

The Cape Courier

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Sept 2 - Sept 15, 2026

An Independent Not-for-Profit Newspaper
Serving Cape Elizabeth Since 1988
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New children's playground at Fort Williams Park

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Kevin St. Jarre

The new playground near the Children's Garden at Fort Williams Park.

The children's playground not only has a new location in Fort Williams Park, but all new equipment.

According to Kathleen Raftice, the Direc-

tor of Community Services and Fort Williams Park for the town of Cape Elizabeth, - see **PLAYGROUND** page 5

Gull Crest Community Garden still going strong, proposed plans may impact it

By Kevin St. Jarre

If one drives into the parking lot, with the ice arena on their left and the athletic fields to the right, the Gull Crest Community Garden, existing since 2002, will be straight ahead. There is a beautiful new mural painted by MaryKay Cooney on the garden shed.

Lisa Derman has been tending a plot in

the community garden since 2020. "I grow organic vegetables for my family, often share some with friends, and donate produce as part of the garden's Harvest for Hunger program. I'm also a member of the garden committee," she said.

Rachel Stamieszkin is the volunteer who

-see **GARDEN** page 10



Photo by Tyche Hotchkiss

Rachel Stamieszkin is the volunteer who manages the Community Garden at Gull Crest. She has been gardening there for 20 years.



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

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

NEXT ISSUE: Sept 16

DEADLINE: Noon, Sept 4

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A year in Cub Scouts gave our family more than we expected

Last summer we saw signs around town for Cub Scout Pack 30’s open house and dropped in, curious whether our first-grader would take to programming that looked heavy on science, nature and service. A year later we’re still there, and so is the rest of the family.

We didn’t know Cub Scouts was a family activity. Parents and younger siblings are welcome at den meetings, held every other week at the Bowery Beach Schoolhouse, so both our boys have made friends here. My older son has picked up knot tying, engineering basics, and the kind of social skills you can’t teach except by putting kids to work together. His little brother tags along and watches everything he does.

Some of the best moments have been

outside the schoolhouse. Overnight trips to Camp Hinds meant swimming, archery, BB guns, arts and crafts, and campfires, a real camp experience.

He also works on badges at home, on his own time, which I never expected. Watching him light up over his Pinewood Derby car was worth every meeting. The pack’s curriculum and resources are impressive. The community around it, more so.

If that sounds like your family, come see for yourself. Cub Scout Pack 30 is hosting an open house for K-5 families on September 14 at 6 p.m. at the Lions Club, 1 Wheeler Road. You can also learn more on Facebook.

Karen Jackson

Please adjust ice arena site plan

As a Cape Elizabeth resident on the waiting list for a Gull Crest Community Garden plot, I value both the planned ice arena and our long lived community garden. I appreciate the town’s investment in recreation, and I’m confident a few thoughtful changes can protect the garden while allowing the arena project to move forward smoothly.

Planners appear to have assumed the garden will continue without altering the details that make it work. A few practical fixes would prevent unintended harm:

- Replace a straight curb with a slanted curb so trucks can deliver topsoil, compost, and wood chips and gardeners can roll wheelbarrows easily.
- Shift the proposed garage building 20 feet

(approx.) to avoid casting new shade on garden beds.

- Reconfigure drainage so runoff from roofs is diverted away from plots and any biofilter beds are sited and maintained to prevent leaching.
- Provide designated parking next to the shed and garden.

These are straightforward design adjustments that minimize cost and delay while preserving a community asset that donates more than 500 lbs of organic produce annually and supports many local families. I urge planners to incorporate these solutions so Cape Elizabeth can continue to enjoy both a modern ice arena and a thriving community garden.

Peter Flanders

‘I urge all stakeholders to come together’

I am overdue in sharing my gratitude for being a part of the Gull Crest Community Garden. Our yard is too shady to host a vegetable garden, so in late winter 2022 when I learned that a plot had become available and I was off the waitlist, I was thrilled! I am now enjoying my fifth year gardening there and feel so grateful for the community, shared resources, and peaceful and beautiful escape it offers. One of the best parts of my involvement with the garden has been having my two young sons help harvest for Judy’s Pantry - it has been a fun, authentic, hands-on way for them to learn about the values of community, giving back and helping when and how you can.

Our family also loves the town ice rink and has spent many hours there skating, playing pick-up hockey and participating in programs. We are excited by the plans to make it a year-round, multi-purpose arena and plan to continue enjoying it, as do many others.

However, I am concerned that if arena build moves forward as planned, our beloved community garden will be negatively impacted to the point of not being able to exist due to loss of gardener and resource delivery access, excessive shading and contamination.

I urge all stakeholders to come together in consideration of how both of these amazing town assets can co-exist safely for everyone in our community to continue enjoying!

Meg Rogers

-More LETTERS TO THE EDITOR on page 3

Boyer ‘understands progress requires collaboration’

I support Michelle Boyer’s reelection to a second term as our Representative in Augusta.

What struck me about Michelle from the beginning is that she was inspired to run for office through her own experience participating in the legislative process as a citizen. She saw government work, saw an opportunity to make a difference, and decided to step forward. Michelle is one of us, and in so many ways, she represents the best of us.

That’s a big part of why I support her.

Michelle knows she is in Augusta to listen, work with others and solve problems through legislation. She brings a measured, thoughtful approach to her work and has the determination to turn that commitment into practical results.

Her focus on expanding equitable access to healthcare is especially important—and sorely needed right now. At a time when so many Mainers are facing uncertainty over the cost and accessibility of care, it matters to know Michelle is working hand in hand

with her colleagues to protect and support Mainers. She is focused on meaningful, achievable changes that make people’s lives better.

I also appreciate that Michelle understands progress requires collaboration. She is willing to work across the aisle, listen to different perspectives and find common ground when it can move an issue forward. That measured, civil and serious approach is a rarity in today’s political climate—and it’s what may get us real progress in a tumultuous time.

I’m proud to call Michelle our Representative, and I hope you’ll join me in supporting her reelection.

Brittany Gleixner-Hayat

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



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Theft complaint at local business

Reported by Debbie Butterworth

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 8-1 An officer met with a subject in the Shore Road area regarding a possible assault complaint.
- 8-1 An officer met with a resident of the Mitchel Road area regarding a trespass complaint. The subject was located and issued a criminal trespass notice.
- 8-1 An officer met with a subject at the entrance of Fort Williams regarding an accident with the gate.
- 8-3 An officer met with a resident of Shore Acres regarding a possible harassment complaint.
- 8-4 An officer met with a subject at the end of Two Lights Road where he reported that someone had struck his parked vehicle and left the scene.
- 8-5 An officer met with a resident of the Shore Road area regarding a suspicious male who had walked into his enclosed front porch and was told to leave.
- 8-6 An officer met with a resident of the Eastman Road area regarding a trespass complaint.
- 8-8 Two officers responded to a residence in the Spurwink Avenue area for a domestic disturbance.
- 8-13 An officer met with a local business regarding a theft complaint.
- 8-13 An officer met with a subject in the Mitchell Road area regarding a criminal threatening complaint.
- 8-15 An officer met with a resident of the

- Mitchell Road area who wanted to file a report for insurance purposes, damage to his car caused by a large branch that had fallen from a tree.
- 8-17 An officer met with a resident of the Sawyer Road area regarding an identity theft complaint.

