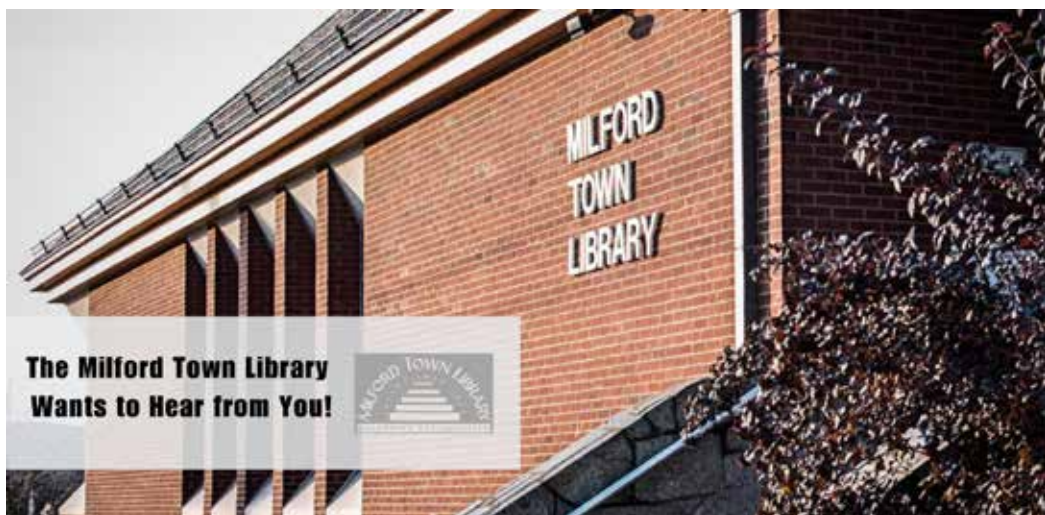


Help shape the future of the Milford Town Library

Five-year master plan needs your input



The Milford Town Library
Wants to Hear from You!

The Milford Town Library wants your feedback as it gathers information for its five-year master plan. Source: www.milfordtownlibrary.org

By Gina Woelfel

The Milford Town Library is reaching out to residents in an effort to tailor its future programs and services to better serve the community. Seeking valuable insights, opinions, and suggestions, the library has developed a survey to collect feedback and better

understand its patrons' needs and expectations. This initiative aims to ensure that the library remains a relevant and valuable resource for all residents of Milford.

Public libraries across the United States are continuously evolving to address the changing dynamics within

their communities. The Milford Library is updating its five-year master plan. This strategic roadmap acts as a living document to guide the library's development

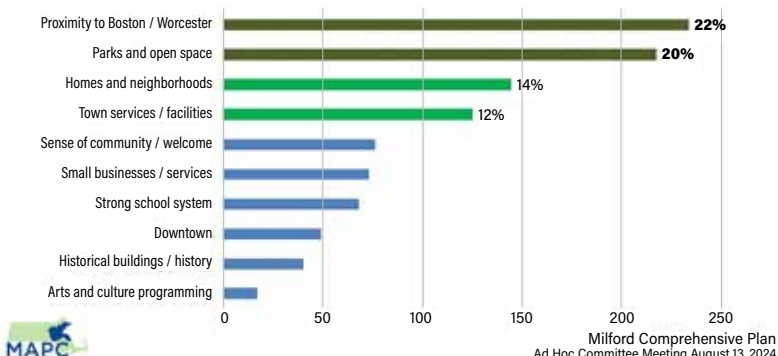
MILFORD LIBRARY

continued on page 3

Comprehensive Plan survey results are in

Community Survey Results

What are the greatest assets of Milford?



What are the greatest assets of Milford?" survey results included proximity to Boston and Worcester, and parks and open space. Source: Milford Comprehensive Plan

By Scott Calzolaio

Results from the municipal survey put out by the Milford Ad Hoc Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) are in, and traffic competes with downtown improvements for the most important issues in town.

As part of Milford's Comprehensive Plan for improvement in the downtown area and beyond, residents were asked to complete a brief survey regarding various aspects of the municipality.

The survey ran from May 13

to Aug. 8, and 600 results were collected. The survey was made available online, through local press, and through the Milford Water Company, giving all residents an equal chance to participate.

During the Aug. 13 joint Planning Board meeting, Finance Committee member, Brant Hornberger, asked if 600 results from

SURVEY

continued on page 12

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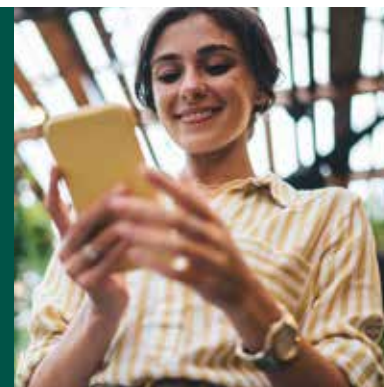
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Low water issue at Louisa Lake 'perfectly normal'

Town officials restricted access while the water level was restored

By Theresa Knapp

In late July, Louisa Lake was closed for repairs after the water level became too low. The lake is a popular summer destination for swimming and cooling off during Milford's hot summer months.

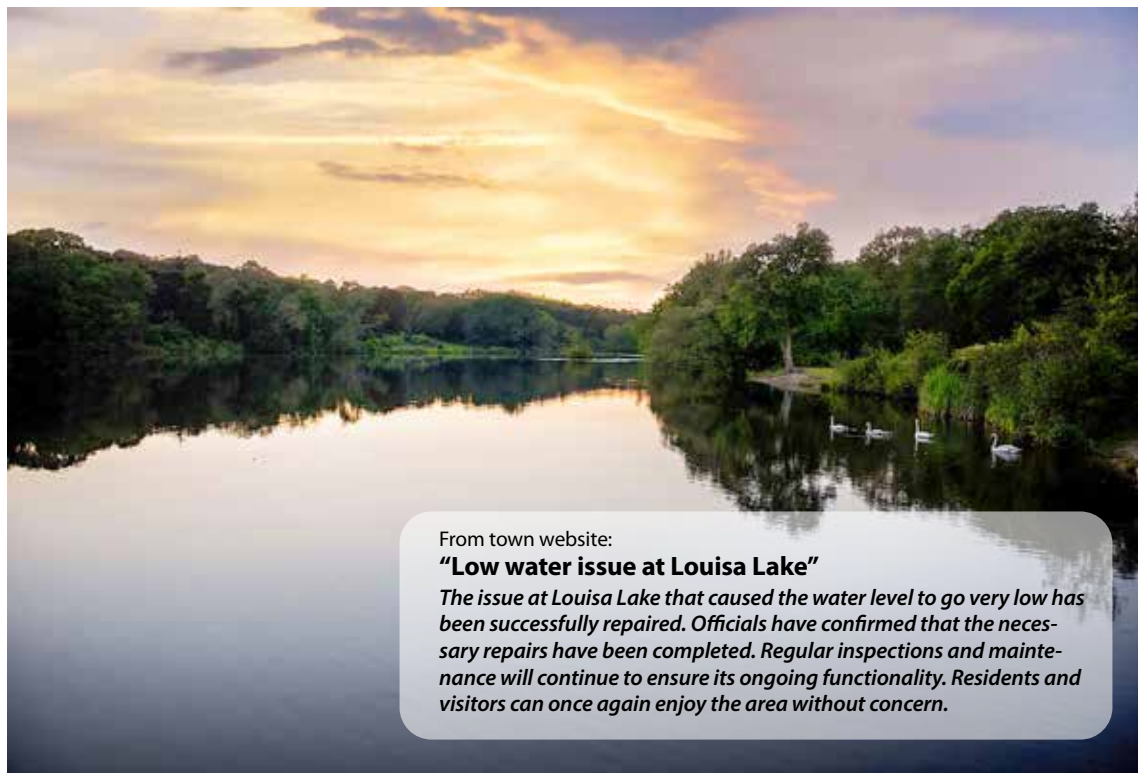
The problem was an obstruction in the dam valve, explained Town Administrator Rick Villani.

