

Recipients of the Milford Lions Club High School Scholarship accept awards



(L to R) Scholarship recipients with the Milford Lions Scholarship Chairperson and the Milford Lions Club President: Sarah Saad, Madelyn DiMaio, Benjamin Pezza, Dianna Manley (Scholarship Chair), Veti Raval, and Brian McCarthy (Club President). Photo source: Milford Lions Club

At the June 10 business meeting of the Milford Lions Club, the group announced the recipients of the 2025 High School scholarships. Each year the Milford

Lions grant a single \$1,500 scholarship to three Milford High School graduating seniors who are seeking a higher education. The criteria for this award include

that the applicants must have a 3.0 or higher GPA,

SCHOLARSHIP

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Stacy Middle School teacher receives Shine Award

The Milford Public Schools and Stacy Middle School are thrilled to announce that Ms. Maria Calvillo has been nominated for the 2025 Latino Educators Shine Awards. Presented by Latinos for Education in partnership with Massachusetts State Senator Adam Gomez, this prestigious recognition honors Latino educators across Massachusetts for their outstanding contributions in the classroom. Ms. Calvillo's nomination was proudly submitted by Massachusetts State Representative Brian Murray.

Ms. Calvillo has served as a dedicated Spanish Language and Heritage Spanish Language teacher at Stacy Middle School in Milford since 2017. She is known for creating learning environments that empower her students. This year, she was instrumental in introducing the Seal of Biliteracy at the middle school level, helping students gain recognition for their multilingual skills.



Ms. Maria Calvillo. Courtesy photo

Dr. Caridad Lopez, Principal of Stacy Middle School, added, "I am incredibly proud of Sra. Calvillo for being nominated for the 2025 Latino Educators Shine Awards. Her dedication to creating inclusive, culturally

SHINE

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Milford Town Library Calendar of Events

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

by Reference Department

Summer Hours

During July and August, the library is closed on Saturdays. Summer hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Fridays, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

New: Lucky Day Bestsellers

We know how frustrating it can be to be on a waiting list for a book you're dying to read. That's why we're introducing a new program called "Lucky Day Bestsellers". Popular titles will be available on a first come, first serve basis for a 7-day loan with one renewal. Lucky Day titles cannot be reserved. Look for the Lucky Day titles on the endcaps at the beginning of the fiction stacks.

Adult Summer Reading Program: Level Up at Your Library

Game on - the 2025 Adult Summer Reading Program is underway!

This year's theme is "Level Up at Your Library" and we're gamifying our reading logs to help you have some fun, learn new games, and sharpen your skills! Everyone who participates will win a prize, but the more you participate, the more tickets you will earn to put toward our Level Up prize drawing.

Each Level completed earns you 1 ticket. Each Bonus Level completed earns you 3 tickets. You may apply your tickets toward any of our three Level Up Prize Drawings:

• Prize 1: Books & Beans

- Friends of Milford Town Library reusable tote bag, filled with an assortment of titles for all reading tastes, along with a \$50 gift certificate from our friends at Blooming Hearts Roastery!

• Prize 2: Character Build

- Decompress, enjoy some snacks, and escape into an alternate world with a \$75 gift certificate to TJ Cafe & Games! Or if you prefer, TJC&G also has

an amazing selection of board games, miniatures, and puzzles to choose from.

• Prize 3: Paintball Play

- Pump up your adrenaline with 4 free passes and a box of 2,000 paintballs from our friends at Friendly Fire Paintball in Upton!

Check our website (milfordtownlibrary.org) for all the program and prize details!

If you have questions about the program, or if you need any help finding books to read, feel free to ask the Librarians at the Information Desk. You can also email milfordreference@cw-mars.org or call us at 508-473-2145 Option 2.

The Adult Summer Reading program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Town Library, and supported by our friends at Blooming Hearts Roastery, Friendly Fire Paintball, and TJ Cafe & Games!

JAWS 50th Anniversary Community Movie Night

This summer marks the 50th



anniversary of the classic movie *Jaws*, so we're celebrating! On Monday, July 21, join us in the library garden for shark themed games and activities before the movie, then we'll move to the Granite & Quarry room for a showing on the big screen, complete with popcorn and shark-themed snacks!

The movie will start at 6 p.m. with a run time of two hours. No registration is required. Bring your camping chairs, pool floats, picnic blankets, or lawn cushions for

extra-special seating. *Jaws* is a cultural touchstone with multiple generations discovering the iconic line "you're gonna need a bigger boat!" We hope to see lots of families enjoying the experience together.

All ages are welcome, however, youth under the age of 13 must have a caregiver with them.

For more information, call

LIBRARY

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BVT pomp, pageantry, pride, includes 37 Milford residents in Class of 2025



The Blackstone Valley Tech Class of 2025 at their Commencement Ceremony. Morin Studio photo

The Blackstone Valley Tech Class of 2025 Commencement Ceremony was held at the DCU Center in Worcester on May 29th. The evening ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates with all the pomp, pageantry, and pride they so richly deserve.

"Since their first day at our school, I encouraged this class to put in their best effort and work their hardest and to leave Valley Tech just a little bit better than they found it," said Principal Mr. Anthony E. Steele II in his opening remarks. "The Class of 2025 met that challenge. They have been outstanding stewards of their school, and after tonight, I have no doubt that they will honorably carry that torch as BVT alumni. Personally, the Class of 2025 will hold a special place in my heart as they are the

last class I will see through as Principal before transitioning to my new role as Superintendent next year."

The ceremony included a salute to the flag and the playing of the national anthem. Next, Yvette Martin, Director of Student Services, delivered the benediction. Then, Haley and Abigail Bilodeau of Douglas delivered a musical performance.

The speakers eloquently articulated lessons and moments that shaped their high school experiences.

Jayden Quang of Millbury, Valedictorian, shared how minor improvements (one measly percent better than the day before) make all the difference.

Nathaniel Cook of Blackstone, Class President, expressed pride in being a 'Beaver' for life. To be a Beaver is to embody

these attributes: adaptable, clever, persistent, and capable of building your own success.

Kallie Allen of Hopedale, SkillsUSA National President, spoke of the gap between the skills employers need and the skills people have. She reminded her classmates that they are employable and job-ready, having demonstrated the skills necessary to close the talent gap.

Sosie DerKosrofian of Northbridge, Student Council President, reflected on the best memories, the not-so-good, cringeworthy moments, and how choosing a positive mindset can help you navigate challenges and learn from them.

Om Patel of Douglas, Salutatorian and Class Vice President,



Jayden Quang of Millbury, Valedictorian, speaking during the graduation ceremony. Courtesy photo

BVT

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BVT

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recalled the experiences, friendships, and growth within a supportive community. Resolutely, we step forward wiser, stronger, and ready to take on more than we ever thought we could when we started high school.

Assistant Principal Mr. Matthew Urquhart addressed the class and took a moment to acknowledge those who made this day possible. In closing, he reminded the Class of 2025 to treat others with kindness and respect and to be proud of what they have earned.

"On the cusp of what is yet to come, you have all the tools you need to succeed," said Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "With your training, dedication, and forward-looking mindset, we have every confidence that you will continue to build upon the skills you've acquired."

Three hundred and fifteen students concluded their dual high school education. They received a vocational certificate and a diploma, which certify mastery of competencies in their career-technical programs and a rigorous academic course of study.

Then, the Academic Curriculum Coordinator, Mr. Evans, called Dr. Matthew Connors, Vocational Director, to the stage to present the final diploma to Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, who will retire in June after 31 years of service. Mr. Evans said, "Since (January of) the 1993-94 school year, Dr. Connor's senior year at BVT, our superintendent-director has dedicated himself to the students, staff, and families of



this district. Tonight, it is our privilege to recognize his life-long commitment and efforts with an honorary diploma and vocational certificate. Starting with Dr. Connor's Class of 1994 and culminating with this Class of 2025, he has led thousands of students across the graduation stage, but tonight, he walks across with you."

The joyful celebration concluded with a standing ovation for Dr. Fitzpatrick and thunderous applause for the graduates. To view the ceremony, visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/markinamilestone.

The Class of 2025 seniors are listed alphabetically by their last name, vocational-technical program, and grouped according to their hometown. Additionally, membership in the National Honor Society (NHS) and National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) is noted by either NHS, NTHS, or both (NHS/NTHS):

Milford graduates include:
Nicolas Alvarez-Benincasa, Construction Technology
Adetokunbo-Albert Aweh-Hammed, Engineering
Ehani Ayala Gonzalez, Plumbing
Alexa Barnes, Painting & Design
Joao Barroso, Electrical



BVT Class of 2025 Information Technology seniors in their caps and gowns (L to R) Joshua Gould of Millbury, Riley Gomes of Milford, Zabel DerKosrofian of Northbridge, and Samantha Carroll of Upton. Courtesy photo

Otavio Calheiro, Electronics
Griffin Carneiro, Electronics
Lacey Coffman, Multimedia Communications
Ella Costa, Automotive Technology
Anthony Demoura, Plumbing
Gregory D'Orazio, Advanced Manufacturing
Andre Dossantos, Automotive Technology
Jack Eastwood, HVAC/R
Dominic Ferreira, Construction Technology
Eric Ferreira, Information Technology
Riely Gomes, Information Technology
Carolina Guenther, Cosmetology
Adriana Hawkins, Culinary Arts
Parker Hogarty, Multimedia Communications
Matthew Hunter, Biotechnology (NHS/NTHS)
Charbel Jebara, Electronics

(NHS/NTHS)
Ryan McGuire, HVAC/R
Ryan Morin, Advanced Manufacturing
Jack Nevens, Information Technology
Addison Pellegrine, Biotechnology (NHS)
Arthur Pereira, Plumbing
Cody Phillips, Automotive Collision Repair
Joel Puri, Engineering
Julia Ribeiro, Cosmetology
Josiah Rivera, Automotive Technology
Edwyn Sanchez, Advanced Manufacturing
Abigail Savaria, Automotive Technology
Nicholas Schaier, Automotive Technology
David Silveira, Plumbing
Iwan Steinmann, Multimedia Communications
Madison Sweeney, Painting & Design
Ava Valenti, Culinary Arts

