

## Full steam ahead!

Co-op and careers celebrated at Annual Signing Ceremony

The Cooperative Education Program (Co-op) at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) held its 3rd annual Career Signing Day on May 12. The ceremony celebrated its senior Co-op and career placement students who announced their career plans and signed a commitment letter to work with their employer after graduation.

Vocational Director Michele Denise welcomed the graduating seniors, their parents, instructors, industry partners, and school administrators before recognizing individual student achievement in their trade areas and the Co-op program, which had 134 seniors participate this year, representing double the number of job placements from the previous two years and illustrating the local demand for skilled employees. These employable young adults have worked 54,500



Milford resident Brendan Hawkins, a senior in the HVAC&R program at BVT, was one of many who signed a contract. Brendan will take his vocational-technical training as an HVAC Technician for Service and Install to his Co-op employer, Centerline Mechanical, in Upton. Courtesy photo

hours collectively since April 2022, earning an estimated salary of \$874,000 over the past year.

During the ceremony,

**FULL STEAM**

*continued on page 19*

## Miles and miles of trails offer something for everyone



The Upper Charles Trail provides over six miles of paved trails with beautiful views, including this stretch passing Louisa Lake. Photo by Linda Chuss

By Linda Chuss

Trails are a treasure anyone can enjoy in Milford, Upton, and Mendon at no cost. They are like a free gym, relaxation program, and social setting in one, within minutes of home or work, and available from dawn to dusk. They provide an outdoor art show of wildflowers, a science museum exhibit of beaver constructions, and a concert featuring warblers and woodpeckers.

All trails can be used for walking and running, as long as abil-

ity and distance are considered. Many trails are also suitable for bikes, rollerblades and skateboards, wheelchairs, and child strollers. Some permit horseback riding.

An easy way to get started is with a guided group walk or an experience trail user. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and a phone, and have a trail map or trail app. Take any trash with you and

**TRAILS**

*continued on page 12*

### Have you heard us on TRUCK TALK?

We are supporting local businesses and highlighting Real Estate topics every Tuesday

FIND US ON:



Robyn & Sean  
SOLD MY HOUSE



ROBYN: 774-573-1336 • RobynAndSeanSoldMyHouse.com • SEAN: 774-696-6402

### THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?



Executive Realty  
HOPKINTON

Work with Your  
Neighborhood Real Estate Agent

**MELISSA REZEK**

Resident of Mendon for over 17 years

CONTACT ME FOR A  
COMPLIMENTARY MARKET ANALYSIS



508.523.9999 • melissarezekrealty.com • MelissaRezek@remaxexec.com

THE DEALS  
ARE HOT!

# Summer Fest

## SAVINGS EVENT

Take advantage of  
**SAVINGS** of up to **\$15,000**  
and rates as low as  
**0% FINANCING** on our  
most popular new  
vehicles & 5.49% on used.



**DISCOUNTS UP TO \$15,000  
OR AS MUCH AS 30% OFF!**

WE WORK WITH OVER 60 BANKS AND  
CREDIT UNIONS TO GET YOU THE  
**LOWEST RATE POSSIBLE!**

5 DEALERSHIPS | EIGHT BRANDS | BEST VEHICLE SELECTION IN NEW ENGLAND

**SHOP AND COMPARE - SAVE THOUSANDS ON OVER 2,000 VEHICLES IN ONE LOCATION!**

8-18 UXBRIDGE ROAD (RTE. 16) MENDON, MA | 154 EAST MAIN STREET (RTE. 16) MILFORD, MA | 300 FORTUNE BLVD, MILFORD, MA



# IMPERIAL CARS.COM

# Mendon Town Meeting approves massive land purchase

## Votes to purchase 60 acres on Providence Street



Photos by Theresa Knapp

By Scott Calzolaio

The Community Preservation Commission stole the show at this year's Mendon Annual Town Meeting, hosting almost every warrant article aside from budget items.

One article stood out amongst the others: Article 29 which proposed the town purchase two lots covering roughly 60 acres. The article proposed transferring \$990,000 to Community Preservation Accounts to purchase 73 and 75 Providence Street, also known as the "Pad-

dock Property."

To make the purchase, it was proposed to transfer \$200,000 from the "Community Preservation Open Space" account and \$790,000 from the "Community Reservation Budgeted Reserve" account. After the purchase, the town-owned land would be considered approved Community Preservation Act (CPA) land, usable for open space, affordable housing, and/or recreational purposes.

CPC Chairperson Anne Mazar said the alternative to

making this purchase would be to leave it on the market for a developer to likely snatch up. "If a developer did end up buying it, you don't know who could end up with it... And the town would be losing some open spaces, and history."

The plot of land is currently home to a few beloved locations and local landmarks, such as the 100-year-old red barn on that property. With the town's ownership of the property, places like the barn could be preserved, or even repurposed into affordable

housing, Mazar said.

The first 17 articles, put forward by the Select Board, all passed by a majority vote. These articles dealt with the transfer of funds, the passing of the town budget for 2024, other financial matters pertinent to the operation of the municipality, and funds for engineering desk work for the senior center expansion.

Article 18 was passed over. The article's intention was to add two voting members to the zoning board, increasing the board to five members. The

article was passed over because bylaws need to be amended in order to increase enrollment on the board. To change the bylaws, a public hearing must first take place.

Article 25, to fund the costs to install field lights at Pezzella and Lowell fields, was also approved.

To see a description of all the town's warrant articles, visit bit.ly/MendonATM2023warrant. To watch the meeting in its entirety, visit bit.ly/MendonATM-2023recording

**NOW OPEN!**

**con**  **erge**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY

**5 Tips to Fix Sciatica**



SCAN ME



Owner, Dr. Sean Lordan, PT, DPT, CSCS, OCS

[www.conciiergephysicaltherapy.com](http://www.conciiergephysicaltherapy.com)  
22 South Street, Hopkinton | 978-517-4500

**KELLY'S FARM**  
*"Your old fashioned farm stand experience since 1936"*

146 Milford St., Upton • 508.529.4564

**PLANT SALE! 25% OFF ALL PLANTS\***



**NOW PICKING**

Lettuce, Radishes, Scallions, Spinach

**COMING SOON**  
Strawberries, Summer Squash, Zucchini & Peas  
\* DOES NOT INCLUDE PATIO TOMATO PLANTS

**FEATURING:** Local Honey, Freshly Ground Peanut Butter, Penny Candy, Chicken Pies, Town Line Dairy Meats, Local Eggs, Baked Goods & Much More

**OPEN 7 DAYS • 8AM – 6PM**

# Upton hidden gem: Heritage Park

## Town-owned property includes mysterious "Upton Chamber"



By Theresa Knapp

If you're not sure what you're looking for, you can easily drive past the galvanized metal gate at 18 Elm Street that leads to Heritage Park, a seven-acre parcel of now conservation land the town purchased in 2006.

According to the welcome kiosk as you enter the site, the park opened in 2012 and is part of the Pratt Hill-Upton Chamber District which is a "discontinuous historic district that is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places... for its role in the religious and cultural traditions of three tribes: the Narragansett Tribe, the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

The property is open daily from sunrise to sunset, and offers "hiking, nature study, biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding and other non-motorized, passive outdoor and recreational and educational activities and other pursuits that do not damage the land or impair other people's enjoyment."

Highlights of the property include a scenic walkway over a bubbling brook, views of Mill Pond, wooded and open trails, and of course the long-mysterious "Upton Cave" or "Upton Chamber," the entrance to which was restored in 2011.

According to the town website (bit.ly/UptonHeritagePark), "The Upton Cave has been described as one of the largest and most perfectly built of more than 300 stone chambers found throughout the Northeast. A six-foot-high, fourteen-foot-long tunnel leads into a hillside, to a beehive-shaped domed chamber of quarried stone measuring about twelve feet across and eleven feet high. The cave is topped with several large oval stones believed to weigh several tons each."

To be inside the cave is awe-inspiring and may pique your curiosity as to the origin of the structure www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com calls the "largest and probably best known stone chamber in Massachusetts," and www.stonestruc-



Photos by Theresa Knapp

tures.org dates back to 1350 to 1625 A.D. (that site also says the chamber was first featured in William Goodwin's 1946 book "The Ruins of Great Ireland in New England.")

For more information on the site, visit bit.ly/UptonHeritagePark. To utilize the land for private functions (including weddings), visit bit.ly/HeritageParkRequest

**To find the cave, stand with your back against the welcome kiosk, look outward and walk toward the 1:00 position, among the trees on your right you will see a path that leads to the entrance.**

<p><b>Brand Spankin' New 2023 TOYOTA</b></p> <p><b>RAV4 LE SUV ADV AWD - 2.5L</b></p> <p>• Back-Up Cam • Bluetooth • Lane Departure</p> <p>BUY FOR AS LOW AS: <b>\$31,188*</b></p> <p>LEASE FOR AS LOW AS: <b>\$309*</b> PER MONTH + PLUS TAX</p> <p>SAVE \$500 (12 RAV4s AVAILABLE)</p> <p><small>*New 2023 RAV4 LE AWD with MSRP: \$31,688. Lease requires approved credit; based on 10,000 miles per year. \$0.15 per mile excess. Lease for \$309 per month for 39 months with \$2,999 due at signing (including \$2,040 cash or trade down, first month's payment of \$309, and acquisition of \$650). Tax, title, registration, and inspection fees are additional. \$0 Security deposit. Lessee is responsible for insurance, maintenance, repairs, excess wear/tear, and \$350 disposition fee where permitted by law. Example Stk# TM23-560. Offer ends 06/30/2023.</small></p>	<p><b>Brand Spankin' New 2023 TOYOTA</b></p> <p><b>HIGHLANDER LE - 2.4L FWD</b></p> <p>• Lane Departure • Turbo • 3rd Row Seats • Alloys</p> <p>BUY FOR AS LOW AS: <b>\$40,438*</b></p> <p>LEASE FOR AS LOW AS: <b>\$439*</b> PER MONTH + PLUS TAX</p> <p>SAVE \$500 (14 HIGHLANDERs AVAILABLE)</p> <p><small>*New 2023 Highlander LE 2.4L FWD with MSRP: \$40,938. Lease requires approved credit; based on 10,000 miles per year. \$0.15 per mile excess. Lease for \$439 per month for 36 months with \$3,199 due at signing (including customer capitalized cost reduction of \$2,110 first month's payment of \$439, and bank acquisition of \$650). Tax, title, registration, and inspection fees are additional. \$0 Security deposit. Lessee is responsible for insurance, maintenance, repairs, excess wear/tear, and \$350 disposition fee where permitted by law. Example Stk# TM23-420. Offer ends 06/30/2023.</small></p>	<p><b>IMPERIAL TOYOTA</b> is New England's</p> <p><b>LEASE RETURN HEADQUARTERS</b></p> <p><b>FAST &amp; EASY PROCESS</b></p> <p>Drive in or Call Ahead to Schedule an Appointment</p> <p><i>We gladly accept all Toyota Lease Returns - even if your lease is not from us.</i></p> <p><b>AND WE WILL PAY YOU \$1000 ON THE SPOT FOR TOYOTA LEASE RETURNS</b></p> <p><b>CALL: 508-488-2382</b></p>
<p><b>IMPERIAL TOYOTA</b> 300 FORTUNE BOULEVARD   MILFORD, MA 01757</p> <p><b>508-488-2382 • IMPERIALTOYOTAMA.COM</b></p> <p>NOW SERVICING ALL MAKES AND MODELS   MON-TH 9-9, FRI &amp; SAT 9-6, SUN 12-6</p>		

FREE PRESS



Scan this QR CODE to visit our NEW Facebook Page



# Mendon Town Election results

By Theresa Knapp

The town of Mendon held its annual town election on May 16, 2023, at the Miscoe Hill School gymnasium.

The Town Clerk reports that 490 votes were cast. The following are the election results:

- Moderator:** Thomas Merolli (394 votes)
- Select Board:** Michael Goddard (323), Jason Kuter (351)
- Assessor:** Susan Edmonds (397)
- Board of Health, 3 year:** Alan Greenberg (400)
- Board of Health, 2 year:** Barbara Joyce Gilmore: (412)
- Housing Authority:** Mary Garagliano (396)
- MURSD School Committee:** Sean Nicholson (384)
- Parks:** Daniel Byer (421)
- Planning Board:** Jason Krauss (372)
- Taft Library Trustees:** James Thach (389), Howard F. Phipps III (380)
- Water Commissioner:** "Kent" [Allan Kent] (389)

To see the full ballot, visit [bit.ly/MendonElectionResults2023](https://bit.ly/MendonElectionResults2023)

# Mendon Cultural Council seeks members

The Council funds cultural activities within and surrounding area of the Mendon community, including previous grants such as Birch Alley Brass, Greater Milford Community Chorus, and various programs for the Mendon school system.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the Cultural Council@mendonna.gov to volunteer.

