

## Nipmuc Regional HS counseling center hosts Wellness Week

*Events included a therapy animal petting zoo*

Mendon-Upton Regional School District Superintendent Maureen Cohen and Nipmuc School Counselors are pleased to share that Nipmuc Regional High School hosted a successful Wellness Week to increase awareness of wellness practices.

For the week of April 8-12, the counseling center hosted daily events to educate all students at Nipmuc Regional High School on wellness, promoting healthy lifestyles, and learning ways to cope with and decrease stress.

"Wellness Week was a great opportunity for students to learn some healthy coping mechanisms and ways to de-stress while also having fun," Superintendent Cohen said. "The counseling center did a wonderful job of organizing the week and making sure the students had resources and



Nipmuc Students Hannah Grossman and Daphne Sweeney.  
Photo courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District

informative activities as well as offering plenty of options to relax with their peers."

During the week students

listened to a talk from Wes, a speaker from Minding

### WELLNESS WEEK

*continued on page 14*

## Mendon election includes override for new senior and community center

By Theresa Knapp

Mendon's annual town election will take place on Tuesday, May 14, at Misco Hill School.

There are no contested races, but residents will be asked if they support an override to fund the building of a new Mendon senior and community center; the answer to this question will be binding only if Annual Town Meeting supported the article at its meeting on May 3 (which was after press time).

The ballot question asks, "Shall the Town of Mendon be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to design and construct a Mendon Senior and Community Center?"

The election ballot also includes the following town seats:

- Moderator (1 year term), Thomas Merolli
- Town Clerk (3 yrs), Ellen Agro
- Select Board, 2 seats (3 yrs), Brendan Chenelle and Michael Merolli
- Board of Assessors (3 yrs), no candidates
- Board of Assessors (2 yrs), no candidates

### Taxpayers Impact Based on Assessed Value

\$300,000	= \$89.89/yr.	\$22.47/Qtr.
\$500,000	= \$149.81/yr.	\$37.45/Qtr.
\$700,000	= \$197.03/yr.	\$49.26/Qtr.

Mendon taxpayers will be asked to approve a Proposition 2 ½ override for the building of a new Senior & Community Center. The average tax impact on a property valued at \$500,000 would be \$149.81 a year. Source: [www.mendonma.gov](http://www.mendonma.gov)

- Board of Health (3 yrs), Thomas Fichtner
- Housing Authority (5 yrs), Peter Denton
- MURSD School Committee (3 yrs), Erick Brown
- Parks Commissioner (3 yrs), no candidates
- Planning Board (5 yrs), Eric Hodge
- Taft Library Board of Trustees (3 yrs), no candidates
- Water Commissioner (3 yrs), Vincent Roy

A sample ballot can be found at [www.mendonma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf881/f/news/sample\\_ballot\\_2.pdf](http://www.mendonma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf881/f/news/sample_ballot_2.pdf)

To check your registration status, visit [www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx).

Source: [www.mendonma.gov/elections](http://www.mendonma.gov/elections)

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# Nipmuc Regional High School hosts third annual English Language Arts Night

Inducts 42 students into National English Honor Society

Mendon-Upton Regional School District Superintendent Maureen Cohen and Nipmuc Regional High School Co-Principals John Clements and Mary Anne Moran are pleased to share that Nipmuc recently hosted its third annual English Language Arts Night, during which 42 students were inducted into the National English Honor Society.

The third annual English Language Arts Night was held on Thursday, April 4, at Nipmuc Regional High School.

Each year, the English Language Arts Night serves as an opportunity for community members to see students' achievements in English Language Arts classes and learn how the skills they develop in class inspire their interests and pursuits beyond the classroom.

Throughout the night, attendees enjoyed a variety of live student presentations, readings and performances that showcased students' passion and talents as they relate to English Language Arts. One of the sessions in-

cluded a Spoken-Word Poetry session, hosted in the media center and other sessions ranged from discussions of The Importance of Preserving Literature, while other sessions focused on Looking in Between the Lines-an Exploration of Lyricism. There were live performances from "The Odyssey" and also presentations on internship outcomes in the library/media center.

In addition to the showcase, 42 students from grades 10, 11 and 12 were inducted into the National English Honor Society. These students join 50 of the school's current members.

The inductees included: Isabella Allen, Kaitlyn Allington, Sean Bailey, Nora Bangma, Margaret Boates, Emerson Boissonneault, Gavin Brennan, Micheal Byrne, Ella Calvey, Tyler Carvalho, Alexander Carvalho, Hannah Cotton, Brynn Di Anni, Madison Fernandes, Kayleigh Fountain, Hayley Gibson, Madeleine Gowen, Lyla Hill, Steven John, Ethan LaRue, Sierra Lopes, Makary Mansy,



Nipmuc Regional High School recently hosted its third annual English Language Arts Night, during which 42 students were inducted into the National English Honor Society. Photo Courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District

Kendyl McGrath, Kayden McKibbin, Gretchen Merrill, Marria Meshreky, Linara Miller, Siena Miller, Anya Montano, Jade Muñoz, Maria Palmer, Ashley Pisano, Diana Plotkin, Margaret Roberts, Patrick Scott, Aisling Scott, Cillian Scott, Ruby Snyder, Ella Vanasse, Al-

exander Varney and Madelyn Weibe.

"I am proud to congratulate our newest inductees on their acceptance to the National English Honor Society," Superintendent Cohen said. "I would also like to recognize each of our students who participated

in the third annual English Language Arts Night. The night was a great success and representation of the hard work that our students and staff dedicate to our English Language Arts programs."

Submitted by Mendon-Upton Regional School District



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## Prevent solicitors at your door by signing up for Upton's no-knock registry

By Linda Chuss

For anyone who has been disturbed by an unexpected solicitor ringing their doorbell, the no solicitation registry bylaw that was approved last November can help prevent that. Just fill out a simple form to add your address to the list of residences that commercial solicitors cannot visit. Groups that are exempt from the bylaw and can still canvass at residences are fraternal, religious, charitable, civic, political, and Upton youth organizations.

Board of Selectman member Laura Hebb introduced the registry idea in the summer of 2023 after hearing complaints from some residents. Those grievances reminded Hebb of an experience she had when a cable solicitor repeatedly came to her home when she was caring for her terminally ill child. "He just kept coming back and pushed to talk to me, even though I always turned him

away," said Hebb. "I was annoyed at his persistence and empathize with anyone facing a similar situation. Some people worry about safety when a stranger approaches, others don't want germs brought into their home, and there are also concerns there may be a porch pirate stealing packages."

Upton has long been offered some protection: anyone engaged in commercial solicitation of residents must first apply to the Chief of Police for a sales permit. After being vetted for legitimacy and paying a nominal fee, the solicitor is issued a temporary license they must display while soliciting.

Hebb researched what other communities did and found many had versions of a no-knock ordinance. (Mendon does not have a no solicitation registry). She brought her proposal to the Board of Selectman, who agreed it should be considered at the November 2023 town meeting.

"Voters passed the article with an overwhelming majority," said Hebb. "There were no stated objections. The bylaw change was submitted to the Commonwealth, and the registry went live March 14, 2024. By the end of that first weekend, almost 400 households opted in."

The new registry for homeowners provides added reassurance to the solicitor permitting process. Now, when the solicitor receives their license, they are also provided with the list of addresses on the do-not-solicit list and must avoid them.

To complete the no solicitation registry application online, go to <https://bit.ly/3QxeE1N>, or complete it in person at the clerk's office at Town Hall, 1 Main St., Upton. For anyone who registers but still has solicitors visiting them, contact the police; it could jeopardize their permit to solicit in Upton.

### No Solicitation Registry

Last Name\*

First Name\*

Phone Number\*

Street Number\*

Street\*

-- Select One --

Email Address\*

I give permission to the Town Clerk to include my name and address on the Town of Upton - DO NOT SOLICIT Registry\*

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Residents can fill out a form like this so that solicitors know to avoid their homes. Source: [www.uptonma.gov](http://www.uptonma.gov)

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# Lake Nipmuc Task Force efforts are underway

By Linda Chuss

In April 2023, the Town of Mendon formed the Lake Nipmuc Task Force to address concerns facing the lake. As Highway Surveyor Jonathan Dudley expressed it, “The lake is a highly valuable resource in the town, and we need to protect it.” Lake Nipmuc is an important part of the natural water system, supports wildlife, and provides recreational outlets like swimming, fishing, and boating.

“One of the biggest issues we’ve had is beach closures due to excessive E. coli levels,” explained Dan Byer, Director of Parks and Recreation. High E. coli counts indicate the water quality can cause illnesses. “Particularly in the past five years, the bacteria has forced several closures each season. We aren’t sure of the source, and the task force is focusing on that.” Dudley added, “There are other problems too, including weeds in the lake, and even etiquette for people using the lake.”