"The Louisa Lake Dam has a bypass system that allows the Town to drain the lake as needed for repairs or to prepare for a large storm event that is likely to cause significant flooding upstream of the Lake," he said. "Flow through the bypass is controlled by a valve which is exercised regularly in accordance with Operation and Maintenance requirements. The last time the valve was exercised, a piece of wood got lodged in the gate preventing it from fully closing."

Villani said, "It is perfectly normal for the water level to drop within the Lake and even for the water to stop flowing over the dam, particularly in dry periods; however, it is abnormal for it to drop below the top of the dam unless we intentionally lower the level."

Villani thanked the people who notified town officials about the drop. He said Milford's Town Engineer and Highway Surveyor, who are responsible for managing dams in Milford, were able to determine that water was getting through the bypass due to the obstruction. "The valve was exercised several times before the wood was dislodged and the valve was adequately closed."

Villani said the water level was monitored to ensure it returned to, and remained at, normal levels. He also said monitoring of the water level after operation of the valve has been



From town website:

"Low water issue at Louisa Lake"

The issue at Louisa Lake that caused the water level to go very low has been successfully repaired. Officials have confirmed that the necessary repairs have been completed. Regular inspections and maintenance will continue to ensure its ongoing functionality. Residents and visitors can once again enjoy the area without concern.

Louisa Lake in Milford. Photo source: www.milfordma.gov

added to the Operation and Maintenance procedure, and of-

officials will continue to investigate additional measures that can be

implemented to prevent a future unintended event.

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MILFORD LIBRARY

continued from page 1

of essential services based on community needs. By the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' requirements, all libraries in the Commonwealth seeking funding for special projects or grants must update their master plans every five years.

Milford Library Director Susan Edmonds emphasizes the importance of the survey and the need to stay current.

"It helps bring people in. They can get what they need from the library, whether it's binoculars, a game, or even a sewing machine. It all depends on what they need," she explains. She further points out that, since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a shift in the library's community purpose away from just books, with a greater need for services, household items, computers, iPads, etc. "Communities are changing. What was relevant five years ago is totally different from what we need now in our strategic plan. There are a lot more multilingual families, seniors, and a wider age and income range to consider. Libraries are a link to resources that are out of reach for many patrons. We have to provide services for them as well as others."

The Milford Public Library aims to expand digital services by enhancing its offerings to meet the increasing demand for online and virtual resources,

providing access to online courses and educational materials.

With more and more people working from home and taking advantage of online schooling, the library aims to raise awareness of its available space, adaptable meeting spaces, collaborative zones, and quiet study areas.

To ensure that the library serves as an inclusive space where all community members feel welcome and represented, the Milford Library plans to expand its collection to include a broader range of voices and perspectives, including materials for English as a Second Language (ESL) programs to help non-native English speakers learn English. This process will involve incorporating materials in multiple languages and implementing targeted outreach programs to engage underrepresented groups and their specific community needs. The library also intends to continue its forward-thinking initiatives that create a vibrant neighborhood hub, providing various programs and services for people of all ages and interests. Strengthening alliances with regional organizations, schools, and businesses can assist in developing community-driven, intergenerational, and diverse programs to better serve the current library patrons.

Milford Library's ESL Director Ann Berard explains why the library is crucial for families



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TAKE OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY!

Paper copies are available in the library, or you may fill the survey out online:

English



Español



Português





Scan the QR codes to access the Milford Town Library Strategic Planning Survey. Source: www.milfordtownlibrary.org

utilizing English as a Second Language services. "The library guides immigrants in their journey to develop their language skills, comfort with American culture and customs, and ability to engage with their new home. People learn best when they feel supported and welcome. It's a process and takes time. Being able to find answers to their questions and develop a relationship with the library and its staff helps individuals and families now and later, too. The survey lets people tell us what they need most."

The library has recently hosted several public forums with members of the community, the senior center, and the Milford Library staff to discuss future services and, most im-

portantly, to listen to the public's suggestions. A focus group has also been scheduled for September at the youth center.

Keen to hear from its patrons about the importance of these subjects and whether they would like to see them integrated into their future plans, the library emphasizes that community feedback will play a pivotal role in shaping the direction of its services in the coming years.

By focusing on survey results, the Milford Town Library can position itself as an innovative, community-centered institution that meets the diverse needs of its patrons while embracing the latest trends in library services and technology. These initiatives will help ensure that the

library remains a vital and dynamic resource for the Milford community well into the future.

Residents can submit feedback and help with strategic planning by taking the brief survey online or in person. Paper copies of the survey are also available at the Milford Town Library or online where it can be filled out in English, Spanish, and Portuguese by scanning the QR codes.

Submissions can be made anonymously or with contact information. Surveys with contact information will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 Amazon and a \$50 Big Y gift card. Call 508-473-2145 if you need help completing the survey. The library staff is ready to assist you.

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Please submit to: editor@milfordfreepress.com

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(L to R) Russell Julian, Aria Julian, Preston Julian and Vanessa Cawley, and the owners of Venturi Plumbing and Heating, recently organized a local drive collecting items for those currently deployed and for those veterans currently in need of personal hygiene items. Thanks to Yanks, based in Milford, is grateful for their dedication to support our military families. The items were donated to Thanks to Yanks and will be distributed shortly, for additional information please visit and "like" Thanks to Yanks on Facebook. Submitted by Thanks To Yanks

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How should you respond to market cycles?



Mark Freeman

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The movement of the financial markets can seem mysterious — and yet, if we look back over long periods, we can see definite patterns that consistently repeat themselves. As an investor, how should you respond to these market cycles?

To begin with, it's useful to know something about the nature of a market cycle and its

connection to the business or economic cycle, which describes the fluctuations of the economy between periods of growth and contraction. Issues such as employment, consumer spending, interest rates and inflation can determine the stage of the business cycle. On the other hand, the market cycle refers to what's happening in the financial markets — that is, the performance of all the different types of investments.

The market cycle often anticipates the business cycle. In other words, the stock market may peak, or hit bottom, before the business cycle does the same. That's partially because the financial markets are always looking ahead. If they foresee an event that could boost the business cycle and help the economy, such as the Federal Reserve lowering interest rates, they may become more "bullish" on stocks, thus driving the market up. Conversely, if the markets think

the business cycle will slow down and the economy will contract, they may project a decline in corporate earnings and become more "bearish" on stocks, leading to a market drop.

Once you're familiar with the nature of market cycles, you won't be surprised when they occur. But does that mean you should base your investment strategy on these cycles?

Some people do. If they believe the market cycle is moving through a downward phase, they may try to cut their perceived losses by selling stocks — even those with strong fundamentals and good prospects — and buying lower-risk investments. While these "safer" investments may offer more price stability and a greater degree of preservation of principal, they also won't provide much in the way of growth potential. And you'll need this growth capacity to help reach your long-term goals, including

a comfortable retirement.

On the other hand, when investors think the market cycle is moving upward, they may keep investing in stocks that have become overpriced. In extreme cases, unwarranted investor enthusiasm can lead to events such as the dotcom bubble, which led to a sharp market decline from 2000 through 2002.

Rather than trying to "time" the market, you may well be better off by looking past its cycles and following a long-term, "all-weather" strategy that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance, time horizon and need for liquidity. And it's also a good idea to build a diversified portfolio containing U.S. and foreign stocks, mutual funds, corporate bonds, U.S. Treasury securities and other investments. While diversification can't protect against all losses, it can help protect you from market volatility that might primar-

ily affect just one asset class.

Market cycles often draw a lot of attention, and they are relevant to investors in the sense that they can explain what's happening in the markets. Yet, when it comes to investing, it's best not to think of cycles but rather of a long journey — one that, when traveled carefully, can lead to the destinations you seek.

Contact Mark for assistance with your personal finances.

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Edward Jones Financial Advisor
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Shred-it trucks will be at Transfer Recycle Station

On Saturday, Sept. 21, the Milford Board of Health will sponsor a paper shredding event to help securely destroy unwanted personal documents.

Mobile shredding trucks will be staged at the Milford Transfer Recycle Station (95 Cedar Street) from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For information on what cannot be shredded, visit www.milfordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2069/Shred-It-Event



Image source: www.milfordma.gov

Milford-Residents-2024.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this event, please call or contact the Health Department at 508-634-2315.