The Mendon Cultural Council is a local agency funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

# Mendon Unitarian Strawberry Festival on June 10

This year's strawberry festival will take place on June 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Congregation of Mendon & Uxbridge at 13 Maple Street in Mendon. The

event will include strawberry shortcake, hot dogs and hamburgers by the Mendon Lions. There will also be yard sale tables to include jewelry, Avon, books and more.

# Upton Town Election results

## Hebb elected in tight race

By Theresa Knapp

On May 9, 2023, 13.46% of the town of Upton's residents went to the polls as part of this year's annual election when 850 of the town's 6,315 registered voters showed up at the polls.

- The Town Clerk reports the following results:
- Moderator, 1 year:** David C. Loeper (681 votes)
  - Selectman, 3 year:** Laura J. Hebb (457)
  - Assessors, 3 year:** Valerie A. Leonardo (621)
  - Assessors, 1 year:** William A. Bonina (638)
  - School Committee, 3 year:** James M. Forkey (455)
  - Cemetery, 3 year:** Alfred B. Palladini (598)
  - Cemetery, 1 year:** Robert Wilson Pray Jr. (600)
  - Board of Health, 3 year:** Quinn Parks (596)
  - Board of Health, 1 year:** Laura J. Hebb (607)
  - Recreation Commission, 3 year:** Laura J. Monachino (604)
  - Library Trustees, 3 year:** Debra J. Amorelli (555), Charlotte L. Carr (562), Joseph K. Poirier (589)
  - Trustee Library, 1 year:** Alycia R. Phylis (588)
  - Planning Board, 5 year:** Kenneth Raye (write-in, 109)
  - Housing Authority, 3 year:** Brittany Besler (585)
  - Housing Authority, 2 year:** Charlene L. Williams (567)
  - Finance Committee, 3 year:** Richard McGuire (write-in, 52)
  - Trust Fund Commission, 3 year:** Stephen A. Matellian (608)
  - Constable, 2 year:** Valentine Komarovskiy (580)

For more information and to see the full ballot, visit [bit.ly/UptonElectionResults2023](https://bit.ly/UptonElectionResults2023)

# Mrs. New England to hold food drive June 11

Mrs. New England Petite 2023 Olivia Brewer of Mendon will hold a food drive on June 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Southwick's Zoo. This is her fourth food drive as she continues the work she's doing with her platform "Feed My Community" to end hunger in New England. Olivia's goal is to run

a food drive or donate food in all six New England States. So far she ran a food drive for Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire. She hopes to see you on her journey to End Hunger.

For more information, visit @MrsNewEnglandPetite on social media.

FREE PRESS

Published Monthly on the 2nd Thursday Mailed FREE to the Communities of Upton & Mendon Circulation: 6000 households & businesses

**Publisher**  
Chuck Tashjian

**Editor**  
Theresa Knapp

**Send Editorial to:**  
[editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com](mailto:editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com)

**Advertising Sales**  
Susanne Odell Farber  
508-954-8148  
[sue@sodellconsult.com](mailto:sue@sodellconsult.com)

**Advertising Sales Manager**  
Jen Schofield  
508-570-6544  
[jenschofield@localtownpages.com](mailto:jenschofield@localtownpages.com)

**Creative Design & Layout**  
Michelle McSherry  
Kim Vasseur  
Wendy Watkins

**Ad Deadline** is the Wednesday 8 days prior to publication date.

**Reader Submission Deadline** is the 25th day of the month preceding the publication date. For example, items should be submitted by Feb. 25 to be included in the March issue. Please submit to [editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com](mailto:editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com)

Free Press assumes no financial liability for errors or omissions in printed advertising and reserves the right to reject/edit advertising or editorial submissions.

© Copyright 2023 Free Press



Happy Father's Day!

# The Bark Ark

COUNTRY HILLS PLAZA \* MENDON

Family owned and operated for over 50 years



Your Hometown Pet Groomer! 508-473-4744

# Biggest threats to a comfortable retirement?



Mark Freeman

## FINANCIAL FOCUS

If you save and invest for decades, you'd like to know you can retire without financial worries. Nonetheless, you still have to be aware of some threats to a comfortable retirement — and how to respond to them.

These threats include:

- **Inflation** – Inflation has been high recently, but even a mild inflation rate can seriously erode your purchasing power. In fact, with just a 3% inflation rate, your expenses

could double in about 25 years — and your retirement could easily last that long. So, if you're going to rely on your investment portfolio for a sizable part of your retirement income, you will need to own a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments, such as stocks or stock-based funds, whose potential returns can equal or exceed the inflation rate.

- **Excessive withdrawals** – Once you retire, you should establish a withdrawal rate for your portfolio — an amount you can take out each year and still feel secure that you won't run out of money. Some people make the mistake of withdrawing too much, too soon, once they're retired. Your withdrawal rate should be based on several factors, including your age at retirement, the size of your portfolio and the amount of income you receive from other sources, such as Social Security. A fi-

ancial professional can help you determine a withdrawal rate that's appropriate for your needs.

- **Market volatility** – The financial markets will always fluctuate. When you're still working, this volatility may not be such a problem, as you have years or decades to recover from short-term downturns. But when you retire, you don't want to have to sell investments when their price is down. To help prevent this, you can tap into the cash in your portfolio, assuming you have enough to cover several months' worth of living expenses. You could also draw on a CD "ladder" — a group of CDs that mature at different times — to provide you with resources for the next few years and allow your equity investments time to recover their value.

- **Unexpected costs** – You had them when you were working, and you'll probably

have them when you're retired: the furnace that breaks down, the car that needs a major repair, and so on. But if you've established an emergency fund containing a year's worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account, you may be able to "ride out" these costs without jeopardizing your investment portfolio. Be sure to keep these reserves separate from your typical day-to-day accounts to avoid the temptation of spending your emergency money.

- **Health** – Retirees may face more health concerns than younger people, and those concerns often come with larger medical bills. That's why it's important to maximize the benefits from Medicare or your Medicare Advantage plan. Also, if you contributed to a Health Savings Account (HSA) while you were working, and you haven't depleted it, you can use the money in retirement.

As long as the HSA funds are used for qualified medical expenses, withdrawals are tax- and penalty-free, and won't be included in your income. This could help keep your income below certain levels, lower your Medicare premiums or avoid the 3.8% surtax on net investment income that can be assessed on high-net-worth taxpayers.

Retirement can be a pleasant time in your life — and you'll enjoy it more if you're prepared for the challenges that face all retirees.

If you would like to discuss your personal situation with a financial advisor contact:

Mark Freeman  
Edward Jones Financial Advisor  
77 West Main Street,  
Hopkinton, MA  
508-293-4017  
Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

## You're ready to take action.

### And so are we. Introducing NOW Loan Solutions from Dean Bank.

Don't delay your goals because of high interest rates.

**NOW Loan Solutions** combines our expert lending team and our customizable solutions to provide loans that make sense—and make things happen—NOW. Paying less interest on student debt. Making home improvements. Buying your dream home. You don't have to wait.



**Alycia McCallum**  
Mortgage Loan Originator  
NMLS# 1089503  
(508) 803-7843 (direct)  
(508) 918-2132 (mobile)  
amccallum@deanbank.com



Let's start NOW.  
Call Alycia or visit  
deanbank.com to get started.



**DEAN BANK**  
It's my bank.™

deanbank.com • (508) 528-0088

Member FDIC Member DIF NMLS#412095



### Recent Home Sales

Date	Mendon	Amount
05/24/2023	151 Blackstone Street	\$1.01 mil
05/15/2023	29 Rawson Farm Road	\$945,277
05/15/2023	31 Hartford Ave W (0.55 acres)	\$80,000
05/09/2023	7 Dudley Road	\$910,000
05/01/2023	51 George Street	\$400,000
04/26/2023	49 North Avenue	\$175,000

Date	Upton	Amount
05/25/2023	133 Glenview Street	\$820,000
05/23/2023	12 Knowlton Circle	\$531,000
05/19/2023	33 Dairy Drive	\$1.07 mil
05/15/2023	17 Shoemaker Lane #8	\$827,156
05/05/2023	34 Sienna Circle #5417	\$750,000
05/01/2023	55 East Street	\$720,000
04/28/2023	106 Taft Street	\$627,000
04/26/2023	38 Rockwood Lane	\$855,000

Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Upton Mendon Free Press



133 Glenview Street in Upton recently sold for \$820,000. Photo credit www.zillow.com

## Upton approves budget, new zoning members, trail bridge

By Scott Calzolaio

Amongst funding for a few town projects, renovations, and other items, the town of Upton approved an operating budget for fiscal year 2024 of \$27,831,289 - a 4% increase over FY23 - during its May 4 Annual Town Meeting.

With the exception of two citizens' petitions at the end of the warrant, Town Meeting was about paying bills and moving things further along in the downtown area.

To assist in moving things along, Article 35 addressed how many members were allowed on the Zoning Board. The article proposed changing the local zoning bylaw to raising the number of members from three to five. This was put forth by the Zoning Board with favorable action from the Planning Board.

Planning Board member Paul Carey said this was proposed because they "were having trouble doing the job correctly" with just three people, and so much happening around town. The motion passed unanimously.

The goal is to stagger the terms so there's never an entirely new board elected at once. It's unclear when two new members will be appointed to the new seats.

Funding was also approved for a much-needed walking bridge for public use across Warren Brook on the Robertson Family Conservation Restriction Area trail easement. The \$120,000 allocation will be transferred from Community Preservation Act funds to the Land Stewardship Committee where the design phase is set to begin in 2024.

There were two citizen petitions at the end of this year's warrant, one was rejected and one was voted to be passed over.

Article 36 was a citizens' petition for the town to maintain possession of the Knowlton-Risteen building which has historically been home to the town museum and library, and was submitted by resident Linda Gay. Gay took the microphone making a motion to pass over the article "with regret" when it came up. She did not disclose the details but said those involved have been in touch with her on social media. The petition's goal was to ensure the town maintained ownership over the building, and for it to continue being used as a

place of community enrichment. It is unclear what the future of the Knowlton-Risteen building will be at this time.

The final citizen's petition, put forth by resident Laurie Wodin, was to stop the town from investing and installing 5G wireless receivers across town, as well as halting other "small cell" technology, alleging the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has not done its due diligence in researching the effects of this technology on humans, born and unborn.

The idea was not to halt the barrage of new technology, but to slow it down so there is more time to understand the effects it might have, Wodin said during her presentation.

Some Massachusetts towns like Waltham and Lexington have already taken similar actions, halting the progress of 5G through their communities until more research can be presented. The motion was met with unfavorable action by the Technology Committee, and it did not carry.

To see descriptions of all the town's warrant articles, visit bit.ly/UptonATM2023warrant. To see the meeting in its entirety, visit bit.ly/UptonATM2023re-

421 Pulaski Blv  
Bellingham, MA 02019  
774-460-6084



**CBD**  
ReLeaf Center

375 Putnam Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02917  
401-757-6872

ReleafCenter1@gmail.com

www.myCBDreleafcenter.com

CURBSIDE PICKUP OR YOU CAN COME IN!

Try our new CBG tinctures

Discounts Available for  
Seniors & Veterans

**New Location!**  
32 Hastings Street  
Mendon, MA

Visit Today!

"CBD" stands for cannabidiol. It is a non-intoxicating cannabinoid found in cannabis.  
<https://weedmaps.com/learn/dictionary/cbd>



421 Pulaski Blvd,  
Bellingham, MA 02019  
774-460-6084

MENTION THIS AD & RECEIVE

# 10% OFF

YOUR NEXT PURCHASE!

Limited time offer; not valid with any other offers.

If We Can't Clean It  
No One Can!





of Upton

**Call us today 508.529.4115**

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

carpetcleaningcd.com • Veteran owned

# Charles River Bancorp, MHC Annual Meeting held; Positive financial data reported and Paula Cassidy elected Trustee



**Paula Cassidy a Trustee of Charles River Bancorp, MHC.** *Courtesy photo*



**CRB President & CEO Derek Plourde.** *Courtesy photo*

The Annual Meeting of Corporators of Charles River Bancorp, MHC - the mutual holding company of Charles River Bank - was held on Tuesday, May 16 at Franklin Country Club.

Chairman Steven M. Richardson opened the Annual Meeting and discussed the current banking environment and the significant differences between the risk factors that led the recent failures of the large regional banks and the operating model at Charles River Bank. He also reiterated that Charles River Bank is one of 74 banks in the country that has full deposit insurance for all customers, with FDIC covering at least \$250,000 and DIF covering all deposits in excess of FDIC limits.

President and CEO of Charles River Bank Derek Plourde, shared 2023 year-end financial results. At year-end 2022, assets were \$308 million with Net Income of \$1,147,000,

which is 12.6% higher than year end 2021 Net Income. Net interest Margin also showed positive trends, improving from 2.99% at 12/31/21, to 3.13% at 12/31/22, and 3.34% at 3/31/23. CRB's capital position, as measured by the Tier 1 Leverage Ratio, improved from 6.86% at 12/31/21 to 7.25% at 12/31/22, and improved further to 7.62% at 3/31/23, exceeding regulatory requirements in all periods.

