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Tri-County Students Create Cauldron for "Flame of Hope"

Cauldron Lit during First Ever Massachusetts Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Final Leg

By J.D. O'GARA

On June 7th, students and faculty lined the drive to Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School in Franklin, anxiously awaiting honored guests. A special team of Massachusetts Law Enforcement members and Special Olympics athletes, "Guardians of the Flame," carrying the Special Olympics Torch, were coming. The first-ever Massachusetts LETR Statewide Final Leg would use the torch to light a cauldron created by students in Tri-County's metal fabrication shop to hold the Special Olympics "Flame of Hope."



The Special Olympics Torch and "Flame of Hope" symbolizes leadership in grassroots fundraising and community-

Members of the first-ever Massachusetts Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg team use the Special Olympics torch to light the Flame of Hope in a cauldron built by students at Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School in Franklin.

TORCH
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The 2023 Franklin High baseball team lost to Taunton, 7-2, in the Division 1 state championship game at Polar Park in Worcester. Photo courtesy of unter Smith.

FHS Nine Resilient While Battling Defeat in State Final

By KEN HAMWEY, STAFF SPORTS WRITER

June 18 was a difficult day for Franklin High's baseball team — on two fronts.

The top-seeded Panthers lost in the Division 1 state final game to Taunton, 7-2. But, before journeying to Worcester to face

the Tigers for the second straight year in a winner-take-all finale, they were at a funeral home attending calling hours for a classmate.

First up, the game, which was dominated by the Tigers.

FINAL
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FINAL

continued from page 1

A state champion for the second straight year, the Tigers have now worn the crown three times in the last four seasons, and they've compiled a 10-0 record their last two seasons of playoff baseball. The D-word is often used too quickly to label a team a "dynasty," but coach Blair Bourque's contingent is in that category. No ifs, ands, or buts.

Winning pitcher Johnny Escobalez threw a complete game, limiting the Panthers to five hits and surrendering one earned run, making life easy for Taunton.

The Tigers took a 1-0 lead in the first inning, but the second stanza is where the Tigers took control and left no doubt about the outcome.

Leadoff hitter Braden Sullivan smacked a two-run double to left. Two batters later, Dawson Bryce doubled down the right-field line for two more runs, highlighting a five-run inning that gave Taunton a commanding 6-0 lead. Three throwing errors by Franklin didn't help the Panthers' cause.

"You can't make mistakes against Taunton, and, unfortunately, we played our worst inning of the year in the second inning of the state title game," said Franklin coach Zach Brown.

Ryan MacDougall, who hit the winning home run in last year's 2-1 state title win over Franklin, added an RBI double for the Tigers' final run.

Franklin got an unearned run in the third inning when Rex Cinelli scored on a throwing error, and its other run came in the sixth when Henry DiGiorgio singled to left, advanced to second on a wild pitch then scored on Luke Sidwell's line-drive base hit to centerfield.

Taunton always presents a major challenge, noted Brown, "They're well-coached, and they do it all. There's no holes in their game, and their lineup, one through nine, puts pressure on defenses."

Brown feels fortunate to be coaching top-notch, character guys. "A seven-inning game goes fast," said Brown. "You have one bad inning and you're behind the eight-ball. It's extremely difficult. These guys played tremendous baseball all year, but more importantly, they're just tremendous young men."

The Panthers, with a 23-4 record, displayed lots of resilience and character competing while dealing with the deaths of two classmates, Anthony Gates and Nick Gaspar. Gates died in an auto accident, and the players attended his calling hours the same day as the final. Gaspar had passed away a month earlier.

"Our players knew both of them, and they knew their siblings," Brown said. "They did the best they could to turn a negative into a positive. It's tough, but they showed a level of brother-

hood where they look out for each other. Franklin is a close-knit community."

At noon, players set up batting practice at the high school, then drove in groups to Oteri Funeral Home, wearing shirts bearing Gates' name on the back. They paid their respects, then went back to batting practice. Their bus arrived at Polar Park at 4:45 p.m.

"For me, this group of guys will always be memorable and special," Brown said. "Losing to Taunton should be separated from what our kids had to endure. The Tigers beat us because they played at a higher level. They were well-prepared, and we respect that program. Our players learned at a young age that life is fragile, and they dealt with a difficult challenge head-on to get back to the state final."

Brown, in his 10th season as FHS coach, has never had a team fail to qualify for the playoffs. His 2018 squad won a state title by defeating Central Catholic.

The Panthers advanced to the final this year by defeating Lexington, 5-1; Walpole, 5-2; Bridgewater-Raynham, 2-1; and Methuen, 4-0.

Here's a thumbnail look at what made the Panthers' 2023 season memorable (comments provided by Brown):

FIRST BASE — Jase Lyons (senior tri-captain). Our best all-around athlete who filled in at third base, the outfield and pitched in relief. Co-offensive player of the year. A Hockomock League all-star.

SECOND BASE — Luke Sidwell (senior). The Hockomock Scholar Athlete of the Year, he also was an honorable-mention all-star. Steady on defense and very dynamic on offense. Electric on the bases (19 stolen bases).

SHORTSTOP — Henry DiGiorgio (junior). Dynamic competitor. Our clean-up hitter, who led the team in hits. Has a high baseball IQ.

THIRD BASE — Ben Jarosz (senior). Brought an edge to the team. Hard-nosed competitor who's at his best in pressure situations. A grind-it-out player.

CATCHER — Tyler Bellan (senior). A coach on the field, he's a defensive catcher with a high baseball IQ and a cannon for an arm. Threw out 11 runners trying to steal. A great work ethic, he blocked the plate effectively.

CENTERFIELD — Ryan Gerety (senior). A three-year veteran, he was a catalyst as our leadoff hitter. Dynamic in center, he had three assists, relying on a strong arm. Played well in pressure games. Led team in extra-base hits (10).

RIGHT FIELD — Eisig Chin (senior tri-captain). He hit No. 3 in the lineup. Suffered a wrist injury and missed three games. A big presence on offense, he got on base often and drove in runs. He's got power and has a strong arm.

LEFTFIELD — Rex Cinelli (junior). A solid leftfielder, he emerged this season. No. 9 in the lineup, he provides offense and played his best baseball in the tourney.

PITCHING — Al Mucciarone (senior tri-captain). Ace of the staff who finished 8-0 in regular season with an E.R.A. of 1.19. Had 99 strikeouts, 13 walks and gave up 41 hits in 64.3 innings. A great competitor and based on his stats, he's the best I've coached. His fastball traveled in the 87-92 mph range.

Dillon Cashin (senior). His first season ended as rookie of the year. Had a 3-1 record, 2 saves and an E.R.A. of 0.71. Worked 19 innings, yielded 9 hits and 2 earned runs. Had a calming presence and used a sneaky fastball, curve and slider.

Austin Campbell (junior). His numbers: 9-0 record, one save, 87 strikeouts, 24 walks, 57 innings, and 33 hits. Throwing an 87-mph fastball, he formed an outstanding one-two punch with Mucciarone. Great competitor with good control and good assortment.

PITCHING RESERVES — Jake Shaugnessy (junior). Had a 1-1 record and an E.R.A. of 0.45 in 15 innings. Matt Miller (junior). Had a 2-0 record with a 1.37 E.R.A. Both players gave us great effort when called on. Dependable swing guys.

DESIGNATED HITTER — Ethan DePaolo (senior). A tough competitor who was a solid contributor all year.

Franklin's baseball journey involved learning some life lessons. And, as their coach emphasized: "The players used baseball as a vehicle to work on habits for success in life."

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Tri-County students and faculty eagerly awaited the LETR Final Leg team, cheering them on as they approached.

TORCH

continued from page 1

building that LETR contributes to Special Olympics Massachusetts, helping to bring inclusion to every city, town, school district, and neighborhood in the Commonwealth.

Karen Maguire, Superintendent of Tri-County, spoke about the student's role in creating the torch for Special Olympics.

"Developing partnerships is very important for us here at Tri-County. In fact, it's essential to the success of our organization. Partnerships provide a platform for sharing resources and

developing new ideas. By forming strong partnerships, such as the one we now have with (Special Olympics, LETR), we can take advantage of each other's strengths and each other's weaknesses to create exciting opportunities for all our students." Maguire gave a shout out to Tri-County's metal fabrication program, and then a shout out to the entire school for coming out to cheer on their new partners in their competition.

President and CEO of Special Olympics Massachusetts, Mary Beth McMahon encouraged onlookers to join in in the upcoming weekend event that would see 1,850 Massachusetts

Special Olympics athletes compete in five sports at the Harvard Athletic Complex. She gave a shout out to another local community partner, Hockomock YMCA.

Co-directors of LETR leadership council, Rick Pierce, and Jim Digianvittorio each addressed the crowd.

"This is our first ever final leg run with our first ever final leg team," said Rick Pierce. He explained the Law Enforcement Torch Run began in 1981 in Wichita, Kansas, and since that time, the program has grown to all 50 states and 46 countries, raising, to date, over \$900 million for Special Olympics. In

Massachusetts, the LETR has been in existence for 15 years, having raised in just the last couple of years \$735,000 and hoping to raise a million in the next year or so.

Special Olympics athlete Matt Cobb, who hails from Franklin and is affiliated with the Hockomock YMCA, was honored to be part of the LETR Final Leg team.

"I am a multi-sport Special Olympic athlete for the Hockomock Area YMCA," said Cobb, continuing, "Being part of Special Olympics has been life changing for me. I have made so many friends, and I've learned so many life lessons.

As an athlete, I am given not only the opportunity to compete in sports, but I've also been given the chance to be an ambassador talking to people, like you, about my journey."

Cobb noted his accomplishments and friends on the team, adding, "Special Olympics gives us a safe space where we can be ourselves and be celebrated for our abilities. Being an athlete has taught me to be strong not only physically but also mentally. It has given me the chance to make new friends and to be a better person. I like to think I live by the athlete's oath. 'Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave the attempt.'"

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Ants Ready to Bug Homeowners This Spring

WPC Pest and Termite Control offers pest-prevention tips to keep ants from marching indoors.

Summer is officially here and with it comes one of the most persistent warm-weather pests—ants. As temperatures rise, WPC Pest Control warns that America’s number one nuisance pest will invade homes across MetroWest in search of food. While most species present problems in people’s pantries and kitchens, some species can deliver painful bites while others inflict property damage. According to a survey from the National Pest Management Association (NPMA), more than half of consumers list ants as their top pest concern.

“As most homeowners know, ants are especially drawn to the kitchen and their sheer numbers can be daunting,” said Jim Mazzuchelli, owner at WPC Pest and Termite Control. “Carpenter ants are most likely to invade residential homes this spring, but eliminating food sources can help keep them at bay.”

Of all the U.S. ant species, carpenter ants and fire ants pose the most risk for homeowners. Carpenter ants excavate wood in order to build their nests, which can compromise a home’s structural soundness. Just seeing 3 to

5 ants a day could indicate an underlying problem that might only get worse and cause major damage to your home.

Although ants can be difficult to control once they have entered a home, the following preventative measures can play a major role in helping to avoid infestations:

- Wipe up crumbs and spills immediately
- Store garbage in sealed containers and remove from the home frequently

- Keep food packages closed or sealed and store products in air-tight containers
- Avoid leaving food out on the counter or pet food out on the floor for long periods of time
- Repair holes or gaps in window and door screens
- Seal cracks and holes on the outside of the home including entry points for utilities and pipes
- Keep tree branches and shrubbery well-trimmed and away from the house
- Replace weather-stripping and repair loose mortar around basement foundation and windows

- If you suspect an ant or any pest infestation in your home, contact a licensed pest professional to inspect, identify and treat the problem

“With more than 700 species of ants in the U.S., many of which create huge colonies, prevention is the key to an ant-free home,” added Mazzuchelli.

For more information on ants, please visit www.nobugsnopests.com or call (508) 366-1820 to set up a free inspection and a free outside treatment.