SUMMONSES

- 8-4 Cape Elizabeth resident, speeding (55/45 zone), Bowery Beach Road, \$129
- 8-9 Portland resident, criminal mischief, Kettle Cove

JUVENILE SUMMONSES

- 8-17 Cape Elizabeth resident, operating after license suspension

ARRESTS

- 8-12 Cape Elizabeth resident, domestic violence assault

ACCIDENTS

- 8-6 Gary Lawsure, Ian Robinson, accident on Ocean House Road
- 8-17 James Giambra, Isabel Smies, accident on Ocean House Road

FIRE CALLS

- Fire calls: 64
- EMS calls: 43

Judy's Food Pantry

Judy's Pantry is open for clients to shop for produce, protein and nonperishables at the Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church (280 Ocean House Road) on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month. September hours are 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Registration is available on-site for new clients.
For more information, please contact: ce-judyspantry@gmail.com
Please consider a non-perishable donation to the IGA drop box.

Letters to the Editor continued

Minutes matter

Improved cell phone service is a town council goal and efforts to achieve this goal have extended over many years. Progress has been frustratingly slow, especially for those neighborhoods affected and for visitors to Fort Williams. The problem is more than an inconvenience. It's also a health concern that raises important ethical issues. As a Spectrum customer, I know that when we lose power, we usually lose our WIFI. A home generator doesn't help. And from personal experience, I know that with poor cell phone service, I can't reach 911. So, in case of a medical emergency, where minutes of-ten matter, I would be in trouble. The same would be true for my neighbors and perhaps for the many visitors to the Fort Williams.

Yesterday our town manager presented

several solutions to the Fort Williams Park Committee that would solve this problem for park visitors and the surrounding neighborhood. It wouldn't help other Cape neighborhoods with poor service, but it's a start.

No one wants a cell tower in their neighborhood, even if it looks like a flagpole as new technology allows. Efforts to explore options outside of the Fort have born this out. It's past time that we begin solving this problem before a preventable tragedy occurs. As a physician and longtime Cape Resident, I strongly urge the Fort Williams Park Committee to work towards a solution that discreetly puts the necessary equipment in place.

Richard Wexler

Scam alert bulletin board

By Jessica D. Simpson

Fraud Victims, Re-victimized

Having money stolen from you in a scam can be devastating. Unfortunately, scammers know that victims are often eager to recover their money, and they use that hope to strike again. In what's known as a recovery scam, the perpetrators often disguise themselves as legitimate entities, such as law firms, consumer advocacy organizations or government agencies. The FBI recently warned that criminals were impersonating the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) in recovery scams, with fake FBI agents contacting victims by phone or email to say that IC3 has recovered their stolen funds or to offer them help in recovering their money.

The FBI has said that fake law firms have

been targeting victims of cryptocurrency scams in particular. "Recovery offers can be tempting, especially if you've already lost a large sum of money and are anxious to re-claim any amount you can," FINRA notes on its website. "But engaging with these scams will only further your losses." They may contact you through emails, texts, social media, or websites that look legitimate. But instead of helping, they're trying to steal more of your money or personal information. Experts believe this could become the most common scam of the year.

You may wonder how victims are targeted following a fraud experience. Sometimes, it's the same organized crime ring coming

-see SCAM ALERTS page 15

To The Community,

This past January restaurant tenant Tacos Y Tequilla ghosted without notice from 517 Ocean House Rd. leaving behind substantial debts and unmet obligations to a wide range of entities. Notably, there were no immigration issues. This level of irresponsibility is disappointing and sad. But it's now time to move on to something different.

The longstanding local owners of 517 Ocean House are committed to seeing that what potentially comes next ideally rises to the level of a sustainable local and national gem. Echoing for example The Well at Jordan's Farm or Erin French's Lost Kitchen in Freedom Maine. Cape Elizabeth is an extraordinary community with exceptional fundamentals. What comes next for this location, ideally, should also be exceptional. Let's do our best to get it right this time.

We are now entertaining serious and well qualified purchase offers and concepts. Our scope is national. But ultimately our focus is local. As community members let's put our collective heads together in order to get the word out and expand this search, reaching for something that is well beyond the ordinary and reflects Cape community values – not least of which includes delicious food. Let's see what happens!

Thoughtful and serious inquiries to:

Chris Craig, The Dunham Group
chriscraig@dunham-group.com



News from the superintendent

By Dr. Chris Record

I hope your summer was filled with moments of joy, rest, adventure, and time with your loved ones and friends. I am very sorry for those of you who experienced property damage from the terrible thunderstorm in mid-August. Our family enjoyed time together throughout the summer. A particular highlight was attending the Scotland vs Morocco World Cup game. Our son has recently completed his first year successfully working in finance and is now moving to Seattle. Our daughter is headed off for a semester adventure abroad in Australia. My wife, a teacher in Scarborough, and I continue to enjoy being “freebirds” (rather than empty-nesters).

As we launch a new school year, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our custodial and maintenance teams for their incredible work this summer. Their efforts to clean, repair and prepare our buildings have made sure everything was ready for a successful start.

A special shout-out also goes to the many others who worked through the summer—our bus drivers, our technology team, some school staff, business office and central office staff and our District Leadership Team. We are also deeply grateful to the teachers who dedicated multiple hours to summer curriculum and project work.

We welcomed our staff back on August 25 for professional development and were thrilled to honor two staff members with the CEEF Brownell Award and the Thompson Foundation Award. We also recognized staff members for longevity milestones with the district. All students return to our schools the week of August 31.

As for the school building project, we are very appreciative of the work of Shaw Brothers who completed the temporary bus & parent drop off loop and parking lot between Pond Cove Elementary and CEMS in time for us to open school. Please be aware of new traffic patterns for pedestrians, cars, and buses. These will be shared with students, parents, and staff as well as posted on our website.

As for the larger portions of the project, we were very pleased that the construction bids for the new Cape Elizabeth Middle School and updates to Pond Cove Elementary came in significantly under budget. The district received three highly competitive, close bids, all falling well below the allocated budget. Because of these favorable numbers, the Building Committee will not need to execute any

cost-cutting deductive alternates. Instead, the district can accept all proposed add alternates, ensuring the community receives the fully realized scope of the project.

We have officially signed a contract with Great Falls Construction of Gorham to serve as the primary contractor and they have already begun the work. Construction on the new Cape Elizabeth Middle School is slated for completion by August 2028.

This major milestone is the direct result of extensive hard work and greatly appreciated community support. The school district extends its deepest gratitude to the residents of Cape Elizabeth, as well as the teams at Hariman Architects and Turner & Townsend (Owner’s Representative), for their tireless dedication to this project.

The official project Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held at noon on October 17 (Saturday) on the school campus. Everyone is welcome to attend. More details will be shared soon. We are excited that HarvestFest will begin right after the ceremony at 1 p.m.

Please see the back page of this edition for information on project fundraising and go to <https://www.cape.k12.me.us/o/cesd/page/buildingproject> for more details about the project itself.

We are also very pleased to make progress on several significant projects at Pond Cove Elementary and CEHS, highlights included:

- Pond Cove classroom flooring: Nearly all classroom flooring was replaced with a brighter, modern product that eliminates the annual stripping and waxing previously required, reducing future custodial labor and maintenance while giving the classrooms a fresh new look.
- Pond Cove third-grade roof: Completed work on the third-grade roof following issues with work performed earlier in the year.
- Pond Cove third-grade classrooms: Repainted third-grade classrooms as part of the summer refresh.
- Pond Cove Library: Repainted with bright, beach-inspired colors selected by librarian Cam Rosenblum, giving the space an entirely new feel.
- New Pond Cove parent/main office entrance: Converted a former storage area near the Allied Arts wing into a new parent entrance and office area. What initially appeared to be a relatively small project grew to include masonry, carpentry, ceilings, flooring, electrical, communications, telephone and other building systems. While a few finishing touches will continue after school opens, the space will be ready for use at the start of the year.
- Pond Cove window replacement: Competitively bid and finalized the next phase of window replacement, with work aimed at the fourth-grade area for this year.
- New Pond Cove intercom and paging system: Competitively bid and awarded a contract for a modern schoolwide intercom, paging, speaker and master clock system. The project is being supported through SRRF

funding awarded to Cape Elizabeth. Portions of the work will take place during the school year, with the larger installation continuing next summer.

