# Nedvay & Millis

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October 2024

# Vol. 15 No. 9

### Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

### **Medway's Food** Pantries gear up for fall How you can help before the holidays

proaches.

### BY GINA WOELFEL

As the leaves begin to turn and the crisp air of fall settles over Medway, MA, the town's two vital food pantries-The Medway Village Food Pantry and The

Medway Food Pantry at Mahan Circle-prepare for the busy months ahead.

According to The Greater Boston Food Bank's website, "One in three neighbors in Eastern Massachusetts faced food insecurity last year. While we may not real-

ize it, we know someone hungry—that's why we all have a role to play in ending hunger here." Food pantries, such as those in Medway, provide dignified access to nutritious food, personal care items, and household goods to families and seniors in need, and this fall, they're ramping up their efforts to ensure no one in the community goes hungry, es-



United States. On Tuesday, September 3, representatives from the Medway food pantries attended the Medway Select Board meeting to declare September as "Hunger Action Month" in Medway. The Medway Village Food Pantry and Medway Food Pantry

pecially as the holiday season ap-

tion Month, a national cam-

paign by Feeding America that

raises awareness of hunger in the

September was Hunger Ac-

**FOOD PANTRY** continued on page 2



The Millis Select Board has issued a letter of support for the Conservation Commission's request for \$15,000 in Community Preservation Funds to purchase new signs for seven town-owned parcels. Source: www.millisma.gov

### Millis Select Board supports request for new signs on seven town-owned conservation parcels

BY THERESA KNAPP

Seven of Millis' town-owned conservation parcels may soon be getting new signs.

At its meeting on Sept. 12, the Select Board met with Conservation Commission member John Steadman who described the initiative, which the board

ultimately voted to support. Steadman said the Conserva-

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### **FOOD PANTRY**

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at Mahan Circle, both Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) member agencies, successfully called on their town to support this proclamation and engage more residents in addressing food insecurity through donating, advocating, and volunteering.

Susan Dietrich, the Executive Director of Medway Village Food Pantry, revealed the astonishing surge in client and household assistance, with a more than twofold increase from fiscal year 2022 to 2024. In the past 12 months, the Medway Village Food Pantry facilitated over 26,000 client visits, distributing a staggering 284,000 pounds of food, equivalent to 237,000 meals. Noteworthy is the diverse sourcing of sustenance for families. The Greater Boston Food Bank purchases account for 43%, with rescued/recovered food making up 33%, retail purchases constituting 13%, and donations contributing 11%.

"Both food pantries in Medway are run 100% by volunteers and rely solely on donations and grants for funding," Dietrich

explained. "Every hour volunteered, and every dollar donated goes directly to helping children, families, and seniors in our community. We are so grateful for the support we receive." She also emphasized the importance of fresh produce, stating, "The most valued food item we offer is fresh produce. Through our commitment to food rescue partnerships, we have significantly increased the amount of fresh produce we offer to our neighbors, which in turn contributes to better overall health "

Paul Galante, the Director of the Medway Food Pantry at Mahan Circle, stresses the importance of ensuring guests feel comfortable when accessing essential food and household supplies. "We believe that access to nutritious food is a fundamental human right. We're dedicated to meeting the community's needs in a welcoming environment. We aim to eliminate the stigma many people feel when seeking assistance. We're all here to support each other without judgment."

"We deeply appreciate the generous donations we receive from the community," explains Kathie Olsen, Assistant Director at the Mahan Circle Food Pantry. "To make the most of every contribution, early donations are beneficial. By receiving items ahead, we can avoid duplicate purchases that might overlap with later donations and allow for better planning. This ensures that the funds we have can stretch as far as possible. Our process involves sorting, recording, and planning months in advance. So, while October may seem early to think about Thanksgiving and the holidays, it's our busiest time. Your early support is crucial in helping us meet the needs of our clients."

### How you can help, early donations appreciated

The Medway Food Pantry and the Medway Village Pantry appreciate all donations. Monetary contributions are especially beneficial as they enable the pantries to buy more essential items at reduced prices from the Greater Boston Food Bank and local grocery stores. These savings help to keep the shelves well-stocked with a larger supply of goods.

In previous years, the pantries typically receive most holiday donations the week before Thanksgiving and Christmas. However,

#### How to obtain food pantry assistance

If you would like food pantry assistance, here is how to apply.

Medway Village Food Pantry, 170 Village St., foodpantryatmahancircle@gmail. com or info@medwayvillagefoodpantry.org.

The pantry is open for in-store shopping on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. No appointment is necessary. They are currently accepting new clients from Medway only. All new clients must register with a volunteer upon arrival. Non-Medway residents must complete a brief registration to be provided with a one-time emergency bag of food and personal care/household items. Please follow the Village Food Pantry arrival procedure posted on its website. When it is your turn to shop, a volunteer will invite one household member per unit to shop inside the food pantry.

Medway Food Pantry at Mahan Circle, 600 Mahan Circle, medwayhousing.org/ food-pantry/, foodpantryatmahancircle@gmail.com or call (774) 277-8355

The pantry is open for drive-up service on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for food and personal hygiene items. No appointment is necessary. Upon arrival, guests must complete basic paperwork, which includes Massachusetts residency status, household size, and any specific needs (no picture ID required). With this information, the pantry prepares grocery bags with selected essential items for the guests based on their paperwork. Additionally, they set up an outdoor area with fresh pastries, bread, and unique limited-quantity items.

this year, they're asking the community to consider donating earlier in October and November to better prepare for the holiday season.

In a strategic effort to simplify the donation process and maximize contributions, Medway Food Pantry and Medway Village Pantry have collaborated this season by introducing a unified QR code for monetary donations. This approach ensures that donors can effortlessly support both food pantries with a single contribution, streamlining the process and enhancing the impact of the aid they receive. When donating, please include

> FOOD PANTRY continued on page 3



### SIGNS

continued from page 1

tion Commission would request funds from the town's Community Preservation Committee to create and install seven signs similar to a sign currently standing at Bogastow Meadow.

Steadman explained, "They'd be two feet by three feet, cut into the plastic with the [town] seal, and all of them would have PVC covered posts...other than Richardson's Pond."

The seven locations include three ConComm properties -Village Street walking path, in-

tersection of Acorn and Spencer Streets, and the Dewey Property at Orchard and Exchange Streets - and four town-owned properties - Richardson's Pond. intersection of Farm and Acorn Streets, Pleasant Street Park (triangle at Village, Pleasant and Dyer Streets), and Waites Mill (the Rockville Fire Station).

If the property is owned by the town, the top of the sign will say "Town of Millis" with the name of the property; if owned by the ConComm, it will say "Millis Conservation Commission" at the top.

"I like the idea, I think it's going to add a lot of character and

quality," said Selectperson Craig Schultze. "I think the visibility adds something to the town...The ones that are trails, I think it adds more, but the ones that aren't trails, it is nice to see we're protecting this open space and what it is, instead of just an empty field."

The Select Board voted to write a letter to the CPC in support of the initiative. An article will be placed on the Fall Town Meeting warrant to request \$15,000 from the Community Preservation Committee to fund the project.

To watch this meeting in its entirety, visit www.youtube.com/ watch?v=bDFtJVl7uNQ.

### **FOOD PANTRY**

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the code "MEDWAYGIVES-BACK" in the notes section.

### **High-priority food and** household items needed

Critical items: Hearty canned soups (Progresso, Campbell's Chunky, etc.), cereal, pasta sauce, and pasta. Also needed are household essentials like toilet paper, paper towels, detergent, and personal care items like soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, individually boxed tampons and pads, shampoo, moisturizer, and conditioner.

For the holiday months: Boxed mashed potatoes, boxed stuffing, canned turkey gravy, canned cranberry sauce, canned yams, canned green beans, french fried onions, and cream of mushroom soup.

Diapers: The Medway Village Pantry always needs individual packages of children's diapers in sizes 4, 5, and 6. Last year alone, they distributed over 75,000 diapers. Additionally, the Food Pantry at Mahan Circle welcomes individual packages of adult Depends.

Volunteer opportunities: Both pantries need your help! If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out through the provided contact emails to see how vou can make a difference in your community. Your time and effort can have a meaningful impact on those in need.