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FSPA Fall 2023-24 Enrollment Open

Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA) is now enrolling for Fall 2023-24. The school encourages new families

to explore their options for Fall. The school, now entering its 39th year, will hold Open Houses for prospective families on July 24 from 10am-7pm, August 8 from 10am-7pm, August 23 from 10am-7pm, and September 9 from 10am-4pm. Prospective families are invited to tour the facility, meet the faculty, and learn more about FSPA’s programming in music, dance, and drama for serious or recreational study.

Proudly serving more than 500 students annually from 45 communities in Massachusetts’ Metro West region, the Franklin School for the Performing Arts



(FSPA) is committed to quality education in the arts with exceptional curriculum, outstanding professional faculty, and unwavering dedication to each and every student enrolled. Founded in 1985 by Director Raye Lynn Mercer, FSPA is a unique place where students of all ages and levels of ability participate in an array of music, dance, and drama programs with professional instruction and extraordi-

nary performing opportunities. With broad-based and varied curricula, FSPA guides students in the development of technique, creativity, and artistic expression to last a lifetime.

FSPA’s faculty boasts outstanding professional artists, performers, and teachers. Their impressive credentials are indicative of the excellent instruction available in all programs. FSPA instructors strive to meet the individual needs of each student, working to develop each student’s abilities to their own potential.

FSPA is located at 38 Main Street, Franklin MA. To register or learn more, visit www.FSPAonline.com or call (508) 528-8668.

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GideyUp Moving & Logistics aims to take the stress out of your move

GideyUp Moving & Logistics is a New England-based moving company specializing in high-end homes and commercial moving.

“We’re very selective and we prefer to work with larger residential and commercial moves,” says Managing Director Charles Sayegh, adding their clients stretch from central New Hampshire to Connecticut with a ‘sweet spot’ being Massachusetts.

Services include full packing and unpacking services; loading and unloading trucks, storage units and pods; full arrangement/rearrangement setup; and more. The company often collaborates with space planners and designers.

GideyUp prides itself on customer service. Each client is assigned a representative who then works with the family throughout the process. Sayegh says their services are reasonably priced, their goal is to make each move “as smooth and as stress-free as possible,” and their clients, residential and commercial alike, are all treated like family.

“Our typical customer on the residential side is a family in a single-family home looking to



move their precious belongings with minimum disruption,” says Sayegh. “We have the highest respect for our customers and their belongings, and we use loving care as if we’re moving our mother or grandmother.”

A typical commercial client is a “medium to large sized business with about 20 employees or more,” such as a Franklin real estate business GideyUp recently moved from an old office to a new state-of-the-art space.

“That took a lot of high-end moving experience,” says Sayegh. “We had to disassemble elaborate workstations, make sure they were not damaged, and reassemble them in the new location.”

GideUp also works in the FF&E (furniture, fixtures and equipment) industry focusing on commercial moves like hotels or a large office complex where they might move all contents offsite during a renovation then return the contents after the renovation, or they could dispose of the old contents and move new furnishings in once the renovation is finished.

The GideyUp team consists of a staff of seasoned professionals with more than 20 years of



Business spotlight

experience in the moving business.

“We have a staff of very dedicated people who have done this for a very long time and who understand the technicalities of the industry and executing a move properly,” says Sayegh. “They possess what we like to call ‘move manners’ where their professionalism shows through.”

“Gideyup moved our business flawlessly and without incident. Lots of glass and expensive items so were concerned about damage. They wrapped everything properly. I would use them again.”

-Jack



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When planning a move, GideyUp suggests:

- To secure your preferred date, schedule your moving company as soon as possible
- Procure ample packing supplies in advance
- Beware moving companies who require full payment in advance
- Trust your instincts when talking to potential movers

Sayegh says this team of ‘industry leaders’ came together last year “to eliminate industry stigma and disadvantages” that customers often encounter when planning and working with a moving company.

“The difference between GideyUp and other competing moving companies is that we do really care about the customer above all else,” says Sayegh. “We try to ensure peace of mind during a stressful time in a family’s transition, and that we alleviate a lot of that burden and stress

“Booking was easy. Great company to work with, prices were right and the men that arrived were professional and very courteous.” -Sharlene, Allstate Insurance

for them by being proactive and responsive to their particular needs.”

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Franklin 4th 2023 Schedule of Events

Friday, June 30

6-10 p.m.: Rides and food booths open (WRIST BANDS 6-10)•
7-10 p.m.: Duppy Conquerors

Saturday, July 1

12-10 p.m.: Rides and food booths open (WRIST BANDS 12-5)
3rd Annual Franklin Blues Festival:
12-1:15 p.m.: Ed Peabody
1:45-3 p.m. : Neal & The Vipers
3:30-4:45 p.m. : Mikey Junior
5:15-6:30 p.m. : Mike Crandall Bandblues
7-8:15 p.m. : Bruce Katz
8:45-10 p.m.: Sugar Ray & The Bluetones
10 p.m. : FIREWORKS / Franklin High School

Sunday, July 2

12-10 p.m.: Rides and food booths open •(WRIST BANDS 12-5)
12-1:30 p.m.: Padula Trio Plus One
2-3:30 p.m.: Attleboro School of Rock
4-6 p.m.: Zajac Brothers Band
7-10 p.m.: Neon Wave (80s New Wave Dance)

Monday, July 3

Rides and food booths open 2-10 p.m. (WRIST BANDS FROM 2-6) •
7-10 p.m.: Backyard Swagger

Tuesday, July 4th •

12-6 p.m.: Rides and food booths open (WRIST BANDS 12-5)
12-1 p.m.: Matt Zajac
1-2 p.m.: Jamie Barrett (solo acoustic)
2:30-4: Hot Acoustics
4:30-6 p.m.: Jesse Liam Band

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SCHEDULE



July 14

3:30pm - 5:30pm Jennifer Tefft
6:00pm - 8:00pm Paradise Flyer

July 21

3:30pm - 5:30pm Kendo
6:00pm - 8:00pm Northeast Groove
8:10pm - 10:00pm [Movie: Finding Nemo](#)

July 28

3:30pm - 5:30pm It's a "J" Thing
6:00pm - 8:00pm FSPA & Electric Youth

Aug 4

3:00pm - 5:00pm Steve Poirier
5:30pm - 7:30pm Frank Padula Band
8:00pm - 10:00pm [Movie: Back to the Future](#)

Aug 11

3:00pm - 5:00pm Matt Zajac
5:30pm - 7:30pm Pub Kings

Aug 18

3:30pm - 5:00pm Bus-14
5:30pm - 7:30pm The Reminiscent
7:50pm - 9:50pm [Movie: The Incredibles](#)

First Universalist Society in Franklin Gears Up for Summer

The First Universalist Society in Franklin (FUSF) is pleased to announce its summer worship services. Services will explore the theme of individual spiritual practices. The series starts on July 9 and runs through August 27, 2023. Services begin at 10 a.m. and all are welcome.

FUSF is located at 262 Chestnut Street, Franklin and is a Unitarian Universalist LGBTQIA+ Welcoming Congregation. For more information visit: www.FUSF.org or call the (508) 528-5348.

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Community Ties and a Commitment to Customer Service: Affordable Junk Removal

Business spotlight

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe you're planning to move and need to clear out the basement and attic before your open house. Maybe you've spent way too much time at home lately and are feeling the need to declutter.

But figuring out who to call can be a pain. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2003. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with ten trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the

pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of



your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any

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Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He

and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

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Your Money, Your Independence

Enjoy Every Sandwicher Moment



Glenn Brown

I'm a Sandwicher, as are approximately 15% of Americans between ages 40-60 who face the challenges of planning, communicating and executing for 3 generations at once.

In 2018, my parents were struggling with health to remain independent in NH after 60 years in their home. Stress rained on my mom as a caregiver and daily living/house routines began to slide. My wife, our daughters (then 5 & 3) and I lived comfortably in our Ashland home. The adults agreed on a Plan B supported by updated financial planning. Sell both homes, buy a new home for 3 generations and live as one household sharing in daily responsibilities.

The urgency was greater than anticipated and not without challenges since our move to Holliston. Here's some antidotes for Sandwichers:

Small talks instead of "The Talk". Families don't like to think about declining health and elder care, let alone discuss it. I used single topics tied to a recent story about a friend, asking what they would do. Gained small agreements, the changed topics as would address others another day to frame a mutual plan.

Bring in outside mediators. My aunt shared with my mom that time is not your friend. She encouraged the positives to take

action now, rather than later when fewer options are available. Additionally, we consulted with an elder care attorney on understanding MA Health options, current trusts, POAs and proxies before making the move.

Define their plans for wellness. Far too often, adult children tip-toe around aging conversations with parents for fear it may come across as morbid or worse, inheritance focus. These conversations need to focus on their future ideas of wellness. What is it they foresee for a surviving spouse? When they can no longer remain independent? By having these talks when both parents are in good health, it defines their expectations and allows planning a foundation with greater flexibility.

Your spouse's support is critical. Incredibly fortunate to have a spouse that pushed me to see the positives and embraces bringing family in as "you'd want your daughters to treat you the same someday."

Through the eyes of a child. It's not all about you, the girls show the love and benefits of learning by being around grandma and grandpa. And vice versa, as health has improved so has activity as the girls provide motivation and energy.

Sometimes timing is everything. I couldn't imagine the

anxiety and ill-advised actions my parents would have faced on their own these past 3-plus years.

Your parents sacrificed many things to make sure you had it better, including concealing issues to not worry you. Be open with communication and embrace change, the best ways to prevent costly unintended consequences and ensure positive lasting memories.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not in-

tended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of Plan-Dynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

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Once David Letterman had frequent guest and a favorite musician of his, Warren Zevon, on for an entire show. Zevon, who'd disclosed terminal cancer, performed and interviewed throughout. Dave at one point asked, "Anything you know now, that I should know?" to which Zevon wittily deadpanned, "Enjoy every sandwich."

Those raising children and helping aging parents often feel rushed and are distracted thinking about what's next, overlooking the beauty of daily, mundane moments.

July is National Sandwich Generation Month, celebrating a generation of people sandwiched between caring for their young children and aging parents at the same time.

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Franklin Food Pantry Opens at Edwin's Site

By J.D. O'GARA

On Monday, June 12th, a crowd gathered outside the former site of Edwin's in Franklin, to celebrate the opening of a new location for the Franklin Food Pantry. The revamped, 5,000 sf. building located at 341 West Central Street will be roughly twice the size of Franklin Food Pantry's former location.

Tina Tavares Powderly, Executive Director of Franklin Food Pantry, opened the ribbon cutting.

"It's been a 10-year journey to bring enhanced programming to this community in a dignified environment," she began. Powderly noted that a week prior, she encountered the Food Pantry's Client Services Coordinator, with a toddler on her hip, helping a new client fill out paperwork in the brand-new space.

"What made that moment so different and so special was that

that new client was accessing services in a room with a closed door, in a quiet space, because English was not her native language, in a space big enough for her toddler to be comfortable," said Powderly. "All of that is brand new. I would think that many of us take those aspects of our daily lives for granted." Powderly likened the experience to a doctor visit, where one would expect to share private information behind closed doors.

"...The thousands of community members that come to us trust us at their most vulnerable time, and now this space allows us to hold that trust most sacred. We have areas for confidential conversation, for supportive services. We have a bathroom and full ADA accessibility, and we prioritize their well-being by tripling the amount of perishable storage space we have to provide for them the most healthy, and most

expensive, I might add, food we can to our neighbors. And we have a dedicated space for our volunteers..."

Powderly explained the project was completed in an "incredibly cost-efficient manner ... We all know about the incredible \$500K grant we got from MassDevelopment, and we also know about the \$100K that we have received to date in state appropriation from our state delegation, but we also were very lucky to receive many donations of material and time from a myriad of local businesses and professionals," said Powderly, who thanked all supporters, adding, "We also repurposed current items, purchased refurbished items and are the proud and lucky owner of many tables, chairs, desks and assorted furniture from the Davis-Thayer school."

Tom Mercer made remarks following Powderly.



A celebratory feel was in the air as Rep. Jeff Roy offered a certificate from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Tina Powderly, Executive Director of the Franklin Food Pantry, which opened its new location at 341 West Central Street in Franklin on June 12th. Also shown, Franklin Town Council Chair Tom Mercer and MassDevelopment's Robert Jenkins.

