

Robert Tusino is new Milford Police Chief

Former Deputy Chief appointed unanimously

By Scott Calzolaio

After a national search process, the Milford Police Department found its new chief right at home. Former Deputy Chief Robert Tusino was appointed Police Chief by a unanimous vote of the Select Board on Sept. 25.

The longtime Milford officer and resident was one of three finalists. He is taking the place of retiring Police Chief James Falvey.

Tusino is the fourth chief to take the badge since 2019, but notably the first hired after the thorough national search process.

The job is exactly as he expected, “no curveballs,” he said in an interview.

“You have to know the town and the area you’re serving,” he said. “I was very proactive as an officer, as a sergeant, as a deputy chief, and none of that is going to change.”



New Milford Chief of Police Robert Tusino was appointed in September. Tusino previously served as Deputy Chief of the department. Photo courtesy Milford Police Department

After graduating from Milford High School, he soon began his career as an EMT in the 1980s. In July 2001, he joined the New York City Police Department,

where his training was interrupted, and he was sent to Ground Zero after the 9/11

POLICE CHIEF

continued on page 10

Milford Cheerleading has title aspirations

Scarlett Hawks seek state crown



The Milford cheerleading team is a bit smaller this fall, but still has high expectations for the season. Photo courtesy Heather Johnson

By Chris Villani

The Milford High cheerleading team is smaller than normal this fall, the product of having a large group of seniors depart last year. But head coach Heather Johnson said her team is sharpening its routine and tacking on added dif-

ficulty with the hope of competing for some hardware.

“The goal is always to go out and be the best they can be every time they hit the mat,” Johnson

CHEERLEADING

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Community invited to attend Veterans Day Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 10

Ceremony will be held in Draper Memorial Park at conclusion of parade

The members of Citizens for Milford invite all area veterans and residents to attend a special ceremony on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 10 in Draper Memorial Park, weather permitting. The ceremony will begin immediately following the conclusion of the Veterans Day Parade at approximately 11 a.m.

Participating in the ceremony will be local veterans, clergy, and the Milford High School Marching Band. Members of the Italian American War Veterans Milford Post #40 will present the Colors. Speakers will include Massachusetts Senator Becca Rausch (D. Norfolk, Worcester, and Middlesex), USMC veteran Tim McDonough, and Captain Kevin Polito of the Milford Corps of the Salvation Army. Participating clergy will include Rabbi Mendy Kivman of the Chabad House Jewish Community Center and Reverend Peter Joyce, Pastor at St. Mary of the Assumption Church. A

member of the Waters Corporation Veterans Employee Resource Group will present a wreath honoring veterans at the World War I monument. Peter Scandone, who is chairman of the Veterans Day Ceremony Committee, will serve as master of ceremonies.

The Field of Flags, a tribute to the service and sacrifice of our veterans and active military personnel, will be installed in Draper Memorial Park prior to Veterans Day and remain flying until the week after Veterans Day. Parade and ceremony attendees are invited to walk among the flags and monuments in Draper Park and read the names of the veterans and active military who are memorialized and honored there.

Scandone says, "Milford has a long, proud history of honoring our veterans. We encourage all residents to join us for the Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony to demonstrate our support and gratitude for all

the Milford men and women who have valiantly served our country."

A limited number of chairs will be available for attendees at Draper Park.

If the parade is cancelled due to rain, the ceremony will be held at the Italian American War Veterans of the U.S. Post #40 Hall (4 Hayward Field) beginning at 10 a.m. If the weather is poor but the parade still marches, the ceremony will be held at the Italian American War Veterans of the U.S. Post #40 Hall beginning at approximately 11 a.m.

The Veterans Day Parade is organized by the Milford Department of Veterans Services. Please address questions regarding the parade to this office in Town Hall at 508-634-2311. Details about the Veterans Day Ceremony are available on CitizensforMilford.com. Questions regarding the Veterans Day Ceremony can be emailed to CitizensforMilford@gmail.com.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Friday, November 10
Draper Memorial Park | Milford

Join the community in honoring the sacrifices of our military heroes.
The ceremony will begin at the conclusion of the parade, at approximately 11:00 a.m.

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- ★ If the weather is bad but the parade still marches, the ceremony will be held at the ITAM Veterans Hall at 11:00 a.m.
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New Memorial Elementary School mural was a Gold Award project

Elena Papula consulted various age groups on public art project

By Theresa Knapp

When Elena Papula had to choose an issue to address for her Girl Scout Gold Award project, she immediately thought about art and, specifically, the old mural on the Memorial Elementary School playground.

“Visual art has always been a passion of mine. I plan on studying fine art in college and furthering it as a career,” she said, adding “And public art is important because it can be an outlet for self-expression while building community at the same time.”

For this project, Papula, who is a member of Milford Girl Scout Troop 11275, enlisted fellow troop members to help prepare and paint the retaining wall, which included pressure-washing to remove remnants of an old mural that was still on the wall.

Elena presented her plan to Memorial Principal Lisa Burns who approved the plan, and spoke with members of

a Brownie troop (ages 7 to 10 years old) to learn what images they would like to have included in the mural.

“After the Brownies gave me their ideas, I turned to the Community Youth after school program at Memorial,” Elena said. “I met with them a couple times after school, talking to all the age groups. They gave me the main concepts for the mural and drew a couple of images they wanted to be included.”

The final mural, which she was able to transfer with the help of some of the students, includes a space theme, rainbows and butterflies, and a heart with diversity hands.

At the unveiling of the project in July, Elena gave away art supply goody bags to all the children who attended.


She said, “Kids immediately started showing engagement with supply bags. Seeing them being inspired to create with their new supplies really showed the impact the project had.”



Courtesy photos

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouts; less than 6% of scouts earn the award. To qualify for the award, Girl Scouts must spend a suggested 80 hours to complete the required steps: identify an issue, investigate it thoroughly, get help and build a team, create and present a plan, gather feedback, take action, and educate and inspire others. The goal of any Gold Award project is to find a sustainable way to solve a community problem.

