

# The Cape Courier

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June 3 - June 16, 2026

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*In the Spirit of Community*

## Outdoor community basketball court is underway

By Kevin St. Jarre



Contributed photo

Pictured are Jay Reynolds, Cape Elizabeth Public Works Director; Brandon Mitchell, Cape Hoops Board; Patrick Fox, Cape Elizabeth Town Manager; Meredith Beauregard, Cape Hoops Board; Steve Harding, Sebago Technics; Lauren Glennon, Cape Hoops Board and Kate Saucier, Cape Hoops Board.

The effort to install a community basketball court is well underway. The effort, led by a local group known as Cape Hoops, with the support of the town of Cape Elizabeth, has been hard at work for some time. Cape Hoops committed to raising their share of the funds for the project and met that requirement.

In a letter from Town Manager Patrick Fox, he wrote a letter verifying the town's

commitment, writing, "...the Cape Elizabeth Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to undertake a project to provide a new outdoor basketball court adjacent to the former Thomas Memorial Library. The council establishes a budget of \$165,000 for the project with \$16,500 to be raised by the Cape Hoops group and \$148,500 be appropriated from the town's unassigned fund balance. The Town Manager is also authorized to apply for all required permits and to sign any necessary agreements to carry out the project. Since this council authorization, Cape Hoops has successfully fundraised the matching funds of \$16,500 towards the total project estimated cost of \$165,000."

According to Lauren Glennon of the Cape Hoops Board, since the groundbreaking in March they have gotten the paving done, and more recently, the fencing went up. A next step will be painting the court.

Cape Hoops Board and Capital Project Committee Member Brandon Mitchell said, "It's been an honor to watch this project come together from an initial idea to now breaking ground and installing hoops! It's very exciting when the town and the community work together towards something really good."

Cape Hoops Board Chair Meredith Beauregard said, "This new community court is about access, opportunity and what becomes possible when a community comes together around a shared vision. Watching this project move from dream to reality is incredibly meaningful. We know this space will serve generations of young athletes and neighbors

-see BASKETBALL page 5

## From nectar to liquid gold

By Stephen T. Lyons (Garda)



Photo by Stephen Lyons (Garda)

Dave Connor examines his bees.

Dave Connor has spent thirteen years convincing 20,000 bees to stay in a wooden box and make breakfast syrup. On a good year, Dave harvests around five to six gallons of honey, which he sells by word of mouth to people in the local community.

I recently met up with Dave, a man who lives on a "gentleman's farm" in Cape Elizabeth: a place with chickens, a vegetable garden and enough bees to make you reconsider wearing floral cologne. Dave doesn't just keep bees; he manages a tiny, buzzing suburban mafia. This operation requires a Maine state apiary licensing to ensure no unwanted "undesirable genetic material" (presumably bee smugglers) enters his colonies.

We donned our protective gear which frankly, makes you look like a very slow, clumsy astronaut. As we approached the hives, I learned that while I was hesitant, Dave was treating spring bees like a quiet day at the office, thousands of them. I realized that my astronaut suit wouldn't protect

me from acting like a giant, clumsy bear trying to steal honey.

But as Dave pulled out a frame, the fear evaporated, replaced by absolute awe. These bees have their own world, navigating and communicating using complex geometry (bees doing math)! Meanwhile, males and females hold down entirely different jobs within their short, highly productive lifespans.

These weren't just any bees; they are specialized, elite, local, high-tech, organic, artisanal, Russian-American Maine bees. Dave told me Maine has roughly a 70 percent colony collapse rate. To combat this, most bee keepers rely on Russian or Italian bees, which they believe are tough enough to survive the freeze without turning into tiny, buzzing ice cubes. These bees pollinate

-see BEES page 15

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We love feedback!

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## Shout out to Ellie and June

I would like to give a shout out to two special young ladies named Ellie and June (unfortunately I didn't get their last names). I recently took my puppy to Fort Williams, and his collar and tags fell off without me noticing. I had walked all over the place and thought there was little chance I would find the collar. Then a few hours later, my doorbell rang and there stood Ellie and June with my puppy's collar! They had ridden

all the way from Ft. Williams to my home in Oakhurst to deliver the collar. I was so grateful, and just want to give them a public thank you for taking time out of their weekend to return the collar. They made my day and their parents should be proud!

Ann Chapman

## 'I wish to commend' Gov. Mills

I was supporting Governor Janet Mills for U.S. Senator from Maine. On the occasion of her withdrawal from the race, I wish to commend her on her incredible environmental leadership.

Mills will be remembered as a champion for measures effectively fighting climate change. What's at stake from climate change: Maine fishery value over \$619 million. Tourism and recreation employing 58% of the state's marine economy; \$6 billion in estimated value of coastal real estate sold in the last year alone.

Janet Mills has a track record of governor success, i.e.:

- 16,000 new clean energy jobs
- 200,000 new efficiency heat pumps
- 7000 new heat pump water heaters,
- 21,000 homes weatherized to save energy
- 240 communities assisted to carry out infrastructure resilience measures

From 70% to 50%, a 20% reduction in homes burning oil

The Grinch stole the national investment in the clean energy transition, but didn't stop the clean energy transition from happening. It is happening in fully 194 (out of 198 UN members) countries in the world which signed on to the Paris Climate Accord. It is happening in states like Maine, where Maine Won't Wait, the state's climate plan, is aligned with the Paris Climate Accord. We are all paddling in the same direction thanks to Janet Mill's leadership and the coalition she has inspired to join this pact.

Unfortunately we cannot vote for Janet Mills for U.S. Senate representing the State of Maine, but I still want it on the record that she has served Maine incredibly well.

Julia Bassett Schwerin

## It 'was clear before the vote'

A recent letter bemoaned that the new middle school will not have a functional, stand alone, performing arts facility. It will have a cafetorium. Again! That was clear before the vote last June to anyone paying attention to the details of the school board's proposal. Think about it- with millions in site work alone, a lot of compromises had to be made in the actual educational facilities. Ironically, the proposed renovation plan, rejected by the school board, would have transformed the current cafetorium into a gorgeous, dedicated performing arts space, in addition to a new, separate cafeteria. Sadly, parents and voters were sold a bill of goods with many educational compromises, all in the name of a shiny new school, " a legacy"

the superintendent said, when a smart renovation would have provided far more high quality facilities for middle schoolers.

It will be interesting to see what happens when the bids come in and what further compromises will have to be made to stay within the voter approved referendum.

Mary Ann Lynch

**-see more LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 3**

2026 Publication schedule		
Issue No	Ad/Copy Due	Issue Published
01	Jan 2	Jan 14
02	Jan 23	Feb 4
03	Feb 6	Feb 18
04	Feb 27	March 11
05	March 13	March 25
06	March 27	April 8
07	April 10	April 22
08	April 24	May 6
09	May 8	May 20
10	May 22	June 3
11	June 5	June 17
12	June 19	July 1
13	July 3	July 15
14	July 24	August 5
15	Aug 7	August 19
16	Aug 21	Sept 2
17	Sept 4	Sept 16
18	Sept 18	Sept 30
19	Oct 9	Oct 21
20	Oct 30	Nov 11
21	Nov 13	Nov 25
22	Dec 4	Dec 16

# Lost passport secure at police station

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

### PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 4-25 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area regarding a dog at large complaint.
- 4-28 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area who reported that checks written to a contractor had been fraudulently altered.
- 4-29 Two officers responded to a residence in the Wells Road area for a domestic disturbance.
- 4-29 An officer responded to a residence in the Fowler Road area regarding a harassing phone call complaint.
- 4-30 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding a harassment complaint.
- 5-1 An officer met with a resident of the Broad Cove area regarding a possible missing person. The person was accounted for a short time later.
- 5-5 An officer met with a resident of Scarborough regarding a dog bite that occurred at Crescent Beach State Park.
- 5-12 An officer met with a resident of the Spurwink Avenue area regarding a theft complaint.
- 5-14 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchell Road area regarding a possible stolen vehicle.
- 5-14 An officer met with a Cape Elizabeth High School school bus driver who reported a vehicle that passed his bus while he was picking up students.
- 5-16 A found passport was brought to the police station. Attempts to contact the owner have been unsuccessful. Passport has been secured at the police station.
- 5-16 Two officers responded to a residence in the Fowler Road area for a domestic

- disturbance,
- 5-17 An officer met with a representative of a local business regarding a suspicious person complaint.
- 5-18 Two officers responded to a residence in the Scott Dyer Road area for a well-being check.