- Protecting the new floors: Invested in high-quality furniture-leg protectors throughout the classrooms to help ensure the new flooring lasts while also making it easier for teachers to safely move and rearrange furniture.
- Middle School kitchen improvement: Work is underway to add a large new window to the kitchen area, significantly improving the space that has gone without one.
- High School asbestos flooring removal: Removed asbestos-containing flooring from seven classrooms and replaced it with new flooring, continuing the district’s long-term effort to eliminate the remaining asbestos flooring from the building.
- High School English classrooms: Repainted all of the English classrooms.
- High School storage access: Added double-door access to the second-floor storage area. Although it is the largest single storage space in the district, it had previously been accessible only through a single doorway. The new entrance will make the space far more useful, particularly for storing and moving athletic equipment and other larger items.
- High School building systems: Addressed several long-standing HVAC and heating issues, including piping and valve improvements that allow sections of the building to be isolated and serviced more effectively and improve the operation of existing heating systems.
- High School main office air conditioning: Relocated fire sprinkler piping that had blocked access to a major air-conditioning unit serving the main office. The unit had been out of service for quite some time because it could not properly be accessed for repairs. With the issue corrected and the system operating again, staff have already shared how happy they are to have air conditioning back in the space.
- High School Home Economics classroom: Upgraded the hot-water system to better support the growing Home Economics program. The original small water heater was primarily intended for handwashing, but the success and increased use of the classroom created much greater demand for handwashing, cooking and dishes. The new system resolves that issue, with additional improvements to the room planned for the fall.
- High School gym: Completed the annual gym floor recoating. Continued efforts to address the building’s summertime humidity challenges have been successful, and the floor is expected to be in great shape for the start of volleyball season.
- High School lobby flooring: A planned Cape-themed epoxy floor was postponed after an unexpected issue with the existing subfloor was discovered. As is often the case when renovating older buildings, conditions below the surface can change the plan. The area will be reassessed, with the epoxy flooring potentially

being redirected to the locker rooms, which are also in need of an update.

- Looking ahead: The work completed this summer continues our focus on improving our schools, extending the life of our buildings, and creating better spaces for students and staff

- New Leadership Updates
- We’re excited to introduce several new members of our leadership team. We enjoyed getting to know them at our recent two day DLT retreat held at SMCC. Please join us in giving them a warm Cape Elizabeth welcome!
- Courtney Graffius – Director of Instructional Technology
 - Julie Riordan – Assistant Principal, Cape Elizabeth Middle School
 - Jessie Araujo – Early Childhood/Elementary Special Education Coordinator, Pond Cove Elementary

I am entering my 6th year as your Superintendent with energy, purpose and optimism. Thank you for your support of our schools. I look forward to seeing you at various events and games throughout the fall and the Groundbreaking Ceremony on October 17.

Fall CELT programs

CELT New England Cottontails program: In the Thick of It

Join Sarah Dudek from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for a gentle walk around Runaway Farm. Participants can look forward to learning about the state-endangered New England Cottontail, the conservation effort taking place to recover the species in southern Maine, and what you can do to help. Participants registering at least 48 hours in advance of the program will ensure they will receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Date: Saturday, September 19
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Runaway Farm. Meet at the parking lot by the fields at Gull Crest
Cost: \$6 per person
Min/Max: 3/15

CELT’s Fall Cross Town Walk

Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust for the annual Fall Cross Town Walk. Beginning at the Portland Head Light at Fort Williams Park, this CELT sponsored walk will traverse 8.6 miles of the Town of Cape Elizabeth and CELT trails, highlighting some of Cape’s great places. The program takes approximately five hours. Hikers will meet at the Portland Head Light and will carpool (arranged prior to walk) back to Fort Williams after a picnic at Kettle Cove. Snacks, drinks and lunch should be brought by each participant. Participants should be 12 years or older; please call about younger ages. All participants must register at least 48 hours in advance of the program and will receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Date: Saturday October 3
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Meet at Portland Headlight in the dirt parking lot closest to the lighthouse.
Cost: \$10 per person
Min/Max: 6/15

CELT’s Cross Town Walk (Second Half Option)

Interested in the Cross Town Walk but not ready to commit to all 8.2 miles? Join Cape Elizabeth Land Trust for a half-distance

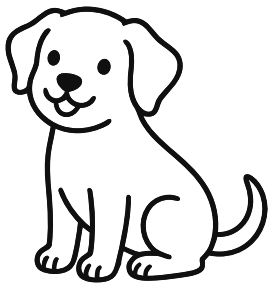


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By Kevin St. Jarre

Cape soccer kicks off season

By Jeremy Law

Cape Soccer is kicking off another season of town soccer this August with a record 540 boys and girls participating in the house and travel leagues! The season kicked off on Monday, August 17 with the annual soccer camp run by the high school boys and girls teams. It was another great camp seeing Cape Elizabeth High School players give back to the club where they got their start and teach the next generation of Cape soccer players how to love the game.

Cape Elizabeth Soccer Club is a non-profit and entirely volunteer-run organization that provides the youth of Cape Elizabeth the opportunity to practice and play against other towns in Southern Maine. Formed in 1987, the club is approaching 40 years of providing the youth of Cape Elizabeth an affordable and accessible opportunity to learn the game of soccer and build relationships within the community. The club prides itself on providing both developmental and competitive formats for Cape kids, appropriate to their age and skill level. This year, they

will welcome over 235 boys and girls in their popular house league that is a developmental soccer experience with weekly practices and games held at Gull Crest Field. The Travel League will have over 300 boys and girls playing across all age groups (U9 through U14) in an age-appropriate format that starts as non-competitive at the younger ages and progresses gradually before culminating in statewide playoffs for the U13 and U14 age groups. Practices are held twice per week with games on Sundays against nearby towns like Scarborough, Falmouth, Yarmouth and Windham. Cape Soccer had three teams advance to last year's Maine State Finals with two bringing home the hardware! The club's continued success wouldn't be possible without the tireless support of the Cape community including coaches, referees, board members, high school teams, and community fields and facilities.

If you are interested in learning more about the Cape Elizabeth Soccer Club, visit www.capesoccer.org or reach out to cape-soccerclub@gmail.com.