Source: www.milfordma.gov

Milford Family & Community Network holds free playgroup registration

Registration for the Fall Session (Session I) of the Milford Family & Community Network (MFCN) CFCE Playgroups will be taking place daily from Sept. 9 through Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the MFCN office located inside the Sacred Heart Parish Center – 11 East Main Street.

Placement is chosen by

lottery; attendance is not required. Lottery will take place on Sept. 17.

These will cover the playgroups in Milford and Hopedale. Playgroups are free and intended for children from birth to 5 years old with their parent/caregiver(s). We encourage any family member to attend.

We will be offering a variety of groups, both in the morning and afternoon. Registration forms will be available both in the office and on the internet. For more information or to get a registration form, visit www.milfordpublicschools.com/milfordfcn, email familynetwork@milfordma.com, or call 508-277-4981.

Mosquito spraying planned for Sept. 16 and Sept. 20

Call CMMCP to request spraying in your neighborhood

Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project personnel will be in Milford on Sept. 16 and Sept. 20 to respond to residents' concerns about mosquitoes in their neighborhoods.

The dates are tentative and subject to change due to weather conditions, mosquito populations, mosquito virus activity and/or special event spraying. This program will shut down when cool nighttime temperatures become predominant in town. A detailed notice about the spray schedule is posted on the CMMCP phone system after 3:30 p.m. each day and is also posted on <http://www.cmmcp.org> (click on the "2024 Spray Schedule" button on the right).

Requests for service may be recorded by calling the CMMCP office at 508-393-3055 between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or logging onto www.cmmcp.org. Results of these requests may initiate an application of mosquito insecticides to defined, site-specific areas of town. Such an application may be accomplished by using



truck-mounted equipment depending on the extent of the application.

Per 333CMR13.03(1)(a), "Wide Area Applications of pesticides and mosquito control applications of pesticides approved by the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board shall not be made to private property which has been designated for exclusion from such application by a person living on or legally in control of said property." For more information, visit www.cmmcp.org (click on the "No Spray Info" button on the right).

Source: www.milfordma.gov

Image source: Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project

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Debunking common myths in eye care

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

When it comes to eye health, myths and misconceptions abound, often leading people to adopt unnecessary or even harmful habits. From the belief that carrots significantly improve vision to the notion that sitting too close to the TV damages eyes, it's time to set the record straight. Here, we debunk some of the most common myths in eye care and provide evidence-based advice to help you maintain optimal eye health.

Myth 1: Carrots Improve Your Vision

One of the most persistent myths is that eating carrots can vastly improve your vision. While carrots are indeed rich in vitamin A, which is essential for eye health, they do not possess magical vision-enhancing properties. Vitamin A helps maintain healthy vision, especially in low light conditions, but it won't correct vision problems such as myopia or hyperopia. A balanced diet with a variety of fruits and

vegetables is more beneficial for overall eye health.

Myth 2: Reading in Dim Light Damages Your Eyes

Many of us were warned as children that reading in dim light would harm our eyes. However, this is not true. While reading in low light can cause eye strain and temporary discomfort, it does not cause any long-term damage to your eyes. To reduce eye strain, ensure that your reading area is well-lit and take regular breaks.

Myth 3: Sitting Too Close to the TV Will Ruin Your Eyes

Another common myth is that sitting too close to the television can damage your eyes. While it might cause temporary eye strain or fatigue, there is no evidence to suggest that it leads to permanent eye damage. Modern televisions emit less radiation than older models, making this concern even less relevant today. However, it's always a good idea to maintain a comfortable viewing distance to avoid eye strain.

Myth 4: Wearing Glasses or Contacts Will Weaken Your Eyes

Some people believe that wearing glasses or contact lenses will cause their eyes to become dependent on them and weaken over time. This is not true. Corrective lenses improve vision by compensating for refractive errors, and they do not affect the physical health of your eyes. In fact, wearing the correct prescription can help prevent headaches and eye strain.

Myth 5: Blue Light from Screens Is Dangerous for Your Eyes

With the rise of digital device usage, many products have emerged claiming to protect your eyes from the harmful effects of blue light emitted by screens. However, the evidence supporting the effectiveness of blue light-blocking glasses is lacking. Several studies suggest that blue light-blocking glasses do not significantly improve symptoms of digital eye strain. The American Academy of



Ophthalmology does not recommend any special blue light-blocking eyewear for computer use. Instead, focus on taking regular breaks, practicing the 20-20-20 rule (every 20 minutes, look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds), and adjusting your screen's brightness to reduce eye strain.

Myth 6: Eye Exercises Can Cure Vision Problems

Various eye exercises are often touted as remedies for con-

ditions like nearsightedness or astigmatism. However, there is no scientific evidence to support the claim that eye exercises can correct these refractive errors. These conditions are caused by the shape of the eyeball or the cornea and cannot be altered through exercises. If you have vision problems, consult an eye care professional for appropriate

MYTHS

continued on page 8





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MYTHS

continued from page 7

ate corrective measures such as glasses, contact lenses, or surgery.

Myth 7: You Don't Need an Eye Exam If You Have Perfect Vision

Even if you have perfect vision, regular eye exams are crucial. Eye exams can detect early signs of diseases like glaucoma, macular degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy, which may not present symptoms until significant damage has occurred. Regular check-ups can help prevent vision loss and ensure early treatment if necessary.

Myth 8: Only Older Adults Need to Worry About Eye Health

While it is true that the risk of many eye diseases increases with age, eye health is important at every stage of life. Conditions such as digital eye strain, dry eye, and even cataracts can affect younger individuals. Protecting your eyes from UV rays, maintaining a healthy diet, and having regular eye exams are important habits for people of all ages.

Myth 9: Sunglasses Are Only for Sunny Days

Sunglasses are often viewed as a summer accessory, but they are important year-round. UV rays from the sun can damage your eyes even on cloudy days. Wearing sunglasses that block 100% of UV rays can help protect your eyes from harmful effects such as cataracts and macular degeneration. Choose sunglasses that offer full protection and wear them whenever you are outdoors.

Myth 10: A Cataract Must Be 'Ripe' Before It Is Removed

False. With older surgical techniques, it was thought to be safer to remove a cataract when it was "ripe." With today's modern surgical procedures, a cataract can be removed whenever it begins to interfere with a person's vision and activities.

Myth 11: Eyes Can Be Transplanted

False. Medical science has no way to transplant whole eyes. Our eyes are connected to the brain by the optic nerve. Because of this, the eye is never removed from its socket during surgery. The cornea, the clear front part of the eye, has been

successfully transplanted for many years. Corneal transplant is sometimes confused with an eye transplant.

Myth 12: Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery Is the Same as Traditional Cataract Surgery

False. The five best-ranked eye hospitals in America offer bladeless laser-assisted cataract surgery. We do too. Bladeless cataract surgery aims for better precision, more safety, and excellent outcomes. The laser's advanced precision and ability to correct astigmatism translate into a better likelihood of seeing well without glasses following cataract surgery. The same laser breaks up and softens the cloudy cataract, so less ultrasound is needed to remove it. Less ultrasound translates into less energy used inside the eye and clearer corneas, which helps produce better vision on the first day after surgery. This becomes even more critical if you have a weak cornea or a small eye with a dense cataract.

Dispelling eye care myths is crucial for maintaining good eye health. Instead of relying on hearsay, base your eye care practices on scientific evidence and professional advice. Regular eye exams, a balanced diet, proper eyewear, and good screen habits are the cornerstones of healthy vision. By understanding and debunking these common myths, you can take better care of your eyes and enjoy clear vision for years to come.

Our eye center and ophthalmologists have state-of-the-art equipment to diagnose and treat almost any eye problem. At Milford-Franklin Eye Center, we continue to serve our communities with state-of-the-art eye care, surgery locally in Milford, and glasses and contacts. With three offices in Franklin, Milford, and Millis, a dedicated surgery center in Milford, and a 50-staff practice ready to help, there is no need to travel hours for your eye care or surgery. We are the area's leading eye care practice. Give us a call or book your appointment online.

For more details, see our ad on page 7.

