas Williams and Dennis Fisher. Hall’s bands have received consistent sweepstakes awards at the Texas University Interscholastic League Concert and Sightreading

-see BAND page 11

## We are honored to be CAPE ELIZABETH'S TOP REAL ESTATE TEAM Expert Guidance, Exceptional Results.

### 2024: A Busy Year for Cape Elizabeth Real Estate

McFarlane Field Associates has proudly been Cape Elizabeth’s top-selling team for over 20 years. In 2024, we continued that tradition of success, helping many achieve their real estate goals with dedication and expertise.

If a move is on your horizon, we’d love to help. Whether buying or selling, getting ready now means less stress, fewer surprises, and better results. The best opportunities go to those who are prepared.

If you’re curious what your home may be worth, reach out for a no-commitment market review of your home. Knowledge is power!

SCAN FOR A REAL ESTATE REVIEW

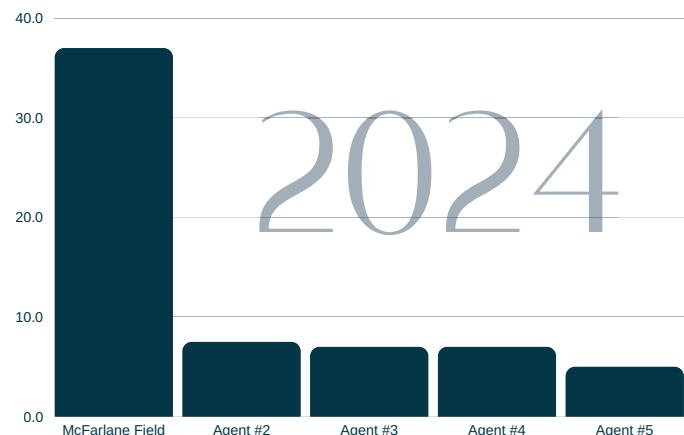


Real estate isn’t just our job—it’s our passion, and we’re here to guide you every step of the way. Cheers to a beautiful year ahead!

**portside** REAL ESTATE GROUP | **MCFARLANE FIELD**

START A CONVERSATION:  
WWW.MCFARLANEFIELD.COM  
207.653.1717

### # OF HOMES SOLD IN CAPE ELIZABETH\*



Nancy Field, Jen Tabb, Randy Ferrell  
Taylor McFarlane, Jen Monsulick, Jim McFarlane

\*Based on information from Maine Real Estate Information System Inc. (d/b/a Maine Listings) for the period 1/1/24 - 12/31/24 © 2024 Maine Listings.

# Senator Collins' 25-year record of not attending Town Hall meetings stands

By Kevin St. Jarre

A local group arranged a Town Hall meeting in Portland for U.S. Senator Susan Collins, whether or not she chose to attend. The senator did not, and the activists pointed out that Collins has not held a Town Hall meeting for Mainers in more than 25 years, despite repeated requests over that time.

Co-organized by Cape Elizabeth resident Rachel Weinstein and Cape native Marie Follayttar, with Indivisible Greater Portland, they put on the event, and promised a bit of political theater, which included Weinstein dressed as the absent Senator Collins, while recorded sound bites were played from what they referred to as "her non-answers."

A press release from Follayttar, communications chair, read in part that it is 2025 and that Mainers "...have endured a deeply unstable period since Trump took office. From firing federal employees, the closing of a local HUD office, the extreme budgetary cuts that threaten our hospitals and ac-

cess to healthcare, major government agency reorganization, to the rise of DOGE and Musk in unprecedented positions of power, Mainers are barraged daily."

The press release goes on to point out the new and pending tariffs, the rising costs of food and electricity, and that "...our Constitutional rights are at stake and the conflict between federal and state law is clashing in our court system. Senator [Angus] King said, 'We're altering the essential structure of our Constitution that's there for a reason, that's there to protect our freedom.'"

While WGME, operated by Sinclair Broadcast Group, was correct to report that "dozens" attended the rally, it perhaps was an understatement when over 150 people were in attendance.

*Note: The Cape Courier neither supports nor opposes the rally. If supporters of a different position hold a rally, the Courier would do its best to cover it as well.*



Photo by Thomas Urquhart

Rachel Weinstein portraying Sen. Susan Collins at a rally drawing attention to the lack of Town Hall meetings the senator has held for Mainers over the last two decades. The event was organized by Weinstein, Marie Follayttar with the group Indivisible Greater Portland.

# Some birds show sign of distress, ACO fielding calls

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Michelle Buckley

ACO Maggie Maxwell has fielded several calls from residents who have spotted what appear to be birds in distress.

Animal Control Office Maggie Maxwell has responded to calls by concerned citizens about birds appearing to be sick. She is the ACO for both Cape Elizabeth and South Portland. In these days of spreading avian flu, Maxwell checks each call about a bird out.

Recently, Cape resident Michelle Buckley called about a bird that seemed to need help, and ACO Maxwell came to investigate.

"It was a common murre, and doesn't look like it has avian flu. I've been picking up mostly geese and some raptors with the flu. I have picked up a loon recently, but haven't received the results if that tested positive [at the time of this reporting]," Maxwell said.

She said she picked up a loon within the last week that was alive, and not suspected of having the flu. "Scarborough has had herons, eagles and loons found deceased, but I don't know what their test results were," Maxwell said.