Corporators and Trustees voted to elect Paula Cassidy a Trustee of Charles River Bancorp, MHC. Like all Trustees, Cassidy will also serve as a Director of Charles River Bank. Additionally, Paul Rao of Milford, Peter Brunelli of Franklin, and James Reardon of Natick were re-elected as Trustees, and David Tuttle III of Bellingham, Paul Gerrish of Bellingham, and Wayne Simpson of Millis were re-elected as Corporators.

Cassidy, who has served as

a Corporator since 2021, is an Executive Business Consultant with over 30 years of experience in Human Resources, Business Operations and Strategic Project Management, including global and regional businesses within the Software, IT Services, Life Sciences and Financial Services Industries. She is the recipient of the Worcester Business Journal "40 Under Forty" Award, and is a mentor for "Women and Leadership" course at Bryant university. Cassidy is a graduate of St. Anselm College. She and her

husband John reside in Milford, MA with their two sons.

President and CEO Plourde stated, "Paula brings a unique perspective to our Board of Directors with her senior management roles in Human Resources and experience in strategic project management at a wide array of companies across a variety of industries. I am confident that she will have a positive impact on our organization through her board involvement."

Charles River Bank—with assets of \$308 million—was founded in 1915, and continues

to offer a wide range of individual and business banking services. The Bank's Main Office is located at 70 Main Street in Medway, with branches located on Route 140 at the Bellingham/Franklin town line, and in Mendon at 1 Hastings Street, at the intersection of Rte. 16 and North Avenue. Over the past year, Charles River Bank has contributed more than \$35,000 to community non-profit organizations.

For more information call 508-533-8661 or visit [www.charlesriverbank.com](http://www.charlesriverbank.com).



**JUST A WEE DAY**  
—HASTINGS STREET SCHOOL—

*New Offering!*

**1/2 DAY PRESCHOOL  
AND PRE-K PROGRAMS**

**Preschool Program - T/Th 9:00am-12:30pm**

**Pre-K Program - M/W/F 9:00am-12:30pm**

**\*Preschool is for ages 2.9-4 years old  
\*Pre-K is for ages 4-6 years old**

**PROGRAM FEATURES :**

- ✓ Developmentally appropriate curriculum
- ✓ Play-based learning
- ✓ Outdoor play
- ✓ Kindergarten readiness
- ✓ Social and Emotional Development

**ENROLL NOW**

- ☎ 774-804-3187
- ✉ [justaweeday@comcast.net](mailto:justaweeday@comcast.net)
- 🌐 [www.justaweeday.com](http://www.justaweeday.com)





**BIRCHWOOD  
LANDSCAPE & TREE**

**Mulching – Pruning  
Spring and Fall Cleanups  
Weekly Maintenance – Seeding  
Plantings – Tree Work – Snow Plowing**

---

CONTACT BRENT TEWKSBURY FOR AN ESTIMATE

**508-416-0580**  
**BirchwoodLandscapeTree@gmail.com**

# Brothers Challenge: Mendon's Annual Cardboard Boat Race

Event to be held on July 25 at Mendon beach



A 2022 photo from Mendon's Annual Cardboard Boat Race. Courtesy photo

The Mendham Brush Association is throwing down the gauntlet...in a friendly way, of course!

The Mendham Brush Association, known to most as the Mendon Brothers of the Brush, is extending a challenge to all Mendon Municipal Departments and Mendon Community groups. We are extending a challenge to all who dare to join the Mendon's

Annual Cardboard Boat Race sponsored by Mendon Taft Library, which will take place at the Mendon Town Beach on Tuesday, July 25. Last year, the Brothers and the Mendon Fire Department went head-to-head and to spare embarrassment we won't mention who won!

This year's event will be extra special as folks can enjoy the new makeover to the beach

that 's been unfolding this off-season.

So, pick up that gauntlet, take the challenge and join in the fun. Funds raised (format to be agreed upon at a later date) will be donated to a local need which will be determined by the winner.

All who are interested (or who dare) should contact the Brothers at mendonbrush@gmail.com

## Important Notice Ask the Mendon Assessors: Revaluation

Per Massachusetts General Law, each municipality in the Commonwealth is mandated to perform periodic revaluation programs to insure fair and equitable taxation. Every ten to fifteen years a "Cyclical Inspection" must be performed involving a full recollection of property data. This translates to visiting every residential and commercial property, measuring and collection of interior data.

Commencing Tuesday, May 9, 2023, the Town of Mendon Assessor's Office will be conducting the first phase of the cyclical inspection process. Our representative, Bill Beaugard, will have the appropriate identification and will request entrance to the home only if an adult is present. If no one is available, a notice will be left advising you to call the Assessor's Office to schedule a call back appointment. If entrance is denied, the Assessors, by law, are required to assess the property as they deem necessary.

Our rep, Bill Beaugard, will be driving a 2012 Black Chrysler, Plate #1CLC68 and will display "ASSESSORS"

signs on both sides of his vehicle. He will identify himself with a letter from our office along with an identification card.

We expect his visits to occur weekdays between 9:45 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. with each visit lasting approximately 15 minutes.

In this first phase, we expect those visits to occur in the following locations: Ashkins Drive, Bates Street, Bellingham Street, Cape Road, Carby Drive, Cemetery Street, Colonial Drive, Edward Road, Joseph Road, Lundvall Road, Mary Drive, Millbrook Drive, Parker Road, Pine Needle Drive, Providence Street, Pudding Stone Lane, Quissett Road, Resthaven Road, Robinson Road, Swandale Drive, Talbott Farm Drive, Teresa Drive and Thayer Road.

The Assessors understand and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jean in the Assessor's Office at 508-473-2738 or email at assessor@mendonma.gov.



### Everything you need to manage your money.

Shop | Pay | Manage | Track

How you choose to connect with your money is personal. That's why, at Charles River Bank, we offer powerful solutions — including online & mobile banking, mobile wallet, debit card control, and more — with every checking account. So you can manage your money how, when, and where you want!

Visit [CharlesRiverBank.com](http://CharlesRiverBank.com) to learn more about our accounts or to get started today.

**Charles River Bank**  
Personal Connections. Powerful Solutions.  
Medway • Bellingham • Mendon

Member FDIC  
Member DIF

## CPR Etc.

**CPR, AED, First Aid Training  
Bloodborne Pathogen**

On-Site Training  
Companies • Schools • Private (in-home)

No Class Too Small • Any Time, Anywhere

**Susan Tetreault**  
Licensed & Insured

**508-473-3630**  
[cpr\\_etc@comcast.net](mailto:cpr_etc@comcast.net)



One wreck  
won't wreck  
your rates.

**Benjamin Insurance Agency**

401-765-5000  
North Smithfield, RI  
401-767-2061  
Bellingham, MA

**Allstate**  
You're in good hands.

NOT AVAILABLE IN EVERY STATE. Feature optional. Subject to terms & conditions. Allstate Insurance Co. © 2018 Allstate Insurance Co.

18679368



# Macular Degeneration

## Causes, symptoms, and treatment options

By Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.  
Milford Franklin Eye Center

Macular degeneration, also known as age-related macular degeneration (AMD), is a progressive eye condition that affects millions of people worldwide. It is a leading cause of vision loss, particularly among older adults. Macular degeneration primarily affects the macula, a small area located near the center of the retina responsible for sharp, central vision. This article aims to provide an overview of macular degeneration, including its causes, symptoms, and available treatment options.

### Causes of Macular Degeneration

While the exact causes of macular degeneration remain unknown, several risk factors have been identified. Age is a significant factor, as the condition predominantly affects individuals over the age of 50. Genetic factors, family history, smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, and prolonged exposure to ultraviolet light are also associated with an increased risk of developing macular degeneration.

### Types of Macular Degeneration

There are two main types of macular degeneration: dry (atrophic) AMD and wet (neovascular) AMD.

#### Dry AMD

Dry AMD is the most common form, accounting for approximately 85-90% of cases. It is characterized by the gradual breakdown of the macula due to the accumulation of drusen, yellow deposits beneath the retina. As the condition progresses, central vision becomes blurred, making it difficult to perform tasks such as reading or recognizing faces.

#### Wet AMD

Wet AMD is less common but more aggressive than dry AMD. It occurs when abnormal blood vessels develop beneath the macula and leak blood or fluid, leading to rapid and severe vision loss. Individuals with wet AMD may experience distorted or wavy central vision, a dark spot in the center of their visual

field, or rapid visual decline.

### Symptoms and Diagnosis

The early stages of macular degeneration often present no noticeable symptoms, making regular eye exams crucial for early detection. As the condition progresses, symptoms may include:

- Blurred or distorted central vision
- Difficulty reading or performing activities that require fine detail
- Dark or empty areas in the central visual field
- Decreased brightness or intensity of colors
- Difficulty recognizing faces

A comprehensive eye examination, including a dilated pupil examination, visual acuity test, and imaging tests such as optical coherence tomography (OCT) or fluorescein angiography, can help diagnose macular degeneration and determine its type and severity.

### Treatment options

Macular degeneration is a progressive eye condition that affects the central portion of the retina, called the macula. Although there is no known cure for macular degeneration, there are several treatment options available that can help slow down its progression and manage the symptoms. Here are some of the common treatment options:

#### Anti-VEGF Therapy

Anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) drugs are injected into the eye to reduce the growth of abnormal blood vessels in the retina. These drugs include medications like ranibizumab (Lucentis), bevacizumab (Avastin), and aflibercept (Eylea). Anti-VEGF therapy has shown significant success in stabilizing or improving vision in many cases of macular degeneration.

#### Photodynamic Therapy (PDT)

This treatment involves the use of a light-activated medication called verteporfin (Visudyne). The medication is injected into a vein, and then a laser is applied to the abnormal

blood vessels in the retina to activate the drug, causing the vessels to close and reduce their leakage.

#### Laser Therapy

In some cases, laser therapy may be used to target and destroy abnormal blood vessels in the macula. This treatment is known as focal laser photocoagulation.

#### Implantable Miniature Telescope

For individuals with end-stage macular degeneration in both eyes and severe vision loss, an implantable miniature telescope (IMT) may be an option. The IMT is surgically placed in one eye to improve central vision by magnifying the images that reach the healthy portion of the retina.

#### Low Vision Aids

These include devices such as magnifying glasses, telescopic lenses, and electronic visual aids that can help individuals with



Normal Vision



View with AMD

macular degeneration make the most of their remaining vision.

#### Lifestyle Changes

Certain lifestyle modifications can help manage macular degeneration. These include quitting smoking, eating a healthy diet rich in antioxidants and nutrients (e.g., leafy green vegetables, fish, and fruits), exercising regularly, maintaining normal blood pressure and cholesterol levels, and protecting the eyes from harmful ultraviolet (UV) light.

#### Supplements

The AREDS study conducted by the National Eye Institute and concluded in 2001. It showed that the AREDS formula can reduce patients' risk of the advanced form of AMD by about 25 percent. The formula helps protect people's central vision, which is needed for reading, driving, recognizing faces and other

EYES

continued on page 13



## MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER

 Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.	 John F. Hatch, M.D.	 Bryan Hong, M.D.	 Michael R. Adams, O.D.
 Shalin Zia, O.D.	 Donald L. Conn, O.D.	 Dr. Mai-Khuyen Nguyen, O.D.	 Dr. Purvi Patel, O.D.

**Optical Shop On-Site**

### SMILEFORVISION.COM

**Saturday & After Hours Available**

## World-Class Eye Care & Surgery in Milford

### New Patients Receive a Free Pair of Select Glasses

<b>FRANKLIN OFFICE</b> 750 Union St. 508-528-3344	<b>MILFORD OFFICE</b> 160 South Main St. 508-473-7939	<b>MILLIS OFFICE</b> 730 Main St. 508-528-3344	<b>SURGERY CENTER MILFORD</b> 145 West St. 508-381-6040
---	---	--	---

## Taft Public Library Calendar of Events

29 North Avenue, Mendon • 508-473-3259 • TaftPublicLibrary.org • HOURS: Tues. & Wed. 10-7 • Thurs. 3-7 • Fri. 12-5 • Sat. 9-12 • Sun. & Mon. CLOSED

### ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Upcoming Events:

To register for an event, click on the Library Event Calendar and Registration link at the top of the library's homepage (www.taftpubliclibrary.org).

#### Handcrafting Group

Let's get crafty. Join us on Wednesday, June 7 and Wednesday, June 21 at 2 p.m. downstairs in the library and get your craft on. Bring your own craft project, whatever it might be, to work on while you visit. Intended for adults. Crafts are not supplied.