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Milford public safety log

Police and fire calls between July 26 and Aug. 25 included neighbor disputes, arrests, road rage, tagging, animal complaints, and more

The Milford Police Department provided a wide range of services between July 26 and Aug. 25 related to motor vehicle stops, road rage, traffic enforcement, community policing, disabled motor vehicles, vehicle collisions including hit and runs, erratic operators, radar enforcement, parking violations, road hazards (traffic lights, trees, wires), property checks, property damage, general and noise (loud music, etc.) complaints, threats, disturbances, vehicle lockouts, alarms, 911 misdials and hangups, trespassing, suspicious and unwanted persons, harassment, fraud, larceny and shoplifting, soliciting, lost and found property, well-being checks, assist citizens and follow-up investigations, animal issues (including dogs, strays), drone requests, family services, and court appearances. They also provided mutual aid to Upton. This is not an exhaustive list.

Entries of note include:

July 26 at 10:13 a.m., Shadowbrook Ln., suspicious person

July 26 at 4:05 p.m., S Bow St., arrest: 40 year old Milford male charged with assault and battery

July 26 at 8:03 p.m., Dilla St., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 35 year old Mil-

ford male charged with operating motor vehicle with license suspended for OUI, speeding, marked lanes violation

July 26 at 8:52 p.m., Main St., motor vehicle accident, arrest: 21 year old Milford male charged with OUI-liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle so as to endanger; operating motor vehicle with license suspended for OUI, marked lanes violation

July 26 at 9:04 p.m., Cedar St., dispute

July 26 at 9:26 p.m., Medway Rd., road rage

July 27 at 9:28 a.m., Water St., funeral traffic

July 27 at 11:32 a.m., Fortune Blvd., breaking and entering attempt

July 27 at 3:26 p.m., East St., pre-serve peace

July 27 at 3:30 p.m., Lake St., k9 deployment

July 27 at 3:42 p.m., Lake St., drone deployment

July 27 at 6:55 p.m., Main St., remove youths

July 27 at 10:33 p.m., Gibbon Ave., fireworks violation

July 29 at 11:39 p.m., Capitol Rd., Criminal application: simple assault, malicious destruction of property

July 30 at 11:41 a.m., West St., pedestrian accident

Aug. 1 at 2:04 p.m., Pickering Ave.,

k9 deployment

Aug. 1 at 2:14 p.m., Pickering Ave., drone deployment

Aug. 2 at 9:57 a.m., Medway Rd., animal cruelty, checked and okay

Aug. 2 at 12:17 p.m., Free St., pre-serve peace

Aug. 2 at 10:22 p.m., Fortune Blvd., intoxicated person

Aug. 3 at 12:45 a.m., Jefferson St., bylaw violation, vehicle towed

Aug. 3 at 2:04 a.m., Glines Ave., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 46 year old Milford male charged with OUI-liquor second offense, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, speeding, fail to stop/yield, marked lanes violation

Aug. 3 at 1:12 p.m., Prospect St., unruly patient, peace restored

Aug. 3 at 1:23 p.m., Main St., pedestrian accident

Aug. 3 at 6:44 p.m., Hamel Cir., fire-works violation

Aug. 3 at 8:39 p.m., Congress and West Sts., traffic light problem

Aug. 4 at 9 p.m., Depot St., criminal application: unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, motor vehicle lights violation, marked lanes violation

Aug. 5 at 11:08 a.m., Fortune Blvd., report of attempted breaking and entering

Aug. 5 at 4:57 p.m., Beach St. Ext., report of attempted breaking and

entering

Aug. 6 at 9:55 a.m., Water St., funeral traffic

Aug. 7 at 1:47 a.m., Richmond Ave., attempted break and entering, gone on arrival

Aug. 7 at 9:17 a.m., Congress St., report of attempted breaking and entering

Aug. 7 at 12:45 p.m., E. Main St., stolen motor vehicle

Aug. 7 at 3:47 p.m., Polar Ct., assault, arrest: 19 year old Milford male charged with assault

Aug. 7 at 7:02 p.m., Main St., road rage

Aug. 8 at 10:50 p.m., S Bow St., two arrests made: 18 year old Brockton male and 21 year old Rockland male, both charged with: drug, possess to distrib Class C; drug, possess to distrib Class B (two counts); conspiracy to violate drug law

Aug. 9 at 1:52 a.m., Upton, k9 deployment

Aug. 9 at 10:48 a.m., Congress St., funeral traffic

Aug. 9 at 2:49 p.m., Asylum St., missing person, services rendered

Aug. 9 at 8:08 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting, two arrests made: (1) 48 year old Attleboro male charged with unregistered motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, attempt to commit crime, conspiracy; and (2) 45 year old Attleboro female charged



with shoplifting by asportation, possession of Class A drug, warrant arrest.

Aug. 10 at 8:17 p.m., Prospect Hts, neighbor dispute

Aug. 11 at 7:30 a.m., Main St., well-being check, 41 year old Milford male taken into protective custody

Aug. 11 at 2:21 p.m., School St., neighbor dispute, summons issued: 67 year old Milford female charged with assault

Aug. 11 at 9:06 p.m., Water St., disturbance, arrest: 41 year old Worcester male charged with threat to commit crime, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, assault, assault and battery, threat to commit crime (2 counts)

Aug. 11 at 9:55 p.m., W Fountain

SAFETY LOG

continued on page 13

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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

Saturday Hours Return

The library will be open once again on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting Saturday, September 7.

Adult Summer Reading Program

Patrons really connected with the 2024 Adult Summer Reading Program Adventure Bingo challenge! 99 adults signed up and 19 people blacked out their bingo cards learning more about library services such as Creative-Bug, electronic book formats, the Library of Things and also about Milford. The competitive spirit was strong!

We congratulate Robyn B the Grand Prize Winner of the \$150 Depot Street gift card; Kristin D, Winner of the Bookworm Bag; Jess D, Winner of the Pizza & Beer; and Jennifer B, Winner of the Adventure Prize from Milford Bicycle.

This program was generously

sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Town Library and supported by our friends at Craft-Roots Brewing, Depot Street Tavern, Milford Bicycle, Rail Trail Flatbread Company, and TJ Cafe & Games.

ESL Drop in Fall Class Schedule

The fall ESL class session begins on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Free drop-in classes for beginners are held on each Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. and an intermediate class is held on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. These classes are FREE for adults and no registration is required. Please note that childcare is not provided and children cannot be left unattended in the library.

A sessão de aula de ESL de outono começa na terça-feira, 10 de setembro. Aulas gratuitas para iniciantes são ministradas todas as terças e quintas-feiras às 19h e uma aula intermediária é ministrada às quintas-feiras

às 17h30. Estas aulas são GRATUITAS para adultos e não é necessária inscrição. Observe que não há creche e as crianças não podem ficar sozinhas na biblioteca.

La sesión de clases de ESL de otoño comienza el martes 10 de septiembre. Se llevan a cabo clases gratuitas sin cita previa para principiantes todos los martes y jueves a las 7 p. m. y una clase intermedia los jueves a las 5:30 p. m. Estas clases son GRATUITAS para adultos y no es necesario registrarse. Tenga en cuenta que no se proporciona cuidado de niños y que no se puede dejar a los niños solos en la biblioteca.

Photographs: Paul Moody

During September, local photographer Paul Moody will exhibit his work for the first time at the library. Please stop in to enjoy and learn more about his process and subjects.



The Heist: Has Anyone Seen \$500 Million in Art Lying Around Boston?

In 1990, an hour or so after St. Patrick's Day ended, two men dressed as Boston cops entered the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, stayed for about 90 minutes, and left with 13 pieces of art. None of the priceless items have been found. Numerous suspects have been named over the years but none have been arrested. Many are now dead.

Join us on Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 7 - 8 p.m. for a re-examination of the unsolved and audacious heist with Bob Ainsworth, author of *Duped: A Fictional Account of the Robbery*.

Bob will review the actual details of the theft, the suspects, and the motives behind the world's most valued art theft. He will also tell of his own brush with the infamous crime.

This event is sponsored by The Friends of the Milford Town Library.

Center Book Group

The Center Book Group will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center to discuss *The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime, and a Dangerous Obsession* by Michael

LIBRARY

continued on page 14

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Milford Pet of the Month: Meet Luna

Lovely Luna is ready for a home of her own! This lively two-year-old enjoys chasing toys, running, climbing and lounging on a high perch for the best view of her surroundings.