Source: www.girlscouts.org



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Publisher Chuck Tashjian

Editor Theresa Knapp

Send Editorial to: editor@milfordfreepress.com

Advertising Sales Manager Jen Schofield 508-570-6544 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@milfordfreepress.com

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Meet our SCI AmeriCorps members

The Milford Youth Center is excited to introduce the addition of two SCI Social Capital Inc. AmeriCorps members to its community. Iliana and Landon will be spending the next 10 months serving as SCI Community Engagement Coordinators with a focus on building social capital and engaging the local Milford community through volunteer opportunities, events and programming.

MYC officials say both Iliana and Landon have taken part in events at the Center in the past, and truly have a heart for the youth of Milford.

Iliana says, "I am excited to learn more about the community I've been working with at the Center, as well as build more relationships and create connections through the other AmeriCorps members and their sites. My hope is to take every opportunity that Social Capital Inc. offers and use it to not only better myself but others around me."

Landon is also excited. "In this upcoming school year, I'm very excited to develop and build my capstone project by creating meaningful relationships with the local Youth that



encourage them to make a positive impact in the community. I'm also looking forward to growing the MYC Youth Council and expanding the outreach to new youth and within the community."

Iliana and Landon have already been outreaching in

the community at the Milford Public Schools Back to School nights, meeting parents, teachers and students, and finding ways we can continue to partner with them to create a healthy and safe environment for the youth of Milford at the Center. They have also been researching dif-

ferent grant opportunities for the MYC Youth Council to invest into the community, helped with MYC food programs, and run afterschool programs at the Center.

Source: www.milfordyouthcenter.org, used with permission

Milford Regional to host lung cancer screening event Nov. 11

Milford Regional Medical Center will be hosting a lung cancer screening event on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The screening is intended for high-risk individuals for lung cancer.

November 11 is National Lung Cancer Screening Day;

a day intended to increase access to lung cancer screenings in communities and foster awareness about the effectiveness of those screenings.

"Early-detection through low-dose computer tomography scans have proven to be effec-

tive among individuals who are considered to be at high risk for lung cancer," said Milford Regional Director of Diagnostic Imaging Laura Chapman.

Milford Regional will offer participants free refreshments that morning. Space is limited

and a physician order is required. Interested participants should call their physicians to see if they qualify and to have an order placed. Any questions can be directed to Milford Regional's Lung Cancer Screening Coordinator by calling 508-422-2520.

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Don't leave your IRA to the IRS



Mark Freeman

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If you've invested in an IRA for many decades, it may well turn into a key source of income for your retirement. Still, you might not deplete your IRA in your lifetime, especially if you also have a pension or a 401(k) and other investment income. So, if your IRA still has sizable assets after your passing, it would likely end up in your estate plan. If you leave your IRA to grown children or other family members, could they be

hit with a big tax bill?

Here's a little background: Up until the Secure Act of 2019, those who inherited traditional IRAs could extend their required withdrawals over their lifetimes, which stretched out the annual taxes due on these withdrawals. But the Secure Act changed the provisions for non-spouse beneficiaries who inherited an IRA after 2019, meaning that beneficiaries of inherited IRAs had only 10 years (beginning the year after death) to withdraw the entire balance. For some beneficiaries, this could potentially create a tax burden. (Inheritors of Roth IRAs are also required to follow the 10-year distribution rule but are not subject to income taxes on account earnings if the Roth IRA's five-year holding period has been met).

However, not all beneficiaries were affected by the new rules. Spouses can stretch their inherited IRA distributions over their lifetimes and exceptions exist for

certain non-spouse beneficiaries. Minor children of the IRA owner (until the age of majority), chronically ill or disabled individuals, and beneficiaries who are no more than 10 years younger than the IRA owner may opt to stretch their distributions.

The new 10-year requirement applies to IRAs inherited on or after

Jan. 1, 2020. But due to confusion over changes to required minimum distribution (RMD) rules for some beneficiaries of inherited IRAs, the IRS waived penalties for individuals who failed to take RMDs in 2021 and 2022 and extended the RMD penalty waiver for 2023.

Although these rulings give beneficiaries — those not eligible for the exemptions listed above — more time to plan, they will eventually need to start taking RMDs, which could affect their tax situations. To help protect your heirs, consider these suggestions:

- **Using permanent life insurance.** A properly structured permanent life insurance policy could help you replace the assets your family might lose to the taxes resulting from an inherited IRA. You might even consider naming a charity as the beneficiary of an IRA, rather than your family members. The charity would receive the IRA proceeds tax free, and the life insurance could then provide tax-free benefits to your heirs.

- **Leaving taxable investment accounts to your heirs.** Apart from your tax-deferred IRA, you may own other, fully taxable accounts containing investments such as stocks or bonds. Typically, these investments receive what's known as a "step-up" in their cost basis once they are inherited. This means your heirs will essentially inherit all the gains your invest-

ments earned by the time of your passing — but they won't be taxed on these gains if they sell the assets immediately.

This type of sale could help offset the taxes your heirs will incur from the inherited IRA.

The tax and investment issues surrounding inherited IRAs can be complex, so consult with your tax and financial advisors before making any moves. And, as with many areas relating to inheritances, the sooner you start planning, the better.

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

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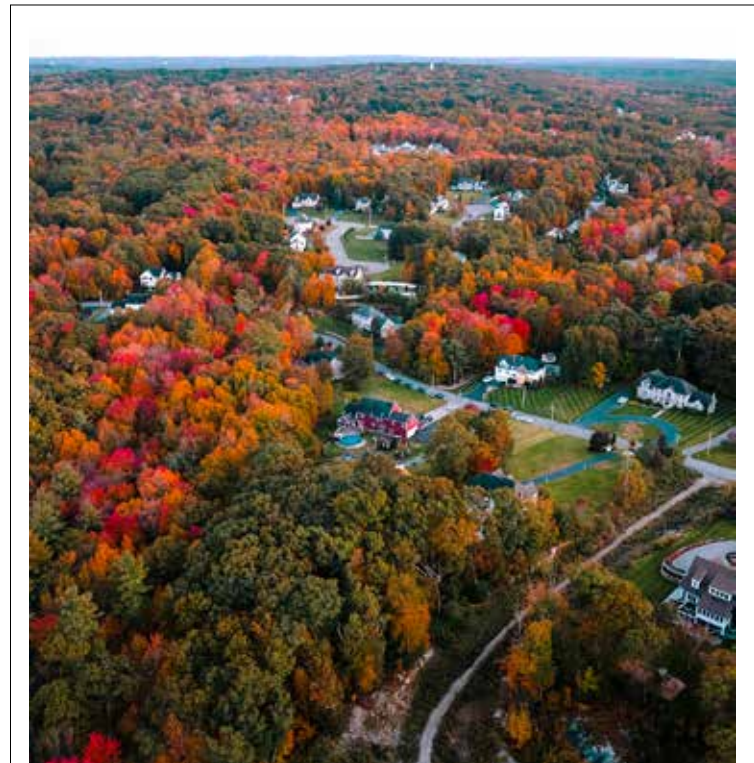
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Drone footage over Camp Street Extension and Mill Pond Circle in Milford. Photo credit: Matt Schmalenberger