"On behalf of Franklin and its Town Council, I'm thrilled and honored today to be celebrate the opening of this beautiful and renovated facility and to the new home of the Franklin Food Pantry," said Mercer. "The legacy

of that hallmark business and of its founders Jeanne and Edwin Aldrich is part of Franklin's storied past, and now this building,

EDWIN'S

continued on page 17

Artist Profile

Ian Kabat - A Journey to Simplicity

By GRACE ALLEN

Art is a visual language, a way of communicating ideas or conveying emotions. For Ian Kabat, it's also a response to an overstimulating and complicated world.

Kabat, a Franklin-based artist, is showcasing his work this month in the newly refurbished Community Room at the Norfolk Public Library. His large, white-only oil portraits, with their photo-like quality, are impactful even before entering the room, beckoning the viewer in without the distraction of color.

"I want my work to give people a rest," Kabat explained. "I hope they experience a sense of calm and a sense of wonder."

Kabat says people are bombarded with image after image,

video after video, and comment after comment, mostly because of social media. His work is an emotional response to that barrage of information everyone is exposed to on a daily basis.

A graduate of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Kabat was inspired by the Dutch Renaissance painters, especially Rembrandt. But he also found himself drawn to Asian art, appreciating the Zen-like simplicity.

That tension has played out throughout Kabat's art career. He's painted multiple portraits with Rembrandt-like sensibilities, but he has also created sculpture and dabbled in abstract paintings.

It was about five years ago that Kabat's work started to evolve to what he calls a simplistic classical

style. Then the pandemic happened, and he was stuck in his studio, closed off from the world like everybody else. That weird time, he says, fueled a need for calmness in the midst of chaos. It also accelerated a desire to paint without color but keep the strong contrast of light and dark Rembrandt is known for.

"Color is fantastic, don't get me wrong," Kabat said. "But it was something that I found was more complicated than it needed to be."

Kabat works mostly from photos, and his culturally diverse subjects represent ideas or events that strike a chord with him. His art helps him to fulfill the need to represent that person or people he's read or heard about.

His favored medium is oils, even though he currently eschews their richness of color, preferring white on black.

Asking an artist to pick a favorite piece might be compared to asking a mother to pick a favorite child, yet Kabat says "Dancer" is special to him. He painted it after going to see the Nutcracker with his wife, Linda, and it's one of the few full-body paintings he's done so far.



By day, Kabat is a creative director at Dell Technologies (he's painted a portrait of the late Dick Egan, the co-founder of EMC, which later merged with Dell). Along with his wife, Kabat ran the Franklin Art Center for several years, and in 2014 was involved in making the Franklin Sculpture Park a reality.

After the Franklin Art Center closed, Kabat and his wife, an educator, started a non-profit called Give Kids the Arts, which collects and distributes art supplies and musical instruments to organizations and community groups working with low-income children. The arts, he believes, are a vital component of a healthy childhood.

"Kids are always on their screens," said Kabat. "The arts are leaving the schools, and art classes—if they have them—are getting shorter while the classes



are getting bigger. It's becoming less and less a creative world and more of a watching world."

Most artists will say they have an innate need to create, and in doing so to connect others to their art and its message. Kabat's message shines in his display at the library.

"I want viewers to realize that less is more," he said. "I think of these works almost like a sketch in oils. You don't need too much to get a lot out of it."

For more information about Kabat's work, upcoming exhibits, or to commission a piece, visit IanKabat.com.

To learn more about Give Kids the Arts, visit www.givekidsthearts.org or follow the organization on Facebook or Instagram.

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Jefferson Elementary Students Tackle Public Art

Revamped "Traveling School of Fish" Reignites Franklin Sculpture Park

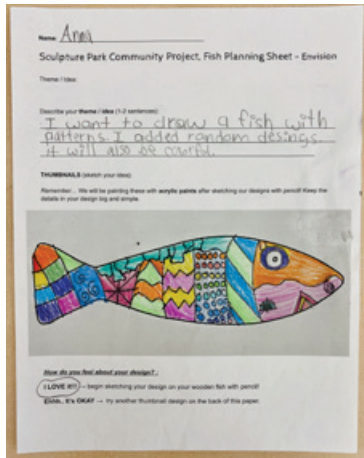
By J.D. O'GARA

On June 7th, Jefferson students, family, staff, and the greater Franklin community gathered for a rededication ceremony at the Franklin Sculpture Park, opened in 2014 next to the Franklin Police Station by the Kabat family, who ran the Franklin Art Center (now closed). The park's installation "The School of Fish," received an update from the elementary students and was re-dubbed "The Traveling School of Fish."

"I met with Jamie Hellen back in December, and it was about utility boxes that we are painting," says Franklin artist Amy Adams. "We got to talking about working on the sculpture park, and I said I would love to help work on that. We started going through and realized some of the installations needed love and had been worn down over time, and really we just needed someone to initiate the project and start up the artwork again. As we went around the whole park ... this installation I thought we could save. The paint was worn down on some fish, but not everything, and to not get rid of the spirit of the installation, we thought maybe we could take these fish, sand them down and given them fresh coats."

Adams partnered with Franklin Public Schools Art Director, Adam Gooder, Jefferson Art Teacher Caroline Whelan, Jefferson Principal Stefani Wasik and Town Administrator Jamie Hellen to reimagine the installation.

"Amy Adams reached out to Stefani Wasik, Adam Gooder, and myself with this collaborative art project and the need to revamp these fish sculptures with a fresh coat of paint," says Caroline Whelan, Jefferson Elementary Art Teacher. "I worked with 4th and 5th Grade students in



Jefferson art teacher Caroline Whelan had students create "Envision" sheets to illustrate and refine the designs they ultimately painted on the wooden fish, which had been prepared for painting by artist Amy Adams.

our Art Explorations classes to envision and paint creative designs for these fish sculptures."

Adams worked to clear and prepare each individual fish, Jefferson staff then worked with students to create the new art.

Whelan had her students create "Envision" worksheets before beginning the painting process. The young artists, she notes, "did extremely well bringing their planned ideas to life, making thoughtful and creative changes where necessary along the way. As we reflected back on this project, many of the students expressed to me that while they loved this experience and had so much fun with it, it was challenging at times. Trial and error, as well as problem solving was necessary."

Whelan shares the experience of Luca, a 4th Grade student, during the class's reflection, "Normally I don't like making mistakes because I get really frustrated when I do," said Luca, "but for this project it was actually fun to make mistakes and figure out ways to fix them."



Jefferson Elementary art teacher Caroline Whelan, Franklin Public Schools Art Director Adam Gooder and Franklin artist Amy Adams, shown, all collaborated on the Franklin Sculpture Park's "Traveling School of Fish" exhibit, enlisting young artists to participate in public art.

The refreshed installation, retitled "Traveling School of Fish", will be updated yearly by new students within the district. Adams envisions one day of finding someone local to make the wooden fish, so that after the one-year period of display, young artists will be able to keep their fish.

"It's creative and engaging projects like this that ignite passion in our students and motivate them to come up with creative solutions when faced with challenges," says Whelan. "These collaborative opportunities give our students the skills to problem solve and grow as creators. I feel very proud of these students for embracing our Jefferson art room mantra throughout this project, to turn any mistake into a masterpiece."

This new initiative aims to nurture the artistic talents of our

youth, while showcasing their work with the greater Franklin community through public art. FPS Art Director Gooder notes, "Any time students of any age get a chance to show their work publicly, it motivates them to do their best. Art is meant to be seen; this initiative gives students an opportunity to see how people react and how their artistic voice can make a positive impact on others."

The event, emceed by Jamele Adams, also included comments by Franklin Conservation Agent Breeka Li Goodlander, who has applied for state grants to help remove invasive species from the park as well as DPW Director Robert "Brutus" Cantoreggi, who talked about town improvements to the space.

The "Traveling School of Fish" installation is available to the public at the Franklin Sculpture

Park on Panther Way, next to the Franklin Police Station.

Jamie Hellen pointed out at the sculpture park rededication that the "Traveling Fish" is only the beginning of what he hopes will be an emergence of public art in Franklin.

"This is the first of a lot of social projects in Franklin," said Hellen. "We have sites all around the sculpture park in here that are open for everybody to apply to put sculptures and art in there, so if folks want to put more and do more and make this an even more vibrant place ... there's an application online. Today is really the first of that of trying to install a lot more public art in Franklin."

Local artists can find the application under Franklin's Public Works page on the town website.

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What do I want to major in?

“What do I want to major in?” for many college-bound students is the lingering question that follows them to college. As many as 20% of first-year students enroll as an undeclared major, which makes it the most popular major at a number of universities. And, on average, a college student will change their major 3 times over the course of their college career. Needless to say, many students do not have a major or career figured out by the time they start college. However, with thoughtful planning, a student can obtain a better idea of what to study.

1. Assess interests: Investing time to assess interests and passions is a productive use of time. Exploring areas of potential interest is a great way to identify which fields the student might like to pursue further. Taking career and personality assessments, interviewing friends and family about their jobs, scheduling shadow days with professionals to observe their work, and talking with the college’s career counselors are just a few of

the ways students can learn more about identifying a potential major. There are many free career and personality assessments, such as www.yourfreecareertest.com, bigfuture.collegeboard.org/explore-careers, and www.16personalities.com/free-personality-tests.

2. Meet with your College Academic Advisor: Academic advisors are a valuable resource. Their sole responsibility is to support students and make sure they are on track to achieve their career and education goals. Advisors are often instrumental in the success of a student. Services commonly offered are major and minor exploration, identifying strengths and interests, registering for appropriate classes, monitoring progress of the student’s degree requirements, and more. A student should schedule their first meeting with their advisor in September of their first year.

3. Choose a Major with Transferable Skills: Companies are interested in employees that have transferable skills. They seek out candidates that are curious, resilient, have emotional intelligence, and team oriented. The ability to learn fast and demonstrate strong problem solving and critical thinking skills are essential qualities that make for a successful transition in the workplace- even if a candidate’s major is in a different industry! One of my prior students graduated with an English major, but secured a position at a high-tech Artificial Intelligence company and is currently excelling as a manager because of her transferable skills.

4. Research Job Potential for Various Careers: It is important to choose a major that the student will enjoy - but ideally it is best to select a major that is in demand. For example, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, a nurse



Maryline Michel Kulewicz and Tracy Sullivan of College 101 Admissions Consultants

practitioner is one of the fastest growing occupations and is expected to grow by 40% over the next 8 years versus journalism which is expected to decline by 9%. The following website shares valuable information on job trends: www.bls.gov/ooh.

5. Try different Internships: Once a student has decided on a potential major, applying for internships while in college will further support the student’s intended area of study. Internships are a professional learning experience that offer hands-on work in an industry. Many colleges are active in helping a student find relevant internships, be it throughout the school year or during the summer. The college’s Career Service Office is a valuable resource and can help organize this search. It is a great way to

determine if a specific field is something a student may want to pursue when they graduate. Internships also provide great networking opportunities!

Preparing to leave for college can be a bit overwhelming, especially if the student is uncertain about their field of study. Start with using the summertime wisely— assess interests, utilize available resources, and explore various opportunities that local workplaces may offer. They will be on their way to finding a major that is the right fit for them!

Good luck and enjoy the journey!

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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

Say Bye Bye to Summer Frizz with a Cezanne Smoothing Treatment

BY GINA WOELFEL

As the weather heats up, so do our agendas. Backyard parties, weddings, get-togethers and warm, sun-filled days at the beach leave us ready to don our summer outfits, let down our beach waves and enjoy being out and about in the year's most enjoyable months.

Oh, summer...the season we all love the most, except when it comes to our hair.

It's the season of sun, fun and, unfortunately, frizz. With the rise in temperature, smoothing and straightening your hair can be difficult and even with an arsenal of styling products, summer's heat and humidity often wins the battle against smooth, tame tresses. For those of you who spend hours styling your hair, only for it to blow up as big as the heat index, we hear you! But, fret no more, we have the solution to your summer hair woes! It's time to step up your beauty game for the fun months ahead with a Cezanne Smoothing Treatment.