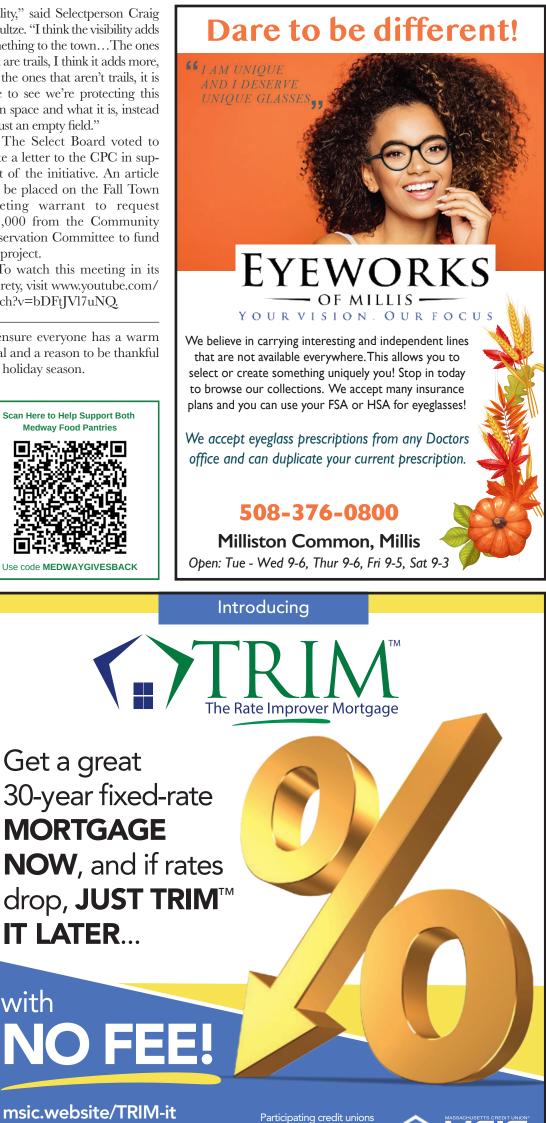
Please visit each pantry's website to view their most up-to-date donation needs and find instructions on facilitating a drop-off.

The Medway community's spirit of generosity becomes even more critical as winter approaches. Supporting your local food pantry means extending a hand to your neighbors in need to ensure everyone has a warm meal and a reason to be thankful this holiday season.



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### Millis Fall Town Meeting scheduled for Nov. 19

### Preceding Special Town Meeting will address override, needs quorum

BY THERESA KNAPP

MILLIS - At its meeting on Sept. 12, the Millis Select Board

opened the warrant for the Fall Annual Town Meeting to be held on Tues., Nov. 19, in the Millis Middle-High School auditorium and gymnasium.

The warrant was set to close on Sept. 30 [after press time] and Town Administrator Michael Guzinski said he planned to then ask the board to call a Special Town Meeting to occur immediately preceding the Annual Town Meeting "solely to insert an article for appropriations related to the Prop  $2^{1/2}$  override question which is included in the ballot of the biannual state election which is scheduled for Nov. 5."

Guzinski said Town Counsel preferred the appropriations

question be voted at a Special Town Meeting "because of some quirks in the law." He also said that vote will require a quorum, approximately 260 registered voters. This article is dependent on the passage of the override on the Nov. 5 ballot.

### Medway Veteran's Day program to feature Dr. Vincent Arone

### Arone, 103, is last surviving member of Belle of Texas air crew

All veterans are encouraged to attend the Medway Veteran's Day program to be held on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at the Medway VFW, 123 Holliston St., at which Hopedale resident Dr. Vincent Arone will be the guest speaker.

Dr. Arone was a member of the Army Air Force, serving in the Central Pacific theater, serving as a Belly Gunner and radio operator on the crew of the AB-24 Bomber of the 42nd Bomber Squadron, achieving the rank of Staff Sargent. He

enlisted in September 1942 until Dec. 31, 1945. At 103 years old, Dr. Arone is the last surviving member of his air crew on the Belle of Texas. Dr. Arone's story is exciting and enlightening.

Veteran's Day ceremonies will be held at the Medway VFW, starting promptly at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served immediately following the conclusion of the ceremonies and speaking program.

Submitted by the Town of Medway Memorial Committee

**Dr. Vincent Arone of Hopedale** will be the guest speaker Medway's Veteran's Day program on Nov. 11. Source: Medway **Memorial Committee** 



### **Millis Senior Center Events**

The Millis Senior Center is located at 900 Main Street on the lower level of the Veterans Memorial Building. The Cen-

### **localtown**pages

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ter is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30-4:00 PM, and Fridays 8:30-12:30 PM. For more information call (508) 376-7051.

October 2024 Events: Afternoon Movie - Tuesday, 10/1: South Pacific, Mondays, 10/7: Oklahoma!, 10/21: Music

Man; 10/28: Guys & Dolls Join us for snacks and a movie on our new larger tv. Free.

Antiques Appraisal Day

with Coyle's Auction Gallery Would you like more information about a vintage piece and find out what it might be

worth? Bring your treasures to be evaluated by experts from Coyle's Auction Gallery of Medway. \$3.00 donation per item to the Friends of the COA, or join us for free even if you don't have any items for review.

Tuesday, October 8 at 1:00 PM. Sign up: (508) 376-7051

Aging In Place Panel **Event With Lunch** 

Join Attorney Jay Marsden of Marsden Law P.C., Deb Kantor, Senior Real Estate Specialist at Keller Williams, and a panel of specialists that will share insights on creating safe and accessible living spaces, financial planning for long-term care, health and wellness tips, and community resources available to aid in aging independently. Whether you're a senior looking to plan for the future or a family member seeking guidance, this event will provide valuable information and connections to support aging in place.

Tuesday, October 15 at 12:00 PM. Sign up: (508) 376-7051

Pizza & Prevention With The Millis Fire Dept.

Join us for this informative and fun program about fire and life safety. Pizza will be served! Free.

Monday, October 21 at 11:00 AM. Sign up: (508) 376-7051

Dementia Live! Experience with Right at Home

Join us for a high-impact immersion experience that brings inside-out understanding of cognitive impairment and sensory changes. You will be empowered with new tools to improve care processes and tips to make dementia friendly changes to your life. Not designed for those with dementia, but for loved ones and community members.

Tuesday, October 22, 1:00 PM. Sign up: (508) 376-7051





FREE ESTIMATES

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REMODELING

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

By Christie Vogt CONTRIBUTING WRITER

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

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

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

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

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

Schadler says his wife Christine "was equally as involved"



in getting the business off the ground. "She handled the backend while I did the heavy lifting, all while she was working at EMC," he says. "Fast forward 17 years, and we both work full time managing the company as well as other endeavors. Business is doing great; it has grown tremendously to a fleet of trucks and dumpsters, and we've also been able to buy a pizza place, The Corner Market in Holliston."

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

As for Medway and Millis in particular, Schadler says they are proud to have many repeat customers and friends in the area. Hidden Hill Farms in Millis does all the business's welding work, and Affordable Junk sponsors the local girls high school hockey team. The Schadler family's go-to candlepin bowling alley, Ryan Family Amusements, is also located in Millis.

One of the best parts of his job, Schadler says, is meeting and getting to know new people and developing relationships with returning customers. "We are really grateful for the repeat business and the chance to form connections with residents across the MetroWest area," he says.



To receive a free junk removal estimate, call 774-287-1133 or visit affordableiunkremoval.com.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



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



at Charles Meadow

REELECT

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

### A proven record of delivering local aid and constituent services.

Since 2013 Jeff Roy has helped thousands of Franklin and Medway constituents solve problems concerning unemployment, healthcare, human services, and other issues involving state agencies. In addition he has been part of a legislative team that has tackled the issues of education, economic development, the coronavirus pandemic, healthcare, substance use disorder, criminal justice, civil rights and social equity, gun safety, energy, and the environment.



Further the commitment

to work across party lines

and maintain civility in

state government.

### Delivering results on our shared concerns:

MANUFACTURING Promote economic development by bringing manufacturing back to Massachusetts. **ENVIRONMENT** Lead efforts to fight global warming and climate change. HEALTHCARE Increase access to healthcare statewide, while lowering costs. **EDUCATION** 

programs.

**Continue current efforts** 

to increase education

funding and enhance

### Legislative accomplishments:

- Drafted and passed bill accelerating a responsible, innovative and equitable clean energy transition.
- Drafted and passed the clean energy and offshore wind bill.
- Finalized the Roadmap Bill on climate change.
- Drafted and passed the Genocide Education Act.
- Drafted and passed an Act to prevent online abuse and exploitation.
- Drafted and passed an Act concerning step therapy and patient safety.
- Drafted and passed legislation on sexual violence on higher education campuses.
- Helped seniors with Housing, Tax Relief and state funding for Senior Centers.

- Drafted and passed bill that increased transparency and civic engagement by creating a searchable online database of legal notices.
- Drafted and passed legislation lowering thresholds on specialty license plates, making them available to smaller charities.
- Supported Veterans through the HERO and Valor Acts and funding for memorial walkway.
- Brought civics education back to our public schools so young people will understand the importance of participating in government

### Local achievements:

- Worked to maintain high quality of the school systems in our communities.
- Aided in re-opening a closed factory in Franklin to manufacture PPE.

