



# CEE in Brief

Spring 2007

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## Rick Madden Is Thompson Award Recipient

**R**ICK MADDEN HAS WORKED in the Cape Elizabeth School Department since 1974. His students describe him as a teacher who made a difference in their lives. From teaching social studies at the high school in the 1970s, to serving as a guidance counselor in the middle school until this year, Rick exemplifies all that is good about education in our town. Because of his dedication to Cape Elizabeth's students, Rick is this year's recipient of the Thompson Award – an award given annually to recognize the unsung heroes in our schools who reach out to our students as teachers, mentors, and friends.

With the support of Nancy and Tim Thompson and their family, CEEF established the Thompson Award in 2006 to honor the memory of their son, Timothy, and to honor teachers



*Tim Thompson, Julie Tselikis, Rick Madden, Nancy Thompson and Dorie Barber.*

and staff members who have made a positive and meaningful impact on their students. The Thompson family was thrilled with the selection of Rick as this year's recipient of the award. "Rick reached out to Tim and our other children in so many ways," said Nancy Thompson. "We are so grateful for this opportunity to give back to Rick, as he has given so much to us."

Many Cape alumni sing Rick's praises. Both Alicia Danielson and David Barber were in Rick's first history class at the high school in 1974. They gave him high marks as a teacher, but also point to the lasting impact he had on their lives. "Rick taught us to question every-



*Rick Madden, Cape educator and friend for 33 years.*

thing," noted Danielson. "Don't believe everything you read" was one of his constant refrains. He was demanding, but clearly had fondness for his students. This continued into Rick's later years as a guidance counselor in the middle school, which all of the Danielson children attended. "Rick would take the time to call me if he thought my children were doing something extremely well," said Danielson, "or if he felt that there was an issue that should be addressed. He cared about his students."

Colleague Julie Tselikis shares that "Rick virtually helped my husband and I raise our children. He was our middle-man with any tough issue. We were blessed to have him as our resource."



*Former students, fellow faculty, and Cape residents enjoy Rick's send-off celebration.*



*Rick displays his CEEF Glass Apple Award.*

Another colleague, Rachel Guthrie, sought Rick's support while pursuing advanced studies to become a guidance counselor herself. Her mentor revealed his most important tool, "To be there for the students" on every trip through the hallways, by eye contact, a nod or brief conversation. His goal every day was to connect with his day's list of students.

He'd "chase them down" to be sure they were on track. Rachel is certain he never missed anyone. Rick believes in building resilience in children and he made great strides with so many kids over the years.

David Barber adds that "Out of all the teachers I've had, Rick stands out as one of the best. More important, he wanted us to learn about life, and how to be good citizens." Like many of Rick's former students, Barber has kept in touch with his mentor over the years and was extremely saddened to learn that Rick will retire this year due to illness.

Today's students are unanimous in their praise of Rick Madden. When he had to leave the middle school earlier this spring, scores of students signed a card with notes like "your lessons have prepared me for the future," "I like you," "thanks for your wisdom and compassion," and "you taught me to appreciate school." His long-time colleague, Julie Tselikis, gave a speech recently in honor of his retirement, where she concluded, "He loved his job and he served it well."



*Colleagues Kathy Walsh and Stephen Price congratulate Rick.*

Rick Madden touches many lives. For that reason, CEEF is honored to present him with the Thompson Award this year.



*Nancy and Tim Thompson present Rick with the Thompson Award*

## President's Message ~ Dorie Barber

### CEEF's Initiatives Support Our Schools

**A**S ANOTHER ACADEMIC YEAR comes to a close, I am pleased to report that CEEF continues its efforts to enhance educational opportunities in our schools. With the ever-present challenges to public funding, CEEF has a vital role to play. With your continued contributions, we can help establish and support new and innovative programs. We can also show our teachers that they are our number one resource by supporting their professional development and recognizing the important role they play in our children's lives. As this newsletter reflects, it has been an exciting year for CEEF. Thank you for making this all happen!