Avian flu makes the birds exhibit neurological signs Maxwell explained, with

symptoms like "head shaking and bopping, unsteady gait, eyes will be going back and forth. Near the end they could have some coughing and seizures. Most all of the birds I collect alive will go to Avian Haven in Freedom, Maine. They will get evaluated and put in treatment to help get them to a point where they can be released back in the area they were found."

Maxwell advises the public that, "if you see any birds acting off, please contact the state or me for Cape Elizabeth or South Portland. Someone can come out to collect the bird and prevent further contamination or spread of this flu. If you find them dead, same thing, contact me or the state and they can decide if they want to test, and if so, I will get to the right person. It's always better to be more safe than sorry—if you see something you are concerned about, call! I'm always around and want to be as helpful as possible."

ACO Maxwell can be reached at 207-799-5511 ext. 7253.



Duette® Architella® Trielle™ Honeycomb Shades Provide Energy Efficiency in Every Climate, Every Season.

**80%**  
SUMMER BENEFIT  
Architella® Trielle™ semi-opaque shades can reduce unwanted heat through windows by up to 80%.

**40%**  
WINTER BENEFIT  
Architella Trielle semi-opaque shades can reduce heat loss through windows by up to 40%.



**THE CURTAINSHOP OF MAINE**  
175 WESTERN AVENUE  
SOUTH PORTLAND  
MON - SAT 10:00AM - 6:00PM  
SUNDAY CLOSED  
207-773-9635  
www.maineblindsandshades.com



©2019 Hunter Douglas. All rights reserved. All trademarks used herein are the property of Hunter Douglas or their respective



Celebrate *Easter* by the Sea

**Sunday, April 20 - 8am-2pm**

Join us for a sumptuous ocean view Easter brunch.

Three-Course Prix Fixe Sample Items:

- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Smoked Salmon                 | Pan-Seared Halibut     |
| Asparagus & Burrata           | Braised Lamb           |
| Avocado Toast                 | New York Striploin     |
| Eggs Benedict                 | Roasted Mushrooms (V)  |
| \$79 adults & kids 4-12, \$36 | Vegan Chocolate Mousse |

Special Children's Menu:

- Fruit Plate Scrambled Eggs French Toast Brownie Sundae Sorbet  
Kids 4-12, \$36

Please call for Reservations  
207-799-3134  
View the entire menu at InnbytheSea.com



40 Bowery Beach Road | Cape Elizabeth

# CEUMC group creates dresses for young girls living in poverty



Contributed photo

Members of CEUMC made 396 dresses this year for young girls living in poverty.

Throughout February, women of the Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church and friends created dresses for young girls living in poverty around the world. This initiative is part of the international Dress a Girl Around the World mission and the Cape women have been part of it since 2016.

Led by church member Judith Hill, the CEUMC group completed 396 dresses this year and they were shipped to the regional

Dress a Girl representative. From there they likely will be shipped to a still-to-be determined destination, likely in Africa.

In the 10 years since these women began this mission at the church under the direction of Linda Wakefield, they have completed 3,279 dresses that have been shipped around the world. The women will meet again next February.

## Band

Continued from page 9

Evaluations, as well as being recognized at the state level.

In 2018 and 2019, Hall's bands at Griffin Middle School earned the Citation of Excellence award, honoring the top two non-varsity bands in the state of Texas. Under his leadership, the R. L. Turner Marching Band in Carrollton, Texas received 1st divisions and advanced to the Area Marching Contest for the first time in almost a decade; his Varsity band at Sam Houston Middle School in Irving, Texas received the unanimous 1st division ratings from all UIL judges for the first time in the school's history; his Varsity band at Hobby Middle School in San Antonio achieved the same feat for the first time in five years.

Hall is a tuba and trombone player by trade and has been a part of many esteemed ensembles such as the North Texas Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band, 3 O' Clock Lab Band, Carrollton Wind Symphony and Metropolitan Winds.

As a composer, Hall's compositions appear on the Texas Prescribed Music List, The J.W. Pepper "Editor's Choice" list, and the Bandworld Top 100 list. His composition "Lost Woods Fantasy" was showcased at the 73rd annual Midwest Clinic in Chicago by the Berkner High School Band composed of the first students Hall taught as a band director in Richardson ISD. His composition "Silver Fanfare" was selected as a winner of the Dallas Winds Call for Fanfares and "Through the Storm" was selected as the 2021 Barbara Buehlman Prize winner for middle school band - commissioned by David Puckett and the Keller Middle School Band, premiered for Midwest by Robert Herrings the Artie Henry Middle School Band. Additionally, Hall is a nationwide marching band and WGI arranger and consultant.

Hall is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree in Composition at Texas State University. He resides in San Antonio, Texas with his wife, Rachel who is a medical student at the University of Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine.

For Cape Elizabeth students, this extraordinary experience will culminate in a two-day residency with Mr. Hall on May 7 and 8. The residency will include masterclasses and workshops with all CEMS band students, CEMS general music classes and Cape Elizabeth High School band students.