The task force was formed so representatives from different groups could readily work together, particularly where an issue requires expertise from more than one area. For example, E. coli contamination needs to be looked into by the Board of Health, the Highway Department, Parks and Recreation, and the Conservation Commission.

As for the E. coli concern, a few steps are being taken to identify its sources. “We’re identifying all the septic systems and cesspools around the lake,”

Dudley said. “Then we’ll ensure they have tight tank compliance and no seepage, working with people so they aren’t unduly burdened.”

Byer added, “This summer, we’ll take samples and test water quality at six new locations on the lake. Until now, we’ve only tested at the beach, but additional sites will generate more data that may point to the sources of contamination.”

Future testing could include DNA testing to identify if the E. coli source is human or animal. Human E. coli comes from wastewater seepage, while animal E. coli comes from the excrement of geese and ducks. Even uncollected dog waste runs into the lake and can raise bacteria levels.

As for other topics the task force is addressing, Byer said, “Weed levels are a concern raised by residents, calling into question the effectiveness of the yearly herbicide treatments.” Dudley added, “Beavers on the far side of the lake require regular attention. Their dams affect the water level. As part of the additional testing we’re doing, a water level monitoring station will be added to provide an early indication of potential beaver activity.”

While the issues are complex and take time to identify and address, the task force efforts are well underway.

The group typically meets the third Tuesday of the month; the public is welcome to attend. For more information, see mendonma.gov/lake-nipmuc-task-force.

Residents can take these steps to help prevent and alleviate issues at Lake Nipmuc:

What you can do	Why that helps
• Do not feed wildlife	• Feeding wildlife leads to unnatural overcrowding and consequently, harmful amounts of excrement in the water
• Collect waste from your pets	• When left outdoors, rains wash the waste and its bacteria into the lake
• Use lawn and garden treatments responsibly – minimize amounts and opt for organic types	• Fertilizers and chemical treatments are washed into the lake by the rain, where they promote growth of unwanted plants and bacteria
• Responsibly compost grass clippings or take them to the town’s recycling center	• Rains carry the clippings into the lake, where the grass and any treatments on it promote growth of unwanted plants and bacteria



The Mendon Lake Nipmuc Task Force is taking measures to help ensure this town’s valuable asset is preserved. Photo credit: Dan Byer



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# How is your retirement income taxed?



Mark Freeman

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Once you're retired, you will likely need to draw on several types of income for your living expenses. You'll need to know where these funds are coming from and how much you can count on, but you should also be aware of how this money is taxed — because this knowledge can help you plan and budget for your retirement years.

Here's the basic tax information on some key sources of retirement income:

- **Social Security** – Many people don't realize they may have to pay taxes on their Social Security benefits. Whether your benefits will be taxed depends on how much other taxable income you receive from various sources, such as self-employment, stock dividends and interest payments. You'll want to check with your tax advisor to determine whether your income reaches the threshold where your Social Security benefits will be taxed. The lower your total taxable income, the lower the taxes will be on your benefits. The Social Security Administration will not automatically take out taxes from your monthly checks — to have taxes withheld, you will need to fill out Form W-4V (Voluntary Withholding Request). Again, your tax advisor can help you determine the percentage of your benefits you should withhold.
- **Retirement accounts** – During your working years, you may have contributed to two basic retirement accounts: an IRA and a 401(k) or similar plan (such as a 457(b) plan for state and local government employees or a 403(b) plan for educators and employees of some nonprofits). If you invested in a "traditional" IRA or 401(k) or similar plan, your contributions may have been partially or completely deductible and your earnings grew on a tax-deferred basis. But when you start taking withdrawals from your traditional IRA or 401(k), the money is considered taxable at your normal income tax rate. However, if you chose the "Roth" option (when available), your contributions were not deductible, but your earnings and withdrawals are tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.
- **Annuities** – Many investors use annuities to supplement their retirement income. An annuity is essentially a contract between you and an in-

surance company in which the insurer pays you an income stream for a given number of years, or for life, in exchange for the premiums you paid. You typically purchase a "qualified" annuity with pre-tax dollars, possibly within a traditional IRA or 401(k), so your premiums may be deductible, and your earnings can grow tax deferred. Once you start taking payouts, the entire amount — your contributions and earnings — are taxable at your individual tax rate. On the other hand, you purchase "non-qualified" annuities with after-tax dollars, so your premiums aren't deductible, but just like qualified annuities, your earnings grow on a tax-deferred basis. When you take payments, you won't pay taxes on the principal amounts you invested but the earnings will be taxed as ordinary income.

We've looked at some general rules governing different sources of income, but you should consult your tax professional

about your specific situation. Ultimately, factors such as your goals, lifestyle and time horizon should drive the decisions you make for your retirement income. Nonetheless, you may want to look for ways to control the taxes that result from your various income pools. And the more you know about how your income is taxed, the fewer unpleasant surprises you may experience.

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

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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 Monday, May 6, 2024, the Town of Mendon Assessor’s Office will be conducting the second phase of the cyclical inspection process. We expect this second phase to occur over a two-month period.

Our representative, Bill Beauregard, 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 Beauregard, 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. As we cannot judge where he will be each day, we are unable to make appointments prior to his visit.

In this second phase, we expect those visits to occur in the following locations: Bicknell Drive, Blueberry Drive, Catalpa Lane, Crestview Drive, Daniels Road, Deer Hill Drive, Gaskill Street, George Street, Hartford Avenue East, Haywood Circle, King Philip Path, Lapham Court, Massasoit Way, Neck Hill Road, Oak Hill Road, Vincent Road and Warfield 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](mailto:assessor@mendonma.gov).

# Keeping it local! Red Rock Grill and Bar under new ownership



The Kourkouliotis family on the left, from back to front Stefanos, Stela and Christos. On the right a few of Red Rock’s dedicated staff, from back to front, Anthony, Lea and Hannah.

Red Rock Grill and Bar in Upton was recently purchased by Stela Kourkouliotis. Kourkouliotis comes from a family of restaurateurs, her parents owning several restaurants and local pizzerias. She was born and raised in Upton where she currently lives with her two teenage sons Stefanos and Christos. Kourkouliotis has a background in finance and sales but has always had a dream to own her own restaurant. She is eager to bring a fresh new perspective to Red Rock and make it her family’s legacy. One step she has already taken is offering some of her families’ traditional Greek recipes. The special wine dinners and events that Red Rock has become known for will continue.

The current Red Rock staff that has been there for several years will be staying on and working with Kourkouliotis. In addition, you will find both of Kourkouliotis’ sons working at the restaurant in support of the family business. Kourkouliotis’ plans are to expand the current menu and daily specials and add additional gluten free options. Red Rock’s hours will remain the same. Outdoor dining is now open.

Red Rock Grill and Bar is located at 66 West Main Street in Upton. For more information see their website at [redrockgrillandbar.com](http://redrockgrillandbar.com).

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## Upton Town Library Calendar of Events

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

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

**Spring Booksale – May 11**  
The Friends of the Upton Library spring booksale is Saturday, May 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Community Center at 9 Milford Street. Great selection of gently used books, dvds, puzzles and more. Don't forget your Friends totebag for our annual totebag deal. If you have items to donate, bring them to the library lobby. Additional parking available in municipal lots on Grove Street.

**Special Events**  
**Plant Swap - Wednesday, May 22, 6 - 7 p.m.**

Calling all plant enthusiasts! Bring your plants and cuttings to the library for a plant swap. Exchange your old plants for new ones and chat with other plant parents and gardeners. More information available on the Upton Town Library website or by reaching out to Adult Librarian Micaela at maustin@cwmar.org. Registration is encouraged, but not required.

**Puzzle Swap - Saturday, June 1, 10 - 11 a.m.**

Need to swap an old puzzle out for a new one? Bring in a gently used puzzle with no miss-

ing pieces to participate in our Yankee Swap of puzzles (either 500 or 1,000 pieces). You will walk away with a new-to-you puzzle of your own. Register at [uptonlibrary.org](http://uptonlibrary.org).

**StoryWalk™ – April 1 to May 31 – at VFW Playground**

All spring, patrons can enjoy our StoryWalk™ at VFW Memorial Playground. A StoryWalk™ is a picture book told panel by panel on signs. Families can stroll around, reading the story of *Fletcher and the Springtime Blossoms* by Julia Donaldson. Those who fill out our QR code Google Form at the end will be entered to win a paperback copy of the book for their home library.

**Virtual Author Talk Series**  
View free online author talks, either live or recorded. Register and get more information at the library website, or at <https://library.org/uptontownlibrary>

Author Talk with **Rebecca F. Kuang**: Asian American Representation in Literature - Tuesday, May 21, 7 - 9 p.m.