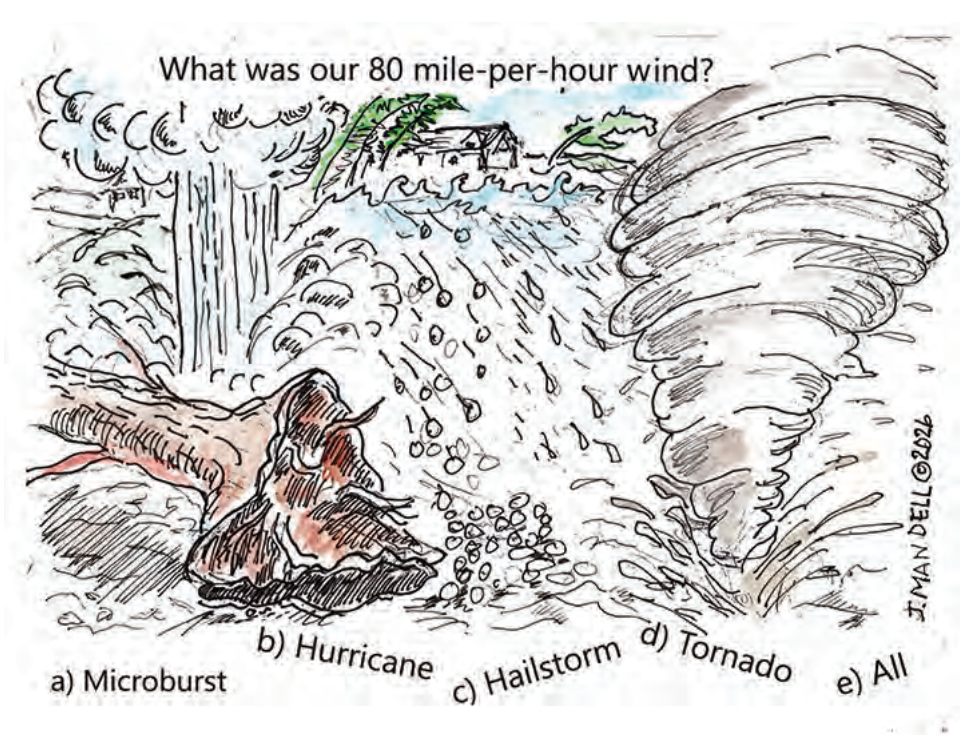


Contributed photo

Cape soccer season kicked off on Monday, August 17 with the annual soccer camp run by the high school boys and girls teams.

Capetoon: Cape Elizaburst

By Jeff Mandell



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The lifesaving history of Cape Rescue

September brings a life-saving topic to our community: the history of the Cape Elizabeth Rescue. Fire Chief Steve Young and his crew will offer dramatic stories and photos from past rescue teams that have served the town over many decades. Timing often allows for questions and comments from the audience.

Please note: the presentation will take place at the Town Hall Council Chamber on Thursday, September 17 from 6:30-8 p.m. Mark your calendars. The presentation is free and light refreshments will be provided.

This is the start-up of the 2026-27 series of popular monthly presentations offered by the Cape Elizabeth Historical Society (CEHPS) in partnership with the Thomas Memorial Library.

In a change of venue, the history-related talks will generally be held on the third Thursday of the month at the Town Hall Council Chamber. Entry is through the left-side and right-side doors. This exciting venue change allows the accommodation of the larger number of attendees the talks are attracting.

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CEEF presents 2026 awards at School District Luncheon

The Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2026 Thompson and Brownell Awards, presented at the District's Back-to-School luncheon on August 25. The Thompson Award honors the memory of Timmy Thompson, who passed away 21 years ago, and recognizes a Cape school district staff member who has played a vital role in supporting our students, schools and district. The Brownell Award, named for retired CEHS teacher Elaine Brownell, celebrates a grant that has made a remarkable impact on participants and the broader community.

The 2026 Thompson Award was presented to Stephen Price for his long career dedicated to Cape students through the Cape Elizabeth Middle School Theater Program. Nominated by numerous peers, Price was praised for decades of service to CEMS. One nomination read: "Steve has created opportunities for students of all abilities, interests and experience levels. He has a unique ability to find the right place for every student, helping each one contribute and succeed. Through theater, he has built confidence, fostered friendships, and created memories that countless students will carry with them for the rest of their lives." Colleagues also credited Price as a steady, trusted presence on staff: "Throughout his career, Steve has been deeply involved in the life of our schools and has always been someone colleagues could turn to for guidance, support and advice."

Nancy and Tim Thompson presented the award in person. "When Tim and Nancy called with this news I was speechless," Price said. "I feel like I have been rewarded almost every day of my time working in Cape — surrounded by great kids, supported by families and teach-

ing alongside amazing colleagues. This is like icing on the cake. It was a tough decision to finally retire."

The 2026 Brownell Award went to CEMS band and chorus directors Caitlin Ramsey and Missy Shabo for their "JaRod Hall Residency & World Premiere Performance" grant. On May 7–8, 2025, CEMS hosted composer JaRod Hall as composer-in-residence, a rare cross-school event that brought him into contact with CEMS band and general music students as well as CEHS musicians. The 7th grade band refined its interpretation of Hall's piece "Time Lord" directly with the composer, while the 8th grade band premiered his newest work, "Tock," at the spring concert, a distinction few student ensembles ever achieve.

Ramsey called the residency "a meaningful experience for our students (and us)," adding: "Watching our students work directly with JaRod, grow as musicians, and ultimately perform a brand-new piece written especially for them was unforgettable. He has a remarkable ability to engage, inspire and relate to this age group in a genuine way, making the residency even more impactful."

Since its founding in 2002, CEEF has funded 359 grants totaling more than \$1.75 million in support of the educational experience in Cape Elizabeth. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, CEEF relies on community donations and fundraising to turn innovative grant ideas into reality across the district, from pre-kindergarten through high school — creating learning opportunities that make Cape schools extraordinary. CEEF's next fundraising event, the annual "Secret Supper," will be held October 3, 2026. Tickets are currently on sale.



Contributed photo

CEEF's Brownell award recipients Caitlin Ramsey and Missy Shabo appear with retired CEHS Teacher Elaine Brownell (left).



Contributed photo

CEEF's Thompson Award recipient Stephen Price (center) poses with Nancy and Tim Thompson.

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Statue of Joan Benoit Samuelson unveiled 40 years ago, artist still lives in Cape

By Kevin St. Jarre



Photo by Kevin St. Jarre

The bronze statue of Cape Elizabeth's Joan Benoit Samuelson was officially unveiled 40 years ago in July 1986. The sculptor, Edward Materson, is still a Cape Elizabeth resident.

Most Cape Elizabeth residents are familiar with the bronze life-sized rendition of Olympic champion runner, Joan Benoit Samuelson, which stands in front of the Thomas Memorial Library.

The sculptor who created it is Edward Materson, who still resides in Cape.

"I am pleased that the town commissioned me to do it. Joan Benoit was a reluctant but inspiring model! Like so many people, I watched her run into that stadium all alone and with an expression of joy and something else, not sorrow, not pain," Materson said.

Regarding the day of the official unveiling in July 1986, 40 years ago, Materson said, "[It] was a joyful experience to share with the town and many school children."

Materson said he had very little time to work from life, with Benoit Samuelson as a live model, as she was extremely busy. "Two short photo sessions. The sculpture was created using a small sketch model in clay which was approved by the town. I then made a half-scale accurate piece, which I cast in resin, which was then enlarged to life size, and cast in plaster, and then in bronze by the Bedi Makky foundry in Brooklyn, New York," he said.

Materson, who is now 90 years old, has been a prolific artist all of his life. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, and studied at the Brooklyn Museum School. His studies continued with a scholarship to Cooper Union School of Art and Architecture in New York City.

Since becoming a year-round Maine resident in 1964, he has continued to explore new methods of artistic expression. Self-taught as a sculptor, Materson acquired the skills of modeling, carving, molding and casting. He and his wife, Emily, have lived in Cape Elizabeth for decades.

Other commissions include a bronze relief for the Limington High School through

the Percent for Art program and the Maine Arts Commission. Materson created a life-size bronze of founder Hannes Schneider for the Mt. Cranmore Ski Area in North Conway, New Hampshire. He also created a bronze bas-relief for South Portland honoring the late Arvin Erskine, a former Director of Public Works. It was completed and installed at the Erskine Park in South Portland. A portrait he did of gymnast Nadia Comaneci resides in the Museum of Sports, Bucharest, Romania. Materson continues to sculpt as well as work in oils, pastel and other media.

Cub Scouts open house

Cub Scouts Pack 30 is excited to announce an open house event for prospective new members. We invite all families with children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade to join us for an evening of discovery, fun and learning.

The Open House will take place at the Lions Club (1 Wheeler Road) on Monday, September 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., where interested families can learn about the many exciting opportunities that Cub Scouting has to offer. This is a fantastic chance for parents and kids alike to experience the adventure and camaraderie that define the Cub Scout program.