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LIBRARY

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ESL Summer Schedule

The summer English Class schedule is now available and posted on our website and Facebook pages. We're excited to offer a daytime beginner group on Monday afternoons at 2 p.m., July 21- August 25. Thursday evening classes will be offered on July 10, August 7 and 14. The intermediate group meets at 5:30 p.m. and the beginner group at 7 p.m. Registration is not required for any of the sessions. For more information, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

El horario de las clases de inglés de verano ya está disponible y publicado en nuestro sitio web y páginas de Facebook. Nos complace ofrecer un grupo diurno para principiantes los lunes por la tarde a las 14:00 h, del 21 de julio al 25 de agosto. Las clases se ofrecerán los jueves por la noche los días 10 de julio,

7 y 14 de agosto. El grupo intermedio se reúne a las 17:30 h y el grupo para principiantes a las 19:00 h. No es necesario inscribirse para ninguna de las sesiones. Para más información, llame al mostrador de información al 508-473-2145 ext. 2

A programação das aulas de inglês de verão já está disponível e publicada em nosso site e nas páginas do Facebook. Temos o prazer de oferecer um grupo diurno para iniciantes nas tardes de segunda-feira, às 14h, de 21 de julho a 25 de agosto. As aulas noturnas de quinta-feira serão oferecidas nos dias 10 de julho, 7 e 14 de agosto. O grupo intermediário se reúne às 17h30 e o grupo iniciante às 19h. Não é necessário se inscrever para nenhuma das sessões. Para mais informações, ligue para o Balcão de Informações pelo telefone 508-473-2145, ramal 2.

New: Silent Book Club

Come and enjoy the companionship of silent reading with neighbors and friends at the Milford Town Library Silent Book Club. No assignments, no homework. Simply bring what-

ever you want to read. It can be your own book, audiobook (with headphones), magazine, newspaper, comic, etc. or grab an interesting read off our shelves. You do not need to have a library card to read here at the library. You only need a card if you want to check an item out. For Adults and Teens 16+.

Our Silent Book Club chapter meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. July's meeting of the Silent Book Club will be held on Wednesday, July 22.

7 to 7:30 p.m. – Come for some light refreshments and a chance to socialize (optional)

7:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Settle into an hour of silent reading anywhere on the main floor of the library

Center Book Group

The Center Book Group meets next Tuesday, July 17 at 10 a.m. to discuss Jason Rekulak's thriller *The Last one at the Wedding*.

Rekulak, author of *Hidden Pictures* and *The Impossible Fortress*, introduces readers to Frank Szatowski and his daughter Maggie who've re-con-



nected after a three-year rift for her upcoming wedding to the son of a ridiculously wealthy tech mogul.

Frank, a hard-working UPS driver raised Maggie with his sister's help after Maggie's mother died when she was ten. The already complicated father daughter dynamic gets more fraught with tension and danger in the days leading to the wedding.

Publisher's Weekly noted that "Rekulak's characters feel real, and the unwavering pace will keep readers up all night."

To reserve a copy of *The Last One at the Wedding* or to learn more about the Center Book Group, call 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

Mahjong at MTL

A Mahjong group meets twice a month at the Milford Town Library. This group welcomes players familiar to Mahjong to join for enjoyment of the game, not for high stakes competition! The group meets on select Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m. at the library in the Quarry Room. Summer meetings:

- July 22
- August 12
- August 26

Those who are interested can attend any of the meetings. Mahjong sets are provided.

LIBRARY

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BVT is proud to announce Class of 2025 Scholarship and Award recipients

As Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District's newest graduates advance their career training, they do so with the assistance of awards with an estimated tally exceeding nine million in renewable value, which is a springboard for success, allowing its recipients the financial freedom to implement their career plans across various pathways.

"When it comes to putting their career plans in action, some students purchase new tools, clothing, and equipment while others use financial aid to cover tuition at colleges or universities," said Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "The aid of scholarships and awards help our graduates move toward a bright future, whether directly out of high school or five years out, to contribute as well-trained, educated, and skilled members of the workforce."

The following is a list of the scholarships and awards earned

by members of the Class of 2025, including immediate plans for career training. Students are categorized by town and listed alphabetically by their last name. Scholarship amounts reflect the first-year total. For more details, visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/scholarshiprecipients.

MILFORD

- Matthew Alencar** – Plumbing Field (*Plumbing Apprentice*) - \$1,000 Town Fair Tire Foundation Toolship Scholarship
- Nicolas Alvarez-Benincasa** – Quinsigamond Community College (*Liberal Arts*) - \$3,000 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship
- Albert Aweh** – Regis College - \$48,000 Regis Grant
- Alexa Barnes** – Texas State University (*Interior Design*) - \$4,000 Texas State Merit Scholarship - \$12,300 Waiver of Nonresident Tuition
- Leo Camilli** – Workforce (*Center Line Mechanical*) - \$300 James Franklin Memo-

- rial Award
- Lacey Coffman** – Massachusetts College of Art and Design (*Communication Design*) - \$1,030 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship - \$1,000 Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild of Mendon
- Ella Costa** – Framingham State University Elementary Education - \$500 BVT Teachers Association- Paul Sullivan Scholarship - \$2,000 Merit Scholarship
- Gregory D'Orazio** – Quinsigamond Community College (*Chemistry*) - \$2,500 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship
- Lilianna Gay** – UMass Amherst (*Psychology*) - \$1,000 Milford Federal Bank Scholarship - \$2,575 Norman Lauria Memorial Scholarship - \$6,255 UMass Amherst Grant
- Adriana Hawkins** – Suffolk University (*Public Relations*) - \$2,500 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship

- Parker Hogarty** – Suffolk University (*Biology*) - \$22,000 Dean's Scholarship
- Matthew Hunter** – Worcester Polytechnic Institute (*Aerospace Engineering*) - \$1,000 WPI Math Competition
- Charbel Jebara** – Worcester Polytechnic Institute (*Electrical and Computer Engineering*) - \$4,000 NUCOR Foundation Community Scholarship - \$300 Valley Tech School Committee-Vocational Award
- Ryan Morin** – Massachusetts Maritime Academy (*Marine Engineering*) - \$2,500 Merit Award - \$300 John Eldridge Memorial Scholarship - \$300 Valley Tech School Committee Award
- Addison Pellegrine** – University of Rhode Island - \$500 Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford-Hazel M. Schroder Scholarship
- Arthur Pereira** – Notturmo Home Services (*Plumbing Apprentice*) - \$500 Central Mass Plumbers & Gasfitters Inspectors Association
- Joel Puri** – WPI (*Mechanical Engineering*) - \$2,000 Gene Haas Foundation

- Machining Technology Scholarship - \$2,180 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship
- \$23,000 Merit Scholarship
- \$16,550 WPI Grant
- Josiah Rivera** – Plymouth state University (*Business*) - \$600 Joey Wilson Memorial Scholarship - \$10,000 Out of State Scholarship
- Edwyn Sanchez** – Milford Regional Hospital (*Nursing Assistant*) - \$600 Milford Regional Medical Center - \$100 Stanley Tool Award - \$500 Tattersall Machining Scholarship
- Abigail Savaria** – UMass Lowell (Applied Biomedical Sciences) - \$25,000 Federal Scholarship
- Nicholas Schairer** – Mass-Bay Community College - \$500 Timothy Yacino Sr. Memorial Award
- Iwan Steinmann** – Liberty University (*Digital Media & Business*) - \$14,000 Champion Award
- Madison Sweeney** – University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth - \$250 Fran Dupre Jr Memorial Scholarship



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How to choose a successor for your business



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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As a business owner, you've always got a lot to think about today — but what about tomorrow? Have you thought about whom you would like to see as your successor?

If you haven't, you're not alone. Of the business owners who have created a succession plan, about 70% have named a successor for their businesses and have taken measures to

train and prepare this successor, according to a survey by Morning Consult, NEXT 360 Partners and Edward Jones. But this means that nearly a third of business owners have not taken this action, leaving a big gap in their succession plans.

So, if you haven't yet named a successor, you may want to start thinking about it. It may be helpful to ask yourself these questions:

- **Should I look inside or outside?** You could find a successor who's already working for you, or you could find someone from the outside. On one hand, an internal successor would already know how you operate and what you value as you run your business. But on the other hand, an external successor could bring a new point of view and a different set of skills, both of which might prove beneficial. You'll need to weigh both choices carefully.

- **How prepared is a potential successor?** Whether you decide on an internal or external candidate, you'll want to be sure the person you choose is prepared to take over the business. Do they have management skills? Will they share your commitment to your business's success? Will they be able to build strong relationships with your customers or other employees? Are they enthusiastic about the work involved? You'll want to evaluate all these types of factors in making your selection.

- **Are there potential family squabbles?** If you would like a family member to become your successor, you may need to be careful about whom you choose and how you communicate your decision to the entire family. Even if it may make sense for one individual to take over the business, perhaps because they're already involved in it and they're

interested in taking it over, it doesn't mean hurt feelings won't develop among other family members, who may feel they are somehow being "cheated" out of what they view as their share of a valuable inheritance. So, if you are convinced that you're making the right choice, explain your reasoning to all family members and let them know that you're also exploring other, tangible ways for them to share in your family wealth, possibly by leaving them other financial assets through your estate plans.

- **How will my choice of a successor affect my finances?** Passing the business to an heir, selling it to an existing employee or selling it to an outside buyer can yield vastly different results for you in terms of your personal finances. You'll need to consider the possible business transfer arrangements, such as a buy-sell agreement, to deter-

mine which one is in your best interests. In doing so, you may want to work with your financial advisor or a consultant with experience in selling or transferring a business.

Choosing a successor is one of the most important decisions you'll make — so, take your time, evaluate your options and work to reach a decision that works well for everyone involved.

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

Mark Freeman, CEPA
Edward Jones Financial Advisor
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Hopkinton, MA 508-293-4017
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UMass Memorial - Milford Regional awards seven scholarships to student volunteers

2025 awards sponsored by the Auxiliary of Milford Regional and the Perry Memorial Volunteer Scholarship

UMass Memorial - Milford Regional awarded six student volunteers planning to pursue careers in the healthcare field scholarships totaling \$4,500. Two students received scholarships from the Auxiliary of Milford Regional and five students received scholarships from the Perry Memorial Volunteer Scholarship program.