#### Learn Contract Bridge with Val Fay

Join Val Fay, a contract bridge instructor for over twenty years, as he guides you through the game of contract bridge. Designed for ages 16 and up, the classes Val offers will include upgraded instructions at the beginning of every class, starting with the basics. Those interested should contact him at 508-478-3049 to sign up. All bridge players are forever students of the game, no matter what level they feel they've achieved. Whether you play or have always wanted to learn, join us on Tuesdays in June from 12 - 4 p.m. at the Taft.

#### Adult Book Club

The Adult Book Club will meet on Monday, June 12 at 7 p.m. to discuss *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by T.J. Klune. Adult Book Clubs are held on the second Monday of the month.

For upcoming book clubs contact the library at 508-473-3259 to request copies of the books or log in to your account from our website to request them through interlibrary loan. The Adult Book Club book discussion schedule is as follows:

September: *Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert and *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd

October: *The Once and Future Witches* by Alix E. Harrow

November: *Call the Midwife* by Jennifer Worth

December: *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig

#### German Conversation Club

Are you looking for a place to practice what German you remember or to improve your vocabulary? German Conversation Club is no pressure, just fun. Led by Library Assistant (and Mendon resident) Monika Schmid, the group typically meets the last Monday of each month. The next German Conversation Club will be on Monday, June 26 at 6 p.m. Registration is required. To register, visit our website.

#### Footnotes Nonfiction Book Club

The Footnotes Nonfiction Book Club meets downstairs in the library on a quarterly basis. Those interested are asked to stop at the downstairs desk to sign the Footnotes registration sheet and pick up a copy of the latest book. Next discussion session:

Thursday, June 15 at 7 p.m.:

Discussion of Nathaniel Philbrick's *In the Heart of the Sea*.

Upcoming books in the Footnotes series:

*Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo. *The Spy and the Traitor* by Ben Macintyre. *The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams* by Stacy Schiff.

#### Cooking with Chef Rob Scott

Chef Rob Scott returns with a whole new set of cooking demonstrations on Zoom. Rob joins us virtually from his kitchen in Long Island. All ages are welcome to participate. The recipes will be sent out before each class if you want to cook alongside Chef Rob. Sessions are at 7 p.m. The next session is:

Tuesday, June 20: Fiesta Lime Chicken Salad with Mango and Avocado Salsa, Buttery Farmstand Blueberry Muffins

Please visit our website to register for the session.

#### Challenge Trivia with the Trivia Brothers

The Trivia Brothers return to the Taft Library for a night of trivia on Tuesday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m. After going to way too many lackluster trivia nights, brothers Brett and Nik Outchcunis decided to put their heads together to fix the problems they saw with today's live trivia. Seriously, how many history and geography questions can one person take? Believing that standard trivia nights were basically just Trivial Pursuit cards read out loud, Brett and Nik vowed to deliver a fun-

filled trivia game, something that was more than just the questions. So join them on the 27 for head-to-head contests, assorted wackiness, and, of course, their unique blend of mindbending trivia questions. To register your trivia team, click on the Event Calendar and Registration link on the library's webpage. Teams of any size and any age are encouraged. Make sure to bring your own snacks and refreshments. The library will provide the pizza.

#### Friends of the Taft Public Library Spring Used Book Sale

The Friends Book Sale will be held outside the library on Saturday, June 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hundreds of adult and children's books, DVDs, and CDs on sale, so stock up for the summer.

#### Friends of the Taft Public Library Meeting

The Friends of the Library will meet on Tuesday, June 27 at 7 p.m. downstairs in the library's Art Holmes Community Room for their monthly board meeting. Board meetings are typically held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., unless it falls on a holiday or during a school vacation. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you plan on attending, it's always a good idea to call the library at 508-473-3259 or email the Friends at friendsoftaftlibrary@gmail.com to confirm the date and time of the meeting. The group will do its best to post

any meeting changes on the Taft Library web site.

#### Next Month

The library will continue to be open from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturdays in the summer. **Please note that we will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 for the holiday.**

#### CHILDREN'S LIBRARY NEWS

Registration is required for all programs. Please log onto our website: www.taftpubliclibrary.org and find the events page to register along with more information for the programs.

#### Itty Bitty Story Time

Itty Bitty Story time is designed for our youngest patrons birth to 3 years old. Join us for a lot of fun on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

#### Story & Craft Time

Join us for story and craft time! Perfect for the preschool-aged child. All sessions take place Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

#### Alphabet Storytime

It's all about the alphabet. Each week we will focus on a different letter. We will read a couple of books, sing songs, and learn about the letter of the week. Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

#### Preschool Kidding Around Yoga

We will learn yoga poses, dance, sing, and meditate. This

#### TAFT LIBRARY

continued on page 12



**J.C. Parmenter Inc.**  
*Septic Systems*  
**INSTALLED CLEANED REPAIRED**

**\$10 OFF** SEPTIC TANK CLEANING  
with same-day payment

**24 HOUR**  
Emergency  
Support



LICENSED TITLE 5 INSPECTOR • FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1920

**508-435-3381 • Hopkinton • JCParmenterSeptic.com**

*Consigli*  *Ruggerio*

*Type III Funeral Director/Embalmer*     *Funeral Home, Inc.*

**David A. Consigli**  
www.consigliruggeriofuneralhome.com

Tel. 508-473-0513 • Toll Free 1-800-675-0513 • Fax 508-634-3662  
Email: Dave@ConsigliRuggerioFuneralHome.com  
46 Water Street, P.O. Box 513, Milford, MA 01757

**Giuliano Construction & Remodeling LLC**

Decks • Kitchen & Bath Remodels  
Roofing & Siding • Windows & Gutters  
Entry Doors • Bulkheads • And More!

**JOHN GIULIANO**  
774-573-9811 • Cubixx.john@gmail.com

FREE ESTIMATES • REFERENCES AVAILABLE • LICENSED & INSURED

# Family-run Affordable Junk Removal takes the stress out of cleanups

By *Christie Vogt*  
Contributing Writer

Whether it's one old fridge in the garage or an entire home of unwanted goods, the team at Affordable Junk Removal offers a cost-efficient, stress-free approach to waste management. "You don't lift a finger," says owner Jason Schadler, who started the company along with his wife Christine in 2005.

The business offers same-day service for both residential and commercial clients across eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island. In addition to junk removal, the company rents 15-yard dumpsters.

As a family-owned and operated company, Schadler says Affordable Junk Removal has lower overhead costs and is more accessible than national competitors. "I answer my phone 24 hours a day," he says. "I was on vacation in Italy and Portugal, and I was still answering my phone on the beach. When you call us, you get me — not an automated machine!"

Schadler says the company has an environmentally friendly approach to disposal in which it recycles items when possible, properly disposes of non-recyclables and resells many items at the Schadlers' secondhand store, Resellables. "We opened that store in Bellingham because we hated to see things thrown



away," Schadler says. "We have four kids and sustainability is extremely important to us."

During the business's early days, Schadler provided junk removal on nights and weekends when he wasn't busy working at a machine shop. Eventually, the business grew into a full-time endeavor, and the Schadlers invested back into the company with new equipment and techniques. "When I first started, for example, we didn't have any tarps. I'm driving around and things are flying out of my truck," Schadler laughs. "I'm like, 'Oh my god, I need a tarp.'"

Schadler says his wife Christine "was equally as involved" in getting the business off the ground. "She handled the back-end while I did the heavy lifting, all while she was working at EMC," he says. "Fast forward 17 years, and we both work full time managing the company as well as other endeavors. Busi-

## Business spotlight

ness is doing great; it has grown tremendously to a fleet of trucks and dumpsters, and we've also been able to buy a pizza place, The Corner Market in Holliston."

In addition to delivering an in-demand service to the community, Schadler is appreciative that Affordable Junk Removal has helped provide a work-life balance that suits his family. "It allows me to be able to do what I like doing and spend time with my kids," he says. "I'm home to see my babies play softball and do all that stuff. We are also able to give back to the communities we serve."

As for Milford, the Schadlers have been residents for over 20 years. Their four kids have gone



Christine and Jason Schadler, shown here with their children and dog, started Affordable Junk Removal in 2005. Contributed photo

to Milford schools. In addition to living in town, they are proud investors in the community. They sponsor and coach several sports teams, volunteer at the schools, and own both commercial and residential properties.

One of the best parts of his job, Schadler says, is meeting and getting to know new people and developing relationships

with returning customers. "We are really grateful for the repeat business and the chance to form connections with residents across the MetroWest area," he says.

To receive a free junk removal estimate, call 774-287-1133 or visit [affordable-junkremoval.com](http://affordable-junkremoval.com).

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

**WE JUNK IT • MOVE IT • CLEAN IT • RECYCLE IT • SCRAP IT**

**AARDVARK JUNK REMOVAL**

**Call or Text John Today! 508-395-8369**

- Hoarding Specialists
- Appliance Removal
- Junk Removal
- Construction Clean Up
- Basement Cleanouts
- Storage Cleanouts
- Scrap Metal Removal
- Office Cleaning
- Carpet Cleaning
- Office/Residential Moves
- Room to Room Moves
- Appliance Moves
- Furniture Moves

**LOCAL & FAMILY OWNED • FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES**

**Model 84505R**

Download the FREE myQ® app

Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google Play

**See clearly. Close securely.**

Kids make it home from school? Did you close the garage door? Give yourself peace of mind that your family and home are safe and secure with the LiftMaster Secure View™ 84505R. The built-in camera lets you stream video, record it, and offers 2-way communication through the myQ app — which also allows you to remotely open and close your garage door from anywhere, at anytime.

**Your trusted local professional service & installer.**

**Jolicoeur OVERHEAD DOORS**

**Call or visit our website today!**  
[mygaragedoor.com](http://mygaragedoor.com) • 508-883-4522  
745 South Main St., Bellingham

\*View a live-stream of your garage for free. 7-day and 30-day video storage options are available via a monthly or yearly subscription. Apple, the Apple logo, iPhone, and iPad are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries and regions. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google LLC. © 2022 The Chamberlain Group LLC. All Rights Reserved. LiftMaster, the LiftMaster logo, myQ and the myQ logo are registered trademarks of The Chamberlain Group LLC. 300 Windsor Drive, Oak Brook, IL 60523 | LiftMaster.com | Wi-Fi® is a registered trademark of Wi-Fi Alliance 18967801

**TRAILS**

*continued from page 1*

check for ticks afterward.

Milford's most popular trail is the Upper Charles Trail, a 6.5-mile paved path starting at the Route 85-Hopkinton border and continuing past Louisa Lake and Fino Field, then spurring east towards Holliston.

Just east of the Hopkinton end of the trail are miles of wooded paths for walking and mountain biking, including challenging routes maintained by the New England Mountain

Bike Association. At the Holliston end, the trail continues with a stone dust surface past farmlands and streams.

Upton boasts its namesake State Forest – 2700 acres and miles of trails. Some are gravel and others wooded, with a mix of relatively flat and steeper options. Spring brings sites like nesting great blue herons feeding their chicks, and elusive lady slippers dotting the hillsides.

A meadow full of butterflies and a gorgeous spot for sunsets are highlights at Upton's Peppercorn Hill. Paths there lead to Lake Maspenock where eagles

are known to circle overhead.

History-laced trails in Mendon's 350-year-old Town Forest provide opportunities to see mill buildings and foundations from old homes. Picturesque stone walls remain from earlier sheep-herding days, along with signs of granite quarrying from the early 1800's. These trails invite users to consider life in premodern times.

To encourage exploration, Mendon recently introduced a Hike Challenge with nine routes mapped out, providing a broad sampling of the town's trails. Details can be found at [bit.ly/MendonHikeChallenge](http://bit.ly/MendonHikeChallenge).

*Enjoy the benefits of these and the many other trails the towns offer. Use the following resources to find locations for parking, appropriate routes, and notable features:*

**MILFORD:** <http://www.milfordtrail.org/home.aspx>

**UPTON:** <https://www.uptonma.gov/land-stewardship-committee/pages/upton-conservation-land-and-trail-maps>

**MENDON:** <https://www.hollistontrails.org/our-trail>

**GENERAL:** Open Street Map, All Trails, and Trail Forks apps



**Great blue herons with their chicks in nests can be spotted at Upton State Forest.** Photo by Linda Chuss

**Another local place to hike is Heritage Park in Upton. See page 3 for full story.**

**WE ARE YOUR RELIABLE INSURANCE NEIGHBOR**



**Work with people you can trust: Nicole, Julie, Brian, Mike, Letty, Amy**

Our family-owned and operated independent agency offers only competitively priced and time-tested insurance products designed to fit your individual needs. Specializing in home, auto, business, condo and renters insurance since our establishment in 1950, our agency is deeply rooted in the communities we serve and committed to providing the very best of value for your hard earned dollars. Whether new to the area or a lifelong resident, you will benefit from the sound advice provided by our professional service advisers.

**MAPFRE | INSURANCE**

**Contact us today!**

**(508) 435-6388**

**80 Main Street, Hopkinton  
PhippsInsurance.com**

**HOME • CONDO • RENTER • AUTO • BUSINESS**

**TAFT LIBRARY**

*continued from page 10*

class is all about fun- all abilities are welcome. Mats are available, or feel free to bring your own. Wednesday, June 7 at 9:30 a.m.

**Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins**

Miss Deb will join us on Tuesday, June 6 at 10:30 a.m. for a fun-filled, musical morning. Registration is required as space is limited.

**Tutors with Tails**

Meet Sprite! Sprite is a

therapy dog who loves children and loves books. Sprite and her owner Janet will visit the Taft Library the last Tuesday of each month. Register today for the opportunity to read to Sprite. Spots are limited.

This program is designed to help increase reading fluency and build a child's confidence in their reading ability. The dog provides a non-judgmental safe environment for children to practice their reading.

**Summer Reading 2023: Find Your Voice**

Can you believe it is already

time for summer reading? Your friends at the Taft have been busy for months putting together a summer reading program that is sure to please. What a summer it will be! Make sure to bookmark our website and keep checking back for an up-to-date, comprehensive list of our programs.

On Tuesday, June 13 head over to our website: [www.taft-publiclibrary.org](http://www.taft-publiclibrary.org) to register for Summer Reading. There you will find detailed information and a link to register.

There will be prizes for everyone who qualifies this summer. All you have to do is read!

- For every three hours of reading, children through grade 4 will be able to pick a prize from our treasure chest.

- For every three hours of reading, participants in grade 5 through 12 will be able to redeem their hours for a weekly gift card prize. One gift card per week can be earned.

- For every three hours an adult reads they will qualify for weekly drawings.

Everyone who completes 21 hours of reading by Friday, August 11 will qualify for some fantastic End of Summer reading raffles.

**June Events**

Please visit [www.taftpubliclibrary.org](http://www.taftpubliclibrary.org) for more information and registration for the below events.

Friday, June 23: Summer Reading Kickoff Campfire at West Hill Dam 6 - 8 p.m. (rain date June 30)

Tuesday, June 27: Challenge Brothers Trivia 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 28: Egg Drop Challenge 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**UPTON HOME IMPROVEMENT**

- Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling
- Basement Finished
- Window & Door Replacement
- Wood Flooring Installation & Refinishing
- Deck Replacement and Repair
- Siding - Roof
- Masonry – Walk Way & Patio
- Power Washing
- Painting • Carpentry

*Detailed & Meticulous Reasonable Rates*

**Call Mauricio**  
**508.202.8602** FULLY INSURED MA HIC.#169427

**EYES**

*continued from page 9*

daily activities.

The AREDS 2 study, which concluded in 2011, tested several antioxidant nutrients that earlier research had suggested might protect the eyes: lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 fatty acids. Omega-3 fatty acids are produced by plants and are present in oily fish such as salmon. Lutein and zeaxanthin are carotenoids, a class of plant-derived vitamins that also includes beta-carotene, and are present in leafy green vegetables. The body uses these nutrients to maintain the health of the retina, the part of the eye that can be damaged by AMD. The AREDS 2 research team did find that the risk of developing advanced AMD was reduced by about 18 percent in study participants who took the variant that included lutein and zeaxanthin but no beta-carotene, compared with participants who took the variant that had beta-carotene but no lutein or zeaxanthin. And those participants whose diets were low in lutein and zeaxanthin at the start of the study, but who took a variant with lutein and zeaxanthin during the study, were about 25 percent less likely to develop advanced AMD, compared with similar participants who did not take lutein and zeaxanthin.

The researchers say that removing beta-carotene from the AREDS formula and adding

lutein and zeaxanthin will result in a single formula that is safe and effective for all AMD patients. Another recent AREDS report showed that the benefits of taking the AREDS formula appear to be long-lasting. Participants in the first AREDS study who took the original formula daily for five years continue to enjoy a 25 percent lower risk of developing advanced AMD.

It's important to note that the choice of treatment depends on the type and severity of macular degeneration, as well as individual factors. If you or someone you know has macular degeneration, it's crucial to consult with an ophthalmologist or retina specialist who can provide personalized recommendations and guidance based on the specific situation.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we use state-of-the-art technology to treat a variety of eye problems, including macular degeneration. We are proud to have a Boston Harvard dedicated retina specialist in our practice, specializing in the treatment of retinal eye disease and AMD. With the presence of this service and equipment that rivals the best found in major teaching eye hospitals, our practice continues to provide world class eye care closer to home.

For more details, see our ad on page 9.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

# Annual town-wide yard sale

This year, in the bustling "Little Town of Mendon," The Friends of Mendon Elders will once again hold their Progressive Yard Sale. This has been an annual event for 19 years and every year promises to be bigger and better! It all starts at 7:30 a.m., on Saturday, June 10 (rain date June 11) at the Senior Center, 62 Providence Road, where shoppers first stop and shop. There, they purchase the Master List of Sales Directory with map of "The Little Town of Mendon" included for only \$2. Once they have the Directory and map, they will Progress from the Seniors' Yard Sale to the many yard sales throughout the entire town!

Last year more than 50 homes participated in this popular event with folks coming from miles around making Mendon a popular destination



Photo Source: Openverse

that day.

Any Mendon resident wanting to participate in this Town wide yard sale may contact the Friends of Elders president, Dottie Garceau, at 508-561-8758 or email her at [dottietag@gmail.com](mailto:dottietag@gmail.com) to obtain a registration. Applications are also available at the Senior Center. In exchange for your \$20 registration fee supporting the Friends with this

annual fund-raiser, the Friends do all the advertising and publicity, create a beautifully printed directory and provide a laminated yard sale sign to post on your mailbox.

For those unable to hold a yard sale at their home, the Senior Center will gladly take your donations to sell at their yard sale.

While some businesses in town have graciously taken out ads in the Master List of Sales Directory, in support of the Friends and their mission to support the Senior center programs and facilities, it is hoped that many of businesses will participate in this Town Wide event by listing a "special sale of the day" or other "special" in the directory. For more information call the Senior Center at 508-478-6175 or check out the Town Website, click on Council on Aging.

**BETTER MILK**  
Enjoy *Maple Farm* DAIRY Products



**Door to Door Home Delivery with the Highest Quality Products**

If you use dairy and are not satisfied with store choices, we offer an alternative. We make weekly or biweekly deliveries with farm fresh MILK and many other premium products. 100% of the MILK we offer comes from a Family Farm.

**PLEASE CONSIDER MAPLE FARM DAIRY FOR WEEKLY OR BIWEEKLY DELIVERY SERVICES**  
TEXT INQUIRES **508-478-MILK (6455)**

**LAB OF ALL TRADES**  
Your local handyman

*Give Us a Call ... No Job Too Small*

Bedrooms | Basements  
Bathrooms | Kitchens  
Decks, Patios, Yards | Garages  
Living Rooms | Dining Rooms

Reliable     Experienced     Responsive  
 Professional     Insured

**LabofAllTrades.com | 508-377-2137**

**SAVANNA GRILLE**

 | **Southwick's Zoo**

**SATURDAY JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> DOORS 6 PM | LIVE MUSIC 7 - 10 PM**

**LIVE MUSIC FROM SHADY ARMADILLO**

**POP-UP RESTAURANT WITH GRILLED BACKYARD CLASSICS**  
**CASH BAR | SKYFARI SKY RIDE**



*so much so close!*

**www.southwickzoo.com**

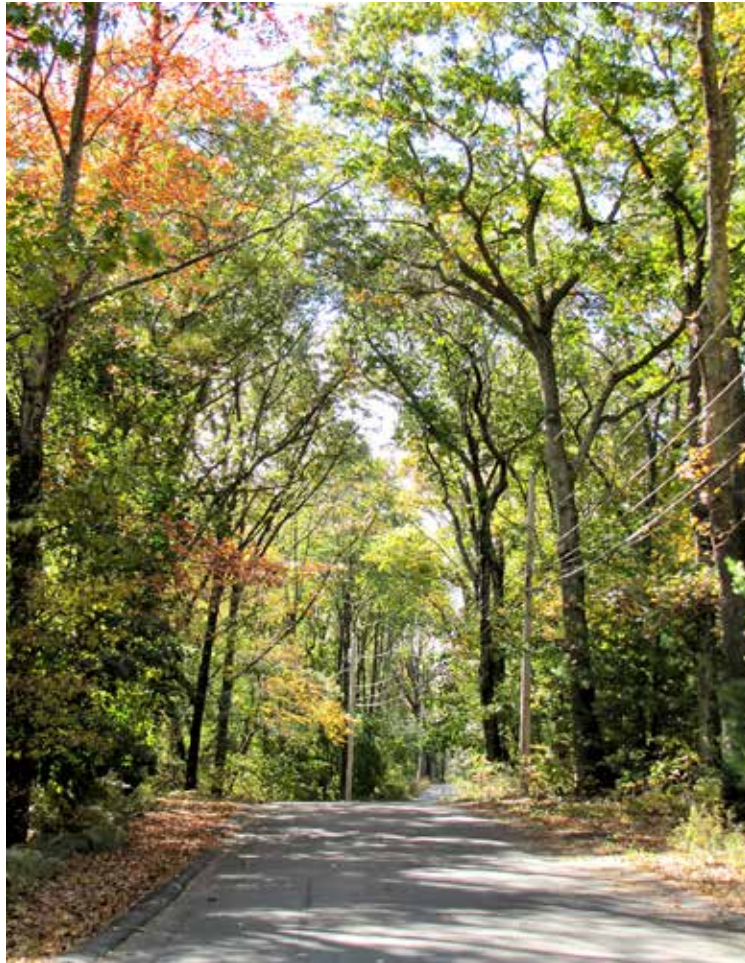
# The Power of Trees: Celebrating Arbor Day

By Kathy Schofield, Mendon Historical Commission and Anne Mazar, Mendon Land Use Committee

As we travel along the roads of Mendon and surrounding towns you can't help but notice the significant cutting of trees along our roadways. Many of these trees were aged 50 – 100 plus years. Reasons for their removal are many ranging from Emerald Ash Borer and other pest infestations to power line disruption and commercial and residential development.

We understand the importance of trees and how they provide critical resources for ourselves and our environment. Along lakes and streams, trees provide erosion and temperature control for fish and wildlife in and around the water. They filter pollutants before they reach the waters' edge and provide habitat for birds and other wildlife. Trees are essential for filtering, holding water in the ground and protecting the aquifers that feed our wells

Trees shade our homes during the hot summer months giving us relief when the temperatures rise, saving us money on our electric bills. They absorb carbon and release oxygen into the air; something we can't



The large native trees that line our roads add to the richness of our New England home. Trees are essential: they cool us, clean our air, filter our water, support native wildlife and more...and all for free! Photo Credit Anne Mazar

live without. They are the real powerhouses that keep us run-

ning - sorry Dunkins!

On a global scale, wildfires have destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres of forested land from California to Australia. Although we may feel removed from these events, they contribute to our air quality on a daily basis Restoring areas where native trees once stood is paramount to our wellbeing, even here in Mendon.

Locally we continue to work to strengthen bylaws and stan-



Native trees that line our roads bring out the beauty of our rural and historic towns. Huge legacy trees gracing our towns are one reason that many of us moved here. Let's protect them. Photo Credit Anne Mazar

dards to preserve and protect these resources. There are simple measures we can take to make a positive change here in our community and whose impact can reach well beyond our town.

Plant a native tree to make a significant impact towards addressing the environmental challenges ahead of us. Following are a few guidelines can help to ensure any tree you plant is successful and has the potential to be here for generations.

1. Make planting a family project – the rewards are endless when you share this project with your kids and watch together as your trees grow.

2. Select trees that are native to the Northeast. Native trees are built to co-exist and not compete with our native flora and fauna. The number one cause of species extinction is the destruction of native plant habitat.

3. Select Legacy Trees vs. Ornamentals – legacy trees, have the potential to grow very large and carry historical value; they are the true workhorses in the environment. Although ornamental trees can be lovely, they can't compete with the benefits of legacy trees for stature, habitat and beauty.

4. Right Tree / Right Place – All tree tags provide you with information on their anticipated mature size. Choose a location where your tree will have enough room for its canopy without interfering with power lines. Choose a location where there will be beneficial cooling and shading. And water them.

5. Brag a little! Let us know if you planted a tree or two, landuse@mendondma.gov.

Let's celebrate and plant! For more information, visit ArborDay.org and NativePlantTrust.org

**SHAHOOD & SONS**  
INC  
**PLUMBING - HEATING - COOLING**

Residential Commercial Industrial

**Stay Cool This Summer**  
**Check Your AC Now!**  
**Call Us Today for Service!**

We offer 0% interest for 7 years under Mass Save.