### SUMMONSES

- 4-28 South Portland resident, operating vehicle while using handheld device, Route 77, \$85
- 4-28 Westbrook resident, operating vehicle while using handheld device, Route 77, \$85
- 4-28 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (59/50 zone), Ocean House Road, \$114
- 5-1 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (54/45 zone), Bowery Beach Road, \$114
- 5-9 Scarborough resident, speeding (60/45 zone), Bowery Beach Road, \$170
- 5-9 South Portland resident, uninspected vehicle, Ocean House Road, \$148
- 5-16 Portland resident, speeding (39/30 zone) Sawyer Road, \$114
- 5-17 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating vehicle while using handheld device, Ocean House Road, \$85

### ARRESTS

- 5-2 Cape Elizabeth resident, outstanding warrant, Hunt's Point Road

### ACCIDENTS

- 4-28 Monroe Reeder, accident on Ocean House Road

### FIRE CALLS

Fire calls: 18; EMS calls: 36

# Smith 'impacts people in a positive way'

Patti Smith has 12+ years of public service and a proven knowledge of county government; this experience, dedication, and collaborative spirit is why I support her re-election for Cumberland County Commissioner. Patti understands the role of county government. She is able to find economies of scale across the county's 28 communities in ways that maximize the services provided and mitigate the tax burden. She also knows when a regional approach is required. Patti's strong relationships with Preble Street, Habitat for Humanity, and Through

These Doors have helped advance solutions to the county's public health and housing issues. Finally, Patti's leadership to remove ICE from Cumberland County's contract with the U.S. Marshals Service demonstrated her commitment to social justice. Patti can effectively work across differences and impact people in a positive way. She should continue to represent South Portland, Westbrook, Cape Elizabeth and Portland's 5-1 Precinct as County Commissioner.

Lucy Perkins

# Bellows 'has the requisite experience'

I have known Shenna Bellows for nearly 20 years. Shenna is an excellent listener who truly cares about Mainer's thoughts and concerns. Shenna has been the Executive Director of the ACLU of Maine (championing marriage equality, healthcare access and voting rights), a multi-term State Senator. She is currently our Secretary of State. She has the requisite experience to handle the top executive position in our state.

ing asylum cases were detained by ICE at great psychological cost to them, and a great expense to the US taxpayers. As a senior Maine government official, she called out the racial profiling for what it was; she also took action. She refused the CBP's request for undercover license plates for unmarked vehicles, concerned that Maine plates could be used for lawless purposes. She has twice rejected the Trump administration's requests for sensitive voter data, protecting Mainers' data and records that could be used to target any of us. She has prevailed in court against Trump. Please vote for Shenna for Governor.

Jamie Wagner\*

*\*This letter does not represent the opinion of the Cape Courier Board of Directors.*

# Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

### A Big Win—or a Big Red Flag?

Edward Kreis, 68, a retired lineman who makes ends meet with a monthly disability check, was thrilled when an unexpected text message popped up on his phone from someone claiming to be with Publishers Clearing House. He was a winner, the message said. His prize? \$10,000,000 and a new pickup truck. To receive his money and truck, Kreis just had to pay a \$400 delivery-and-activation fee in the form of gift cards, which he did.

Publishers Clearing House is a well-known sweepstakes company that has awarded prizes for decades, with its famous Prize Patrol surprising winners at their homes with oversize checks, balloons and cameras. Kreis knew something was wrong when the scammers texted him to say the check was on his front porch. "Nobody knocked," he

said. Kreis took the check to his bank and it was fake. The stolen \$400 was a serious loss for Kreis, who says he makes only \$1,133 a month, "and it's hard to live on."

The prospect of a big financial windfall or amazing vacation plays on our emotions. Criminals count on our excitement to deceive us into paying a fee or divulging sensitive information. Know that no legitimate sweepstakes or contest requires payment in advance or sharing your Social Security number or bank account details. If an unexpected message sparks strong emotions and demands urgency, treat it as a potential fraud attempt. Take an "active pause"—an intentional step back to consider the scenario and reflect on what you might know about it. That moment could lead you to recognize the scam and pro-

-see SCAMS page 15

# 'Heartfelt thanks' to Cape schools

Our family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the Cape Elizabeth schools for providing an enriching education, and to the many teachers, staff, and coaches whose guidance, encouragement, and commitment played an important role in our son's growth

and memorable experiences both in and out of the classroom. Thank you.

Maria and Carmen Rinaldi



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# News from the Superintendent

By Dr. Chris Record

Dear Cape Community, I invite you to join me in thanking our incredible staff for working so hard this year to provide our wonderful Cape children, our amazing students, with what I hope has been an incredible year of learning. We have so much to be proud of as a school district and I deeply appreciate your support of us and also your continuous collaboration with us. I wish you an amazing summer!

Please note, the School Board will be holding a workshop on June 16 at 6:30 p.m. at CEHS to review the results of the recent CEHS Extracurricular/Athletics experience survey completed by CEHS students, CEHS parents/guardians, and CEHS coaches/advisors.

The last day of school is June 18. This is an early release day for students. The first day of school of 5th and 9th grade is August 27. This is an early release day for students that focuses on helping the students transition to their new school successfully. The first day of school for all students (besides Kindergarten) is August 31. Pond Cove administration will be reaching out to parents regarding the schedule for the first days of kindergarten.

Please support the 2026-2027 School Budget Referendum on June 9. The District Leadership Team and the School Board collaborated over several workshops to both meet our budget goals and to also reduce expenditures from the original budget request presented to the Board in February. Unfortunately, due to a 17% valuation increase of Cape Elizabeth by the Maine Revenue Service, our state aid was reduced by \$162,000 for next year. In the last two years we have lost nearly \$1,000,000 in state aid. This abrupt loss of state aid is very challenging; however, we have tried to offset some of this loss with the utilization of fund balance.

Despite this, we believe we are still coming forward with a budget that continues to provide our students with an excellent education. It is worth noting, even including new school construction debt costs, we remain among the lowest expenditure increases of any school district in Cumberland County.

We are pleased that both the School Board and Town Council unanimously voted in support of our 2026-2027 school budget.

We now ask for your support of the School Budget in the upcoming June 9 budget referendum for the following reasons:

Maintains our excellent educational standards that our community supports and expects

There are no educational program cuts

There are no teacher or staff cuts to any currently filled positions

Maintains facilities funding for C.I.P./Maintenance/Repairs

Future school budgets will be impacted by the recently passed bill LD 2226 by the Maine legislature. This bill makes significant changes to the way public schools are funded through the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) formula. It is important for our community to be aware of the potential funding impact of this legislation.

We strongly support the central aim of LD 2226 to improve equity in school funding across the state. Ensuring that every student in Maine has access to high-quality educational opportunities is essential to our state's future success. However, we are keeping a close eye on the funding impact of this bill on us here in Cape Elizabeth. This bill incorporates income levels (as measured by eligibility for free and reduced price lunch) into a community's ability to pay and could reduce the state allocation to us further going forward.

We are pleased this legislation is holding all districts harmless for three years, ensuring no district will lose funding because of the changes in LD 2226 for three years. The measure then gradually phases in any negative impacts over three more years.

As for the School Building Project, we are excited to be going out to bid in mid-May and to begin construction in June/July. We hope to open the new school in Sept of 2028. To be clear about the proposed new stage, the existing stage at CEMS/PC opening is 41'-4" wide by 11' high and the stage is 2'-8" above the floor below. Its area is roughly 1,100 SF. The new stage opening to the gym side stage is 40' wide by 12' high and the stage is 3' above the floor below. Its area is roughly 2,000 SF.

More information regarding site impacts and traffic implications will be shared soon. Due to traffic congestion on the school campus and on the town roads, please strongly consider having your child ride the bus if possible during construction over the next few years. The official fundraising launch and ground breaking ceremony dates will be announced soon as well. For more information on the school building project, visit: <https://www.cape.k12.me.us/o/cesd/page/building-project>.

We look forward to seeing you at our various student events, games and activities during the last weeks of the school year. Thanks again for your support of our schools.

# News from May 18 Town Council meeting

By Hanna Gilley

## Town Council Reports and Correspondence

Councilor Sahrbeck provided an update on the School Building Committee saying that there are six contractors who have been prequalified to bid on the Request for Proposal (RFP) once it's released in two weeks. The town will look to select a contractor and award the bid in June with construction on the new middle school and site work around the elementary school to start in July.

Sahrbeck also gave an update on the 1934 Building Committee and that the group "continues to impress me with their knowledge and how much they care about the issue." The group recently had a tour of the Town Hall and Community Services Building and are "looking into other possible needs in town" should the building be eligible for reuse.

## Finance Committee Report

Councilor Swayze provided a brief finance committee report with the town's revenues and expenditures around 83% which is "right on target" and where the town should be for finishing out the ninth month of the fiscal year.

## Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Fox recognized Rachel Davis and Sasha Cohen who were both awarded the Hometown Heroes Award from the South Portland Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club at Springfest in South Portland. Fox said that Davis and Cohen are both integral to the "thoughtful, engaging programming" available "year after year" at Thomas Memorial Library.

Fox also shared that over 250 Cape Elizabeth residents took advantage of "arguably the best view of Casco Bay" during the Residents Day at Fort Williams Park on Sunday, May 17.

Town Hall will be hosting an exhibition in the front area of the first floor with story boards, books and more that highlight Cape Elizabeth's response to the revolution during the American Revolutionary War. These materials are meant to educate and also "draw attention to the historical society at Fort Williams" and all their archive materials. This will be on display as early as Memorial Day or early June.

Fox mentioned that there is a bid currently out for a rooftop solar project for the Thomas Memorial Library. Bids will be accepted until Thursday, June 4. More information can be found on the town website under the "Business" and "Bids/RFP" section. The town center, basketball court and solar field on the landfill projects are "all progressing."

## Proclamation recognizing Arbor Week in Cape Elizabeth

Jeff Tarling, Cape Elizabeth's Tree Warden, recommended that the town recognize the third week in May as "Arbor Week" following the path of many municipalities

across the nation. The proclamation also includes tree planting in Fort Williams park and encourages the protection of "our trees and woodlands."

