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Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

January 1, 2026

Proposed Medway Route 109 development to include at least 247 housing units, plus commercial space

Quarter-mile development to stretch from 107 Main Street to Elm Street

By THERESA KNAPP

At its meeting on Dec. 15, the Medway Select Board approved a Development Agreement for parcels located at 107-119 Main Street and 1-3 Elm Street for “Heritage on Main,” a proposed “mixed-use development consisting of [up to] 267 residential units...and commercial uses in multiple buildings,” according to the agreement.

The developer is Rte. 85 Realty Corp. of Mendon. The agreement was signed

by Kevin Meehan, President and Treasurer; and Medway Select Board Vice Chair Dennis Crowley since Select Board Chair Todd Alessandri had recused himself from the discussion “because it involves a donation of land that abuts my neighborhood.”

The Select Board’s vote supports the design concept and does not guarantee the project which still needs to make its way through the town’s standard permitting process, which will include public hearings

and public input.

Town Manager Michael Boynton explained that, “This does not require the Planning Board to approve it, but indicates to the Planning Board that the Select Board has seen the concept, and the concept consists of an apartment complex of up to 267 units, a site for a bank, a site for a restaurant, and a general store and gas station.”

The design concept calls for 15 three-bedroom units, 106 two-bedrooms, and 146 one-bedrooms though the num-

DEVELOPMENT

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Millis School Building Project passes in special election, renovation/addition to move forward

By THERESA KNAPP

At a special election in December, Millis voters approved a ballot question to authorize a tax increase for the town’s share of a \$125 million renovation/addition project at the Millis Middle/High School with a vote of 1,599 (74.51%) in favor and 547 (25.49%) opposed.

The Millis Town Clerk’s Office reported a 29% voter turnout with 2,146 of the town’s 7,352 registered voters casting a ballot.

This was the second step in a two-step process. At Fall Town Meeting in November, voters



“VOTE YES” signs were seen around Millis this fall. The signs were related to a \$125 million renovation/addition at the Millis Middle/High School, which was successful at Fall Town Meeting and a Special Election. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

MILLIS

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DEVELOPMENT

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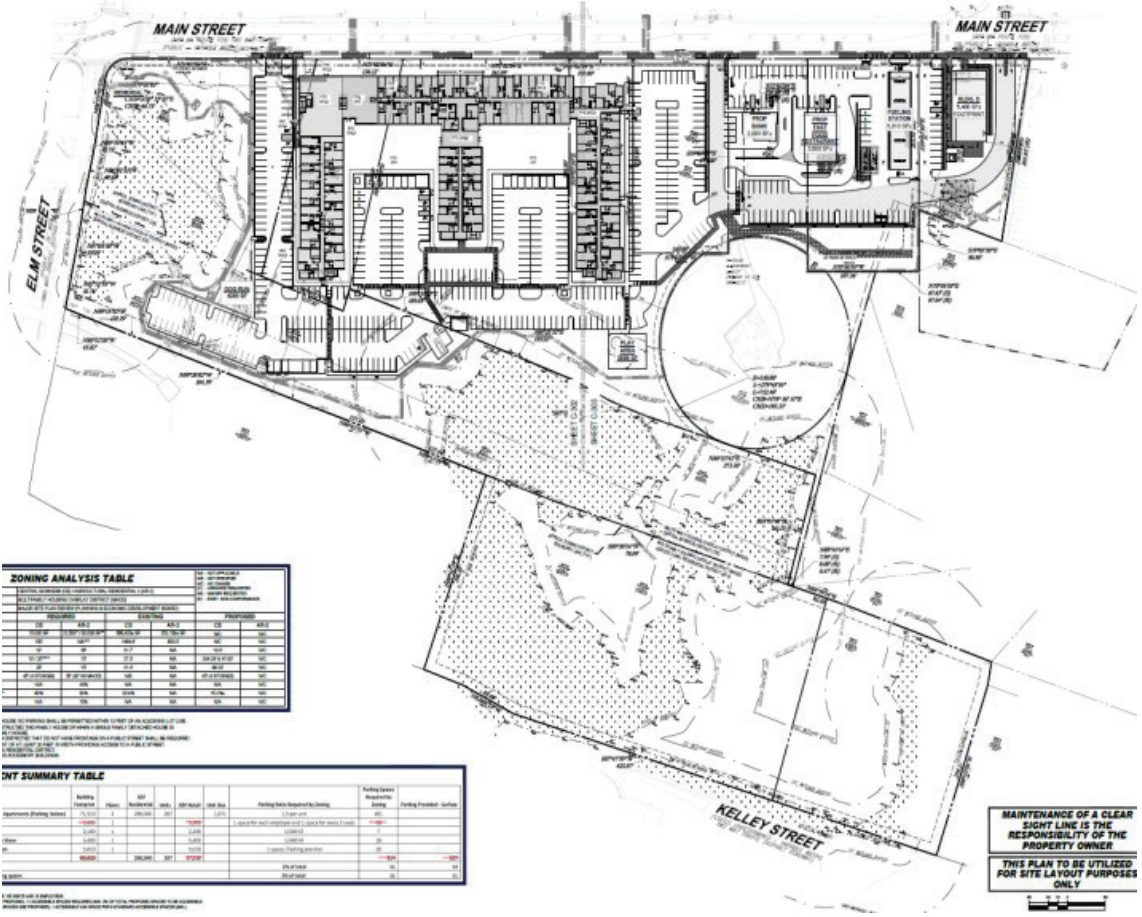
bers could change - possibly to 247 as suggested at the Dec. 15 meeting.