What is a Cezanne Smoothing Treatment

A Cezanne Treatment is a fully customizable, *smoothing* service that utilizes three specific ingredients - Keratin protein, sericin (silk protein) and glycolic acid to fully penetrate the hair shaft to reduce frizz, improve manageability and prevent breakage. These three powerhouse ingredients also enhance softness, add shine, improve texture, and de-bulk unwanted volume. It's important to note that the Cezanne Treatment is not a *straightening* service. Hair will not stay pin-straight, but one treatment will leave frizzy hair smooth, shiny, and manageable. And for those

who want to keep their waves and curls but cut the frizz, yep, Cezanne does that, too. Think of it as more of a styling tool that reduces your drying time by up to 30% and maintains your blow-dry, despite humidity. And unlike other keratin treatments, there's no downtime. As soon as your appointment is over, you can shampoo, restyle, work out, even get your hair colored.

What's involved?

We start with a double scrub of detoxifying shampoo to prep and clean your hair. Once it's completely dried, the Cezanne solution is applied and combed through to let process for 30 minutes. Your stylist will then rinse and blow dry your hair straight before flat ironing it, section by section, to lock and bond Cezanne's nutrient-rich formula into your hair. The process is approximately two hours, but time does vary based on hair length, density, texture and desired smoothness.

Is there a lot of maintenance with a Cezanne Treatment?

No! In fact, there's very little upkeep with this service. The Cezanne will dissipate at a faster rate, though, if you're a frequent shampooer or swimmer, so, choose a quality, sulfate-free shampoo and conditioner and keep that in-mind with your washing schedule.

How is this different from other relaxers or straighteners?

The Cezanne Keratin Smoothing Treatment does not work like traditional formaldehyde-based straighteners or

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relaxers. While the flat ironing at the end of the process temporarily straightens your hair, Cezanne won't break the bonds of your hair the way some relaxers or straighteners do. Instead, Cezanne uses natural, non-toxic ingredients to smooth and tame unruly hair. This gives you the option to enjoy your natural curls one day and easily blow dry them straight the next.

Is it safe?

The Cezanne Smoothing Treatment is 100% safe, non-toxic and formaldehyde-free.

Who is it best for?

The Cezanne Smoothing Treatment can benefit all hair



types. The more you struggle with frizz, the better your results will be! A Cezanne can also help repair damaged hair by bonding dry, broken flyaways and adding a layer of strength and protection from heat tools.

How long does it last?

You can expect up to 5 months of smooth frizz-free hair, depending on how often you shampoo.

Not ready for that level of commitment? There's also the *Cezanne Express* that's a lower priced option, works on all hair types and lasts up to 10 weeks.

Will it affect my hair color or other chemical services?

Hair color and chemical services should be performed after

a Cezanne Treatment, and can be performed on the same day as your appointment.

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Summer Eye Safety

By: ROGER M. KALDAWY, M.D.
MILFORD FRANKLIN EYE CENTER

We all use sunscreen to protect our skin, but don't forget to protect your eyes as well. Summertime means more time spent outdoors, and studies show that exposure to bright sunlight may increase the risk of developing cataracts and growths on the eye, including cancer. The same risk applies when using tanning beds, so be sure to protect your eyes from indoor UV light as well. Sunlight reflected off sand and water can cause photokeratitis, the condition responsible for snow blindness, so beach- and pool-goers: Take note.

Independence Day is just around the corner. Your 4th of July holiday usually ends with enjoying professional fireworks and maybe even lighting a few of your own in the backyard. Before you light your first bottle rocket or sparkler, let's talk about the dangers of fireworks and how

to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Most firework injuries happen in a one-month span from late June to late July. Each year approximately 16000 people visit an emergency room because of a fireworks-related injury, and there are 18 deaths. The number of people sustaining minor injuries not requiring an ER visit is thought to be much higher. The most common injuries are to the hands and fingers, legs, head, face, ears and arms. Sometimes people pick up packs of fireworks at the grocery store thinking they're safe because they're small and don't produce large displays. Often, these are the fireworks we give or use close to children. Consider the number of ER trips these common, "safer" fireworks cause each year. Many of us think the people most at risk of getting injured are those lighting the fuse, but bystanders are the most at risk. Those on the side-

lines account for 65% of all ER visits for firework-related injuries.

Eye injuries caused by fireworks are very common and can have devastating effects. Your eyes are delicate, and any fireworks injury could potentially cause permanent damage. Sparks, flames, smoke, and flying pieces of debris are all hazards inherent in any display. The four most common eye injuries are: detached retina, scratches on the cornea, ruptured eyeball and burns. Any eye injury can lead to long-term vision problems or even blindness. If your eye has been hurt, seek medical attention right away. Please leave fireworks to the professionals and let's all enjoy a safe 4th.

UV radiation, whether from natural sunlight or indoor artificial rays, can damage the eye's surface tissues as well as the cornea and lens. Unfortunately, many people are unaware of the dangers UV light can pose. By wearing UV-blocking sunglasses, you can enjoy the summer safely while lowering your risk for potentially blinding eye diseases

and tumors. It is important to start wearing proper eye protection at an early age to protect your eyes from years of ultraviolet exposure.

Everyone of any age and any degree of skin pigmentation is susceptible to UV damage. Children are particularly susceptible to UV damage. People with light colored eyes may have an increased risk of certain eye diseases tied to UV exposure, including eye cancer. Some studies show that people with certain eye diseases such as retinal dystrophy may be at greater risk for UV-related sun damage.

Cataract is a clouding of the eye's lens. The lens must be clear in order to focus light properly onto the retina. Extensive exposure to the sun is one of the major reasons why we develop cataracts. Cataract surgery is by far the most common surgery performed in the United States.

According to a national Sun Safety Survey conducted by the American Academy of Ophthalmology, only about half of people who wear sunglasses say they check the UV rating before buying. The good news is that you can easily protect yourself. In order to be eye smart in the sun, the American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends the following:

Wear sunglasses labeled "100% UV protection": Use only glasses that block both UV-A and UV-B rays and that are labeled either UV400 or 100% UV protection.

Choose wraparound styles so that the sun's rays can't enter from the side.

If you wear UV-blocking contact lenses, you'll still need sunglasses.

Wear a hat along with your sunglasses; broad-brimmed hats are best.

Remember the kids: It's best to keep children out of direct sunlight during the middle of the day. Make sure they wear sunglasses and hats whenever they are in the sun.

Know that clouds don't block UV light: The sun's rays can pass through haze and clouds. Sun damage to the eyes can occur any time of year, not just in summer.

Be extra careful in UV-intense conditions: Sunlight is strongest




mid-day to early afternoon, at higher altitudes, and when reflected off of water, ice or snow.

By embracing these simple tips you and your family can enjoy the summer sun safely while protecting your vision ... And if you have a cataract and it's time for surgery, remember that new technologies exist to optimize vision and outcome: Bladeless laser cataract surgery is a major advancement in cataract treatment, is FDA approved and embraced by top Ophthalmologists in the US and around the world.


At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we offer in-house optical service with the best in UV protection sunglasses. And if you need cataract surgery, Dr. Kaldawy is proud to have been the first surgeon in the area and among the first in Massachusetts to offer bladeless laser assisted cataract surgery. We are happy to have been pioneers of this technology in our communities. We implant high quality premium lenses, with correction for distance, near and everything in between. Many cases of astigmatism are no longer a problem as these implants can now be offered even if you have astigmatism thanks to bladeless laser surgery. Our percentage of complications is one of the lowest in the Nation and is measured by independent sources. We operate in a state-of-the-art surgery center with door-to-door concierge service. 100% of the surgeries are performed under topical anesthesia, so only drops, no need for shots and their risks and no need for stitches. With 22 years of established experience and tens of thousands of procedures performed, we are happy to offer state-of-the-art medical and surgical eye care to our communities.

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Ben Franklin Charter School Art Show a Success

By JENNIFER RUSSO

The Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter School recently held its annual whole-school art show. The school common area and first floor hallway became a rainbow of color with works that the students in each class had been developing throughout the year. The theme of the show was *What Does Art Mean to You*. Though on the surface that may seem like a simple question, the way students rose to the challenge of defining it were thoughtful and complex. Those who came to see the galleries were left considering the same question as they navigated through rows of unique interpretations of that answer.

Select projects were showcased by grade (K-8), with mediums ranging from paintings, sculpture, mosaic, drawings, and more. Walking through the maze-like gallery wasn't only a visual treat but served as inspiration for guests about how to see the world in a more beautiful light. The attention to detail, even from the youngest artists, was truly outstanding.

"There was so much the student artists were able to accomplish," shared art instructor Nathaly Davis. "Our show began with kindergarten and their self-portraits from the beginning of the year displayed next to their end of the year self-portraits. First graders *Colors of Us* self-portraits enabled student artists to learn to mix skin tones using red, yellow, brown, and white paints. Second graders explored collage and printmaking and let their imaginations shine with the creation of *Art Houses* that they built it from the ground up using cardboard."

While there has been recent debate that art education



Students at all grade levels of the Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School showcased their creativity at the school's annual art show.

is more extracurricular than foundational, studies, such as one from the Arts Education Partnership, reveal otherwise. In fact, art has been proven to develop students creative and conceptual thinking, communication, analytical ability, and complements other facets of STEM learning.

"The Visual Arts are an important part of educating the whole child, and it is a Classical Education Pillar of BFCCPS. I was so struck by the pride our students felt in displaying their artwork, and joy they took in celebrating the art that their peers made," shared Joseph Perna, Head of School.

When entering the space, visitors could take a handful of comment cards to compliment artists on their work, which would later be shared with the artists. It was an excellent way to let the children know that about their work was appreciated and foster confidence.

"Third grade students showed their capabilities through one-point perspective drawings and abstract dinosaurs inspired by artist Jean Michel Basquiat," said Ms. Davis.

"Fourth graders integrated math into their art by learning how to create their own tessellations (artwork with repeating patterns on a geometric plane), and also created mini museums showcasing a variety of famous artists at a small scale."

"Sixth graders explored emotions and created paper mache masks to represent them. Our oldest students, the seventh and eighth graders, took on the single prompt of turning the necessary 7 Elements of Art (balance, rhythm, pattern, emphasis, contrast, unity, and movement) into an art creation," Ms. Davis shared.

Ms. Davis shared concluding thoughts on the show's success. "This show was a huge undertaking as a first-year art teacher. I am so proud of all my student artists for their efforts and creativity. I am a firm believer that everyone is an artist in their own way. To my students, please never lose your imagination."

The Charter school is made up of students from Franklin and its surrounding towns, including Bellingham, Wrentham, Blackstone, Medway, Milford and more.

Visit Dean College This Summer

Summer is the perfect time to visit Dean College. Whether your high schooler is just starting the college search process or is getting their applications ready, we offer plenty of options to visit campus.

Schedule a personalized campus tour to experience Dean in person. Led by a student ambassador, you will get to explore the Dean campus and hear firsthand about the student experience. After the tour, admissions counselors will be on hand to answer any additional questions.

In July and August, join us for one of our Summer Preview Days. These morning visits include an overview of Dean, a campus tour, lunch on us and an optional learning support info session.

Campus tours are available most weekdays throughout the summer, while Summer Preview Days are held on select days in July and August. To learn more and register for a tour, visit www.dean.edu/visit.

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Korean War Veterans to Be Honored at July 5th Coffee Social

At the monthly Veterans' Coffee Social, held at Franklin Senior Center and catered by a local Starbucks, Korean war veterans of the town of Frank-

lin will be honored with Quilts of Valor. The event will take place at 10 a.m. at Franklin Senior Center, 10 Daniel McCahill St., Franklin.

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Dean College Named a 2023-2024 College of Distinction for Excellence in Hands-On Learning and Student Success

Dean College has once again been recognized for its commitment to providing a high-quality undergraduate education that focuses on hands-on learning, strong student-teacher relationships, a vibrant campus life, and successful outcomes by Colleges of Distinction, a unique guide for college-bound students. This is the eighth consecutive year that the College has earned this honor.