### Large Impact Grants Reap Big Rewards

The incredible success of our *Inspiring Bright Futures Campaign* has allowed CEEF to fund grants that benefit virtually all students in our schools. Since the fall of 2005, your contributions have allowed CEEF to support the Achievement Center at the high school. In the span of just two academic years, the Achievement Center has exceeded expectations.

Virtually every high school student has benefited from one-on-one or small group sessions with faculty members, peer tutors and community members. Student visits have increased from 160 to over 270 sessions per week since last year. From the freshman who might be struggling with Algebra to the senior who needs help revising her essay for a college application, the Achievement Center is a tremendous resource. From a recent survey a student shares, "We are so lucky to have this service!...Thank you so much to all the A.C. staff for your dedication to each and every student at C.E.H.S."

Recently, CEEF approved a large impact grant for Pond Cove to improve the mathematics program for all students. With the help of a Mathematics Lead Teacher and innovative technology in the classrooms—including an interactive white

*(continued on next page)*

# CEEF Outreach

**A** CORE BELIEF OF CEEF'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS is that local education foundations provide a unique opportunity for improving our schools. While every community will have a different variation on the theme, community partnerships will form to provide substantial funds toward fostering the concept that students and teachers are valued and their work must be supported by all of us.

To that end, our Board has reached out to other Maine communities interested in starting foundations. The graphic below illustrates some of the towns and districts that we have spoken with about our experiences. As current political and budgetary climates continue to evolve throughout Maine, local interest in educational foundations is growing, and CEEF plans to continue helping committed, energized communities launch their own education foundations.

While CEEF has been very active in sharing our knowledge and experience with other districts, we have also begun to learn a great deal from the successes of other foundations. In the past year, meetings with foundation leaders from California, Connecticut, Florida and, closer to home, Oxford Hills, have generated tremendous energy and new ideas for the Board to pursue. The meetings have also solidified our confidence and pride in being a grass-roots organization built with the ideas and energy of the town's own families. One of CEEF's founding Board Members, Gail Rice, has concluded from her involvement in many of these meetings that, "We are more than a funding organization. We've formed a strong partnership with our school district and are continually building a community that supports public education." Gail continues, "Our town's value of the work of our teachers, staff and students is creating a wave of enthusiasm for our schools that I hope will spread to other communities throughout the state."



In 2007 and beyond, CEEF plans to sponsor workshops with existing foundations and host a "Foundation 101" conference with interested communities from all parts of Maine. We will share our story with other towns, highlighting the great benefits to creating a community foundation from the ground up. CEEF will also publish an on-line newsletter discussing our story and soliciting feedback and ideas. As CEEF continues to expand its outreach program we hope to be the catalyst for other successful foundations throughout the state.

*(President's Message continued from previous page)*

board—Pond Cove's faculty will be better equipped to help those students who are struggling. The Lead Teacher will also provide valuable training to our faculty, better meeting the needs of every range of ability in the classroom.

## Classroom & Professional Development Grants Shine

CEEF continues to support classroom and professional development grants. This academic year, we have seen our dollars used in exciting and innovative ways. Teacher Kerry Kertes has his students and community members "reaching for the stars" with an astronomy program, while music production continues to impress at the high school, both in the classroom and at student dances. Climbing walls expand our children's reach and the robotics program knows no bounds. Therapeutic horseback riding has enabled students to succeed in a non-traditional learning environment in Windham.

## CEEF Needs Your Continued Support

It is unfortunate that we live in an age of continued challenges to the funding of our schools. Although our town has a reputation for a strong school system, we must work hard to ensure that this reputation remains a reality for our students. By funding grants for professional development to encourage teachers' creativity and innovation, and supporting initiatives that have a system-wide impact, we strive to make our schools an exceptional place for learning. Please visit our website at [www.capeeducationfoundation.org](http://www.capeeducationfoundation.org) to learn more. As this newsletter reflects, it has been an exciting year for CEEF. Thank you again for supporting our mission to foster excellence in Cape Elizabeth schools!