Ten percent of the units will be considered “affordable” therefore the entire complex will go toward the town’s af-

fordable housing “safe haven” inventory.

In recent years, the landscape of that section of Route 109 has changed dramatically with the installation and operation of several new traffic lights, and the closure of, or non-renewal of, leases for several businesses along that stretch.

The quarter-mile section includes the property of the former Mobil Gas (107 Main St.), former Burger King (109 Main St.), Medway Nutrition (113 Main St.), cell tower (113A Main St.), former U.S. Post Office (115 Main St.), All Washed Up Auto Wash (105A Main St.), Village Pool & Spa and Select Used Cars (117



Above: The proposed “Heritage on Main” development in the quarter-mile stretch along Route 109 in Medway would include the sites of the former Mobil, former Burger King, Medway Nutrition, former U.S. Post Office, All Washed Up Auto Wash, Village Pool & Spa and Select Used Cars, plus a wooded lot at the corner of Main and Elm Streets. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

Left: A concept plan for Heritage on Main, which is just starting its way through the approval process, shows the project area. Looking west toward Bellingham, the project runs between Route 109 (right edge of plan) and sits between Kelley Drive (far left) and Elm Street (top of plan). Image source: www.medwayma.gov

Main St.), and a wooded lot (119 Main St.) at the corner of Main and Elm Streets. The 107-119 Main St. parcels were purchased together in 2019 for \$5,999,000, according to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices sales records.

Boynton said the town has worked with the developer to minimize the impact on the Town of Medway and abutters. He said this project meets the directive of the master plan, to include residential units in that area, as Medway aims to create a “downtown” area. He called the project a “win-win public/private partnership for the Town of Medway on this project, I can’t say that enough.”

Boynton said the developer has agreed to pay to the town \$3.8 million in mitigation fees to include \$800,000 to acquire additional sewer capacity, and another \$3 million to be paid over 10 years to be used for any “general municipal purpose.” This is in addition to the standard fees a developer

must pay.

They will also donate approximately two parcels – 0 and 26 Kelley Street – totaling 5.5 acres, which abuts the project and includes wetlands.

The main entrance to the development will be at the traffic light at the former Mobil gas station (107 Main St.) which shares the main entrance to the Medway Place shopping center. That will be the sole entrance for westbound traffic (heading toward Bellingham) though there will be curb cuts on the eastbound side (heading toward Millis) for safe right-hand turns. In concept, there will be a net reduction in curb cuts along that stretch.