This year, Dean is also one of fewer than 150 institutions selected as an Affordable College of Distinction for its commitment to affordability and return on investment. Dean also received Colleges of Distinction badges for Business (seventh consecutive year) and Career Development (fifth consecutive year).

“Dean College is proud of our excellence at transforming students and providing social mobility, and we continue our path toward even greater contributions,” said Dean College Presi-

dent Kenneth Elmore, J.D. “We are what it looks like when you allow multiple stories to live and thrive. Our community is full of different thinkers: artists; the neuro-diverse; people from perspectives we rarely see highlighted in popular media; people with disabilities; people who are the first of their generation to experience an education beyond high school; and high achievers. Our excellence, at Dean College, is in placing graduates into the world who beat the odds that may have been set by the status quo. We believe in our students and know that they deserve the opportunity to discover and exceed their greatest aspirations – we are an organization that uses our partnerships, collaborations and resources in service to society. Our campus is the embodiment of **The Dean Difference** and a College of Distinction: great teaching for engaged and successful



students within a vibrant community.” Colleges of Distinction’s selection process comprises a sequence of in-depth research and detailed interviews with the schools, accepting only those that adhere to the Four Distinctions: Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Community and Successful Outcomes. As a College of Distinction, Dean has shown excellence in each of these areas, providing its students with a well-rounded, practical education that prepares them for successful careers and lives. This evaluation process differs from those of popular college rankings publications, whose formulas grade institutions based on things like faculty salaries, endowment size and peer opinion.

“We don’t rank our schools,” said Tyson Schritter, Chief Op-

erating Officer at Colleges of Distinction. “Every student has individual needs and flourishes in a specific environment. We prefer to focus on the innovative ways that colleges all around the country are providing an enriching undergraduate experience.”

Schritter continued, “We are deeply inspired by how Dean College immerses students in their academic pursuits, fostering a welcoming community that provides unwavering support throughout their college years and beyond.”

Dean College is proud to be named a **2023-2024 College of Distinction**.

To learn more about Dean College, visit www.dean.edu. To learn more about Colleges of Distinction, visit <https://collegesofdistinction.com/>.

About Colleges of Distinction

Since 2000, Colleges of Distinction has been committed to honoring schools with a dedicated focus on the under-

graduate experience. Its website provides dynamic college profiles, customized tools, and resources for students, parents, and high school counselors. For more information, and to learn how to become a College of Distinction, visit CollegesofDistinction.com.

About Dean College

Dean College is a private, residential New England college grounded in a culture and tradition that all students deserve the opportunity for academic and personal success. A uniquely supportive community for more than 150 years, Dean has woven together extensive student support and engagement with exceptional teaching and innovative campus activities. Our graduates are lifetime learners who thrive in their careers, embrace social responsibility and demonstrate leadership. This is The Dean Difference.

FPS Business Administrator Goodman Gets 2023 Friends of MASBO Award

Superintendent Lucas Giguere is proud to announce that on May 18, 2023, during the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) Annual Institute conference, Franklin Public Schools School Business Administrator

Miriam Goodman was bestowed a 2023 Friends of MASBO award.

The Friends of MASBO award is given in recognition of individuals who have met one or more of the following criteria:

1. Have made a significant contribution (including but not limited to pro-active involvement in the legislative process, the creation of a model program/procedure, the establishment of an exemplary standard or practice) that facilitated a process by which school business officials contribute to educating students in their districts;
2. Have consistently, and on a long-term basis, provided significant assistance to MASBO in the implementation of its various functions and responsibilities; and/or
3. Have provided assistance to MASBO in a way that exceeds expectations.

Superintendent Lucas Giguere and former Franklin Public School Superintendent Dr. Sara Ahern co-endorsed Goodman for the award, stating that “Miriam’s expertise and collaborative approach has



led the district into a new era of enhanced transparency of the Franklin School Budget with the development of an extensive, engaging (student-centered) budget book while developing the story of school funding in Franklin, so that stakeholders can better understand past trends and future needs in a clear and compelling way.”

Notable moments in Goodman’s tenure have included her support in transitioning school business operations amid the

COVID-19 pandemic; including setting up grab and go meals in collaboration with our Food Services department, appropriately applying COVID-19 relief funds in an impactful way, as well as managing transportation services and providing insight during a redistricting analysis process.

After 15 years of dedicated service to the district and longstanding involvement with MASBO, the timing of this acknowledgment coincidentally concludes Goodman’s career, as she is set to retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Upon reflection, Franklin School Committee Chair Denise Spencer notes how “Miriam has truly blessed our district with her dedication, knowledge, work ethic, business finance savvy, friendship and sense of humor. She has always looked out for the best interest of Franklin Public School students and staff. We are grateful for the positive impact she has had in our district, and we will miss her.”

A promotional graphic for Franklin Town News. It features a young boy in a white shirt, blue suspenders, and a blue cap, standing on a wooden stool and shouting into a megaphone. The background is a field of tall grass under a blue sky. Text on the graphic includes: "HEY FRANKLIN! FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK! That's right, Franklin Town News has its own Facebook page! Like Franklin Town News on Facebook to keep up-to-date with articles, events, giveaways and contest announcements for Franklin! localtownpages LLC Franklin And as always, find us online at franklintownnews.com"

EDWIN'S

continued from page 10

through its adaptive reuse, will continue to be a part of the fabric of Franklin.”

Mercer highlighted the collaborative effort of many people and organizations, public and private partnerships that brought the project to fruition, lauding the volunteers, Food Pantry leadership, local legislators Sen. Rebecca Rausch and Rep. Jeff Roy for successfully advocating for earmarks, the Town administration and Council and the generosity of individuals and businesses.

Robert Jenkins, SVP of MassDevelopment spoke next,

explaining that the process by which Franklin Food Pantry received the \$500K grant was competitive and statewide. “You guys are to be commended,” he said, “You came in under budget. You finished your project. This is truly amazing,” said Jenkins.

Rep. Jeff Roy joined in sentiments of praise for Food Pantry leadership and volunteers as well as for donors. He also thanked his “colleagues in the legislature for their votes, which led to financial support – and a little birdie tells me that there’s another \$50K in the FY24 budget, which is in conference.”

Roy closed by adding, “It is not a choice; it’s a reality for many people in our commu-

nity. Last year, 1,103 people in 514 households were served by this pantry, and 26,292 bags of groceries were provided to our neighbors.” The new, dignified, and attractive space will work to erase stigma, he added, making it “a place of hope to get the help that they need to get back on their feet.”

Jeanne and Marc Aldrich, of the family that owned Edwin’s, which operated in Franklin for 48 years, 30 of which were in the food pantry’s current location, attended the event. Jeanne Aldrich noted, “I don’t think there could have been a better use of this building. I think this is the perfect spot for them. We couldn’t be happier they’re here.”



Laura Doherty, Associate Director of the Franklin Food Pantry, gives a tour of the facility, which boasts an aesthetically pleasing area for clients to shop, a wealth of storage space, plenty of room for perishables, office space for staff and volunteers, a meeting room for community groups and ADA accessible bathrooms.

Healey-Driscoll Administration Awards Funding for Free Swim Lessons for Residents of All Ages

In an effort to increase access to swimming lessons and enhance water safety, the Healey-Driscoll Administration today announced it has awarded 14 organizations throughout the state a total of up to \$372,000 to provide free beginner swimming lessons to Massachusetts residents of all ages.

The funding is being awarded through DCR’s Safe Water Initiative Massachusetts (SWIM) program. Contracts were awarded to organizations whose instructors hold Red Cross Water Safety Instructor certification, or industry

equivalent, and preference was given to applicants that serve environmental justice communities.

“Every Massachusetts resident deserves access to healthy, fun recreational opportunities,” said Governor Maura Healey. “Swimming is a life skill, and our residents shouldn’t have to miss out on opportunities to learn to swim because of financial burdens. This funding we are providing to partner organizations helps ensure more residents have an opportunity to take lessons.”

“As a former lifeguard, I know how important it is to provide a fun and safe environment at our beaches and pools, and one of the best ways is ensuring people of all ages know how to swim,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “DCR provides free swim lessons to hundreds of children every year, and the SWIM program helps us expand these lessons to everyone, particularly in environmental justice communities.”

SWIM

continued on page 26



Tina Powderly is shown here with Jamie Hellen with the new refrigerated cases at the new location. The Pantry now has tripled the amount of perishable storage it had before.

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Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. **CLOSED** Sunday

The Fat City Band Returns to THE BLACK BOX



The Fat City Band will return to THE BLACK BOX on Saturday, July 8 at 8pm. Now in their 5th decade, The Fat City Band has had the good fortune to be able to write, record, and perform their own unique style of Blues, Roadhouse Rock, Jazz, and New Orleans Style R&B for all their fans and friends alike from coast to coast and beyond.

Performing coast to coast and beyond, the high-energy band has shared the stage with such legendary greats as James Brown, B.B. King, and Ray Charles. Bringing 40+ years of showmanship and entertainment experience to every show, the band remains committed to one idea: "Music Should Be Fun." The Fat City Band invites audiences to come and join the party.

THE BLACK BOX is a suburban hub for great music located at 15 West Central Street in downtown Franklin, MA. For tickets and more information, visit THEBLACKBOXonline.com or call (508) 528-3370.

Are you looking for a job with school hours and the school schedule? We have the job for you!

The Medfield Foodservice Department is now hiring! Substitute worker positions available with flexible hours, as well as full time, benefited positions.

For more information please contact: Caitlin Fahy at cfahy@email.medfield.net or 508-242-8897

Touching Base with the TA

Local Town Pages will discuss town updates with Franklin's Town Administrator, Jamie Hellen, each month.

Parking Changes in Downtown Franklin

"On July 1st, a major change in downtown parking will occur," notes Hellen. "The parking lots on Depot Street, behind Dean Bank, and the Ferrara lot, across from THE BLACK BOX, will be completely open to the public seven days a week, on a first-come/first-serve basis." Previously, says Hellen, spaces were available by monthly permit. Commuters, local employees, and others, he says, can pay \$3 to park all day, and the spaces will be free for parking after 6 p.m.

The change, says Hellen, "should give more parking options to everyone. I would urge people to

take advantage of it, but also have some patience, as I'm sure tweaks will be necessary."

EPA Grant

In early June, the town of Franklin received a \$500,000 grant from the EPA for a Brownfield rehabilitation site – a polluted site on the corner of 21 Grove Street and Rte. 140.

Franklin was one of 14 communities in Massachusetts selected by the EPA to receive 14 grants totaling \$8,740,000 in competitive EPA Brownfields funding through the Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant programs. This the largest-ever cycle of funding awarded in the history of the EPA's Brownfields MARC Grant programs, which got a boost from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

"The town has also contributed \$100,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for this remediation cleanup on a parcel of land the town inherited by tax title, the former site of a jewelry manufacturer, that was polluted decades ago," says Hellen. The former NuStyle Jewelry Factory is currently vacant and contaminated with metals and chlorinated solvents.

"The takeaway for citizens is we are restoring and rehabilitating a valuable piece of property and improving the asset for taxpayers. Ultimately, this grant will allow us to clean up the parcel, and we can either use it or maybe sell it, and the property will be worth a lot more money."

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Johnston to Discuss Collecting Mania at Franklin Historical Museum

The July 9th speaker for our Second Sunday Speaker Series is James C. Johnston. Current owner of the historic "Oliver Pond House," retired history teacher and historian, Jim has spent a life accumulating bits of knowledge, local lore, and a great many things which he has cataloged and curated. In a talk that promises to showcase Jim's wit, formidable wisdom as well as a show and tell of some of his favorite objects, Jim will remind us of the "sparkle" of the shiny things that propel collectors of every sort.

There will be a lot of audience interaction as Jim is inviting folks to bring material they may want identified, including, but not limited to, antiques, rare books, stamps, coins, art,

bamboo fishing poles, toys, and anything else. Jim has spoken at hundreds of venues in his long career and never fails to both entertain and inform. The Second Sunday Speaker Series is sponsored by the Friends of the Franklin Historical Museum. Doors open at 1:00, the talk will begin at 1:15.

And in our Gift Shop ... Christmas in July!