• Helped families coping with substance use disorder by co-founding the SAFE Coalition and delivered \$350,000 in state funds.

CIVILITY

- Led legislative effort to create a Regional Dispatch Center for Franklin, Norfolk, Wrentham and Plainville.
- Delivered local aid for schools, roads, infrastructure, public safety, arts and recreation.
- Delivered improvements to Commuter Rail Service and infrastructure.
- · Secured funding for local food bank efforts.
- Delivered funding for SNETT tunnel and parking at Franklin State Forest, and upgrades to recreational spaces in Medway.
- Advocated for Cultural District in Franklin and supported the arts in our district.



PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT JEFFREY N. ROY

### An history of delivering impactful local aid for Franklin and Medway:

\$29,717,993 - Chapter 70 (Franklin)
\$11,042,877 - Chapter 70 (Medway)
\$10 million - Reconstruction of intersection at Pleasant & Chestnut Streets, Franklin
\$3 million - Franklin Ridge Senior Housing Development

\$3 million - Genocide Education Trust Fund
 \$2.42 million - Improvements to the MBTA commuter rail station in downtown Franklin
 \$2.2 million - Intersection and roadway

improvements along Grove Street in Fránklin **\$1.3 million** - Environmental Bond Bill for improvements to SNETT trail tunnel

**\$1 million** - Sidewalk and pedestrian safety improvements in Medway

**\$1 million** - Franklin Housing Authority

**\$917,261** - Chapter 90 road funding for Franklin **\$700,000** - expand the SNETT trail from Grove Street to Union Street

**\$700,000** - Franklin Food Pantry Building Project **\$525,000** - Grants for Black Box Theatre \$500,000 - Route 109 access improvements at Choate Park \$395,749 - Chapter 90 road funding for

**\$350,000** - Grant for improvements to

Medway parks \$350,000 - Opioid epidemic funds for SAFE

Coalition **\$200,000** - King Street Park improvements

in Franklin \$200,000 - Medway THRIVE program

\$183,000 - Franklin Green Community grant \$170,000 - Medway public safety equipment

**\$135,000** - Accessibility and safety improvements at the Lovering Heights Senior Citizens Complex in Medway

\$100,000 - Dept. of Public Services building in Medway

**\$100,000** - Parking lot at Franklin State Forest **\$150,000** - Medway Community Farm

\$100,000 - Franklin Downtown Partnership

\$100,000 - NE Center for Children Program at Parmenter Elementary in Franklin
\$75,000 - Zoning audit and bylaws modernization grant

**\$70,000** - Quiet Zone study for Franklin commuter line

**\$70,000** - Mental health screenings in the Franklin public schools

\$65,000 - New firefighter headsets to help prevent hearing loss

\$60,000 - Solar lighting and traffic controls
 \$58,500 - Development of outdoor fitness programming at the Medway senior center
 \$58,000 - Franklin schools substance abuse task force

\$50,000 - Medway Food Pantry

**\$50,000** - Veteran's Memorial pathway **\$50,000** - MetroWest Veterans District

**\$50,000** - Metrowest Veterans District **\$50,000** - Replacement of the playground

at Fletcher Field in Franklin **\$50,000** - Vaping prevention program in the Franklin public schools \$50,000 - Horace Mann statue in Franklin
\$35,000 - Medway historical document preservation
\$25,000 - Moving Vietnam Wall in Medway
\$25,000 - Charles River Meadowlands
\$22,000 - Upgraded communications

\$50,000 - Tri-County School accessible van

technology for Medway Fire \$21,000 - Senior citizen health program in Medway

### SCAN THE CODE TO WATCH:

"Making the Case for Re-Election"



## Do you need to fear retirement?



**Mark Freeman** 

#### FINANCIAL FOCUS® Provided by Edward Jones

If you're planning to retire in a few years, are you looking forward to it? Or are you somewhat apprehensive? Are you asking yourself: "What sort of retirement can I afford?"

It's a good question — because the answer can make a big difference in your ability to enjoy life as a retiree.

And retirement can indeed be enjoyable, exciting and fun. Consider this from a recent survey by Edward Jones and AgeWave: A majority of respondents said retirement should be looked at as a whole new chapter of life, and not just a time for rest and relaxation. In other words, people are viewing retirement as a chance for new experiences and new opportunities, rather than a time to simply wind down. But if you're going to make the most of your retirement - which could last two or even three decades - you need to be financially prepared.

This preparation can involve many steps, but here are some of the key ones:

• Decide what your retirement lifestyle will look like. How you choose to spend your retirement years can make a big difference in the financial resources you'll need. For example, if you plan on traveling the world, you might need more income than if you were to stay close to home and pursue your hobbies. If you can envision your retirement lifestyle and estimate how much money you'll need to support it, you can help reduce some of the uncertainties you might face once you do retire.

 Review your income sources. During retirement, you'll likely need to draw on all your income sources, so it's a good idea to know what you'll have available, such as your IRA, 401(k) and other investment accounts. You'll also need to decide when to take Social Security - if you wait until your full retirement age (probably between 66 and 67), you'll get much larger monthly benefits than if you started taking them at 62. And here's another variable: earned income. Even if you've retired from your career, you might, if you desire, use your acquired skills in a consulting or part-time position. The more you can earn, the less you may have to withdraw from your investment accounts and the better position you'll be in to delay taking Social Security.

 Consider adjusting your investment portfolio. For most of your working years, you may have invested mostly for growth - to increase your assets as much as possible. But growth-oriented investments are also, by nature, riskier, so when you retire, you should review your portfolio to determine whether you need to move it toward a more conservative position. Also, more conservative investments may provide more current income in the form of interest payments. However, even in retirement, you may need some investments with growth potential if you want to keep ahead of inflation.

Retirement is certainly a major milestone in your life — and adjusting to it can take some time. But there will be much less to fear — and much more to enjoy — if you've done what you can to prepare yourself financially.

Contact Mark for assistance with your personal finances.

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

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# State officials urge USPS to reopen facilities, including Medway

Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) led his Massachusetts colleagues Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Representatives Richard Neal (MA-01), Jim McGovern (MA-02), Lori Trahan (MA-03), Jake Auchincloss (MA-04), Seth Moulton (MA-06), Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), Stephen Lynch (MA-08), and Bill Keating (MA-09) in sending a letter to U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy expressing concern over the deterioration of postal service in communities across the Commonwealth, including in communities where postal operations may be consolidated and in rural areas where mail delivery may be slowed.

The letter highlights a litany of United States Postal Service (USPS) management decisions that have led to diminished access to post office retail fronts, increasingly delayed and lost mail, and, for those employed by USPS, workplace dissatisfaction, and:

The closure of the Medway Main Street Post Office more than a year ago, which has left the residents of Medway without an adequate Post Office location

The closure of the Watertown Square Post Office and subsequent lack of Saturday service in Watertown

Poor service and mail delivery delays at the Roxbury Post Office, where residents have experienced mail delays of two to four weeks, lost mail, misdelivered mail, and mail left outside of mailboxes

Mail delivery delays and months of lost mail in Somerville, Brookline, and other communities USPS' new proposal to slow mail delivery in rural areas and consolidate processing centers, which would likely impact postal service and USPS jobs in Massachusetts

"All these issues with postal service in the Commonwealth are highly problematic and indicative of a larger statewide problem, which has fostered inequitable access to basic postal functions across urban and rural communities," wrote the lawmakers. "We are now constrained to request an in-person meeting with MA-RI District Manager Scott Manier at which we can learn how USPS will address our concerns."

Following USPS management's lack of response to the Massachusetts delegation's repeated requests for re-opened fa-



The United States Postal Service closed Medway's Main Street location in August 2023. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

cilities and improved service, the lawmakers call for an in-person meeting with MA-RI District Manager Scott Manier in the letter.

Senator Markey and the Massachusetts delegation have taken several recent actions to address concerns with USPS service. In October 2023, Senators Markey, Warren, and Rep. McGovern sent a letter to Postmaster General Louis DeJoy encouraging the USPS to restore adequate postal service to the Town of Medway, which experienced a sudden suspension of service in August 2023. The lawmakers sent another letter in November 2023 calling on USPS to abide by their required timeline for announcing plans to reopen the Medway Post Office and engage in community input processes.

In March 2024, Senator Markey and his Senate colleagues sent a letter to Postmaster General Louis DeJoy urging him to stop any changes to USPS service standards that would result in job losses and further degrade mail delivery performance, which would have resulted in the consolidation of the Brockton Processing and Delivery Center. Due in part to Senator Markey's advocacy, in June, USPS announced it would pause the proposed consolidations. In July, Senator Markey joined Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan to successfully fight the closure of the Mission Hill Post Office, which would have created increased stress on the already-faltering Roxbury Post Office.