Febrounia Gaeid of Milford and Shaurya Patni of Hopkinton were the recipients of \$1,000 from the Auxiliary. Gaeid plans to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon, and Patni aspires to become a physician.

“My volunteer experience at Milford Regional taught me that being a physician means caring for the whole person, and it solidified my desire to lead with empathy in every aspect of care,” said Patni.

The Auxiliary serves Milford Regional through programs of education, community service, public relations, and support of volunteer services – along with supporting the hospital through fundraising efforts. Since its founding, the Auxiliary has raised close to \$1 million, resulting in state-of-the-art equipment, advanced technology, key renovations, scholarships, expansions in patient care and critical programmatic support.

Mia Cote of Hopedale, Sarah Saad of Milford, Parima Sharma of Hopkinton, Piyusha Majgaunkar of Hopkinton

and Gaeid received \$500 from the Perry Memorial Volunteer Scholarship program. Cote plans to become an athletic trainer, Saad is pursuing a career in dentistry and Sharma and Majgaunkar are planning careers as physicians.

“My volunteer work at the hospital will stay with me forever. I was ultimately looking to accomplish career goals, but I walked away knowing a whole new community of the most selfless and caring people,” said Cote.

For more than 20 years, Bill and Anne Perry were dedicated volunteers at Milford Regional Medical Center. The Perry’s were known for their commitment to volunteerism and appreciation for education. Milford Regional volunteer Bob Cole oversees the fundraising for the Perry scholarships. The Perry’s son, Mark, and daughter-in-law, Rebecca, sit on the Scholarship Review Committee.

“Milford Regional is incredibly thankful to the Auxiliary and the Perry family for understanding how important it is to invest in our local students and their higher education and career goals,” said UMass Memorial – Milford Regional President Edward J. Kelly. “We are so proud to help support the aspirations of those who aim to contribute to the future of the healthcare field.”



Members of the Auxiliary Scholarship Committee present student volunteers with scholarships for \$1,000. Pictured left to right: UMass Memorial – Milford Regional Director of Volunteer Services Elaine Carter, Auxiliary member Terrie Sharp, Auxiliary Co-President Beverly Carver, Febrounia Gaeid, Shaurya Patni, Auxiliary Co-President Andra Stone, Auxiliary member Patricia DiCostanza and Auxiliary member Eileen Milaszewski. Not pictured is Auxiliary member Anne Loring. Courtesy photo



Student volunteers were awarded \$500 scholarships from the Perry Scholarship program. Pictured left to right: UMass Memorial – Milford Regional volunteer Bob Cole, Parima Sharma, Piyusha Majgaunkar, Sarah Saad, Febrounia Gaeid, Mia Cote, and UMass Memorial – Milford Regional Director of Volunteer Services Elaine Carter. Courtesy photo

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Southwick's Zoo announces birth of three cheetah cubs

Southwick's Zoo is thrilled to announce the birth of three cheetah cubs, a significant milestone for the zoo and its animal care team. Born in early May to Nya, a female cheetah from Southwick's Zoo and part of the Zoo Association of America's (ZAA) Animal Management Program (AMP), the cubs are healthy and thriving under expert care.

Shortly after giving birth, Nya experienced complications and rejected the cubs in her litter. Female cheetahs are generally good mothers, even though only 5% of cheetah cubs reach adulthood in the wild. While rejecting cubs is not typical, it is not an uncommon behavior for first-time cheetah mothers. To ensure the cubs' survival and well-being, Southwick's experienced animal care staff

stepped in to raise them behind the scenes, providing round-the-clock feeding, monitoring, and support for their social development.

"These cubs are already showing off their energy and personality," said Betsey Brewer, Executive Vice President of Southwick's Zoo and Board Chair for ZAA. "They've kept our team on their toes, and it's been a joy to watch them grow and explore each day. The work our team has done to care for these cubs is nothing short of extraordinary."

Over the summer months, they will move into the cheetah habitat for public view, where guests can watch as they continue to develop.

Cheetahs are listed as Vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature

(IUCN), with fewer than 7,000 individuals remaining in the wild. Through its participation in the ZAA's AMP, which focuses on population management and species sustainability, Southwick's Zoo plays an important role in the conservation of this iconic species.

"These cubs represent more than just an exciting moment for the zoo," Brewer added. "They're part of a larger purpose—to help secure the future of a species that's facing real challenges in the wild. At the same time, they allow us to inspire the next generation of advocates."

Southwick's Zoo will continue to share updates on the cubs, including names, photos, and videos, on its social media platforms in the upcoming weeks.



Two of the three newborn cheetahs are pictured here. Courtesy photo

SHINE

continued from page 1

rich learning environments and her passion for empowering multilingual students have had a profound impact on our school community. Ms. Calvillo exemplifies what it means to be an educator who uplifts and inspires. This recognition is so well deserved."

Beyond her work at SMS, Ms. Calvillo also teaches evening ESL classes through the Milford High School Adult Education Program, extending her impact to adult English learners in the community.

Her unwavering commitment to language education and student success makes her a truly deserving nominee and a valued member of the Milford Public Schools community.

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2025 Graduating Year

Abreu, Rebecca
 Alshawabkeh, Zeina Iyad
 Baglione, Olivia Rose
 Ballard, Tyler James
 Baum, Aidan William
 Bermeo Cazho, Angel Ivan
 Bethel, Taryn Janet
 Bilodeau, Tyler Constantine
 Boulanger, Michael Domenic
 Brannigan, Audrey Jane
 Brickley, Mallory Janet
 Brown, Molly Marie
 Carter, Ian Raymond
 Casman, Lindsay Taylor
 Chuqui Munoz, Katherine Elizabeth
 Collins, Aiden Bruce
 Comisky, Jason Bradley
 DeGasperis, Robert Evan
 Donovan, Declan Robert
 Donovan, Riley Janice
 Dornelas, Vitoria Ongaro Carvalho
 Eddins-Smith, Christasia Charrelle
 Enright, Owen Matthew
 Fabry, Lex Connor

Ferreira, Alexandra Cailyn
 Ferreira, Emanuely Pires
 Ferreira, Sofia Lynn
 Furnari, Francesco
 Genelhu, Kauan Bomfim
 Hann, Liam Arthur
 Hay, Tristan Patrick
 Hough, Edward Wesley
 Koch, Nicholas Charles
 Kudrikow, Jayden True
 Landry, Alexa Helen
 Landry, Kaitlin Heather
 Lebron-Mussulli, Gianna Elizabeth
 Letendre, Miles George
 Martinez, Tahliana Yesenia
 Mayancela Acosta, Miriam Maritza
 Morais, Jennifer Chaves
 Morais, Mikayla Santos
 Muyuvizhnay Morocho, Naida Alice
 Pasacane-Gallagher, Gianna Marie
 Pavento, Nora Margaret
 Pellegrini, Cae Marie
 Peniche, Antonio Julio
 Pezza, Benjamin Michael
 Rattray, Corey Logan
 Raval, Vedi Nitant
 Santos, Maya Miguel

Santos, Railany Rodrigues
 Sargius, Marcellino Maher
 Schure, Hanna
 Sena, Edward Soares
 Sifien, Jolia Anwar
 Sweeney, Ava Rose
 Vieira, Pedro Henrique Da Silva
 Webster, Jessica Sarai
 Wheelock, Ian Malone
 Zazzaro, Zain Alexander
 Zheng, Yu Xin

2026 Graduating Year

Allemao, Sabrina Rose
 Andrade, Amanda Samara Teles
 Araujo, Anna Maria
 Ateawung, Madison Nyiawung
 Baldic, Henry Bennet
 Bonina, Angelina Rose
 Breen, Reilly James
 Burns, Dylan Edward
 Cahill, Andrew Joseph
 Carter, Sadie Ethel Marie
 Catrambone, Domenico
 Coelho, Natalie Passos
 Cruz, Luciana Grace
 Da Silva, Daniel Thomas
 DeBarros, Eli Gabriel
 Dias, Pedro Henrique Ferreira
 Dos Anjos, Larissa Lima
 Driscoll, Sullivan Robert

Eastman, Aidan Matthew
 Egerton, Gaetane Josiane
 Feijo, Franka Emilia
 Fiedler, Ethan Luke
 Haughey, Emma Katherine
 Hausmann, Benjamin Mark
 Kalber, Dale Michael
 Kearnan, Katelyn Mary
 Kerr, Alexander Michael
 Kudrikow, Addyson Nathan
 Lala Castro, Fatima Liliana
 Loscerbo, Isabella Marie
 Macalpine, Lauren Adriana
 Majkut, Jonathan Nehemiah
 Miranda Carvalho, Kamyllie Maryanne
 Norris, Anthony James
 Oliveira, Thiago Bastos
 Pereira, Ana Julia de Almeida
 Renaud, Sophie Brianne
 Ridolfi, Emma Louise
 Rocci, Kaibyn William
 Rodriguez, Dionicio Esiah Gonzalo
 Shannon, Ike Thomas
 Stoker, Molly Jane
 Stokes, Jason Alexander
 Tacuri-Tamay, Jennifer Veo, Laraine Jane
 Weiner, Giovanna Lucia



Zheng, Selina

2027 Graduating Year

Almeida, Crystal De Moura
 Alvarado, Tyler Christopher
 Aminmentse, Lorella Fuanjia
 Atilho, Ashley Ranne
 Balzarini, Joshua Alfredo
 Barrientos, Jocelyn Emely
 Blankenship, Luke Patrick
 Boulanger, Matthew Paul
 Bullock, Owen Thomas
 Caguana Caguana, Jennifer Maridsa
 Cavaliere, Cayla Jean
 Coelho, Sophia Alves
 Cortese, Ava Mariella
 Costa Silva, Katlen Marcal