Greater Milford Community Chorus presents: Joyful! Joyful! – Celebrating 50 years of GMCC

Greater Milford Community Chorus presents:

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Mark Schiappucci, Musical Director

Saturday, December 2, 7:30 pm
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Mass Cultural Council A Milford Community School Use Program sponsored in part by the Milford, Bellingham, Menden, and Hopedale Cultural Councils which are funded the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

As GMCC nears the end of its celebratory 50 year Golden Jubilee, they are preparing to bring the community together with two festive performances of holiday favorites. Attending a concert is an excellent way to warm your heart and cheer up with friends and family during the holiday season.

A warm mixture of sea-

sonal works will elevate your spirits when GMCC's 55 voices, under the direction of Mark Schiappucci, performs its annual holiday concerts with a variety of choral favorites, accompanied by Wayne Ward on piano, Robert Orr on bass, Paul Surapine on clarinet, and Dave Beyer on percussion.

Get yourself in the holly jolly mood in the beautifully decorated Grand Ballroom at historic Milford Town Hall on either Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m., or Sunday, Dec. 3 at 1:30 p.m., preceding the Santa Parade. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Music and Arts for \$10 or at the door for \$12.

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DURYSTA - A game-changer in glaucoma treatment

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

Introduction

Imagine a world where a tiny implant can help prevent vision loss and improve the quality of life for millions of people suffering from glaucoma. This vision is becoming a reality with the introduction of DURYSTA, a groundbreaking treatment option that is changing the landscape of glaucoma management. In this article, we will delve into what DURYSTA is, how it works, and its potential impact on the lives of glaucoma patients.

Understanding Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a group of eye conditions that can lead to damage of the optic nerve, ultimately resulting in vision loss. It is often referred to as the "silent thief of sight" because it typically progresses slowly and without noticeable symptoms until significant damage has occurred. The most common

type of glaucoma is open-angle glaucoma, which accounts for around 90% of all glaucoma cases. In open-angle glaucoma, the drainage system within the eye becomes inefficient, leading to increased intraocular pressure (IOP). Elevated IOP is a major risk factor for optic nerve damage and vision loss.

Traditional Glaucoma Treatments

Traditionally, the primary approach to managing glaucoma has been to lower intraocular pressure. Several methods are used to achieve this, including eye drops, laser therapy, and surgical interventions. While these treatments can be effective, they often require frequent administration, leading to compliance issues. Additionally, surgical procedures carry certain risks and may not be suitable for all patients.

Enter DURYSTA

DURYSTA (bimatoprost implant) is a revolutionary develop-



ment in the field of glaucoma treatment. Approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in March 2020, DURYSTA offers a novel and sustained approach to lowering intraocular pressure in glaucoma patients.

How DURYSTA Works

DURYSTA is a tiny implant that is placed directly into the anterior chamber of the eye through a minimally invasive procedure. This implant releases a medication called bimatoprost, which is a prostaglandin analog. Prostaglandin analogs are known to be effective in reducing intraocular pressure by increasing the outflow of aqueous humor from the eye. What sets DURYSTA apart is its sustained release mechanism, providing consistent IOP reduction for an ex-

tended period.

Advantages of DURYSTA

Long-Lasting Efficacy: DURYSTA is designed to provide sustained IOP reduction for up to twelve months after a single implantation. This means fewer office visits and a reduced need for daily eye drops, improving patient compliance and quality of life.

Minimally Invasive: The procedure to implant DURYSTA is minimally invasive and typically takes a few seconds. Patients can usually return to their normal activities shortly after the procedure.

Efficacy Across Glaucoma Types: DURYSTA has shown efficacy in reducing IOP across various glaucoma types, including open-angle and angle-closure glaucoma, making it a versatile option for a wide range of patients.

Reduced Side Effects: Unlike eye drops, which can cause side effects such as stinging, redness, and allergies, DURYSTA is de-

livered directly to the eye's target site, minimizing systemic side effects.

Preservative-Free: Many eye drops contain preservatives that can irritate the eyes over time. DURYSTA is preservative-free, reducing the risk of irritation.

Improved Quality of Life: With fewer daily eye drop applications and sustained IOP reduction, DURYSTA can enhance the quality of life for glaucoma patients, allowing them to focus on their daily activities without the burden of frequent medication administration.

Clinical Trials and Results

The approval of DURYSTA was based on the results of clinical trials that demonstrated its safety and efficacy. In a pivotal Phase 3 clinical trial, DURYSTA was shown to significantly reduce intraocular pressure compared to a placebo, with the effect lasting for an extended pe-

DURYSTA

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MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER





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Milford receives \$40,000 municipal grant to improve road safety

In October, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that 186 Massachusetts towns and cities will receive grant funds to support traffic safety enforcement and outreach programming. The federal awards total upwards of \$5.4 million invested in local roadway safety initiatives.

The Town of Milford received \$39,985.

A total of \$5,449,584.03 was awarded through the FY24 Municipal Road Safety Grant Program. The program is administered by the Office of Grants and Research (OGR) and utilizes funds awarded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The annual program provides funding to municipal police departments who propose traffic safety projects in their community, including high visibility enforcement patrols, equipment to enhance road safety such as digital speed signs, pedestrian and bicyclist safety initiatives and public outreach campaigns intended

to educate community members and youth about roadway safety.