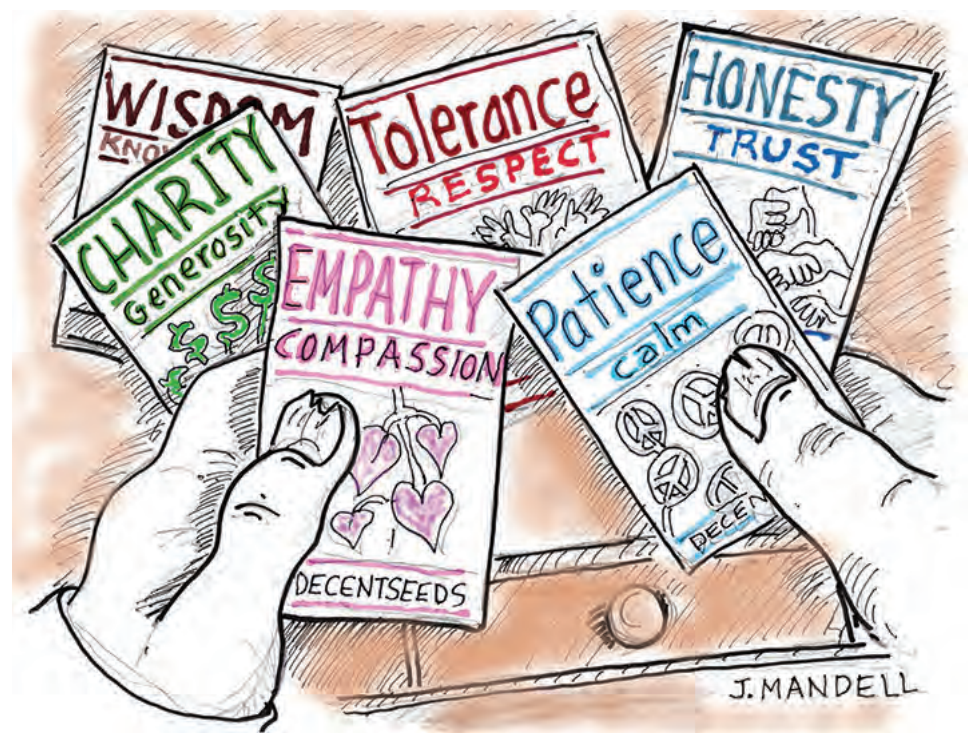
The world premiere of "Tock" will take place on Thursday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at CEHS as part of the CEMS 7th and 8th Grade Spring Concert. This landmark concert is free and open to the public, with doors opening at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Caitlin Ramsey or Missy Shabo, Band Directors at CEMS.

cramsey@capeelizabethschools.org  
mshabo@capeelizabethschools.org  
or go to <https://cemsband.weebly.com>

# Capetoon: Planting season 2025

By Jeff Mandell



J. MANDELL



**YOUR PLACE FOR LOCAL**

**FARM STAND**  
767-2740

**Jordan's Farm**  
GROWING MAINE AGRICULTURE  
21 Wells Road, Cape Elizabeth

**OPEN FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
10:00 - 5:00

*Veggies & More in our Farmstand*  
*Soil Products will be opening April 7<sup>th</sup>*

**JORDAN'S FARM Prepared Products**

Vinaigrette  
Dressings (Golden Tomato & Strawberry), Jams, Marinara, Popcorn  
All available at our farm stand.

**Ahh the smell of soil**



**IN OUR FARMSTAND Veggies & More**

Apples, Spinach, Cabbage, Leeks, Potatoes, Squash  
Sweet Potatoes, Onions  
Carrots, Meats, Chicken, Sausage, Pasta, Milk, Cheeses, Eggs and more!

**CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)**

Customers buy into the season at a discount and support their local farm. Your support helps us build a stronger business.  
**FMI: go to [www.jordansfarm.com](http://www.jordansfarm.com) via this QR code.**

Jordan's Farm
 @jordans\_farm
[www.jordansfarm.com](http://www.jordansfarm.com)



**Stuff for happy Capers**  
[freelnce.com](http://freelnce.com)



**Your Neighbors' Trusted Choice for Emergency and Specialty Pet Care**

**OPEN 24/7**

- Emergency & Critical Care
- Oncology
- Internal Medicine

- Ophthalmology
- Radiology
- Surgery

- Cardiology
- Neurology
- Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine



RECEPTION@MVMC.VET
207-885-1290
MVMC.VET
1500 TECHNOLOGY WAY  
SCARBOROUGH, ME

## Street festival

Continued from page 1

has always been supporting fundraising for booster groups and local volunteer organizations” explained a committee member, “and the festival will have a completely different scope. We certainly don’t want to overlap Family Fun Day in any way, shape or form.”

After doing historical research on Ned and his family, they learned that the family often referred to Cape Elizabeth as “Cape Liz” so thought it appropriate to name the event The Cape Liz Festival, not only to bring historical significance to the festival but also to ensure no connection with Family Fun Day.

Obviously, the festival couldn’t be held on the road named for his family, as it is a highly traveled road, but there are numerous neighborhoods coming off of that road, and any of those would be ideal locations for the festival as they have the desired intersecting streets and closing off those streets for a few days really wouldn’t impact that many people.

While vendors will exclude booster and volunteer groups, invitations have been sent out to nearly every restaurant, local brewery and food truck in the area, ensuring a wide variety of food options, from BBQ and sweets to ethnic offerings and everything in between. There are also plans for a chili and chowder challenge, a hot wings competition and hot dog eating competition, all put on by interested vendors. Prizes to be determined.

In addition, the committee is recruiting entertainment options. Music of course was the first consideration. “Our budget probably won’t support well-known bands, unfortunately,” explained Bob Myerson, one of the organizers. “So we will be looking to local high school garage bands and possibly even a karaoke set-up. We are petitioning the town to extend the current noise ordinance past the 9 p.m. curfew until possibly 11 p.m.”