TERM 4

continued on page 11

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TERM 4

continued from page 10

Cunningham, Reagan Rebecca
da Cunha, Giana Alexis
de Melo, Judith Silva
De Oliveira, Gheovanna Santos
DeTore, Lilliana Rose
Espinoza Loja, Alex
Estrada, Aryana Elise
Ferreira, Samantha Haley
Fromlowitz, Henri Clemens
Gaspard, Naedsa Levania
Gomez Garcia, Mazie Maria
Virginia
Guaman Guaman, Lisseth Al-
exandra
Guaman, Eric Santiago
Hall, Alexis Marie
Hayes, Connor Brian
Howland, Connor Ethan
Jansons, Emily Kim
Jencks, Melanie Rose
Jenkins, Christopher Nathaniel
Kedski, Madison Rose
Kenton, Nicholas Jonathan
Latchmun, Margaux Sahana
Lentini, Fiona Rose
Lyons, Hanorah Yvonne
Lyubkin, Lina Olivia
Maldonado, Emma Luz
Maloney, Amelia Grace
Mastroianni, Raphael Phol
Matthews, Francesca Madonna

McGrath, Michael James
McIsaac, Gavin Joseph
Miller, Lucia Melina
Miranda, Julia Sa
Moura, Laysa Victoria Gon-
calves
Murphy, Abigail Mykal
Nakirega, Irene Faustine
Peniche, Nathan Fernandes
Pomaquiza Castro, Braylan Stiben
Putnam, Nicole Ann
Ricca, Lucas Stephen
Roldan Gualpa, Evelyn Tatiana
Roy, Mackenzie Dorothy
Samuelson, Annabelle Lynn
Sanborn, Madison Ryann
Seyfarth, Alexander Logan
Shady, Jasper Michael
Silva Hughes, Sophia Andrea
Simao, Maria Eduarda Rocha
Smith, Danielle Frances
Soares, Brenda Alves
Stachowski, Alex John Ansara
Tenenholtz, Olivia Anna
Vo, Justin Honk
Walters, Charlotte Ann
Webster, Julia Elizabeth
Whalen, Faith America
Zou, Benjamin

2028 Graduating Year

Allen, Ainsley Caroline
Arnold, John Michael
Arquillano, Wielz Jehuven La-
buca

Asembo, Eddie Benson
Asongafac, Glenn Njifua
Ateawung, Matthew Asonganyi
Brown, Andrew Charles
Cardoza, Brianna Alves
Carlos, Esther Gabrielly Pereira
Casey, McKenna Marie
Castro, Ilda Rocimver
Cavagnaro, Nathaniel Joseph
Charczenko, Maya Joanne
Chen, Helen Yue
Cruz, Sofia Joy
DeOliveira, Pedro Silva
DeTore, Gabriella Maria
DeTore, Jadyln Olivia
DiGiando, Samuel Dennis
Ettahiri, Sami
Flinkfelt, Caroline Louise
Geoffroy, Cody Michael
Golla, Rupinika
Gomes, Davi Marinho de Lima
Ha, Tina
Hanna, Jolia Magdy Monir
Hough, Amelia Jean
Kerr, Nathaniel Anthony
Lakkadi, Anjan Bharath Reddy
Lalangui Ponce, Christopher
Alexis
Loscerbo, Vincent Jeremy
Macchi, Avery Marie
MacKenzie, Katelyn Brielle
Mackey, Alexander Scott
Magalhaes, Samuel Fegler
Majkut, Daniel Steven
Martin, Cydney Jaide

Martins, Lucas Fernandes
Michalewski, Emma Jo
Miller, Giovanna Ronnie
Murphy, Keira Leigh
Natende, Pauline Maximilan
Nosek, Gabriella McCarthy
Oliveira, Jordan Peres
Pires, Emali Maria
Powers, Victoria Grace
Rizzo, Logan Anthony
Rocha, Rykelme Miguell Dos
Reis
Saguay, Bryan Alexander
Sanaguaray Moyon, Jhover
Gabriel
Santos, Isabella Ferreira
Smith, Ethan James
Sweeney, Grace Vivienne
Tobar, Valeria Nicole
Usher, Annabel Katherine
Vervil, Yarlle Maricka
Vieira, Geovanna Braga
Wild, Lilli Abigail
Williams, Lauren Grace

HONOR ROLL

(no grade below an 80)

2025 Graduating Year

Aulenti, Eden Sarina
Baccari, Mikayla Grace
Bogonis, Lillian Nicole
Buckley, Jack Stephen
Caguana Mizhirumbay, Juan
Diego



Collazo, Lorena Mikeila
Cordero, Malachias Domingo
Da Silva, Gabrielly Victoria
De Castro, Alana Vieira
De Souza, Nicole Braga
Felix, Kauan Santos
Fernandes, Kemilly Prates
Ferreira, Joao Vittor De Melo
Flanagan, Lauren Eleanor
Grant, Ethan George
Greeley, Mia Jordan
Gualpa, Marco Javier
Haley, William Daniel
Howland, Brighid Abigail
Jackson, Jaiah Sylvia
Maietta, Anthony Joseph
Mairs, Sean William
Martinez Mazariegos, Yasmin
Elizabeth
Medina Sa, Isadora Goncalves
Merrill, Ava Marie

TERM 4

continued on page 12

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TERM 4

continued from page 11

Niro, Gianna Marie
 Obolar, Thabata Sangy
 Pessini, Cassidy Marie
 Prudencio, Jake Adilson
 Rentas Figueroa, Julianys Anglick
 Rivera, Bianca Maria
 Saguay, John Michael
 Santiago, Jade
 Sawyer, Harrison John
 Scolaro, Matilde
 Teixeira Silva, Thaysla Emanuely
 Teran, Shaindy Abigail
 Vootla, Keerthana

2026 Graduating Year

Anderson, Jack Paul
 Araujo, Abigail Elizabeth
 Baker, Shylah Nicole
 Best, Isaiah Nathaniel
 Boulos, Thomas Sherif

Brooks, Connor Sheldon
 Burns, Ryan Paul
 Burrows, Lillian Elizabeth
 Cunin Granda, Jose Efrain
 Day, Joseph John
 De Sena, Felipe Martins
 DeSimone, Crisanto Robert
 Ferreira, Sofia Cruz
 Gomes da Silva, Marcelo
 Gomes, Diego Rafael Da Cruz
 Gomes, Isadora Julia Venancio
 Gomes, Lucas Teixeira
 Hamilton, Madeline Margaret
 Jacques, Tori Simone
 Lala Castro, Nixon Eugenio
 Lalangui Ponce, Nicholas Enrique
 Leverock, Sarah Elizabeth
 Llinin Namu, Danny Raul
 Mainini, Caleb William
 Marcelino, Alicya Liborio
 McCarthy, Lucia Rose
 Medeiros, Tyler Isaac
 Nashawaty, Richard Joseph
 O'Toole, Riley Michelle Anna
 Pierce, Chloe Anne

Quizphe Sauca, Amy Rachelle
 Ramnauth, Caleb Viran
 Sagastume Cordon, Henry Alejandro
 Seri, Talya Victoria
 Soloman III, Alan Richard
 Velasco-Aguaiza, Genesis Yadhira

2027 Graduating Year

Anala, Siddhi Sree Vignesh
 Aathreya
 Boccia, Cloe Emma
 Brown, Jack Thomas
 Burke, Nicholas Lawson
 Cartier, Elise Nicole
 Da Paz, Miguel Ribeiro Cordeiro
 Denietolis, Brayton James
 Dias, Daniel Silva
 Farina, Rose Diane
 Figueroa, Sofia Merianna Ma-noogian
 Gualan Cango, Leonardo Xavier
 Guaman Mayancela, Favian

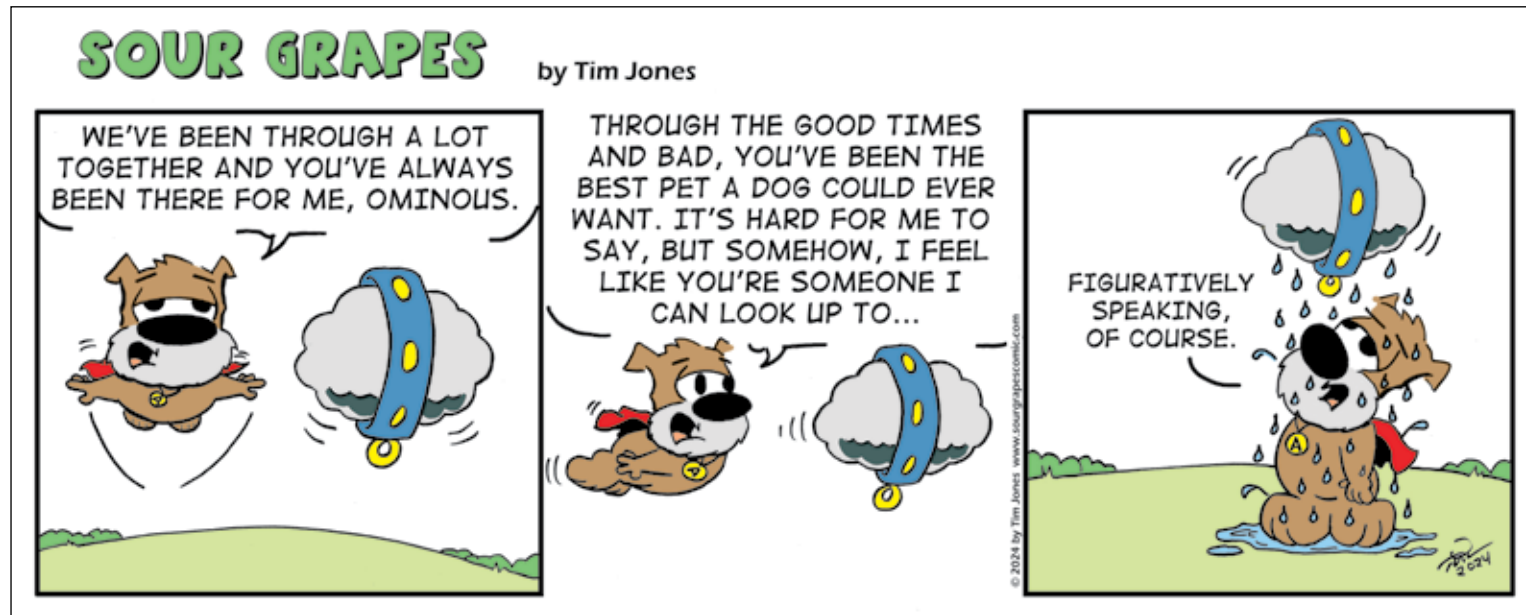
Alex
 Kinter, Amy Lynn
 Kurzontkowski, Gracelyn Marie
 Langevin, Wilbur Ivan
 Machado, Julia Carla Souza
 Maldonado, Elle Sol
 Marques, Alessandra Talia
 Mayancela-Agualema, Jessica Veronica
 Murphy, Amaya Lynn
 Naula, Jenyne
 Oliveira, Bryan MacKenzey
 Pina, Kiannalese Rose
 Richard, Chad Aaron
 Richard, Lucas Eric
 Scioli, Ava Rose
 Stigliano, Andrew Clinton
 Vernet, Jabina
 Wright, Dylan Scott