The proclamation also "checks a box" for Cape Elizabeth to become a "Tree City, USA" should the town decide to pursue that in the future. A Tree City, USA, recognition could help in grant applications and potentially allow for a "really cool sign" at the entrance to the town, according to Fox. The Council unanimously voted to approve that May 17 - 23, 2026 be Arbor Week in Cape Elizabeth.

## Council Goals Update and Discussion

Fox shared with the council updates on town council goals for the current year. Updates include exploring infrastructure funding and bond which will follow an upcoming debt profile presentation. The council will decide by mid-June if they want to present a bond to voters for the November 2026 election.

Other updates include pursuing solar grants for town facilities and other "smaller climate action steps" to fulfill environmental goals; ordinances LD1829 and LD2173 for housing diversity "went through and were amended" and will be finalized after state rule updates in late summer 2026; and for property tax relief goals a local option sales tax will be discussed with Jamie Garvin from GPCOG and a nearby town manager, on what that proposal might entail.

For the goal of an "informed, engaged citizenry," a survey tool called Flash Vote, was approved in the budget. This will allow the town to easily survey and poll residents and community members on certain topics important to the town. This tool will be available starting July, however, surveys are planned yet.

Also, there was an education session at the library to help citizens obtain information the town releases, such as on the town's website. There are plans to host a couple more of these information sessions. On May 30, there will be an inaugural "Coffee with a Councilor" with Councilors Scifres and Sahrbeck at Thomas Memorial Library. The goal is to host a "coffee with a councilor" every other month and at a different Cape Elizabeth location or small business.

Additionally, Fox shared progress on the communication infrastructure goal with information regarding a potential cell tower in town. Fox had engaged with a company from the Standish area that does "tower work" across the country including "stealth" tech, referring to cell towers that resemble a flag pole rather than a traditional cell phone tower. Fox recognized that a cell phone tower in Cape Elizabeth would have both opposition and support with safety concerns due to lack of cell coverage. The town is currently only in the information gathering stage.

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# News from May 19 Planning Board meeting

By Hanna Gilley

## Jordan Ridge Subdivision

Peter Beagle of Land Design Solutions represented the applicant to request final major subdivision review and resource protection permit for the proposed 34-unit project located on Spurwink Avenue. The applicant had attended two planning board workshops for the project in July 2025, a completeness preliminary review in February, a site walk in March, and a preliminary review approval during the planning board March meeting.

Beagle provided a project summary addressing the 34-lots for 14 single-family homes and ten condominium duplexes totaling 20 units; the boundaries for the subdivision, and use easement for the "Tower Parcel." The subdivision's "loop road," to be named Summit Crest Drive, has a proposed public trail that will be linked to the town's Greenbelt Trail.

The applicant is also proposing to convey 14.21 acres of open space to the town upon successful completion of the project's three phases, with each phase containing a portion of the 14.21 acres to be conveyed. Phase one is proposed to take one year to complete and includes the construction of single family units 1-8 and the start of the construction for Summit Crest Drive; phase two addresses finishing the "loop road" and single-family units 9-14; and phase three will include the construction of the ten duplex buildings for the 20 condominium units.

The applicant is requesting to submit their state and federal permitting applications during each phase rather than all permits submitted at the start of the project. This is to reduce application review times and will allow the applicant to begin the project sooner.

Also addressed was a prior question about potential guest parking spots at the condominium units. Although the "grading is pretty challenging with steep slope" several parking spots were able to be added at the end of the dead end road.

In the condominium area of the subdivision, the water utility right of way is being exchanged for an easement. This switch will benefit the applicant because easements do not require setbacks. Additionally, Portland Water District requires an easement for private water service.

There was no public comment, and no additional site walk was requested by the board. The motion passes unanimously with member Carol Ann Jordan having recused herself from discussions and the vote. Jay Cox, one of the applicants, added after the vote, "we promise a real nice project for the town, neighbors and new residents."

## St. Alban's lot split Site Plan Amendment

Planning Board member Natalie Burns disclosed her "professional relationship" with one of the applicants, Mr. Lawrence Clough. Board members passed a motion that Burns' relationship does not pose a direct or indirect conflict of interest. Burns participated in discussions and the vote.

Philip Walsh, representative for St. Albans, and senior warden of the vestry, the governing body of St. Albans presented the request to "effectuate a lot split." The church property contains two major elements, the church and the rectory for the priest and his family to reside. According to Walsh, the church has "deemed that the best long term interest of the church and the rectory to be separate" and to put both properties up for sale.

Chair Gilbert told the applicants that their request looked "pretty straight forward" and that they took questions and comments from previous workshops and made it "more clear what's going on." Carol Ann Jordan said that she can see the effort made and "appreciates the work put in since the workshop," adding that she really also enjoyed reading the property deeds from the 1920s.

Al Palmer asked about the proposed driveway being off Shore Road with seemingly no parking area and an "elevation difference" from Shore Road to where the house is located. Walsh replied that "determination will be made by a future owner" adding that a garage could be constructed or parking could be placed behind the house.

Additionally, a note will be included with the property documents to provide an easement or relocate electric utility off the church lot to the rectory residential lot. The board unanimously voted to approve the request.

## Basketball

Continued from page 1

for years to come."

CEHS varsity basketball player Josh Rosen said, "The community court will build a strong foundation for the future success of Cape basketball and instill a lasting basketball spirit in the youth of Cape."

In preparing a plan for the Cape Elizabeth Planning Board, Cape Hoops, working with Stephen Harding of Sebago Technics, Inc., had to address many aspects of the project, including site selection, parking, painting of the court, landscaping, storm water and utilities.

Cape Hoops is a volunteer-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit, dedicated to expanding youth basketball programs and competitive play in the community. Its core mission is to provide robust, accessible basketball opportunities that foster skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship for local youth as well as provide basketball resources and foundational support for the town of Cape Elizabeth.

# Then and Now: The (true) story of a moose and a fly

By Jim Rowe

I've been "off duty" from Then and Nows for quite some time now. And yet, people still come up to me and remark how much they enjoy (present tense) the column. So, with Courier Editor Marta Girouard's blessing, maybe I'll just sneak back in for a few more installments (to preserve the integrity of my fans).

The year was 1965...back when Cape Elizabeth had a junior high school...back when that junior high school was connected to the high school by a two-story, glass-walled corridor. The first floor of this corridor housed the junior high school administrative offices; the second had classrooms, among them my 9th Grade Algebra I class with a man I considered to be an excellent teacher, mentor and later friend, Don Richards.

One day in class, we were focused on graphing quadratic equations (or some other skill that would be equally useful in our adult lives).

All of a sudden, Mr. Richards shouted out "Hey, look!" He was pointing at the window which overlooked today's Rey Moulton Baseball Field at the middle school. We all jumped to our feet and crowded the window wall to see what Mr. Richards had spotted. There, standing between the pitcher's mound and second base, was a mature male moose. If not the first, then certainly this was one of the first I had ever seen in the wild. To a person,

we remarked about how majestic this King of Maine Wildlife was, with his full rack of antlers and dangling dewlap. After a few minutes of gawking, Mr. Richards herded us to our desks, and called the office to notify "the authorities" of the shaggy campus visitor.


It wasn't until many years later that I learned what Paul Harvey would call "the rest of this story." It came directly from Don Richards' mouth, accompanied by an oath of authenticity. Don and I had remained friends and we occasionally- particularly late in his life- would meet for breakfast at local eateries. We'd often reminisce about "the good old days." At one of these meetings, he asked, "Do you remember that day when the moose wandered up onto the ball field?" "Sure do," I responded. "Well, when I told everybody to look out the window, I hadn't actually seen the moose yet. You kids saw it before I did."

I looked at him quizzically.

"My fly was down," he said.

There are few things in life that are more embarrassing for a man than to discover that the zipper on his pants has been down...for how long, nobody knows. Don used the ruse of pointing out "something" outside to draw our attention, giving him the chance to zip up unnoticed. It wasn't until the class began chattering something about a moose that he realized the total coincidence.

You never know where Algebra will take you!



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# Cape Elizabeth High School announces Top Ten Percent of Class of 2026

**Audrey Zachwieja Alberts**

**Valedictorian**



**Parents:** Meg Zachwieja Alberts and Mark Edward Alberts  
**Future Plans:** University of Cambridge, Mathematics, Swim Team  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Valedictorian, 3x Maine State Math Meet Champion, Maine American Region Math League top performer, Maine All-State Swim Team, Class B 100 Butterfly State Champion, National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Emily Caras Scholarship recipient, Harvard Book Award, 11 CEHS Academic Awards (Math, Foreign Language, History, Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry), 4x CEHS American Mathematics Competition top scorer

**Oliver Ames**



**Parents:** Eden Zoll and Jason Ames  
**Future Plans:** Studying at the University of Toronto's Institute of Communication, Culture, Information, and Technology  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Candidate, Coca-Cola Scholars Program Semifinalist, Maine State Science Fair—2nd place in CS/Math and USM Full-Tuition Scholarship, CEHS College of the Atlantic Book Award, CEHS Committed Underclassman Citizenship Award, CEHS Academic Achievement Award (8x), CEHS Maroon Medal Society

**Ezra Gabrielson**  
**Salutatorian**



**Parents:** Sarah and Jeremy Gabrielson  
**Future Plans:** Attending Bowdoin College  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Ezra Gabrielson is the class of 2026 salutatorian. He has participated in robotics at Cape since eighth grade and his team has qualified for the World Championship twice. Additionally, he has played harp with the Midcoast Symphony Orchestra, the Acadia Wind Ensemble, and the Maine All State Student Concert Band. Ezra has participated in tech theater since sophomore year, and has stage managed two productions as a senior. Ezra also received the UMaine Top Scholar award at last year's State Science Fair. Ezra is co-president of Cape's Chemistry Olympiad club, and has qualified for the National Chemistry Olympiad twice. He is also president of the French Lunch Club. Ezra is a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student, and Bausch and Lomb Book Award recipient.