Other entertainment and interactive ac-

tivities being considered and pursued include fortune telling, poetry reading, a hypnotism show, body art and of course a variety of dance demonstrations. Kids activities will hopefully include a climbing wall, face painting, paintball, skateboarding, carnival-type games and zip lines.

Several of the neighborhoods under consideration have expansive fields and side yards where festival goers can park. If necessary, there can be shuttle buses from the nearby shopping center parking lot.

“The timing couldn’t be better,” said Myerson “because we’ve scheduled it for the first weekend in August on Sunday so I’m sure, with enough publicity, the festival will entice some athletes and spectators from the road race to stay an extra day and join local folks in the celebration.”

“Fortunately, the funding for the event will be mostly supplied by fees collected from the vendors for their participation. We won’t have to ask the town for as much as we thought we would, and that certainly is wonderful news,” explained the treasurer of the committee.

“I want to add, “ Myerson went on, “ we have kept our meetings and these plans under wraps, so to speak, for months until we felt confident that we had a workable plan in place, and are very excited to have The Cape Courier as the platform to finally announce this wonderful event for Cape Elizabeth, the Fowler family and even the Greater Portland community.”

“A limited number of residents are welcome to join the committee, and hopefully bring to the table additional ideas and possible concerns (such as the noise ordinance and parking) we may have overlooked in our enthusiasm to rejuvenate this energetic festival for the Portland area. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 1. Or not.”

By Debbie Butterworth

## Cape Elizabeth’s ‘dog whisperer’

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)



Photo by Stephen Lyons (Garda)

Cape Elizabeth ACO “dog whisperer” Maggie Maxwell talks with Cape Elizabeth dog Lea, and her cousins, Walter and Winston

As Animal Control Officer (ACO) for Cape Elizabeth and South Portland, Maggie Maxwell is no stranger to domestic animals and wildlife. More importantly she is a self-proclaimed “ailurophile” and “cynophile” – (cat lover and dog lover, that is). She is, in the eyes of many, “The Dog Whisperer.”

We first met when I was visiting the town clerk’s office to license my dog. After a leisurely conversation with the staff about town dog ordinances, they encouraged me to speak with Maxwell. She graciously agreed to come to my home and discuss her role as Cape Elizabeth’s Animal Control Officer.

Maxwell is an outdoors-oriented person who spoke lovingly of her relationship, loyalty and companionship with dogs. While watching her interact with my dog Lea and her dog cousins, Walter and Winston, it was evident she has an intuitive understanding of a dog’s behavior.

Prior to becoming Animal Control Officer for South Portland and Cape Elizabeth, Maxwell worked as a veterinary technician in general, emergency and intensive care. She shares her home with two rescue dogs and four rescue cats. When she has time and space, she cheerfully fosters abandoned animals. At one point Maxwell fostered 9 kittens, a total of 15 cats in her house at one time, including her cats, the mom and another foster.

As Maxwell interacted with Lea in my back yard, she shared immeasurable information with me about her role and responsibilities as ACO. Her work is defined, to a great deal, by law and ordinance. In our area, all dogs are to be licensed, and none are to run free in public areas, unless otherwise posted. Assisting residents with lost, sick, found, or injured animals, is “the fun

part” and gives her purpose. She is also responsible to issue warnings and summonses pertaining to animal control and welfare, and collecting statements in the event of litigation. These records also include tracking incidents of animal bites, and of dogs and cats taken to the department’s contracted animal shelter.

As Animal Control Officer, Maxwell is responsible for dealing with all types of domestic pets and certain wild animals. When necessary, she works closely with other local, state, and federal agencies, to protect and care for animals. The main concern with wild animals is rabies protection.

Maxwell finds herself at Fort Williams Park’s voice control lot almost every day – mostly just to check in. Her rounds often include Gull Crest, Winnick Woods, local cemeteries and common areas in residential neighborhoods. She is only allowed to enforce ordinances on town land. As an example, if she is called to Robinson Woods for a found dog, she can issue a warning or ticket for not having control of a dog, but if the dog is unattended during leash hours and off-leash, all she can do is show the dog’s owner the rules. She cannot warn or issue a ticket.

Maxwell’s role as ACO has certain legal limitations. While she responds to practically anything involving an animal, there are times she needs assistance from the police or a humane state agent with different enforcement capabilities. She has collected carcasses, removed animals from chimneys, trapped stray cats, collected orphaned baby wildlife, dispatched injured or sick wildlife, caught bats, captured birds, and of course, dogs running loose.

The ACO’s time is mostly spent in South

-see ACO page 15



Contributed photo

A similar street festival in New York City.

**HOBBS FUNERAL HOME:** Pre-planning a funeral avoids worry about arrangements or payments, and can save additional expenses later on.

*Peace of mind.*

At the Hobbs Funeral Home, there is no cost for pre-planning a funeral. It only takes a short visit with one of our professionals – at Hobbs or in your own home. The cost of services is under YOUR control because it is based on YOUR choices. And your arrangements will be made at today’s costs, protecting your family against inflation.

Pre-arrangement is today’s way to provide peace of mind for you and your loved ones.

Hobbs Funeral Home: A family caring for families. Competent, professional, personal – and local.