During the event, attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in Our Recycling Raingutter Regatta Event: A hands-on event where scouts create and race handmade, lightweight boats out of recycled materials down a rain gutter filled with water using a straw to propel their creations.
- Meet Current Scouts and Leaders: Talk to current Cub Scouts and their leaders about their experiences, and learn how the program has made a difference in their lives.
- Discover Valuable Skills: See how Cub Scouts develop essential skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, and leadership through engaging and age-appropriate activities.

-see SCOUTS page 14



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EMERGENCY COVERAGE AT WARREN AVENUE LOCATION

Garden

Continued from page 1

manages the Community Garden at Gull Crest. She has been gardening there for 20 years. Her involvement with the garden began with being mentored by the garden’s founders, Judy Simonds, Nancy Miles and Carol Fritz. She took over and has been a steady presence since then. Rachel is a Master Gardener with the Cumberland County branch of the University of Maine Extension, sharing her knowledge with others, organizing the support of the Maine Harvest for Hunger project and welcoming visitors to the space.

When asked about what the gardeners grow, she said there are too many things to list. “Tomatoes, lettuce, cucumbers, garlic, beets, artichokes, Swiss chard, basil, cilantro, zucchini, melons, tomatillos, eggplant, peas, beans, and many other vegetables. We also grow sunflowers, marigolds, calendula, borage, and other flowering plants to encourage pollinators,” she said.

According to Derman, there are 33 Cape families and individuals tending plots. Gardeners are assigned one 12’ x 12’ plot and may request a second plot. “There are 40 plots in total: three are set aside to grow produce for local food pantries, and the rest are assigned to gardeners,” she said.

The garden infrastructure includes a shed to store tools and fertilizer, water lines that run underground to spigots spaced along the garden, and large bins for storing wood chips, compost and topsoil. Derman said, “The grassy area between the parking lot and the garden fence provides a buffer from runoff and serves as an area where gardeners, dog walkers, bird watchers and other Cape residents often gather.”

If gardeners want to build raised beds, she explained, they may do so at their own expense using untreated, unpainted wood. “They pay \$25 to the garden for the additional topsoil needed to fill the raised beds,” Derman said. “The garden has been completely organic since its inception in 2002, with gardeners enriching the soil for 25 years. It takes years to establish an organic garden.”

Gardeners pay \$40 per year for each plot. There is also a \$25 initial membership fee due only in the first year.

Derman said, “The garden purchases soil and compost from Jordan’s Farm – we do our best to source all of our materials locally. It is delivered by the truckload to large bins located near the garden. Gardeners use wheelbarrows to transport the soil and compost to their plots. Use of the soil, compost and all supplies are included in the annual dues.”

The plots are surrounded by wood chips to help control weeds. Derman said, “Wood chips are usually donated by tree companies. Twice a year, in the spring and fall, gardeners come together for a workday to weed the paths and fence line, make repairs, tend to the water system, and spread countless wheelbarrow loads of wood chips on the paths.”

In addition to growing food for their own families, there is a decades-long tradition of donating fresh, organic produce. “Three garden plots are dedicated to Maine Harvest for Hunger. All produce from these plots is delivered primarily to Judy’s Pantry in Cape Elizabeth and, alternatively, to the South Portland Food Cupboard. Gardeners are required to fulfill two garden duties per season, many of which involve planting, weeding and harvesting the dedicated MHH plots. Individual gardeners also donate additional produce from their plots. These donations total approximately 500 pounds of produce per year. This year we expect our cumulative grand total to top 10,000 pounds of fresh, organic produce donated to benefit our friends and neighbors who may struggle to buy fresh food for their families or are otherwise experiencing food insecurity.”

Of course, the Gull Crest Community Garden is located in an area shared by all Cape Elizabeth residents. Derman said, “The Gull Crest area is a wonderful resource used by Cape residents for bird watching, dog walking, cross-country running and skiing, sports, gardening and skating at the new ice arena. Since 2022, Rachel Stamieszkin, on behalf of the Community Garden, has asked to be kept abreast of plans developed by the ice arena group to ensure that new construction would not endanger the garden.”

Shortly before plans went before the Cape Elizabeth Planning Board, the ice arena group invited Stamieszkin to review the plans. Those plans involved substantial changes to the parking lot and site that posed grave risks to the garden. Stamieszkin quickly notified the gardeners, who wrote to the Planning Board and Town Council expressing their concerns.

Derman said, “At the Planning Board meeting on August 18, John Mitchell of Mitchell and Associates presented amended plans on behalf of the ice arena group that addressed those concerns. While considering the amended plans, Planning Board members acknowledged that they had received the emails from garden members. They voted to deem the amended application complete, but have not yet approved the plans.”

As of press time, the Planning Board planned to do a site walk at the garden on August 27. The next meeting to discuss the ice arena construction will be the Cape Elizabeth

Town Council meeting on September 9.

Derman said, “In my opinion, the ice arena is a wonderful addition to our town. I have enjoyed skating there, and a number of Gull Crest Community gardeners have told me that they and their families enjoy skating and playing hockey there as well. My concerns, and those of the gardeners with whom I’ve spoken, center around changes to the site that could negatively impact the garden. As the planning and construction of the new ice area move forward, it is important that garden members be kept abreast of the plans in a timely fashion, so they can identify and express any concerns about how the construction and use of the ice area might affect the garden, so that those concerns can be mitigated. As I mentioned earlier, Cape residents use the Gull Crest area for many activities in addition to gardening. I suspect that many residents are not aware that there are changes planned that might impact the way they enjoy Gull Crest, including both changes to the site and possible four-season uses of the arena building. I would encourage Cape residents to inform themselves about the ice arena plans by reading documents on the town web site and attending Planning Board and Town Council meetings, either in person or via Zoom. Gull Crest is town-owned land. It should be developed and managed in a way that benefits all town residents who visit or use the area.”

Cape residents are very welcome to visit the Community Garden at Gull Crest. “If you’re in the Gull Crest area, come say hi to one of our gardeners. You’re likely to be invited in for a tour of the garden and perhaps even given some tasty produce! Some gardeners may invite visiting children to pick a tomato or pull a carrot from the ground. It’s fun to see the surprise and delight of the children as a big, beautiful carrot emerges from the soil at the end of a frilly green top!” Derman said.

Teacher

Continued from page 6

to CEMS to be back in a school alongside the students, staff, families and community that collaborate to make it all happen. Lea said, “Every researcher I have worked with cites a middle school, high school or elementary school teacher that got them hooked on STEM at an early age, leading to their careers. I want all students to feel like they can contribute as scientific and mathematical thinkers and have further opportunities to engage with this as they grow older and think about how they want to contribute to the world.”



Contributed photo

Robin Lea is a newly hired 8th grade math and science teacher at CEMS.

September naturalist corner

By Erika Carlson Rhile

Autumn’s Arrival

As of September 22, 8:05 p.m., it’s officially fall! Sunrise will be at 6:28 a.m. and sunset at 6:38 p.m., leaving us with 12 hours and 10 minutes of daylight. We’ll have lost 3 hours and 19 minutes of daylight since the Summer Solstice. A few days later on September 26, the Full Corn Moon rises at 6:17 p.m. This is also the Harvest Moon. The Harvest Moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the equinox each year.

I recently was asked to identify a massive bright green caterpillar; it was the dreaded Tobacco Hornworm, which defoliates your tomato plants overnight. A tobacco hornworm can be identified by the white diagonal lines on its body and its harmless red horn, while tomato hornworms have white V-shaped markings and a blue-black horn. These caterpillars love nightshade plants in general—your eggplant, peppers and potatoes aren’t safe from these pests either. They aren’t all bad though; these hornworms metamorphose into Sphinx moths, which are skilled pollinators. They have a long proboscis that unfurls like a hummingbird’s tongue. Their favorites are deep-throated flowers like petunias, phlox, morning glories and moonflowers. So whether it’s a tomato or tobacco hornworm, pest or pollinator, it’s more of a gardener’s preference for vegetables or flowers.