“Whether by vehicle, bicycle or foot, everyone has the right to travel safely through our communities,” said Gov. Maura Healey. “Through this program, we were able to award grants to every community that requested funding. The education, enforcement and outreach initiatives supported through these grants will help ensure safer roads for all.”

“Aggressive and dangerous driving are a threat to every road user. Providing local law enforcement agencies with the resources necessary to enforce traffic laws and educate members of their communities about distracted, impaired and aggressive driving is vital to ensuring the public’s safety,” said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Terrence Reidy. “These grants allow towns and cities to approach traffic safety initiatives in ways that make the most sense for the community’s needs.”

DURYSTA

continued from page 7

riod. The trial also highlighted the low rate of adverse events associated with DURYSTA implantation.

Real-World Impact

Since its approval, DURYSTA has made a significant impact on glaucoma management in clinical practice. Patients who were previously struggling with the inconvenience of daily eye drops and the fear of surgical procedures now have a more convenient and effective option for managing their condition.

DURYSTA has particularly benefited individuals with poor adherence to medication regimens, as it eliminates the need for daily eye drop administration. This can be especially crucial in preventing vision loss in glaucoma patients, as consistent IOP control is essential to preserving vision.

Furthermore, DURYSTA has the potential to reduce the healthcare system’s burden by decreasing the frequency of office visits and surgeries for glaucoma management. This can lead to cost savings and improved resource allocation in healthcare.

Challenges and Considerations

While DURYSTA presents a promising solution to many of the challenges associated with glaucoma management, it is not without its considerations:

Cost: The cost of DURYSTA may be a barrier for some patients, as it is a relatively new treatment and may not be covered by all insurance plans.

Implantation Procedure: While minimally invasive, the implantation procedure for DURYSTA still requires a skilled ophthalmologist. Access to specialized care may be limited in some areas.

Long-Term Data: As DURYSTA is a relatively new treatment, long-term data on its safety and efficacy beyond the three-year mark is still being collected.

Conclusion

DURYSTA represents a significant advancement in the field of glaucoma treatment. Its sustained release mechanism, minimal invasiveness, and potential to improve patient adherence make it a game-changer for glaucoma patients. As further research and real-world experience accumulate, DURYSTA’s role in preserv-

ing vision and enhancing the quality of life for those with glaucoma is likely to become even more pronounced.

While challenges and considerations remain, DURYSTA offers new hope and a brighter future for individuals living with this sight-threatening condition. Our center and ophthalmologists have state of the art equipment to diagnose and treat many eye problems, including glaucoma. We offer DURYSTA in our state-of-the-art surgery center in Milford. 7 dedicated eye care providers here to help you in 3 facilities in Franklin, Milford and Millis. We are available and have Saturday and after-hours appointments. From the basic eye exam to the high-tech surgeries performed locally in Milford, our center is now able to better recognize glaucoma and manage this disease with many interventions including DURYSTA. We continue to provide world class eye care for the entire family.

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VALERIE & MICHELLE

Hoboken Club to hold annual holiday fair on Nov. 18

The Women’s Auxiliary of the Hoboken Club in Milford will be having their annual Holiday Fair on Saturday,

Nov. 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Along with local crafters, they will be selling their homemade capelletti and other baked

goods, homemade food, and there will also be raffle baskets. The Hoboken Club is located at 252 Central St. in Milford.

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Milford High School Class of 1973 Celebrated 50th Reunion



FIRST ROW (SEATED L-R) Lou Ann Leavitt D'Amico, Lynn Calitri Galvani, Gail Miller Brown, Stephanie Tosches Protano, Nancy Pickett, Steven Mahron, Gena Bowen Mahron, Diane D'Alessandro Patitucci, Gail Morrill Bernheart, Pauline Nargi Dean, Maryellen Saulen Jennings, Marilyn Ferrucci Gilman, Diane DiVittorio Strauss, Jane Anderson, Brad Lovell. SECOND ROW (L-R) Bob Protano, Susan Federico DiVitto, Debbie Russo Jameson, Charlotte Grillo Manna, Gerry Renard, Joe Calagione, Bill Bishop, Maria DiFiore Pilla, Rose Deluca Ohannesian, Greg Ohannesian, Dean D'Alessandro, David DeManche, Francesca Consoletti Cassasanta, Susan Trotta Clark, Donna Mastroianni Flanagan, Cosmo Chinappi, Richard Tominsky, Jack McNeil, Sheila DiSabito Lewis. THIRD ROW (L-R) Paul Gattoni, Jeff Crivello, Tim Conneaney, Bob "Bim" Elliott, Don Michaelson, Mike Paradiso, John Brucato, Paul Malnati, Paul Rao, Bonnie Herlihy Stuart.

Photo credit Morins Studio

Story contributed

It had been over 50 years since their high school graduation!

On Sept. 30, 2023, about 60 alumni and guests celebrated this milestone at the Hopedale Country Club. The fun-filled evening was an incredible success thanks to the working committee led by Chairperson, Susan Federico DiVitto. Oth-

ers serving on the committee included David Demanche, Lou Ann Leavitt D'Amico, Paul Gattoni, John "Jack" McNeil, Gena Bowen Marohn, Stephen Marohn, Sheila Disabito Lewis, Bonnie Herlihy Stuart, Francesca Consoletti Cassasanta, and Paul Rao.

The enchanted evening included dinner, dancing, socializing, and reminiscing with many

who had not seen each other since they donned their caps and gowns.

Thanks to the generosity of class members, several hundred dollars were raised for a scholarship to be awarded to a deserving graduate from Milford High School. The scholarship is in memory of 1973 graduate and football standout David "Tiger" D'Amico, who left us

far too soon.

We also want to recognize and thank the local businesses that donated items to raise money toward the scholarship: Restaurant 89, TC & Company Hair Salon, Blackstone National Golf Club, and Oliva's Market. Thanks to our many sponsors including LongHorn Steakhouse, Applebee's Grill + Bar, Liquor World, 99 Restaurant, Restau-

rant 45, Hopedale Pizza Market, Galliford's Restaurant & Tavern, Hannaford, Prezo Grille & Bar, Alicante Restaurant, Gene's Variety, Herbs Make Scents Tea, and DoubleTree by Hilton.