HOBBS FUNERAL HOME • 230 Cottage Road • South Portland, Maine 04106 • (207) 799-4472

Efficiency Maine QUALIFIED PARTNERS

ANGIE'S LIST SUPER SERVICE AWARD

BBB ACCREDITED A+ rating

**BAUMAN ELECTRIC** Incorporated

**Angie’s List Super Service Award Winner.**

Through our hard work we were able to achieve and maintain a superior service rating. Thank you for your business and the referrals. Looking forward to servicing your electrical needs.

**SUPER SERVICE!**

24 Hour Service  
Senior/Veteran Discounts on Service Calls  
Contact Bob: baumanvolts@yahoo.com

www.trustthisbiz.com/bauman\_electric Phone 207-571-4607

# CEHS student leading community art effort

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Lauren Tarantino

CEHS senior Hannah Lowenstein meets with John Gardiner, assistant professor of woodworking and furniture design at Maine College of Art to discuss brain tile design.

Cape Elizabeth High School senior Hannah Lowenstein is seeking participants to create a community art piece that highlights the powerful impact of art therapy on mental health. The final piece will consist of two seven-foot by five-foot brains, each of which will be made up of 50 uniquely shaped wooden tiles crafted by John Gardiner, a professor at Maine College of Art & Design.

One hundred participants, ages 14 and older, from Cape Elizabeth, including students, teachers and Cape community members at large, are invited, regardless of artistic experience, to gather together at a community event on Tuesday, April 15, to each design a tile. At this event, each person will receive one tile, art supplies and will choose from a selection of art therapy prompts to create abstract art.

People who cannot attend this event are still invited to participate and can sign out a tile to design at home.

After the event, artists will be asked to reflect about the creative process and its impact

on their mental well-being. The completed tiles will be assembled into a permanent installation in the CEHS cafeteria, serving as a lasting reminder that no one is alone. The Cape community and artists are invited to the installation's grand reveal on May 12 at CEHS.

The effort is Lowenstein's ELO project at CEHS. According to ELO Coordinator Lauren Tarantino, the ELO program is designed to give students the opportunity to explore an interest, passion or career pathway in a personalized, teacher-supported capacity.

This project is made possible thanks to a grant from Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation, known as CEEF.

If you would like to participate, please register at:

<https://forms.gle/dCx2Q4NNKxKrchXi7> or email [hannah.lowenstein@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:hannah.lowenstein@capeelizabethschools.org) by April 1.

For updates, follow @cehsbrainwavesin-stallation on Instagram.

# Pond Cove Elementary Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2025

Registration is now open for incoming kindergarten students who will matriculate at Pond Cove Elementary School during the 2025-2026 school year. To attend kindergarten, children must be five years old on or before October 15, 2025. Registration is required before a child may attend school and participate in the kindergarten screening process.

The registration process has two steps, outlined below. All forms and documents must be submitted online through a PowerSchool account for which you will register.

Step 1: To begin the registration process, follow the directions below. Please note: this step is pre-registration only.

• Visit the Cape Elizabeth District website at: <https://www.cape.k12.me.us/>

- Click "Enroll" on the right side of the site
- You will enter demographic, household, and grade level prompts.

Step 2: The pre-registration information will be reviewed and approved by the school, after which, you will receive an automated email guiding you to create a PowerSchool account and complete the full enrollment process. Once all forms are complete, you must upload the following required documentation:

- Child's birth certificate
- Proof of immunizations
- Proof of residency

If you need assistance, contact the Pond Cove main office:

• Email: [pcoffice@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:pcoffice@capeelizabethschools.org) or Phone: 207-799-7339.

# CELT spring programs

## CELT's 40th Anniversary Guided Walk Series:

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 educator 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 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Date: Wednesday, May 14

Time: 9:00 -10:00 a.m.

Location: Meet at Robinson Woods parking lot, Shore Road

Cost: \$6/family

Min 3/Max 5

## CELT's 40th Anniversary Library Talk Series with Thomas Memorial Library:

Bird Migration: A Journey Across Con-

tinents

Embark on an enlightening journey through the fascinating world of bird migration. Learn about the incredible flights undertaken by migratory birds and the science behind their long-distance travels from Cape resident and National Audubon Society scientist Dr. Carrie Gray. From tiny songbirds to majestic raptors, discover the patterns, challenges, and remarkable strategies that allow birds to navigate vast distances and reach their seasonal destinations. Topics covered will include: the science of bird migration: navigation, timing, and instincts; different migration routes and stopover sites; the environmental factors influencing migration patterns; how climate change is affecting migratory behaviors; and the importance of conserving migratory routes and habitats. Whether you're a bird-watching enthusiast or simply curious about the natural world, this lecture will deepen your understanding of one of nature's most extraordinary phenomena.

Date: Tuesday, May 20

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Thomas Memorial Library Community Room

No registration required

# CELT partners to host film screening March 29

The Cape Elizabeth Land Trust has partnered with nine other Portland-area land trusts and trail organizations to host a screening of the Maine-made wildlife documentary, "A Peace of Forest" at USM's Hannaford Hall. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and the film will begin at 7:00 p.m. A Q+A with the filmmakers and producers Lee Ann and Thomas Szelog will be held from 8:30-9:00 p.m.

Created in Whitefield, "A Peace of Forest" is a grand 87 minute film that has been described by audience members as, "The most beautiful film I have ever seen, exhibiting our natural world," and "This film is a gift; it is so rich." Touted as a quiet film, "A Peace of Forest" is a one-of-a-kind cinematic adventure, allowing viewers to experience a wild, peaceful and mysterious world that is filled with complex relationships and ways of wonder. "A Peace of Forest" celebrates the beauty and intimacy of wildlife in Maine with surprising, tender and exquisite interactions of wildlife during undisturbed moments in Maine's natural world.