When Luna arrived at the shelter, she was very suspicious of humans and cats alike. As the months have gone on, she has made some cat friends. She is ever observant and loves to be involved in whatever fun is happening.

Luna's favorite thing is canned food. She is on her best behavior when a can is opened, and she can follow basic commands with the promise of this tasty treat!

Luna has also learned to associate people with good things like food and belly rubs! She is very happy to see us when we arrive for our volunteer shift, and she delights in receiving some undivided attention. Luna may still need some time to warm up to new people and situations, but we believe patience will be rewarded with the growing affection of this spunky young girl.

For more information on



Luna, or the other cats at The Milford Humane Society, please visit <https://www.milfordhumane.org/>

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SURVEY

continued from page 1

a town of 30,000 people was “a representative sample” of the town.

“In these planning processes we don’t really ever get to a ‘representative sample’ of a town,”

said MAPC representative, Josh Fiala, “For a town this size, we do hope we can build those numbers up over the remainder of this process.”

The hope, he said, is to get that number up to over 1,000 at least.

The results that were col-

lected brought three major themes to light, all key issues that as a whole highlight what residents would like to see change in town. Overcrowding, socio-economic challenges, and a shifting identity in town, are the big topics according to survey results.

Survey result breakdown

The first question in the survey asked residents to identify the top three biggest challenges being faced.

With 23 percent of the vote, reducing traffic congestion was the number one concern. Closely followed by improving downtown at 19 percent, adjusting the municipal budget and taxes at 11 percent, and affordability of housing at 10.

Lesser concerns involved attracting new investments, protecting natural resources, access to open space, and improving equality and inclusion.

Transportation, development, and growth

Traffic, as mentioned, is the biggest concern for Milford residents, as outlined again by a question specifically regarding transportation challenges.

Traffic congestion was closely followed by maintenance of the roads, traffic enforcement, and improved or expanded sidewalks. Lesser concerns were parking downtown, regional connections, bike trails, and bus services.

When asked where residents would like to see more growth, the answer was overwhelmingly downtown. With 44 percent of the vote, it’s clear that Milford residents want to see more vibrancy from the downtown area.

Another 26 percent wish to see more development near the I-495 exits on the other side of town.

Challenges for land use, economic development, and housing

It’s clear from the results that the biggest concern residents have for land use in Milford is protecting the environment.

The results indicate that locals want to retain as much green space as possible while making these improvements to town.

Following closely in the results was supporting small businesses, and attracting more investors to the downtown area.

Lesser concerns listed in the survey concerned historical preservation, redeveloping industrial properties, job opportunities, and population growth.

A question regarding economic development asked what Milford residents want to see more of.

Results conclude that Milford residents want more restaurants, small retail shops, and expansions to the already booming local healthcare industry.

Finally, on the topic of housing, the topic of overcrowding took the top spot. That concern is closely followed by seeking tax relief, and the desire to slow the increasing housing costs.

Other topics covered

Among the more pressing topics regarding change, there were some questions about what makes Milford an attractive place to settle down.

The number one answer, with 21 percent, was housing prices. This was followed by proximity to family and friends with 17 percent, and proximity to work, with 10 percent.

The town’s “greatest assets” according to the survey results, are the proximity to Boston and Worcester with 22 percent, and the parks and open space with 20 percent.

To see the results of the survey in full, as well as timelines, and other documents, visit www.mapc.org/resource-library/milford-comp-plan/



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SAFETY LOG

continued from page 9

St., fireworks violation
Aug. 12 at 2:47 a.m., School St., intoxicated person
Aug. 12 at 7:18 a.m., Fino Field, report of tagging
Aug. 12 at 11:51 a.m., Harris Ave., summons: 19 year old Framingham male charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended
Aug. 12 at 3:43 p.m., N Bow St., summons: 41 year old Milford woman charged with uninsured motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle with registration suspended, motor vehicle brakes violation
Aug. 12 at 5:04 p.m., Fortune Blvd., stolen license plate
Aug. 12 at 6:17 p.m., Hayward St., arrest: 54 year old Milford male charged with violation of abuse prevention order
Aug. 12 at 7:57 p.m., Central St., criminal application: 26 year old Hudson male charged with unregistered motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, number plate violation to conceal identification
Aug. 13 at 8:32 p.m., National St., pedestrian accident
Aug. 14 at 8:16 a.m., E Main St., criminal application: 34 year old Milford female charged with uninsured motor vehicle, operating motor vehicle with registration suspended, unregistered motor vehicle, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, fail to stop/yield
Aug. 14 at 5:29 p.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 35 year old Milford female charged with fail to stop/yield, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle

Aug. 15 at 12:59 a.m., Water St., fight, two criminal applications for assault and battery: (1) a 29 year old Lynn male, (2) 24 year old Lynn male
Aug. 15 at 6:47 a.m., Vatoloto Field, report of vandalism
Aug. 15 at 8:57 a.m., Cedar St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 26 year old Milford male charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle with registration suspended
Aug. 15 at 10:44 a.m., Sumner St., report of tagging
Aug. 15 at 1:42 p.m., Beaver St., road rage
Aug. 15 at 4:08 p.m., Mt. Pleasant St. bike path, report of stolen bicycle
Aug. 15 at 5:19 p.m., Fortune Blvd., road rage
Aug. 15 at 5:35 p.m., Water St., walk in report of vandalism
Aug. 15 at 8:53 a.m., Bragg Slip, motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 38 year old Milford female charged with uninsured motor vehicle, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unregistered operation of motor vehicle
Aug. 16 at 2:02 a.m., Medway Rd., disturbance, criminal application: 24 year old Hudson female charged with assault and battery
Aug. 16 at 7:58 a.m., Clarks Island bike path, report of vandalism
Aug. 16 at 9:29 a.m., Medway Rd., vicious animal in cemetery
Aug. 16 at 4:58 p.m., Pulaski Blvd., k9 deployment
Aug. 16 at 7:42 p.m., Grove St., property damage, criminal application: vandalize property
Aug. 16 at 9:20 p.m., Beaver St., property check, arrest: 25 year old Marlborough male charged with no

inspection/sticker, unlicensed operation a motor vehicle, possess open container of alcohol in motor vehicle
Aug. 17 at 12:54 a.m., Prospect Hts., suspicious motor vehicle, criminal application: two Milford males (one 25, one 21) each charged with alcoholic beverages-drinking on public property
Aug. 17 at 5:57 a.m., Oliver Ct., vandalism, summons: 35 year old Wrentham female charged with annoying telephone calls/electronic communications, malicious destruction of property, threat to commit crime
Aug. 17 at 10:22 a.m., E Main St., report of breaking and entering
Aug. 17 at 3:04 p.m., Fortune Blvd., juvenile arrest for shoplifting by concealing merchandise
Aug. 17 at 3:45 p.m., Beaver St., motor vehicle accident, summons: 23 year old Milford male charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle
Aug. 17 at 4:21 p.m., Medway Rd., larceny, summons: 20 year old Milford male charged with larceny over \$1200
Aug. 17 at 4:38 p.m., Sumner St., road rage
Aug. 17 at 5:57 p.m., Pearl St., hit

and run accident with no personal injury, criminal application: 24 year old Milford male charged with leaving scene of property damage, operating a motor vehicle with license suspended, fail to stop/yield
Aug. 17 at 7:12 p.m., Fruit St., animal bite, services rendered
Aug. 17 at 7:51 p.m., Forest St., motor vehicle accident, criminal application: 47 year old Milford female charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle
Aug. 17 at 8:01 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting, arrest: three juveniles charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise
Aug. 17 at 8:08 p.m., Shadowbrook bike path access, assault, two criminal applications: (1) 38 year old Milford male charged with indecent assault and battery on person 14 or over, assault with a dangerous weapon; and (2) 25 year old Woonsocket male charged with assault and battery
Aug. 18 at 2:54 a.m., Water St., motor vehicle accident, arrest: 29 year old Brockton male charged with OUI-liquor, negligent operation of motor vehicle, fail to stop/yield, speeding
Aug. 18 at 3:06 a.m., Prospect Hts,



Water St., fight, arrest: 32 year old Milford male charged with disorderly conduct, assault and battery
Aug. 18 at 10:05 a.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 40 year old Milford male warrant arrest
Aug. 18 at 7:11 p.m., Pearl St., fight, criminal application: 34 year old Milford male charged with assault and battery (two counts), malicious destruction of property over \$1200
Aug. 18 at 9:37 p.m., Congress St., erratic operator, arrest: 41 year old

SAFETY LOG

continued on page 17

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LIBRARY

continued from page 7

Finkel.