This summer’s drought conditions have led to some very active yellow jacket ground nests. Many of us have had the unfortunate encounter with angry wasps while mowing a lawn. But yellow jackets are no match against skunks, who easily destroy a ground nest in one night. These mammals love the protein-rich larvae, attacking at night when the yellow jacket adults are least active. Luckily these predators have thick skin and fur to avoid too many stings.

It’s always interesting watching our local osprey as they prepare for their winter sojourn. The adult females have already departed, leaving fathers and offspring for bonding time. The juvenile osprey are still clumsy hunters; they are only successful 30% of the time. By mid-September, most of these families will have fled the cold Maine winds for South American warmth. The Osprey’s departure from Casco Bay is one of the surest signs that our summer is at an end.

Dean’s list announcements

The following students were named to the dean’s list for the spring 2026 semester at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts:

Henry Barraclough
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Tucker Livingston

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Local birding report

By Brooks Bornhofft

In August, as summer lingers across the northern sky, Cygnus the Swan reaches its peak brilliance, gliding through the star rich Milky Way. Far below this celestial swan, the first waves of fall migration are already under-way, with thrushes, warblers and shorebirds traveling south through the same darkness that draws my gaze skyward on warm, late summer nights.

A few notes from the field for late August.

Although a buggy affair, Gull Crest is a true hotspot for birds. On August 18 a metallic chink call caught my ear, and moments later a streaky brown songbird appeared in a bush along the path, bobbing its rear. Lacking the bold coloration of many warblers and avoiding forest canopies, Northern Waterthrushes prefer the edges of still bogs and slow streams. They often slip unnoticed through the shadows of swamps and thickets. At first glance they appear plain, dressed in browns and creams, but those who seek out wild places know them as one of the great voices of the

northern forest. For me, finding a Northern Waterthrush feels less like spotting a bird and more like discovering a hidden corner of wilderness. Its presence speaks of intact wetlands and forests left largely undisturbed. To see one on a late August afternoon is a reminder to me that some of the wildest treasures are not the most colorful or conspicuous, but the ones that quietly inhabit the margins, faithful to places where woods and solitude meet.

On August 19, while briskly making my way along the meadow trail within CELT’s Runaway Farm II property, I rounded a corner toward an older section of upland forest and low and behold, a Yellow billed Cuckoo sat at eye level on a branch less than twenty feet away! What struck me first was its long tail and bold white spots gleaming on the underside. Seconds later the bird shifted, revealing greenish, satiny reflections along its back as it swayed in the gentle summer breeze. It had the posture of readiness, yet remained motionless.

Then the cuckoo looked back over its shoulder and offered a cool, reserved, but di-

rect gaze—no sign of nervousness, only quiet appraisal. After a lingering moment, the bird slipped away, furtive and silent. In the late afternoon sun its bronzy coloring seemed to glow, and I imagined it vanishing into some leafy retreat where it could continue to enjoy the silence and solitude dear to this woodland recluse.

Slightly longer than a robin, the Yellow billed Cuckoo is distinguished from its cousin, the Black billed Cuckoo, by reddish flight feathers and black tail feathers marked with large white spots. The yellow on the lower part of its bill can be subtle but is visible in good light.

This calm, quiet, secretive bird is far more often heard than seen. Indeed, it would be rarely seen at all were it not for its loud, unhurried “knocking call,” which fades as summer progresses. Yellow billed Cuckoos favor the fringes of woods near farmlands or orchards. Later in the season, listen for their distinctive dove like cooing. The last time I had seen one in Cape was in September of 2020.

The cuckoo has long been considered a weather prophet. Indigenous peoples believed

that when the bird becomes vociferous, rain will surely follow—and there is likely some foundation to this belief.

Cuckoos have a reputation for laying eggs in the nests of other birds, but this is only marginally true for the Yellow billed Cuckoo; the European Cuckoo is the truly parasitic species.

Caterpillars are the cuckoo’s favorite food, and it is one of the few birds that readily eats hairy species. Ornithologist Edward H. Forbush wrote that Yellow billed Cuckoos “are of the greatest service to the farmer, by reason of their well known fondness for caterpillars, particularly the hairy species. No caterpillars are safe from the cuckoo... Often the stomach of a cuckoo will be lined with a felted mass of caterpillar hairs.” When this felted lining becomes too dense to allow digestion, the bird can shed the entire stomach lining by coughing up a pellet while simultaneously growing a new one.

Yellow billed Cuckoos are considered rare summer residents in Cumberland County, including Cape though they can be fairly regular in southwestern Maine north and east to Bangor on years when caterpillars are plentiful.

THE REVIEWS ARE IN!

Cape Elizabeth Service Center earns overwhelmingly positive reviews.

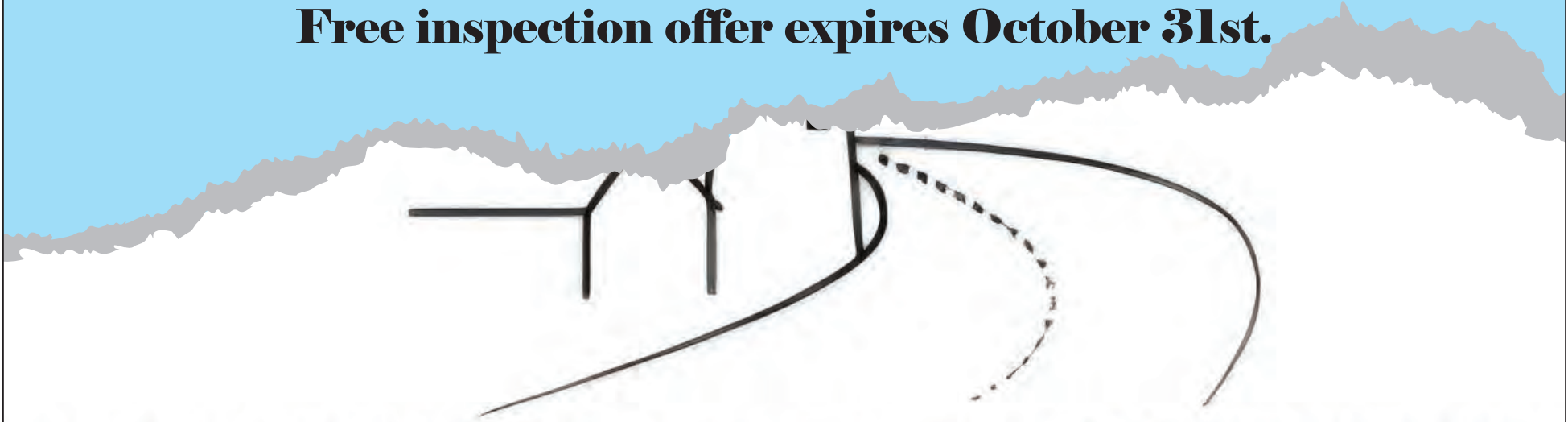
Customers routinely praise the shop for fair pricing, transparent communication and friendly, honest mechanics!

Your neighborhood Cape Elizabeth Service Center sign is getting updated with a new coastal theme!

More info to follow!

Come in and mention this ad for a free Maine State Vehicle Inspection!

Free inspection offer expires October 31st.