Author Talk with the **Smithsonian Institute**: For the Love of Mars: A Human History of the Red Planet - Monday, June 3, 2 - 3 p.m.

Author Talk with **Freida Mc-**

**Fadden**: Psychological Thrillers and the Queen of Twists - Thursday, June 13, 8 - 9 p.m.

**Children's & Young Adult Events**  
**Bat Friends – Sat. May 11, 10 - 11 a.m.**

Kids can join Mrs. Murphy and our friends from the Upton Mosquito & Tick Control Board to learn all about bats and how they help with mosquito populations. For ages 5 to 12. Pre-registration is required.

**Pop Tart Mini Pillows – Wed. May 15, 6 - 7 p.m.**

Tweens and teens can join Mrs. Murphy to create Pop Tart mini pillows using felt. Basic sewing skills needed. For ages 10 to 16. Pre-registration is required.

**Monthly Library Events – Register now!**

All programs and events re-

quire pre-registration at [uptonlibrary.org](http://uptonlibrary.org) or call 508-529-6272. Registrations open the month prior to events.

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

Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins will take place May 13 as well as June 10 and 17, in the Greatroom. 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 held on Fridays. This is a 20-30-minute lapsit program featuring stories, songs, and nursery rhymes. Pre-registration required. Waitlisted patrons will receive priority for

the following month.

**Preschool Storytime – Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.**

Preschool Storytime is for ages 3 to 5 and is held on Thursdays. This is a 45-minute program, featuring longer stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts. Pre-registration required. Waitlisted patrons will receive priority for the following month.

**Saturday Storytime – June 22 at 9:30 a.m.**

Once a month we offer a 30-45-minute Saturday Storytime, blending Baby and Preschool storytimes featuring stories, songs, rhymes, and a craft. Can't join us for our weekday programs? This event is just for you. For ages 0-5. Pre-registration required.

UPTON LIBRARY

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Upton Food Pantry hours

The Food Pantry at United Parish Upton serves residents from Upton as well as nearby towns. It will be open May 21 and June 4 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. - The Food Pantry serves residents from Upton as well as nearby towns. Proof of income or church affiliation is not required. We offer non-perishable food, toiletries, paper products and infant needs. Donations can be dropped off in our donation shed located outside the church office on 1 Church Street, Upton.

Community supper on May 16

On the third Thursday of each month from September through June, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., our Faith in Action committee provides a delicious and nutritious meal for the community. Everyone is welcome. On May 16, we'll be serving breakfast for dinner. Please call the church office at 508-529-3192 by May 12 to make your reservation. We are located at 1 Church Street. For more information, go to [www.unitedparishupton.org/ministries/community-supper](http://www.unitedparishupton.org/ministries/community-supper)

.....  
If your nonprofit organization is located in Upton or Mendon and provides free services to Upton and/or Mendon citizens, email [editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com](mailto:editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com) for consideration to be listed in this section.

Nipmuc Regional High School awarded second Innovation Career Pathways Designation

Superintendent Maureen Cohen and co-principals John Clements and Mary Anne Moran are pleased to share that Nipmuc Regional High School has been named a fall 2024 Innovation Career Pathways (ICP) designee by the Healy-Driscoll administration.

The Innovation Pathway in Business and Finance is Nipmuc Regional High School's second Innovation Pathway designation after they were awarded an Information Technology Pathway in 2023.

ICPs provide students with applied learning experience in high-demand industries such as Advanced Manufacturing, Information Technology, Environmental and Life Sciences, Health Care and Social Assistance, Business and Finance, and Clean Energy. Providing these pathways enables students to explore high-demand careers they may want to pursue at no cost while strengthening workforce pipelines to meet the

needs of employers in those industries.

There are two pathways within this ICP for students to choose from – finance and marketing. Each pathway has its own distinct academic requirements and both pathways will provide students with authentic learning, certification programs and a 100-hour internship or capstone project to be completed during their senior year or the prior summer.

The courses being offered through the Business and Finance Pathway include an accounting course and a Microsoft Office course. Certifications offered through the Pathway include Microsoft Office, Google marketing and content marketing.

"We are extremely excited to launch the ICP Business & Finance pathways here at Nipmuc beginning next year," Business teacher Brian Kelly said. "This will provide a great opportunity for students inter-

ested in business and finance to learn more about potential careers through authentic learning experiences and engaging partnerships with local businesses."

Nipmuc Regional High School's community business partners include Dean Bank, Blackstone Valley Hub for Workforce Development, MassHire Central Mass and Milford Federal Bank.

"With so many of our students already in our business classes and showing significant interest in business careers, we foresee our students leaving Nipmuc after graduation with an even more enhanced wealth of knowledge and experience than they already have," Business teacher Jamie Caprarella said. "We are thankful for this opportunity and grateful for our administration and DESE for their support in beginning this new adventure."

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# Spring cleaning is greener with Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe walking through your basement has gotten difficult or there is no more room in the attic? Perhaps you are planning to move, and you need to declutter before your open house?

Figuring out who to call can be challenging. 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 2005. 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 eight 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 overflow-

## Business spotlight

ing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

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

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

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



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

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

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

Contact Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business take care of everything for you. Call Jay Schadler at 774-287-1133 or visit us online at [www.affordablejunkremoval.com](http://www.affordablejunkremoval.com).

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# Scottish Highland Games in Milford on June 15

4th annual "Home Games" welcomes 120 athletes sporting muscles, kilts

By Theresa Knapp

The public is invited to the Scottish Highland Games on Fino Field on June 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. More than 100 athletes from all over New England, the United States, and Canada to compete in two separate competitions: Highland Games Heavy Athletics with all nine traditional events, and Team Highlander.

The Heavy Athletics events include, in traditional order: Braemar, Open Stone (like Shotput), Heavy Weight for Distance, Light Weight for Distance, Heavy Scottish Hammer, Light Scottish Hammer, Caber Toss, Weight Over Bar, and Sheaf Toss.

The Team Highlander competition will include teams from the best barbell clubs and gyms from New England who will compete in a more strongman style competition, and will start with a Truck Pull.

The event is run by No Fame Games in Milford and is essentially "track and field meets strong-man in kilts with centuries of deeply rooted history and culture," says founder Joshua Mackintosh. "This is not something you see every day, and

**"We do this because it is the right thing to do, because things die out when people do not step up to keep them alive."**  
- Jonathan Mackintosh, No Fame Games founder and event organizer

right in our own backyard."

"This will be the largest Highland Athletic Event in New England," he said. "It's special, fun, family-friendly, and healthy. Also, youth athletes and adults alike get a chance to see world-class caliber and world record holding professional athletes compete, in person, right in front of them. They can meet and talk to them. It's not like the NFL, or NBA, or NHL, although these athletes are just as magnificent, athletic, and talented. It's engaging and alive."

The day will begin with an opening ceremony with traditional bagpipes; representatives from Scottish Clans who will share their Celtic history and lineage; and more.

Other aspects of this family-



friend event include:

- Youth "Try It" stations, including Kids Sheaf, Caber, Stone 'Put' (like shotput), and Weight Over Bar;
- Playground area for kids that parents can self-supervise while keeping them entertained;
- Truck pull;
- Local food and coffee trucks;
- and much more.

This is the fourth year of the event which started as a grassroots backyard movement during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**History of the Scottish Highland Games**

"Athletically, it is said that the Scottish Highland Games is one of the forerunners to modern track and field. The beauty of the Games is in the deep history that dates as far back as the 11th century. The Games were originally held as a way for Scottish clans/tribes to showcase their warriors' strength and athletic prowess. Moreover, it was a way to celebrate togetherness and foster community connections."

- No Fame Games founder, and event organizer, Jonathan Mackintosh

"We were all missing throwing given how long the pandemic was at the time," said Mackintosh, who himself started throwing in the Highland Games in 2018. "A few of us got together to practice and it naturally


spawned into, 'Hey, what if we had a 'backyarder' games?' - a 'Backyarder' is a very casual, simplified Highland Games

**HIGHLAND GAMES**  
*continued on page 18*


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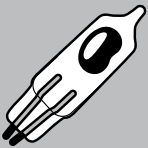
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# The truth about cataract surgery performed in an office: A cautionary tale

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

Cataract surgery is a common, safe, and highly successful procedure traditionally performed in hospital settings or specialized ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs). However, some considerations including greed and financial bias have led some surgeons to advocate for performing cataract surgeries in office-based settings. This is while there is plenty of availability for performing the same surgery in the safety and comfort of an ASC just a few minutes from these surgeons' offices. There are inherent risks and considerations that patients must be aware of before undergoing such procedures outside of a hospital environment or an ASC. If they ask you to have your cataract surgery in their office, think again.