According to their website, filmmakers Thomas and Lee Ann Szelog are award-winning photographers and passionate wildlife advocates. "They invite you to experience nature's raw beauty and power in this quiet film, filled with complex relationships and ways of wonder." They have made several films and authored books including "Our Point of View: Fourteen Years at a Maine Lighthouse," and "By a Maine River—A Year of Looking Closely."

Other co-hosts of this event include: Chebeague Cumberland Land Trust, Falmouth Land Trust, Freeport Conservation Trust, the Maine Land Trust Network, Oceanside Conservation Trust, Portland Trails, Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, Scarborough Land Trust and South Portland Land Trust.

Adult tickets are \$15 and kids' tickets are \$5. There are also a number of free community tickets available. Go to [www.cape-landtrust.org/events](http://www.cape-landtrust.org/events) to watch the trailer and get tickets.

**Enhancing Neighborhood Trees & Shrubs Since 1880.**

- Complete Tree & Lawn Care •
- Quality Pruning & Removal • Deep-Root Fertilizations •
- Insect & Disease Management • Certified Arborists •

Call For a Free Estimate  
**207.828.0110**  
[www.davey.com/portlandme](http://www.davey.com/portlandme)

**DAVEY**   
Proven Solutions for a Growing World



**Old School Electric**

**Rick Romano**  
207-767-3866  
(Be sure to leave a message)

Master Electrician (40+ years)  
No job to small • Quick response time



**total mortgage** NMLS#2764

"Proudly Serving the Next Generation of Capers"

**Steven P. Lavalley**  
Sr. Loan Officer - NMLS# 326146  
☎ 207.776.2306  
✉ [slavallee@totalmortgage.com](mailto:slavallee@totalmortgage.com)  
LICENSED IN ME, NH, MA & FL

- Purchase
- Refinance
- Renovation Loans
- 2nd Homes

# CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

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

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

## Thursday, March 27

School Board Executive Session - NEGOTIATIONS, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 3:45 p.m.

## Monday, March 31

School Board Executive Session - NEGOTIATIONS, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 3:45 p.m.

School Board Policy Committee, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

## Tuesday, April 1

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

## Thursday, April 3

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

## Monday, April 7

Joint Council Workshop / Business Community Forum, Town Hall, 6 p.m.

## Tuesday, April 8

School Board Meeting, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Committee, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Riverside Cemetery Committee, Jordan Conference Room, Town Hall, 9 a.m.

## Ongoing each week

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

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

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m. - noon on Thursdays and by appointment, 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. second Tuesday of the month, Cape Elizabeth Community Center. Contact: [cercme.com](http://cercme.com) for Cape information.

South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays at 107 Preble Hall, Southern Maine Community College, 2 Fort Road, South Portland. [sp-ce-rotary.org](http://sp-ce-rotary.org).

## Judy's Pantry- a community feeding itself

Judy's Pantry operates at the Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 3 - 4:30 p.m. Prior registration is necessary. Please contact Beth Owens: [bethowens1@gmail.com](mailto:bethowens1@gmail.com). Please consider a non-perishable donation to the IGA drop box.

# SERVICES

## Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

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.

## Rise Church

1047 Congress Street, Portland  
874-9779

<https://www.riseportland.church>

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

## 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)

Sunday Bible Class for all ages: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 10:15 a.m.

Services are in person and streamed on Facebook and YouTube

## 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

## 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.*

Nothing scheduled for March 26 - April 8



# Invisible Fence Brand

*Keeping pets happy, healthy & safe @ home™*

## Play Safe. Worry-Free.

# Invisible Fence of Southern Maine

## 800-585-2803

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

©2018 Invisible Fence of Southern Maine. Invisible Fence® is a registered trademark of Invisible Fence, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Upcoming Lions Club community dinners

Chicken Dinners:

April 12, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

May 17, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

## Tammaro Landscaping & Property Services

### Winter Services

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

- Brush Clearing • Fallen Tree & Limb Clean-up
- Pruning & Invasive Plant Removal

**Call for your FREE ESTIMATE: 831-8535**  
**Currently scheduling spring landscaping projects**

539 Ocean House Road • Cape Elizabeth, ME

## MUSIC LESSONS

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

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

**Piano Lessons.** All ages, all levels. Call Ora: 207-899-3014

**Drum Lessons:** Any age/level. Flow technique, reading not required. Frank, 603.285.3032.

## BUSINESSES/SERVICES

In home dog sitting and boarding in Cape Elizabeth. Large fenced in yard. Insured and Pet CPR and first aid certified. 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

## HELP WANTED

**Part Time Personal Care Assistant:** Disabled woman, with a full time job, needs part time assistance in Cape Elizabeth. No medical training required. Must be reliable, have references and a joyful approach to problem solving. If interested, please call 207-536-0619 and leave a message.

## ACO

Continued from page 12

Portland, based on call volume, but Maxwell patrols both communities routinely, responding to sightings and calls about wildlife and dogs at large.

Coyotes often come up in conversation. Maxwell told me that sightings are rare and for the most part, coyotes don't engage larger dogs and people. Her advice if you encounter one, is to make yourself big and make lots of noise to scare them off.