The MHS Class of '73 would also like to thank DJ Spiezio who provided nonstop entertainment throughout the evening and the talented and attentive staff of the Hopedale Country Club.

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Milford Regional to host free webinar on early signs of ADHD, depression and anxiety in children

Milford Regional's Community Benefits programming is hosting a free webinar for parents. "Opening Doors to Youth Mental Health; Helping Parents Identify the Early Signs of ADHD, Depression and Anxiety," will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.

This webinar is for parents and caregivers and will feature medical and mental health professionals who will focus on the early signs of ADHD, depression and anxiety while also recognizing what typical developing behaviors are in children. The webinar will mainly focus on the age range from pre-school to early school-age.

Presenting are Milford Regional Physician Group

pediatrician and Director of Pediatrics Mary Lyons, MD; Family Continuity Programs and VAULT Director Kate Rose, LMHC; and Wayside Youth & Family Support Network Peer Support Specialist/Peer Mentor Destiny O'Connell, CPS. Milford Regional Medical Center Chief Quality Officer and Vice President Bert Thurlo-Walsh, MM, RN, CPHQ, will moderate.

Pre-registration is required. To register, visit bit.ly/MRM-Copeningdoors. A link will be sent to registrants 24 hours prior to the webinar.

Community Benefits programming is dedicated to the improvement of community health through its leadership and local partnerships.

Milford Christmas Tree Lighting planned for Friday, Dec. 1

Citizens for Milford is planning the Eighth Annual Milford Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in Draper Memorial Park on the evening of Friday, Dec. 1. All Milford residents are invited to arrive starting at 5:30 p.m. for cookies, hot chocolate, and chili. The tree will be lit at 6:30 p.m. This community event is free and open to everyone.

Highlights of this year's event will include the holiday carol sing-along led by members of the Greater Milford Community Chorus, as well as a special visit from Santa Claus. Santa will arrive at 5:45 p.m. and will visit with kids and families until the event ends at 7 p.m. Families are encouraged to take their own photos with Santa.

Event Chairpersons Rosemary Trettel and Kim Smith state, "Citizens for Milford invites all Milford residents to join us for the eighth year of the

Christmas Tree Lighting. The ceremony provides a wonderful opportunity for Milford families and neighbors to gather, even for a short while, as a community to celebrate the peace and joy of the season."

If it rains or snows heavily on Dec. 1, Citizens for Milford plans to light the tree at 6:30 p.m. but will scale back other activities as needed.

Citizens for Milford is thrilled to be collaborating once more with the Greater Milford Community Chorus, Milford's Red Heat Tavern, the Milford Public Schools Food Service, and the Milford Parks Department to provide the best possible community event this year.

The beautifully revitalized Draper Memorial Park occupies a triangle of land in the downtown Milford area, located at the intersection of Congress Street and Main Street.

POLICE CHIEF

continued from page 1

attacks. He remained in New York City for six years before coming home and planting his roots at the Milford Police Department.

After 10 years as a patrol officer, he became a sergeant, before making deputy chief last year.

Now, a full-time police chief for a nearly city-sized town, Tusino still finds time to work part-time as a paramedic for UMass Boston. He carries his decades of paramedic experience with him every day on the job, quite literally.

In the past, his Milford Police vehicle was adorned with the words "Special Unit." The words have since been removed, but the lifesaving equipment is still inside.

"My car is still outfitted for paramedic calls, and I still respond to them," he said. "I wouldn't be interested in being a chief that doesn't have that ability. I like being on the street, I like going to calls, I like seeing everybody interact."

Having spent a good chunk of the last 30 years in the back of an ambulance, and being among the first in Massachusetts to keep Narcan on his belt, Tusino said it's his job to keep his boots to the ground, stay present, and not develop "ivory tower syndrome."

When it comes to areas of improvement, Milford traffic is top of mind.

"I joke with my friends from New York that I'd rather drive over the Brooklyn Bridge than go through Milford at 4 p.m.," he laughed.

The answer to this problem, and others the department is facing, he said, all boil down to one thing: more manpower.

Tusino said there have been the same number of officers in Milford for nearly 30 years. There aren't enough on-duty officers at a time to handle both calls and traffic, he said.

"At the end of the day, we're not providing a good service unless we can get those resources to everybody," he said.

Tusino said that policing has changed so much over the years, and for the better. He said he would much rather be helping someone out of a rut, than making their day worse.

"Everyone always tells me that my problem is that I'm a very liberal cop," he laughed. "I tell them that I'm a paramedic at heart, I can't help myself. I love taking care of people, it's my passion. Kicking in doors is not, that's just the truth."



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Affordable Junk Removal: Community ties and a commitment to customer service

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

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

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

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

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

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll

Business spotlight

clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

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

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

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

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



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

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving

commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's

not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

For more information, contact Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit Affordable Junk Removal online at www.take-awayjunk.com.

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Recent Home Sales

Date	Milford	Amount
10/27/2023	9 Governors Way #A	\$480,000
10/27/2023	5 Godfrey Lane	\$415,000
10/24/2023	4 Grant Street	\$429,000
10/24/2023	58 Village Circle	\$520,000
10/19/2023	29 Prospect Street	\$460,000
10/16/2023	13 Coolidge Road	\$450,000
10/13/2023	2 Richmond Avenue	\$491,000
10/13/2023	2 Godfrey Lane	\$368,000
10/12/2023	10 Longview Drive	\$550,000
10/10/2023	87 Highland Street	\$575,000
10/10/2023	25 Ramble Road	\$695,000
10/10/2023	6 Cabot Road	\$455,000
10/06/2023	2 Hillcrest Drive	\$580,000
10/05/2023	5 Oak Terrace	\$569,900
10/05/2023	5 Legion Street	\$486,000
10/02/2023	21 Shadowbrook Lane #14	\$215,000
10/02/2023	24 Bodio Circle	\$600,000
10/02/2023	17 1/2 Domenick Street	\$340,000
09/29/2023	20 Lena Lane	\$365,000

Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Milford Free Press



The 3-bed, 2-bath, 1,536 sf house at 29 Prospect Street in Milford recently sold for \$460,000. Photo credit www.zillow.com

Ribbon cutting held for new addition to Brookside Elementary School

The Brookside Elementary School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Oct. 16 for the opening day of the brand-new addition which created additional classrooms to the building. Dr. Kevin McIntyre, Principal Vicky Houston, and the school community thanked the Milford School Committee for their tireless work and advocacy, the Milford Finance Committee for its support, the Select Board for its continued support of the Milford Public Schools, and the community at large for supporting this project.