**Isabella Guerin-Brown**



**Parents:** Diana Guerin-Brown and Ken Brown  
**Future Plans:** Attending Bucknell University and majoring in biology  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Dartmouth book award, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Honors Society, WMC All Academic team, WMC All Conference 1st team, WMC All Conference 2nd team

**Aman Khare**



**Parents:** Dheeraj Khare and Zhyldyz Kabaeva  
**Future Plans:** Northeastern University  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Lead Coder and Builder for Team 56H in Vex Robotics, Second Place at the VEX Robotics Maine State Championship in freshman year, Third Place at the VEX Robotics Maine State Championship in the Skills Challenge in junior year, 4x State Qualifications, 1x World Championship Qualification, Varsity Tennis, Varsity Math, Vice President of the Chess Club, developed a software with Python that quantifies bacterial colonies on plates using image processing, AP Scholar with Distinction, College Board School Recognition Award, U.S. Presidential Scholar Nominee

**Laura Leighton**



-see TOP TEN page 7

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 - Dr. Seuss

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# Top Ten

Continued from page 6

**Parents:** Chip and Lisa Leighton  
**Future Plans:** Attending University of Virginia studying mathematics

**Accomplishments and Recognition:** AP Scholar with Distinction, Columbia Book Award, National Honor Society, Violinist, Portland Youth Symphony Orchestra 4 years, MMEA All-State orchestra violinist 4 years. MMEA District 2 orchestra concertmaster, 4 years varsity swim team and Community Services swim instructor, Southwestern conference All-Academic recognition

## Molly Nagel



**Parents:** Rebecca and Jason Nagel  
**Future Plans:** University of Sheffield, UK, studying economics

**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Trinity College Book Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Honor Society, Excellence Awards in English, World History II, and Word Processing, Seal of Biliteracy in French, World Affairs Council Leadership Team, Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field captain, Varsity Field Hockey captain, All-Academic Teams for field hockey and track and field, CESC Referee of the Year

## Liam Nudd



**Parents:** Melinda Nudd and Tim Nudd  
**Future Plans:** Attending Columbia University

**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Senior Class President, Varsity Cross Country and Track Captain, Theater Performer, Improv President, Maine Principal's Award, Underclassman Award for Passion

## Avery Palmore



**Parents:** Bill and Jill Palmore  
**Future Plans:** Vassar College, majoring in Biochemistry and running Cross country and track

**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Varsity Cross Country for 4 years and team captain, track MVP, MSSF award for eating disorder research, 150+ volunteer hours, work with dementia patients

## Madeleine Turgelsky



**Parents:** Melania Turgelsky and David Turgelsky

**Future Plans:** Attending Emory University to study History and Public Health

**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Scholastic Writing Awards (including national Gold Medal); Maine State Science Fair 3rd place in Behavioral & Social Sciences; Brown University Book Award; Citizenship Award

**Leader in extracurriculars including:** Speech Co-captain (5x top three individual finishes at the Maine State Championship, 2x State Champions, 3x Qualified for Nationals, Ranked 7th in Maine overall by National Speech and Debate Association); Theater (Head Lighting Designer, Theater Council Secretary); GSA (Co-President); Crochet for a Cause (Founder and President); Published a book as a Young Emerging Authors Fellow with the Telling Room, which was a finalist for a Maine Literary Award.

## Wren Venter



**Parents:** Meg and James Venter  
**Future Plans:** Bowdoin College: neuroscience and philosophy  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Bowdoin Faculty Scholar

-see PROFILES page 8

## CEHS student to lead tours of bunkers

Sam Hebda, a student at Cape Elizabeth High School, will be leading tours of bunkers. Hebda explained, "I will be leading tours this summer inside Battery 201 at Two Lights [State Park] with a few other people....The tours are free, and there will be multiple tours each day the bunker is open."

Those dates are:  
 Sunday, June 14, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Saturday July 11, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Saturday August 8, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 Sunday, September 27, 9:00 a.m. -

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**Profiles**

Continued from page 7

**Jack Wark**



**Parents:** Abby Wark and Barry Wark  
**Future Plans:** Attending University of Washington in the College of Engineering  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Captain of the Boys Varsity Soccer Team, Captain of the Boys Ultimate Frisbee Team, Co-President of the Cape Elizabeth Volunteer Club, Co-President of the Cape Elizabeth Boys and Girls Club Coalition, National Honor Society member, National Merit Finalist, Certified Wilderness First Responder

**Addison Young**



**Parents:** Michael and Jill Young  
**Future Plans:** Attending Colby College this fall, planning to major in biology  
**Accomplishments and Recognition:** Smith College Book Award, AP Scholar with Honor Award, 3rd place in Animal Sciences-Physiology at the 2025 Maine State Science Fair, Member of the National Honor Society, Member of the District 1 Honors Mixed Choir, Member of the Upper Links Leadership Team, CEHS Excellence Award in Honors Geometry, Class Secretary 2025-2026, Class Representative 2022-2025, Cross-Country Effort Award 2022, Cross-Country Dedication Award 2023 and 2024, Maine State Medalist at the 2023 Indoor Championships, selected for Cross-Country Team Captain 2024 and 2025, led the 2024 cross-country team to Regionals and States, 2025 Maine State Rowing Champion, Gold-Medalist at the 2025 New Hampshire Rowing Championships, CEHS Maroon Medal Society

**Six veteran educators retiring from CESD this year**

By Kevin St. Jarre

Six beloved and veteran educators will be retiring this year from the Cape Elizabeth School Department. They are: Troy Patter-son, Kris Moniz, Marguerite Lawler-Rohner, Win Phillips, Steve Price and Jim Ray.

All were invited to share their thoughts with The Cape Courier and the community.

Marguerite Lawler-Rohner has been in education for 30 years, with 21 of those years as a Cape Elizabeth Middle School art teacher, Team Leader, Teacher Evaluation Committee and Middle School Union Representative. She worked on helping out with outdoor track and Nordic ski teams, the Art Club and Student Art shows.

When asked how things have changed over the years, she said, "Middle school is middle school...the student's behaviors don't change. There is never a dull moment and there is always drama. Middle school students are my favorite people!"

Asked about her future plans, Lawler-Rohner said, "Spend more time loving up my grandson and granddaughter, teaching at MECAD, painting at my studio and on location, and travel any time I feel the urge, [such as] studying Renaissance art in Florence, Italy."

To the brand-new teacher, her advice is, "[R]ead and understand your contract...join the union...ask for help when you need it."

English teacher Win Philips has been teaching for 36 years, with 26 of those at Cape Elizabeth High School. Looking back, Philips said, "For a guy who didn't really plan to teach, it's turned out to be a most rewarding experience."

Kris Moniz said she has spent a little over 20 years with the CESD, and prior to here, worked in the Turner school district. During her years here, Moniz has taught 7th and 8th

grade math and science, and served as a team leader for many years.

She said, "Education has changed so much over the years that it is difficult to describe. I was teaching when the first group of middle schoolers were given laptops in Maine. What an innovative and radical idea that was! Now we have almost come full circle when thinking about the use of technology in the classroom. Social norms and expectations have also changed immensely over the years. Many of these changes have been for the better, improving education and society."

Moniz said, "Cape Elizabeth has been a great place to teach, mainly because the community values education and respects the profession and the practitioners. I have had the privilege of meeting and working with many amazing students and families during my career. I will always value and treasure those memories."

As for advice to new educators, Moniz said, "[E]njoy the ride, laugh once a day and don't sweat the small stuff."

Change is inevitable; adapting and being flexible about change, while important, is sometimes difficult."

Jim Ray has been teaching for 41 years, and 40 of those in Cape Elizabeth. His first year was at Fryeburg Academy. Ray coached basketball for 37 years and baseball for one year.

In 2015, his boys defeated Modemak Valley to win the Maine State Basketball Championship in a nail biter 44-42, when his team scored seven unanswered points in the final 52 seconds, including an Ethan Murphy buzzer-beating layup to win the game. Ray said of his career, "As I reflect back over

-see RETIREES page 16

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# Senator Anne Carney announces re-election campaign for Maine Senate District 29

Senator Anne Carney has launched her run for re-election to serve Maine Senate District 29 for a 4th term. District 29 includes South Portland, Cape Elizabeth and part of Scarborough. Sen. Carney was elected to the Senate in 2020, 2022 and 2024; she also served one term in the Maine House of Representatives.