Dogs, dogs, dogs! When I asked Maxwell about the focus of her work, it kept coming back to dogs. Issuing warnings for dogs at large, nuisance dogs, barking dogs, dogs off leash where they aren't allowed, and unlicensed dogs, and the occasional animal cruelty charge. In 2024, according to Maxwell, Cape Elizabeth ACO logged 260 calls for service, resulting in 15 formal warnings and 7 tickets. Most calls for service can be handled informally with Maxwell, using the opportunity as a teachable moment.

Like many dog owners, I pay to have mine licensed as required by law, so I asked Maxwell where does the money go. Some funds go toward the municipality as a record keeping fee, a share goes to an animal welfare account that helps pay for an ACO, and a contract with an animal shelter. The remaining funds go into an Animal Welfare Fund for the State. Of interest, service dogs, law enforcement dogs, and search-and-rescue dogs are exempt from license fees.

By this time in the conversation, my dog Lea and her cousins had explored all corners of my yard. And Maxwell's duty called, so I used our last few minutes to ask about Avian Flu.

Maxwell said Maine may start testing certain birds, but Maxwell was unable to confirm additional information. It's hard to tell which birds may have Avian Flu as

when she gets a call that a bird isn't doing well, it could be for a variety of reasons. Other species have been known to contract Avian Flu so it's recommended to have domestic pets stay away from wildlife, carcasses, and waste of wildlife, especially birds. The same holds true for rabies. One case of rabies was recently confirmed in Cape Elizabeth, so people should keep their pets up to date on their rabies shots and keep clear of wildlife and pets that appear or behave as unhealthy.

My time with "The Dog Whisperer" had come to a close. Maxwell said her good-byes, and reinforced that before adopting a dog, individuals and families should consider the significant time commitment for exercise and training, potential for high vet costs, the need for ample space, potential for allergies, the cost of food, difficulty traveling long distances, grooming needs, and a loving home environment. Many dogs who have grown up without rules or boundaries may become destructive. Dogs need exercise, discipline, and affection, in that order.

In speaking with Cape Elizabeth Town Clerk Angela Frawley in 2024, there were 1,163 dogs licensed in Cape Elizabeth, and only 748 dogs have been licensed thus far in 2025. Frawley would like to reach the 2024 number again this year, however it seems unlikely. The state implemented a new registration system this year (it is called Pet-Point) and many residents are attempting to register their dogs via the state's new online system and are running into many different roadblocks. Some residents are not getting confirmation of their transactions, or not receiving the tags that they paid for. Some residents are getting kicked out of the system before they can complete registration, others are not able to navigate how to register a second dog, and some are getting so frustrated with the system, they simply opt not to complete the registration process. Frawley encouraged residents to contact the State Department of Animal Welfare to express their concerns. Frawley also invites residents to register their dogs in person at Cape Elizabeth Town Hall. As always, a current rabies certificate is required, and now that we are beyond the January 31 date, a state-implemented \$25 late fee is attached.

## Town Council

Continued from page 4

responsibility and democratic integrity of our town depend on prompt action."

Mary Ann Lynch said that a rush to vote in June on the same project that voters already rejected would be a mistake and that "waiting until November has several advantages." She said it is time to put another alternative to the voters and that by waiting until the November election would ensure "an important issue will be decided by a large number of voters, giving legitimacy to the result."

David Andrews urged the town to slow down and listen to residents and small business owners and to "put egos aside" and find a compromise a majority of the town will accept and not just the "vocal minority."

Rob Krauser wants to vote in June as costs for the project will just keep rising if the referendum is voted on in November. Elizabeth Biermann suggested it was a "good time to schedule a public hearing" and that the school board's role is to address the needs of the schools, the students and to present a project to the town council. Larry Benoit, former member of the School Board Advisory Committee, shared that a forced vote in June would result in a very small minority of voters deciding. Megan

Capello Rock said that the most recent iteration of the school project had "additional materials that were added late in the game" resulting in a lack of clarity on what was getting voted on, but that she supports another referendum to be voted on for June.

Phil Saucier, Chair of the School Board, opened the presentation on the school board's updated school project plan. He said, "this refined plan builds upon the 'middle ground' proposal from November and incorporates insight from public school design experts and considerable thoughtful community feedback received over the last several months."

The plan as presented addresses aging infrastructure, provides immediate action for Pond Cove Elementary and Cape Elizabeth High School, has a student-centered focus, and "above all, prioritizes student educational needs and safety."

Lisa Salwin from Harriman Associates architectural firm presented the three-school phase plan to include new construction of the middle school with a "comprehensive approach to safety and security." The new middle school would include "classroom neighborhoods" to enhance the educational delivery and instill independence in students, helping their transition into the high school. Salwin said that there will be "zero disruption" with a new construction of the middle school and would save the town \$3 million in costs such as portable buildings and bussing students out of town to attend another school. She said a new construction project also reduces the risks and unexpected variables encountered during a renovation project.

Salwin also shared that the proposed addition to Pond Cove Elementary school would allow for a secure entrance to be built. Pond Cove would also have a phased schedule for replacement of building mechanical equipment such as heating and cooling units.

The costs of the newest proposal include just over \$50 million for the middle school construction, around \$9 million for Pond Cove updates, and site work for the overall project of \$11 million, totaling \$86,499,993 million dollars. Contingencies account for \$16 million which include escalation, design and estimate, bid, and construction contingencies. An additional \$1 million would be added to the project costs if the referendum was voted on in November as opposed to in June.