**Lack of Emergency Resources:** One of the primary concerns associated with cataract surgery in an office setting is the potential lack of immediate access to emergency medical resources. Unlike hospitals or surgical centers, where anesthesia emergency teams and specialized equipment are readily available, office-based facilities may not have the same level of preparedness to handle unforeseen complications during surgery. In fact, those offices have no anesthesia presence at all. In the event of a medical emergency such as sudden changes in vital signs or cardiac arrest, delays in accessing emergency care could have serious consequences for the patient's health and well-being. Although it may sound hard to believe, those office surgeons want to call 911 if you have a medical emergency while you are having your cataract surgery. And good luck if the emergency crew is too busy or inaccessible!

**Infection Control Challenges:** Maintaining strict infection control measures is essential in any surgical setting to minimize the risk of post-operative infections. However, office-based facilities may face challenges in upholding the same standards of sterility as hospital operating rooms or

ASCs. Factors such as limited space, inadequate ventilation, and insufficient sterilization equipment could compromise the cleanliness of the surgical environment, increasing the likelihood of surgical site infections and other complications. Furthermore, an ASC performing thousands of cataract surgeries every year has way more infection control personnel and training compared to an office performing the same surgery occasionally.

**Lack of Anesthesia Monitoring:** Another critical aspect of cataract surgery is the administration of anesthesia to ensure patient comfort and safety during the procedure. While local anesthesia is commonly used for cataract surgery, monitoring the patient's response to anesthesia is crucial to prevent adverse reactions or complications. In office-based settings, the availability of trained anesthesia personnel and monitoring equipment may be limited and often inexistent, potentially putting patients at risk of anesthesia-related complications such as respiratory depression or allergic reactions.

**Lack of Anesthetic Titration:** Sedation titration allows for the adjustment of sedation levels during the procedure, thereby mitigating the risk of patient awareness during the surgery. Titration involves the ability to administer varying levels of anesthesia, as deemed appropriate. When your surgery is in an office, you will have no IV and no ability to titrate the anesthetics. They give you some sedatives by mouth before you go to the OR. That's it. The absence of the capability to titrate anesthesia in the office poses a significant risk. You may not be able to hold still for safe surgery. You may remember the entire experience afterward. This, in turn, can cause you significant traumatic stress because of this experience.

**Limited Surgical Expertise in an Office:** Cataract surgery requires precision and expertise to achieve optimal outcomes and minimize the risk of complications. Surgeons who

perform these procedures in hospital settings or ASCs often have extensive training and experience in ophthalmic surgery, backed by the resources and infrastructure of a specialized surgical environment. In contrast, office-based setting may not have the same level of track record or access to advanced surgical techniques and equipment. In fact, the entire state of Massachusetts has only 2 offices performing cataract surgery in the office. Compare this to hundreds of well-equipped ASCs and hospitals performing this surgery successfully for decades.

**Patient Selection and Follow-Up Challenges:** Proper patient selection and thorough preoperative evaluation are crucial to identifying individuals who are suitable candidates for cataract surgery and assessing their risk factors for complications. Additionally, postoperative care and follow-up are essential



for monitoring the patient's recovery and addressing any concerns or complications that may arise. In office-based settings, there may be limitations in conducting comprehensive preoperative assessments and providing adequate follow-up care. Even if this selection is perfectly planned

and the patient is deemed "low risk for office-based surgery", unforeseen surprises can happen when no emergency services exist. This can potentially compromise patient safety and

CATARACT  
continued on page 13

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# Mendon Senior Center Programs for May & June

## Mendon Minstrels—Spring Program

*Mornings & Other Beginnings*  
Come enjoy a wonderful array of heartfelt songs performed for your listening pleasure by our own Mendon Minstrels Chorus on Thursday, May 16 at 11 a.m. The Minstrels lead by Dave Clinkman, also on piano, include Susan Carlson, Lynda Chace, Betsy Edsall, Helen Forand, Martha Gebelein, Jane Lowell, Paula Malnati, Lana Mars, Peg Nogueira, Walter Ramsey, Ann Vandersluis, Sandy Washburn and Marge West accompanied by Art Forand on guitar and Brad Mosher on percussion. Please invite a friend to this upcoming performance and join us for light lunch immediately following. Please call the center at 508-478-6175 or stop by to sign up for one or both programs. The performance is free; the cost for lunch is \$5 per person in advance. This Minstrels' performance occurs just prior to their summer break. They will resume in September and wel-

come newcomers.

## Mendon History with Jim Buckley

On Tuesday, May 21 at 11 a.m., Jim will be discussing two Mendon authors and their actress mother. Please stop by or call the Mendon Senior Center at 508-478-6175 to register for these free programs. Walk-ins are also welcomed.

## Mat Yoga

A mini session of Mat Yoga taught by Faith Kennedy will start Wednesday, May 22 at 10 a.m. This one hour, four-week program is partially grant funded and will cost \$25 per participant. Please call 508-478-6175 to register.

## Elder Law Education Program

On Wednesday, May 29 at 1 p.m. (note- corrected date) the Mendon Senior Center will host the statewide legal program sponsored by the Massachusetts Bar Association. Attorney Kathleen Nealon from Hopkinton

will touch on some important topics in this year's 2024 resource guide (available for distribution) on a wide range of legal issues affecting the lives of seniors including how to protect your home and assets, power of attorney and health care proxies, reverse mortgages, Medicare/Medicaid changes and alternatives to nursing home care. For more information or to register for this free program call the Mendon Senior Center at 508-478-6175. Additionally, "Taking Control of Your Future: A Legal Checkup" guides provided by the Mass. Bar Association will be available to participants first. There is vast subject matter. Please let us know what topics you are most interested in.

## Consumer Right Program ~ Thursday May 30 at 11 a.m.

The Worcester Consumer Rights Program will visit the Mendon Senior Center to help residents with consumer issues. They work in cooperation with the Massachusetts Attorney

General's office to conduct inquiry into consumer complaints against businesses. They handle complaints relating to a wide variety of consumer problems, such as repair issues within warranty periods, incomplete home renovations, products which have been paid for but not received and gift cards not honored, unreturned security deposits and much more. Call 508-478-6175 or stop by the senior center to register for this informative program.

## 20th Annual Town Wide Progressive Yard Sale – June 8 Now Accepting Registrations!

Registrations are now being accepted for the Friends Town-Wide Progressive Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, June 8 from 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Rain date June 9). If you would like to register to hold a yard sale of your own that day, you may obtain a registration form at the Senior Center or on-line at the official Council on Aging website via <http://www.mendonma.gov/>. We thank you for your continued support. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year helping us provide the seniors of Mendon with programs and furnish the Center with needed essentials. If you would like to get involved, please contact Carolyn at [friendsofmendonelders2024@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmendonelders2024@gmail.com) or the Mendon Senior Center at 508-478-6175.

If you have items to donate, you may drop off your usable items on Monday—Thursday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please, no electronics including computers, monitors, printers, and TV's. Also, no extra-large furnishings,

exercise equipment or clothing.

## 2024 Mendon Senior of the Year

The Mendon Council on Aging is accepting nominations for the 2024 "Senior Citizen of the Year". Since 1978, a deserving person (or persons) has been awarded the annual distinction of Senior Citizen of the Year. The chosen Mendon resident, age 60 or older, generally exemplifies a spirit of public service and has made a positive difference in the community. Written nominations on forms provided will be accepted until June 1 and the award will be presented in September. Nomination forms are available at the Mendon Senior Center or on-line from the Council on Aging home page at [www.mendonma.gov](http://www.mendonma.gov). Drop off or mail nominations to the Senior Center at 62 Providence St., Mendon. Call 508-478-6175 with any questions.

## Sheriff's Picnic

Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association and Sheriff Lew Evangelidis are excited to announce Saturday, June 8 as the date of the Annual Senior Picnic. This year it will be a drive-thru Spectacular Event." A drive-thru picnic where our guests will be treated to a delicious BBQ lunch to go, free lottery tickets to every attendee, desserts, raffle prizes, tons of giveaways, and bags of goodies from every single exhibitor/vendor. All guests MUST register to attend by May 20. You can contact the Mendon Senior Center to sign up at 508-478-6175.

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CATARACT

continued from page 11

satisfaction.

**Lack of Approval by Professional Societies:** Cataract surgery in an office setting is not covered by Medicare and not approved by all major ophthalmology professional societies. In fact, the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery refuse to approve office-based surgery, citing concerns about patient safety.

**Legal and Ethical Considerations:** The decision to perform cataract surgery in an office setting raises important legal and ethical considerations for both patients and healthcare providers. Patients must be fully informed about the potential risks and limitations of office-based surgery, as well as their rights to alternative treatment options and access to emergency care. The surgeon's choices to perform the surgery in an office based on financial bias should be clearly explained to the patient, more so when a safe surgery center exists and is available minutes away,

and when the surgeons are charging patients fees for this office-based surgery.