2028 Graduating Year

Anala, Karthi Sree Anish Aatherya
 Andrade, Daniel Teles
 Avelar Aguilar, Jepherson
 Avelar, Rachel Guadalupe



Ballard, Reese Alana
 Boccia, Brayden Henry
 Brown, Amaia Solana
 Campos, Aaliyah
 Carvalho, Daniel Alves
 Coelho, Isabella Gomes
 Cote, Aaron Craig
 Croeber, Kailyn Elizabeth
 da Silva, Daniella Tomas
 Da Silva, Victor Davi Santos
 Dos Reis, Yasmim Barroso
 Doyon, Khryss Pascual
 Gomes, Ana Luisa da Silva
 Grabau, Jennifer Paiva
 Ibrahim, Maryama Ayman Ibrahim
 Lopes, Thierry Evandro
 Loures Da Silva, Lauryn Laureano
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 McGlothlin, Luca May
 Muanya, Jason Leke
 Neves, Kayro Queven Teixeira
 Otero, Jarlin Arely
 Passos, Erick Nascimento
 Shaw, Payton Logan
 Stacey, Camille Marie
 Stokes, Samohi Camille
 Stoney, Josephine Lee
 Tabares Restrepo, Melanie Antonella
 Voss-Leal, Brian Anthony
 Webster, Nathan Burke
 Xavier, Layla Rodrigues
 Zicherman, Cameron Jacob



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State Fire Marshal highlights summer fire safety

Grilling, Gasoline, and Smoking Among Outdoor Fire Hazards

STOW—As Massachusetts approaches Memorial Day weekend and the unofficial start of summer, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine is asking residents to practice outdoor fire safety in the weeks and months ahead.

“As the weather gets warmer and we start spending more time outside, outdoor fires also start to increase,” State Fire Marshal Davine said. “Unfortunately, many of these fires cause serious injuries and property damage – but almost all of them can be prevented.”

Grilling Safety

About two-thirds of grilling fires in Massachusetts occur between May and August. About 75% take place on residential properties – most often one- and two-family homes. Memorial Day is a leading day for cookouts with family and friends, so stay safe when using your gas or charcoal grill:

- Always grill outdoors, never inside.
- A burning grill should always be attended by an adult.
- Never use a gas or charcoal grill on a porch, balcony, or fire escape.
- Place grills at least 10 feet away from buildings and deck railings. Make sure grills are not under eaves or overhanging branches.
- Gas grills may be used on first floor decks or patios only if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or it is at ground level.
- Always keep matches, lighters, and lighter fluid away from children.
- Create a three-foot “circle of safety” around grills. Keep children and pets at least three feet

away on all sides.

When using a gas grill, open the lid before you light it to avoid the ignition of built-up propane. If you smell gas while cooking, turn off the grill, move away, and call 9-1-1 from a safe location. Do not move the grill. Always turn off the burners and close the propane cylinder when you’re done cooking.

If using a charcoal grill, only use charcoal starter fluid. Do not use gasoline or kerosene to start a fire in a grill, and never add any flammable liquid to burning briquettes or hot coals. Allow the coals to burn out completely and then cool for 48 hours before disposal. If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, thoroughly soak them in water before putting them in a metal container.

Fire Pits and Chimineas

Outdoor burning is prohibited in Massachusetts from May 1 to January 15. While regulations allow exceptions for fires that are used for cooking, local fire chiefs and municipalities may prohibit or impose additional restrictions on these fires, including the use of fire pits and chimineas. Even where allowed, an adult must always be present with the tools necessary to extinguish such a fire immediately because of the inherent risk. Brush and structure fires in Agawam, Florida, Goshen, and Haverhill in recent weeks all started with fire pits that were unattended or improperly used. Any burning that creates a nuisance, a condition of air pollution, or hazard to others is always prohibited.

Gasoline Safety

Serious gasoline-related burns peak in the summer months, with about 40% reported from June through August. Always be cautious when using gasoline, especially in the area of any heat source:

- Gasoline should only be used as fuel for an engine, not as a solvent.
- Never use gasoline to start a fire or add it to any fire.
- Store gasoline only outside the home, such as in a locked shed, and always in an approved container. Never store gasoline in the home or basement.
- Refuel lawnmowers, leaf blowers, mopeds, and other devices only when the engine is cool. Never refill while it is hot.
- Keep gasoline away from all heat sources, such as smoking materials, campfires, and grills.

Smoking Safety

Smoking materials have been the leading cause of fire deaths in Massachusetts for decades, and carelessly discarded cigarette butts are a common factor in structure fires that start on porches and nearby dry vegetation. Mulch is especially prone to combustion caused by careless smoking. Smoking fires are particularly dangerous because they may

smolder undetected and then erupt into flames that grow rapidly. A fire that starts on a porch, balcony, or exterior stairway can extend to the home before smoke alarms inside detect them and alert you to the danger.

“If you still smoke, or if you have guests who do, please do it responsibly,” said State Fire Marshal Davine. “Always use a deep, sturdy ashtray or a can with sand or water. Don’t toss smoking materials into the mulch, leaves, grass, or planters, and don’t stub them out on the porch railing or stairs. Remember to put it out, all the way, every time.”

Brush and Wildland Fire Safety

Almost all outdoor fires are caused by human behavior. In the warm, dry weather expected Sunday and Monday, these fires may spread to dangerous sizes quickly and require numerous firefighting resources to contain and extinguish. And because about 50% of Massachusetts homes are in Wildland-Urban Interface or Intermix zones, outdoor fires can easily threaten people and property.

- Practice fire safety with grills, flammable liquids, smoking materials, and power equipment.

- Before setting up a campfire, be sure it is permitted by checking with the local fire department.
- Clear away dry leaves and sticks and overhanging low branches and shrubs.

- Keep campfires small so they are easier to control and attend to them at all times.
- Always have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire.
- Make sure your campfire is out cold before leaving.
- If using an ATV, dirt bike, or other off-road vehicle, be sure the spark arrestor is properly installed, as required by Massachusetts law.

- Don’t park a vehicle or power equipment such as a lawnmower on or near dry vegetation. A hot engine or exhaust can ignite dry grass, leaves, or debris.

“We saw last fall just how quickly brush and wildland fires can grow to sizes that require a large response by local and regional fire departments,” said State Fire Marshal Davine.

“These fires strain our resources and make it harder to respond to other emergencies. If you see an outdoor fire, please call 9-1-1 to report it as soon as possible.”



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Questions? Please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

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!

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

Virtual Programs:

We've partnered with the Ashland and Tewksbury Libraries to offer several free virtual programs during July. All programs require registration through our events calendar. Participants will

receive a Zoom link via email.

Wednesday, July 16 at 9:30 a.m.
**Virtual Job Search Help--
Using Emotional Intelligence
To Reset Your Career**

Discover how mastering your emotions can transform your professional journey. Learn practical techniques to communicate effectively, express yourself confidently, and maintain optimism even in tough situations. This workshop is Led by Edythe Richards, an executive coach and emotional intelligence practitioner and trainer. Richards is an HR Manager at the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, founder of A Top Career and the host of three popular podcasts: Myers-Briggs Question Corner, MBTI for Midlife Career Changers, and EQ at Work.

Monday, July 21 at 7 p.m.
**Virtual - "The Wisdom of
Morrie" with Author (and
son of Morrie) Rob Schwartz**

For 30 years, Morrie Schwartz's wisdom has resonated with people around the world largely due to the beloved, best-selling memoir, *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. Now we have the opportunity to speak with Morrie's son, Rob Schwartz about a new book, from a previously unpublished manuscript written by Morrie



and edited by Rob, *The Wisdom of Morrie: Living and Aging Creatively and Joyfully*. Its theme is how to experience aging as a positive, creative, and connected experience. Morrie taught people how to live fulfilling lives with love. "It is by facing fears of death that we learn how to live." Rob has got some great stories about his dad and the profound impact Morrie had on his family and the world.

Rob Schwartz is an entrepreneur, writer, and editor as well as music and film producer. He is the son of Morrie Schwartz, and the editor of *The Wisdom of Morrie* (wisdomofmorrie.com). You can follow his latest music project at abbeycastor.com.

Wednesday, July 30 at 2 p.m.

**Virtual - "V is for Venom:
Agatha Christie's Chemicals
of Death" with Author Dr.
Kathryn Harkup.**

Kathryn Harkup, writer, science communicator and vampirologist, will discuss her new book *V is for Venom: Agatha Christie's Chemicals of Death*.

The follow up to Kathryn Harkup's best-selling *A is for Arsenic*, *V is for Venom* is a compelling exploration of Agatha Christie's use of poisons and her extensive chemical knowledge. Featuring fourteen more poisons from the works of Agatha Christie, this book investigates the science behind the deadly substances, the history of their use in real-life murder cases, and how feasible it was to obtain,


administer and detect these poisons in Christie's time and today.

Harkup, a former chemist turned into a writer and science communicator is the author of the international best-seller *A is for Arsenic: The Poisons of Agatha Christie* as well as *Making the Monster: The Science of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, *Death by Shakespeare* and *Superspy Science: Science, Death and Tech in the World of James Bond*.

Ongoing:

The Friends Book Store and book table are replenished weekly and offer great deals on gently used books for children, teens, and adults.