Source: www.milfordpublicschools.com



LEFT TO RIGHT: Christopher Wilson, School Committee Chair; Victoria Houston, Principal (cutting ribbon); and Dr. McIntyre, Superintendent of Schools

SECOND ROW: Carlos Pena Zuluaga, Asst Facilities Director; Michael Walsh, Select Board member; and State Representative Brian Murray, Esq. Courtesy photo

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Central One Federal Credit Union employees build 10 beds for local children in need

Central One Federal Credit Union employees partnered with the organization “A Bed For Every Child” to construct beds for local children in need through their “Build A Bed” program.

Central One was honored to aid in A Bed For Every Child’s mission to help ensure all children have a bed of their own, regardless of their family’s income. Through this collaboration, Central One employees constructed ten beds for local children on the waiting list who will be happy to have a bed to call their own.



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Pet of the Month: Garrett



Garrett is soooo ready to find his forever home! This adorable black kitten is a bundle of fun. Garrett was surrendered at 3 months old as a single kitten, so he missed out on important months of learning and socialization that comes with wrestling and cuddling with litter mates. Garrett would benefit from a playmate to roughhouse with and snuggle, after careful introductions of course. He also adores people!

Garrett has been the best boy these last 3 months waiting to be adopted and we couldn't be more excited to find him a home to call his own.

If you are interested in Garrett or the other cats at the Milford Humane Society please visit www.milfordhumane.org

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CHEERLEADING

continued from page 1

said. "We want a routine with no deductions or penalties and we want to go out there and have fun and do the best they can."

Senior captains Patricia Fernandes and Cailyn Naugler have been leading the way for Milford, which has 15 cheerleaders on the varsity roster and 13 who will be part of the competition squad. Fellow seniors Abigail Annantuonio and Caleigh Wilson are also integral cogs when it comes to making sure that MHS is performing at its best.

"Our captains and seniors have been great motivators for the team," Johnson said. "They want them to practice hard and come together as a team, to

work as a unit. They have done a great job providing positive feedback and critiques where needed, it's been helpful to push our younger kids along."

Johnson said having a smaller roster does not really impact the routine the Hawks can put out on the mat.

"I love the look of a big team, having more people in the air, but there is a rubric depending on the number of people you have on the team," she said. "There is nothing that holds them back. They are still just as strong, even with a smaller team."

The cheerleading competition season kicked off in October and will ramp up through the month of November. Milford earned a win at an invitational to start the competition slate ahead of the Hockomock

League meet the first weekend in November. The Scarlet Hawks also have their sights set on qualifying for regionals and states.

"We have been doing a little tweaking of our stunts to make them more difficult, because they feel like they are ready," Johnson said. "They are ready and prepared to keep pushing themselves."

Under the longtime coach, Milford has captured a total of seven state championships in cheerleading, with the last one coming during the fall of 2021. Johnson said she hopes this team can potentially add yet another banner.

"They definitely have the drive and the desire and the talent," she said, adding with a chuckle, "Any given Sunday, I guess."



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'Sharks to Parks' entertained residents at Cornerstone at Milford

In October, Robert Michelson presented his "Sharks to Parks" program to the residents of Cornerstone at

Milford. Michelson discussed predator/prey relationships using his 7.5 foot (preserved) Gold Hammerhead

Shark named "Bruce." Residents had the opportunity to touch and visit Bruce after the program.



Resident Evelyn Kennelly recently enjoyed a visit with "Bruce" the gold hammerhead shark at Cornerstone at Milford. *Courtesy photo*



Cornerstone at Milford residents Margaret Morahan, Margaret Bannerman, and Alma DiCecco visited with "Bruce" the 7.5-foot gold hammerhead shark after a presentation of "Sharks to Parks." *Courtesy photo*



Martha Scarsdale. *Courtesy photo*



Roseleen Pyne and Sam Hamilton. *Courtesy photo*

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Southwick's Zoo honors exceptional employee with 2023 Tyler Richardson Scholarship Award

In a ceremony held at Southwick's Zoo, the Brewer Family proudly announced Lauren Plumb as the deserving recipient of the 2023 Tyler Richardson Scholarship Award. This prestigious scholarship, established in memory of the late Tyler Richardson, honors his legacy by recognizing outstanding individuals within the Southwick's Zoo family.

Lauren Plumb was nominated and subsequently chosen for the scholarship due to her unwavering commitment, exceptional work ethic, and passion displayed while working at Southwick's Zoo and Galliford's Restaurant. Plumb's dedication to her role mirrors the spirit of Tyler Richardson, who was fondly remembered for his humor, outgoing personality,

and dedication during his time at the zoo.

The Tyler Richardson Scholarship Award was created by the Richardson family in loving memory of their son, Tyler Richardson, who tragically passed away in 2009. Tyler, a beloved member of the Southwick's Zoo community, left an indelible mark with his contagious enthusiasm and vibrant personality. To honor his memory and perpetuate his legacy, the Richardson family initiated this scholarship program, which annually recognizes a zoo employee currently enrolled in college and exemplifying Tyler's remarkable qualities.

"We are thrilled to announce Lauren Plumb as the recipient of this year's Tyler Richardson

Scholarship Award. Lauren embodies the same spirit, dedication, and passion that Tyler brought to his work here at Southwick's Zoo," expressed the Brewer Family, sponsors of the scholarship. "It is truly inspiring to see young talents like Lauren continue Tyler's legacy, and we are confident that she will achieve remarkable feats in her future endeavors."

The Tyler Richardson Scholarship Award is a testament to the enduring impact of Tyler Richardson's legacy at Southwick's Zoo. As the recipient, Lauren Plumb will receive financial support to further her education, allowing her to continue her academic journey while embodying the remarkable qualities that define the spirit of Tyler Richardson.