**Service Work • Repairs • Boilers**  
**Water Heaters • Remodeling • New Construction**  
**Air Conditioning • Heat Pumps • Mini-Splits**

Fully licensed and insured

**CONTACT US TODAY!**  
**508-875-3413**  
**ShahoodPlumbing.com**

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
*¡estamos contratand*

**GREAT PAY & MEDICAL BENEFITS!**

**Milford, MA**

**NOW HIRING**

- Cashiers
- Stockers
- Porters
- Receiving
- Hi-Lo Drivers
- Managers

**Where Restaurants Shop**  
**RESTAURANT DEPOT**

100 Dear Street,  
Milford, MA 01757

Apply Online @ [www.restaurantdepotcareers.com](http://www.restaurantdepotcareers.com)  
or send resume to: [tliberatore@jetrord.com](mailto:tliberatore@jetrord.com)

**FREE PRESS**

**Scan this QR CODE to visit our NEW Facebook Page**

# Mendon's town hall campus 'greening project' improves water quality

By Linda Chuss

More and more, trees and plants are replaced by roads, parking lots, and buildings. This harms water quality and reduces drinkable water – here's why. When it rains on asphalt and cement, the water flows across it and into drains, then into streams, ponds, and beyond. The rainwater carries with it things like litter, oil from cars, chemical fertilizers, leaves and branches. That debris decomposes in the waterways and lakes. There, it causes unwanted algae to bloom, kills fish and other wildlife, and pollutes the water, making it undrinkable.

As one way to address this problem in Mendon, the Town Hall campus has been redesigned to replace the hard surfaces with plantings and better drainage. Started in 2020, the project will finish by early summer. Chair of the town's Land/Energy Use Committee Anne Mazar, who has been involved from the start, described the results.

"What was a sea of problematic asphalt is now an attractive and functional collection of plantings, with improved drainage incorporated, and the parking spots maintained. Now, instead of running off into the storm pipes and water sources, the rain is absorbed in the ground. The ground acts as a natural filter, helping to remove most of the harmful pollutants so they won't get into our water supplies. New drainage pipes, positioned to mimic nature's systems, also help collect and redirect the flow."

There are additional benefits of the new design, Mazar explained. "The plants make the campus more inviting for people walking in the area or sitting down to talk. Plants also keep it cooler – dark asphalt collects heat, but plants lower the temperature. They also absorb carbon dioxide, helping with global warming. This type of design will be better for flood protection, too."

Mazar praised the collaborative effort which includes the Massachusetts Vulnerability Preparedness program, Town Ad-



Mendon Town Hall campus before the redesign and a rendering by the Horsley Witten Group showing the area after paved surfaces are replaced by permeable surfaces and plantings. Source: www.mendontownhallcampusgreenguide.com

ministrators Kim Newman, Fire Chief Kessler and Police Chief Kurczy, Historical Commission member Kathy Schofield, Parks and Recreation Director Dan Byer, the Select Board, the Planning Board, Horsley Witten environmental engineers, and UEL Contractors.

"We invite people to see the site for themselves and learn

from the signs there. Residents and businesses can follow similar practices. Instead of asphalt and concrete, try permeable pavers or gravel. Use native plants and avoid toxic fertilizers and pesticides," said Mazar.

More information about the project can be found at mendontownhallcampusgreenguide.com.

Anyone interested in learning more about the greening of the Mendon Town Hall campus is invited to a workshop and tour on Tuesday, June 13, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Town Hall. Registration is required by emailing [ldupuis@mendonma.gov](mailto:ldupuis@mendonma.gov).

**POWERED BY PROPANE**

**TAKE LIFE OUTDOORS**

Fireplaces & Fire Pits • Grilling • Generators  
Pool & Spa Heating • Outdoor Kitchens  
Patio Heating & Lighting • Home Heating

**MEDWAY OIL & PROPANE**  
"Your Total Home Comfort Company"

2021 QUEST-BEST HOME HEATING  
2022 QUEST-BEST HOME HEATING

Call today to make your life better with propane & ask about our NEW Customer Programs!

508.533.6561  
[info@medwayoilpropane.com](mailto:info@medwayoilpropane.com)  
[medwayoilpropane.com](http://medwayoilpropane.com)

**Attention Dancers**

Looking for rehab with professionals who understand the movement demands of your sport?

Let us help you get back to the sport you love sooner!

**PLATINUM**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Call to schedule an appointment today:  
**508-881-6750**

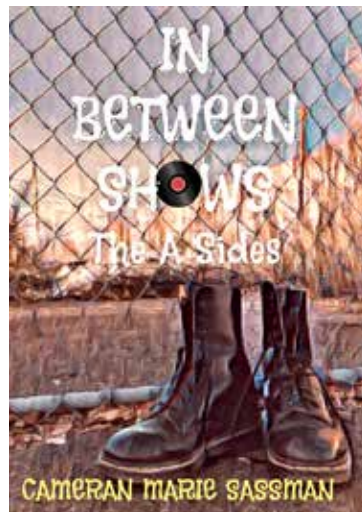
15 West Union Street, Ashland  
1 Lumber Street, Suite 201, Hopkinton  
196 E. Main Street, Milford (in The Gym)  
[www.platinumptma.com](http://www.platinumptma.com)

# Upton author publishes young adult novel

Looking for a fun summer read? Upton resident Cameran Sassman has recently published her debut novel, *In Between Shows, The A Sides*. This unique take on the young adult genre is part music history, part coming of age high school drama and part healing journey for this New Jersey native. *In Between Shows, The A Sides* is a semi-autobiographical tale inspired by the author's beloved punk rock days back in the late 80s.

This story explores themes of late teen relationships, the struggles of being a teenager, and finding your identity with a hearty dose of 80s nostalgia, music and pop culture references. A fun read for high school summer reading or for fans of music and 80s nostalgia. *In Between Shows, The A Sides*, is available on Amazon or in local independent record stores and bookstores like The Nevermind Shop, Aesop's Fable, Tatnuck Bookseller, A Great Notion and That's Entertainment.

Follow Cameran on Instagram @inbetweenshows or check out her website: [inbetweenshows.com](http://inbetweenshows.com) for upcoming appearances.



**Author Cameran Sassman of Upton recently published her first novel, *In Between Shows, The A Sides*. Courtesy photo**

## Ask the Mendon Assessors: New real estate tax exemption

Applications are now available at the Assessor's Office in Town Hall for the new, means-tested senior property tax exemption that will provide between a \$600 and a \$2,400 reduction in Fiscal Year 2024 property taxes. The deadline for submitting the applications is August 31.

The town's Taxation Aid Committee sponsored an article that was unanimously approved at the May, 2021 Annual Town Meeting to petition the State Legislature to grant Mendon the right to offer this exemption. It was signed into law by then Governor Charlie Baker as Chapter 241 of the Acts of 2022 on October 19, 2022. This coming fiscal year, which begins on July 1, is the first time it is being offered.

Any Mendon resident age 65 or older as of January 1, 2022 who has applied for and received the Circuit Breaker income tax credit when they filed their calendar year 2022 state income tax return is eligible to apply for this new exemption. It does not replace any existing senior exemptions, but will be given as an additional exemption.

Specific criteria for the exemption include:

- You must own property in Mendon and occupy it as your primary residence for ten (10) consecutive years.

- For tax year 2022, your total Massachusetts income did not exceed:

- \$64,000 for a single individual who is not the head of a household.

- \$80,000 for a head of household.

- \$96,000 for married couples filing a joint return.

- Your Mendon property tax payments must exceed 10% of your total Massachusetts income for the 2022 tax year.

- The assessed valuation of the homeowner's personal residence as of January 1, 2022, before residential exemptions but after abatements, cannot exceed \$912,000. (If you own more than one acre of land, only the value of that one acre will be counted.)

As with all property tax exemptions, applicants' financial information is kept completely confidential.

Each year, the Select Board will vote in October to offer from 50% to 200% of the income tax credit (the 2022 income tax year amount is \$1,200) as the exemption for the fiscal year. This percentage will be applied to the amount seniors received as a state income tax credit. For example, if a person receives an \$800 income tax credit and the Select Board decides on 100%, the exemption will be \$800.

It is the Board of Assessors' goal to have this exemption factored into the third and fourth quarter tax bills that are mailed in late December each year.

If you have any questions about the new exemption, please contact Principal Assessor Jean Berthold at 508-473-2738 or [jberthold@mendonma.gov](mailto:jberthold@mendonma.gov) or Taxation Committee Chair Kevin Rudden at 508-478-3124 or [krudden@mendonma.gov](mailto:krudden@mendonma.gov).



## PARK PLACE DENTAL ASSOCIATES

**Cosmetic & Family Dentistry**  
*Relaxed, Friendly Atmosphere*



**John C. Park, DMD**

- ◆ Cleaning & Exams
- ◆ Fillings
- ◆ Invisalign®
- ◆ Teeth Whitening
- ◆ Bridges
- ◆ One-Day Crowns
- ◆ Children Welcome

Welcoming  
**NEW**  
Patients

**508-473-6500**

[parkplacedentalma.com](http://parkplacedentalma.com)

**54 Hopedale St., Suite 8, Hopedale**

*Additional location in Hopkinton – [HopkintonDMD.com](http://HopkintonDMD.com)*

### New England Steak & Seafood Restaurant



**FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 18 MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!**

**DADS DON'T LIKE COOKOUTS - THEY LIKE TO DINE OUT!**

#### 9 SEATING TIMES AVAILABLE

12:00 noon	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.

**Route 16, Mendon • 508-473-5079**

[nesteakandseafood.com](http://nesteakandseafood.com)



## Upton Town Library Calendar of Events

9 Milford Street, Upton • 508-529-6272 • UptonLibrary.org • HOURS: Tues. - Thurs. 10-8 • Fri. & Sat. 10-4 • Sun. & Mon. CLOSED

*By Matthew Bachtold, Library Director and Lee Ann Murphy, Children's Librarian*

**Upton Library is now at 9 Milford Street. The Library has moved and is now open at our new location at 9 Milford Street, inside the Upton Community Center.** Reserve study rooms and meeting space at the Community Center. The classroom, conference room and study rooms are now available for use by the public. Review room descriptions, read the usage policy and reserve spaces online through our website, [uptonlibrary.org](http://uptonlibrary.org) or call 508-529-6272

**Veterans Memorial Playground**

The Playground at 9 Milford Street is now open for use.

Upper playground is fully open. Lower program will remain closed while the grass lawn gets established.

### Special Events

Our Annual Summer Reading Program begins this month! The theme for 2023 is "Find Your Voice!," a theme from the

iRead® Program, encouraging readers to find what they love about themselves, be it science, singing, dancing, sports, or anything. Official registration begins June 20 and will be open until August. Participants can stop by the library to sign up and receive a folder full of activities to keep busy all summer long. Read, earn badges, receive prizes. Fun for all ages.

**Kickoff Theater event** Friday, June 23 at 6 p.m. Join us at Nipmuc High School's Courtyard to welcome back performers from The Traveling Lantern Theatre Company for a performance of "Rhonda Appleseed & the Tree that Learned How to Speak." This is always a family-friendly event, perfect for bringing a picnic, or purchasing slices of pizza from the Friends of the Upton Town Library. Bring a blanket and kick off your weekend with us.

For more of our summer reading events, visit our Event Calendar at [uptonlibrary.org](http://uptonlibrary.org). **Grand Opening / Dedication** Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 p.m. The Board of Selectmen

invites you to be present at the dedication of the new Upton Community Center in honor of the citizens of Upton. Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. and open house immediately following the dedication.

**Boston Marathon History** Wednesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m. "Boston Marathon History by the Mile," a multimedia presentation of photos, stories, and history with Author Paul Clerici. Open for all ages.

**Backyard Orchard Gardening** Saturday, June 24, 10:30 a.m. Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardeners presents: "The Backyard Orchard" Growing tree fruit can be challenging, but with a few hints and the right techniques, you'll have enough apples, pears, and everything else for the entire neighborhood.

**Library Events - Register now!** Please note changed times for many children's programs. All programs and events require pre-registration at [uptonlibrary.org](http://uptonlibrary.org) or call 508-529-6272

**Music & Movement - Select Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.**

Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins will take place June 13 and 27 from 9:30 - 10 a.m. in the Community Center. Join us for stories, songs, and fun. Best for ages 1-5. Partial funding for this program is through a grant from Beginning Bridges CFCE in Uxbridge. Pre-registration is required.

**Baby Storytime - Fridays at 9:30 a.m.**

Baby Storytime is for ages birth to 3 and is every Friday in June. This is a 20-minute lapsit program featuring stories, songs, and nursery rhymes. For ages 0-3. Pre-registration required.

**Preschool Storytime - June 8 & 15, Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.**

Preschool Storytime is a 30-minute program, featuring longer stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts. For ages 3-5. Pre-registration required.

Starting June 22, Preschool Storytime is replaced by Read around the Town, when Mrs. Murphy visits locations throughout Upton for stories and songs with members of the community. Check our Event Calendar

for details.

**Saturday Storytime - June 24, July 8 at 9:30 a.m.**

Once a month we offer a Saturday Storytime, blending Baby and Preschool storytimes featuring stories, songs, rhymes and a craft. For ages 0-5. Pre-registration required.