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TML offers programs on color analysis, intro to Ayurveda

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Death Café has a new time

Scared of death? Fascinated by it? All are welcome at our community conversations that span across generations, cultures and religions. Come drink tea, nosh on homemade baked treats, and engage in a meaningful and curious conversation about death and dying. Conversation topics vary due to the people in the room, the mood we're in, and the questions raised. Some conversations are more serious and contemplative, and many are full of joy and laughter.

Death Café is an international project to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives. The Death Café at TML is hosted by Davinica Nemtzow, a community organizer, certified Mindful Outdoor Guide and death enthusiast. She believes that when we allow ourselves to destigmatize talking about death, we can cultivate better relationships with ourselves, our loved ones, and the planet that we inhabit. Starting on September 19, our monthly Death Café meetings with Davinica Nemtzow of Kaneel will meet on the third Saturday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. No registration required, but you are welcome to sign up for our email list online to receive reminders and updates.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Color Analysis with Julie Cunningham
Thursday, September 3, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand! Join us in welcoming back color professional Julie Cunningham, who never fails to both entertain and enlighten as she shares her image consulting expertise. Color analysis is one of the big secrets of the universe. It is the fastest way to help a person look their best. It

gives you an immediate psychic boost, and this feeling translates into more energy and a more positive attitude about life. Color analysis may seem superficial at first, but this is a very powerful and soul satisfying procedure. Professional color analyst Julie Cunningham will unveil her process for finding everyone a wonderful personal color pattern that one can easily bring out with harmonious colors, while knowing that everyone is perfect exactly the way they are. Registration is requested, but walk-ins are also welcome.

Fairy Festival
Saturday, September 5, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thanks to the TML Foundation, we are thrilled to invite you to join us for our 3rd Annual Fairy Festival here on the front lawn of the library. This year's festival includes a story-walk-style photo gallery, temporary tattoo stations, a special corner for your own magical fairy photos, and an open canvas where you can decorate garden rocks and terracotta pot fairy houses. We are also delighted to feature live fiddle music from Owen Kennedy, free fairy books and a reading corner with the Book Fairy Pantry Project, and everyone's favorite yellow-spotted salamander, Dusty from CELT!

All ages are welcome to stop by and enjoy the live music, take some fun photos and delight in the wonder of our Posca Pen collection (perfect for painting rocks). Feel free to make it a picnic and bring your own blanket and snacks. There will also be a place for you to donate your gently-used board books to Pam the Book Fairy, who spreads the magic of reading wherever she goes. Bring your wings, wands, flower crowns, water and sunscreen to this morning of fun and enchantment!

Clothing Personality with Julie Cunningham
Thursday, September 10, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand! Your clothes send messages every time you dress yourself. To be confident and happy with your wardrobe, the messages you send must be congruent with who you really are. When you understand your style type, you can dress for every occasion and still be yourself. When it is right, your spirit will soar. The right clothing personality for you can be expressed in all situations, and you will gain confidence from your wardrobe when you send valid and true messages about yourself with your clothing. Learn more from professional image consultant Julie Cunningham with this event, the follow-up to her ever-popular Color Analysis program. Registration is requested, but walk-ins are also welcome.

Intro to Ayurveda for Fall with Brett Aldrich
Tuesday, September 29, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Ayurveda is a holistic system of natural medicine that originated in India over 5,000 years ago. Using food, spices, herbs, and daily lifestyle practices, Ayurveda supports health from the inside out. As we transition into the fall and winter months, these principles can become especially valuable for strengthening immunity and overall well-being.

Join Brett Aldrich, Breathwork Practitioner, Ayurveda Counselor, and founder of Seed the Spirit in Portland, as she introduces the foundations of Ayurveda and how seasonal living can help you feel stronger, more resilient, and better prepared for the colder months.

REGULAR PROGRAMS

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

Death Cafe, with Davinica Nemtzow (NEW TIME)
Third Saturday of each month, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Songwriting Workshop, with Jud Caswell
First Tuesday of each month, 6-8 p.m.
(Starting in October: First Thursday of each month, 6-8pm)

Youth Services Recurring Programs: Fall
Program Break: August 31 - September 19

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.

Messy Minis: Mondays @ 10:30 a.m.
Let your imagination run wild and join us for Messy Minis time in the Community Room. Let's color, cut and paste together to make magic. For budding artists ages 2-5 or anyone who enjoys creative play.

Baby Storytime: Tuesdays from Noon - 1:00 PM
This program is designed for infants and toddlers from birth - 18 months old and their caregivers. Join us for 15 minutes of short stories, finger plays, rhymes, songs, and movements followed by 45 minutes of free time to play and chat! Please note, capacity for this program is 25 people. No prior registration required.

Play Group: Wednesdays @ 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Join us for this drop-in play session for children and their caregivers. The Community

-see LIBRARY page 15

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CAPE CALENDAR

By Wendy Derzawiec

Wednesday, September 2
SB School Building Cmte, CEMS - Chorus Rm [Door #7], 5 p.m.
Recycling Committee, Public Works Building, 6 pm
Tuesday, September 8
School Board Regular Business, Town Hall Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, September 9
Town Council Workshop, Town Hall, 6 p.m.
Town Council Meeting , Town Hall Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
Monday, September 14
Accessibility & Inclusion Committee, Thomas Memorial Library, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, September 15
Planning Board, Town Hall Council 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 Mondays (museum only); 9 a.m. – noon Thursdays (archives and museum); 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays (museum only), 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: ccreme.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.

Scouts

Continued from page 9

- Learn About Upcoming Events: Get information on upcoming Cub Scout events, meetings, and adventures that are planned for the year.
Cub Scouting offers a rich program where kids can build character, learn new skills, and make lifelong friendships, all while having a blast. Whether your child is interested in outdoor adventures, community service, or simply making new friends, Cub Scouting has something for everyone.
We encourage all families with boys or girls in grades K-5 to attend our open house and discover how Cub Scouting can be a part of their journey. No RSVP needed, but for more details, please contact Shawn Boucher at capecubscoutspack30@gmail.com.
Don't miss out on this opportunity to join a community dedicated to fun, growth, and adventure. We look forward to welcoming you to our Cub Scout family!

CABLE GUIDE

CETV CHANNEL 1302

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

Planning Board Meeting
Sept. 15 - 7 p.m.
School Board Meeting
Sept. 8 - 6:30 p.m.
Town Council Workshop & Meeting
Sept. 9 - 6 p.m.



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SERVICES

Cape Elizabeth Church of the Nazarene

499 Ocean House Road (Route 77)

747-1113

www.capenazarene.org

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:45 a.m.

Services streamed live or on demand: watch.capenazarene.org

Cape Elizabeth United Methodist Church

280 Ocean House Road

799-8396

www.ceumc.org

Sanctuary Service: 10:00 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

Worship: Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m.

Family Shabbat Services: Second Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Hope Community Church

879 Sawyer Street South Portland

799-4565

www.hopesopo.com

www.facebook.com/hopesopo

Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

Kid's Church for ages 4 through grade 5

Service videos available on our website

Promised Land World Reach Center

536 Cottage Road, South Portland

799-3152

Sunday Prayer & Intercession: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Family Bible Studies: Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Sermon recordings available to download

Redeemer Lutheran Church - LCMS

410 Main Street, Gorham

839-7100

www.RedeemerMaine.org

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

Sunday Services:

Rite 1 with Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.

Rite 2 with Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.

Live Streaming on YouTube (stalbanschannel)

Children's Programs 9:30 a.m.

Celtic Eventide 5:30 p.m.

Room for all

St Bartholomew Catholic Church of Saint John Paul II Parish

8 Two Lights Road, 207-883-0334

Website: www.JP2me.org

Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.

Daily Mass: Mon. and Wed. 8 a.m.

Sacrament of Confession: Mon. 8:30-9 a.m.