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Milford Town Library Calendar of Events

80 Spruce Street, Milford • 508-473-2145 • MilfordTownLibrary.org • HOURS: Mon. – Thurs. 9-9 • Fri. 9-6 • Sat. 9-5 • Sun. CLOSED

By Reference Department

Library Closed for Veterans Day

The library will be closed on Saturday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day.

“Silent Saturday” study option

Those looking for a truly silent study room for deep concentration can sign-up at the Information Desk to use the ESL Classroom between 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on Saturday mornings.

Ed Iacovelli Featured Artist

During November, Ed Iacovelli will exhibit his work at the library next to the Information Desk. Ed works in pen and ink and watercolor, often incorporating them together. Since Ed's colorblind, blacks, blues and grays make up his signature palette. Inspired by the work of author illustrator Eric Sloane, Ed's been doing pen and ink drawings since 1972. A more recent

watercolor class at the Hopedale Community Center expanded his work which consists of land and seascapes.

Please stop by throughout the month to enjoy his artwork.

Shawna Foundation Library Poetry Tour

The last stop of the Shawna Foundation Library Poetry Tour brings poet Heather MacPherson to the Milford Town Library on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m. and the Uxbridge Public Library on Thursday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.

Heather is an accomplished poet whose work has been published in SoundingsEast, The Carolina Quarterly, Variant Lit, Bennington Review, 580 Split, and Blueline. A collection of academic essays called *Voicing the Less Dead* edited by Heather and Francesca Borrione is forthcoming from Lexington Books in 2024. Heather teaches writing at Clark University.

Tony Brown hosts the Li-

brary Poetry Tour which honors the life of Shawna Shea by promoting and supporting creative endeavors. The program is financed in part by the Milford Cultural Council, the Uxbridge Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Center Book Group

The Center Book Group will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center to discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

Spanning several decades starting in the 1920s, this charmer of a book introduces readers to Count Alexander Rostov who is confined on house arrest to the Metropol Hotel in Moscow. While in exile, he manages to hold court and creates a circle of associates that includes hotel staff, guests, a cat.

When the Count meets Sofia, the daughter of a Ukrainian friend, he becomes the girl's de facto father. The Count finds new purpose in his unexpected

role and helps Sofia discover and develop her considerable musical talent.

To reserve a copy or to learn more about the Center Book Group, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 219 or email Anne at aberard@milfordtownlibrary.org.

ESL Drop in Classes

Fall ESL classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 - 8 p.m. All adults who want to improve their English listening and speaking skills are encouraged to attend these free classes. Classes are held in the ESL classroom on the lower level of the library. No registration is necessary. Class materials will be provided.

As aulas de esl de outono são ministradas às terças e quintas-feiras, das 7 às 8. Todos os adultos que desejam melhorar suas habilidades de escuta e fala em inglês são incentivados a participar dessas aulas gratuitas. As aulas são ministradas na sala

de ESL no nível inferior da biblioteca. Nenhum registro é necessário. Materiais de aula serão fornecidos.

Las clases de ESL de otoño se llevan a cabo los martes y jueves de 7pm-8pm. Se anima a todos los adultos que deseen mejorar sus habilidades para escuchar y hablar en inglés a asistir a estas clases gratuitas. Las clases se llevan a cabo en el salón de ESL en el nivel inferior de la biblioteca. No es necesario registrarse. Se proporcionará material de clase.

Citizenship Classes

This fall, citizenship preparation classes will be held on Saturdays from 1 - 3 p.m. While the classes are free, only those individuals who meet the criteria for citizenship (5 years US residency, 3 years if married to a US citizen) are able to attend.

LIBRARY

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LIBRARY

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The course instructor Atef Sorial will screen all potential participants in person.

Felting Workshop with Kathy Rossacci

The Friends of the Library welcome local artisan Kathy Rossacci for a needle felting workshop on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 7 p.m. Each participant will make and take home a delightful holiday/woodland inspired project.

This 90 minute workshop is free and all materials and instruction will be provided. Registration is required. Call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 219 or email: reference@milfordtownlibrary.org.

The Holy Trinity of Milford Jazz: Boots, Ziggy & Bob

The Friends close out their programs and lectures for the year with a 90-minute presentation by Stephen Minichiello on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. about three legends of jazz: Boots Mussulli, Ziggy Minichiello and Bob Varney.

Henry "Boots" Mussulli made his reputation as a jazz great on the saxophone with the Stan Kenton Orchestra in the 1940s and 1950s and played at

felting workshop
with *Kathy Rossacci*
Sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Town Library
Tuesday, November 28 @ 7pm

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Learn how to needle felt and take home an adorable woodland felting project.

Registration required
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www.milfordtownlibrary.org

the Newport Jazz Festival. He founded The Crystal Room club in Milford.

Ziggy ruled on the trumpet also with the Kenton Orchestra and other bands. Bob sat behind the drums with Kenton, the Dorsey Brothers Orchestra and Jimmy McPartland and his Sextette.

Apart from being Ziggy's nephew, Stephen's background as an award winning writer and producer makes him the perfect guide to Milford's rich musical history. Stephen has written and produced for

WBZ-TV, WGBH-TV (PBS) and WCVB-TV, Boston, including Chronicle.

Home Delivery Volunteers

We're looking for a few more volunteers to add to our Home Delivery roster. If you have a valid driver's license and can periodically make deliveries to homes or assisted living centers in Milford, please consider helping provide this valuable service. To learn more, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 219.