One weekend only, July 8 + 9, The Historical Museum's Gift Shop's special sale on the Christmas Ball Ornaments (ladybugs, the library, the water trough) 1 for \$16, or any 3 combo for \$15 each. A perfect little gift for any Franklinites, and it comes in its own velvet box for safe storage!

Calendar

July 1

Franklin 41st Annual 4th of July Celebration begins, Rides & Carnival 12-10 p.m., megapass 12-10 p.m., wristbands 12-5 p.m., Blues Festival: Ed Peabody (12-1:15), Neal & the Vipers (1:45-3), Mikey Junior (3:30-4:45), Mike Crandall (5:15-6:30), Bruce Katz (7-8:15), Sugar Ray & the Bluetones (8:45-10), Franklin Town Common. Fireworks 10 p.m. Franklin High School www.franklin4th.com

July 2

Franklin 41st Annual 4th of July Celebration begins, Rides & Carnival 12-10 p.m., megapass 12-10 p.m., wristbands 12-6 p.m., Padula Trio Plus One 12-1:30, Attleboro School of Rock 2-3:30 p.m., The Zajac Brothers Band 4-6, Neon Wave 7-10, Franklin Town Common. www.franklin4th.com

July 3

Franklin 41st Annual 4th of July Celebration begins, Rides & Carnival 2-10 p.m., megapass 2-10 p.m., wristbands 2-6 p.m., Backyard Swagger 7-10, Franklin Town Common. www.franklin4th.com

July 4



Franklin 41st Annual 4th of July Celebration begins, Rides & Carnival 12-6 p.m., megapass 12-6 p.m., wristbands 12-4 p.m., Matt Zajack 12-1, Jamie Barrett 1-2, Hot Acoustics 2:30-4, Jessie Liam Band 4:30-6, Franklin Town Common. www.franklin4th.com

July 5

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 2-6 p.m. Heather Dreary, Sponsored by Franklin Cultural Council and Mass Cultural Council

July 8

Franklin Historical Museum Christmas in July sale, Franklin Historical Museum Gift Shop, 80 West Central St., Franklin, special sale on the Christmas Ball Ornaments (ladybugs, the library, the water trough) 1 for \$16, or any 3 combo for \$15 each.

Fat City Band, 8 p.m., THE BLACK BOX, 15 West Central St., Franklin, tickets at THEBLACKBOXonline.com or call (508) 528-3370.

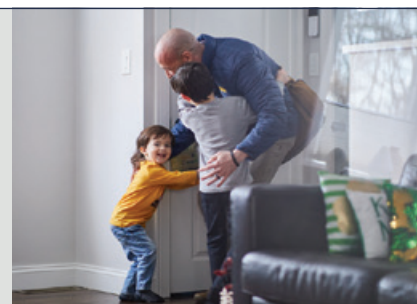
July 9

Second Sunday Speaker Series, Franklin Historical Museum, doors open 1 p.m., event 1:15 p.m., 80 West Central St., Franklin, featured speaker James C. Johnston, on "Collecting Mania"

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Franklin Historical Museum Christmas in July sale, Franklin Historical Museum Gift Shop, 80 West Central St., Franklin, special sale on the Christmas Ball Ornaments (ladybugs, the library, the water trough) 1 for \$16, or any 3 combo for \$15 each.

July 10

Movie Monday, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (PG)*

July 14

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 3-5 p.m. Franklin Public Library
Franklin Concerts on the Common, Jennifer Tefft 3:30-5:30, Paradise Flyer 6-8, entertainment and food trucks, sponsored by Franklin Recreation Dept.

July 17

Movie Monday, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *A Man Called Otto (PG-13)*

July 21

Rainforest Reptiles! Friday, 1 p.m., Franklin Public Library, Real, LIVE Animal Fun for All Ages!

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m., Franklin Town Common
Franklin Concerts on the Common, 3:30-5:30 Kendo, 6-8 Northeast Groove, 8:10-10 Movie: *Finding Nemo*, entertainment and food trucks, sponsored by Franklin Recreation Dept.

July 22

Toe Jam Puppet Band! 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library

July 24

Music at the Blissful Concert! 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library

Open House, Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA), 10 a.m.- 7 p.m., 38 Main Street, Franklin. www.FSPAonline.com or (508) 528-8668.

Movie Monday, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *The Meg (PG-13)*

July 26

Childhood 2.0 Movie Screening, 5:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library, Parents: Join us for an important film screening of *Childhood 2.0*, followed by a discussion, sponsored by members of Franklin School Committee.

July 28

Franklin Farmers Market, 2-6 p.m., Franklin Town Common
Franklin Concerts on the Common, 3:30-5 It's a "J" Thing, 6-8 FSPA & Electric Youth, entertainment and food trucks, sponsored by Franklin Recreation Dept.

July 31

Movie Monday, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (PG-13)*

Public Comment on Open Space and Recreation Plan to Close July 5

The public comment period for the draft OSRP plan began on June 12 and will conclude on July 5. All public comments will be accepted, considered, and included in the OSRP. Comments can be submitted in person via email at bgoodlander@franklinma.gov, via a Google

form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKa8OTDdonc782HkRK_Txmxap3PxQsTOSVLqIloUoLbUtmw/closedform or via letters delivered to the Conservation Department (355 East Central Street, Franklin, MA 02038).

Drinking Water Quality Report

The Franklin 2022 Drinking Water Quality Report is now available on the website and will be in your mailboxes in the next couple of weeks. Access the full report at <https://www.franklinma.gov/sites/g/files/vyh1f10036/f/uploads/franklinccr2022.pdf>.

Franklin Lions Heart Members Earn Golden Lion Award

The Lions Heart community service program is celebrating its 7-year members who have earned the Golden Lion award. These members are the first in the Franklin chapter to receive this honor. Lions Heart is a nationally recognized community service organization for teens in grades 6-12. Together this group of graduating seniors has completed 4,944 hours of community service in Franklin, surrounding towns, Boston and beyond. Some have taken their passion to serve as far as Peru. All members of Lions Heart must complete 25 hours or more of community service per year. Many of them go above and beyond that number,



completing 100 hours or more per year and earning Presidential Volunteer Service Awards. The Golden Lion award is presented by the President of the United States of America. Members of Lions Heart are required to not only complete the service hours, but to hold meetings to plan service projects. Members have held elected positions of president,

vice president, secretary and historian. They run the meetings, create agendas and keep minutes. These Lions Heart members have not only learned to serve, but to also lead.

Pictured here is the LH2023GB group. Those who have earned the Golden Lion are marked with an *. L-R, Nora Anderson*, Hailey Fales*, Payten Crandall*, Riley Cross, Kelsey Maquire, Katie Peterson*, Lizzy Dorsey*, Olivia Reagan*, Bella DeCrescenzo*, Madison Gaughran*, Mackenzie Bernhard*, Sydney Rogen, and Blair Borgeson. Not pictured is Ava Remillard*

Sports

Franklin's Girls Tennis Program Undergoes a Revival

By KEN HAMWEY,
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Bob Pingeton has been the Panthers' girls' tennis coach for the last three years, and he's taken that program to new heights in the Hockomock League.

When he arrived, the Panthers were at rock bottom — with a 1-16 record in 2019. Hired in 2020, Pingeton's first season never materialized, because COVID-19 forced cancellation of all spring sports. In 2021, his first competitive campaign was shortened because of the lingering pandemic. That season ended with a 5-9 record.

Fast forward to 2022 and 2023 and the girls' squad has blossomed. FHS was 11-5 in the league and 11-7 overall in 2022, and last season, the Panthers went 12-4 in league play and 12-6 overall, falling one victory short of claiming the Kelley-Rex Division crown.

"When I got to Franklin, the program needed to be rebuilt and that's how I treated the situation," Pingeton said. "The key was getting more top-notch athletes to come out. There were only 10 girls on the team in 2019. For the last two seasons,

we've reached 24. Other factors I stressed was playing in out-of-season matches and to take lessons. Those who were serious about tennis took lessons and continued to improve in the off-season."

The Panthers, who were 25th in the final MIAA Division 1 rankings last spring, had their troubles in the tourney. They lost to Andover, 5-0, in the first round.

"Our goals this year were to compete for the Kelley-Rex title, beat King Philip twice and qualify for the playoffs," Pingeton said. "We missed the division crown by one match. We had never beaten KP in my time as coach, but we swept both matches. And we made it to the playoffs for the second straight season."

The 2023 contingent, which featured starters who were sophomores and juniors, had a plethora of strengths.

"We had experience, with 80 percent of our starters back," Pingeton noted. "We had depth at both singles and doubles, and we had athletes who were fast and quick. The girls also were coachable, displayed good tech-



The 2023 Franklin High girls' tennis team that finished its regular season with a 12-6 record.

nique and they improved their tennis IQs."

The key, however, to getting positive results was Franklin's second match on its schedule. It was a clash against King Philip.

"We were down, 2-0, but rallied and won it, 3-2," he recalled. "That match gave us confidence, and it provided some momentum. It laid the foundation for our 12-6 season."

Franklin's senior captains — Allison Bagley and Shriya Rajesh — basically competed as the second doubles team, compiling a 7-2 regular-season record. "Both were in the program for three years," Pingeton said. "They led on the court, off the court and in the classroom. They also led practices and were well-respected by underclassmen."

Bagley relied on power and Rajesh utilized finesse.

"Allison displayed a mix of solid play at the baseline, at the net, and by using a strong forehand," Pingeton offered. "Her style enabled her to end play at the net with points. Shriya was strong at the baseline, rallying back and forth and maintaining consistency with her serves."

Sophomore Izzy Trull was 3-10 at first singles, but those numbers are a bit deceiving.

"Every match Izzy had was against our opponent's top player," Pingeton emphasized. "She faced seniors with more experience and players who were as good if not better than her. She

maintained resiliency and kept battling, never losing confidence. Next year, as a junior, she'll be one of the best in the league."

Junior left-hander Chloe Essam was 8-7 at second singles. "Chloe is super competitive and really hates to lose," Pingeton said. "Her strength is a two-handed backhand and her serve is a weapon. A power hitter, her baseline play is very good."

At third singles, Junior Brooke Taylor posted a 10-5 record during the regular season, relying on consistency. "Brooke limited unforced errors and even though she didn't have a big serve, she powered her way through matches," said Pingeton who also coaches Franklin's golf team and Bellingham High's girls' basketball squad. "She's aggressive going to the net; a good all-around player who did a nice job in her first year of tennis."

Franklin's first doubles team, featuring a pair of sophomores (Brooke Daniels and Sydney Tolonen) set the standard, finishing the regular season at 13-0.

"They were our main strength," Pingeton said. "They played some tough matches, but they took care of business. Both are strong at the net and also on the baseline. Their style is similar — both are power hitters."

Four seniors who each played four doubles matches included Tanvi Shah, Nihara Lijan, Kelsey Maguire, and Lexi Masters. "They provided depth and

were ready when called on," Pingeton said.

The 50-year-old Pingeton, was a captain in football, basketball and baseball at Leicester High School and an all-star in basketball and baseball. The coach led the Panthers' golf team to a 9-5 record in 2021 and last fall, his forces were co-champs in the Hockomock League with King Philip.

At Bellingham High, he lost his top player to an ACL injury in his first year as the girls' basketball coach. The Blackhawks missed a tourney berth but won the school's annual Hutchinson Basketball Memorial Tournament.

Pingeton strives to peak at the right time, and his Franklin girls team did before the state tourney opened. "We went 7-2 in our last nine matches that were played in an 11-day stretch," he said. "We lost to North Attleboro and Bishop Feehan."

Although their tourney stay was brief, the Panthers' girls' tennis is in a good place. Five or the seven starters will return next season, and the off-season will likely be a time for both veterans and younger players to sharpen their skills."

"I was pleased with our effort and our season," the personable Pingeton said of his team, which has a 23-9 record in the Hockomock League in the last two years.



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Sports

Hamwey to Be Inducted into Bellingham's Hall of Fame

Bellingham Bulletin sports writer Ken Hamwey will be inducted into the Bellingham Athletics Hall of Fame on Friday, Nov. 17 at the Coachmen's Lodge.