In conclusion, office-based cataract surgery is not without its risks and limitations. Patients considering this option should carefully weigh the potential benefits and drawbacks. If your surgeon recommends you have cataract surgery in an office, you are advised to seek a second opinion to make an informed decision. At the Cataract Surgery Center of Milford, a dedicated MD anesthesiologist is present full-time for all procedures, no exception, and your comfort and safety are titrated by using an IV line, which is lacking in the office-based surgery model. You come first. We are available in your backyard and proud to offer world-class cataract surgery closer to home: Here in Milford! In an accredited and licensed surgery center facility, not in an office. Four decades serving our communities and going strong.

For more details, see our ad on page 11.

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UPTON LIBRARY

continued from page 7

**Drop-In Storytime – May 20 at 9:30 a.m.**

Our Children's Department is now offering a new Drop-In Storytime session, once a month. No registration required. This will be a blend of our Baby and Preschool Storytimes; however, no craft will be provided. We will feature stories, songs, rhymes, and fun. This will be held in the Greatroom and will be a larger group size. For ages 0 to 5.

**LEGO Club – May 15 at 4 p.m.**

This group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4 - 5 p.m. This group is led by Library Director, Matthew Bachtold, and is for ages 5 to 12. We provide the LEGOs while you have fun building and mak-

ing new friends. Pre-registration is required.

**Kids' Book Club – June 5 at 4 p.m.**

Our book club members explore popular juvenile and preteen titles on the first Wednesday of each month from 4 - 4:45 p.m. Our June title will be the science fiction pick, *The Alien Adventures of Finn Caspian: The Fuzzy Apocalypse* by Jonathan Messinger. This group is for ages 8-12 and reads mostly middle grade titles. We welcome new members all year round. Pre-registration required.

**Teen Group – Tuesdays 3 p.m.**

This group meets weekly on Tuesdays from 3 - 4 p.m. and focuses on a new theme each month, sharing books, crafts, games, and more. This group is for tweens and teens ages 10-16. This is always a drop-in program led by Adult Librarian

Micaela.

**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, June 11 at 12:45 p.m., and Thursday, June 13 at 6:45 p.m.: *The Love of My Life* by Rosie Walsh.

**Fic or No Fic Book Group**

An adult book group led by Librarian Micaela that alternates fiction and non-fiction selections. Meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 6:45 p.m.

May 29 at 6:45 p.m.: fiction title, *The Hotel Nantucket* by Elin Hilderbrand.

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

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WELLNESS WEEK

continued from page 1

Your Mind, a nonprofit mental health education foundation that aims to provide mental health education to adolescents. As a part of the nonprofit's "Changing Minds: Stories Over Stigma" program, Wes spoke about his personal struggle with anxiety and how he now accepts and manages it.

Students could choose from a number of advisory activities, including backyard games, board games, card games, de-stressing with music, free writing, friendship bracelet making, making holiday cards for a senior center, creating decorative signs for the school's hope garden, loving-kindness meditation, ping-pong, puzzles, reading, coloring, karaoke, spending time with therapy dogs, playing video games, volleyball and pickleball, walking meditation, weightlifting and yoga.

At the end of the week students enjoyed a therapy animal petting zoo provided by Animal Craze out of Winchendon, MA that included goats, piglets, bunnies, chicks, and ducks.

"Our goal throughout this week was to emphasize the importance of mental health and help students to discover wellness practices that work for them," School Counselor Hefez said. "We hope that the students enjoyed the programs and learned a few wellness habits along the way."

Submitted by Mendon-Upton Regional School District



Student Jade Munoz. Photo courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District



Student Jayden Lilburn. Photo courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District



Student Pablo Dominguez. Photo courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District



Nipmuc students Abigail Mullins and Sean Bailey. Photo courtesy Mendon-Upton Regional School District

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# Galliford's Gives Back teams up with Southwick's Zoo for charity event

Galliford's Gives Back, in collaboration with Southwick's Zoo, is honored to announce an evening of support and solidarity for Cameron Montoya, a young warrior bravely fighting leukemia AML. The event, scheduled for May 19, from 5 to 9 p.m., aims to rally the community to raise funds for the Montoya Morrell Family.

Cameron Montoya's journey with leukemia AML has moved the hearts of many in the community, sparking an incredible outpour of love and generosity. Galliford's Gives Back and The Savanna Grille are joining forces to channel this support to provide assistance to Cameron and his family during this challenging time.

Attendees can anticipate an unforgettable evening featuring live music by Nashville recording artist Timmy Brown who is graciously volunteering his talents for the evening. Additionally, guests will have the opportunity to participate in raffles generously donated by a variety of local businesses and organizations, including Southwick's Zoo, The Worcester Red Sox, Dunkin Donuts, New England Steak and Seafood, and many more, with all proceeds benefitting the Montoya Morell Family. A \$10 cash cover charge will



directly benefit the Montoya Morrell Family, enabling attendees to demonstrate their support while enjoying the festivities. All proceeds from the evening including the cover charge will benefit Cameron in his battle against leukemia AML.

Galliford's Restaurant and Tavern extends its gratitude to all the businesses and individuals who have generously donated raffle prizes and supported this event. Their contributions will provide essential assistance to the Montoya Morrell Family as they navigate Cameron's medical journey.

Information on the event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3848077388846404>

# BVT announces second trimester Commendation List

## Acknowledging academic and vocational achievement

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) has released the Superintendent-Director's Commendation List for the second trimester of the 2023–2024 school year. Students must meet rigorous standards to be named to the Commendation List, such as maintaining a grade point average of 88 percent or above in each technical, related, and academic course for the trimester.

Mendon and Upton students include:

**SENIORS (Class of 2024)**

**Mendon:** Tyler Clare, Information Technology; Jack Krauss, Plumbing; and Ava Lozeau, Construction Technology.

**Upton:** Andrew Adams, Drafting & Design Technology; Gray Campbell, Multimedia Communications; Skyla Jack, Construction Technol-

ogy; and Brian O'Connell, Automotive Technology.

**JUNIORS (Class of 2025)**

**Mendon:** Kalynn Bellefontaine, Health Services; Sophia Blalock, Cosmetology; and Leila Leyvas, Health Services.

**Upton:** Samantha Carroll, Information Technology; Kylie French, Painting & Design Technology; Cassidy Lyon, Health Services; Jack Nealley, HVAC&R; and Ryan Poirier, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication.

**SOPHOMORES (Class of 2026)**

**Mendon:** Greyson Blalock, Electrical; Phoebe Burke, Engineering & Robotics; Aiden Fayer, Information Technology; and Aiden Quimby, Engineering & Robotics.

**Upton:** Nicole Amburtseva, Dental Assisting; Justin Fran-

sen, Engineering & Robotics; Ayden Joseph, Information Technology; Jack Lupien, Electrical; Ryan May, Engineering & Robotics; and Nivedita Sharma, Health Services.

**FRESHMEN (Class of 2027)**

**Mendon:** Chloe Burke, Multimedia Communications; Lila Kaye-Kuter, Health Services; Mandi Kaye-Kuter, Health Services; Peyton Keefe, Health Services; Travis Leyvas, Engineering & Robotics; Mia Rezek, Dental Assisting; James Roberts, Plumbing; Karen Saeteros-Pizha, Dental Assisting; and Brady Usher, HVAC&R.

**Upton:** Ekakshar Bhardwaj, Plumbing; Avery Myers, HVAC&R; Jacob Poirier, Engineering & Robotics; Lucia Rae, Dental Assisting; and Makenna Walls, Health Services.

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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  
MAY 2024

Upcoming Events:

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

Author Michael Tougias discusses Extreme Survival

Join us on Tuesday, May 7 at 7 p.m. for a program from Michael Tougias, author of *The Finest Hours* and *So Close to Home*. Mr. Tougias will discuss the survival stories of several historic figures and provide an inside look at techniques to overcome adversity based on research from his book *Extreme Survival: Lessons from Those Who Have Triumphed Against All Odds*. Registration is required as space is limited. Please register by clicking on the Library Event Calendar & Registration link at www.taftpubliclibrary.org.

Mosaic Pendants with Cheryl Cohen

On Tuesday, May 14 at 7 p.m. make a mosaic pendant using adhesive putty in this online class with Cheryl Cohen of Cheryl Cohen Mosaics Art Center. Registration is required as space is limited. Those who sign up will need to stop at the upstairs desk in the library to pick up a kit for the session.

Slow Flow Saturday Yoga with Katie Aissis of Sprouting Tree Yoga

Come join Katie Aissis from Sprouting Tree Yoga for Slow Flow Saturday Yoga at 7 a.m. on Saturday, May 18 upstairs in the library. This Vinyasa style yoga class links breath to movement in a dynamic sequence of postures. Participants will build strength while also finding moments throughout the practice to quiet the mind and rest the body. This class is appropriate for all levels and no previous

yoga experience is necessary. Please bring your own yoga mat. Please register for the program on our website.