Developer representatives said they will wait for Planning Board approval before starting sitework, which they hope would be “mid-summer.”

Documents are available at www.medwayma.gov. A recording of the meeting is available at www.medwaycable.com.



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MILLIS

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had approved the project with a near-unanimous vote.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority will the majority of the costs (est. \$68 million), and Millis will pay the remaining (est. \$56 million) to be financed over a 28-year period. A Millis resident with an average property assessment of \$605,209 will see an increase of approximately \$914 per year starting in spring 2029.

After the measure passed, Chair of the Millis School Building Committee Richard Nichols said, “I want to thank the citizens for voting ‘yes’ to fund the necessary improvements/ addition to the Millis Middle/High School. This will be an opportunity to use state funds (almost 60%) to reduce the costs to the taxpayers of Millis. I understand this is an added burden to all the taxpayers, but we understood that we would have had to spend money to do necessary repairs even if the vote did not pass.”

He added, “In 10 years, I hope we will look back and realize that we did the right thing at the right time to bring our school into the 21st century.”

According to Diane Jurmain, Vice Chair of the School Building Committee, the next step will be to identify and interview a construction manager.

“We have chosen to utilize the building process known as Construction Management at Risk, which means that we

“I understand this is an added burden to all the taxpayers, but we understood that we would have had to spend money to do necessary repairs even if the vote did not pass.”

*-Richard Nichols, Chair
Millis School Building Committee*

start with a team of an Owner’s Project Manager (Vertex Engineering), a Designer (Tappe Architects) and a Construction Manager (to be determined). They work as a team on the Schematic Design phase of the project. Our design up to this point has been conceptual and it will be finalized by the team.

“It has been our experience on the new Clyde Brown School, that this method identifies design issues and resolves them early on in the project. It’s a very structured approach and that approach allowed the School Building Committee to complete the Clyde Brown School project under budget by \$4 million. It doesn’t hap-

pen every time but it is a very reasonable approach,” said Jurmain.

For more information, visit www.millisschoolproject.com

Millis Garden Club
Photo Exhibit in January

Exhibition will showcase photos of members’ gardens

The Millis Garden Club will hold its first annual Photography Exhibition in the Roche Room at the Millis Public Library in January.

The exhibition will open on Jan. 5 and will run Mondays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Millis Garden Club members will hold a Meet & Greet on Sat., Jan. 10, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In addition to the public gardens and Garden Club gardens and planters, Millis has many private gardens, collaborative neighborhood gardens, and lovely oases hidden in back yards. In order to showcase these efforts, the Millis Garden Club is sponsoring a photographic tour of these gardens. Come by the exhibit to experience Millis Garden Club’s ways of “Planting the seeds of community.”

Submitted by Millis Garden Club

It’s a new year,
time for a new look!



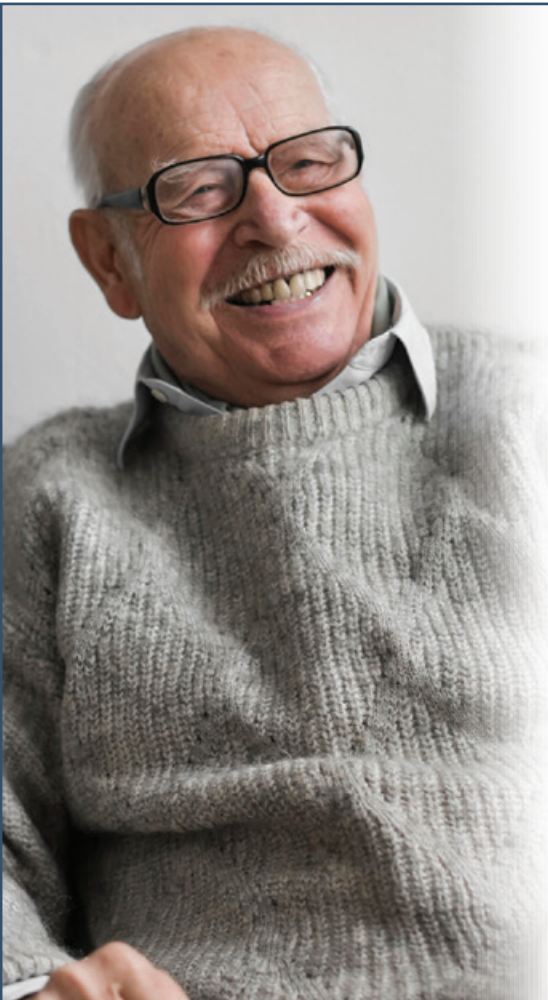
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Mia Young’s holiday concert benefited ‘Playing for Change’

