

## Rte. 85 Realty Corp. seeks permit for 191,000-sq-ft wholesale facility

**Residents ask Planning Board to deny 'second bite at the apple'**

By Theresa Knapp

In August, the Milford Planning Board denied a proposal by Rte. 85 Realty Corp. to build a 191,000-square-foot "wholesale facility with 200 associated parking spaces" on a 117-acre parcel of undeveloped land known as "0 East Main Street" near Wildwood Drive at the Holliston town line.

Rte. 85 Realty Corp., owned by Kevin Meehan of Mendon, is appealing the decision, and is now asking the Planning Board to approve the project with a special permit.

At a Planning Board meeting on Dec. 17, Town Planner Larry Duncan reviewed the developer's current application - which is nearly identical to the first but now includes a 350-foot sound barrier - and recommended its approval.

Duncan said the project is allowed in the Business Park



**Rte. 85 Realty Corp. has asked the Planning Board to approve a 191,000-square-foot wholesale facility at 0 Main Street near Wildwood Drive. Neighbors previously voiced concerns regarding noise generated from a 24/7 operation. At a meeting on Dec. 17, John Kusek of Bohler Engineering discussed the 350-foot-long and 15-foot-tall "highway grade wall" sound barrier proposed for the easterly perimeter of the loading area. Photo source MyMilfordTV**

Zone by special permit with approval from the board as long as it does not exceed 25% overall acreage which, in this case, is 10 acres.

Joseph Antonellis, at-

torney for the applicant, said the developer is requesting a special permit for the particu-

### PERMIT

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## Howard Street speed limit lowered to 25 mph



**Howard Street is picturesque with stone walls and many homes, old and new. The winding street presents challenges to drivers as it is narrow in many places. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp**

By Theresa Knapp

At its meeting on Dec. 16, the Milford Select Board voted to lower the speed limit on Howard Street from 30 mph to 25 mph.

Howard Street consists of two dead-end sections - one off South Main Street and one off Mellen Street. The winding roads are picturesque with stone walls and old and new homes. Currently,

there are no speed limit signs. The roads are about 1.5 lanes wide and are difficult to traverse as noted on a recent afternoon when waste cans were set in the street, construction vehicles and a waste disposal truck were trying to pass regular traffic, and a few residen-

### SPEED

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# Charles River Bank delivers a Merry Christmas for 40 children with The Salvation Army Angel Tree Program in Milford

Charles River Bank once again shared in the spirit of Christmas this year through their partnership with The Salvation Army of Milford's Angel Tree Program. The bank adopted 40 children, and through the generosity of the bank's employees and customers, all 40 children received many items on their wish lists including games, scooters, dolls, toys, educational gifts, sneakers, and coats. Marketing and Customer Engagement Coordinator, Michael Comalli, organized the yearly tradition for the bank by getting the children's lists from The Salvation Army and making sure each child was adopted and received the items from their wish lists.

"This program is always so rewarding and fulfilling,"

Charles River Bank President and CEO Derek Plourde stated. "Seeing the community come together to help local families and make sure children in our community have a happy holiday brings the true meaning of the season to life for us."

The Angel Tree program aims to help local families who are experiencing financial challenges make Christmas a special time for their children. Parents submit a wish-list for their children detailing their age, gender, clothing sizes and some games and toys they would like to receive. Local businesses and community groups adopt a certain number of children then donors select a wish-list and purchase the items requested.

*Submitted by Charles River Bank*



(L-R) The Salvation Army Captain Kevin Polito, Charles River Bank President & CEO Derek Plourde, and Charles River Bank Marketing & Customer Engagement Coordinator Michael Comalli can be seen with the toys and clothing donated by bank customers and employees to The Salvation Army of Milford's Angel Tree Program. Courtesy photo

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# Citizens for Milford announces pre-election interview project

**A partnership with Town Clerk and Milford TV**

Citizens for Milford recently worked in partnership with the Town Clerk's office and Milford TV to complete a special edition of The Milford Informer titled "Get Ready to Run: Town Election 2025." Included in this special feature is a series of interviews with representatives of every committee, board, or position that will be on the Town Election ballot this coming April.

Town Clerk Amy Neves and Assistant Town Clerk Danielle Petrowski lead the program in an interview with Milford TV News Director Tim Caouette discussing what a resident needs to know to run for Town office. This segment is followed by interviews with 12 other elected officials explaining what one does as a member of the Select Board, School Committee, Town Meeting, Planning Board, Parks Commission, Board of Health, Housing Authority, Sewer Commission, Town Constable, Board of Assessors, Board of Library Trustees, and Trustees of Vernon Grove.

The full two-hour program is available to watch on Milford TV's YouTube channel at bit.ly/49udX1q. Discussion of the role and responsibilities of a Water Commissioner was recorded in a separate interview, which is available at bit.ly/3Dc99Sm. Residents who are interested in learning more about specific offices, such as School Committee or Town Meeting, can watch each inter-



**Citizens for Milford is a volunteer, nonpartisan, grassroots organization, which includes a diverse group of citizens who care about our community. Participation in their projects and events is open to everyone in Milford. For more information, visit CitizensforMilford.com**

view separately in the Citizens for Milford playlist on Milford TV's YouTube channel at bit.ly/4iskq13. Each individual interview runs 5-10 minutes.

"Citizens for Milford was so pleased to collaborate with the Town Clerk's office, Milford TV, and over a dozen Town officials to create this special pre-election program. We encourage all residents who are interested in becoming more involved in the community to watch and hear directly from the folks who do these jobs what it is like to serve in each of these elected posi-

tions," states Chair Geri Eddins.

Anyone with additional questions can reach out to current officeholders to learn more. Contact information for every current department and official is included on the Town website MilfordMA.gov.

In addition to the YouTube links, Milford residents can watch the full interview program, as well as the individual interview videos, in Milford TV's daily programming on the Milford TV public channel (Comcast 8 | Verizon 38) and Verizon channel HD 2140. The schedule is available on the Milford TV website (MilfordTV.net) by selecting the "WATCH" tab at the top. One additional option is to launch the videos from the links provided on CitizensforMilford.com by selecting "TOWN ELECTION 2025" at the top.

The Town Clerk's office has announced that nomination papers for all elected offices in Milford's April Town Election, including Town Meeting members, will be available Jan. 6, 2025. The Town Clerk recommends that anyone interested in running for an elected position, including Town Meeting, should reach out to their office in advance so they can prepare the nomination papers for you. Residents can send email to townclerkoffice@townofmilford.com and call the Town Clerk's office at 508-634-2307.

## SPEED

*continued from page 1*

tial and commercial vehicles were parked on the street.

"Howard Street is not without its challenges," Milford Police Chief Robert Tusino said at the meeting, noting the angles of the road can be difficult. "And I get complaints from people who live on Howard Street so I think this is the first step in trying to mitigate those complaints."

"It's narrow," said Select Board member Thomas O'Loughlin. "When you first

come in, you have the farms, and people park too in the roadway when the weather is such that they're selling vegetables and things of that kind."

Select Board member Paul Mazzuchelli agreed and made the motion to reduce the speed limit based on Tusino's recommendation. "As you both said, it is a narrow road and it has a lot of curves too in some areas so anything we can do to help the safety of the neighborhood," said Mazzuchelli.

Tusino said the MPD will do an awareness campaign once the new speed limit signs have been installed.



Howard Street consists of two sections of dead-end roads, one off South Main Street and one off Mellen Street. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

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# Free Little Art Gallery on winter hiatus, art sought for spring display

The Milford Free Little Art Gallery has “gone into hibernation for the winter season,” according to the Milford Cultural Council’s Facebook page, and it will return in April.

In the meantime, the Milford Town Library is collecting artwork that will be featured in the

spring. To contribute to the gallery, which is located outside the library in the garden area, residents can drop off pieces at the library’s Reference Desk during winter regular operating hours.

For more information, visit @MilfordCulturalCouncil on Facebook.