French art thief Stéphane Breitwieser stole more than two hundred works of art all over the world during his relatively

short spree. Assisted by his girlfriend Anne-Catherine Kleinklaus, the thefts began in 1995 and resulted in his capture and imprisonment. His mother was implicated in his crimes as well having destroyed some of the pieces. Interestingly, his motive wasn't financial.

Author Finkel brings the master art thief to life with his account.

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

The Most Dangerous Job in Washington: Assassination Attempts on US Presidents

On Saturday, Sept. 21 at 1 p.m., Dr. Buckley, retired Superintendent of Schools and the author of hundreds of local history columns will give a free informal talk about the various assassination attempts on US presidents throughout our nation's history.

While, four US presidents including Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley and John F. Kennedy succumbed to their assassins, many others had attempts made on their lives including that on Donald Trump in July, 2024.

This event is sponsored by The Friends of the Milford Town Library. Saturday, Oct. 5, 2-3 p.m.

West African Kora with Sean Gaskell

Join us for a free concert on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 2 - 3 p.m. with musician Sean Gaskell. The performance will feature songs on the kora- a 21 stringed West African harp.

Gaskell studied under the instruction of Moriba Kuyateh and the late Malamini Jobarteh at their home in Brikama, Gambia, over three extensive visits between 2008-2018. In 2023, he

made his first visit to Senegal to study with Youssoupha Cissokho and his son Mamadou Cissokho in the town of Saly. The kora is traditionally played by oral historians known as Griots. Many songs featured on the kora preserve an 800 year history dating back to the founding of the Mande empire.

Gaskell has presented adult, youth and family programs at over 350 libraries and a multitude of k-12 schools, colleges, universities and assisted living facilities in the United States and Canada. Find out more on his website, seangaskell.com.

This event is sponsored by The Friends of the Milford Town Library.

Friends Fall Booksale: October 25 & 26

Don't miss a chance to stock up on great deals on books, DVDs, puzzles, games, music and more at the Friends of the Milford Town Library Fall Booksale. The sale has NEW hours this year with the members preview on Friday, Oct. 25 from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. The sale is open to the public on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Proceeds from the sales help fund the youth and adult summer reading programs as well as programs, lectures, concerts and other programs.



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Dana-Farber Brigham Cancer Center at Milford Regional Hospital receives handcrafted gift in honor of patients' 'immense courage'

BOSTON – To inspire those fighting cancer, residents of Salmon at Medway recently donated a handmade display of 1,000 origami cranes to the Dana-Farber Brigham Cancer Center at Milford Regional Medical Center.

Measuring 5 feet by 8 feet, the installation is accompanied by a plaque that reads, “To Dana-Farber: Salmon at Medway is proud to gift this display of 1,000 cranes in honor of hope and love for all those battling cancer. Our residents came together to fold this origami to honor the immense courage and challenges of those affected by cancer and we hope our love and solidarity shine through.”

Brianna Taglione, MSN, RN, OCN, nurse manager at Dana-Farber Brigham at Milford, said the vibrant artwork has been appreciated by staff as well as patients in the infusion suite. In the Japanese culture, origami cranes

symbolize strength, resilience, peace, hope, and healing.

“We’re very grateful to these kind individuals who dedicated significant time and talent to comfort and encourage our patients in treatment,” she said.

According to Les Farrington, a resident ambassador at Salmon at Medway, this was the first project by the independent and assisted living community’s Humanitarian Group which spent six weeks cutting, folding, stringing, and hanging the multicolored paper cranes. In addition to Farrington, members include Nic Estrela, Janet Melanson, Marilyn Corso, Anne McLroy, Emily Cox, Gina Colasacco, Joe Kasparian, and Jim Pronko.

“Everyone who works at Dana-Farber is so exceptionally caring,” said Farrington, who has been treated for bladder cancer at Dana-Farber Brigham at Milford for four years. “We’re

glad for the chance to give back and do our part to uplift patients during their cancer journey.”

Farrington added that he was “blown away” that Michael Constantine, MD, medical director of oncology at Dana-Farber Brigham at Milford, took the time to thank the group for its generous donation.

“I am in awe of this incredible gift to honor our patients and families battling cancer,” Constantine said. “It is a show of remarkable care from this wonderful Humanitarian Group who took the time and effort to create this work of art. I thank them all from the bottom of my heart.”

About Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is one of the world’s leading centers of cancer research and treatment. Dana-Farber’s mission is to reduce the burden of cancer through scientific inquiry, clinical care,



The Salmon at Medway Humanitarian Group recently donated a 5 foot by 8 foot handmade display of 1,000 origami cranes to the Dana-Farber Brigham Cancer Center at Milford Regional Medical Center. Photo courtesy of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

education, community engagement, and advocacy. We provide the latest treatments in cancer for adults through Dana-Farber Brigham Cancer Center and for children through Dana-Farber/Boston Chil-

dren’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. Dana-Farber is the only hospital nationwide with a top 5 U.S. News & World Report Best Cancer Hospital ranking in both adult and pediatric care.

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- 3" Grey Stone
- 3/8", 3/4" Multi-Color Round
- 1 1/2", 2 1/2"
- Multi-Color River Stone
- Multi-Color River Stone
- 3/8", 3/4" Blue Stone
- 3/4" Processed Gravel
- 3" Processed Gravel
- Recycled Asphalt
- 1" Dense Grade Gravel
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Recent Home Sales

Date	Milford	Amount
08/29/2024	2 Harding St.	\$590,000
08/28/2024	181 Purchase St.	\$515,000
08/28/2024	36 Walker Ave. Ext.	\$530,000
08/28/2024	344 Main St.	\$420,000
08/23/2024	10 Allen Rd.	\$640,000
08/23/2024	57 Emmons St.	\$539,000
08/22/2024	8 Morey Way	\$770,000
08/22/2024	17 Kellett Dr.	\$500,000
08/21/2024	8 Yale Dr.	\$524,900
08/20/2024	202 Cedar St.	\$750,000
08/19/2024	12 Country Club Ln. #C	\$430,000
08/16/2024	6 Winterberry Ln.	\$835,000
08/15/2024	3 Longview Dr.	\$550,000
08/15/2024	26 Bowdoin Dr.	\$500,000
08/15/2024	201 Congress St.	\$460,000
08/14/2024	8 Victor Dr.	\$654,000
08/14/2024	15 Elm St.	\$475,000
08/12/2024	37 Fruit St.	\$550,000
08/09/2024	163 Purchase St.	\$520,000
08/08/2024	8 Evans Rd.	\$615,000
08/08/2024	16 Elm St. #A	\$560,000
08/05/2024	50 Woodridge Rd.	\$731,000
08/05/2024	10 Country Club Ln. #C	\$410,500
08/02/2024	64 Whitewood Rd.	\$952,000
08/02/2024	42 Silver Hill St.	\$560,000
07/31/2024	3 Harvard Dr.	\$600,000
07/31/2024	58 Water St.	\$455,000
07/31/2024	2 Prospect St.	\$430,000
07/30/2024	36 Grant St.	\$450,000
07/29/2024	159 W Spruce St.	\$390,000
07/26/2024	21 Ramble Rd.	\$590,000

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



The 3-bed, 2-bath, 1,496 square foot house at 3 Longview Drive in Milford recently sold for \$550,000. Image credit www.zillow.com



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We'll have expert appraisers looking at what you bring in and telling you all about it - Household objects, Toys, Comics, Masonic artifacts, even small pieces of furniture (If you feel comfortable carrying it up a flight of stairs by yourself, it gets in). Max. 2 items!

While you're here, take a tour of historic Montgomery Lodge (our permanent collection of historical Masonic curios is worth the price of admission [Free] alone), have some light refreshments, and meet your Masonic neighbors and friends!