*"The Mathematics Lead Teacher will work directly with students and collaborate with classroom teachers to develop a math program that parallels our reading recovery program. It is our goal to make 'remedial math programs' at the middle and high school obsolete."*

*~ Tom Eismeier*

## Keeping in touch...

**HAVE YOU NOTICED** our name in your INBOX recently? CEEF began using an e-mailing program this month that allows us to maintain contact with the community throughout the year, especially in between newsletter mailings. Look for updates on grants, event information, and outreach news as well as contact information to use if you have any questions about what you read. We look forward to keeping you informed and hope you'll look forward to receiving our e-mails regularly!

Not on our email list? Please send us an email with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line to: [email@capeeducat ionfoundation.org](mailto:email@capeeducat ionfoundation.org). If you would prefer not to receive e-mails, you may easily unsubscribe by selecting that option at the bottom of any email received.



Recently named new directors to the CEEF Board are, left to right, seated, Sarah Price, Susan Dana, Christine Mackenzie, and standing, Donna Peterson, Matt Bates, Julie Armstrong, Nancy Thompson, and Hannah Jones. Absent from photo are Karen Burke, Jack Melanson, Ingrid Stressenger and Tim Thompson.

## Achievement Center Update

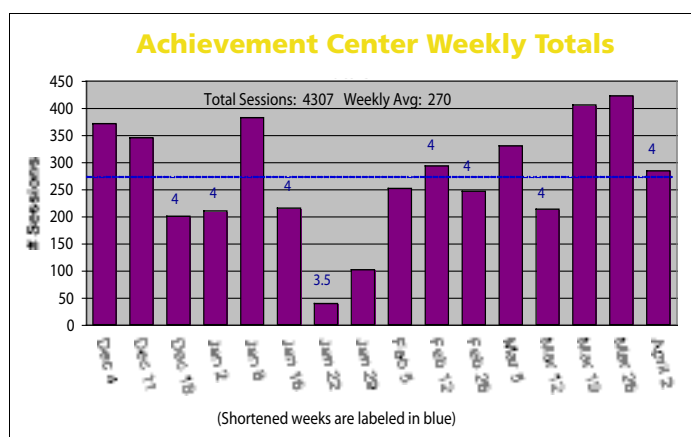
**THIS YEAR IN THE HIGH SCHOOL** Achievement Center more than 50 students have assisted the invaluable staff, which includes full-time Coordinator Ginger Raspiller and teachers Lisa Melanson, Elaine Brownell, Hannah Jones and Rob Thompson, who share parts of their day in the AC. These dedicated students and teachers have provided over 200 hours of tutoring and assistance, reaching students in ways that traditional classroom settings cannot. Many community members and parents have also enhanced the center, with over 50 hours of time as tutors. Mary Ann Tranfaglia, Andy Warde, Jenny Galasso, Karen Burke, Beth Goduti, Susan Spagnola, Carol Makrides and Debbie Cushing have all offered fresh perspectives and help to the many students who use the Achievement Center.

The students summarize the center the best when they say "It is a quiet place where students can come to do work/study without any distractions." "The staff is more than accommodating to students' needs; whether it be helping out with an assignment, writing conference or giving advice." Proving the environment works well a student chimes in, "I enjoyed the relaxed, welcoming, 'drop-in' atmosphere. I think that has contributed to its success." A freshman student who frequents the center speaks for many with his comment, "I simply wanted to do the best I can in all my subjects and had heard good things about the Center from friends and teachers."

Reports Director Raspiller, "The Achievement Center continues to be a busy place! During our hectic weeks last year, we would have between 200 and 300 sessions per week (the average for 2nd semester was about 160). Since December during our five busiest weeks, we had between 350 and 425 sessions! The average for the 16-week period from December 4th to April 6th was 270 sessions per week."



Jillian Smith and Katie MacColl in the Achievement Center work on their chemistry homework together



# 2006 Fall Grant Update

## WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

*The world Affairs council has been busy from the start, and plans extend to the N.Y. Model UN Conference in 2008!*

**T**HE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL of Cape Elizabeth High School wrapped up a successful inaugural year under the direction of history teacher, Gretchen McNulty, with an evening of international delights and conversation during International Issue Night on June 4th at the High School. While members of the Sophomore Class displayed and presented research posters, World Affairs Council Members shared treats from around the globe.