**One of the last pieces of art to be added to the Milford Free Little Art Gallery before the gallery went into hibernation for the winter. According to the Milford Cultural Council Facebook page, this hand-drawn piece depicting a holiday home front was created by Kris McDermott. Source: Facebook @MilfordCulturalCouncil**



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ronment and will appreciate a gentle approach as he adjusts to his new surroundings. Bo loves to watch the world go by from his favorite perch, but don't be surprised if, after a while, he'll come seeking your company for some quiet companionship or a good chin scratch.

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# When is a good time for a Roth conversion?



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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In life, you often get second chances — and the same is true with investing. To illustrate: You might not have been able to contribute to a Roth IRA during your working years due to your income level, but you may get that opportunity as you near retirement, or even when you are retired — through a Roth conversion.

Why is a Roth IRA desirable

for some people? Here are the key benefits:

- **Tax-free withdrawals** — You put in after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA, so you can withdraw your contributions at any time, free of taxes and penalties. And if you've had your account for at least five years and you're at least 59½, you can also withdraw your earnings free of taxes.
- **No RMDs** — With a traditional IRA, you'll have to start taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — when you turn 73, or 75 if you were born in 1960 or later. But there's no RMD requirement with a Roth IRA — you can essentially leave the money intact as long as you like.
- **Tax-free legacy for your heirs** — When your heirs inherit your Roth IRA, they can withdraw the contributions without paying taxes or penal-

ties, and if the account has been open at least five years, they can also withdraw earnings tax free.

But even if you were aware of these advantages, you might not have been able to invest in a Roth IRA for much of your life. For one thing, you might have earned too much money — a Roth IRA, unlike a traditional IRA, has income limits. Also, a Roth IRA has only been around since 1998, so, in the previous years, you were limited to a traditional IRA.

As you approach retirement, though, you might start thinking of just how much you'd like to benefit from a Roth IRA. And you can do so by converting your traditional IRA to a Roth. While this sounds simple, there's a major caveat: taxes. You'll be taxed on the amount in pre-tax dollars you contributed to a traditional IRA and then converted to a Roth IRA. (If you have both pre- and after-tax dollars

in your traditional IRA, the taxable amount is based on the percentage of pre-tax dollars.)

If you have large amounts in a traditional IRA, the tax bill on conversion can be significant. The key to potentially lowering this tax bill is timing. Generally speaking, the lower your income in a given year, the more favorable it is for you to convert to a Roth IRA. So, for example, if you have already retired, but have not started collecting RMDs, your income may be down.

Timing also comes into play with the financial markets. When the market is going through a decline, and the value of your traditional IRA drops, you could convert the same number of shares of the underlying investments and receive a lower tax bill or convert more shares of these investments for what would have been the same tax bill.

Finally, you could lower your

tax bill in any given year by stretching out your Roth IRA conversions over several years, rather than doing it all at once.

You'll want to consult with your tax advisor before embarking on this conversion — but if it's appropriate for your situation, you could find that owning a Roth IRA can benefit you and your family for years to come.

Contact Mark today to discuss this topic or any of your financial goals.

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# Jan. 16 ZBA hearing to discuss 150-unit 40B apartment complex

## 38 units to be considered 'affordable'



An architectural drawing of the 150-unit, five-floor, 40B affordable housing building proposed at The Residences at Stone Ridge – Summit, the third and final phase of a project off Deer Street. Source: www.milfordma.gov/498/The-Residences-at-Stone-Ridge-Phase-III

By Theresa Knapp

On Jan. 16 at 6:35 p.m., the Milford Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a continued public hearing on the application of The Gutierrez Company of Burlington for a Comprehensive Permit related to Chapter 40B in relation to

an approximately 25-acre parcel of land at 400 Deer Street, known as "The Residences at Stone Ridge - Summit."

The applicant proposes to

**40B**

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# Milford Family & Community Network CFCE winter updates

Do you know that we hold free weekly, registered playgroups for children birth to age 5? These playgroups are a great way to spend time with your little one while meeting new people in the community. We just held our registration for the Spring Session but we are always looking for families to add to our waitlist. Please call the office if you are interested in joining us!

We have several upcoming programs in January for families with young children. We kick off the Spring Session of playgroups

on Jan. 27 with playgroups taking place in Milford and Hopedale, Mondays through Thursdays, through May.

The Winter Stroll on Jan. 15 will include a winter walk, story time and hot cocoa. Join us outside for some fresh air and fun!

Our monthly facilitator-led, round table discussion on parenting and families, Desserts & Discussions, will take place on Jan. 22.

On Feb. 4, we will visit our friends at The Cornerstone at Milford for some Intergenera-

tional Play. Our fun activity includes decorating cupcakes with the children and residents.

We will also be teaching our little ones about kindness at our Kind Kids program on Feb. 12, where children will create art projects to send to people in our community.

Pre-registration is required for all our programs. Call our office at 508-277-4981 or email us at [familynetwork@milfordma.com](mailto:familynetwork@milfordma.com). Don't forget to find, like and follow us on Facebook at Milford Family & Community Network CFCE.

## Hearts, Hugs & Hope:

### Cornerstone at Milford Alzheimer's Support Group

Join us Jan. 14, 6 p.m. at Cornerstone at Milford / Cutting-Edge Assisted Living and Memory Care, 11 Birch Street, Milford. This group is for caregivers and meet in person. They deal with Alzheimer's dis-

ease and how related dementia isn't easy. 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](mailto:jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com) for more information.

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# Decades of service to the community: Welcoming a new provider and exploring what's new in eye care for 2025

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

Milford-Franklin Eye Center has proudly delivered outstanding eye care to the community for decades. We are excited to announce that Dr. Mark Barsamian has joined our team as a vitreoretinal specialist and Chief of our Retina Service. Dr. Barsamian will see patients every Thursday in our Franklin office, enhancing access to advanced care for retinal disorders.

With locations in Milford, Franklin, and Millis, outreach services to Marlborough, and an award-winning surgery center in Milford, we are the leading provider of medical and surgical eye care in the region. Our dedicated team of 58 professionals, including experienced surgeons and four optometrists, is committed to providing comprehensive, high-quality care. As one of the few

ophthalmology practices in Massachusetts with a licensed surgical facility, we eliminate the need for patients to travel long distances for procedures like cataract surgery.

Dr. Roger Kaldawy, Medical Director of the Cataract Surgery Center of Milford, has completed over 30,000 cataract surgeries and introduced bladeless laser-assisted techniques to the area. He is among the first surgeons in New England to perform the iDose TR implant for glaucoma, an innovative drug delivery system recently featured on Boston's Channel 5. Dr. Kaldawy also holds distinctions in corneal transplantation and has trained numerous ophthalmologists in advanced surgical techniques.

Dr. Dan Liu, a fellowship-trained corneal specialist, brings expertise in cataract surgery with ORA technology, corneal transplants, kera-

toconus management, and glaucoma procedures. She provides comprehensive care for conditions like macular degeneration, diabetic eye disease, and dry eye. Dr. Liu is board-certified and an active member of professional ophthalmology organizations.

Dr. Barsamian, a board-certified vitreoretinal specialist, focuses on the medical and surgical management of retinal disorders. He completed a two-year surgical fellowship at The Ohio State University and is an active member of organizations like the American Society of Retina Specialists. Outside of work, he enjoys cycling and family activities.

Our optometry team includes Dr. Shalin Zia, who specializes in routine eye care, contact lens fitting, and managing eye diseases; Dr. Michael Adams, with expertise in corneal pathology and specialty



contact lenses; Dr. Donald Conn, who completed his residency in Ocular Disease and Primary Care and provides comprehensive eye care for

all ages; and Dr. Purvi Patel, a seasoned optometrist with ex-

### EYE CARE

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## MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER





Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.



Mark Barsamian, D.O.



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Michael R. Adams, O.D.



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**GOVERNMENT**  
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EYE CARE

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perience in diabetes, glaucoma, and public health. Together, they offer exceptional care for patients of all ages.