“I appreciate the trust our community has placed in me as our nation confronts difficult political, economic and social issues. My legislative priorities over the last two years have focused on the necessary and urgent steps we’ve had to take at the state level to protect constitutional rights and provide for the well-being of our community. I’ve also focused on bills to make essentials like electricity, housing and health care more affordable; make Mainers safer by preventing federal over-reach; and improve access to justice in our state. It is an honor and privilege to serve our community in the Maine Senate.”

Sen. Carney serves as Senate Chair of the Judiciary Committee, Chair of the Joint Rules Committee and is a member of the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. She co-chairs the Legislature’s Gun Safety Caucus.

During her time in the Senate, she has led efforts to pass laws that prevent gun violence, sponsored bills that increase access to child and maternal health care, supported funding for K-12 education and free community college, passed tighter restrictions on emissions from oil tank farms and worked to mitigate climate change. This term, Sen. Carney sponsored key bills to address the affordability issues that are impacting families in our community and throughout the state, including electricity costs, property tax, school construction and financial exploitation scams.

In her six years as Chair of the Judiciary Committee, Sen. Carney has led bipartisan efforts to increase funding for civil legal services and restructure our system to provide criminal defense for those unable to afford an attorney. She is recognized for her work to pass laws to stop child sexual assault and sex trafficking. She has been a leader in work to recognize the inherent rights of the Wabanaki Nations. “Our nation is founded on the promise of liberty and justice for all. I’ve been working hard to ensure that Maine

upholds these obligations.”

In the 132nd Legislature, Sen. Carney was recognized by the Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics as Legislator of the Year, by the Jensen Project for her work on behalf of survivors of sex trafficking, by the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault with a Legacy of Leadership Award, with the Disability Rights Maine Champion of Justice Award and received the Maine Justice Foundation’s Howard H. Dana, Jr. award for improving access to civil legal assistance for vulnerable Mainers. In prior years, Sen. Carney received a Children’s Advocacy Award from MECASA and the Fitzgerald Award from the Maine Gun Safety Coalition for her legislative leadership.

Sen. Carney has resided in Cape Elizabeth for 35 years. Before running for public

office, she practiced law for 17 years, representing businesses, individuals, cities and towns throughout Maine. She served on the Board of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust, including two years as Board President. In 2016, she received the Pine Tree Legal Assistance Award for Pro Bono Services for eight years of volunteer work representing Mainers with low income.

Sen. Carney earned a J.D. from the University of Maine School of Law, a Master of Theological Studies degree from Harvard University and a B.A. from Haverford College. Anne and her husband David Wenberg have three adult children and four grandchildren. They enjoy playing with their grandkids, cooking for family and friends, and long walks with their dog.



Contributed photo

Senator Anne Carney

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**EMERGENCY COVERAGE AT WARREN AVENUE LOCATION**

# Capetoon: His favorite color

By Jeff Mandell



# Reducing food waste saves town money, helps environment

By Nina Trowbridge, Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee

Cape Elizabeth has a quietly powerful opportunity sitting in nearly every kitchen and back yard. Food scraps and yard debris form a large share of the materials that we throw away each year. They are also among the costliest to our town - and the easiest to recycle into something useful. Many Cape Elizabeth residents are already taking steps to help this issue, but there are more opportunities for all of us to pitch in.

A new Maine organic waste diversion law passed in 2025 in response to a food waste study from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the University of Maine. The 2024 Maine Food Loss and Waste Generation Study revealed that approximately 361,000 tons of food waste are generated annually in our state. Residences contribute approximately 130,000 tons of that total, with the largest amount, 27,000 tons, coming from households in Cumberland County.

Beginning in 2030, LD 1065 will require large food-waste generators, including supermarkets, schools, and other institutions, to divert unused and discarded food away from the trash and toward human, animal, or composting uses. While households are not the target of this law, the direction is clear: organic waste will become less of a burden and more of a resource for all of us. A few small changes in our habits and local systems can help expedite this transition!

So why should Cape Elizabeth residents adjust their habits around food waste disposal? It turns out that it is increasingly meaningful and easy to make these changes.

First, food insecurity has increased in Maine over the past few years. Right here in Cape Elizabeth, Judy's Pantry is serving a growing number of Cape Elizabeth residents. With this issue hitting so close to home, the bigger goal of reducing food waste feels critical for all of us.

Second, organic waste generates methane when it breaks down in oxygen-poor environments such as landfills. Methane, a major contributor to Earth's greenhouse gasses, is approximately 80 times more toxic to our climate than carbon dioxide. Keeping food and yard waste out of landfills not only reduces methane emissions but also returns important nutrients back to the soil, creating a product that supports gardens and farms in our community.

Finally, discarded kitchen scraps form a significant fraction of the waste stream in Cape Elizabeth. They are among the heaviest of all materials thrown in the trash, as well as the messiest and most odorous. Each ton of trash costs our town over \$100. Over the past three years, the food waste drop-off program at the Recycling Center has successfully reduced these costs by diverting approximately 95 tons of food waste per year away from the trash. Composting at home and in the schools is also helping to reduce our costs. Moving forward, the town hopes to expand on these savings.

So what can Cape Elizabeth residents do right now to help?

The Cape Elizabeth Recycling Center offers food waste drop-off at the green bins in front of the large recycling containers. In partnership with Agri-Cycle, a company that uses anaerobic bacteria to convert organic material into energy, this program helps to reduce costs to our town and our planet. (You can learn more at [agricycleenergy.com](http://agricycleenergy.com)).

Another option is home composting. A simple outdoor bin can turn vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, eggshells and yard materials into a soil amendment that improves nutrients and water retention for our gardens and farms.

For households that seek convenience, curbside food-scrap collection can be a practical option. Services such as Garbage to Gardens pick up household food scraps and send them to partner farms for composting. The gardens at Pond Cove Elementary School benefit from a Garbage to Gardens partnership!

Garbage to Gardens also supports the growing food waste composting programs at all three Cape Elizabeth schools. Hard-working teachers at each school have stepped up to lead these efforts, including Chriss Sutherland at Cape Elizabeth Middle School, Tom Farmer at Cape Elizabeth High School, and Devin Snyder, Bri Gallagher, and Tara Bucci at Pond Cove Elementary. They report that students feel proud to participate and empowered in caring for their community. Superintendent

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## June naturalist's corner

By Erika Carlson Rhile

### Look up, look close at June's hidden wonders

#### June 8 - 9: Conjunction of Jupiter and Venus

Jupiter and Venus, the night sky's two brightest planets, have been creeping closer together for a couple of weeks, but on June 8 they will be at their closest proximity. While they look like they are almost touching, this is just an optical illusion created by our line of sight. In reality, they are 416 million miles apart in space. Which one is which? Venus will be bright white and Jupiter a more yellowish hue. With binoculars you may be able to see two of Jupiter's four moons! Look west after sunset for this spectacular sight.

#### June 21, 4:24 a.m. - Summer Solstice

The North Pole will be tilted toward the Sun, which will have reached its northernmost position in the sky and will be directly over the Tropic of Cancer at 23.44 degrees north latitude. This is the first day of summer (summer solstice) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of winter (winter solstice) in the Southern Hemisphere.

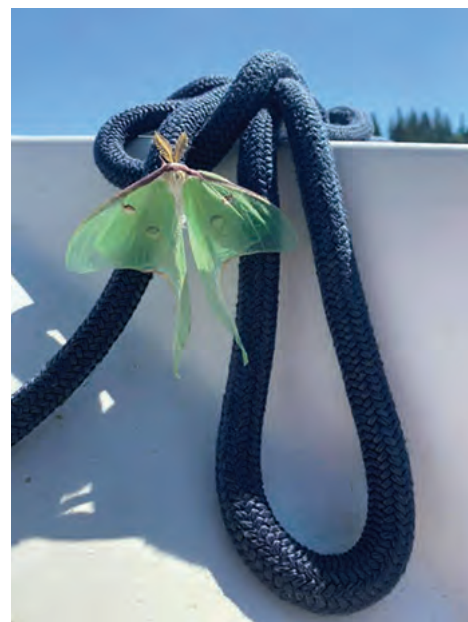
#### June 29, 7:56 p.m. - Full Strawberry Moon

This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Strawberry Moon because it signaled the time of year to gather ripening fruit. It tends to coincide with the peak of the strawberry harvesting season. Pagans called the Midsummer moon the "Honey Moon" for the mead made from fermented honey that was part of wedding ceremonies performed at the summer solstice. Watch the Full Strawberry Moon rise from a southeastern horizon.

Gorgeous luna moths are actually pretty common in Maine, but hard to come by. Like the majority of their counterparts, they're active only at night. Plus, luna moths actually spend most of their lives as larvae. They spend up to five times longer

as a caterpillar than as a moth. The adults don't even have mouth parts! Their only job is to mate during the one week they live as adults, then die. Count yourself lucky if you do see them in this fleeting phase of their life cycle.

The gray tree frog is one of two species of tree-dwelling frogs in Maine; the spring peeper is the other. You probably miss these frogs with their highly effective camouflage. By adjusting their pigments, they can shift their skin from mottled gray to various shades of green or brown to perfectly match tree bark, leaves, and lichen. Their scientific name is *Hyla versicolor*: *Hyla* is Greek, meaning "belonging to the woods." *Versicolor* is derived from the Latin word *versus* which means "various." Gray tree frogs are very active on June nights but are more often heard than seen.