Source: Office of Senator Edward J. Markey





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### Your Money, Your Independence

### **Open Enrollment: Medical Plans & Health Savings Accounts (HSA)**



**Glenn Brown, CFP** 

Open enrollment is a pivotal time to reassess and select the benefits that best suit your needs.

Among the key benefits you'll choose are insurances (i.e. medical, dental/vision, life, AD&D, disability), services (i.e. legal), tax benefit programs (i.e. dependent care, commuter) and retirement plan participation (i.e. 401k).

An area perplexing many is analyzing High Deductible Health Plans (HDHP) and their tax savings counterpart, Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). Understanding these options can help you make informed decisions.

### **Choosing the right** medical plan.

When it comes to selecting a medical plan, a few ground rules take precedence.

First, a medical plan is a personal choice, and you need to be comfortable with the care received "in-network". Second, need to understand of your historical annual medical bills and expect consistency moving forward.

### **Case for High Deductible** Health Plans (HDHPs).

Cost Structure: HDHPs feature lower monthly premiums but higher deductibles. You pay all costs up to the deductible before your plan starts covering expenses.

Financial Management: While HDHPs can have higher out-of-pocket costs, the lower premiums and tax advantages of an HSA can offset these costs.

Health Savings Account (HSA) Eligibility: Selecting a HDHP is required to participate in a HSA.

HDHPs are often beneficial if you are healthy, don't anticipate high medical expenses, and want to take advantage of the HSA's tax benefits.

### **Health Savings Account** (HSA).

Only during Open Enrollment or Life Event can you Opt-In to an HSA with a HDHP and \$ amount to contribute. You can change the \$ amount later, but not the ability to Opt-In.

### **Key HSA facts:**

- In 2025, an individual can contribute \$4,300 and a family up to \$8,550.
- If over 55, contribute an additional \$1,000.
- All contributions are tax-free - federal, state, and FICA (Social Security and Medicare).

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

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

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

- No federal taxes on HSA Get the tax savings. funds spent on qualified health care expenses.
- Excess HSA funds can be invested for tax-free growth to compound for years.

Thus, unlike any other tax-advantaged savings plan, HSA can offer "triple tax benefits": taxfree contributions, tax-free earnings, and tax-free distributions.

#### Free money.

Shockingly, over 50% of eligible Americans decline to participate in an HSA. Unbelievable considering most employers put \$500-\$2,000 each year into an HSA. In theory, \$1 per pay period could return \$500-\$2,000 per year from your employer take it!

Furthermore, "health rewards" programs can earn deposits into HSA by doing preventative care activities. Examples like \$400 deposited when each spouse had an annual physical.

Consider a family in 24% tax bracket averaging \$4,000 in outof-pocket medical expenses. HSA tax-free contributions would provide them tax savings of \$1,466 (\$960 federal 24% + \$200 state MA 5% + \$306 FICA 7.65%). A family in 32% bracket can max out 2025 contributions and gain tax savings of  $\sim$ \$3,817.

### Leverage tax-free growth for retirement.

Gaining momentum is a financial planning strategy of avoiding withdrawals from HSAs and pay medical expenses from free cash flow. This allows for investment in funds/ETFs to grow tax-free for years before using in retirement for eligible expenses like Medicare premiums, vision, dental, hearing aids, nursing services, long-term care premiums, and medical expenses.

Retire Early crowd please note, while HSAs cannot be used to pay private health insur-

ance premiums, they can pay for health care coverage purchased through an employer-sponsored plan under COBRA, which may be a desired option leaving a company and maintaining 18 months until reaching Medicare eligibility.

Learn more by connecting with your benefits coordinator or Certified Financial Planner.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

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

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### PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

My name is Charles Bailey and for those of you who don't know me. I am a US Army Infantry Veteran, Retired Franklin Firefighter/Paramedic, Educator and Hockey Coach. I am also the proud father of two amazing young adults.

I chose to run for State Rep due to the threat of a one-party rule with so many democrats running unopposed. All my past experiences have prepared me for this opportunity, and I welcome the challenges that lie ahead if elected.

Utilizing all our fuel sources to become energy independent is important. I believe we should consider all that is available including solar and wind. However, my opponents share the same vision as our national leadership in that they want us to spend beyond what we can sustain to convert completely in an un-realistic time frame. This will cause further hardship for the people and their ability to heat their homes heading into the winter.



If YOU elect me as your State Rep, I will help to ensure safe communities for Franklin & Medway with a focus on Public Health, Public Safety, Veteran's Affairs, and the Elderly.

I am Charles Bailey, and I am of the people for the people, not above. I have spent a lifetime serving my country, community, and family. I have been in many of your homes and cared for your loved ones in their time of need. I care about the things that you care about and not furthering anyone else's political agenda. I am committed to representing YOU on Beacon Hill for two years, not my own political aspirations. Can my opponents commit to the same?

I am asking for your VOTE so that I can represent YOU on Beacon Hill...thank you

Charles Bailey

www.charlesbaileyforstaterep.com

# The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

### Jumpstart Your Cosmetology Career with b.LUXE Hair and Makeup's Premier Apprenticeship Program

### By GINA WOELFEL

Are you an aspiring beauty professional eager to establish yourself in the field of cosmetology? Consider the exceptional apprenticeship opportunities offered by b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio in Medway, MA. As the state's top Googlerated salon and a two-time Salon Today 200 Honoree, b.LUXE is renowned for its commitment to excellence in the beauty industry. They're now opening their doors in collaboration with the Massachusetts State Board of Cosmetology to the next generation of beauty experts through their apprenticeship program, designed to provide hands-on experience, top-tier education, and an accelerated path to licensure.

### The Apprenticeship Advantage

b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio, owned by industry veteran Heather Cohen, is more than just a salon. It's a training ground for future beauty professionals. "I work closely with our apprentices to ensure they receive a complete education that builds off what they've learned from cosmetology school. We employ a director of cutting, Sandra Wilkey, and a director of color education, Andrea Rees, to further mentor our apprentices and junior stylists. Our staff is also incredibly

supportive, and work as a team to bring the next generation through successfully," Heather explains. "Early in my career, a well-known Boston salon owner took me under their wing and shared their talent and business knowledge. I received such wellrounded training. I love sharing what I learned." The studio offers comprehensive apprenticeship programs in collaboration with the Massachusetts State Board of Cosmetology. These programs allow participants to gain real-world experience, refine their skills, and earn up to 400 hours towards their 1,000hour licensure requirements while still in school.

The b.LUXE Apprenticeship Program caters to the education and career of future cosmetologists, providing three distinct paths to success.

### 1. MA Cosmetology Apprenticeship Program

For current students enrolled in a Massachusetts State Board of Cosmetology accredited beauty school, this program is a game-changer. By working at b.LUXE, students can earn up to 400 hours towards their licensure, bridging the gap between classroom learning and professional practice. This time-saving opportunity not only accelerates the journey to becoming a licensed cosmetologist but also ensures that students gain in-



valuable hands-on experience in a real salon environment.

### 2. The Shop Employed Student Program

Balancing school and work can be challenging, but b.LUXE makes it easier for students to do both. This program allows students to work at the salon after school, offering real-time client interactions, ongoing education, and hands-on training. It's the perfect way for students to apply what they've learned in school while continuing their formal education.

### 3. b.LUXE Apprenticeship Program

Designed for recent graduates, this program offers a seamless transition from the classroom to the salon floor. Participants can build on the knowledge they've gained in school by working at b.LUXE in a structured, supportive environment. With one-on-one training from industry leaders and access to the best educational resources available, graduates can elevate their skills and grow their careers in a setting that nurtures creativity and expertise.

### Why Choose b.LUXE?

b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio stands out not only for its accolades but also for its dedication to fostering the next generation of beauty professionals. The studio's commitment to education is evident in its weekly training sessions, hosted by leading experts in the industry. Apprentices at b.LUXE benefit from personalized guidance and a comprehensive training program that prepares them for success in the competitive world of cosmetology.

As Heather Cohen, the owner of b.LUXE, explains, "Our unique learning opportunities are designed to help students thrive during their school years, after school, or post-graduation. We're excited to collaborate with cosmetology schools and help shape the future of talented cosmetologists."

# Take the Next Step in

**Your Beauty Career** 

**Jumpstart Your Beauty** 

Career at b.LUXE

If you're currently enrolled in a board-accredited cosmetology school in Massachusetts, or if you've recently graduated, the b.LUXE apprenticeship program is your chance to gain the experience and education you need to succeed. With a reputation as the best in the state, b.LUXE offers an unparalleled environment for aspiring cosmetologists to grow, learn, and excel.