What's New in the Eye World for 2025?

The year 2025 marks a pivotal moment in the realm of eye care and ophthalmology, with groundbreaking innovations poised to revolutionize the way we diagnose, treat, and prevent vision impairments. From cutting-edge technologies to pioneering research, the landscape of eye care is undergoing a transformative shift.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) continue to play a pivotal role in enhancing the precision and efficiency of eye care. AI-powered diagnostic tools are becoming increasingly sophisticated, capable of detecting subtle signs of eye diseases like diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma,

and age-related macular degeneration (AMD) at earlier stages. This early detection empowers healthcare providers to intervene promptly, significantly improving patient outcomes.

In the realm of surgical procedures, minimally invasive techniques are gaining prominence. Femtosecond laser technology, for instance, is revolutionizing cataract and refractive surgeries, offering faster recovery times and enhanced precision. Additionally, robotic-assisted surgery is emerging as a game-changer, enabling surgeons to perform intricate procedures with unparalleled accuracy and dexterity.

Gene and stem cell therapies are also making significant strides in treating previously untreatable eye conditions. Researchers are exploring innovative ways to repair damaged retinal cells and restore vision in patients with inherited retinal diseases. While still in their early stages, these therapies hold the promise of transform-

ing the lives of countless individuals.

The integration of telemedicine into eye care has accelerated, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Remote consultations and monitoring allow patients to access expert care from the comfort of their homes, particularly beneficial for those in rural or underserved areas. Telemedicine also facilitates the sharing of medical images and data, enabling specialists to collaborate seamlessly across geographic boundaries.

In the realm of contact lenses, advancements in material science and design have led to the development of more comfortable and durable lenses. Smart contact lenses, equipped with sensors and microelectronics, are on the horizon, offering the potential to monitor vital health parameters like glucose levels and eye pressure.

As we navigate the future of eye care, personalized medicine is gaining traction. By analyz-

ing an individual's genetic makeup and medical history, healthcare providers can tailor treatment plans to maximize efficacy and minimize side effects. This personalized approach is particularly relevant for complex eye conditions like glaucoma and AMD, where treatment options vary widely.

In conclusion, the year 2025 marks a period of extraordinary progress in the field of eye care and ophthalmology. From AI-powered diagnostics to revolutionary surgical techniques and groundbreaking therapies, the future holds immense promise for improving vision and quality of life for individuals worldwide. As technology continues to advance and research breakthroughs emerge, we can anticipate a brighter future for eye health.

Why Choose Milford-Franklin Eye Center in 2025?

Our commitment to excellence, advanced technology, and patient-centered care sets

us apart. We provide world-class cataract surgery and advanced treatment options close to home, with results that rival major Boston centers. All surgeries are performed in our accredited surgical facility, never office-based, ensuring the highest standards of care and no additional out-of-pocket surgical fees. Our in-house optical shop crafts glasses while you wait, with new patients receiving a complimentary pair of select frames. We also offer after-hours, same-day emergency appointments, and Saturday availability to accommodate busy schedules.

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## Milford Police seek cadet applicants

The Milford Police Cadet Program is looking to recruit more cadets. This program is designed for 14 to 21-year-olds interested in a career in law enforcement. In this program, cadets meet at the station twice a month to do hands-on and classroom learning.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested, please visit [milfordpolice.org/cadets-program](http://milfordpolice.org/cadets-program) to fill out the application.

Source: [www.milfordpolice.org](http://www.milfordpolice.org)




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# Evergreen Learning Center celebrates the holidays



A wreath is presented each Christmas by Bellingham children attending the Evergreen Learning Center in Milford. Courtesy photo

# Saint Bridget School - Open House Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025

Saint Bridget School will be having an all school Open House on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We encourage your family to join us, tour our school, meet our teachers, and become acquainted with some of our SBS families.

Saint Bridget School is a private, Catholic school serving students in Preschool (age 2.9) through Grade 8 (age 14). Students reside in Framingham as well as fifteen surrounding towns in the MetroWest area and beyond. The school was established and formally dedicated on September 14, 1958. We celebrated our Blue Sapphire Anniversary last year, commemorating sixty-five years of educating students in an environment that emphasizes focus on "Faith, Community,

and Scholarship." Saint Bridget School has approximately forty-five faculty and staff including many volunteers comprised of parents and parishioners. In August 2024, Mr. James "Jimmy" Kelly transitioned into Saint Bridget's School as the new Principal, becoming the tenth Principal in the school's history.

The school is blessed with a rich heritage; it was initially staffed by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Archdiocese of Boston through the end of the 1973-1974 school year, when the order recalled the Sisters of Saint Joseph. The school sustained as a result of the support of many parishioners and three Sisters of Saint Joseph who were allowed to remain. Currently, the school is entirely supported and staffed by lay administration and faculty.



**SAINT BRIDGET SCHOOL  
FRAMINGHAM, MA**



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025  
10:30 AM - 12:30PM**

**PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8**

*Faith, Community, and  
Scholarship*

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TO  
REGISTER**



# OPEN HOUSE

# Stacy Middle School Second Trimester Honor Roll

Stacy Middle School Principal, Mrs. Caridad Lopez has announced Stacy Middle School's Honor Roll for Trimester One.

## PRINCIPAL'S LIST

### Grade 6

Alemnkia, Joshua; Barbosa, Olivia; Calzolaio, Jude; Carmo, Julia; Castro Tacuri, John; Colesano, Angelo; Day, Jacob; De Freitas, Icaro; De Oliveira, Natalia; Demeglio, Brody; DiVitto, Luca; England, Tanner; Ferreira, Tyler; Fogaca, Agatha; Grucelski, Jordyn; Hausmann, Cecily; Held, Anna; Hornberger, Blake; Johnson, Lillian; Jorge, Elizabeth; Karlin, Jillian; Kearnan, Clare; King, Daniel; King, Edgar; Knapp, Cassidy; Lema, Lisa; McLaughlin, Angelyn; Mendonca-Young, Rhea; Nelson, Leah; Nnyanzi, Matthew; Ojoseitan, Joshua; Paredes Ortiz, Danna; Rios, Noah; Sousa, Immanuel; Tessicini, Kelsie; Varner, Zina; Voss-Leal, Donovan

### Grade 7

Ateawung, Myra; Awaru, Avika; Brothers, Michelle; Connerney, Carter; Consigli, Rita; Cruz Morales, Zabryna; Cunningham, Brooke; Damata, Ava; De Oliveira, Sophia; DiGiallonardo, Brandon; Earl, Kendall; Falk, Liam; Falk, Nolan; Fonseca, Mason; Garay, Judah; Geoffroy, Cali; Healey, Brandon; Keenan, Makayla; Lima, Rhyanna; Long, Sophia; Macchi, Emma; McGovern, Kennedy; McGrath, Logan; McNeil, Keagan; Merrill, Colton; Metodiey, Georgi; Mojica, Solenn; Nnyanzi, John; O'Toole, Emmett; Paguay Cela, Zaima; Powers, Alexandra; Purtell, Melanie; Roderick, Logan; Silva Hughes, Isabella; Simonds, Mac; Sobers, Aria; Stokes, Madison; Theze, Christelle; Tomas, Aiden; Villa, Mey; Walthers, Audrey; Webster, Samuel; Wisa, Giovanni

### Grade 8

Aboalanin, Rami; Barbosa, Gabriella; Bien, Charlotte; Blackmar, Luke; Bourassa, Marcella; Brown, Jonathan;

