## Chebeague Island Historical Society Ellsworth Miller Memorial Lecture Series *presents*

## Thomas C. Bennett, Archaeologist

Monday, April 22 @7pm via Zoom only
\*Zoom login number is 82962476056. No password required.

## Subterranean Ancient Clues: Activities in Casco Bay Archaeology, 2022–24



Hope Hampton, Nathan Hamilton, Cyrus Hagge and Jenny Aronson (l. to r.) excavating on Little Chebeague Island, August 2024

Thomas Bennett first excavated a shell deposit on Great Mosher Island in Yarmouth in 1987, and has worked on others locally and in Boston Harbor. In 2022, he and Nathan Hamilton of the University of Southern Maine revived the Casco Bay Archaeological Project, first launched with an archaeological survey of the islands in the aftermath of the blizzard of February 1978. Over the past two years, Bennett, Hamilton and a group of dedicated volunteers have surveyed select Casco Bay islands and excavated shell deposits on Great Chebeague, Little Chebeague and Littlejohn islands. Bennett will discuss the excavations and findings, as well as stable isotope analysis of clamshells and the study of sea mink mandibles from Casco Bay legacy collections.