Whether you're still in school or just starting your career, b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio is the place where passion meets professionalism. Embrace this opportunity to transform your cosmetology dreams into reality with the guidance and support of the best in the business.

Visit bLUXE.com to learn more about the program and take the first step towards a bright future in the beauty industry.

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# Youth Leadership Opportunities Expand as Part of 'SUP Medway Prevention Programming

Building off last year's success, 'SUP Medway offers even more free programs and leadership opportunities for Medway students.

"Last year was a great success for our youth programs, especially the 'Friday Night Done Right' monthly drop in program, which saw a fantastic turnout," said Gabrielle Giannelli, 'SUP Medway's Prevention Program Coordinator. Other efforts involved training and taking several young people to the State House on two different occasions to advocate for important policy changes, a major highlight for us."

And this year, 'SUP Medway – short for Substance Use Prevention in Medway - is offering even more fun and exciting programs that align with its mission to create healthy conditions so young Medway residents/students do not engage with drugs like Alcohol and Nicotine.

This year, the coalition is expanding options for skill building and field trips for high school students through 'SUP Student Division. These young coalition members are invited to "be at the decision-making table on how to improve the environment and reach your peers," according to a flyer sent to students recently. "There are opportunities to advocate for policy change, run programs, create connections, use your creativity, and gain skills. All while making a difference, boosting your resume, completing community service hours, and potentially earning an outof-state trip."

Within the Student Division of SUP Medway coalition, young people are plugged into at least one of three year-long activities: the student-led local project team, the District Attorney's Peer Leadership Program, and/ or a state-wide policy training and action program.

The goal for student-led community projects and events is to find a way "to support peers who are trying to quit vaping or how to discourage underage drinking."

The Norfolk County District Attorney's Peer Leadership program is a year-long initiative focusing on building leadership skills through community engagement, teamwork, creativity, and responsibility. Students will



In May, some of the Friday Night Done Right youth took an end-of-year field trip to Supercharged Entertainment. Medway youth in grades 5-8, who attended three or more Friday Night Done Right drop-in sessions, were eligible to attend the free field trip and participate in bumper cars and a Ninja course; 29 eligible youth attended. Courtesy photo

learn the functions of the court system, healthy relationships, the dangers of substance use, and distracted driving. The Peer Leaders will meet virtually on a monthly basis, volunteer in the community, and then celebrate their accomplishments at the Peer Leadership Conference at Gillette Stadium in April.

The MAPC (Massachusetts Alcohol Policy Coalition) policy program is a chance for students to learn from experts including Dr. David Jernigan, an internationally recognized expert on alcohol policy and Professor of Health Law, Policy and Management at Boston University, School of Public Health. Youth will complete a series of trainings culminating in a visit to the State House where youth will educate their legislators about the impact alcohol is having on their lives.

While participating in 'SUP Medway programs, high school students can earn a chance to participate in a summer training conference in Nashville, accompanied by 'SUP Medway staff.

"We are thrilled to truly engage students in the full range of prevention work including conference training opportunities." says Coalition Leader, Stephanie Simeon. The coalition plans to take engaged high school students to a CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coaltions of America) training conference where they will be able to learn from experts and meet other student leaders from across the nation to gain ideas to bring back to Medway the following year.

For middle school students, the Friday Night Done Right drop-in program is back, as is the HYPE: Healthy Youth Empowerment group.

Friday Night Done Right is a fun-filled youth drop-in program designed for Medway residents in grades 5-8. Held monthly at the Medway High School from 6 to 8 p.m,. Youth can enjoy meeting a therapy dog, lawn games, arts & crafts, sports, and social time with their peers. Plus, food is provided. The casual, drop-in setting is a perfect opportunity for youth to build friendships, explore new hobbies, and run off some energy—all in a supervised setting!

HYPE: Healthy Youth Empowerment is an after-school group for middle schoolers designed to inspire and empower young leaders. This exciting

### 'SUP Medway has been in existence since 2021. Last school year:

- Friday Night Done Right program debuted with 57 attendees on the first night, then averaged 35 attendees per drop-in
- 29 eligible youth from Friday Night Done Right participated in an end-of-year field trip to Supercharged, where they had fun with bumper cars and a ninja warrior course
- Four students traveled to the State House on two occasions
- 5 High School students ran Project Sticker Shock in partnership with local retailers.

Friday Nights Done Right organized by 'SUP Medway and partners is a free drop in program for Medway youth in grades 5-8.

This year's dates are:

Oct. 25 Nov. 22 Dec. 13 Jan. 24 Feb. 28 March 28 April 11

This year, if youth participate in five or more Friday Night Done Right Drop-ins, they will be eligible for a free, end-of-year field trip. Last year, 29 eligible youth participated in a field trip to Supercharged where they had fun with bumper cards and a ninja warrior course.

To register, visit bit.ly/FridayNightDoneRightRegistration.

extracurricular equips students to encourage healthy choices among their peers and have fun while doing it! For details and sign up for each of the youth programs, visit the coalition website, www.SUPMedway.com or email info@supmedway.com. In addition to these offerings for students, 'SUP Medway does other prevention activities and education for parents and the Medway community. More information can be found at www. SUPMedway.com.

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# **Living Healthy**

# **The Future of Eye Care: A Revolution in Ophthalmology**

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

Ophthalmology, the medical field dedicated to eye health, has witnessed remarkable advancements in recent years. These innovations are reshaping the landscape of eye care, offering patients improved outcomes and more accessible treatment options. With the increasing prevalence of eye disease driven by factors such as aging populations, lifestyle changes, and technological advancements. These breakthroughs are also crucial for addressing global eye health challenges.

### **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**

One of the most significant developments in ophthalmology has been the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning. These technologies are

Ontical

revolutionizing eye diagnosis by providing faster, more accurate, and often more objective assessments. AI algorithms can analyze vast amounts of data, such as retinal images, to detect early signs of diseases like diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration. This early detection allows for timely intervention, potentially preventing vision loss. For instance, Google's DeepMind has developed an AI system capable of diagnosing over 50 different eye diseases from a single OCT scan.

### **Gene Therapy for Inherited Retinal** Diseases

Gene therapy, a technique that involves introducing functional genes into cells to treat genetic disorders, has shown great promise in ophthalmology, particularly for inherited retinal diseases. These conditions, often caused by genetic mutations, were once considered incurable. However, advancements in gene therapy have opened new possibilities for restoring vision or halting disease progression. Luxturna, approved by the FDA in 2017, was the first gene therapy for an inherited retinal disease, offering hope to patients with Leber's congenital amaurosis. Researchers are now exploring gene therapies for other retinal diseases, such as retinitis pigmentosa and choroideremia, expanding the potential benefits of this technology.

### **Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery** (MIGS)

Glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness, is characterized by increased intraocular pressure. Traditional surgical treatments



for glaucoma often involve invasive procedures with long recovery times. Minimally invasive glaucoma surgery (MIGS) has emerged as a less invasive alternative, offering quicker recovery, fewer complications, and improved patient satisfaction. MIGS devices, such as the iStent and Hydrus Microstent, are designed to enhance the eye's natural drainage pathways, reducing intraocular pressure without the need for large incisions. MIGS can often be performed in conjunction with cataract surgery, providing a comprehensive solution for patients with both conditions.

### **Advanced Intraocular** Lenses (IOLs)

Cataract surgery, a common procedure to remove a cloudy lens and replace it with an artificial lens, has been transformed by advancements in intraocular

lens (IOL) technology. Modern IOLs can now address a variety of vision problems, including astigmatism, presbyopia, and myopia. Multifocal and extended-depth-of-focus (EDOF) lenses allow patients to achieve clear vision at multiple distances without relying on glasses. Toric IOLs can correct astigmatism, reducing the need for corrective eyewear.

### **Corneal Cross-Linking for Keratoconus**

Keratoconus, a progressive eve condition that causes the cornea to thin and bulge, can lead to significant vision impairment. Corneal cross-linking, a procedure that strengthens the cornea using ultraviolet light and riboflavin, has been a game-changer

> **EYES** continued on page 13





Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.

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**MILFORD OFFICE** 160 South Main St. 508-473-7939

730 Main St. 508-528-3344 **SURGERY CENTER MILFORD** 145 West St. 508-381-6040

# **Millis Lions and Leos to sponsor** 'Field of Flags'

On Veteran's Day 2024, Millis will honor its veterans with a "Field of Flags" displayed in front of Town Hall. All money raised will benefit Fisher House Boston. Flags are \$10 each.