Cales, Mila; Capuzziello, Dante; Carey, Emily; Connors, Reese; Da Cunha, Leticia; Da Silva, Mellany; De Faria, Miguel; De Oliveira, Emanuele; De Souza, Gabriel; Deans, Quinn; Dias, Julio Cesar; Duchi Quizpilema, John; Flanagan, Brian; Guikema, Emelia; Held, Colin; Hughes, Lily; Kearnan, Meghan; Knapp, Ella; LaTour, Cameron; Lefter, Anela; Martinelli, Dominic; Mauricio, Jordyn; McDavitt, Adrian; McDonald, Isabella; Murphy, Isabella; Oliveira, Beatriz; Padilla Munoz, Sebastian; Persico, Tessa; Prevelige, Leah; Reneau, Alexa; Saad, Samarah; Santomena, Mia; Silva, Ellen Kathleen; Vazquez, Emma; Vereker, Grant; Viera, Claire; Vootla, Aakash; Warren, Kinyia; Wright, Reagan; Wright, Riley

### HONORABLE MENTION

#### Grade 6

Alkass, Jad; Allegrizza, Harper; Assis, Mariana; Boccia, Carter; Boudreau, Ethan;

Burdierd, Sophie; Caguana Caguana, James; Cales, Selina; Chimborazo Guaman, Daira; Ciarametaro, Maxwell; Colwell-MacLeod, Melina; Costa, Arielle; Da Silva, Maria Luiza; De Araujo, Isadora; De Faria, Ana Carollina; De Souza, Eloar; De Souza, Samuel; DeJesus, Jayda; DeTore, Dylan; DiFava, MacKenzie; Dos Santos Arruda, Samuel; Duran Chapa, Shadeeza; Dutra, Davi; Folgar-Benitez, Vianca; Gilray, Kayden; Gonzalez, Joyce; Largo Loja, Juan; Luiz, Gabriella; Merrill, Amelia; Mitchell, William; Mittan, Chanel; Mojica, Harlynn; Molinari, Olivia; Monforte, Melissa; Murray, Timothy; Novelli, Kaira; Oliveira, Arthur; Oliveira, Emanually; Paiva, Sarah; Pereira, Ana Clara; Pereira, Livia; Pesantez Namina, John; Pierce, Marlee; Rivera, Sofia; Sena Da Matta, Sarah; Silva, Alicia; Soares, Rhyann; Taylor, Owen; Thomas, Shreya; Warren, Jacob; Warren, Kiara;

### Grade 7

Afonso-Veinotte, Ethan; Bullcock, Nola; Bush, Layla; Campos, Alicia; Canenguez Alfaro, Roberto; Carvalho, Kamilla; Castellanos Sandoval, Kristel; Cincotta, Regina; De Souza, Nicolas; DeTore, Cameron; Dupre, Kylie; Dwarampudi, Visishta; Gelmini, Samson; Gomes, Nathan; Goncalves, Kemy; Gonzalez Caraballo, Daniela Gross, Camden; Hanna, Samuel; Hukanovic, Mirza; Iacovelli, Grace; Lefter, Jayden; Mancina, Destinee; Mandrik, Cora; Mastroianni, Vincent; Miranda, Isabella; Mowry, Kayla; Mutegyeki, Neriah; Naulgler, Abigail; Oliveira, Alice Pala Loja, Loren; Perez Saucá, Lesly; Perry, Teagan; Pinto, Jackson; Reynolds, Jackson; Roderick, Cooper Sanampudi, Vikrant; Torres, Kiara; Underwood, Lily; Utino, Moara; Vieira, Luanna; Walker, Jack; Weiner, Christopher; Wilson, Jorge

### Grade 8

Abrantes, Benjamin; Asong, Rose; Barbosa, Melissa; Barrientos, Leah; Bertoni, Jessica; Bournazian, Madison; Bukenya, Nicholas; Calabraro, Anthony; Canto, Rebecca; Cloherty, Sheamus; Coelho, Alissa; Corbin, Jeffrey; Corkrey, Madalyn; D'Amico, Olivia; Ferreira, Madelynn; Freeman, Junior; Gusmao, Sara; Hausmann, William; Hawkins, Colin; Holland, Margaret; Karlin, Evan; Kearnan, William; Labonte, Larissa; Marin, Sophia; Marques, Jacob; Marques, Leticia; Moreira Ocampo, Hellen; Nashawaty, Kaylyn; Naves, Grace; Pellegrini, Santino; Prescott, Kiela; Puri, Grayson; Richard, Benjamin; Rivera, Lucero; Rodriguez, Aliyah; Seyfarth, William; Silva, Fabiane; Tint, Soe; Turner, Olivia



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# Start the New Year with Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Perhaps, after the cheerful festivities of the holiday season, navigating your basement or venturing into the attic has become a bit more challenging. Maybe you are planning to move, and you need to declutter before your open house?

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

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

Jay Schadler started his business in 2005. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with eight trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic,

or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

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

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

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

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

## Business spotlight

and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

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

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

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property



with care and respect.

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

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston. It's not uncommon

for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

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

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## 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

*Milford Town Library News*  
by Reference Department

### AARP Tax Aide Program

The AARP Tax Aide program returns again this year to help senior and low-income individuals file their income tax returns for free. We'll begin making appointments after Jan. 13, 2025. Trained volunteer preparers will be able to complete returns for the tax years 2024, 2023, and 2022. Please note, however, that separate appointments are required for each tax year. To schedule an appointment, call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

### Library Closed on MLK, Jr. Day

The Milford will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, 2025 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

### Milford Area Wordsmiths

Looking for a quiet, dedicated time and place where you

can write? Join the Milford Area Wordsmiths writers' group! We provide a safe place for adults (18+) to write and even share your work if you desire. All levels are welcome, from first-time writers to published authors. All genres are welcome, too, from picture books to romantasy to nonfiction.

Established in November, the group meets the first and third Monday of each month (except holidays) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Drop-ins are welcome. The Milford Area Wordsmiths will be facilitated by Carol Allen, a first-time writer of children's books, lifelong bookworm, and recently retired middle-school teacher. For more information, please call 508-473-2145, option 2.

### Cat Supplies Drive

The library will be hosting a winter cat supplies drive to benefit the Milford Humane Society from Jan. 6 - Feb. 14, 2025. Donations of wet and dry food, kitty litter and toys may

be dropped off in the collection bin at the library entrance. The library cannot accept bedding, blankets or towels.

Established in 1990, The Milford Humane Society is an all-volunteer, non-profit, no-kill shelter for stray and abandoned cats. While most cats are housed at the shelter, others are cared for in foster homes until space becomes available at the shelter. Admission to the shelter is not based solely on adoptability but on need. The motto of the Milford Humane Society is to share the gift of unconditional love with as many cats and kittens as possible. The society also welcomes other donations and has a wish list on Chewy. To learn more, visit milfordhumane.org.

### Dignity Matters Drive

We thank the community for a truly tremendous response to the menstrual products drive held in November to benefit, Dignity Matters. This Massachusetts based organization

provides period supplies free of charge to homeless and disadvantaged women. More than 57 packages of pads and tampons were donated totaling over 1700 individual items.

### English Classes

Free drop-in classes for adults who want to learn and improve their English begin on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025. Beginner classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 - 8 p.m. An intermediate class is held on Thursdays from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Classes are held on the lower level of the library in the ESL Classroom. Registration is not required. For more information, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

Las clases gratuitas sin cita previa para adultos que quieran aprender y mejorar su inglés comienzan el martes 14 de enero de 2025. Las clases para principiantes se llevan a cabo los martes y jueves por la noche de 7 a 8 p.m. Una clase intermedia se lleva a cabo los jueves de 5:30 a 6:30 p.m. Las clases se llevan a cabo en el nivel inferior de la biblioteca en el aula de ESL. No es necesario registrarse. Para obtener más información, llame al mostrador de información al 508-473-2145 x 2.