The World Affairs Council was begun this past fall by students at Cape Elizabeth High School interested in creating a forum to discuss and learn more about world issues. Little did they imagine more than sixty of their peers from all four grades would join this dynamic organization, founded with a grant from the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation. Under the leadership of



*Carrie Apanovitch and Andrew Pezzullo listen to others speak.*

student president Alexandra Ciraldo the group really took off. They refined positions and duties of elected officers, instituted parliamentary procedure, and established a website linked via the school site. With opportunities spanning the school year before them Alexandra realized, "It was at this point I recognized the WAC was going to be something very special."

More than thirty-five students have attended lectures and discussions presented by ambassadors, academics, politicians and business owners from Maine and around the world at venues throughout southern Maine. Eighteen students have participated in the Great Decisions discussions based on the Foreign Policy Association's annual publication about the world's greatest challenges each year. The only students among the panel of adult participants, Cape Members read articles about the selected topics and joined concerned citizens from all over Cumberland County in seminar-style discussions. "We interacted with dignitaries - many of whom had actual experiences in the areas



*World Affairs Council students listen to Mr. Oliver, a Sudanese refugee, discuss his former country and options for its future.*

we were discussing! It was amazing to meet so many of these prominent, experienced people who live right here in Maine," Alexandra adds. "These events represent exactly what we strive for at the WAC. Whether it's participation in Model UN, listening to an important speaker, or simply having a group discussion on a current event topic, each WAC event aims to provide students with increased awareness to prepare them for their roles as world citizens and future leaders."

Gretchen McNulty's photos from the recent model UN tell quite a story and she adds "I'm learning and enjoying as much as the students at all of these events. It's really been an amazing experience for all of us!"

To learn more about the World Affairs Council or for a more complete summary of their activities, please visit our website: [www.capeeducationfoundation.org](http://www.capeeducationfoundation.org).



*John Tranfaglia and fellow students attentive at the Model UN.*

# 2006 Fall Grant Update

## RIDING TO THE TOP!

Everyone got excited about the riding to the top program! Below are pictures of the children and words from their teachers and parents. Visit [www.ridingtothetop.org](http://www.ridingtothetop.org)



Patrick Taylor rides Goosebumps

**“He loved each and every minute of it!”**

**“It has really helped his balance and muscle tone, Thank you so much CEEF for providing this opportunity for the kids”**



Thatcher Kent holds his bucket of grooming supplies

**“It was really awesome!”**



Sabrina Holmes rides Kayley

**“He loves animals so it is really wonderful for him. Thanks to you CEEF!”**



Luke Lomma rides Teddy

## A NEW VIEW OF THE UNIVERSE

SOME FOLKS USE THEIR backyards for more than just cookouts—such as Cumberland resident Paul Howell from the Southern Maine Astronomers organization. Howell treated Cape astronomy students to the use of his backyard astronomy “lab” complete with his telescope’s stand-alone shed equipped with a sliding roof that opens to allow the night sky to be photographed like never before. Using this equipment along with special filters, the students were able to capture and analyze photos of deep space objects that are very, very far away and extremely dim.



Photometry tutorial



Natalie Cohen shows her photos

Pictured here is Natalie Cohen as she explained the photographic process she and fellow students learned in her CEHS astronomy class using a CEEF-funded CCD Imaging Camera. Kerry Kertes, CEHS science teacher explained that “The camera not only al-

lowed our students to peer into the night sky and see objects that could not be seen with the naked eye, but allowed our students to collect and analyze data from the far reaches of the universe. This process gave them a better understanding of how our planet fits into the bigger scheme and greater appreciation of the complexities of the universe firsthand.” The photos taken were featured in an astronomy photography exhibit at the Thomas Memorial Library this spring. The collaboration with SMA will continue into the next school year. For more information on the astronomy grant, please visit our website, [capeeducationfoundation.org](http://capeeducationfoundation.org).