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SAFETY LOG

continued from page 13

Milford female charged with marked lanes violation, OUI-liquor

Aug. 19 at 12:17 p.m., Columbus Ave., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 32 year old Milford female charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, motor vehicle lights violation

Aug. 20 at 6:49 a.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 25 year old Framingham male charged with unlicensed operation of motor vehicle, fail to stop/yield

Aug. 20 at 8:11 a.m., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 29 year old Milford female charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unsafe operation of a motor vehicle, child 8-12 or over 57 inches without a seatbelt

Aug. 20 at 1:45 p.m., Main St., remove youths

Aug. 20 at 8:33 p.m., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 24 year old Milford male charged with warrant arrest, motor vehicle lights violation, operation of a motor vehicle with registration suspended, unlicensed operation of motor vehicle, failure to wear seatbelt

Aug. 21 at 12:26 p.m., Fortune Blvd., criminal application: 52 year old Hopkinton female charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise

Aug. 21 at 1:55 p.m., Main St.,

drone deployment

Aug. 21 at 8:17 p.m., Pearl St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 37 year old Milford male charged with motor vehicle lights violation, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle

Aug. 21 at 8:24 p.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 23 year old Bellingham male charged with motor vehicle brakes violation, possess open container of alcohol in motor vehicle, carrying a dangerous weapon

Aug. 21 at 11:16 p.m., Medway Rd., erratic operation, arrest: 34 year old Milford male charged with OUI-liquor (second offense), OUI while license suspended for OUI, electronic device use while operating motor vehicle, possess open container of alcohol in motor vehicle, disguise to obstruct justice

Aug. 22 at 10:42 a.m., Prospect St., fraud, criminal application: 23 year old Dorchester male charged with identity fraud, RMV ID card fraud, uttering false check, forge/misuse of RMV document

Aug. 22 at 10:48 a.m., Veterans Memorial Dr. bike path, report of vandalism

Aug. 22 at 4:38 p.m., Birch St., road rage

Aug. 22 at 7:55 p.m., E Main St., bicycle accident

Aug. 23 at 9:19 a.m., Sumner St., motor vehicle stop, arrest: 36 year old Milford male charged with fail to stop/yield, operating motor vehicle

with license suspended, arrestee furnish false name/ssn

Aug. 23 at 6:54 p.m., West St., report of indecent exposure

Aug. 24 at 12:49 a.m., Bragg Slip, drone deployment

Aug. 24 at 1:02 p.m., E Main St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application: 25 year old Milford male charged with fail to yield at intersection, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle

Aug. 24 at 4:26 p.m., Fortune Blvd., criminal application: 40 year old female charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise

Aug. 24 at 8:51 p.m., Oak Tree Dr., fireworks violation

Aug. 24 at 9:03 p.m., Central St., motor vehicle accident, arrest: 24 year old Milford male charged with OUI-liquor, leaving scene of personal injury, negligent operation of motor vehicle

Aug. 24 at 9:24 p.m., Central St., k9 deployment

Aug. 24 at 10:50 p.m., School St., arrest made: 24 year old Milford male charged with assault and battery on a police officer (four counts), resisting arrest

Aug. 25 at 12:28 p.m., Granite St., erratic operator, juvenile arrest: 17 year old charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, negligent operation of a motor vehicle

Aug. 25 at 3:39 p.m., Rogers St., neighbor dispute

Source: www.milfordpolice.org/daily-call-log



The Milford Fire Department also responded to several medical emergencies (many transported to hospital), alarms (smoke, burglar, carbon monoxide, etc.), and building and motor vehicle lockouts. This is not an exhaustive list. Items of note include:

July 26 at 10 a.m., Fortune Blvd., hazardous material spill

July 28 at 6 p.m., Claudette Dr., carbon monoxide alarm

July 29 at 9:28 p.m., Lincoln St., natural gas leak odor

July 30 at 5:28 p.m., West St., electrical fire

July 30 at 7:32 p.m., Grace St., outside fire

July 31 at 1:12 p.m., Prospect St., structure fire

July 31 at 11:21 p.m., Central St., transformer fire

Aug. 2 at 10:57 a.m., Green St., gas

spill or leak

Aug. 2 at 1:52 p.m., Whitewood Rd., transformer fire

Aug. 2 at 10:49 p.m., Rte 495 northbound, motor vehicle fire

Aug. 4 at 2:41 p.m., Grant St., outside fire

Aug. 5 at 6:31 p.m., Lincoln St., dumpster fire

Aug. 8 at 12:01 a.m., Cunniff Ave., carbon monoxide alarm

Aug. 9 at 10:37 p.m., Central St., transformer fire

Aug. 9 at 11:20 p.m., Central St., transformer fire

Aug. 10 at 3:54 p.m., Rte 495 northbound, brush fire

Aug. 10 at 5:56 p.m., Kraft Rd., carbon monoxide alarm

Aug. 12 at 9:02 p.m., S Main St., transformer fire

Aug. 15 at 12:27 p.m., High St., hazardous material spill

Aug. 18 at 10:19 p.m., Congress St., gas spill or leak

Aug. 21 at 3:30 p.m., Glines Ave., carbon monoxide alarm

Aug. 22 at 2:03 p.m., Pine Island Rd., gas spill or leak

Aug. 22 at 3:41 p.m., Mt. Pleasant St., outside fire

Aug. 23 at 3:56 p.m., Clearview Dr., natural gas leak odor

Aug. 24 at 3:11 p.m., Reagan Rd., smoke investigation

Source: www.milfordpolice.org/daily-call-log



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Milford State Primary Election unofficial results

By Theresa Knapp

As of press time, Milford's unofficial results from the Sept. 3 state primary election were as follows:

Democratic (2,071 ballots cast)

- Senator in Congress: Elizabeth Ann Warren
- Rep. in Congress: Jake Auchincloss
- Councillor: Muriel Elaine Kramer
- Senator in General Court: Rebecca L. Rausch
- Rep. in General Court: Brian William Murray
- Clerk of Courts: Dennis P. McManus
- Register of Deeds: Kathryn A. Toomey

Republican (941 ballots cast)

- Senator in Congress: John Deaton
- Rep. in Congress [no candidates listed]: Write-ins (89)
- Councillor: Francis T. Crimmins Jr.
- Senator in General Court [no candidates listed]: Write-ins (159)
- Rep. in General Court [no candidates listed]: Write-ins (81)
- Clerk of Courts [no candidates listed]: Write-ins (76)
- Register of Deeds [no candidates listed]: Write-ins (71)

Libertarian (12 ballots cast)
(no candidates listed)

Once the election results have been certified, the official results will be available at www.milfordma.gov

Source: bit.ly/MilfordElectionUnofficial2024



TOWN OF MILFORD

For anyone submitting a meeting notice for posting - Open Meeting Law Posting Guide*

To have your meeting on:	Posting by:
Monday	Thursday, previous week
Tuesday	Friday by 11:30 a.m. Previous Week
Wednesday	Monday
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Friday	Wednesday

* Please Note: if there is a Holiday move your posting date back by 1 day
Source: www.milfordma.gov

Hearts, Hugs & Hope:

Alzheimer's Support Group at Cornerstone at Milford

Sept. 10, 6 p.m. at Cornerstone at Milford Assisted Living and Memory Support Community, 11 Birch Street, Milford.

This group for caregivers meets in person. Dealing with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia isn't easy, so it is helpful to share your concerns and personal experiences with others

who completely understand what you're going through. You will also learn about proven strategies to help you better care for your family member. Call 508-473-0035 to RSVP or contact Director of Compass Programming Jenn Hozempa at jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com for more information.



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Thanks To Yanks collects items for veterans



(L to R) Kim Wagner, assistant to the director, and Ken Levesque, the executive director, of a local veterans' assistance association; Michael Shain, president and Jared Ontiveros, vice president of Thanks To Yanks. The local charity recently sponsored a successful collection of items for veterans in need including food items, personal hygiene items, and items for military service dogs. Thanks To Yanks is a local charity that's core mission is the support of veterans who need a hand up. For more information, visit Thanks to Yanks on Facebook. Submitted by Thanks To Yanks



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Source: Facebook @milfordtownlibrary



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Town mural celebration planned for November

Mural selected is 'an homage to Milford'

By Theresa Knapp

A town mural is planned for Milford's Town Park Fitness Court, and a celebration is being planned for Nov. 16.