Adult Handcrafting Group

Let's get crafty! Join us on Wednesday, May 15 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. No registration is required. Crafts are NOT supplied.

Adult Book Club

The Adult Book Club will meet on Monday, May 13 at 7 p.m. to discuss *Memorial Drive: A Daughter's Memoir* by Natasha Trethewey and the poetry of Amanda Lovelace. Adult Book Clubs are typically 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.

In June the Adult Book Club will discuss *The Bonesetter's Daughter* by Amy Tan.

German Conversation Club

Are you looking for a place to practice what German you remember or to improve your German vocabulary? Conversations in German is no pressure, just fun. Lead by Library Assistant (and Mendon resident) Monika Schmid, the group typically meets the last Monday of each month. Due to the Memorial Day holiday, mark your calendars for Monday, May 20 at 6 p.m. for the next session. Registration is required. To register, visit our website.

Friends of the Taft Public Library Meeting

The Friends of the Library will meet next on Tuesday, May 28 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.

Dustin Pari visiting in June with his Plus Ultra Motivational Lecture!


Motivational speaker and television personality Dustin Pari returns to the Taft on Tuesday, June 4 at 7 p.m. with his Plus Ultra Motivational Lecture. Ever felt like there is something missing in this life? Perhaps not everything we have learned has benefited us as we were told it would. Maybe there is something more. Join Dustin in this entertaining and emotionally charged presentation as we learn how to unlock our hidden potential to find we are powerful beyond measure and meant for so much more. Registration is required for this program as space is limited.

TAFT CHILDREN'S NEWS-APRIL 2024

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.

TAFT LIBRARY  
continued on page 17

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Taft Library

continued from page 16

Itty Bitty Story Time

Itty Bitty Storytime is designed for our youngest patrons birth to 3 years old. Join us for a lot of fun on Tuesdays and select Wednesdays 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 on 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. Please note there is no Alphabet Storytime the first Wednesday of the month.

Coffee and Conversations & Puppet Storytime

Date: Wednesday, June 5  
Time: 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.  
Location: Taft Public Library, 29 North Ave., Mendon

Join us for an informal playtime where families will be able to build social connections and learn about early childhood development and family friendly resources. The library will supply Muffin House Muffins.

Please stay for the 10:30 a.m. Puppet Storytime. Join Newton & Friends of Through Me to You Puppetry for songs and stories. At the end of the 30-minute show, children can greet the puppets. Geared for children 2 to 5 years, but all are welcome.

Preschool Kidding Around Yoga

We will learn yoga poses, dance, sing, and meditate. This class is all about fun- all abilities

are welcome. Mats are available, or feel free to bring your own. Wednesday, May 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Tutors with Tails

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

Book Clubs

**Graphic Novel Book Club:**  
This month we will be reading: *Nell of Gumbling: My Extremely Normal Fairy-Tale Life* by Emma Steinkellner. Join us on Tuesday, May 14 at 5 p.m. to discuss this month's book pick.

**6-9 Novel Book Club:** We will be reading: *The Story of Diva & Flea* by Mo Willems and Tony DiTerlizzi. The book club will be held downstairs on Tuesday, May 7 at 5 p.m.

Recent Home Sales

Date	Mendon	Amount
04/24/2024	71 Millville Rd.	\$714,000
04/17/2024	47 Mowry St.	\$500,000
04/11/2024	187 Blackstone St.	\$692,000
Date	Upton	Amount
04/12/2024	58 Shannon Way #105	\$674,995
03/29/2024	75 Elm St.	\$415,000
03/29/2024	33 Milford St.	\$299,000
03/29/2024	48 Hartford Ave. N.	\$425,000

Source: [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com) / Compiled by Upton Mendon Free Press



The 3-bed, 3-bath, 2,462 sf house at 71 Millville Road in Mendon recently sold for \$714,000. Photo credit [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com)



Upton VFW Yard Sale on May 11

The Upton VFW Post #5594 will hold its first Yard Sale at the Post Home on Saturday, May 11. Contact David Kennedy to reserve space for dealers. The Blackstone Garden Club will be present for their annual plant sale which is always an amazing event that is very popular.

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# Registration open for Mendon town-wide yard sale June 8

20<sup>th</sup> annual progressive yard sale sponsored by Friends of Mendon Elders

Registrations are now being accepted for the Friends of Mendon Elders' Town-Wide Progressive Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, June 8, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The rain date is June 9.

If you would like to register to hold a yard sale of your own that day, you may obtain a registration form at the Senior Center, on-line at the official Council on Aging website via

<http://www.mendonma.gov/>, or [bit.ly/MendonTownwide-YardSaleReg](http://bit.ly/MendonTownwide-YardSaleReg).

We thank you for your continued support. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year helping us provide the seniors of Mendon with programs and furnish the Center with needed essentials. If you would like to get involved, please contact Carolyn at [friendsofmen-donelders2024@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmen-donelders2024@gmail.com) or

the Mendon Senior Center at 508-478-6175.

Have items to donate? During the month of May, you can drop off your usable items on Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Items not permitted are electronics (including computers, monitors, printers), televisions, extra-large furnishings, exercise equipment, clothing.

Source: [www.mendonma.gov](http://www.mendonma.gov)

## HIGHLAND GAMES

continued from page 10

that just focuses on the 'Heavy Events' or athletics.

"We started a larger group chat and when coming up with a name, we all liked 'No Fame Games'... The first Home Games in Milford was in the summer of 2021, and we've been growing very rapidly ever since. We were one of the largest Highland athletic events in the nation last year with over 120 athletes coming from all over the country."

He said they have had a world record broken on Fino Field every year so far, including World Champions who can throw stones and weights distances that only a handful of


people have ever done in history.

These games continue, Mackintosh said, due to numerous volunteers, including his wife Jennfer Yarro, and the No Fame Games team.


"We do this for our heritage, health, the community, and also because there is a power to giving back. We do this because it is the right thing to do, because things die out when people do not step up to keep them alive. This is something we wanted to teach our son by showing him directly. When people come and see Home Games, they will feel what I'm trying to explain. It's ancient, yet as relevant as ever today."


For more information, visit [www.nofamegames.com](http://www.nofamegames.com). Entry fee is \$10 per person, \$20 per family. Lawn chairs encouraged.


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# Mendon Police Log

Between March 22 to April 20, the Mendon Police Department responded to hundreds of calls, many related to motor vehicle stops and violations, disabled motor vehicles, fire and carbon monoxide alarms, road hazards and wires down, parking complaints, suspicious activity, vehicle lockouts, assist citizen/public, and medical emergencies.

Other entries of note during the month include:  
**March 22** at 7:37 a.m., Uxbridge Rd., trespass  
**March 22** at 4:46 p.m., Mendon St., hit and run motor vehicle crash  
**March 24** at 4:12 p.m., Northbridge St., structure fire  
**March 24** at 11:16 p.m., Hartford Ave. West, disturbance  
**March 26** at 11:28 a.m.,

Cemetery St., found property  
**March 26** at 1:45 p.m., Neck Hill Rd., found property  
**March 27** at 7:18 a.m., Hartford Ave. East, disturbance  
**March 27** at 12:38 p.m., Sty-mast Dr., noise complaint  
**March 28** at 2:07 p.m., Hartford Ave. East, hit and run motor vehicle crash  
**March 28** at 3:01 p.m., Blackstone St., civil complaint  
**March 29** at 4:24 p.m., Pine Needle Rd., document service  
**March 29** at 4:30 p.m., North Ave., fraud  
**March 30** at 8:33 a.m., Bates St., burglary  
**March 30** at 10:14 a.m., Uxbridge Rd., civil complaint  
**March 31** at 3:50 p.m., Neck Hill Rd., well-being check  
**March 31** at 6:56 p.m., Washington St., brush fire  
**April 1** at 6:17 p.m., Bates St.,

larceny  
**April 1** at 11:37 p.m., Hastings St., larceny  
**April 2** at 11:21 a.m., Bellingham St., larceny  
**April 4** at 3 a.m., Sandra Cir., message delivery  
**April 4** at 10:04 a.m., Main St., larceny  
**April 6** at 12:35 a.m., Bellingham St., well-being check  
**April 6** at 2:58 p.m., Cape Rd., fraud  
**April 6** at 3:48 p.m., Hammond Rd., threats  
**April 7** at 7:26 p.m., Milford St., well-being check  
**April 8** at 1:31 p.m., Bates St., brush fire  
**April 8** at 1:35 p.m., Hartford Ave. East., brush fire  
**April 8** at 1:38 p.m., Bates St., brush fire  
**April 8** at 1:46 p.m., Bellingham St., brush fire