Donations for the Daily Bread Food Pantry can be dropped off in the blue bin by the Friends book table.



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Website helps local veterans with information, job leads

Bill Gladwin has just retired and has taken up the responsibility of helping Mendon veterans. Gladwin has created the www.VAhelp.us website to give quick access to invaluable information to veterans. It provides quick links to not only our national websites for veterans, but also information specific to Massachusetts. Another useful purpose for VAhelp.us is direct access to O*NET [Occupational Information Network] OnLine which describes over 300 potential job positions from 20 different industries. From each industry, O*NET has these different segments, including:

- Occupation-Specific Information like Tasks & Technology Skills
- Occupational Requirements

- with Work Activities, Detailed Work Activities & Work Context.
- Experience Requirements describing Job Zone, Training & Credentials & Apprenticeship Opportunities.
- Worker Requirements needing Skills, Knowledge and Education.
- Worker Characteristics having Abilities, Interests, Work Values and Work Styles
- Workforce Characteristics with Wages & Employment Trends and Job Openings on the Web
- More Information like Related Occupations and Professional Associations

For more information, visit www.VAhelp.us.
Submitted by Medway Senior Center

Milford Family & Community Network (MFCN) CFCE

The MFCN CFCE will offer Summer Drop-In Playgroups for 5 weeks in July and August, held on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., starting Wednesday, July 9 and running through Thursday, August 14. These playgroups are FREE and designed for children from birth to 60 months, accompanied by a parent or caregiver, and operate on a first-come, first-served basis.

Note: There will be no playgroups on July 23 or 24. Please visit our website calendar for more details. Did you know that MFCN will offer 15 weeks of FREE registered playgroups in the fall? Registration for this Fall Session will take place from Monday, Sept. 8 to Thursday, Sept. 11, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the MFCN Office. The lottery will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 16, and

playgroups will begin the week of Sept. 22. For more information on MFCN CFCE playgroups and/or programs, feel free to contact us through any of the following:
Phone: 508-277-4981
Website: milfordpublicschools.com/milfordfcn
Email: familynetwork@milfordma.com
Facebook: Milford Family and Community Network CFCE



The Milford Free Press is currently seeking freelance writers who live in the area and are interested in writing for our publication. If interested, please send a résumé and writing sample to editor@milfordfreepress.com



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Going, Going, Gone! BVT to comply with records regulations

Class of 2018: Destruction of student records is August 7

UPTON – Attention Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School Class of 2018. Per state and federal regulations, temporary student records, including special education files (IEP), 504 plans, and student health records, shall be destroyed seven years after the student leaves the school. For the Class of 2018, this date is August 7, 2025.



Members of the Class of 2018 may request their temporary student record (any information not contained in their transcript) before the August 7 shred date by written request. If you want to obtain your record, please send a written request indicating the year of graduation and your name while in school

to Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Student Services Record Dept., 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA 01568.

Student transcripts (a record of grades) shall be destroyed 60 years after the student leaves the school. For the Class of

2018, that date is August 1, 2078. An alum from that class may request a transcript from their graduation date: May 2018 through August 1, 2078.

If you want to retain your records, learn how at: www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/student-records.

Recent Home Sales

Date	Milford	Amount
06/25/2025	44 Harding Street	\$620,000
06/25/2025	7 Purchase Street	\$540,000
06/25/2025	67 Forest Street	\$415,000
06/24/2025	9 Divittorio Drive	\$575,000
06/20/2025	83 Depot Street	\$445,000
06/18/2025	11 Florence Street	\$410,000
06/18/2025	42 Grant Street	\$350,000
06/18/2025	2 Stub Toe Lane	\$950,000
06/18/2025	55 Godfrey Lane	\$409,500
06/18/2025	35 Stall Brook Road	\$385,000
06/17/2025	155 Purchase Street	\$560,000
06/17/2025	32 Howard Street	\$715,000
06/16/2025	17 Draper Park	\$425,000
06/13/2025	4 Parkhurst Street	\$600,000
06/12/2025	2 Blanchard Road	\$425,000
06/12/2025	70 Camp Street	\$835,000
06/10/2025	24 Ivy Lane	\$625,000
06/05/2025	46 W Fountain Street	\$448,716
06/05/2025	31 Fruit Street	\$402,500
05/30/2025	20 Godfrey Lane	\$475,000
05/30/2025	101 West Street	\$480,000
05/30/2025	34 Zain Circle	\$642,000
05/29/2025	4 Domenick Street	\$443,000
05/28/2025	5 S Richard Street	\$520,000
05/27/2025	3 Bradford Road	\$402,000

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



The 3-bed, 3-bath, 1,911-square-foot house at 9 Divittorio Drive in Milford recently sold for \$575,000. Image credit www.zillow.com

ANNOUNCING!
2025 Summer LIVE Tribute Concert Series

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- JOHNNY CASH** 🎵 August 18

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 Special Thanks to the Milford Lions Club & Milford Parks Dept.

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Pets of the Month: Meet Snickers and Spice



Snickers, a male tiger, and Spice, a female tortie, arrived at Milford Humane Society in late November when they were only a month old. They were found wandering a neighborhood with their mom Sugar, and a Good Samaritan brought them in out of the cold.

This little family went into a foster home where they were well cared for and adored. Still, Sugar had taught her young kit-

tens to be fearful of people and they took that lesson to heart. The foster family found ways to interact with Snickers and Spice that were less stressful. While they don't like to be held, they do love to play with people. Fishing rod toys soon became their favorite playthings. They also enjoyed Cat TV, swatting at the fish swimming across screen.

At 8 months old, they are back at the shelter waiting for

a patient family to come and take them to their forever home. Without the comfort of a home setting, they are acting more cautious with people again. We believe they will blossom with time and a family to love them for who they are.

If you are interested in Snickers and Spice, please visit the Milford Humane Society at <https://www.milfordhumane.org/>.



Spice



Snickers

To meet Snickers and Spice, please visit the Milford Humane Society at milfordhumane.org or call 508-473-7008 for more info.

SCHOLARSHIP

continued from page 1

be enrolled in an accredited institution for the fall, and show commitment to the community through volunteerism. We also give special consideration to applicants who have impaired sight or hearing, diabetes, or other disclosed disabilities.

Lions Club members score each application based on the above criteria on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest score for each category. The scores are tallied and the highest

scores receive the scholarships. Every year it is a very difficult task as all the applicants are worthy!

The recipients from Milford High School were Vetí Raval, Sarah Saad, and Benjamin Pezza.

This year, for the first time, the group opened up one \$1,500 scholarship to a Hopedale Jr-Sr High School graduating senior, and was awarded to Madelyn DiMaio.

Congratulations to all the winners and we wish you continued success in all your future endeavors.



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Summer eye safety

Stay safe this 4th of July

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

We all use sunscreen to protect our skin, but it's important not to forget your eyes. Summer means more time outdoors, and sunlight can be harmful to your eyes just as it is to your skin. Bright sunlight increases the risk of cataracts, macular degeneration, and even eye cancer. This risk is the same when using indoor tanning beds, so protecting your eyes from artificial UV light matters as much as shielding them from natural sunlight. If you're spending time at the beach or pool, be aware that sunlight reflecting off water and sand can cause photokeratitis, a painful condition sometimes called snow blindness.

Everyone, regardless of age or skin color, is vulnerable to UV damage, but children are especially at risk because their eyes absorb more UV rays. Peo-

ple with light-colored eyes may also be more susceptible to certain eye diseases linked to UV exposure, including eye cancer. Additionally, people with eye conditions like retinal dystrophy might be more sensitive to UV damage.

One of the most common eye problems linked to sun exposure is cataracts, which is a clouding of the eye's lens. The lens needs to be clear to focus light properly on the retina for good vision. Years of sun exposure are a major factor in cataract development, which is why cataract surgery is the most frequently performed surgery in the United States.

Despite the risks, many people don't realize how important it is to protect their eyes from UV rays. A survey by the American Academy of Ophthalmology found that only about half of those who wear sunglasses check whether they

block UV light. Fortunately, protecting your eyes is simple. Sunglasses should be labeled as providing 100% UV protection or UV400 to block both UV-A and UV-B rays. Choosing wraparound styles helps prevent UV rays from entering around the edges. Even if you wear contact lenses that block UV rays, you still need to wear sunglasses for full protection. Wearing a wide-brimmed hat along with your sunglasses adds extra defense from sunlight.

Children need special care too. It's best to keep them out of direct sunlight during mid-day when the sun's rays are strongest, and make sure they always wear sunglasses and hats when outside. Many people think clouds block UV rays, but this is not true; the sun's rays can pass through clouds, haze, and fog, causing damage at any time of the year—not just in summer. Be especially cautious when near water, snow, or at high altitudes, where sunlight is more intense because it reflects off these surfaces.

With these simple precautions, you and your family can enjoy the summer safely while

protecting your vision.

Fireworks: Enjoy the Celebration Safely

With Independence Day approaching, many people look forward to fireworks. While professional displays are generally safe, backyard fireworks can cause serious injuries. Most firework injuries happen between late June and late July. Each year about 16,000 people go to emergency rooms because of fireworks-related injuries, and there are roughly 18 deaths. The number of minor injuries that don't require ER visits is even higher.

Many people believe those lighting fireworks are at the highest risk, but it's the bystanders who are most often hurt. About 65% of firework-related emergency room visits are by people watching from the sidelines. Injuries most commonly affect hands, fingers, legs, head, face, ears, and arms. Small fireworks and sparklers, often considered safer and used near children, still cause many injuries.

Eye injuries from fireworks can be especially devastating. The eyes are very delicate, and



sparks, flames, smoke, or flying debris from fireworks can cause permanent damage. Common eye injuries include scratches on the cornea, detached retinas, ruptured eyeballs, and burns. Any injury to the eye should be treated as a medical emergency. If you suffer an eye injury from fireworks, seek immediate care. To avoid risks, leave fireworks to the professionals and enjoy a safe celebration.

Advances in Cataract Surgery

If the sun caught up with you and you now have cataracts and need surgery, new technol-

EYE

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MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER





Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.



Mark Barsamian, D.O.



Dan Liu, M.D.