**Teen Group - Tuesdays 3 p.m.**

This group meets weekly every Tuesday from 3 - 4 p.m. and focuses on a new theme each month, sharing books, crafts, games, and more. For May, our theme will be Travel. This group is for teens and teens ages 10-16. This is always a drop-in program.

**Kids' Book Club - July 5, 4 p.m.**

Our book club members explore popular juvenile and preteen titles on the first Wednesday of each month. Join us on July 5, 4 - 4:45 p.m., to discuss self-selected biographies. This group is for ages 8-12 and reads mostly middle grade titles. We welcome new members all

**UPTON LIBRARY**

*continued on page 18*

# MULLALY MATERIALS

**WE SELL\* & DELIVER:**

**MULCH**

**STONE**

**LOAM**

*Also* **GRAVEL • SAND • FIREWOOD**

**PLAYGROUND CHIPS • RECYCLED ASPHALT**

**CALL US TODAY: 508-883-0977**

\*Priced per yard

PICKUP & DELIVERY

FREE DELIVERY ON MOST BULK LOADS

## FIREWOOD

Seasoned Hard Wood  
**\$350**  
Full Cord

Green Hard Wood  
**\$300**  
Full Cord

**OUTDOOR WOOD**  
Upon Request

Visa / MC / Cash / Check



**WWW.MULLALYMATERIALS.COM**

### PRICE PER YARD

Hemlock Mulch .....	\$48.00
Black Mulch.....	\$42.00
Brown Pine Mulch .....	\$40.00
Red Cedar Mulch .....	\$42.00
Playground Safety Fiber .....	\$42.00
Forest Chips.....	\$12.00
Screened Loam.....	\$28.00
50/50 Compost/Loam .....	\$32.00
Compost.....	\$38.00
3/8", 3/4" & 1 1/2" Gray Stone .....	\$38.00
3" Gray Stone.....	\$35.00
3/8", 3/4" Multi Color Round.....	\$80.00
1 1/2", 2 1/2" Multi Color River Stone .....	\$80.00
3/4" Lavender Stone.....	\$80.00
3/8" & 3/4" Blue Stone.....	\$45.00
3/4" Processed Gravel .....	\$32.00
3" Processed Gravel .....	\$25.00
Recycled Asphalt.....	\$25.00
Washed Sand .....	\$30.00
Mason/Pool Sand.....	\$50.00
Stone Dust.....	\$32.00
Blue Stone Dust.....	\$45.00
Rip Rap.....	\$32.00
Special 3" Fill .....	\$22.00
Trench Sand .....	\$28.00
1" Dense Grade Gravel .....	\$25.00

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Closed Sunday

UPTON LIBRARY

continued from page 17

year round. Pre-registration required.

Upton Reads Book Group

An eclectic mix of contemporary literary fiction with meetings on the second Tuesday afternoon and Thursday evening of each month in the Community Center classroom, with a Zoom remote option.

Tuesday, July 11 at 12:45 p.m., and Thursday, July 13 at 6:45 p.m.: Lessons in Chemistry, by Bonnie Garmus.

For more information or assistance with any library services, call 508-529-6272 or email mbachtol@cwmar.org

Alcott graduates from Merrimack College

Haley Alcott of Upton graduated Magna Cum Laude from Merrimack College in May. She has a double major including a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Human Services.

She received a fellowship to do her graduate studies at Merrimack which she will begin in June. She will achieve her Master of Education in Teacher Education ESL.

Alcott is a 2019 graduate of Nipmuc Regional High School.

Haley Alcott of Upton graduated from Merrimack College in May. Courtesy photo



Memorial Day wreaths placed on Memorials in Mendon. The wreaths were made by students of Norfolk Aggie Floral Dept., teacher, Emily Perry. Donation for the wreaths were received by several local citizens. Courtesy photo

Advertisement for SRA Salon featuring Theresa, 20% OFF ANY SERVICE, and contact information for 12 Milford Street, Upton.

2024 biennial quilt show date announced

The Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild is pleased to announce that its biennial quilt show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17, 2024 at Blackstone Valley Regional Vo-

ational Technical School.

The Guild has selected "Putting the Pieces Together" as the show theme. This theme reflects not only the members' love of quilting but also its dedication

this show's special project the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation.

Over 200 member quilts as well as guild challenges and round robins will be on display. Also included will be a special raffle quilt, the quilters' boutique and local area vendors.

Any local area vendor wishing to participate in the Guild's show should contact Deb Hudgins through the website at thimblepleasures.org or by contacting her by mail at TPQG, PO Box 447, Mendon, MA 01756.

The 2024 show is being chaired by Kathy Sperino and Annie Bosma.

Advertisement for MWRTA hiring driving positions, featuring a photo of a driver and details about fixed route and demand response jobs.

Advertisement for New England Reglaze offering tub reglazing services for \$299.00, with contact information and a website link.

Advertisement for Hopedale Pizza Market featuring a \$5 OFF coupon for dine-in/take-out orders on purchases of \$10 or more, and contact information for their location in Menfi Way.

# SCHOOLS

## FULL STEAM

*continued from page 1*

employment contracts were signed with representatives from local companies. Among those signing contracts were:

**Mendon residents:** Kurt Bellefontaine, Jack Gooding, and Ryan Michaud. Kurt, a senior in the HVAC&R program at BVT, will take his vocational-technical training as an HVAC Technician to his Co-op employer Medway Oil in Medway, MA, and will work towards his Oil Burner certification and gas card. Jack, a senior in the HVAC&R program at BVT, will take his skilled training as an HVAC Technician to his Co-op employer J.J. Mechanical Services, in Mendon, MA. Jack will work towards earning sheet metal certification and oil burner certifications and hopes to one day open his own HVAC Company. As a senior in the Construction Technology program at BVT, Ryan obtained his Hydraulic license. Ryan will take his training as an excavator operator to his Co-op employer, JB Sawmill & Land Clearing, Inc., in Hopkinton, MA.

Milford resident Brendan Hawkins, a senior in the HVAC&R program at BVT, was one of many who signed a contract. Brendan will take his vocational-technical training as an HVAC Technician for Service and Install to his Co-op employer, Centerline Mechanical, in Upton, MA. Next, he will work towards his sheet metal and oil burner licenses, with a long-term goal of becoming a lead technician hoping to open his own business one day.

**Upton residents:** Kevin Galicki and Alex Taylor. Kevin, a senior in the Electrical program at BVT, will take his vocational-technical training as an apprentice electrician to his

Co-op employer, Renaud Electric, working towards obtaining a journeyman license and becoming a master electrician. Alex, a senior in the Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication program at BVT, did not participate in the Co-op program this year, electing to remain in the shop to continue to master his craft with the vocational instructors at BVT. Alex has accepted a manufacturing technician 1C position with Primetals.

With all their energy and enthusiasm, these seniors earning nearly a million dollars in one year of Co-op placements have found their financial footing using their vocational skills and technical training. Of course, they'll continue to gain more experience with full-time employment and on-the-job training. But they've proven to their employers that they're ready to go, full steam ahead, directly from high school into high-skill, high-wage employment.

While many students signed contracts during the ceremony, several more who could not attend due to work conflicts are also headed directly to industry careers. For more details about the school and this event, please visit [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/careersigningday2023](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/careersigningday2023).

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT):

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.

# BVT Student Council earns national recognition 5th year in a row

## BVT Student Council earns National Recognition

For their exemplary record of leadership, service, and activities that assist the school and community, the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) Student Council has once again been recognized as a 2023 National Gold Council of Excellence by the National Student Council (NatStuCo). It is the fifth consecutive year the council at BVT has earned this top award.

“Exceptional student councils are a hallmark of exceptional schools,” said Ronn Nozoe, CEO of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the parent organization of NatStuCo. “The student council at BVT has taken student leadership to the next level, creating a culture promoting scholarship and citizenship that resonates far beyond their team. I’m delighted to recognize their hard


work with the National Gold Council of Excellence Award for their commitment to service, leadership, and uplifting the voices of their peers.”

To meet the National Council of Excellence Award requirements, a student council must meet various criteria, such as crafting a written constitution, conducting regular

**FIFTH YEAR**


*continued on page 20*

**The Upton & Mendon Free Press**  
sends our  
**CONGRATULATIONS**  
and  
**BEST WISHES**  
to the  
**BVT Class of 2023.**  
*Keep us posted on your accomplishments!*

**Mitsubishi Electric Ductless Systems**  
provide year-round comfort and are up to 40% more efficient than traditional systems.

Call us for a free estimate  
**Boucher Energy Systems**  
508-473-6648  
[www.boucherenergy.com](http://www.boucherenergy.com)



**MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

SCHOOLS

# Congratulations to the Nipmuc Class of 2023!



Photo by Theresa Knapp

### FIFTH YEAR

continued from page 19

meetings, and adopting a dem-

ocratic election process. Additionally, demonstrate successful sponsorship and participation in leadership development and activities that serve its school

and community.

"It is an honor to recognize the efforts of our award-winning council," said Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "We are proud of our advisors, Danielle Cann and Megan Potenti, who consistently assist and empower our council members through annual service projects and fundraising efforts such as Thanksgiving meals and a holiday drive that truly make a difference in the lives of our families and community."

It has been an exceptional year for the council, earning

recognition at the state level, being named a Gold Council by the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils (MASC), and Megan Potenti, MASC Advisor of the Year.

"Our students continue to amaze me year after year," said Danielle Cann. "I love advising this club. I am lucky to work with an incredible group of students with creative ideas who enjoy collaborating to accomplish goals and create an atmosphere that unifies our school."

The 2022-23 Student Council Executive Board Members:

- Eleanor Poitras, *Vice President*
- Lizmary Vidal-Sanchez, *Secretary*
- Bradley Lyon, *Treasurer*
- Luke Perier, *Historian*
- Zabel DerKosrofian, *Events Coordinator*
- Sara Lewis, *Publicity Coordinator*
- Sarah Flynn, *Awards Coordinator*
- Katelyn Steele, *Evaluation Coordinator*
- Maxwell Guyton, *Senior Representative*
- Laney Beahn, *Junior Representative*
- Sosie DerKosrofian, *Sophomore Representative*

## RELIABLE PET SITTING

Professional Dog, Cat and Horse Care at Your Home






CALL MAGGIE  
508-769-9634

Dependable • Year-Round Service  
Excellent References

35 Years Professional Experience

## Mark's Transportation LLC

Call today for more information  
561-654-9881




### DRIVERS WANTED

30 Positions Now Available!

WE PAY MORE

\$1,000 Sign-On Bonus\*



Office is located at  
51 East Main St., Milford, MA

Office hours are Mon-Fri, 9:00 AM-5 PM

Transport students and adults.

NO CDL Required, 7D Certificate Only.

We'll help you get the certification.

Split Shifts: Early morning, mid/late afternoon.

We Pay More.

Great job for retired person or someone needing part-time work.

Must be 21 or older with valid driver's license.

\*New applicants only; restrictions apply

LOOKING TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS?

Contact Susanne

508-954-8148 • sue@sodellconsult.com



## Templeman

TREE SERVICE, INC.

Serving the Community since 1980

Full Service  
Tree Removal Company

FAST FREE ESTIMATES

Crane Service Available  
Expert Hand Climbing Crews  
Removals - Pruning - Stump Grinding - Cabling  
Fully Insured - Workman's Comp

OWNER: Steve Stratton

508-366-7693 • 508-839-5961 • templemantree.com

SCHOOLS

# Georgia on their minds

**24 BVT students representing Massachusetts are headed to National Competition in Atlanta**



The SkillsUSA Massachusetts 49th Annual State Leadership & Skills Conference was held at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) on April 28. SkillsUSA welcomed contestants across the Commonwealth, representing the talent pipeline for skilled trades, to test their occupational training in the Massachusetts SkillsUSA Championships Career Competitions, a showcase of talent for students enrolled in vocational, technical, and health

education.

It was the seventeenth consecutive year BVT had hosted the prestigious Olympic-style career competition, with thousands of students judged by business professionals according to industry and employment standards. The Massachusetts Secretary of Education, Mr. Patrick Tutwiler, visited the campus to experience the event. It was the first time he had visited the campus since his appointment to the position in January.

The annual event was an impressive display of vocational-technical training at its finest. BVT had 128 students test their vocational-technical ability in 60 competitions with remarkable results: 25 Gold, 19 Silver and 18 Bronze for a total of 62 medals.

The gold medalists earn the right to represent SkillsUSA Massachusetts and compete with champions from all over the country at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, Georgia,

this June. The exception is the Cosmo under 500 and Safety Poster Design Team gold medalists who only compete at the state level and do not advance. However, Kallie Allen and the Safety Poster Design Team winners will serve as National Voting Delegates. The complete list of medalists is available at [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa).