The 79-year-old Hamwey, a Bellingham resident who's worked for the Bulletin for 16 years, was a unanimous choice of the selection committee. In addition to the Bulletin, the veteran sports journalist continues to write feature stories in semi-retirement for Local Town Pages, focusing on seven communities — Medway, Millis, Norfolk, Wrentham, Holliston, Natick and Franklin.

Hamwey, who's been a Bellingham resident for 51 years, graduated from Natick High before earning a bachelor's degree from Babson College. He started his newspaper career in 1967 with the Framingham News, now the Metrowest Daily News. During his first year as a sports reporter, his stories focused on Bellingham's new football program that achieved varsity status in 1967 and was coached by George Anderson. Early on, his report-

ing ranged from high school and college sports to the professional beat where he covered the Boston Celtics and the New England Patriots.

"I'm honored and humbled to be selected for induction into Bellingham's Hall of Fame," Hamwey said. "It's heart-warming to have a wonderful community like Bellingham recognize me for my reporting. Some of my fondest memories during a 56-year career involve Bellingham's athletes and teams."

Hamwey covered the Blackhawks' baseball and softball teams in 2014 that won state championships on Flag Day, June 14. "It turned out to be a banner day for the town," he said. "The baseball team defeated Monument Mountain Regional and the softball team upset two-time champion Grafton. Both triumphs were in Worcester. The boys competed at Holy Cross and the girls captured their crown at Worcester State."

Hamwey also covered many of the high school's elite players and coaches. He broke the story



Ken Hamwey covered sports at the high school, college and professional level. In November, he will be inducted into the Bellingham Athletics Hall of Fame.

on Rick Santos when he was chosen to compete in the Hula Bowl after a dynamic career at the University of New Hampshire. He was on the scene when the Blackhawks won two state titles in field hockey during the coaching reign of Ron Bonollo. He also covered the BHS boys'

basketball team that defeated Bromfield for a state championship in 2003.

Others to be inducted include Carrie Wernig (field hockey), Mike Trudeau (baseball), Justin Bernard (football), Bob McManus (hockey), Justin Park (hockey), Beth Thornton (field Hockey), Joanne Paquette (field hockey coach), Dave Gibbs (basketball coach), Rick Smith (contributor) and the 1996 field hockey team.

Hamwey, who'll be inducted as a contributor, left the Metrowest Daily News in 1973 and was hired at the Providence Journal, where he spent the next 35 years working for the four-time Pulitzer-prize-winning newspaper. He finished his career there as the paper's Night Sports Editor, retiring in 2008. On Hamwey's last day in Providence, the Rhode Island State Senate read aloud a citation for his efforts and contributions to R.I. athletics. Two years later, in 2010, he was honored by the Mass. Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA), which presented him with its Distinguished Friend Award.

At the Metrowest News, which included editions of the Milford News and Country Gazette, Hamwey wrote a popular weekly column — "Yesterday's Heroes" — that focused on athletes' and coaches' past achievements. Many of Bellingham's top-notch coaches and athletes were featured in that column.

In 2007, Hamwey began covering sports for the Bellingham Bulletin. As Sports Editor at the Bulletin, he launched a column similar to Yesterday's Heroes called "Where Are They Now," reporting on former Bellingham athletes. For the next 16 years, he extensively covered Bellingham sports while also filing stories for Local Town Pages.

Hamwey's upcoming induction will be his second Hall of Fame honor. He was inducted into the Millis Athletics Hall of Fame last year. Hamwey and his wife Pauline, who taught at Macy School for 35 years, have been married for 34 years. His son, Travis, is a 1989 graduate of Bellingham High and a 1993 graduate of UMass-Dartmouth.

FHS Girls Lacrosse Team Bows to Westwood in Final Four



By KEN HAMWEY,
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

The Franklin High girls' lacrosse team ended its season with a 10-9 loss to Westwood in the state tourney semifinals, but the Panthers' disappointment shouldn't dampen what they achieved during a productive 2023 campaign.

FHS finished with a 20-4 re-

cord, went 17-3 in the regular season and was 11-0 in the Hockomock League.

"I'm so proud of the team for making it to the Final Four," said coach Kristen Garino. "Facing a perennial power like Westwood is always a challenge, and it takes nearly a perfect game to win. We didn't execute enough to win, but I am still so proud of how the girls never gave up."

Garino, who's been Franklin's coach for the last 10 years, lauded the play of Katie Peterson (senior captain/midfield) who was named USA Lacrosse All-American and Academic All-American; Kaitlyn Carney (senior attack) who was named a USA Lacrosse All-American; Jamie Tanner (senior captain/midfield); and Payten Crandall (senior defender).



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Temple Etz Chaim of Franklin Installs 2023-24 Incoming Board Donates \$1,000 to Local Nonprofits.

Twenty-two women gathered for brunch, elections and celebration on Sunday June 11, 2023. Each year, the group votes to donate a portion of

funds raised to local community groups. Recipients for 2023 are The Franklin Food Pantry and SAFE Coalition.



L-R.: Karen Dauer, President/Franklin) Cindy Heilweil(Director/Ashland), Miriam Goodman (Director/Franklin), Sherrie Carey (Secretary/Milford), Eileen Hagerty (Social Justice/Franklin), Lori Beth Towne (Director/Bellingham), Margot Rivelis (Publicity), Caren Pfeffer (Treasurer/WRENTHAM), Melissa Folsom (Director/WRENTHAM)

Nason Street Playground Now Open - Featuring Accessibility Updates

On May 31st, 2023, Town staff and community members gathered for a Dedication ceremony at the Nason Street Henry “Ski” Faenza Playground, which is Franklin’s first completed Community Preservation funded project. \$300,000 was allocated to renovate and construct a new handicapped accessible playground for ages 2-12 year-olds, which had last been renovated to meet ADA compliance in 2003 for ages 2-5.

The Nason Street Tot Lot was previously dedicated to the memory of Henry “Ski” Faenza, a neighbor to the playground who would frequently visit the area. “Ski” was the type of resident that would make sure the playground was safe and clean for the young people of Franklin.

The new playground features two separate play structures (one structure for 2-5-year-olds, and one structure for 5-12-year-olds), a 14’ high net climber, an inclu-

sive whirl, bifocal rock n’ raft, a Ben Franklin customized quad see-saw, a new adaptive swing seat and an expression swing seat, where parent and child can share in the swinging experience together. The entire play area is poured in place rubber surfacing, making it a truly accessible playground.

Visit the Nason Street Henry “Ski” Faenza Playground at 22 Nason Street today!

Tri-County Awards Tegra Medical a Community Partnership Award

Tegra Medical received the Community Partnership Award from the Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical School in Franklin, Massachusetts on May 31, 2023. Employees Ken Nadeau, Ronan McDermott and Brian Yanofsky attended the ceremony and accepted the award.

and apprenticeships are the best path to get there. That’s why we have made it such an important goal to have at least five percent of our staff in secondary education programs such as the career paths we have developed with the state of Massachusetts.”

“We are very pleased to receive this award. Tegra Medical is taking the steps towards building a more sustainable workforce for the future,” said Benjamin Stolzel, Tegra Medical General Manager. “Manufacturing in the US is not possible without developing a highly skilled workforce. Co-ops

The relationship between Tegra Medical and Tri-County began in 2018 with two engineering students employed as co-ops. These students made a great impression, leading to Tegra Medical employing sixteen more co-op students over the following several school years, and even hiring one upon graduation.

Not even COVID 19 could put a damper on the co-ops’ work at the company. As a manufacturer of medical devices, Tegra Medical was designated as an essential business in 2020, which meant that the company was allowed to continue operations – and the students were able to continue their valuable on-the-job education.

Tegra Medical looks forward to many more years of working with Tri-County students, as well as students at other schools and colleges who are interested in a career in the medical device industry.

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Franklin Knights Announce 2023 Scholarship Recipients

The Knights of Columbus 1847 Franklin are proud to announce the winners of this year’s Robert Simmler PGK, Sacred Heart Council 1847 Knights of Columbus College Scholarship 2023. Congratulations to Audrey Bonacci (\$3,000) and Hannah Torrey (\$1,000.) Audrey and Hannah are graduates of Franklin High School. Both of these accomplished students are active members of the St Mary’s Parish Community. Their achievements were especially noteworthy amongst the many wonderful talented candidates that applied for the 2023 scholarship award. We wish Audrey and Hanna best of luck in the fall as they head to Boston College and the College of the Holy Cross, re-



Audrey Bonacci



Hannah Torrey

spectively. The Robert Simmler PGK Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council Scholarship is named in honor of Mr. Robert Simmler, a very active and

accomplished member of the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council and the Franklin community.

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Host a Lemonade Stand for a Cause, with Rockland Trust Kits

By J.D. O'GARA

What's better than a good, old-fashioned lemonade stand in the middle of a hot summer?

A lemonade stand that raises money for a worthy cause and teaches children that they can have a hand in supporting their community.

This summer, you might see a few more lemonade stands in the area. That's because Rockland Trust has embarked on their second year of providing lemonade stand kits so that families can raise money for Tommy's Place, a local nonprofit providing magical vacation home experiences for children in New England battling cancer.

"As a community-oriented bank, we care deeply about helping the individuals and families we serve develop a healthy relationship with money at every age," said Margaret McCarthy, Chief Retail Banking Officer at Rockland Trust.

Children who would like to participate in hosting a lemonade stand can go to their local branch to pick up a kit that will have everything they need to run the stand. The initiative will run through September 30, 2023.

Rockland Trust employee Patrice Pimental came up with the program last year," says Melissa Guimand, also of Rockland Trust, "She knew Tim O'Connell, the founder of Tommy's Place, through a banking relationship, so she just started and ran with a lemonade



Jase Russell, center, stayed at Tommy's Place in Falmouth in July of 2022. Last year, he became the top fundraiser through Rockland Trust's first year offering lemonade stand kits to benefit the charity, raising over \$3,000.

stand on her own. This was just the Cape Cod branches – the first house of Tommy's Place opened in Falmouth in 2021 – but they raised \$20,000, and the marketing department wasn't aware right away. They just did it word-of-mouth."

When Rockland Trust's marketing department did get wind of the community project, they decided to run the event bank-wide, through Massachusetts and Connecticut branches, handing out kits and collecting lemonade-stand donations all summer long.

Each kit includes:

- Lemonade mix
- Cups
- Instructional card
- Host flier
- Money envelope
- Note to parents/guardians about the initiative.

Last year, in fact, former guest (July of 2022) of Tommy's Place, Jase Russell, of Hyannis, became a top fundraiser through Rockland Trust's lemonade stand program, raising over \$3,000 for Tommy's Place.

By early June this year, the lemonade stand initiative had al-



Mika Yates picks up a lemonade stand kit from Rockland Trust. The program, begun to raise money for Tommy's Place, began last year on Cape Cod and this year has expanded to all the bank's locations.

ready raised \$4,200.

"Tommy's Place" a dream vacation home for kids fighting cancer, first opened its doors in Falmouth in July of 2021. Named for Tommy Leonard, founder of the world-famous Falmouth Road Race, the vacation home is completely free, including meals, and a new Centerville location just opened this year. Families in-

terested in staying enter a raffle and are randomly selected.

Each room of Tommy's Place, just a walk to the downtown areas, is individually designed and decorated, and the locations feature, inground swimming pools (coming soon), game rooms, boardgame rooms, home theatres, taverns, music and arts and crafts rooms and more. The outside has a basketball court, beach volleyball court, corn-hole, horseshoes, giant chess and checkers, ping pong, outdoor TV, fire pit and a 1951 Fire Truck!!

Tim O'Connell, Founder of "Tommy's Place", had the privilege of gifting a dream Martha's Vineyard vacation to a little 8-year-old boy named Grifyn and his family not too long ago.

"Little did I know at the time what an impact that it would have on the rest of my life, but way more importantly than that what an impact that it had on little Grifyn and his entire family. Sadly, Grifyn passed away shortly after his visit to Martha's Vineyard. While we never met, we have an iron-clad bond that will never be broken ... This vacation home is being dedicated in memory of Grifyn Sawyer."