As aulas presenciais gratuitas para adultos que desejam aprender e melhorar seu inglês começam na terça-feira, 14 de janeiro de 2025. As aulas para iniciantes são ministradas nas noites de terça e quinta, das 19h às 20h. Uma aula intermediária é ministrada às quintas-feiras, das 17h30 às 18h30. As aulas são ministradas no nível inferior da biblioteca, na sala de aula ESL. O registro não é necessário. Para obter mais informações, ligue para o balcão de informações em 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

### Citizenship Preparation

Citizenship preparation will be offered on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. starting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025 in the ESL Classroom and continue through Monday, Feb. 24, 2025. Since individuals may be at various stages in their citizenship path, all interested participants should come to the class to consult with

the instructor to be screened. Using materials from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS), this preparation course will review the N-400 citizenship application, English and civics test and discuss the naturalization interview. To learn more, call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

### Center Book Group

The Center Book Group will be on winter hiatus during January and February 2025 and return on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center. The book selections for 2025 will be announced on the library website.

### Virtual Program: How Birds Created the World with Randi Minetor

Join author Randi Minetor for a free virtual program, How Birds Created the World and Other Stories on Monday, Jan. 13 at 7 p.m.

Birding expert Minetor will speak about her new book *The Complete Language of Birds* and draw on extensive research covering the science, mythology, folklore of our avian friends. A prolific author of more than 90 books including *Backyard Birding* and *Butterfly Gardening*, Minetor will make you see birds in new ways.

To register and get the Zoom registration link, visit the library's events calendar, milfordtownlibrary.org.

### Virtual Program: Encounters with Killers

Join Dr. Katherine Ramsland, a true crime author and forensic psychologist on Monday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.

Dr. Ramsland recounts her most memorable interactions with serial killers over the course of her life, describing how it shaped her career in forensic psychology. A *Pied Piper*, two *Coed Killers*, a *Candy Man's* handyman, and *BTK*, among others, have left their marks on her research and writing, both fiction and nonfiction.

To register and get the Zoom registration link, visit the library's events calendar, milfordtownlibrary.org.

# OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 26th  
Noon until 2:00 PM



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**PERMIT**

*continued from page 1*

lar use [wholesale facility and parking] and an application for site plan approval.

He said the applicant does not have a tenant in mind.

“As I stated in the last go-around, we do not have a tenant identified for the property,” said Antonellis. “This is a wholesaling facility with storage that means that it will primarily be one company that is distributing to subsidiaries.”

John Kusek of Bohler Engineering noted the addition of a 350-foot-long and 15-foot-tall “highway grade wall” sound barrier that would be installed

along the easterly perimeter of the loading area.

“It’s essentially what you see on the highway, those barriers, it’s not a cedar fence or something like that,” said Kusek. “It’s a heavy-duty structure that will block sound, there are no gaps or holes in it.”

Marc Wallace with Tech Environmental said the calculation used to determine the sound emanating from the site included idling trucks, rooftop equipment, building elevations, topography, site grading, and how it would affect the nearest homes on Wildwood Drive and East Main Street.

“When we did our analysis, a lot of the sound is either being blocked or being reflected away

from the homes,” said Wallace, adding the wall dimensions aim to replicate the sound of a Friday night at 1 a.m. or 2 a.m.

During public comment, residents reiterated concerns voiced the last time the issue was before the board.

Deborah Romero has lived on Wildwood Drive for 30 years and raised concerns related to traffic, sound, overall safety, and a specific concern that an Amazon warehouse could go into her small neighborhood. She is skeptical that the proposed sound barrier will be effective. She added, “I’m surprised that they get a second bite at the apple to come in here again for a special permit... This is changing the whole environment.”

“I just don’t think it’s fair, I think it’s not the right thing to do, and I’d like to ask you to deny it,” said Romero.

Ivy Nelson Kramer of East Main Street voiced concerns

about traffic.

Jim Flanagan of Whispering Pine Drive had concerns about the sound waves, noting the sound may be reduced by the wall but it will not be eliminated. He is very concerned about adding additional trucks on East Main Street where trucks already idle when traffic is heavy.

Joe Greska of Dogwood Lane has lived in the area for 45 years and suggested changing the entrance to the property.

Amer Ascic of Zain Circle said the 24/7 sound of backup alarms is unacceptable, adding, “That’s irrational to think that you can live in the house with such a sound. You have to rethink this.”

Theresa Benincasa of Zain Circle voiced concerns about trucks idling as they wait to turn onto the highway.

Steve Kramer of Zain Circle, one of the trustees for the neighborhood, said he was concerned

about the 24/7 operation.

“One wall may not do what you think,” he said and asked the town to consider a traffic light. “Getting in and out is ridiculous there.”

Jean Kramer of Zain Circle said, “There’s so much traffic in that area... We don’t need more trucks in that area.”

Wilson Valdez of Wildwood Drive said it often takes him 10-15 minutes to get onto Route 16 because of the heavy traffic. He said the sight lines are also difficult.

The public comment section ended with Flanagan urging the board to deny the special permit, saying, “I’m just asking you to represent the townspeople that have lived here for decades.”

After an hour-long meeting, the hearing was continued to Jan. 21 at 7:02 p.m.

To watch the full meeting, visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2vf\\_iYTjw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2vf_iYTjw).

## ‘Milford Library of Things’ offers many items perfect for winter months

With snowy weather in the forecast, did you know the Milford Town Library has a “Library of Things: Youth Collection” from which you can borrow a number of things to keep your family entertained?

Various items include snow molds, binoculars, cameras, games, puzzles of different sizes,

coding starter kit, creative fort kit, guide to the stars, parachute with colored balls, and much, much more. For a full list, and to reserve an item, visit [www.milford.cwmars.org/Record/4539242](http://www.milford.cwmars.org/Record/4539242).

There is also a separate list of board games at [bit.ly/MTL-boardgames](http://bit.ly/MTL-boardgames).

## BVT FY26 budget hearings scheduled

The Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District Budget Subcommittee has scheduled public meetings regarding preliminary plans for the FY2026 school budget.

The meetings are currently

set for Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, and March 13 when the final budget public hearing will take place.

The meetings will be held at BVT, 65 Pleasant St., Upton, in the Superintendent’s Confer-

ence Room, except the March 13 public hearing which will take place in the school cafeteria.

For more information, visit [milfordma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/\\_01232025-2889](http://milfordma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01232025-2889).

# Milford safety log

The Milford Police Department provided a wide range of services between Nov. 20 and Dec. 19 related to motor vehicle stops, traffic enforcement, community policing, disabled motor vehicles, vehicle collisions including hit and runs, erratic operators, parking violations, towed vehicles, suspicious motor vehicles, suspicious activity, road hazards, property checks, property damage, noise complaints, threats, disturbances and disputes, alarms, 911 misdials and hangups, k9 and drone deployment, suspicious persons, harassment, fraud, shoplifting and larceny, lost/found property, well-being checks, assist citizens and follow-up investigations, animal issues, funeral traffic, open doors, assist schools, family services, and court business.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Entries of note include:

### Police Department

**Nov. 23** at 6:56 a.m., Governors Way, drone deployment  
**Nov. 23** at 11:09 a.m., Grant St., threatening  
**Nov. 23** at 1:57 p.m., West St., missing person