The muralist was chosen by the Milford Cultural Council after issuing a Call for Artists earlier this year. The details about the mural and the artist are being closely guarded in order to surprise the public.

"But I can say the mural that was selected is a homage to Milford," said MCC Chair Martin Montoya. "It features many historic locations, structures, flags of our immigrant communities, and the joys of sharing activity outdoors in Milford for all. We are excited for the final project unveiling and look forward to seeing the new fitness court in use by our community members."

For this project, the MCC is partnering with National Fitness Campaign and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. This is part of MCC's "Art in the Parks" initiative.

According to the Call for Artists, "Artwork should promote positive, light-hearted imagery and represent local or regional values unique to the area. The goal is to share fun, vibrant, innovative artwork that tells the story of wellness and fitness in our community."

The mural will be featured on a 32-foot-wide and 7-foot-high multipurpose training wall on the Fitness Court. The winning mural will be "printed digitally on high quality anti-graffiti laminated vinyl" and applied to the wall.

The artist's headshot, logo, bio and a description of the



“Artwork should promote positive, light-hearted imagery and represent local or regional values unique to the area. The goal is to share fun, vibrant, innovative artwork that tells the story of wellness and fitness in our community.”

- Milford Cultural Council Call for Artists

work will be featured on the wall and will also be featured at www.nationalfitnesscampaign.com/local-artists with more than 30 other artists who have participated in this nationwide campaign.

The Milford Cultural Council will release more information as it becomes available.

The rain date for the event will be Nov. 17.

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FREE PRESS

New inspiration for 2024 Pan-Mass Challenge

Free Press sportswriter shares personal experience

By Chris Villani

I've taken part in the two-day Dana-Farber Cancer Institute fundraiser, known as the Pan-Mass Challenge, a total of 14 times, the last several with my mother in mind. She passed away in late 2019 following a bout with cancer, and she was a huge PMC supporter.

This year, I had a little more inspiration - about 15 pounds worth. Last November, my wife LeeAnn and I welcomed our son William into the world. Needless to say, things have never been the same since then.

William loves to smile, he loves to swim, and he even seems to love his vegetables. And, maybe someday, he will learn to love the PMC as well. It was nice having him to show off as I took off from Wellesley to start the 160-mile-plus journey. It was also fun to see him in Brewster as we rode past our

second home in Brewster.

William was also on my mind as I approached the Lakeville water stop. For those who are not familiar with the PMC, Lakeville is known as the Pedal Partner stop. The PMC's Pedal Partner program pairs each PMC team with pediatric patients at the Jimmy Fund. We ride for these kids, and many of them, along with their families, are waiting to say hello when we get to Lakeville.

During the ride, I chatted with a first-year rider and I told her about the Lakeville stop. It seems strategically placed. It's about 25 miles away from the first-day finish line, which is far enough into the ride to be tired and ready for a cold beer and a hot shower, but it's still well over an hour in the saddle before riding into Bourne. It's a stretch where one can start to feel tired and cranky. But, as

we ride into Lakeville, we are greeted with oversized photos of the smiling faces of children, some of them nearly as young as William, who are battling cancer. It's a reminder of how indiscriminate the disease can be ... and a little kick in the shorts for the riders that we should suck it up since all we are doing is riding a bike.

The hope is that we do more than that and that events like the PMC ultimately help us win the fight against this dreaded disease. Founded in 1980, the PMC has raised more than \$1 billion for the Jimmy Fund, surpassing that milestone this year. Every rider has one billion reasons to feel hopeful for a better tomorrow. And, in my household, we've recently added one more.

Editor's note: Chris Villani is the Free Press' staff sportswriter



Chris gets ready to set off for the 2024 Pan-Mass Challenge after a quick picture with William and his dog, Maverick. Courtesy photo

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SPORTS

MHS girls' volleyball looks for playoff return

Scarlet Hawks will try to bounce back after subpar 2023

By Chris Villani

The Milford High girls' volleyball team returns to the floor this fall after missing out on the state tournament last year for the first time since head coach Tammy Webber returned to the program.

"One of our goals is definitely to make the postseason, regardless of how hard they say our schedule is," Webber said. "I think we have the players, we should make the postseason."

The Scarlet Hawks are relatively young this year, Webber said, but the team is also fairly

deep at most positions. Senior captain Claudia Solitro is back at outside hitter and Webber said she will be a big part of the Hawks' attack.

"She led in attempts for hitting last year, and I think she can be our kills leader this year," Webber said. "She has gotten her consistency down and she is going to score a lot of points."

Another senior captain, Tj Downing, is another skilled outside hitter who was an honorable mention Hockomock League All-Star a season ago. Julianys Rentas is yet another



The Milford High girls' volleyball team during tryouts for the 2024 season, a year the players hope ends with a trip to the state tournament. Courtesy photo

outside hitter who Webber praised for her athleticism and tendency to go for the kill.

In the middle, sophomore Abby Murphy returns after seeing time on the varsity floor during her first season. Junior Lyanne Maforte brings size and athleticism to the middle as well. Milford also has 5-foot-11 Sam DeNegrinis and six-foot Danielle Darling to add size on the right side.

On defense, sophomore Isa Grady-Harper and senior

Gianna Lebron will see time at libero with juniors Lucia Testa and Emma Ridolfi playing defensive specialist.

One question mark for the Scarlet Hawks this fall will be setter, with three players vying for time. Webber said sophomore Lina Lyubkin should fit nicely into one of the setting roles. Freshmen Brooke Stokes and Aaliyah Campos will also compete for a spot at setter, though Webber added that Stokes is athletic enough to fill in

at other spots.

Webber said he is hopeful that Milford will compete for one of the top spots in the Hockomock League's Kelley-Rex division, and the young team is hungry to pick up victories this year.

"I feel like we have so many new players who are just competitive, they just want to win," Webber said. "They know it is not acceptable to not make the postseason, I think they have that in their heads."

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SPORTS

New faces leading MHS Golf

Scarlet Hawks seek third straight playoff appearance



Robbie DeGasperis, Zach Hipolito, David Fleming are three players who expect to lead Milford golf this season. *Courtesy photos*

By Chris Villani

The Milford High golf team will be led this fall by several experienced players who have been patiently waiting behind some recent graduates for their chance to take the lead.

“They are ready to step up,” said head coach Jay Potty. “They are all solid players, and I think

they are looking for their opportunity. I think these guys are anxious to see what they can do, and their potential is pretty high.”

Milford has a trio of senior captains who have all been with the program for the past four years. David Fleming figures to be one of MHS’ top players and

Potty said he has made gains ever since his freshman year.

“He is a hockey player, so he has those fast-twitch muscles, and he bombs it off the tee,” Potty said. “He has put the time in to work on his short game and putting, and it’s paid off.”

Robbie DeGasperis has developed a strong mid-iron game,

Potty said, and hitting greens has put him in a position to shoot low scores. Zach Hipolito has bounced back after what Potty said was a subpar season due to swing struggles.

“It just wasn’t going the way he wanted it to,” Potty said. “He took lessons, and it’s like night and day. Watching him play, it’s amazing, I can tell the amount of work he has put in.”

Potty said that three-year player Sean Prevelige has made steady gains over the past few seasons and has gotten consistently better. All four seniors worked hard to make sure they came into the season in top form, the coach said.

“They were out there all the time playing a ton of golf and just trying to get better,” Potty said. “We have qualified for the postseason the last two years, and they don’t want that to stop. That is their goal and

the team’s goal, to make post-season play.”

In addition to the seniors, Milford will rely on sophomore Lucas Richard to add depth in a strong league. Some of the newer players on the MHS roster will help round out the lineup.

“We have a bunch of kids who are newer to the game of golf, but they are a bunch of athletes and they have started to figure it out,” Potty said. “I am really happy with what I have seen so far. I think they are just going to get better the more they compete and the more they play.”

Potty said that a third straight tournament is no guarantee in a tough Hockomock League, but added that his team knows the challenge ahead.

“There are no excuses,” he said. “We have to go out there and play well.”

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