SCHOOLS

Milford School Highlights

New Elementary Start and End Times

School hours for our three elementary schools have shifted for the 2023-2024 school year. The new school hours for our elementary schools beginning in August are as follows:

- Brookside Elementary School** 8:55 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.
 - Memorial Elementary School** 8:55 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.
 - Woodland Elementary School** 8:35 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
- Times for Shining Star Early Childhood Center, Stacy Middle School, and Milford High School have not changed.**

Save the Date:

- 11/10- Veterans Day Observed - No School - Offices Closed
- 11/22- No School - School Offices close at noon
- 11/23- Thanksgiving - No School - School Offices closed
- 11/24- No School - School Offices closed
- 12/1- Early Release K-12 - PreK closed- School Offices Open
- 12/7- School Committee Meeting
- 12/21- School Committee Meeting
- 12/22- Vacation Begins at the Close of School
- 1/1- New Year's Day - No School - School Offices Closed
- 1/ 2- School Resumes

- 1 /4- School Committee Meeting
- 1/12- Early Release K-12-PreK Closed - School Offices Open
- 1/15- Martin Luther King Day - School Closed-School Offices Closed
- 1/18- School Committee Meeting

Milford High School

Milford High School will restart international travel during the 2023-2024 school year. Spanish Exchange students from the Agave School in Almeria, Spain arrived the evening of 9/29 and departed before school on Tuesday, 10/10. Nineteen students came with two of their teachers. They were hosted by MHS students and their families attending a brief welcoming ceremony with their Spanish students on Monday, 10/2. The Spanish students had a full schedule of activities and activities while they visited, including shadowing their host students for some classes. A Europe trip is in the planning stages for February .

On Oct. 4 during all lunches, Mrs. Kingkade held the high school's first Wellness Wednesday Series. Each month a differ-

MILFORD SCHOOLS

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SCHOOLS

MILFORD SCHOOLS

continued from page 17

ent organization will be outside the cafeteria with free giveaways and information about mental health. Mental health is just as important as our physical health. Students are encouraged to stop by the table outside of the cafeteria and visit Mrs. Kingkade, enter a free drawing and pick up some information about mental health.

Stacy Middle School

Planning is underway for the Spring 2024 Washington D.C. Trip. This year marks the thirty-third year Milford students have the opportunity to explore the nation's capital. Specific information related to the trip can be found on the school website. Please direct trip questions to either Mr. Alcazaren at valcazaren@milfordma.com or Ms. Davoren at hdavoren@milfordma.com.

Woodland Elementary School (WES)

Woodland Elementary School Trunk-or-Treat event is right around the corner. The DJ'd event brings excitement and celebration for students in a safer environment. WES is looking to secure additional participants for the upcoming Trunk-or-Treat event. Please visit the WES schools website for the active link to sign-up to donate candy or host a Trunk.

PTO Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Memorial Elementary School

Memorial Elementary School second-grade students visited with WBZ meteorologist Jacob Wycoff on Oct. 11. Mr. Wycoff taught students about weather and what it's like to be a meteorologist. With enthusiasm and expertise, he shared the fascinating world of weather, providing

his students with insights into the intricacies of meteorology.

PTO Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Brookside Elementary School

Brookside Elementary School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, for the opening day of the brand-new addition. Dr. McIntyre, Principal Houston, and the school community want to thank the Milford School Committee for their tireless work and advocacy, the Milford Finance Committee for supporting this much-needed project, and the Select Board for continuing and ongoing support of the Milford Public Schools. The Milford Public Schools also wants to thank the Milford community for supporting this important project that creates much-needed additional classrooms at the elemen-

tary level. Special thanks to the BES staff for working together during the fall to prepare, organize and set up for the new rooms.

PTO Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Shining Star Early Childhood Center (SSECC)

On October 23, 24, and 27, the Milford Fire Department collaborated with staff and students in the school gymnasium to address and emphasize the importance of fire safety. This collaborative initiative allowed Milford's firefighters to share their expertise with the eager audience, raising awareness and educating students about the importance of fire prevention and the actions to take in case of an emergency.

PTO Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise posted.

Milford Family & Community Network CFCE (MFCN CFCE):

Information on the MFCN CFCE Playgroups: All playgroups are FREE and intended for children from birth to 5 years old with their parent/caregiver(s), unless otherwise specified. MFCN CFCE will be offering a variety of groups, both in the morning and afternoon. Placement is chosen by lottery. Attendance is not required. MFCN CFCE will hold two sessions of playgroups per year. Session I runs from late September through January and Session II runs from late January through May.

For more information on MFCN CFCE programs, visit <https://www.milfordpublicschools.com/milfordfcn>, email familynetwork@milfordma.com or call 508-277-4981. You can also find and follow MFCN CFCE on Facebook at "Milford Family & Community Network CFCE".

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SPORTS

Milford Football eyes another deep playoff run

Scarlet Hawks boast more depth than past tourney teams

By Chris Villani

Milford football has been no stranger to the MIAA state tournament in recent seasons, including a pair of trips to the sectional final in each of the past two years. MHS head coach Dale Olson said his team is looking to at least get back to that round this season, and potentially punch a ticket to a state title game at Gillette Stadium.

Olson said the depth and versatility he has this fall could be what puts the Scarlet Hawks over the top.

“I think we are a little more skilled with athletes,” he said.

“We have had some good teams that made some deep runs, but it’s been on the back of a couple running backs or one wide receiver. This year, we have a multitude of kids who can score touchdowns.”

Speaking ahead of the pre-playoff finale against Franklin, Olson touted the balance of his offense, saying it’s probably more balanced than any team he has coached at Milford.

“Defensively, we have fast, physical kids,” he added. “The defense has played really well.”

Milford scored 30 or more points in four of its six victories to start the season. The Scarlet Hawks also pitched back-to-back shutouts against Wellesley and Natick in September.

Nick Araujo continues to be a standout in all three phases of the game as a running back, linebacker, and kicker.

“He has had great success running the football, playing defense, and he provides great leadership,” Olson said of the co-captain.

Keith Lee, another captain, is a tough, physical two-way lineman, his coach said.

Oliver McKee is in a similar mold, standing out on both sides of the ball. Milford has also been buoyed by junior quarterback Jack Buckley, who tossed 14 touchdown passes, amassed more than 1,000 yards through the air, and rushed for five more touchdowns through his first seven games.




Milford football huddled during a recent game, the Scarlet Hawks are again among the state’s best. Contributed by Athletic Director Peter Boucher

Andrew Rivera, another senior, scored six touchdowns through that same span and led the team in sacks.

Milford is competing in a

different division this year, having moved down to Division III, but Olson said the field is “loaded” and expects a challenge come tournament time.

“We need guys to keep playing hard and to continue to get better each week,” he said. “Our kids are doing well, they are grinding.”



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KONA SUV**



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#P16086 • 12" LCD, TURBO, ALLOYS
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MKZ SEDAN**



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