**Nov. 23** at 8:13 p.m., Medway Rd., shoplifting. A 54-year-old Woonsocket male was charged with larceny under \$1200  
**Nov. 23** at 8:34 p.m., Prospects Hts., fight. A 40-year-old Worcester male was charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct, affray  
**Nov. 25** at 11:17 a.m., Medway Rd., stolen motor vehicle  
**Nov. 25** at 4:04 p.m., Dilla St., road rage  
**Nov. 25** at 6:29 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 30-year-old Norwood female was charged with larceny under \$1200  
**Nov. 26** at 7:31 a.m., Depot St., motor vehicle stop. A 50-year-old Milford male was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, using an electronic device while operating a motor vehicle (1st offense)  
**Nov. 26** at 3:15 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 27-year-old Milford female was charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise.  
**Nov. 26** at 6:05 p.m., Winter St., motor vehicle stop. A 32-year-old Milford male was charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended,

pedestrian violation  
**Nov. 27** at 11:26 a.m., Rosenfeld Park, gunshot response, checked and okay  
**Nov. 27** at 1:03 p.m., Cedar St., motor vehicle accident. A 24-year-old Milford male had an arrest warrant outstanding  
**Nov. 27** at 4:06 p.m., Water St., assault  
**Nov. 27** at 11:48 p.m., Water St., intoxicated person. A 29-year-old Mendon male was taken into protective custody  
**Nov. 28** at 11:14 a.m., Bragg Slip, unwanted person  
**Nov. 29** at 7:15 p.m., Purchase St., fire-smoke investigation  
**Nov. 29** at 10:49 p.m., Congress St., intoxicated person  
**Nov. 29** at 11:13 p.m., Medway Rd., fight, peace restored  
**Dec. 1** at 8:14 a.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop. A 33-year-old Milford male had an outstanding warrant  
**Dec. 2** at 7:17 p.m., Medway Rd., motor vehicle stop. A 57-year-old Ashland female was charged with failure to stop/yield, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle  
**Dec. 3** at 4:44 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 36-year-old Medway female was charged with shoplifting by asportation.  
**Dec. 3** at 5:40 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 49-year-old Franklin male was charged with two counts of shoplifting by as-

portation  
**Dec. 5** at 4:01 p.m., Deer St., motor vehicle accident. A 21-year-old Milford female was charged with operating a motor vehicle with a license suspended  
**Dec. 5** at 2:43 p.m., West St., disturbance. A 52-year-old Milford male was charged with disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a public employee, disrupting court proceedings, resisting arrest  
**Dec. 5** at 9:16 p.m., Prospect Hts., well-being check. A 34-year-old Ashland male was taken into protective custody  
**Dec. 5** at 10:33 p.m., Congress St., intoxicated person taken into protective custody  
**Dec. 6** at 8:08 p.m., Depot St., arrest. A 43-year-old Milford male was charged with assault and battery (spouse/girlfriend/boyfriend/etc.)  
**Dec. 7** at 6:06 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 34-year-old Attleboro male was charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise, shoplifting by asportation  
**Dec. 9** at 4:32 a.m., E. Main St., motor vehicle stop. A 59-year-old Milford male was charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended  
**Dec. 9** at 11:15 a.m., Winter St., motor vehicle stop. A 33-year-old Mendon male was charged with illegally attaching



number plates, uninsured motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle  
**Dec. 9** at 5:06 p.m., Veterans Memorial Dr., assault  
**Dec. 9** at 5:54 p.m., Countryside Dr., disturbance. An 18-year-old Upton female was charged with assault and battery  
**Dec. 10** at 9:18 a.m., Birch St., gunshot response, unable to locate  
**Dec. 11** at 11:40 p.m., Fortune Blvd., erratic operator. A 43-year-old Uxbridge male was charged with OUI liquor (2nd offense), unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, possessing open container of alcohol in motor vehicle  
**Dec. 12** at 8:53 p.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop. A 32-year-old Milford female was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle  
**Dec. 12** at 9:10 a.m., Main St., A 46-year-old Milford male was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, no inspection sticker  
**Dec. 12** at 9:18 a.m., Main St., follow-up investigation. A 61-year-old Mendon female was charged with forgery of check, identity fraud, utter false check, larceny over \$1200  
**Dec. 12** at 2:31 p.m., Main St., threatening. A 52-year-old Milford male was charged with intimidating witness/juror/police/court official, threat to commit crime, civil rights violation, criminal harassment  
**Dec. 13** at 1:09 a.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop. A 25-year-old Uxbridge female was charged with unlicensed motor vehicle, unregistered

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# Milford School News

## Important Dates:

Jan. 17 - Early Release day

Jan. 20 - No school - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Feb. 17-21 - No school - February Vacation

## Milford High School:

Sending some recognition to Mr. Tim Walsh, MHS Science Teacher, Kingston Rowlands (MHS '27), and Dylan Sparks (MHS '24). Mr. Walsh, Kingston, and Dylan have been collaborating over the past year on a science and engineering project, called "Creating an Adaptable Micropipette." The project aims to make the use of a micropipette tool in lab sciences more inclusive and accessible for people with range of motion challenges. They engineered and submitted this project to the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest, and were recently awarded a \$2,500 prize to be used for technology equipment and supplies in the classroom.

Their submission will now move on to compete in a statewide and national STEM contest. Congratulations to Mr. Walsh, Kingston, and Dylan for identifying a real world challenge, designing a solution, and working to make the field of

science more accessible and inclusive for all scientists!

## Stacy Middle School:

At Stacy Middle School, Mrs. Peterson (ELA) and Mrs. Spurling (ELD) have been teaching our newcomer students a unit on food. The students created their own restaurants, wrote a script that included how to order food, take food orders, and learned how to describe foods using adjectives (taste, smell, size, shape, and color). Teachers took the class to Rail Trail Flatbread Co. in Milford, to practice the real-world skill of speaking English in an American restaurant. Rail Trail provided a 15% discount on the bill. Students practiced budgeting for their meals, ordering in English, asking for their checks, and figuring out the tips. This was a fantastic "real world" learning experience for our students!

## Woodland Elementary:

On Dec. 13, many Woodland School staff members dressed in gear from their own college or university experiences. This was done to help show our students just a few of the many options they have for higher education. Along with this, for Fun Fact Friday, Principal McGovern shared that as students in the

Milford Public Schools they may have the opportunity to start taking college courses while they are in high school.

Woodland classrooms competed in an ST Math Challenge throughout December where they worked collectively to complete ST Math Bingo Cards. Classrooms that completed the challenge earned a PJ Day and visit from Jiji. Congratulations to all of the classrooms that completed this challenge!

## Brookside Elementary:

Congratulations goes out to our first three Brookside students to reach 100% of their ST Math Journey so early in the school year. Great job Emmett Karp, Lewis Hendron, and Alex Dias!

Brookside School Second Grade Teacher, Mrs. Shaughnessy, and MHS teacher, Ms. Flannery, join forces each week

and match MHS students with our Second Graders as reading buddies to assist them in developing their reading skills. Thank you for providing this great opportunity for our younger students to learn from some older peers.

## Memorial Elementary:

A heartfelt thank you from Memorial School to our incredible music department (Mrs. Samiagio and Mrs. Rohde) and art department (Mrs. Skiba and Mrs. Duarte) for organizing a fabulous "All School Holiday Share." Special appreciation goes to Mrs. Samiagio and Mrs. Rohde for their expert planning and showcasing our students' musical talents. Thank you to Mrs. Pomeroy and the MHS music department for performing and inspiring our students! We also extend our gratitude to Mrs. Vieira for her skillful

piano accompaniment, Mrs. Samiagio for her beautiful flute performance, and Mrs. Rohde for her wonderful conducting! Your dedication to our students' artistic development and this collaborative event is truly appreciated!

## Shining Star Early Childhood Center:

Shining Star wants to recognize a few students for their character. Here are the December Character Kid traits:

- Being Cooperative: Antony (Ms. Tomaso) and Mac (Mrs. Verdura);
- Showing Kindness: Gabriel and Maria (Ms. Pedersen) and Shayla and Livia (Ms. Tomaso)
- Showing Bravery: Jameson (Mrs. Verdura)
- Being Responsible: Jayden (Ms. Tomaso)

## History & Genealogy resources available at Milford Town Library

If one of your New Year's Resolutions is to learn more about your family history and genealogy, be sure to include Milford Town Library as a resource.

The library's Curran Historical Collection houses MTL's special collection of older town reports (starting in 1846), year-books, and cemetery records. There is also an extensive microfilm archive of the Milford Daily News (1851-present), Milford Journal (1852-1858, 1860-1918), Milford Gazette (1882-1903), and The New York Times (1851-1900).

Genealogy databases include HeritageQuest and Ancestry.com (Library Edition). Links can be found on the library website. HeritageQuest can be used



remotely but Ancestry must be used inside the library.


For Milford regional genealogy, residents can contact the Milford Historical Commission via the town website. Historic Milford images can be found online at [digitalcommonwealth.org/institutions/commonwealth:bg259590z](http://digitalcommonwealth.org/institutions/commonwealth:bg259590z).