The BVT students who earned medals at the State Leadership & Skills Conference are listed alphabetically

by hometown:

**MENDON**

**Gold:** Naomi Tsuda, Baking and Pastry Arts.

**Silver:** Josh Blalock, Diesel Equipment Technology.

**Bronze:** Natalia Vazquez, Engineering Technology.

**UPTON**

**Gold:** Jacob Giancola, Robotics and Automation Tech; and Katelyn Steele, Related Technical Math.

**Silver:** Gillian Yordanopoulos (model), Esthetics.

## MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

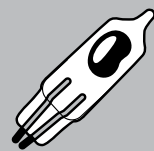
**Mercury is found in products such as:**



Thermostats



Thermometers



Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

SPONSORED BY



# Pickering & Son

Upton  
FUNERAL HOME

David A. Pickering • Andrew D. Pickering  
Funeral Directors

Offering dignified service to those of all faiths in Upton, Mendon and the surrounding communities since 1902

45 Main Street, Upton, MA 01568  
508-529-6992 • [uptonfunerals.com](http://uptonfunerals.com)

SPORTS

# Championship spring for BVT girls' track

## Beavers capture league and state vocational titles

By Chris Villani  
Sports Writer

Blackstone Valley Tech's girls' track and field team was strong last spring, but this season the Beavers achieved new heights by finishing the regular season undefeated and winning both the Colonial Athletic League and state vocational meets.

"We had a lot of young athletes who joined the team, and we encouraged them the whole time to try different events and they all really stepped up," said head coach Chelsea Swan. "That allowed us to put a lot of runners out there who were capable of being competitive."

BVT's depth and talent shown through at the state voke. Nearly every Beaver who took part in the meet ended up scoring points. Several athletes stood out throughout the season.

Haley Bilodeau was among Valley Tech's top point scorers, notching wins in the high hurdles and the javelin. Swan asked her to try the low hurdles, figuring she could excel in the event given her knowledge of hurdling and the stamina she shows on the soccer field.

"The first time she ran the event she was two seconds off the school record," Swan said. Just a sophomore, Bilodeau has since broken the record and qualified for the state divisional meet in the event.

Emma Guadagnoli, a senior, set the school record in the 400-meter run. She has also added the 800-meter event and the 200-meter dash to her repertoire.

"She has done exceptionally well in all of those events," her coach said.

Junior Chloe Vescio was



Blackstone Valley Tech's girls' track team won every meet and captured two titles this spring. Courtesy photo

the team manager in 2022 but wanted to compete this spring and Swan is happy she did.

The distance runner qualified for divisional states in the two-mile and took her time down to 12:31.

Swan also had high praise for her relay teams, all of which have been consistent point scorers. She is particularly happy about the 4x800 team composed of Vescio, Guadagnoli, and juniors Maia Tyra and Laney Beahn. She entered the quartet in the state vocational meet with a seed time of 11

minutes which she thought was "a bit of a stretch."

"They went out and they crushed it," Swan said, noting they topped their seed time by a second and qualified for states. "They didn't expect to win, but they did."

It is yet another victory in a spring replete with them for the program.

"I am really proud of all of them," Swan said. "They have done such a good job."

**Family Fun**  
...STARTS AT...  
**\$8**

**Woosox '23**  
EVEN MORE TO DO AND SEE

**WOOSOX.COM**    **508-500-8888**

**It's Graduation Time!**  
TENT PACKAGES AVAILABLE!

<p><b>20x20 Pole Tent Package</b> (4 Table, 32 chairs) <b>\$489/Day</b></p> <p><b>20x30 Pole Tent Package</b> (6 tables, 48 chairs) <b>\$589/Day</b></p> <p><b>20x40 Pole Tent Package</b> (8 tables, 64 chairs) <b>\$689/Day</b></p> <p><b>15x15 Pole Tent Package</b> (4 tables, 24 chairs) <b>\$439/Day</b></p>	<p><b>Other services offered:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Inflatables</li> <li>■ Catering Equipment</li> <li>■ Concessions and Games</li> <li>■ Tent Accessories &amp; More!</li> </ul>
--	--

**Reserve today!**

71 Mechanic Street, Bellingham MA  
**508-657-1100**  
www.taylorrentalbellingham.com

## SPORTS

# Nipmuc Girls LAX enjoying standout season

## Offense helps Warriors earn tourney spot



The Nipmuc girls' lacrosse team is all smiles after one of many wins this spring. Courtesy photos

By Chris Villani,  
Sports writer

Grace Merten is noticing some changes in her players in her second season at the helm of the Nipmuc girls' lacrosse team.

"There is a lot more continuity and carryover from last year in terms of routines, which has really helped us," Merten said. "They are working so hard and we have a lot of raw talent. But everyone is working together as a team."

The talented, albeit young, Nipmuc team put together a double-digit victory total in the regular season and is bound for the playoffs. Merten said much of the success can be attributed to her three captains.

Senior Kelly Bailey notched her 200th career point this spring, tackling the milestone well ahead of the end of the regular season. While she has helped anchor the offense, midfielder Liz Lange, a junior captain, has been strong on both the attack and on defense.

"People can't get by her," Merten said.

Then there's Penny Brodeur,

the most vocal leader of the group.

"She knows how to get everyone fired up," Merten said. "Penny is someone that all the other girls look to."

Summing up her captains, the coach said, "They all play a different role, but it works so well."

Some of the Warriors' newer players have also been key cogs. Senior Riley Webster came to the team after playing basketball this winter and Merten said her knowledge of how to play defense and use her athleticism has translated seamlessly from one sport to the other.

"She has been one of our strongest defenders," Merten said.

And sophomore Fallon Lozano has continued to be one of the area's top players. After a breakout freshman season, there was no catching opponents by surprise for Lozano this spring. But it hasn't mattered. Even with other teams typically guarding her closely, Lozano passed the 200 point mark this year with still more than two years left in her high school

career.

"She was great last year, but she is clearly more confident with a season under her belt," Merten said. "People know her now and they look to shut her down, but it hasn't stopped her. To have 200 career points before her sophomore season is over is just crazy."

A pair of freshmen, Riley Collura and Jayden Lilburn, have also stepped into significant roles in their first season.

"We are feeling really good," Merten said. "With such a young team, we need to build up our belief in ourselves. They have been doing such a good job of motivating each other."

Even in the few setbacks Nipmuc has had, Merten said there are positives to be gained.

"We came really close to beating teams that used to blow us out in the past, that alone has been huge for us," she said. "They are not wins, but they are still big milestones for our program."

## PROTECT YOUR FAMILY & PETS



Call NOW to eliminate  
Ticks & Mosquitos  
in Your Yard

LICENSED &  
INSURED  
ALL WORK  
GUARANTEED



WPC Pest &  
Termite Control

Call today

508-435-2211

nobugsnopests.com



Kevin Meehan  
Owner

**FACT:**  
Imperial sells  
a car every  
15 minutes!



**2,000 VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES  
FIVE DEALERSHIPS // EIGHT BRANDS**

SALES: M-TH 9-9, FRI & SAT 9-6, SUN 12-6  
SERVICE: M-F 7:30-6, SAT 7:30-5

**508-488-2382**

**8-18 UXBRIDGE RD. MENDON, MA 01756 // 154 EAST MAIN ST. MILFORD, MA 01757 // 300 FORTUNE BLVD. MILFORD, MA 01757**

**THE DEALS  
ARE HOT!**

# Summer Fest

## SAVINGS EVENT



**DON'T MISS THESE  
SIZZLING  
SUMMER DEALS!**

Take advantage of **SAVINGS** of up to **\$15,000**  
and rates as low as **0% FINANCING** on our  
most popular new vehicles and 5.49% on used.

**WE'VE GOT THE AREA'S LARGEST INVENTORY OF NEW AND USED  
CARS, TRUCKS AND SUVS AND EVEN COMMERCIAL VEHICLES TOO!**

 <b>CAR FAX ONE OWNER VEHICLES</b> <b>530 ONE OWNER VEHICLES IN STOCK!</b>		<b>2020 CHEVY EQUINOX LT</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$73/WK</b> #44844R • ALLOYS, AWD, TURBO NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$35,190</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,577</b>	<b>2018 HONDA PILOT EX-L</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$110/WK</b> #P15546B • ALLOYS, AWD, SUNROOF NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$35,220</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,977</b>	<b>2021 FORD F-150 XL 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$134/WK</b> #P15896 • SUPERCREW, V6, NAV NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$50,950</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$40,977</b>	<b>2020 FORD EXPLORER 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$119/WK</b> #P15983L • XLT, LEATHER, TURBO NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$45,765</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,477</b>	<b>2018 JEEP WRANGLER 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$119/WK</b> #TP2244A • UNLIMITED SAHARA, V6 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,810</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,477</b>
<b>2020 JEEP RENEGADE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$71/WK</b> #123130A • 4X4, ALLOYS, SPORT NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$36,165</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977</b>	<b>2020 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$111/WK</b> #TP2342 • SR5 TRIM, CPO, 3.5L V6 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$53,605</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$34,477</b>	<b>2019 DODGE DURANGO R/T</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$117/WK</b> #23241A • SUNROOF, AWD, V8 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,595</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,977</b>	<b>2022 TOYOTA SIENNA LE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$138/WK</b> #TP2360 • LANE DEPARTURE, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,725</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$41,977</b>	<b>2019 TOYOTA CAMRY LE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$83/WK</b> #TM23-554A • LANE DEPARTURE NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,625</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,377</b>	<b>2019 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$120/WK</b> #44475A • 1500 LT, ALLOYS, 5.3L V8 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$54,180</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,977</b>	<b>2020 NISSAN ROGUE SPORT</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$77/WK</b> #H03868 • AWD, PARKING SENSORS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$31,710</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,877</b>
<b>2020 GMC ACADIA SLE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$94/WK</b> #44674 • AWD, APPLE CARPLAY, V6 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$37,865</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,477</b>	<b>2021 TOYOTA TUNDRA SR5</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$150/WK</b> #P15815LGG • 4X4, CREWMAX, V8 NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$54,970</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$45,477</b>	<b>2021 JEEP CHEROKEE 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$92/WK</b> #D13165R • LATITUDE LUX, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,400</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$28,977</b>	<b>2020 HYUNDAI TUCSON SUV</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$79/WK</b> #H03927 • AWD, SPORT TRIM, CPO NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$36,750</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,377</b>	<b>2019 FORD FUSION SE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$57/WK</b> #P15751 • 23/34 CITY/HIGHWAY MPG NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$28,690</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$18,977</b>	<b>2019 CHEVY TRAVERSE</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$88/WK</b> #D13317L • AWD, LS TRIM, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$39,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,977</b>	<b>2021 HYUNDAI KONA SUV</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$81/WK</b> #H03974 • SEL TRIM, ALLOYS, CPO NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$29,650</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,877</b>
<b>2021 FORD EDGE SEL AWD</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$110/WK</b> #P15857L • ONLY 9K MILES, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$40,395</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,977</b>	<b>2021 MERCEDES GLC 300</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$156/WK</b> #H03231 • 19" ALLOYS, 4MATIC AWD NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$64,670</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$46,977</b>	<b>2018 TESLA MODEL 3 AWD</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$110/WK</b> #H03762PP • SUNROOF, NAV, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$59,990</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,977</b>	<b>2021 FORD BRONCO 4x4</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$103/WK</b> #P15777L • OUTER BANKS TRIM NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</b>	<b>2020 SUBARU FORESTER</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$93/WK</b> #SH23274A • NAV, ALLOYS, SUNROOF NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,695</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,377</b>	<b>2021 HONDA ACCORD SPORT</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$101/WK</b> #H03849 • LEATHER, TURBO, ALLOYS NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$35,660</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,477</b>	<b>2023 HYUNDAI SONATA SEL</b>  AS LOW AS <b>\$85/WK</b> #H03883 • 27/37 MPG CITY/HWY NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$32,686</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977</b>

**WHY PAY THE DIFFERENCE IF YOU CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE?**

**BAD CREDIT?  
DON'T SWEAT IT!**  
*We finance your future  
- not your past.*

**WE WORK WITH OVER 60 BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS  
TO GET YOU THE **LOWEST RATE POSSIBLE!****

*"We sell more -  
because we  
have more!"*



Mike Penner  
General Manager

**SEVEN DAY VEHICLE  
EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

SALE ENDS 06/30/23. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. THIS OFFER IS NOT VALID ON PRIOR SALES AND IS BASED ON THE MSRP, AND NOT COMBINABLE WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT, PROMOTIONS, OR INCENTIVES. PRICE LISTED INCLUDES ALL APPLICABLE MANUFACTURER REBATES (NOT EVERYONE WILL QUALIFY) AND IMPERIAL DISCOUNTS INCLUDING A \$1,000 IMPERIAL TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS FOR A QUALIFYING 2012 OR NEWER TRADE. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION, DOCUMENTATION OR ACQUISITION FEES AND CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS OR PROMOTIONS. WEEKLY PAYMENTS CALCULATED WITH AN ESTIMATED DOWN PAYMENT OF \$2,999 CASH OR TRADE. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. CALL 1-508-488-2382 TO SEE WHICH REBATES YOU QUALIFY FOR.