There is also consideration for a possible second referendum question regarding a solar array installation on the roof of the new construction middle school building. The cost would be approximately \$1,725,000 and would help to offset the building's energy usage.

The Town Council unanimously voted to schedule a public hearing for Monday, March 24 at 7 p.m. at the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall relating to the school board recommending new construction and renovating referendum question and the solar array referendum. It was also stated that during a Council meeting scheduled for April 7, decisions will be made for the scheduled vote on the referendum, for June or November 2025, and also to discuss putting together a committee to determine solutions of the reuse of the 1934 building.

## Item #41-2025 Referral of the FY 2026 Municipal Budget to the Finance Committee

Councilor Scifres shared the schedule for the departmental budget meetings to include a general governmental budget meeting on March 17; facilities, public works, community services, human services, and special funds on March 20, the school budget presentation by the School

Board on April 28, and a wrap-up meeting on April 29. A public hearing on the budget will take place on May 5, with a town council vote on the budget to take place during the town council meeting on May 12.

Town Manager Patrick Fox gave an overview of the budget as there will be more in-depth discussions over the next several weeks. Fox did share that the town wants to minimize staffing increases for this fiscal year due to revenue constraints and that the budget will move forward with its expansion of the senior tax program, noting that it's also the first year the program "hits the town budget." Previously, the program relied on an assigned fund balance. Fox thanked everyone who put the budget book together including the people "who actually go out and do all the work every day and put these numbers to actual service."

The Council made the motion to refer the proposed town manager's municipal budget for fiscal year 2026 to the finance committee for review. It was approved by unanimous vote.

## Item #42-2025 Consider Scheduling a Public Hearing Relating to the Citizen Petition to Send Town Center Amendments to Referendum

On February 24, a citizen referendum titled "Cape Elizabeth Citizen Petition" was filed with the Town Clerk with the intention of sending the town center zoning amendments to a referendum vote. The petition was put together after the Town Council voted 5-2 during their February 10 meeting to approve the amendments to Chapter 19 of the zoning ordinance.

Town staff recommends that a public hearing be scheduled for March 24 and a special meeting added to the town council workshop on April 7 to designate the date of the vote. The Council voted unanimously to approve acknowledgement of receipt of the citizen's petition.

## Item #43-2025 Consider Amendments to Chapter 19 Zoning Ordinance Relating to Town Center Amendments

The chapter 19 amendments as adopted by Town Council vote on February 10 are suspended from going into effect due to the filing of the citizen's petition to repeal the amendments. The Council unanimously voted to table the agenda item to a future meeting to be determined.

## Item #44-2025 Consider Scheduling a Public Hearing Relating to Amendments to Chapter 13 Traffic Regulations

Councilor Harriman shared details on amendments to chapter 13 traffic regulations as discussed in several ordinance committee meetings during the summer of 2024. Harriman specifically discussed the parking conditions on Shore Road and a proposed solution to "alleviate parking issues, vehicular and bicycle traffic and increased safety to the entire area."

Public Works director Jay Reynolds conducted a study of the area and proposed a solution that includes adding striping and narrowing the road to create designated parking spaces. Estimated costs for this solution are between \$15,000 and \$25,000 and could be conducted in the spring before the busy summer season.

The proposed amendments required two changes to the current ordinance including prohibiting parking spaces within five feet of a driveway and not allowing parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk. The Council unanimously voted to schedule a public hearing for a date to be determined.



# A 3-SCHOOL PHASED PLAN

DEVELOPED BY LICENSED ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS WITH DECADES OF SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

On February 24, 2025 The School Board unanimously endorsed The 3-School Phased Plan, created by licensed Architects and Engineers, that addresses the following educational and facilities deficiencies:

**ADDRESSED**



**SAFETY & SECURITY CONCERNS**

**ADDRESSED**



**INADEQUATE VEHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN SITE CIRCULATION**

**ADDRESSED**



**OUTDATED CLASSROOMS, LIMITING EDUCATIONAL METHODS**

**ADDRESSED**



**CEMS SPRAWLING LAYOUT & LONG TRAVEL DISTANCES**

**ADDRESSED**



**INEFFECTIVE OVERSIGHT FROM MAIN OFFICES**

**ADDRESSED**



**NURSE'S OFFICE LIMITATIONS**

**ADDRESSED**



**DEFICIENCY OF NATURAL LIGHT**

**ADDRESSED**



**COMPLICATIONS FROM SHARED CAFETERIA**

**ADDRESSED**



**INADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES**

**ADDRESSED**



**NEED FOR TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES**

**ADDRESSED**



**OUTDATED & INEFFICIENT MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**

**ADDRESSED**



**INADEQUATE PERFORMING ARTS SPACES**

**“Since the beginning of 2021, we have agreed with all of the design professionals who have worked on this project: **the replacement of the Middle School should be the first thing that you do.** The Middle School has passed its useful life.”**

- Chuck Adam, Cape Elizabeth's Owner's Representative (Vice President at Turner, Townsend and Heery)

**CAPE ELIZABETH MIDDLE SCHOOL:** Replaces the middle school with a new building.

**POND COVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** Constructs a secure entry & admin addition; addresses mechanical upgrades & builds a mechanical addition; right-sizes the nurse clinic; renovates to provide a STEM program space.

**CAPE ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL & POND COVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** Addresses repairs by utilizing our existing annual CIP, maintenance, & repair budget over approximately 12 years. These items can begin to be addressed right away upon passage of the referendum.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: APPROXIMATELY \$86.5M**