The Millis Lions and Leos are proud to support Fisher House Boston and hope to display 1,000 flags. Please help support these men and women who have sacrificed so much by buying a flag(s) in honor of, or in memory of, a Veteran.

Form and more information at bit.ly/MillisFieldofFlags2024. Forms are due back by Nov. 3.

> The "Field of Flags" in front of the Millis Veterans Memorial Building in 2023. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp



# Millis flu clinics on Oct. 10 and Oct. 12

Millis Board of Health will be hosting two flu clinics this year. There will be a clinic at the Council on Aging with High-Dose Flu vaccine available on

Thursday October, 10 at 10am-12pm. The second will be at the Veterans Memorial Building (standard dose flu vaccine only) on Saturday October 12

at 10am-12pm. Please visit the Board of Health page on millisma.gov to register.

### **EYES**

#### continued from page 12

for patients with keratoconus. By halting the progression of the disease, corneal cross-linking can help prevent vision loss and reduce the need for corneal transplants.

### **Teleophthalmology: Remote Eye Care** Delivery

The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of telemedicine, including in ophthalmology. Teleophthalmology, which allows for remote eve care consultations and follow-ups, has become an essential tool for ensuring access to care, especially in underserved areas. Remote eye exams, coupled with homebased diagnostic tools, enable patients to monitor their eye health without frequent in-person visits. Teleophthalmology platforms, equipped with AI-driven diagnostic tools, can triage patients and prioritize those who require urgent in-person care, optimizing clinic resources and improving patient outcomes.

### Conclusion

The future of ophthalmology is bright, with ongoing advancements in technology and treatment options. These innovations are not only improving the quality of care but also making it more accessible and affordable

for patients worldwide. As the field continues to evolve, we can expect to see even more groundbreaking developments that will revolutionize eye care and preserve vision for generations to come.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center we are a leader in the field of ophthalmology, dedicated to providing cutting-edge eye care solutions. By embracing the latest advancements in technology, such as AI-powered diagnostics and minimally invasive surgical techniques, we are at the forefront of the future of eye care. Our commitment to patient satisfaction, coupled with our expertise in a wide range of eye conditions, makes us a trusted choice for patients seeking comprehensive and personalized eve care. With 50 staff, 4 locations, including a state-of-the-art surgery center offering advanced surgical eye care, there is no need to travel anywhere else for your medical and surgical procedures. All surgeries are staffed by anesthesiologists (compared to officebased surgery models where no anesthesia whatsoever is present during your surgery). We do not perform office-based cataract surgery and do not charge out-of-pocket fees for using our operating room. If you are being referred to a center that performs office-based cataract surgery and charges you fees, call us. We are available for a second opinion.

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# **Medway Council on Aging Programs: October 2024**

### **Healthy Eating Sessions**

Join us for a series we are offering this fall as part of our "Fall into a Healthier Lifestyle" initiative. The workshops, presented by Therapy Gardens, will focus on healthy cooking and eating! Sessions will be held on Wednesdays starting at 10:00 AM. The cost for the 3 part series, which will include samples) is \$25.00.

Space is limited so sign up early. October 9th - How to Follow the Mediterranean Diet

Specific tips, strategies, and recipes to help you reap the benefits of this simple yet powerful diet that is proven to help prevent cancer, heart disease, and diabetes.

November 13th - Become a

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Learn more here: wbahomes.com

Emails at: careers@wbahomes.com



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December TBD - Healthy Eating on a Budget

Discover practical tips and strategies to embrace healthy eating without breaking the bank. Uncover smart ways to save money while still enjoying nutritious and delicious meals, both when cooking at home and when ordering out.

October 15th 1:00 PM-Learn tips for recognizing the differences between agerelated forgetfulness vs. more serious cognitive diseases, including dementia.

Join us for an educational seminar providing insight into how memory is affected as you age and learn helpful tips for recognizing signs and symptoms, as well as ways to help slow down this decline.

Trust and Estate presentation from lawyer Paula Nedder - October 24th 1:00 PM. Event is free but please sign up for planning purposes. 508-533-3210

### **SNAP** Assistance

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) offers help to pay for the increasing cost of groceries. If your income is less than \$2,510 per month for a single person or \$3,407 for a two-person household, you may qualify.

The Outreach team can assist with filling out the application. Seniors, families, and anyone in the community who meets the criteria can apply. 508-533-3210

### Metrowest Veterans' Services

Do you need information about or assistance with the benefits you are entitled to as a Veteran? Call 508-429-0629 to schedule an appointment to meet with Veterans Service agent, Richard Sabounjain. He is at the Center on Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

#### Weekly Exercise Classes Monday

9:30 AM Dance Cardio \$5 11:00 AM Strength Exercise \$4 Tuesday 11:00 AM Line Dancing \$4 12: 30 PM Strength & Power \$5 (New Class) Wednesday 9:30 AM Yoga \$3 11:30 AM Sword Tai Chi \$10 1:00 PM Chair Exercise \$3 Thursday 11:00 AM Zumba Exercise \$5 Friday 12:20 PM Chair Exercise \$3

# Millis residents: Are you registered with Smart-911?

# Confirm enrollment, option to add text or email

Be prepared for any town emergency by giving the Town of Millis the information it needs to better help and communicate with you.

If you had previously subscribed to the SwiftReach911 system - and are currently receiving call alerts – then your information has been imported into the new system and you do not need to sign up again. If you are not currently receiving messages and/or want to add text messages or email notifications, please visit bit. ly/MillisSmart911

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Town Administrator at (508) 376-7040.

Source: millisma.gov

# Medway Garden Club Oct. program will be hypertufa project

The September meeting of the Medway Garden Club was informative and well-attended with guest speaker Gretel Anspach. The 2024-2025 Officers were installed, including our returning President Nancy Vinton, Vice President Ruth Zide, Secretary Lisa Sarno-Bowen, Treasurer MaryAlice Kenney, and Corresponding Secretary Teresa Shultz-Jones.

The next meeting on Oct. 8 will feature our members and guests doing a hypertufa project—an exciting hands-on way to add a keepsake to your garden in a shape of your choosing. This special meeting will be held at the Medway Community Farm located at 50 Winthrop St. in Medway. Feel free to contact The Medway Garden Club via our Facebook page or e-mail if you would like to join us for details and a list of materials needed.

The club's mission is to support fellow gardeners from beginners to the seasoned. It provides a social and educational experience for members as well as garden-related civic development in the town. Currently, in cooperation with the Town, the club plants and maintains areas at the library, the police and fire stations, and the islands at the intersections of 109 and Holliston Streets.

The club meets on the second Tuesday of the month and new members are always welcome. For more information, visit @ MedwayGardenClub on Facebook or email MedwayMaGardenClub@gmail.com.

# Medway Diwali Festival Oct. 26

Medway's Diwali Festival will take place on Oct. 26 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Medway High School. The third annual Celebration of the Festival of Lights will be a family-friendly night of vibrant music, dance, henna, storytelling, lamp painting, and a spread of Indian delicacies in celebration of the triumph of light over darkness.

Admission is \$5 per person or \$20 for a family of five. For more information, visit www.medwaydiwalifest24.rsvpify.com



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Call **508-533-3300** today to schedule a tour and experience it for yourself.

# Medway to pursue design funds for new public safety and municipal complex

The Town of Medway is seeking residents' participation in an important Town Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 7PM, in the Medway High School Auditorium at 88 Summer Street. During this meeting, the Town will vote on the design phase of the new Public Safety/Town Hall Complex, proposed to be built at 120 Main Street on the former Medway Block property.

This project is a key step toward improving the community's infrastructure by providing modern, efficient facilities for public safety services and Town operations in the central business district. With resident support, the design phase will move forward, bringing Medway closer to constructing facilities that will serve the needs of the community for years to come.

### Need for new facilities

At a recent meeting of the Medway Select Board, Board Members and the Town Man-



At a Medway Town Meeting on Nov. 12, residents will vote on the design phase of the new Public Safety/Town Hall Complex proposed to be built at 120 Main Street, the former Medway Block property. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

ager discussed the findings of two years of studies and reviews on this topic. At the center of the discussion was the recommendation put forth by the volunteer Facilities Study Committee that all three buildings, particularly the Fire & Police Stations, have reached the end of their useful life, do not meet the basic needs of public safety

**localtownpages** 

departments, and should be replaced. Insufficient space, a lack of required and appropriate facilities and resources for staff, severely lacking access for persons with disabilities, along with many other barriers and challenges were identified by the Facilities Study Committee as well as independent analysis done by the Town's architectural consultant Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects, Inc.

### Other considerations highlighting the need for new facilities:

Enhanced Safety: The new complex will house modernized facilities with much needed space for our police and fire departments, improving response times and emergency readiness, as well as supporting more effective overall operations.