The Milford Town Library collection is open to researchers during regular library hours. Patrons must sign in at the Information Desk, and leave identification and personal belongings with a Reference Librarian. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2 or by email via [www.milfordtownlibrary.org](http://www.milfordtownlibrary.org). Source: [www.milfordtownlibrary.org](http://www.milfordtownlibrary.org)

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## Recent Home Sales

| Date       | Milford             | Amount    |
|------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 12/23/2024 | 45 Silver Hill Road | \$975,000 |
| 12/19/2024 | 47 Harding Street   | \$471,000 |
| 12/19/2024 | 7 Barbaras Way      | \$900,268 |
| 12/18/2024 | 51 Pine Island Road | \$380,000 |
| 12/18/2024 | 1 Diego Drive       | \$715,000 |
| 12/16/2024 | 78 Highland Street  | \$460,000 |
| 12/13/2024 | 98 Spruce Street    | \$665,000 |
| 12/12/2024 | 4 Gibbon Avenue     | \$514,900 |
| 12/10/2024 | 13 Rogers Street    | \$700,000 |
| 12/09/2024 | 56 Walden Way       | \$650,000 |
| 12/09/2024 | 40 Beaver Pond Road | \$650,000 |
| 12/07/2024 | 12 Cherry Street    | \$405,000 |
| 12/06/2024 | 93 School Street    | \$245,000 |
| 12/06/2024 | 5 Fairview Avenue   | \$570,000 |
| 12/06/2024 | 4 Hillside Avenue   | \$440,000 |
| 12/05/2024 | 9 Brandy Lane       | \$551,000 |
| 12/05/2024 | 7 Governors Way     | \$464,000 |

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



The 4-bed, 2-bath, 2,436-square-foot house at 5 Fairview Avenue in Milford recently sold for \$570,000. Image credit www.zillow.com

## SAFETY LOG

continued from page 14

motor vehicle, license not in possession  
**Dec. 13** at 9:38 p.m., Beaver St., motor vehicle stop. A 35-year-old Marlborough female was taken into protective custody  
**Dec. 14** at 5:09 p.m., Fortune Blvd., shoplifting. A 17-year-old juvenile was charged with shoplifting over \$250 by concealing merchandise  
**Dec. 15** at 3:15 p.m., Medway Rd., dispute. A 35-year-old Mendon female was charged with assault and battery  
**Dec. 15** at 3:34 p.m., Medway Rd., shoplifting. A 45-year-old Milford female was charged with shoplifting over \$250 by asportation, larceny under \$1200  
**Dec. 15** at 5:56 p.m., Medway Rd., shoplifting. A 37-year-old Medway male was charged with shoplifting over \$250 by asportation  
**Dec. 16** at 11:39 a.m., Main St., disabled motor vehicle. A 21-year-old Springfield male had an outstanding arrest warrant  
**Dec. 17** at 4:36 p.m., Medway Rd., shoplifting. A 28-year-old Southbridge female was charged with larceny under \$1200  
**Dec. 17** at 5:08 p.m., Exchange St., fight. A 34-year-old Milford female was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery,

disorderly conduct  
**Dec. 18** at 10:19 p.m., Prospect Hts., motor vehicle accident. A 33-year-old Milford resident was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle  
**Dec. 19** at 9:50 a.m., Prospect St., hit and run accident. A 62-year-old Milford female was charged with leaving the scene of property damage  
**Dec. 19** at 10:07 a.m., West St., motor vehicle stop. A 24-year-old Milford male was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, number plate violation, operating a motor vehicle with modified height, rate of speed exceeding posted limit



### Fire Department

The Milford Fire Department also responded to several medical emergencies (many transported to hospital), unruly patients, several alarms and odor investigations, outdoor fires, motor vehicle and building lockouts, well-being checks, and more. This is not an exhaustive list. Items of note include:  
**Nov. 23** at 7:08 a.m., Fruit St.,

medical emergency  
**Nov. 23** at 2:10 p.m., Railroad St., transported to hospital  
**Nov. 24** at 7:57 a.m., Baker Slip, fire-water problem/flooded  
**Nov. 24** at 2:18 p.m., Route 495, motor vehicle fire  
**Nov. 24** at 7:35 p.m., Pine St., outside fire  
**Nov. 25** at 8:19 a.m., West St., Milford District Court, motor vehicle accident  
**Nov. 25** at 8:17 p.m., Maple St., central station alarm  
**Nov. 26** at 1:11 p.m., Veterans Memorial Dr., fire-carbon monoxide alarm  
**Nov. 29** at 2:39 p.m., Bethel Rd., fire-outside fire  
**Dec. 2** at 7:15 a.m., West St., medical emergency  
**Dec. 2** at 3:49 p.m., Fayette St., motor vehicle fire  
**Dec. 4** at 11 a.m., Jencks Rd., structure fire  
**Dec. 4** at 4 p.m., Water St., outside fire  
**Dec. 5** at 4:17 p.m., Spruce St., chimney fire  
**Dec. 10** at 11:26 a.m., Railroad St., medical emergency, transported to hospital  
**Dec. 11** at 12:08 p.m., Mohegan Cir., structure fire  
**Dec. 13** at 9:48 a.m., S. Richard St., medical emergency, transported to hospital  
**Dec. 13** at 4:06 p.m., Redwood Dr., structure fire  
**Dec. 13** at 5:39 p.m., Evans Rd., outside fire  
**Dec. 16** at 1:24 p.m., Cedarview Cir., structure fire

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

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## 40B

continued from page 6

build a 150-unit rental apartment development with “not less than 37 of the units to be restricted as affordable for low-moderate income persons.”  
 “The proposal consists of 150 studio, one-, two-, and three-bedroom residential units in one 5-story building. All of the units are rental units, with 38 of the units designated as affordable,” according to Planning Board documents.  
 The Business Park development is off Route 85/Cedar Street, north of I-495. This is

the third and final phase of the 80-acre “Stone Ridge” 40B complex.  
 Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40B requires each community in the state have a minimum of 10% of its housing stock be “affordable,” meaning households pay less than 30% of their monthly income as rent. Milford affordable housing stock is currently at 9.5%.  
 For more information regarding the project, visit www.milfordma.gov/501/The-Summit or www.milfordma.gov/498/The-Residences-at-Stone-Ridge-Phase-III.  
 Source: www.milfordma.gov



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SPORTS

# Milford Girls Hoops shows huge improvement

## Scarlet Hawks match 2024 win total in just 5 games

By Chris Villani

Last season, it took Milford High's girls' basketball team the entire season to win four games. This year, they got it done before the New Year. Milford won four of its first five contests to match last year's win total and show significant strides under second-year head coach Austin Costa.

"It definitely feels good," Costa said. "We have a lot of younger girls who are picking up a bigger role on the team. Practices have been very competitive. It's been a great second year in the program for myself and the girls are building that culture, it's been great to see."

Katelyn Kearnan has led the team in scoring through the early part of the season at

around 16 points per game, but she has not been the only Scarlet Hawk to turn in top performances. TJ Downing turned in a 25-point effort against Stoughton, helping MHS to a huge Hockomock League win against one of the teams Costa considers to be an even matchup with his squad.

"You have Franklin, Foxboro, Oliver Ames, those are the big dogs," he said. "Our big games are against teams like Stoughton, Canton, North Attleboro, Taunton. These are all teams we should be looking to compete with."

Costa said the team's success has been driven, in part, by its ability to take care of the ball despite playing an up-tempo game. Ava and Olivia Baglione are key cogs in that aspect of



It only took Milford's girls' basketball team five games to match last season's win total. Courtesy photo

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MHS's game.

"They are keeping up the fast breaks and the high pace of play that we want," Costa said. "We are continuing to build on some of our defenses and we have incorporated more pressing, just trying to speed up the game for ourselves."