**April 8** at 2:33 p.m., Daniels Rd., brush fire  
**April 8** at 10:18 a.m., Colonial Dr., noise complaint  
**April 9** at 2:32 p.m., Uxbridge Rd., property damage  
**April 9** at 3 p.m., Mendon St., hit and run motor vehicle crash  
**April 12** at 4:33 p.m., Cape Rd., leak/spill  
**April 13** at 8:07 a.m., Daniels Rd., fraud  
**April 13** at 11:13 a.m., Milford St., animal  
**April 15** at 12:10 p.m., Southwick St., property damage  
**April 16** at 1:42 p.m., Hartford Ave. East, well-being check  
**April 16** at 6:36 p.m., Northbridge St., hit and run motor vehicle crash  
**April 17** at 11:08 p.m., Butler Rd., disturbance



**April 18** at 12:15 a.m., Colonial Dr., harassment  
**April 18** at 7:43 a.m., Hartford Ave. West, trespass  
**April 19** at 5:30 a.m., North Ave., animal  
**April 20** at 12:14 p.m., Uxbridge Rd., civil complaint

Source: [www.mendonpolice.com/](http://www.mendonpolice.com/)  
Photo source: Facebook @mendon-police

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Brown Pine Mulch.....	\$40	1 1/2", 2 1/2"		Mason/Pool Sand.....	\$60
Red Cedar Mulch .....	\$42	Multi-Color River Stone .....	\$85	Stone Dust .....	\$35
Playground Safety Fiber.....	\$42	Multi-Color River Stone .....	\$85	Blue Stone Dust .....	\$50
Forest Chips.....	\$12	3/8", 3/4" Blue Stone .....	\$50	Rip Rap .....	\$35
Screened Loam .....	\$28	3/4" Processed Gravel.....	\$35	Fill Clay/General .....	\$10
50/50 Compost/Loam .....	\$32	3" Processed Gravel.....	\$35	Trench Sand .....	\$28
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3/8", 3/4" & 1 1/2" Grey Stone ..	\$38	1" Dense Grade Gravel .....	\$28		

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# Upton Police Log

The Upton Police Department provided a wide range of services between March 25 and April 25 related to motor vehicle violations, disabled motor vehicles, traffic enforcement, radar services, parking complaints, vehicle lockouts, road hazards, building checks, various alarms, odor investigation, abandoned and accidental 911 calls, gates opened/closed, community policing and preventative patrol, summons service, court appearances, solicitation, lost/missing/found property, and animal complaints. In addition, UPD often provided mutual aid to Hopedale police, fire and EMS.

Other entries of note include:

**March 25** at 11 a.m., School St., identity theft

**March 25** at 3:37 p.m., South St., harassment prevention order

**March 26** at 11:52 a.m., Main St., immediate threat, services rendered

**March 28** at 9:43 a.m., Cider Mill Ln., trespassing, investigated

**March 29** at 7:26 a.m., South Upton, extra patrols requested

**March 29** at 8:33 a.m., school resource, investigated

**March 29** at 7:35 p.m., Tyler

Rd., well-being check

**March 30** at 12:28 p.m., Church St., fundraiser-possible scam

**March 30** at 9:39 p.m., Mendon and Main Sts., motor vehicle crash hit and run

**March 31** at 9:59 a.m., Glen view St., motor vehicle crash hit and run

**March 31** at 10:04 a.m., South St., harassment prevention order

**April 1** at 11:01 a.m., Westboro Rd., brush fire

**April 1** at 12:44 p.m., Westboro Rd., brush fire

**April 1** at 2:18 p.m., Mendon St., extra patrols requested

**April 1** at 4:24 p.m., Westboro Rd., brush fire

**April 2** at 8:16 a.m., School and Main Sts., motor vehicle crash with personal injury

**April 2** at 3:19 p.m., South St., harassment prevention order

**April 3** at 8:37 p.m., Crockett Rd., fundraiser-possible scam

**April 4** at 9:56 a.m., Ridge Rd., power outage

**April 4** at 4:22 p.m., Taft St., suspicious person

**April 4** at 6:04 p.m., Westboro Rd., preventative patrol, secured building

**April 5** at 8:14 a.m., School St.,

fundraiser-possible scam

**April 5** at 8:36 a.m., Sienna Cir., well-being check

**April 6** at 10:49 a.m., Main St. and Maple Ave., assist with traffic

**April 6** at 1:12 p.m., School St., fundraiser-possible scam

**April 6** at 1:12 p.m., School St., citizen complaint

**April 8** at 5:02 p.m., Milford St., illegal dumping/littering

**April 9** at 3:31 a.m., Nelson St., overdue motorist

**April 9** at 3:31 p.m., Maple Ave. and Pleasant St., well-being check

**April 9** at 3:46 p.m., Cross St., well-being check, removed to hospital

**April 10** at 6:54 a.m., Cross St., well-being check

**April 10** at 11:40 a.m., Elm St., illegal dumping/littering

**April 10** at 1:56 p.m., Main St., loud music complaint

**April 11** at 3:51 p.m., Walker Dr., suspicious person

**April 10** at 4:43 p.m., Warren St., fundraising-possible scam

**April 12** at 8:32 a.m., Tyler Rd., trespass notice issued

**April 12** at 9:09 a.m., townwide, power outage

**April 12** at 6:29 p.m., Pleasant St., threats, investigated

**April 13** at 1:57 p.m., School St., identity theft report

**April 13** at 6:10 p.m., Mendon St., suspicious person

**April 14** at 1:52 p.m., Brooks St., ATV complaint

**April 15** at 12:30 p.m., School St., threats

**April 15** at 2:45 p.m., School St., car seat installation

**April 17** at 9:48 a.m., Pleasant St., structure fire/box alarm, services rendered

**April 17** at 11:56 a.m., Milford St., loitering

**April 17** at 3:24 p.m., Pleasant St., harassment prevention order

**April 17** at 5:01 p.m., Elm St., neighbor dispute

**April 18** at 7:47 p.m., Milford St., psych assist

**April 20** at 7:55 a.m., Ephraims Wy., well-being check

**April 20** at 6:31 p.m., Main St., well-being check

**April 20** at 7:42 p.m., Milford St., disorderly person, peace restored

**April 21** at 4:05 p.m., Main St., well-being check, subject refused treatment

**April 21** at 5:04 p.m., Main St., disturbance-noise complaint

**April 22** at 7:17 a.m., Warren St., smoke investigation



**April 22** at 1 p.m., Chestnut St., suspicious person

**April 22** at 1:19 p.m., Dairy Dr., suspicious person

**April 23** at 5:51 a.m., Hartford Ave. North, vandalism

**April 23** at 7:51 a.m., Prospect St., disturbance

**April 23** at 11:08 a.m., Grove St., suspicious person

**April 23** at 3:36 p.m., Grove St., extra patrols requested

**April 24** at 11 a.m., W. River St., investigation

**April 24** at 1:31 p.m., School St., car seat installation

**April 25** at 2:54 p.m., W. River St., follow-up

**April 25** at 3:35 p.m., Hartford Ave. North, brush fire

**April 25** at 7:56 p.m., Hartford Ave. North, criminal/noncriminal mischief

Source: Upton Police Department

Photo source: facebook.com/uptonpolice/

## SOUTHWICK'S ZOO PHOTO CONTEST

ILLUSTRATION BY ROWAN KAPLAN/MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

In 2025, Southwick's Zoo will be celebrating 60 years of family fun! Share a photo of your favorite memories at Southwick's Zoo for a chance to win a family four-pack of general admission passes for the 2024 season and make some new memories!

Winners will be announced in our Summer Guide - Coming in June!

Share your photo today! Last chance for entries is May 17!

By entering this contest, you are providing consent for Southwick's Zoo and Our Town Publishing (the publishers of The Yankee Xpress/Blackstone Valley Xpress, Free Press and the newspapers of Local Town Pages) to use your photo(s) for print, digital and social media purposes, and allowing Southwick's Zoo and Our Town Publishing to contact you via email for this promotion or upcoming promotions. Only one winner per household. Cannot be an employee or family member of Southwick's Zoo or Our Town Publishing to win.

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## Upton & Mendon Spotlight

The Upton & Mendon Free Press would like to shine a spotlight on people, places, and things that other Upton and Mendon residents really wish everyone knew about.

Did you ever learn something Upton or Mendon-related and think, 'I wish I'd known that sooner'?

Do you know an Upton or Mendon resident who has an interesting story? Maybe a volunteer or unsung hero doing great things in the community, or a student working on a special project?

Or perhaps there's a great community resource or program that deserves additional attention?

If you have ideas for parts of Upton or Mendon life that should be highlighted, please contact us at [editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com](mailto:editor@uptonmendonfreepress.com) for consideration for an upcoming feature in the Upton & Mendon Free Press.