If you and the young people in your life would like to support Tommy's Place, visit RocklandTrust.com/Lemonade, stop by your local branch of Rockland Trust to pick up your lemonade stand kit, or visit <https://donorbox.org/tommysplace> to make a direct donation.

Water Conservation Measures Now in Effect

In accordance with the Town's Water Management Act Permit issued by the State, the following Water Conservation Measures are in effect as of Monday, June 5th, 2023.

- No automatic lawn watering between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- No holiday delays for watering.
- No lawn watering is permitted on other days of the week.
- Hand watering is permitted anytime.

A total of 1-inch of water once per week from rain and watering promotes the healthiest lawns. Non-compliance with these regulations could adversely affect public health and safety. Violators are subject to fines up to \$200.

You can learn more about the need for Water Conservation Measures on the the DPW website (<https://www.franklinma.gov/public-works>) or call us at (508) 520-4910. Thank you for your cooperation!

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Franklin Rotary Planning 7th Annual Car Show – September 16th

Franklin Rotary Club & New England Chapel is “Gearing Up” for their 7th Annual Car Show, slated for September 16th, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., located at New England Chapel, 300 Central Street, Franklin, MA 02038. Registration is \$15 per car and entry is FREE to spectators. This show features: Clear Path for Veterans Food Truck, Raffles and welcomes vehicles of all types; Antique, Muscle, Classic, Custom, Motorcycles and out of the norm new cars! Trophies will be awarded at 12:30 p.m.

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\$500 (Luxury Care Level) – Trophy Sponsorship; company logo display; coupons for handout.

\$250 (Classic Care Level) – Trophy Sponsorship; company logo display; coupons for handout.

\$100 (Friends of Rotary Level) – Business Card on Flyer

Deadline for Sponsorship Friday, September 8, 2023

To register or become a sponsor contact: Gary Convertino at gconvertino@cox.net or John Power at john@powerpaintingplus.com
All proceeds to benefit Rotary Club of Franklin, MA community service projects. The Rotary Club International is a non-profit organization made up of a diverse group of men and



women “who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities and around the world.” <https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary>

If you would like more information about our organization or to become a member, please contact Diane Padula, padularotary@gmail.com. Rotary meets the first and third Tuesday, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Rome Restaurant, 4 East Central Street (Rte. 140), Franklin, Mass.

Franklin Firefighter among 26 Local Firefighter Graduates

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Director Jeffrey P. Winn announced the graduation of 26 firefighters from the 50-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program. Kristin Krauss, of Franklin Fire Department, was among the graduates.

“First responders are on the frontlines protecting their communities, and these newest firefighters are needed now more than ever,” said State Fire

Marshal Ostroskey. “The rigorous professional training they’ve received provides them with the physical, mental, and technical skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely.”

The graduating firefighters of Class #S32 represent the fire departments of Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Easthampton, Franklin, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Newton, Oxford, Pittsfield, Southbridge, Turners Falls, and West Barnstable.



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For further information contact Hana Berman, Director of Education, at directorofeducation@temple-etzchaim.org Hoping to hear from you!

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Temple Etz Chaim of Franklin

Register for 2023-2024 Religious School



Franklin High School Class Celebrates 70th Reunion

Congratulations to these members of the Franklin High School class of 1953, who celebrated their 70th reunion at The Rome Restaurant in Franklin on Sunday, June 11th.

Shown, back row, L-R, Richard Cornetta, John Yadisernia,

Lois Rosenfield, Rosalie Crevo, Charlotte McCall, Marie Mullaney, Bernie Mullaney and Russell Stewart. Front row, L-R, Lucy Negrone, Marilyn (McCahill) Bardetti, Fran Vozzella,

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<p>357 Union Street Franklin \$275,000</p> <p>COMMERCIAL Eileen Mason</p>	<p>619 Lisa Lane Franklin</p> <p>SOLD Susan Morrison</p>	<p>397 Oakland Parkway Franklin</p> <p>SOLD Susan Morrison</p>	<p>15-C E. Central Street Franklin \$800/mo</p> <p>OFFICE Eileen Mason</p>

Susan Morrison
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susan.morrison1@comcast.net

*"I highly recommend Susan Morrison for your realtor needs. As a seller, I found Susan exceptional in her expertise to sell our home. She thoroughly explained every step of the process and was available to us whenever we had questions."
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July 2023 at Franklin Public Library

Library Hours

The Franklin Public Library will be closed Tuesday, July 4th for Independence Day. The Library's summer hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday hours will resume after Labor Day.

ESL & Adult Literacy Program

Volunteers and students do not need to be Franklin residents. If interested fill out the registration form on the library's website.

Special Events for Kids

Kids Take & Makes: Mini Mega Phones!

Mini Mega Phone Kits will be distributed on a first come first serve basis!

Stars & Stripes Scavenger Hunt! Monday, July 3rd – Saturday, July 8th

Sing with Your Baby! Saturday July 8th @10:30 a.m.

Un-Bored! Wednesdays @10:30 a.m. popup playtime with jumbo Legos, Lincoln logs, trucks, puzzles, board games and more!

Buildwave Family Night! Wednesday July 19th @6 p.m.

Over the course of the workshop families will create with over a dozen different building materials, including Lego®, PlusPlus®, and custom-made Buildwave materials.

Rockabye Beats! Thursday July 20th @10:30 a.m. Hands on learning through music, dancing, Spanish, and fun!

Rainforest Reptiles! Friday, July 21st @ 1 p.m. Real, LIVE Animal Fun for All Ages! No registration required.

Toe Jam Puppet Band! Saturday July 22nd @10:30 a.m.

Comic Workshop for Kids with Maris Wicks! Monday July 24th @1 p.m.

Taking inspiration from her newest picture book "You and the Bowerbird", graphic novelist Maris Wicks will teach you to make your own comic about birds and nature!

Music at the Blissful Concert! Monday July 24th @10:30 a.m.

Musician Evan Haller brings the energy to get the whole crowd up and dancing!

Talewise: Science Heroes! Friday July 28th @1 p.m.

Brand new interactive STEM program! Two unlikely heroes must learn to WORK TOGETHER to stop a super polluting mastermind! Ideal for kids ages 5+

Special Events for Teens

Teen Take & Makes: Air Plant Terrariums!

Kits will be distributed on a first come first serve basis!

Crime Time Mysteries! Tuesdays @ 1 p.m.

Teen Paint Party! Thursday, July 13th @5:00PM

FOR TEENS AGES 12+! REGISTRATION REQUIRED!! Join local instructor Denise Palmieri for this step-by-step paint party! All materials will be provided! Register through the events calendar our website.

Comic Workshop with Maris Wicks! Thursday, July 27th @ 5:30 p.m.

Comic Workshop for Kids with Maris Wicks! Monday July 24th @1 p.m.

Taking inspiration from her newest picture book "You and the Bowerbird", graphic novelist Maris Wicks will teach you to make your own comic about birds and nature!

Learn to Play Ukulele Saturday July 8 @1 p.m. led by Julie Stepanek.

Smart Phone Photography Wednesday July 12 @ 6 & 7 p.m. Registration Required**

Join Steve McGrath and get better photos from your phone! s

RSVP at: https://www.event-keeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=FRANKLIN&curName=2023/07/12_Smartphone_Photo

Board Game Group Tuesday July 18 6 p.m.

Escape from the Rogue Planet Saturday, July 22 Starting at 1 p.m. ** Registration Required**

You and your group are members of the USS Zephyr, an exploratory Space Ship returning home from a long journey when your ship crashes onto a Rogue Planet.

RSVP at: https://www.event-keeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=FRANKLIN&curName=2023/07/22_Escape_the_Rogue_Planet

Events for Adults

Learn to Play Ukulele Saturday July 8 @ 1 p.m. led by Julie Stepanek.

Table Top Tuesday July 11 & 25 6-8 p.m. Registration Requested! No experience necessary! Table Top is a Monthly game of Table Top Role Playing Games for Adults! For info and registration contact: mgousie@minlib.net

Smart Phone Photography Wednesday July 12 @ 6 & 7 p.m. Registration Required**

Join Steve McGrath and get better photos from your phone! s

RSVP at: https://www.event-keeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=FRANKLIN&curName=2023/07/12_Smartphone_Photo

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Childhood 2.0 Movie Screening, Wednesday July 26th @5:30 p.m.

Parents: Join us for an important film screening of Childhood 2.0, followed by a discussion, brought to you by members of the Franklin School Committee.

Events for All Ages

Movie Monday, Mondays 6 p.m.

July 10 – *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind (PG)*

July 17 – *A Man Called Otto (PG-13)*

July 24 – *The Meg (PG-13)*

July 31 – *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (PG-13)*

SWIM

continued from page 17

"The SWIM program enables DCR, working with partners, to provide opportunities for communities to offer free swim lessons to residents of all ages and from all backgrounds," said DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo. "DCR is committed to ensuring our pools and waterfronts are as safe as possible for people to enjoy as they seek relief from the summer heat, and ensuring people have access to swim lessons is an important way we can keep our swimming areas safe."

The following organizations were awarded SWIM funding:

- Boys and Girls Club of Stoneham;
- Boys and Girls Club of Metro South;
- Charles River Aquatics, Inc. in Wellesley;
- British Swim School of Worcester;
- Hockamock area YMCA in Franklin;
- Merrimack Valley YMCA in Lawrence;
- MetroWest YMCA in Framingham;
- Old Colony YMCA in Quincy;
- British Swim School of North Shore in Reading;

- West Suburban YMCA in Newton;
- YMCA of Greater Boston;
- YMCA of Metro North in Peabody;
- YMCA of the North Shore in Beverly; and
- YWCA Central Massachusetts Inc. in Worcester.

In addition to the SWIM program, DCR provides free swimming lessons to children from four to 12-years-old, which are offered every summer through the agency's Learn to Swim program at select agency-managed pools. Last summer, DCR provided free swimming lessons to over 700 young people at 19 agency swimming pools over three, two-week sessions. DCR will open sign-ups for its Learn to Swim program in the coming weeks. SWIM significantly expands the Learn to Swim program by reaching more residents in more communities across the Commonwealth, with a central focus on expanding access to swimming lessons for those most in need.

For more information on how to sign up for free swimming lessons under the SWIM program, contact the award recipients.

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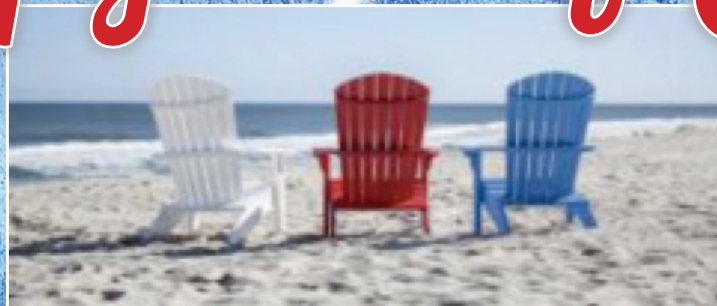
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Have a Safe & Happy 4th!

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lorrainekuney@gmail.com

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4th of July

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PENDING



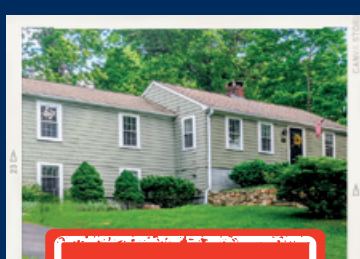
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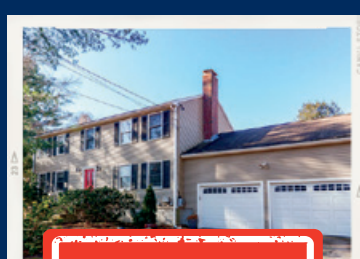
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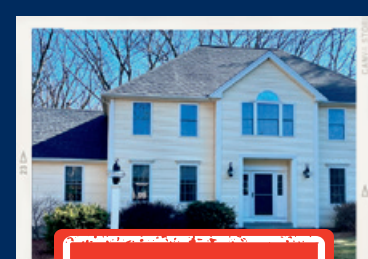
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