Milford managed just a single Hockomock League win last year, but Costa's team exceeded that total before Christmas this year.


"If we can steal a few more, that would be great," the coach

said, "and can edge us up towards the top of the Kelley-Rex Division."

Playing aggressively while also taking care of the basketball will be crucial for Milford to continue its early success.

"I think it's definitely going to come down to controlling turnovers and being more efficient when we get the ball," Costa said. "We want to make sure we are playing under control. If we can do that, we will give ourselves a chance in every game."

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SPORTS

# Sizable MHS Boys Hoops has big expectations

## Deep Scarlet Hawks squad starts strong

By Chris Villani

With one of the program's biggest rosters and the likely soon-to-be all-time leading scorer, the Milford High boys' basketball team figures to be in for a stellar 2024-2025 season. MHS won three of its first four games, earning a spot in the finals of its own holiday tournament ahead of the gauntlet of play in the Hockomock League.

Head coach Dana Olson said the plan is to make more noise than usual in the ultra-competitive league.

"There are some things that they have never done since joining the Hock. They've never beaten Franklin in basketball, they've beaten Mansfield maybe once," Olson said. "My goal is to get the program to a point where we are competing year-in and year-out with the top programs in the Hock."

The Scarlet Hawks are led this year by senior captain Andrew Rivera. The 6-foot-3 swingman recently surpassed 1,000 career points and, if he stays healthy, looks like a lock to

become the program's all-time leading scorer. He and fellow senior Gus Coutinho averaged 18 points per game through the first quarter of the year.

"You don't get too many Riveras in your coaching career," Olson said. "He has Division I scholarship offers to play football and he's only the seventh player to go over 1,000 points in basketball. That pretty much says it right there."

Senior captains Luca Testa and Jack Buckley have provided strong leadership and Milford has also received contributions from its younger players. Sophomore Matt DaSilva adds depth in the backcourt. Milford also starts 6-foot-10 freshman Anthony Daniels, who plays for one of the top AAU programs in the state in addition to his time with the Scarlet Hawks.

"He is playing really well and starting to hit a stride," Olson said of Daniels.

MHS is aiming to return to the state tournament after pulling off a tourney win a season ago during Olson's first year at the helm. Olson said the team's size and athleticism will be a boost this winter. Four of



Andrew Rivera poses with his family after scoring his 1,000th point. He is on track to break Milford's all-time scoring record. Courtesy photo

Milford's starters are 6-foot-3 or taller, with a pair of 6-foot-4 forwards coming off the bench.

"We have got good size, good length, we are pretty athletic, and we are getting good contributions from everyone,"

Olson said. "We also have some good senior leadership. We have kids back who have played a lot of basketball."

A season ago, Milford's season came to an end with a loss at home in a thriller against

Middleboro. Their coach wants more of those opportunities on a big stage this year.

"I just want to bring basketball back to that atmosphere," Olson said. "That's what Milford has been known for."

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| <br><b>CAR FAX ONE-OWNER VEHICLES</b><br>620 ONE-OWNER VEHICLES IN STOCK!   |  | <b>2021 CHEVY EQUINOX LS</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$72/WK<br>#TP4640 • ALLOYS, AWD, TURBO<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$35,490</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977    | <b>2023 KIA SPORTAGE</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$88/WK<br>#46493 • LX TRIM, AWD, ALLOYS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$28,590</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977       | <b>2021 FORD F-150 XL 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$124/WK<br>#P17231L • SUPERCREW, STX<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$46,250</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$34,977     | <b>2021 FORD EXPLORER 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$110/WK<br>#P17338A • SUNROOF, PLATINUM<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$45,765</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,977      | <b>2019 JEEP WRANGLER 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$99/WK<br>#TP4643A • UNLIMITED SPORT, V6<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,810</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,977   |
| <b>2022 CHRYSLER PACIFICA</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$81/WK<br>#TP4745L • TOURING L, ALLOYS, V6<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,265</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977 | <b>2021 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$116/WK<br>#TP4783 • SR TRIM, DBL CAB, 3.5L<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$42,605</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,677 | <b>2023 DODGE DURANGO SXT</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$116/WK<br>#D14655L • ALLOYS, AWD, 3.6L<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$48,595</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,677  | <b>2024 GENESIS GV70 3.5T</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$202/WK<br>#TP4468 • NAV, HEATED LEATHER<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$64,700</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$52,977 | <b>2022 TOYOTA CAMRY LE</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$85/WK<br>#TM24-1043A • 28/39 MPG CITY/HWY<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,625</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977 | <b>2022 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$126/WK<br>#46796L • CUSTOM, 2.7L TURBO<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$54,180</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,477    | <b>2021 NISSAN ROGUE AWD</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$74/WK<br>#TM24-1177A • ALLOYS, SV TRIM<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$31,710</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977     |
| <b>2022 CHEVY TRAX LT AWD</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$74/WK<br>#46610 • TURBO, PREMIUM AUDIO<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$27,565</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977    | <b>2022 TOYOTA TUNDRA 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$170/WK<br>#TM24-1235A • LIMITED, SUNROOF<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$58,405</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$47,977   | <b>2019 JEEP CHEROKEE 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$71/WK<br>#TP4798A • LIMITED, ALLOYS, V6<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,400</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$18,977 | <b>2022 HYUNDAI TUCSON SEL</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$99/WK<br>#TP5045 • AWD, HEATED SEATS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$36,750</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,977   | <b>2022 TOYOTA COROLLA LE</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$71/WK<br>#TP4734 • 30/38 MPG CITY/HWY<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$26,589</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977   | <b>2018 CHEVY VOLT LT</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$64/WK<br>#46224A • HYBRID, ALLOYS, FWD<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$32,395</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,977          | <b>2021 TOYOTA RAV4 LE SUV</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$99/WK<br>#STK167453 • 27/34 MPG CITY/HWY<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,560</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,977 |
| <b>2021 FORD EDGE SEL</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$88/WK<br>#P17398L • TURBO, NAV, ALLOYS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$40,395</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977        | <b>2023 VW JETTA 1.5T SE</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$81/WK<br>#TP4857 • TURBO, HEATED SEATS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$29,550</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977      | <b>2020 LINCOLN CORSAIR</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$88/WK<br>#124361A • SUNROOF, LEATHER<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$46,645</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977      | <b>2022 FORD BRONCO 4x4</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$134/WK<br>#124-199B • TURBO, BIG BEND<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$43,995</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$37,977     | <b>2019 SUBARU OUTBACK</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$64/WK<br>#TP4638A • AWD, MOONROOF, V6<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,695</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,977      | <b>2023 MERCEDES GLC 300 SUV</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$164/WK<br>#D14582R • TURBO, AWD, LEATHER<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$50,800</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$45,977 | <b>2023 HYUNDAI SONATA SEL</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$85/WK<br>#TP5021 • 27/37 MPG CITY/HWY<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$28,680</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,977    |
| <b>2022 CHEVY COLORADO</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$119/WK<br>#46774L • LT TRIM, 4X4, ALLOYS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$39,180</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,677     | <b>2018 HONDA CR-V EX-L</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$71/WK<br>#TM25-075A • 27/33 MPG CITY/HWY<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,190</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977     | <b>2021 BUICK ENCORE AWD</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$83/WK<br>#46830 • GX SELECT, 1.3L TURBO<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$32,225</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,377  | <b>2021 MAZDA MAZDA CX-5</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$88/WK<br>#46823 • MOONROOF, LEATHER<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$29,899</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977      | <b>2023 BMW X1 xDrive28i</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$113/WK<br>#TP4816 • AWD, TWIN TURBO, NAV<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$51,595</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977 | <b>2022 RAM 1500 BIG HORN</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$117/WK<br>#124-476A • 4X4, V6, ALLOYS<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$45,710</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,977       | <b>2023 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER</b><br><br>AS LOW AS \$120/WK<br>#ST0665A • LE TRIM, ALLOYS, CPO<br>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$45,775</del>   WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,977 |

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