An example of the stars we can't 'see'



Display hallway at TML

# CEEF's 4th Spelling BEE

**T**HE POND COVE CAFETORIUM was “abuzz” with excitement on Thursday, May 10th, as more than one hundred spellers gathered for the Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation’s Fourth Spelling Bee. This year’s winner, The Cape Courier Buzz (Sheila Zimmerman, Anita Samuelson and Elizabeth Brogan), won it on *schadenfreude*, a German word meaning pleasure taken from another’s misfortune. However, The Buzz did not exhibit *schadenfreude* when the team defeated Johnny Bee Goods, a team of high school English teachers (Nancy Murphy, Erin Cavallaro and Tom Sheehy) who waged a stinger-to-stinger battle against the newspaper bees in the final round.

The CEEF Spelling Bee is an important fundraiser for the foundation, generating revenues of over \$10,000, as well as a popular community event that attracts participants from many hives within Cape Elizabeth. More than a 100 spellers—including students, educators, parents, book group members, neighbors, lawyers, doctors, local politicians and businesspeople—competed in teams of three that were cheered on by a swarm of enthusiastic spectators. Many teams wore creative attire, including Best Costume winner Hive Sweet Hive of Coldwell Banker, bee-decked in pink beehive hairdos and bee costumes. The Austin Powers look-alikes, Oh Bee-have!, won the Mis-bee-havin’ award, and the Bee-hinds, fourth graders Luke Gilman, Lily Jordan and Emma Landes, won for Best Spirit.

News 8 WMTW co-anchor, Jon Camp, served as Master of Ceremonies, wowing the crowd with his impeccable pronunciation. Portland Pirates coach, Kevin Dineen, was a bee-sy timekeeper all evening, and judges Jeff Shedd, Ingrid Stressen-ger and Susan Dana had the last word on each word spelled by the thirty-five teams.

This year’s event sponsor was Maine HOME+DESIGN Magazine, whose generous support allowed several student, teacher and community service teams to compete in the BEE. In addition, many businesses in Cape Elizabeth, Greater Portland, and the three Cape Elizabeth parent associations and additional

individuals sponsored teams who would otherwise not be able to participate. Willow’s Pizza donated pizza for any spellers who arrived hungry to the event.

The word that proved to have the most “sting” in any one round?

Millennium!

*Bee-Boppin’ Beth Babcock, Laura Lynch, Jayne Thomas*



*2007 Spelling Bee winners! The Cape Courier Buzz – Elizabeth Brogan, Anita Samuelson, Sheila Zimmerman.*



*The Bee-hinds: Lily Jordan, Luke Gilman, Emma Landes,*



*Oh Bee-Have! Jim Ekedahl, Dan Price, Roger Inhorn*



*Spell's Angels: Patrick Keniston, Polly Keniston, Erik Peterson*



## Special Thanks to Our Spelling Bee Boosters!

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anne Maskewitz and Steve Parkhurst  
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### A very special thanks to

Willow's Pizza / David & Jillian Lengyel  
for donating the wonderful pizza for the event  
Jon Camp of News 8 WMTW as Master of Ceremonies  
Ingrid Stressenger, Susan Dana, Jeff Shedd  
as our esteemed judges  
Kevin Dineen as fun and fair referee

### And the BEE Committee

Susan Spagnola  
Debbie Cushing  
Claudia Dricot,  
Lisa Melanson,  
Sara Lennon  
Kathleen Pierce,  
Wendy Seltzer  
Trish Wasserman



*Coldwell Banker's Hive Sweet Hive – Jennifer DeSena, Aaron Moser, Holly Cesta*

## Beach to Beacon ...

CEEF WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE the fund-raising support of the following runners in the 9th Annual TD Banknorth Beach to Beacon 10K race last August, 2006 who contributed more than \$12,000 to our *Inspiring Bright Futures* campaign. We thank those runners and their efforts, and this year look toward another group of eager fundraisers who are taking up the fundraising baton to enter the race.