Event part of Millis High senior project

By TARYN STRECK
STUDENT WRITER

MILLIS - On Dec. 12, Millis High School senior Mia Young hosted a delightful holiday concert at the high school. This event was part of Young’s MHS senior project, which aims to spread music throughout the community and benefit the Playing for Change Foundation, a global nonprofit organization that provides musical and social opportunities to youth in developing nations.

Young invited community members from Millis and surrounding towns to perform holiday songs. The concert included 16 performances, including choral and instrumental renditions of winter classics like “Baby

It’s Cold Outside” and “Sleigh Ride.” Young closed out the concert by singing and playing the piano on “Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas” and “O Holy Night.”

Young said she was glad to see “a great turnout of performers from the high school band and chorus, a local church, and Millis students.”

MHS student Rylee Silvia, who sang a gorgeous cover of “Hallelujah,” said she was “happy that there was such a successful turnout for such a great cause,” adding “Mia did a really great job of running everything so smoothly.”

A night of holiday classics and delicious baked goods, the holiday concert cultivated a charming and friendly atmosphere, reminiscent of the spirit of generosity Young embodies.

Young said she is “truly impressed by all the different reform efforts [Playing For Change Foundation] is enacting, including ensuring gender equality, fighting desertification, and helping refugees overcome trauma.” The admission fee and raffle ticket proceeds will be donated to the Playing For Change



Millis High School student Mia Young performs at her ‘Playing for Change’ concert on Dec. 12. The event was part of her MHS senior project. Photo credit: Shannon Graham

Foundation.

Young would like to thank all of the event’s volunteers, performers, donors, and her mentor, Mrs. Bartley, for making this event possible. Young adds, “I am incredibly grateful that so many people came to support my project and a good cause.”

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22nd Annual Gary Mirliss Memorial Blood Drive to take place on Jan. 10

The 22nd Annual Gary Mirliss Memorial Blood Drive will take place on Sat., Jan. 10, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at King Philip Middle School in Norfolk.

This annual tradition honors the memory of Gary Mirliss and supports patients at Boston Children’s Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital. With blood

supplies critically low after the holiday season, this event offers a timely opportunity for our community to make a life-saving impact.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are strongly encouraged as spots fill quickly. Appointments can be made at https://blooddonor.mass-general.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/6875.

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In a social media post on Dec. 19, the Millis Police Department thanked Millis High School LEOs who “organized Thanksgiving dinners for local families and delivered gift cards [Dec. 18] to support even more households through our 2025 Toy Drive. The LEOs are part of a global youth organization focused on service, leadership, experience, and opportunity, and their commitment has made a meaningful impact this holiday season. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible.”
Source: Facebook @millispublicforum



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Medway Fire Department responds to Evergreen Street structure fire

At approximately 11:36 a.m. on Dec. 15, the Medway Fire Department was dispatched to the area of Evergreen Street for multiple reports of a building fire. Upon arrival, the crew encountered a heavily involved, single-story detached garage with fire impinging on a nearby residence located approximately 20 feet away. A working fire assignment was transmitted, bringing in mutual aid resources including a ladder company from Millis, engines from Bellingham and

Norfolk, and a Hopedale ambulance to the scene. Engines from Milford and Medfield provided station coverage for the Town of Medway. Firefighters were able to quickly knock down the exterior fire conditions threatening the adjacent home before shifting operations to the detached garage. The fire was brought under control within approximately 40 minutes. There was no extension of fire into the interior of the nearby residence; however, the

FIRE SAFETY REMINDER

The Medway Fire Department reminds residents to ensure all structures have working smoke alarms, maintain proper clearance around buildings, and immediately call 911 at the first sign of smoke or fire. Early notification and functioning alarms are critical in preventing injuries and limiting the spread of fire.