Modernized Town Hall: A new Town Hall will streamline Town operations and provide improved services to residents in a centralized location.

Community Investment: This project represents a longterm investment in the future of Medway, fostering a safer and more efficient environment for residents and local government.

### An evolving and wellthought-out plan

In 2023, the Town con-

### Upcoming facility tours (open to public)

### **Medway Police Department**

315 Village St. Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Oct. 29 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. **Medway Fire Department** (Station 1) at 44 Milford St. and (Station 2) at 155 Village St. Oct. 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (simultaneously) **Medway Town Hall** 

#### Medway Town Hall 155 Village St.

Tour the building during regular business hours: Monday (7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.), Tuesday, Wednesday/ Thursday (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Friday (7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

For additional information, contact the Town Manager's Office at 508-533-3264.

ducted a feasibility study on the conditions, constraints, and challenges of our current Police, Fire, and Town Hall facilities. The newly acquired property

> **COMPLEX** continued on page 17



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### **Millis' State Primary Election unofficial results**

### 22% voter turnout at Sept. 3 election

#### BY THERESA KNAPP

A total of 22.33% of Millis' registered voters cast a vote in the Sept. 3 state primary election. According to the Town Clerk's results, Millis has 7,101 total registered voters and 1,586 ballots were cast.

As of press time, Millis' unofficial results from the Sept. 3 state primary election were as stated below.

### Democratic

Senator in Congress: Elizabeth A. Warren (1002 votes)

Rep. in Congress: Jake

#### Councillor: Muriel E. Kramer (328)

Auchincloss (990)

Senator in General Court: Rebecca L. Rausch (929)

Rep. in General Court: James C. Arena-DeRosa (678) Clerk of Courts: Robert L.

Jubinville (623) Register of Deeds: William

P. O'Donnell (831) County Commissioner: Jo-

seph P. Shea (803)

### Libertarian

Senator in Congress [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks

MedwayPublicSafetyTownHall-

### COMPLEX

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at 120 Main Street was selected as the ideal location that aligns with the Master Plan goal of creating a revitalized and walkable downtown, reflecting the desires of Medway's residents. In addition, it brings the Town's public safety facilities to a location that is virtually located in the center of the community. This is acutely important in establishing a proper response starting point for Fire and Ambulance operations to ensure that first responders can reach all parts of the town inside of established protocols. This was one of the key factors used by the Town in its deliberations of the purchase of the eight-acre former Medway Block site in 2022.

With the assistance of the Town Manager and Finance Director, the Select Board has developed an estimated funding scenario for the project that avoids a Proposition  $2^{1/2}$  override or debt exclusion. You can review this worksheet by visiting the town's website at bit.ly/

FundingScenario. Please note, the estimates include potential revenue from the battery energy storage system (BESS) projects proposed in Medway. If these funds do not materialize, the funding scenario will require reconsideration. The funding plan, while recognized as optimistic for new revenues, has been identified as a tremendous opportunity to address long-term facility needs without adding an undue burden on taxpayers.

### Upcoming video series

In early October, the Town will release a video series highlighting the results of the feasibility study and the immediate challenges posed by our current facilities. These videos will be available to watch on Medway Cable Access (Ch. 6 on Comcast or Ch. 35 on Verizon), and at new.medwaycable.com, and on Facebook @medwaycableaccess and @townofmedway, or the Town of Medway's You-Tube channel (@townofmedway).

For additional information, contact the Town Manager's Office at 508-533-3264.



Rep. in Congress [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks

Councillor [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks

Senator in General Court [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks Rep. in General Court: 1

write-in, 2 blanks Clerk of Courts [no candi-

dates listed]: 3 blanks

Register of Deeds [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks

County Commissioner [no candidates listed]: 3 blanks

### Republican

Senator in Congress: John Deaton (332 votes)

Rep. in Congress [no can-

didate listed]: 7 write-ins, 7 other, 482 blanks

Councillor: Francis T. Crimmins, Jr. (348)

Senator in General Court [no candidates listed]: 59 write-ins, 4 other, 433 blanks

Rep. in General Court: Marcus S. Vaugh (122)

Clerk of Courts [no candidates listed]: 4 write-ins, 6 other, 486 blanks

Register of Deeds: [no candidates listed]: 4 write-ins, 6 other, 486 blanks

County Commissioner: 5 write-ins, 10 other, 977 blanks

Once the election results have been certified, the offi-



Medway's official results from the Sept. 3 State Primary Election can be found online

cial results will be available at www.millisma.gov.

Source: www.millisma.gov/ home/news/2024-state-primaryelection-results



# **Sports Bigelow goes from Millis fan to girls' soccer coach**

#### By KEN HAMWEY STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Steve Bigelow is the new head coach of the Millis High girls' soccer team but he's no stranger to the school, the players, the program and the former coach.

The 45-year-old Bigelow, who's taught English at Millis



Steve Bigelow says one of his goals for the Millis girls' soccer team is "to qualify for the tourney and go as far as possible."

for 13 years, knows the student body and its student-athletes. He's also very familiar with the school's motto --- "Small school, big family."

Previously a teacher-coach at Brighton High School, Bigelow has watched a plethora of the Mohawks' matches and has great respect for Olivia Zitoli, who left coaching after four years to devote more time to her family.

"I've been a superfan of Millis' sports teams," Bigelow said. "I've taken my two girls to watch soccer and basketball games, and I attended many of Olivia's practices. We've had lots of discussions about styles, formations and strategies. She's a great role model and an excellent coach, and I'll listen to any advice she offers."

Bigelow spent 11 years teaching English at Brighton High before joining the Millis faculty. Brighton is also where he started his coaching career.

"I was a co-head coach for a year with the boys' varsity soccer team, then became a co-head coach with the varsity baseball team for eight years," Bigelow noted. "I played soccer at Needham High and I've also coached a girls' select team (grades 4, 5 and 6) for three years in Holliston's Youth Soccer program."

Bigelow doesn't think his transition to head coach will be difficult. "Being a teacher at Millis and knowing the players as students allows for a smooth coaching transition," he said. "I've watched this team as a fan for years and keeping Molly Breen as an assistant will aid in consistency for the players and

the program. Molly is one of Millis High's all-time best athletes."

Last year, Zitoli guided her squad to an 8-12-2 season that included two victories in the state tourney (Smith Academy and St. John Paul II) before bowing to Whitinsville-Christian. Bigelow hopes to build on that success in his rookie season but injuries have plagued the squad early on (11 starters have been available for only one of the first four matches). At Local Town Pages deadline, the Mohawks were 1-4.

"Our goals this year are to qualify for the tourney and go as far as possible," Bigelow said. "We also want to be consistently competitive in the Tri Valley League. And we want to work closely with the youth program [Millis Youth Soccer] to develop a good feeder system."

Six seniors graduated from last year's squad but Bigelow is upbeat about his team and its strengths.

"We'll be versatile in terms of speed, power and finesse," he offered. "Our players have a high soccer IQ, they're instinctive, athletic and coachable. Our team chemistry is also a plus. We'll be a gritty, hardnosed squad that will adapt and be difficult to play against. Our challenge will be replacing defenders on the back line. Three of the four have graduated."

Millis' three captains are all seniors with top-notch leadership skills. They include Olivia Fong (center fullback), Lindsey Grattan (midfielder), and Riley Sullivan (midfielder/defender).

"Olivia is tough, has great technical ability and sees the field well," Bigelow said. "An excellent communicator, she's instinctive and tasked with marking our opponents' best players. Lindsey's speed is unmatched. She's tenacious on full field runs and has very good crossing and passing ability that sets up scoring opportunities. Excellent in transition, she adjusts quickly and likely will get playing time at striker."

"Riley is a high IQ player



The captains for the Millis girls' soccer team are, from left, Olivia Fong, Riley Sullivan, and Lindsey Grattan.

with good spacial awareness and positioning. An incredible team-first player, she's solid in transition and gets her teammates involved. On defense, she's a good decision-maker and has a keen understanding of formations and alignments.'

Another key is sophomore goalie Ella Maher, labeled by Bigelow as "one of the best goaltenders in the TVL."

"Ella has excellent instincts. isn't afraid to come out of the goal, plays the angles well and clears effectively," Bigelow said. "She's good with the ball at her feet and she's decisive in traffic. Willing to dive for a loose ball, she has no weaknesses. As a freshman, she helped the team win a penalty-kick shootout against St. John Paul II in the tourney."

Bigelow has only two juniors on the team — Rylee Silvia (central midfielder) and Maddie Steiner (wing, midfielder). "Both have taken a more active role in the team this year, contributing in practice, team building, and on the field," Bigelow said.