We will be proudly represented by 25 fund-raising runners in the 10th annual road race, scheduled for August 4, 2007. Thank you so much for your support and enthusiasm—and have a great race!



*CEEF tape holders anxiously await Alventina Ivanova's record breaking 31:25 finish in the ninth TD Banknorth Beach to Beacon*

### CEEF's Team '06

Marie Anderson ★ Abby Black ★ Jeannette Brugger  
★ Jean Burke ★ Jill Custudio ★ Beverly Doughty  
★ Sandra Endsley ★ Lisa Farley ★ Mark Finnerty ★  
Brian Flaherty ★ Jocelyn Gabriel ★ Craig Gambrill  
★ Sarah Gosselin ★ Kari Grosser ★ Madeline Harms  
★ Tom Herer ★ James Kelley ★ Kelsey Komich ★  
Candice Koshman ★ Allen Krabill ★ Jen Lubeski ★  
Andrew Lynch ★ Adam Norman ★ Sara Paraveglio  
★ Jill Parker ★ Chris Perret ★ Donn Rasemann ★  
Jeffrey Ray ★ Jim Richards ★ Jane Sable ★ Jill Sady  
★ Jim Satagaj ★ Lucas Sevigney ★ Denise Tim-  
merman ★ Michael Turner ★ Anna Valley ★ Doria  
Valley ★ Greg Young

# Thank You Donors!!!

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*This report acknowledges donations made between October 2004 and May 2007 for the "Inspiring Bright Futures" campaign. We have made every effort to ensure accuracy and offer our sincerest apologies for any missed (or misspelled) names or other inaccurate information. If you discover any errors, please contact CEEF by e-mail at: [admin@capeelizabetheducationfoundation.org](mailto:admin@capeelizabetheducationfoundation.org)*

## CEEF Spring Grants Total \$24,539

**G**RANTS AWARDED for the spring of 2007 totaled \$24,539. CEEF is thrilled to support the great work of these applicants and is confident that the funding program will continue. At Pond Cove a grant will provide intensive training to a teacher for early literacy intervention and funds to create an outdoor classroom for experiential learning and a play area adjacent to the playground. The Cape Elizabeth Middle School will receive LCD projectors to be used to connect the work the students are doing on their laptops. The nurse will use a grant from CEEF to attend a national nursing conference covering such topics as diabetes, allergies, sports injuries, obesity, bullying and vaccination updates. Cape Elizabeth High School grants focus on technology. CEHS will continue to collaborate with the Southern Maine Astronomers (SMA) club, purchase equipment to build a digital darkroom for the fine arts photography curriculum, supplement digital music equipment with a preamp digital output with microphone, and help to fund a residency and concert by Aardvark Jazz Orchestra, an innovative jazz orchestra that specializes in the music of Duke Ellington.

Teacher/Classroom Grants	Amount	Recipient	School
Pond Cove Greening	\$5000		Pond Cove
Middle School Projection Technology	\$7200	Holly Smevog	Middle School
The Digital Darkroom	\$1689	Richard Rothlisberger	High School
Promoting Alternative Learning Styles Through Technology	\$1500	Rachel Guthrie	High School
Photometric Imaging of Space Phenomena	\$1500	Kerry Kertes	High School
Aardvark Jazz Orchestra Residency	\$3000	Tom Lizotte	High School
<b>Professional Development Grants</b>			
Early Literacy Intervention	\$3800	Becky Swift	Pond Cove
Advances in School Nursing	\$850	Julie Tselikis	Middle School
<b>Total awarded this year:</b>	<b>\$24,539</b>		

For more information about CEEF grants please visit our website [www.capeeducationfoundation.org](http://www.capeeducationfoundation.org).



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The Cape Elizabeth Education Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization of community members committed to fostering innovation and excellence in Cape Elizabeth schools by: partnering with the school district to help achieve its vision, building community-wide support for the benefit of our schools, and funding initiatives that fall outside the school budget.