# Pet of the Month – Meet Roland



Roland has come such a long way from the frightened street cat who arrived at the shelter one year ago. He was in such bad shape that we thought he was much older than the three years the vet exam suggested. A rough life on his own had aged him. But to look at him now you wouldn't imagine how much pain and fear he was in living on the streets.

Like many stray male cats, Roland is FIV positive. Roland lives peacefully with a small group of other FIV positive cats and might enjoy a calm FIV positive feline friend in his new home. Cats with FIV tend to have normal lives, both in quality and duration. They just need to be monitored for infections and dental issues.

While Roland is still shy and cautious, he has come to enjoy gentle attention from people who come down to his level and approach him quietly. When he is comfortable, he will roll over to be pet and will even reach out his paw to touch you, clearly asking you to stay.

We believe Roland will be happy in a calm home with a family that understands that he will need to be given time to adjust to his new life. The reward will be the love and af-




fection of this wonderful boy!  
To learn more about Roland please visit [www.milfordhumane.org](http://www.milfordhumane.org).

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SPORTS

# BVT Baseball thriving in new division

*Tougher schedule hasn't slowed down Beavers*

By Chris Villani

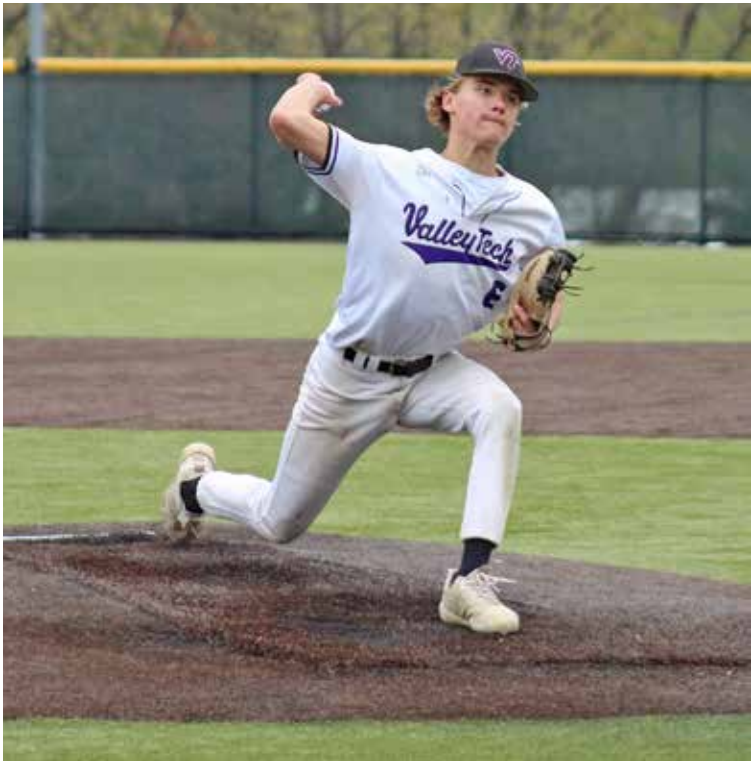
Blackstone Valley Tech's baseball team has enjoyed a great deal of success at the Division IV level, but moving up to DIII this spring has not stopped the Beavers from a fast start and seven wins through their first eight games.

"We have had a really strong schedule to open up the year," said head coach John Burke. "But we have played some good ball."

BVT started the year with the likes of Bellingham, Westbrook, Auburn, Hopedale, and Bay Path, all of whom are perennial playoff contenders and strong programs. The volume of talent on the Valley Tech roster has been a key driver behind the team's success.

"In years past, we have been more reliant on a few guys," Burke said. "But now, we have a lot of depth in the lineup and the rotation, so we have a lot of guys we can trust both taking the ball on the mound and who can do damage in the lineup."

Junior Alex Vosburgh made a strong jump to start the year,



Senior co-captain Corey Magill is nearing 100 hits for his career and is also a strong pitcher. Photo credit: Will Fisher (@fisher\_flicks)

hitting north of .420 with nine extra base hits through the first eight games. Fellow captain Corey Magill, a senior, is also hitting well over .400 and is nearing 100 hits for his BVT career. Sophomore Jack Marino is

another .400 hitter who is driving the Beavers' lineup.

"These guys have been really good offensively," Burke said.

Magill and Marino are also key cogs in the Valley Tech pitching rotation. Senior D.J. Garabedian and junior Luke Charron are also talented pitchers, with the latter settling into a two-inning shutdown role in relief.

The Beavers came into 2024 following a 15-8 record last season and a first round victory in the state tournament. Burke said



Junior Alex Vosburgh is a driving force in the BVT lineup this year. Photo credit: Margaret Vosburgh

that, even with the higher level competition, his team is focused on continuing to play good team baseball.

"We picked up a little bit more toughness in our schedule throughout the year, and I would say we are a little bit ahead of schedule in terms of how well the guys have been playing," the coach said. "Defensively, we are playing well. The pitchers are throwing strikes, and the offense is hitting everything hard and putting the ball in play."

Burke said the goals for this spring include picking up some playoff wins, making a deep run in the tournament, and "enjoying the ride along the way."

"We have to continue what we have been doing by raising the floor of expectations," Burke said. "We have seen the potential when we play real clean baseball, now it's a matter of fulfilling that every time we go out onto the field."



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SPORTS

# Nipmuc Softball sets sights on Final Four

**NRHS out to a fast start in 2024**

By Chris Villani

Coming into the 2024 season, Nipmuc head softball coach Stephanie DeBaggis said her team is focused on trying to build on the program’s success in recent years.

“We would love to go further in the playoffs,” DeBaggis said. “Two years ago, we made it to the round of 16. Last year, we were in the rough of eight. This year, we are hoping to get to the final four, at least, but we know a lot can happen between now and then.”

Heading into the final week of April, Nipmuc was off to a strong start in its quest to be among the top teams in the state. The team won its first seven games behind a group of seniors and juniors who have been playing together since before they entered high school.

“We had to make a decision: how is this year going to go?” DeBaggis said. “They decided to bring the fun back while trying to keep it serious. They found that balance.”

The coach added, “I said ‘if you guys can keep doing that, it’s going to be a good year.’”

All four Nipmuc seniors were Dual Valley Conference all-stars in 2023. Three of those all-stars are pitchers, giving the team depth at a critical position.

Janelle Scirocco is one of pitchers and was predominantly in the circle at the end of last season. When she is not pitching this season, she has usually been a designated hitter but can also play infield and outfield if needed. Kate Julian is another pitcher and also plays first base, and Ella Calvey is a pitcher and right side infielder when not in the circle.

Nipmuc also returns Sera DeBaggis, a shortstop who also spent time catching last year.

“All four seniors are huge factors for us,” DeBaggis said.

In addition to the pitching depth, Nipmuc’s lineup has been strong with six players batting north of .400 and another four with batting averages of .300 or better. Catcher Keegan Kelley, a junior, powered the offense with a two-home-run game early in the season. Junior Isabelle Nicholson is a standout at second base and classmate Bridget Klupa has been strong in left field. Sophomores Brynn DiAnni, a centerfielder, and Kira DeBaggis, an infielder, have helped round out a solid lineup that DeBaggis hopes will be able to compete with the area’s top teams.

“We want to be in every game, we want to play teams tough,” the coach said. “Some



Nipmuc seniors Sera DeBaggis, Janelle Scirocco, Kate Julian, and Ella Calvey are returning league all-stars and leading the team this spring. Courtesy photo

games might be easier than others, but we just want to stay focused because, when the big games come, we want to be ready for them.”



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<div><p><b>2020 FORD EDGE TITANIUM</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$71/WK</b></p><p>#P16529R • SUNROOF, NAV, LEATHER</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$40,395</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977</b></p></div>	<div><p><b>2021 VW JETTA SEL</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$71/WK</b></p><p>#TP3488 • SUNROOF, TURBO, ALLOYS</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$29,550</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,677</b></p></div>	<div><p><b>2020 LINCOLN MKZ SEDAN</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$86/WK</b></p><p>#P16732A • SUNROOF, LEATHER</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,745</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977</b></p></div>	<div><p><b>2021 FORD BRONCO 4x4</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$85/WK</b></p><p>#P16754 • TURBO, ALLOYS, NAV</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977</b></p></div>	<div><p><b>2022 SUBARU FORESTER</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$89/WK</b></p><p>#D13976 • SPORT, SUNROOF</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,695</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977</b></p></div>	<div><p><b>2022 LEXUS UX 250h SUV</b></p><p>AS LOW AS <b>\$103/WK</b></p><p>#TP3465 • SUNROOF, HEATED SEATS</p><p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,950</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</b></p></div>
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General Manager

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SALE ENDS 05/31/24. 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 2014 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.