Contributed photo

*A luna moth aboard Erika Carlson Rhile's family's lobsterboat F/V Fish Taco. Fun fact: Luna moth's long tails help evade predators. As the moth flies, the fluttering tails spin and reflect a bat's ultrasonic sonar in all directions. This scrambles the bat's echo, shifting the "center" of the target away from the moth's vulnerable body and tricking the bat into attacking the expendable tails.*

## Local birding report

By Brooks Bornhoff

The second and third weeks of May in Cape Elizabeth saw an awe-inspiring surge of migration, with vast numbers of songbirds and shorebirds passing through. Analysis from the Cornell Lab revealed multiple nights in which more than two million birds were aloft across Cumberland County. Radar imagery captured striking formations of these migrations, with layered movements reaching altitudes of 10,000 feet and beyond. At such heights, birds skillfully navigate atmospheric currents, seeking favorable winds while avoiding turbulence. Those traveling at these elevations are able to cover greater distances and disperse broadly across suitable stopover habitat below.

Each May, I find myself drawn back to my bookshelf, instinctively reaching for a book that feels like an old friend. "The Warblers of North America," published in 1909 by Frank M. Chapman and adorned with exquisite illustrations by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, holds a particularly special place in my life. It was a gift from my grandmother and had once belonged to my great-grandfather. In his introduction, Chapman writes that "the warblers of North America are nature's living jewels, flitting through the forest with brilliance that rivals the blossoms of spring." At the time of its publication, it was considered groundbreaking—one of the first comprehensive works devoted entirely to these vibrant and elusive birds. Beyond its scientific merit, it marked an early and important step in bird identification and conservation, helping to lay the foundation for modern field guides and elevating birdwatching into a serious and enduring pursuit.

Over the past several weeks across Cape, wood warblers have filled the landscape, their numbers stretching for miles in a dazzling expression of migration. I recorded twenty species so far this spring, with Pine Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Ovenbirds, Black-throated Blue Warblers and Yellow Warblers appearing in abundance. American Redstarts and Northern Parulas clung to the budding branches of oaks, ash-

es and maples, as if dripping from the trees themselves. Scattered among these living jewels were Wilson's Warblers, Blackburnian Warblers, and Cape May Warblers, while Nashville and Tennessee warblers arrived in impressive numbers alongside Chestnut-sided and striking Magnolia warblers. High above, Bay-breasted and Blackpoll Warblers moved through the canopy, their rapid, fading trills echoing softly through the forest.

One species that often eludes me is the Northern Waterthrush. However for the second year in a row I have come across one in Cape. On May 20, I encountered this secretive bird in CELT's Willow Brook property, singing from deep within an overgrown, boggy thicket. I stood listening to the birds sweet, whistled song and shortly thereafter the streaky brown songbird appeared, bobbing its rear and strutting its stuff.

Other observations from the latter half of May include a Solitary Sandpiper along Pond Cove on the 13th, and along the fringes of Robinson Woods III, a female Magnolia Warbler bathing, a Canada Warbler energetically foraging and a male Scarlet Tanager. The song of a male Scarlet Tanager recalls that of an American Robin, though more hurried and urgent in delivery. Also, listen for their sharp, energetic chick-burr calls across our woodlands—a distinctive note shared by both males and females. Catching sight of this striking bird amidst newly minted foliage can be a test of patience. Henry David Thoreau captured the feeling best in his journal: "that contrast of a red bird with the green pines and blue sky! Even when I have heard the note and look for him and find the bloody fellow, sitting on a dead twig of a pine, I am always startled. That incredible red, with the green and blue, as if these were the trinity we wanted. Yet with his hoarse note he pays for his color. I am transported: these are not the woods I ordinarily walk in. How he enhances the wildness and wealth of the woods!"



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GET TICKETS NOW AT <https://bachvirtuosifestival.org/tickets/> OR CALL (207) 842-0800

# Library offers programs on adventuring in Maine, invasive plants

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Summer Reading 2026: Building A Better World, Round 2!

For our second summer of “Building a Better World,” Thomas Memorial Library is delighted to shine a spotlight on a local organization making a difference in our community: The Locker Project is a nonprofit focused on the greater Portland area, committed to sharing fresh, nutritious food with kids and families. Through partnerships with schools, libraries, farms, and with the help of more than 200 active volunteers, the Locker Project tackles food insecurity with a generous heart and a splash of fun – truly helping to build a better world.

To uplift the incredible work of the Locker Project, TML invites readers of all ages to participate in our summer reading program. From June 15 - August 15, the library will offer anyone (local or otherwise) the opportunity to complete our challenges and compete for a range of fun prizes. We’ll also host an array of programs and events relating to the mission of the Locker Project, who will be featured in a special gallery downstairs for the entire month of July.

The Locker Project was one of fifteen nonprofit organizations that applied for TML’s new Community Spotlight initiative. The TML Committee, an advisory board appointed by the Town Council, reviewed the applications and selected this year’s organization during their March 2026 meeting. Each year, a different nonprofit organization will be selected through this process to be highlighted in TML’s annual summer reading programs.

Stay tuned for more information and details on what we have in store for this summer. To learn more about the Locker Project and how you can support them, check out their website. We can’t wait to build a better world with them!

### Expanded “Library of Things”

You may have been aware that the library lends some unusual items, such as ukuleles, a telescope, and night sky binoculars. We have been working hard over the past few months to expand our Library of Things Collection (LoT) to include many new items (with more on the way). You can now borrow the following:

- Blu-ray player
- BRICK device (to help you limit your phone dependence)

- digital projector
- electronic stud finder
- Kil-o-Watt kits (electricity use meter)
- luggage scale
- moisture meter
- night sky binoculars and a variety of nature exploration kits
- radon detector
- telescope
- thermal imaging camera
- ukuleles
- UV floor lamp
- white noise machine

Currently, most items circulate for a three week loan period with no renewals, and cannot be reserved—first come, first served! Stop by the main desk for more information.

### SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADULTS

#### Yardscaping: From Lawn to Landscape

Thursday, June 11, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Are you enjoying your yard as much as you’d like to? Join us for an informative evening with Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District and learn how to swap your lawn and associated maintenance for pollinator gardens, vegetative buffers, edible landscapes, groundcovers, rain gardens, and other natural landscapes you can choose from to make your yard work for you. Bring a layout of your yard (drawings, satellite image, pictures) for free technical assistance from the instructor. Free site visits may also be available.

#### Adventuring Through Maine: Discovering Hidden Gems

Tuesday, June 16, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Don’t know where to plan your next weekend trip? Whether you are new to Maine or a lifelong resident, there is bound to be something for everyone in this delightful talk with Nigel Osborne of the Maine State Visitor Information Center. The mission of this presentation is to encourage local communities to explore the state with the help of Travel Counselors in the 8 State Visitor Information Centers who curate personal experiences and itineraries, providing all visitors with tools and resources that encourage them to explore our wonderful state with peace of mind. The talk will cover a range of many different experiences.

Nigel, who moved to Maine with his family of 6 in 2002, brings his deep industry knowledge home to Maine—connecting local businesses, communities, and travelers

while helping both visitors and residents discover the state’s most memorable and lesser-known experiences. Complete with travel guide and a highway map for everyone, this fun program is one you won’t want to miss.

Maine Tourism Association is a member-supported non-profit association that handles the planning and fulfillment for the Maine Office of Tourism. With more than 40 years of leadership experience in the global travel and hospitality industry, Nigel has held senior executive roles with companies including Insight Vacations, Holland America Line and Virgin Vacations before starting with The Maine Tourism Association in 2021.

#### Invasive Plants in Maine with CELT

Thursday, June 18, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Join Mike Hankes, a member of CELT’s Stewardship Committee for a talk at Thomas Memorial Library about the invasive plant species found in Cape Elizabeth. Throughout the program, Mike will teach the audience how to identify specific plants, all about eradication strategies, and why invasive species pose a threat to an ecosystem. He will bring in samples of actual invasive plants found in town, for participants to touch and photograph, in order to sharpen their identification skills.

CELT will have a sign-up sheet at the talk, and if enough interest is garnered, Mike will host a walk at Runaway Farm the following week to see the plants in their natural environment. Participants on the walk should meet at the upper parking lot at Gull Crest field off Spurwink Avenue, and be prepared to go on a gentle hike, rain or shine. All participants must register at least 48 hours in advance of the walking program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

#### A Seal’s Journey

Tuesday, June 23, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Join Marine Mammals of Maine (MMoME) volunteer and wildlife educator Jessica Woodend as she takes you through a seal’s journey from stranding to release and all of the obstacles in between. She will start with important seal basics, such as whether it’s normal for seals to be out of the water, and why you might see a baby seal on its own. She will then dive into when and why seals need our help. Gray seal pups begin to appear on the coast of Maine in the Winter, and she will discuss what you as a community member should do if you encounter a seal. You will also learn about what MMoME is, what they do, and more about the animals they care

for, including the famous 2023 Cape Elizabeth Gray Seals!

#### Friends of Dorothy: An Open Mic Night

Thursday, June 25, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Writers of all genres are invited to take the mic for this special night of reading, sharing and uplifting LGBTQIA+ voices. Whether you have a poem, essay, short story, or would like to read a piece by one of your favorite queer writers, we welcome you to submit your original work or selection to be considered for TML’s first open mic night in honor of Pride Month. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis through June 11, to be evaluated by TML staff on the basis of quality, impact, and appropriateness for a PG-13 audience.