Michael R. Adams, O.D.



Shalin Zia, O.D.



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Milford safety log

Missing persons, fireworks violation, neighbor disputes, assault, road rage, animal cruelty, more

The Milford Police and Fire Departments provided a wide range of services between May 25 and June 24 related to property checks, motor vehicle stops, traffic enforcement, medical emergencies and unruly patients, community policing, checking open doors, disabled motor vehicles, vehicle collisions (including hit and runs), erratic operators, road rage, parking violations, towed vehicles, suspicious or abandoned motor vehicles, pedestrian accidents, suspicious activity, road hazards and obstructions, property damage, bylaw violations, loud music and general noise complaints, fireworks violations, threats, disturbances and disputes, assault, lockouts, alarms (residential, commercial), carbon monoxide alarms, 911 abandoned and hangups, drone and/or k9 deployment, radar enforcement, gas leaks and/or odors, suspicious and unwanted persons, neighbor disputes, harassment and harassing phone calls, fraud, shoplifting and larceny, identity theft, soliciting, lost and found property, well-being checks, assist citizens and schools, assist businesses, follow-up investigations, animal issues (injured, strays, deceased, barking), funeral traffic, family services, and court business.

Milford also responded to several medical emergencies, and provided mutual aid to state police, Hopkinton and Medway.

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

- May 25** at 12:04 a.m., S. Main St., assault
- May 25** at 4:18 p.m., Water St., unwanted person
- May 26** at 11:46 a.m., Country Club Ln., breaking and entering
- May 26** at 5:26 p.m., W. Spruce St., outside fire
- May 26** at 5:37 p.m., Purdue Dr., disturbance
- May 27** at 6:47 a.m., Camp St., disturbance. A 53-year-old Westborough male was arrested and charged with intimidating a witness/juror/police/court official, and threat to commit a crime.
- May 27** at 12:41 p.m., Fortune Blvd., missing person
- May 27** at 2:35 p.m., Main St., fight
- May 27** at 7:45 p.m., Fino Field, suspicious person
- May 27** at 11:50 p.m., Prospect St., well-being check, arrest. A 64-year-old Attleboro female was charged with three arrest warrants.
- May 28** at 7:17 a.m., School St., assist school
- May 28** at 8:07 a.m., E. Main St., traffic lights
- May 29** at 10:22 a.m., West St., outside fire
- May 29** at 11:14 a.m., S. Main St., road rage
- May 29** at 2:14 p.m., Iadarola Ave., investigation, three arrests made. A 49-year-old Woonsocket male was charged with conspiracy to violate drug law.



A 25-year-old Woonsocket male was charged with three charges related to cocaine; possession of a Class B drug; conspiracy to violate drug law. A 54-year-old Milford male was charged with possession of a Class B drug; conspiracy to violate drug law. **May 29** at 4:43 p.m., Prospect St., pedestrian accident **May 29** at 4:54 p.m., Prospect St., follow-up investigation, arrest. A 34-year-old Milford female was issued an arrest warrant. **May 29** at 5:43 p.m., Louisa Lake, road rage **May 29** at 5:52 p.m., Medway Rd., shoplifting. A 55-year-old Stoughton male was charged with two counts of shoplifting by asportation. **May 29** at 8:15 p.m., Forest St., neighbor dispute **May 30** at 2:28 a.m., Fortune Blvd., motor vehicle stop, arrest. A 25-year-old Ashland male was charged with operating a motor

vehicle with license suspended; no inspection sticker; registration not in possession. **May 31** at 9:15 a.m., School St., motor vehicle stop, arrest. A 56-year-old Milford male was charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended; motor vehicle not meeting RMV safety standards. **May 31** at 11:21 a.m., Purchase St., outside fire **May 31** at 2:25 p.m., S. High St., missing person **May 31** at 5:52 p.m., Medway Rd., larceny, arrest. A 20-year-old Wrentham woman was charged with two counts of conspiracy; attempt to commit crime; shoplifting \$250+ by asportation. **May 31** at 10:03 p.m., Main St., criminal application. A 45-year-old Hopedale male was charged with intimidating a witness/juror/police/court official. A 46-year-old Hopedale female was charged with larceny over \$1200; identity fraud; public assistance fraud. **June 2** at 9 p.m., Main St., pedestrian accident **June 4** at 9:46 p.m., Trinity Dr., fireworks violation, unable to locate **June 5** at 12:09 p.m., Main St., hazardous material spill **June 6** at 7:28 a.m., Main St., water problem/flooding **June 6** at 9:28 p.m., S. Main St., erratic operator. A 51-year-old Milford female was charged with leaving the scene of prop-

erty damage. **June 7** at 7:35 a.m., Cedar St., harassment. A 39-year-old Milford male was charged with indecent assault and battery on a person 14 or over. **June 7** at 3:50 p.m., South St., hazardous material spill **June 7** at 9:05 p.m., E. Main St., motor vehicle accident. A 34-year-old Hopedale male was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle; Mass Pike, too close. **June 8** at 12:55 a.m., Beach St., intoxicated person, unable to locate **June 8** at 8:15 p.m., Central St., breaking and entering, two arrests made. A 56-year-old Blackstone male was charged with conspiracy. A 58-year-old Milford male was charged with breaking and entering a building in daytime for felony; larceny under \$1200; larceny from building. **June 8** at 10:50 p.m., Main St., stolen motor vehicle **June 10** at 2:11 p.m., Chester Ln., fraud, arrest. A 53-year-old Milford male was charged with receiving a lost credit card; identity fraud; larceny under \$1200. **June 10** at 5:54 p.m., Walnut St., motor vehicle stop. Summons issued to a 21-year-old Milford female for unlicensed operation of motor vehicle; un-

LOG

continued on page 21

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
 Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 The Trial Court
 Probate and Family Court
 Docket No. W025C0308CA
 Worcester Probate and Family Court
 225 Main Street, Worcester MA 01608
 508-831-2200

In the matter of: Fredwick Leary
 A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Fredwick Leary of Blackstone, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Fredrick Leary**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court** before **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/29/2025**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
 June 26, 2025

Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate

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Annual St. Mary's Benefit Car Show & Community Event to be held Sept. 6

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 1562

The Knights of Columbus Council 1562 of St. Mary's Parish is thrilled to announce the return of the Annual Car Show & Community Event on Sat., Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Uxbridge High School, 300 Quaker Highway, Uxbridge. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

This community event promises a day filled with classic and custom cars, family-friendly activities, local vendors, music, food, raffles, and more, all in support of local charitable initiatives.

Get Involved, support a worthy cause. Knights of Columbus Council #1562 has proudly served Uxbridge and surrounding communities for generations, promoting faith, family, and service. Proceeds from the Car Show and

Family Fun Day will support local charities, and Knights' programs that assist those in need.

Ways to participate:

• Event sponsorships:

Gain exposure for your business or organization. Sponsorships include signage, online recognition, and booth space options.

• **Vendor tables:** Local artisans, businesses, and community groups are invited to reserve space to sell or promote their goods and services. Limited spaces available.

• **Donations welcome:** We gratefully accept raffle items, gift cards, services, or monetary donations to support our mission and event expenses.

• **Attend the event:** Join us for a fun-filled day! Mark your calendar for Sept. 6, 2025

Event highlights:

• Display of classic, muscle, and antique cars, trucks & motorcycles

• Family-friendly activities, games, and kids' entertainment

• Food trucks, refreshments, and local treats

• DJ music, raffles, and a 50/50 drawing

For more information, visit bit.ly/StMarysUxbridgeCarShow2025.

Call to Action, be a part of something bigger. Help us build a stronger community—one good deed at a time. To become a sponsor, reserve a vendor table, or contribute a donation, please contact Phil Cieply at 508-509-8870 or pcieply@msn.com, or Jeff Richard at 508-475-8950 or jlfad5@verizon.net.

EYE

continued from page 18

ogy can greatly improve your results. Bladeless laser cataract surgery is a major advancement that is FDA-approved and widely used by leading ophthalmologists. This method offers greater precision and safety compared to traditional surgery and often allows correction of astigmatism at the same time, resulting in better vision outcomes.

Why Choose Milford Franklin Eye Center?

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we provide high-quality sunglasses with full UV protection at our optical service. For those needing cataract surgery, Dr. Roger Kaldawy was the first surgeon in the area, and among the first in Massachusetts, to offer bladeless laser-assisted cataract surgery. Dr. Dan Liu in our practice, offers the same services. We use premium lenses that correct vision at all distances, including near, far, and everything in between. Thanks to bladeless laser technology, even patients with astigmatism can now enjoy excellent results.

Our surgeries take place in a certified, accredited surgery center in Milford, where an anesthesiologist is always present to ensure your safety and comfort. This level of care is not typical for all practices; some perform surgery in-office without an anesthesiologist, which is not endorsed by professional societies or Medicare. If you have been offered office-based cataract surgery, call us for a second opinion.

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Olivia Champagne graduates from Northeastern



In a ceremony that took place at Fenway Park, Olivia Kathryn Champagne of Milford has graduated summa cum laude from Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies and Design. She will begin work this summer as a designer. Olivia was Valedictorian of Milford High School Class of 2021, and is the daughter of Dale and Michele Champagne of Milford, and the granddaughter of Michael and Elizabeth Mason of Milford.

LOG

continued from page 19

insured motor vehicle; operating with registration suspended.

June 11 at 9:29 a.m., E. Main St., bicyclist accident

June 11 at 4:32 p.m., Main St., outside fire

June 14 at 8:04 a.m., Pine St., animal cruelty, spoken to

June 15 at 9:29 p.m., Prospect St., unruly patient, criminal application. A 28-year-old Milford male was charged with disorderly conduct; assault and battery.

June 16 at 5:05 p.m., Sunset Dr., bicyclist accident

June 17 at 5:12 p.m., Altieri Ct., missing person

June 18 at 4:27 p.m., Fortune Blvd., motor vehicle stop, criminal application. A 48-year-old Worcester male was charged with operating with license suspended; mobile phone/operator use improperly; marked lanes violation; license not in possession.

June 18 at 9:48 p.m., Exchange St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application. A 19-year-old Mil-

ford female was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle; motor vehicle lights violation; failure to yield at intersection.