Additional Mass times in Scarborough & South Portland listed on website

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ

301 Cottage Road, South Portland

799-3361

www.fccucc.org

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. in person and streamed on Facebook & YouTube

First Congregational Church of Scarborough

167 Black Point Road, Scarborough

883-2342

www.fccscarborough.com

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Nursery Care

Got a story to share? Email us! editor@capecourier.com







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

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

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HELP WANTED

Scam alerts

Continued from page 3

back to steal more under a different set of lies. We also know that criminals create and sell lead lists among each other, and that victims show up on those lists as hot targets for re-victimizing. Protecting yourself after a fraud experience requires extra caution. Please ignore any unsolicited offers to get your money back, and as much as you want to believe it's possible remember the techniques they used initially, and how convincing they were. Don't be re-victimized!

Scams Target Natural Disasters, Naturally

The aftermath of natural disasters is stressful, overwhelming and anxiety-provoking. These emotions are what fraud criminals thrive on. They may show up in your neighborhood with a work truck and claim they can help with your damage and ask for payment upfront, only to never return. They may seek to impersonate utility companies, offering quick reconnection for an upfront fee. Or they impersonate FEMA or an insurance adjustor. The common denominator involves paying for something on the spot. FEMA agents never seek payment when providing post-disaster support. As tempting as it may be to cut to the front of the line on getting your electricity back or make a deal with a construction company right away, give yourself time to pause and think about the scenario before committing.

CELT

Continued from page 4

(roughly 4.5 miles) walk highlighting some of Cape's great places, including Spurwink Marsh and Great Pond. The walk takes approximately 2.5 hours. Hikers will meet at the CELT office in Town Center and will carpool (arranged prior to walk) back to the CELT office after a picnic at Kettle Cove. Snacks, drinks and lunch should be brought by each participant. All participants must register at least 48 hours in advance of the program to receive notification of changes or cancellation.

Date: Saturday October 3
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Meet at CELT Office – 330 Ocean House Road
Cost: \$5 per person
Min/Max: 6/15

Library

Continued from page 13

Room is open for exploration during this time, with special toys and stations while you visit with friends. The capacity for this program is 25 people. Doors open at 10:25 am. Arrive early to secure your spot.

Toddler Story Time: Thursdays from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Great for children who have transitioned to one nap per day and are alert in the mornings. This storytime is designed for children ages 18 months to 3 years old and their caregivers. Join us for one picture book, songs, finger rhymes, felt board stories and board book read-alongs. Please note, capacity for this program is 30 people. No prior registration required.

Lego Club: First Tuesday of the month from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., September 1, 2026

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.

Venture Club: Wednesdays 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.

CardBoard Club: First and Third Fridays from Sept - June from 2:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Welcome to CardBoard Club, a club dedicated to card and board games. On the first and third Fridays of each month, we'll gather to play games of all kinds. Stop in to play with your friends, learn new games, and take part in special RPG (role-playing game) workshops, like D&D. Beginners welcome. Snacks provided. For ages 10-13. No registration necessary.

Youth Services Special Programs Intro to Jamming: Third Tuesday from Sept - Dec from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

What does it feel like to be in a real band? Come find out! In Intro to Jamming, you'll jump straight into making music together. We'll explore ukuleles, percussion, electronic instruments, beat-making tools and other fun ways to create music as a group. You don't have to read music or already play an instrument. Workshops run as individual sessions so sign up for 1 or all 4. No experience needed. Classes led by Carly S. Cheriff, board-certified music therapist of EcoTones Music Therapy. For ages 8 - 11. Registration required.

Interactive Art, Flaps & Pockets: Saturday, Sep 26, 2026 from 10:30 a.m. - Noon

Take your art to the next level with Andi Saturn as they guide you through the process of creating moveable flaps and pockets on the page. From doors to windows to wings and more, the possibilities are endless once you learn the basic techniques. Andi Saturn (they/ them) is an artist, teacher and performer in Portland. As a self taught artist, they know how intimidating it can be to pick up new mediums and they're passionate about bringing fun back into the learning process. No previous art experience required.



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CEHS Class of 2006 reunion



Contributed photo

On Saturday evening, August 1, more than 55 members of the Cape Elizabeth High School Class of 2006 gathered at Purpoodock Golf Club to celebrate their 20-year high school reunion. Class members traveled from as far away as Washington state to attend the event, while many reside locally in southern Maine.

Among those living and raising families in Cape Elizabeth are Joe Geoghegan, Carly (Rapaport) Vargas, Hanna (Landis) O'Meara, Emily Wright, Kyle Dancause, Alex Moran, Zach Hanna, Tom Barker, Ben Weimont and Drake Livada, who generously offered his Purpoodock membership to host the event.

The "KID" Courier

Are you a young, aspiring writer or artist? We want to hear from you!!

We are looking for artwork or stories for our new section, The "KID" Courier.



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**Cape Elizabeth
School Building Project**

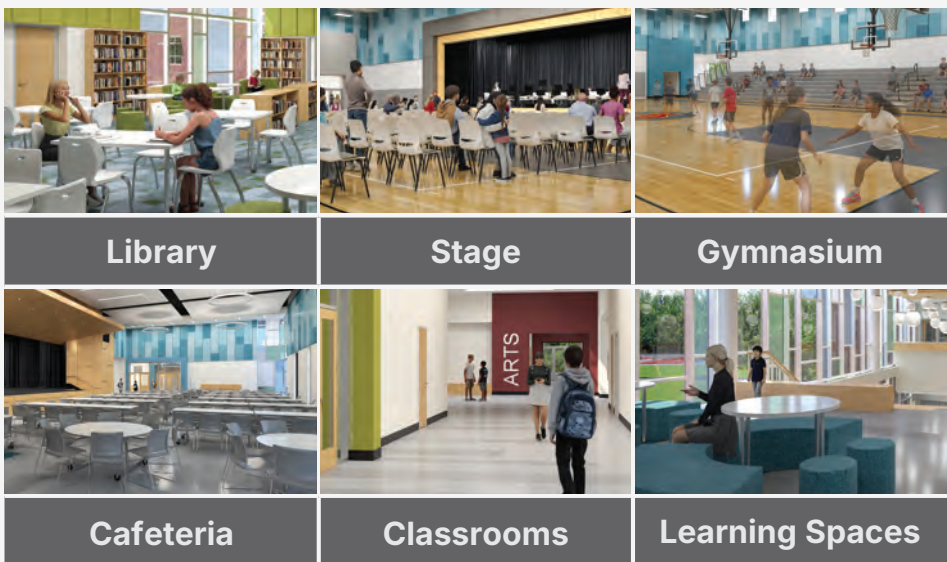
A Community Campaign
Supporting the Cape Elizabeth
School Building Project

Our community has made a significant investment in the future of Cape Elizabeth schools. Now, members and friends of the community can further that commitment through voluntary, tax-deductible gifts of every size.

Every dollar raised can help reduce the long-term cost of the project for Cape Elizabeth taxpayers while supporting the spaces where students will learn and grow for generations.

FEATURED NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

A selection of opportunities includes:

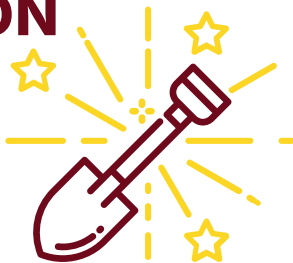


SAVE THE DATE

GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION

**Saturday,
October 17
at 12:00 PM**

All are welcome!



Explore the Campaign

View the full list of
naming recognition
opportunities and learn
how to get involved.



www.cape.k12.me.us/supportcapecschools

For more information, contact:
Marcia Abbott, MBA
Cape Elizabeth School Department
320 Ocean House Road
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107
207-799-2217