Rules: Readers will have up to 5 minutes each, and must be at least 13 years old. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis, and you may be placed on a waitlist if accepted submissions are full before the night of the event. You may submit more than one piece, as long as they can be read within the 5 minute time limit. All submissions will be pre-screened by library staff (who also happen to be writers) and accepted on the basis of quality, impact and appropriateness for a PG-13 audience. Head to the event page on our website to submit online now!

### REGULAR PROGRAMS

**Senior Social Hour**  
Every Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

**Death Cafe, with Davinica Nemptzow**  
First Thursday of each month, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Songwriting Workshop, with Jud Caswell**  
First Tuesday of each month, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Youth Services Recurring Programs - Children’s**

#### Program Break: June 1 - June 20, 2026

The Children’s Department is taking a short break from weekly programming. We will still have some great programming happening during this time. Check out our calendar to learn more.

#### Baby Play Group: Tuesdays @ Noon

This program is designed for infants and toddlers from birth - 18 months old and their caregivers. During our program break in June, this weekly program will turn into an hour of

—see LIBRARY page 15

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# Story of Revolution comes to Cape Elizabeth Town Hall

By Bob Dodd



Photo courtesy of CEHPS

This early example of a political cartoon was created by Benjamin Franklin for the French and Indian War, and revived during the American Revolution to become a symbol of colonial resistance to British rule.

An exhibit entitled “Revolution: Cape Elizabeth’s Response” will be on display in Cape Elizabeth Town Hall beginning June 1 and will continue to the end of the year.

Revolution tells the remarkable story of Cape Elizabeth’s outsized involvement in the nation’s fight for independence, and the personal sacrifices made by scores of individuals whose family names are still, in large part, deeply rooted in our town.

The exhibit consists of posters describing the Prelude to War; Cape Elizabeth Sailors Lost at Sea; and the people involved with Guarding the Home Front. A display case features Revolutionary War era artifacts that provide a glimpse of what life was like at that time.

Visitors to town hall are able to search

through a notebook for names of those from Cape Elizabeth who served in the War for Independence. The sheer number of names tell the story of our small community’s resolve to be part of the fight to become a nation, even at the cost of so many of their lives.

“Revolution: Cape Elizabeth’s Response” is the creation of the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society. The impetus for the project came from town officials seeking ways the town might commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

“Revolution: Cape Elizabeth’s Response” is located in the main entry hall of town hall. It’s worth a special visit!

# CEEF approves two grants for Cape Elizabeth High School

On May 6, the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation (CEEF) approved two grants for programs at Cape Elizabeth High School.

The first grant will fund a walking tour of Boston’s Freedom Trail for the AP U.S. History class. The trip is a long-standing tradition for Cape Elizabeth 5th graders, but the Class of 2027 missed out due to Covid. Now as upperclassmen, the 45 participating students will experience the trail at a much deeper level — and with perfect timing, as the visit coincides with the 250th anniversary of American independence. CEEF contributed \$1,200 toward the trip.

The second grant, totaling \$5,300, funds the purchase of a Risograph print-making machine for the CEHS art program, making Cape Elizabeth the only high school in Maine with such a tool. A Risograph is a digital duplicating system that blends analog and digital processes, similar to screen printing, but more direct and accessible, producing vibrant,

layered prints that are cost-effective to create in large quantities. The machine will be integrated into Art Fundamentals, Drawing & Painting, Art Studio, and Photography I and II, giving students hands-on experience with a process widely used by contemporary artists, illustrators and independent publishers. It will also open the door to future collaborations with Pond Cove Elementary and Middle School students through cross-curricular projects and creative initiatives like zine-making.

Since its founding in 2002, CEEF has funded 359 grants totaling over \$1.75 million in support of Cape Elizabeth students. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, CEEF relies on community donations to bring innovative ideas to life across the district — from pre-kindergarten through high school — creating the kinds of extraordinary experiences students won’t find anywhere else.

# Recycling Center turns Family Fun Day green

With its festival food and drink for hundreds of attendees, Family Fun Day can create a mountain of garbage amid the celebration. This year, the Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee has an earth-friendly solution.

Garbage to Garden has been sponsored by the Recycling Committee to provide trash and recycling collection at the event, held on June 13 at Fort Williams Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Committee member Jenna Pfueller coordinated the service with the Family Fun Day committee, noting that “Garbage to Garden collects trash, composting, and recycling, separating contents and delivering them to Eco Maine,” where they can be divided and disposed of appropriately.

The Recycling Committee will staff an information table at Family Fun Day this year, treating the event as “a teachable moment,” according to Pfueller, “for the town to learn about waste and recycling,” and distinguishing between the two.

For more information, visit the Cape Elizabeth Family Fun Day social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram, or their website at <https://sites.google.com/view/capeelizabethfamilyfunday/home>

For more information, contact:

Steve Clifford  
 Family Fun Day Committee  
 79 Fowler Road Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
 562-754-8390

Cape Elizabeth School Department

Cape Schools Open Minds and Open Doors

## DESTRUCTION of EDUCATION RECORDS

**Notice to all persons who ever attended school at Cape Elizabeth School Department and who graduated in the Class of 2016, or to their custodial parents:**

The Cape Elizabeth School Department may have cumulative records in its possession for those students and will destroy such records after July 8, 2026.

**If you would like to have these records rather than having them destroyed, please contact:**

School Counseling Office, 345 Ocean House Road  
 (207)799-3309 x4401, or via email at:  
[ehetrick@capeelizabethschools.org](mailto:ehetrick@capeelizabethschools.org).

The School Department shall maintain permanently a record of a student’s name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Cape Elizabeth School Department, 320 Ocean House Road, Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107

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# CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

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

## Wednesday, June 3

Recycling Committee, Public Works Building, 10 Cooper Drive, 6 p.m.

## Monday, June 8

Accessibility & Inclusion Committee, Thomas Memorial Library, 5 p.m.  
Ad Hoc 1934 Building Committee, Town Hall, Jordan Conference Room, 6 p.m.

## Tuesday, June 9

School Board Executive Session, Town Hall, Jordan Conference Room, 5:30 p.m.  
School Board Regular Business, Town Hall Chamber, 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Committee, Town Hall, Jordan Conference Room, 7 p.m.

## Wednesday, June 10

Community Services Committee, Community Services Building, 5:30 p.m.

## Monday, June 15

Town Council Workshop, Town Hall, 6 p.m.  
Town Council Meeting, Town Hall Chamber, 7 p.m.

## Tuesday, June 16

School Board Workshop, CEHS Library, 345 Ocean House Rd, 6:30

p.m.  
Planning Board, Town Hall Chamber, 7 p.m.

## Ongoing each week

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

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

Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society, 9 a.m. - noon 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, Spurwink Rod & Gun Club, 1250 Sawyer Road. Contact: [ccrcme.com](http://ccrcme.com) for Cape information.

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

## CABLE GUIDE

## CETV CHANNEL 1302

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

# 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: 10:00 a.m.  
In-person Sunday services 10:00 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](https://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

## Judy's Pantry – a community feeding itself

Judy's Pantry operates at the Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. They will be extending their hours for April and May and will be open from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Registration is available on-site for new clients. For more information, please contact: [cejudyspantry@gmail.com](mailto:cejudyspantry@gmail.com)

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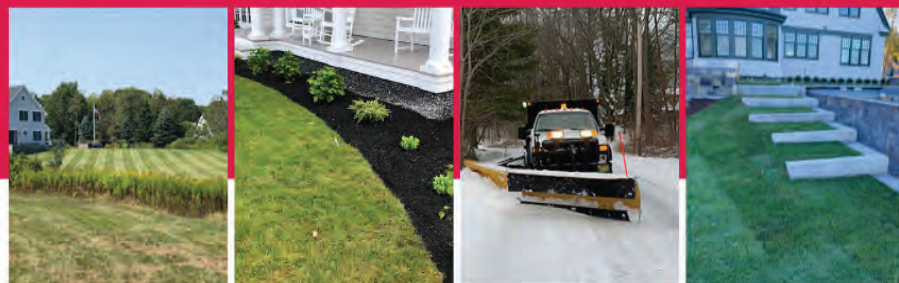
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**Library**

Continued from page 12

free time to play and chat. Baby Story Time will resume on Tuesday, June 23. Please note, capacity for this program is 25 people. No prior registration required.

**Venture Club**

Every Wednesday from 2:45 - 4:30 p.m. Venture Club is a teen-led board/card game and D&D club for teens 13 and up, with an emphasis on board games. We'll try to play new games every week. No prior gaming experience is needed. Snacks will be provided.

**Lego Club : First Tuesday of the month @ 3:30 pm, June 2**

Come free-build or pick up a challenge card to try something new. Masterpieces will be put on display until the next Lego Club meeting. No registration necessary.

**Youth Services Special Programs**

**Special Story Time & Play Group: Oh Crap! Potty Training Time**

June 4 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Babies and toddlers and their caregivers are welcome to join potty training expert Jen L'Italien of Oh Crap Potty Training from ME to You (<https://www.ohcrappottytrainingme-toyou.com/>) for a special story time and play group. Youth Services Librarian Sarah will start with a short story time and then open up the room to free play. As children play Jen will lead a relaxed group Q&A about potty training solutions while children play with toys and each other. No registration required.