June 19 at 12:36 p.m., Veterans Memorial Dr., assault

June 19 at 5:48 p.m., Rosenfeld Park, drone deployment

June 20 at 6:26 p.m., E. Main St., larceny. A 45-year-old Plymouth female was charged with defrauding a restaurant.

June 20 at 9:52 p.m., Pleasant St., assault, two arrests made. A 24-year-old Milford male was charged with assault and battery; and a 22-year-old Milford male was charged with assault and battery.

June 20 at 11:28 a.m., Exchange St., intoxicated person

June 21 at 3:42 a.m., School St., motor vehicle stop, summons issued. A 44-year-old Milford male was charged with uninsured motor vehicle; unregistered motor vehicle.

June 21 at 5:24 a.m., Prospect St., disturbance, arrest. A 33-year-old Uxbridge male was charged with disorderly conduct; disturbing the peace; assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

June 21 at 10:15 a.m., Birch St., unwanted person, arrest. A 52-year-old Charlotte, NC, male had two warrants for his arrest.

June 21 at 3:24 p.m., Purdue Dr., missing person

June 21 at 10:32 p.m., Main St., motor vehicle stop, arrest made.

An 18-year-old Framingham male was charged with operating a motor vehicle with license suspended; marked lanes violation.

June 23 at 11:39 a.m., Joseph Rd., abandoned motor vehicle, criminal application. A summons was issued for a 26-year-old Concord, NH, female for an abandoned and unregistered motor vehicle.

June 23 at 4 p.m., Fiske Mill Rd., preserve peace

June 23 at 8:49 p.m., School St., motor vehicle stop, criminal application. A 20-year-old Milford person was charged with failure to stop/yield; unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

June 24 at 4:56 p.m., Casey Pool, fight

June 24 at 6:57 p.m., Medway Rd., brush fire

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

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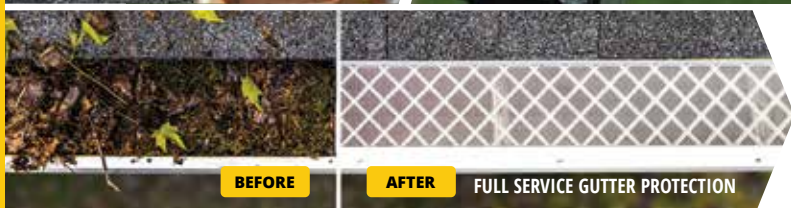
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SPORTS

New-look MHS Volleyball posts strong season

Scarlet Hawks competed with some of state's best

By Chris Villani

Milford Boys' Volleyball Head Coach Andrew Mainini did not know what to expect from his team this year with only one varsity starter coming back. But the Scarlet Hawks won 13 games and upset a higher seed in the state tournament.

Mainini said defense was key to Milford's success. "We quickly became a really strong defensive team," he said. "So, even when we did not have the firepower or the experience to win matches, we were competing in every match that we played."

Mainini said it was not uncommon, even after a 3-0 or 3-1 loss, to have the other team say that it was one of the toughest matches they had all season.

"I thought it was cool to see us really compete against some great volleyball programs,"

he said. "It was exciting to see what this team could develop into."

Leading the offense for the Hawks was Gus Da Silva, who finished the season with around 350 kills. On the defensive side, Mayck Moreira and Jude Mof-fitt split time at libero and anchored what became Milford's biggest asset.

"They were the two main guys who kept us competitive in a lot of these matches," Mainini said. "They came up with some big digs and made the other team run their offense multiple times before they could score."

Colin Greco was the Scarlet Hawks' most experienced middle hitter this spring, and his experience was crucial in key moments all year. Mainini also welcomed two new setters in Jason Comisky and Eston LeBron, who both played their first varsity seasons.



Mayck Moreira flips as his teammates celebrate during a game this season. Courtesy photo

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Milford lines up before a game this season, the Hawks finished 13-9 overall. Courtesy photo

"They came a long way by the end of the season," Mainini said. "We were running a complex offense at the end, which was great to see."

That improvement and a stout defense helped Milford, a 22 seed in the state tournament, go on the road and knock off 11th seeded Chelmsford in the first round of the playoffs. Although the season came to an end in the next round with a loss to Taunton, Mainini said he was

pleased with the season and the 13-9 overall record.

"I think it was a good reflection of where we were at, skill wise," he said.

And, unlike this year's squad, the 2026 edition of the Scarlet Hawks will not lack experience.

"We are returning almost the entire starting lineup," Mainini noted. "We have people coming back at every position who were getting regular time on the court this year."



SPORTS

Fast start for Milford Legion Post 59

Veteran group wins first 12 District 4 games



Brayden Lewis has been the top hitter in a very strong Milford lineup. Photo credit: Roger Zaleski

ers this year,” DiVitto said. “In legion baseball, in any sport, the older you are, the more seasoned you are and the more leadership you are going to have.”

Players like Keith Lee, who hit four home runs through the first 16 games, Sean McGee, who is batting nearly .400, and Jack Krauss, who gets on base half the times he is at the plate, have been with the program for several years.

“They understand the expectations,” DiVitto said. “They have taken the bull by the horns and done a great job being leaders.”

DiVitto does not mince words about his lineup, calling it one of the strongest he has seen at the legion level with no discernible weaknesses. Even some of the players who are reserves on Post 59 were middle-of-the-order hitters on their high school teams.

Post 59 hit 16 home runs as a team through its first 15 games despite playing in the vast expanse of Fino Field and scored 43 more runs than the next highest scoring District 4 team.

Hopedale product Brayden Lewis is “absolutely tearing the cover off the ball,” his coach said. Through his first 13 games, Lewis hit .571 with 13 extra-base hits, including four home runs.

On the mound, Nipmuc’s

Dan Heisler has been a key cog both as a starter and out of the bullpen. Josh Giancola, another Nipmuc product who is drawing interest from several colleges, earned wins in each of his first three decisions with an ERA of only 0.97. Derek Hatherly, a Hopkinton resident, and Milford’s Tyler Ballard are two more strong arms for a staff that has allowed fewer runs than any other team in the Zone.

Even with the red-hot start, DiVitto said Post 59 approaches each game like its record is 0-0 and is working hard to make sure they do not peak now, but when the playoffs roll around during the latter half of July.

“It’s a deep lineup, it’s a deep roster, and it’s a really good group of guys,” he said. “They have bonded quickly and they are in it for an overall purpose and a team goal, and they’ve done a great job so far.”



Josh Giancola is one of the top pitchers for Post 59 this summer. Photo credit: Roger Zaleski

By Chris Villani

Milford Legion Manager Steve DiVitto has one of the most experienced rosters he has ever had this summer, and the results have shown through on the field. Post 59 raced out to a 12-0 start in its district and won 15 of its first 16 games overall. All but four of Milford’s players either just completed their senior year in high school or their freshman year in college.

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<p>2023 CHRYSLER VOYAGER</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$82/WK</p> <p>#STK566286 • LX, HEATED SEATS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$34,265 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977</p>	<p>2022 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$132/WK</p> <p>#TM25-747A • SR5 TRIM, DBL CAB</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$42,605 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,977</p>	<p>2024 DODGE DURANGO GT</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$124/WK</p> <p>#D14917R • ALLOYS, AWD, 3.6L</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$49,595 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$34,677</p>	<p>2022 GENESIS GV70 3.5T</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$138/WK</p> <p>#D14928 • NAV, HEATED LEATHER</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$64,700 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$38,977</p>	<p>2023 TOYOTA CAMRY LE</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$92/WK</p> <p>#TP5779 • APPLE CARPLAY, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$38,625 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,977</p>	<p>2023 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$128/WK</p> <p>#47447 • CUSTOM, 2.7L TURBO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$54,180 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,977</p>	<p>2021 NISSAN ROGUE AWD</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$75/WK</p> <p>#D15340 • SV TRIM, 18" ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$31,710 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977</p>
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<p>2021 FORD EDGE SEL</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$88/WK</p> <p>#P17266L • 2.0L TURBO, SUNROOF</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$40,395 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977</p>	<p>2024 VW JETTA SPORT</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$78/WK</p> <p>#47000 • TURBO, HEATED SEATS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$29,550 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$21,977</p>	<p>2020 LINCOLN CORSAIR</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$88/WK</p> <p>#124361A • SUNROOF, LEATHER</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$46,645 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977</p>	<p>2022 FORD BRONCO 4x4</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$134/WK</p> <p>#124-199B • TURBO, BIG BEND</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$43,995 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</p>	<p>2020 SUBARU OUTBACK</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$81/WK</p> <p>#47218A • AWD, MOONROOF, NAV</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$34,695 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977</p>	<p>2023 MERCEDES GLA 250 SUV</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$114/WK</p> <p>#TP5168 • 2.0L TURBO, LEATHER</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$50,800 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</p>	<p>2022 HYUNDAI SONATA SEL</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$78/WK</p> <p>#TP5021 • 27/37 MPG CITY/HWY</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$28,686 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$21,977</p>
<p>2023 CHEVY COLORADO</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$135/WK</p> <p>#C46861 • Z71 TRIM, 4X4, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$44,290 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$37,977</p>	<p>2018 HONDA CR-V EX-L</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$71/WK</p> <p>#TM25-075A • 27/33 MPG CITY/HWY</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$34,190 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977</p>	<p>2021 BUICK ENCORE AWD</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$83/WK</p> <p>#46830 • GX SELECT, 1.3L TURBO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$32,225 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,377</p>	<p>2021 MAZDA MAZDA CX-5</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$88/WK</p> <p>#46823 • MOONROOF, LEATHER</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$29,899 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977</p>	<p>2023 BMW X1 xDrive28i</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$113/WK</p> <p>#TP4816 • AWD, TWIN TURBO, NAV</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$51,595 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</p>	<p>2022 RAM 1500 BIG HORN</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$131/WK</p> <p>#TP5159 • 4X4, HEMI, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$45,710 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,977</p>	<p>2023 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER</p> <p>AS LOW AS \$127/WK</p> <p>#TP4692 • LE TRIM, ALLOYS, CPO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$45,775 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,977</p>

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