The coach also said, "I'm fortunate to have to have such a strong upper-class group for the underclassmen to observe and learn from. This group as

a whole has jelled and been a joy to coach. They work hard at practice, support and push one another, and celebrate each other's successes.'

Bigelow, whose degrees are from Colby College (English major) and Boston College (education), has an interesting coaching philosophy.

"I believe players reach their maximum potential when they feel challenged, validated and respected, and are part of something bigger than themselves," he emphasized. "Small school, big family' is our motto and that drew me to Millis. It's that mentality that I want to resonate with our program top to bottom."

Bigelow also wants his players to learn valuable life lessons during their athletic journey. "Sports teach kids how to overcome adversity and how to be resilient," he said. "And sports also teach players how to be leaders and quality teammates."

Steve Bigelow has been a loyal fan of the girls' soccer program at Millis and now, as its coach, he's eager to help the team bounce back from a slow start and move in the right direction.



**1292** Washington St., Holliston villageautosvc.com

# **Sports**

# Protect yourself from scams and fraudulent schemes

The Federal Bureau of In- complaint with your local/state vestigation (FBI) has a list of 14 common fraud schemes on its "Scams and Safety"1 web page, including credit card theft. The thief makes small purchases with your stolen credit card number and sees if they go through, if they do, then they hit your account for bigger purchases. You should have an email, text message, or phone alert set up with your credit card company, so that the bank will contact you if there are any unusual spending items, if there are illegitimate charges, you must report to the bank as soon as possible so you won't be charged for those items. The bank will lock your account and send you a new card in the mail. This can be frustrating when you have set up monthly withdrawals to be charged against your card. You'll have to go to those companies' websites and change the card numbers you use for those charges.

### How to protect yourself from Internet scams and fraudulent schemes.

The FBI says protect your computer<sup>2</sup> by keeping systems and software up to date and install a strong reputable anti-virus program. Also, keep vour operating system up to date, and turn your computer off when it's not in use. You will pay a yearly fee for antivirus, antispyware, and firewall software services, but the safety they provide makes it well worth the cost. Be careful when connecting to a public Wi-Fi network and create a strong and unique passphrase for each online account you hold and change them regularly. If you've been the victim of a scam, file a police department's cybercrime unit and file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3).<sup>3</sup>

### **Forewarned is** forearmed.

The more you know about escams and fraudulent schemes, the safer you will feel. Another way to protect yourself is by going to the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC's)<sup>4</sup> website. Its function is to protect America's consumers by educating and taking consumer complaints on everything from identity theft to unwanted telemarketing solicitations by phone or by email. It runs the National Do Not Call Registry,5 which you should sign up for. Once you are on the donot-call list for at least 31 days, the calls/emails should stop, and if they don't then you can file a complaint with the FTC.

You can register each phone number that you have, and your registration won't expire. You can check the FTC's website if your phone number is still registered.5 Remember, it's not OK for companies to leave recorded voicemails on your phone, so you can file a complaint if you receive unwanted telemarketing robocalls. Once you are registered on the do-not-call list, it's illegal for those telemarketers to continue to call you. Use your common sense. If you don't recognize the area code or the phone number on your caller ID, chances are it's a telemarketing call. Don't answer it, or if you do, insist that they take you off their call list.

To keep up to date on current scams that are plaguing consumers, the FTC has an email alert

system that you can sign up for.6 This educational, third-party

article is provided as a courtesy by Michael Damon, Agent, New York Life Insurance Company. To learn more about the information or topics discussed, please contact Damon Financial at (508) 321-2101.

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Sources

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https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/ articles/0108-national-do-not-call-registry or https://www.donotcall.gov

6 "Most Recent Scam Alerts," Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scamalerts



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# Medway residents honor patients''immense courage' with handcrafted gift to Dana-Farber Brigham Cancer Center at Milford Regional Hospital

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 pa-



Pictured, from left to right, are Salmon at Medway Humanitarian Group members Jim Pronko, Gina Colasacco, Joe Kasparian, and Les Farrington with Michael Constantine, MD, medical director of oncology at Dana-Faber Brigham at Milford. (Photo courtesy of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute)

tients 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 Mcllroy, 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-Faber 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, 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 Children'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.



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



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### **Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty Welcomes Simone Barros**

[Medway, MA] - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty is thrilled to announce the newest addition to our esteemed team, Simone Barros, a newly licensed real estate agent serving both Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Simone brings a fresh perspective to the industry, coupled with passion and a deep commitment to providing a positive, personalized experience for her clients.

A proud graduate of the University of Rhode Island, Simone has always been driven by a desire to help others. While new to the field of real estate, she's ready to use her energy and dedication to guide clients through every step of their home-buying journey. "I believe that real estate isn't just about buying and selling properties; it's about building trust and creating a positive experience for my clients," says Simone.

Simone's approach is personal, energetic, and focused on helping clients find their dream homes-whether they are firsttime buyers or looking to make their next move. She is excited to bring her unique perspective to Page Realty and assist clients in finding homes where they can create lasting memories.

"We are thrilled to have Simone join the Page Realty family," said Broker/Owner, Ellen Rao. "Her enthusiasm and client-focused approach align perfectly with our mission of providing personalized, top-quality service to the communities we serve."

Simone Barros will be working out of our Medway office and is ready to help clients throughout Rhode Island and Massachusetts find their perfect homes.

For all your real estate needs, trust Simone Barros and the Berkshire Hathaway Home Ser-



vices team to deliver exceptional service and results.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Tim Lumnah at 508.359.2331 or Marketing@ bhhspagerealty.com.

# **Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty's Jennifer DeLuca Earns Accredited Buyer Representative (ABR®) Designation**

[Medway, MA] - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty is excited to announce that Jennifer DeLuca has earned the prestigious Accredited Buyer Representative (ABR®) designation through the National Association of REALTORS®. This achievement demonstrates Jennifer's dedication to elevating her expertise in working directly with



homebuyers and ensuring a seamless and informed homebuying process for her clients.

The ABR® designation is awarded to real estate professionals who have committed to mastering the intricacies of representing buyer-clients in today's competitive market. With this specialized training, Jennifer has gained valuable insights into the latest trends and issues facing homebuyers, further enhancing her ability to guide clients through every stage of the home-buying process.

"Achieving the ABR® designation allows me to offer even more value to my buyerclients," said Jennifer DeLuca. "It's not just about finding the right property-it's about providing the knowledge and

PAGE

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hello

support they need to make the best decisions for their future."

Licensed in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Jennifer continues to deliver outstanding service to her clients, as reflected by her 5-star rating on Zillow. Her person-

> DELUCA continued on page 23



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For a free consultation, please call (508)-523-5890

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### **Recent Home Sales**

Date	Medway	Amount
09/18/2024	14 Sanford St. #54	\$450,000
09/18/2024	16 Jasmine Road	\$875,000
09/17/2024	4 Williams St.	\$615,013
09/12/2024	5 Summer Hill Road	\$619,900
09/12/2024	139 Main St.	\$560,000
09/07/2024	13 Hemlock Drive	\$579,000
09/05/2024	2 Homestead Drive	\$985,000
08/30/2024	174 Holliston Street	\$370,000
08/20/2024	28 Broken Tree Road	\$1.10 mil
Date	Millis	Amount
09/18/2024	3 Paddock Lane (0.59 acres)	\$330,000
09/05/2024	88 Glen Ellen Blvd.	\$940,000
08/30/2024	40 Baltimore St.	\$375,000
08/29/2024	13 Cedar Square	\$377,500
08/28/2024	30 May Road	\$1.10 mil

Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Local Town Pages

### DELUCA

continued from page 22

alized approach, combined with the advanced skills and resources gained through the ABR® program, ensures that buyers receive the highest level of representation.

"We are incredibly proud of Jennifer's ongoing achievements," said broker/owner, Ellen Rao. "Her commitment to her clients and her pursuit of professional growth sets her apart, and we are fortunate to have her as a key member of our team."

Jennifer DeLuca remains a trusted and top-performing agent, and Page Realty looks forward to supporting her continued success in helping homebuyers across Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Tim Lumnah at 508.359.2331 or Marketing@ bhhspagerealty.com.



# **Recent Home Sale**



The 3-bed, 2-bath, 1,682 square foot house at 4 Williams Street in Millis recently sold for \$615,013. Image credit: www.zillow.com

# **Over 430 homes sold!**



36 Lakin Street Needham \$2,724,950



53 Wingate Road, Holliston - \$799,900

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83 Eliot Street South Natick - \$1,900,000



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6 May Road New Construction - \$959,000



6 Litchfield Way Walpole - \$1,700,000

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