**My First Book Club**

Jun 9 from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Join in My First Book Club for beginning readers ages 6-8 on various Tuesdays throughout the summer. As a group, we will begin a read-along, and play some games. All reading happens within the program time, meaning no pre reading or homework required. Each child participant will get a copy of the book to take home. Caregivers asked to participate alongside. Registration required.

**Bees**

Continued from page 1

everything from local pumpkins, cucumbers, and strawberries to flowers across the commercial and private farms of Cape Elizabeth.

Dave's bees are safe, protected and busy. As for me? I'll be back in the summer to taste the fruits of his high-stakes bee heist. It was another day not wasted in Cape Elizabeth.

After meeting with Dave and his bees, I spoke with Jennifer Lund, the woman holding the most buzzing, sting-prone and arguably sweetest job in the Pine Tree State. Jennifer is Maine's official bee inspector and apiarist within the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF).

Jennifer doesn't just watch bees; she micromanages their tiny lives, ensuring they are not sneezing, acting sluggish, or inviting shady beetles into their hives. According to Jennifer, Maine is home to roughly 1,200 to 1,500 honeybee keepers. That sounds like a lot until you realize that in a place like Cape Elizabeth, there are usually only about 7 to 10 beekeepers, essentially a tiny, exclusive gated community of bees surrounded by a lot of empty, unpollinated space.

In fact, Cape Elizabeth High School hosts a beekeeping club that teaches students the importance of bees. On a quiet corner of the campus, past the soccer fields, a different kind of team is hard at work. Students clad in protective white suits gather to check on active beehives. This isn't a typical extracurricular activity; it is a vital part of the STEM education curriculum at Cape Elizabeth, providing hands-on training that connects classroom theory to environmental action. Their "liquid gold" is then sold at local community events, such as Family Fun Day at Fort Williams Park, with proceeds going directly back to the club to buy equipment, bees and protective suits for new members.

Jennifer described bees as the ultimate agricultural influencers. They contribute a massive \$100 million to \$150 million annually to Maine's fruit and vegetable economy. Without them, your blueberry breakfast in Cape Elizabeth would be a very sad, dry experience.

Maine enforces strict rules, so if you are planning on keeping bees, you must obtain an apiary license. It is not just paperwork; it is a "bee registration" system so Jennifer can track down sick colonies. Think of her as a bee health inspector with a license to...well, help. Furthermore, do not even think about bringing out-of-state bees into Maine without a health certificate. Jennifer takes bee health seriously; bringing in sickly bees is a great way to prompt a very polite, yet firm, chat from the DACF.

If you are looking to get into this high-stakes business of keeping tiny flying livestock, visit the official website of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry or the Maine State Beekeepers Association for more information.

**Scams**

Continued from page 3

protect yourself and your assets.

**Gift Cards are for Gifts**

Gift cards are popular and convenient for consumers and for criminals who favor them as easy and hard-to-trace forms of payment. They may seek to convince targets to purchase gift cards to pay a bill or fee or to claim a prize. No legitimate government agency or business accepts gift cards as payment.

Signs to Watch Out for: You're directed to buy one or more gift cards, often referred to as "electronic vouchers," as a quick means of making payment. You're told to share the numbers on the back of the gift cards, by reading them off or sending a picture. The request comes from someone you wouldn't expect to ask for money this way, such as:


- A government agency like Social Security warning of a problem with your account
- A "tech support" popup message with

a phone number urging you to call for help with a major device malfunction that you can pay for with a gift card

- A utility company warning of an imminent shutoff
- A lottery company promising a big prize — once you pay some fees upfront
- A grandchild needing bail or facing another financial emergency

If you or someone you love has experienced this financial crime, turn the card over and call the issuer at the number provided; they may be able to freeze the card before some or all of the funds are drained. You should also report this crime to law enforcement to document what happened should there be a means of restitution down the road.

Suspect a scam? Call our free helpline at 877-908-3360 and talk to one of our fraud specialists about what to do next.




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## Retirees

Continued from page 8

the years of teaching and coaching, it is with immense gratitude for the opportunities and support provided by my family, teachers and coaches. Retirement will be a big adjustment, but I'm quite sure I'll find plenty of things to keep me busy. My wife and I are looking forward to spending time with our three grandchildren and a fourth due in September. I will miss the day-to-day with the kids in the classroom and on the court. They made me laugh every day, a few made me cry and most made me proud."

Steve Price, a science, math, and drama teacher at CEMS, has been teaching for 34 years total. "I actually did one of my student teaching experiences 35 years ago at CEMS, in the spring of 1991, just after my daughter was born," he said.

He said he started teaching 4th grade in another town, but when a 6th grade position opened up in Cape Elizabeth a couple of years later, then CEMS principal Nancy Hutton reached out with an offer to return. "I started that fall of '94 in the 6th grade, teaching Language Arts and Science, then after a few years moved on to teach 7th grade Science, eventually landing in the 8th grade, teaching Math—all levels—and Science. The 8th grade is where I've been for most of my time at CEMS," he said.

In 1996, Price started the CEMS Drama Club, directing and/or producing drama productions and musicals every year except the two years that COVID-19 protocols at school made it impossible. "This co-curricular program is one of the only activities that is open to all middle school students, 5th through 8th grade. I am so proud of this program as it has grown through the years and thankful for all the kids who have chosen to be involved, as

well as grateful for the support of families and the community. I served as the Performance Director for our MS/PC Cafetorium, working to help stage countless MS and PC school band and chorus performances, end-of-year celebrations, and other theatrical events, and ran our annual MS Variety Show. In recent years I've also had the opportunity to work with and support, many former MS students on CEHS theater productions," Price said.

He has served on many committees over the years: building, negotiations, calendar, many interviews, and have been a CEEA Building Rep and Membership Coordinator.

Price said, "Over the course of my teaching career the changes in education and our global society have been enormous! When I started there were no cell phones or personal computers. We had one computer lab. at school with first generation Apple computers in it. I often used transparencies with an overhead projector in my lessons and ran off copies of purple worksheets with a "ditto" machine. The growth of technology, the social change that has occurred due to a more connected world, and the changes in the way we all teach and learn have been both challenging and rewarding. I have loved teaching at the middle level and feel fortunate to have been a part of the Cape Elizabeth schools and community for so long. I want to thank all my CE colleagues and administrators for their camaraderie, and look forward to continuing those relationships."

Price said his future plans include more gardening and traveling with his wife, Barbara, enjoying more time with his kids and their families, which includes three grandchildren, and maybe joining a local community theater troupe.

Troy Patterson is retiring from the Cape Elizabeth School Department after spend-

ing over 33 years in education. "The last five of those have been serving the wonderful students and teachers in Cape Elizabeth," he said.

His first 20 years were spent in the classroom and the principal's office. "I went from 'in front of everything' to 'behind the scenes' upon transitioning to leading up Technology. Although the role and the appearance are different, my focus has always been on helping kids learn," Patterson said.

He said, "Technology is certainly a foundational part of our lives. More importantly, technology is a part of our students' lives. Educators now have more tools and power at their hands than any time in history. Yet, the most powerful tool is the relationships that are created."

## Food waste

Continued from page 10

Chris Record is meeting now with a team of school leaders to support these programs as they expand to serve the goals of our community, meet the requirements of the new law and remain robust in the years to come.

Keeping yard waste material out of the trash also reduces town disposal costs and supports local composting pathways. The Recycling Center accepts leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste in designated areas. It opens for extra hours on several Sundays both in the fall and the spring for convenient yard waste disposal.

In short, organic waste diversion options for Cape Elizabeth residents range from home composting to curbside pick-up to drop-off services at the Recycling Center. The new Maine law, LD 1065, signals that organic waste diversion will soon be standard practice for big food waste generators. Our households can get ahead of that curve now—saving money by reducing trash, cutting climate impact, and turning yesterday's scraps into tomorrow's healthy planet.

## Tickets on sale for Cape Elizabeth's premier art auction

Thirty-one award-winning artists from all over New England are eagerly scouting out their assigned painting locations for Paint for Preservation, the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust's 19th annual wet paint auction.

Tickets to the art auction from 4-7:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 19 can be purchased on CELT's website, [www.capelandtrust.org/paint](http://www.capelandtrust.org/paint) starting this Sunday, June 7. CELT Members who support the land trust with their contributions, get a discount. And don't miss the Early Bird deadline of June 30, when ticket prices increase leading up to the weekend event.

Guests will enjoy a summer evening under a tent overlooking Higgins Beach, perusing the stunning pieces of freshly created art, mingling with the artists, enjoying light hors d'oeuvres by Bread & Butter Catering, and bidding for their favorite pieces in the lively auction featuring auctioneer Kaja Veilleux of Thomaston Place Auction Galleries.

The juried artists donate a portion of the art sales, which, combined with ticket sales and business sponsorships, support CELT's land conservation, stewardship and education programs. The jury this year featured Dinah Minot, Executive Director of Portland Created. They selected a very talented slate of artists – including two from Cape Elizabeth (Cooper Drag-onette and Graham Wood). The group includes several new faces, some returning after an absence and a number of veterans.

You can view samples of work by these award-winning artists on CELT's website, [www.capelandtrust.org/paint](http://www.capelandtrust.org/paint).



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