Source: www.medwayma.gov

detached garage was a total loss. One occupant was transported by a Millis ambulance to Milford Regional Medical Center for evaluation and treatment of smoke inhalation. Medway/Millis Animal Control was also notified, as a total of eight cats succumbed to the fire. The Medway Fire Department would like to thank all mutual aid partners for their prompt assistance, as well as the Providence Canteen for providing firefighter rehabilitation services at the scene. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Source: www.medwayma.gov



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Meet this year's Millis student writer

By TARYN STRECK

Hi everyone! My name is Taryn Streck, and I'm a new student writer from Millis High School. I'm a senior at MHS and serve as President and Executive Editor for The Crimson Post, President of MHS DECA, and Secretary for our National Honor Society chapter. I love absolutely everything that I can use as a creative outlet, whether it's writing newspaper articles, drawing with colored pencils, whittling away on the clarinet, looking into the history of baseball cards, or composing extensive movie reviews to send to my friends. I spend most of my time creating art and managing operations for my sports card non-profit, Cardboard That Cares (Check out @cardboardthatcares on Instagram if you have any cards you'd like to donate; proceeds go to local veterans and pet shelters!). I also love spending time with my friends, learning new things, and listen-



ing to all kinds of music. Next year, I'd like to continue my education by studying something in the realm of biology or international relations. I'm fascinated by the social and scientific processes that allow our world to function. I'm super excited to be a part of this newspaper and to access a platform where I can share stories about all the exciting happenings at Millis High School!

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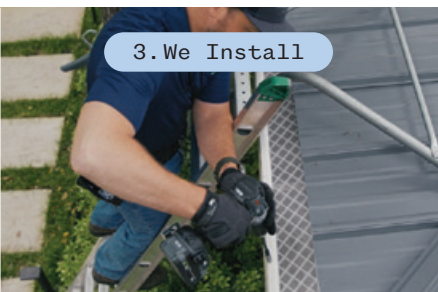
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AI in personal finance: The promise and the limits



Mark Freeman, CEPA

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Provided by Edward Jones

Your smartphone buzzes with an alert: Your budgeting app has spotted an unusual spending pattern and suggests transferring \$50 from your savings account to your checking account. Later that day, a robo-advisor automatically rebalances your investment portfolio. Welcome to the age of artificial intelligence (AI) in personal finance, where technology is reshaping how we manage money.

What AI can do for your wallet. From tracking every latte to forecasting next month's bills, AI-powered tools are making financial management more accessible than ever. Some apps categorize transactions automatically, while other platforms offer conversational financial advice through text messages. These tools can monitor your credit score, suggest budget adjustments and even negotiate lower bills on services like cable and internet.

The investing landscape has transformed as well. Robo-advisors use algorithms to build diversified portfolios, automatically rebalance holdings and apply strategies to minimize tax bills. Educational tools powered by AI can explain complex concepts through interactive games and simple question-and-answer formats, making financial literacy more accessible.

Where AI falls short. Here's what the algorithms can't do: understand what truly matters to you.

AI doesn't know whether you value sustainable investing over maximum returns. It can't weigh the emotional complexity of saving for a child's education versus retiring early. When sudden illness strikes or a job change upends your plans, AI lacks the context and empathy to guide you through those human moments.

Technology can crunch numbers brilliantly, but it can't offer wisdom. It can't replace human judgment, experience or ethical reasoning. Robo-advisors' predetermined algorithms may not suit investors with complex financial needs like estate planning or comprehensive tax planning.

The human touch still matters. This is where human financial advisors remain indispensable. They provide what technology can't:

- **Long-term perspective:** Help you maintain focus when markets get volatile and emotions run high

- **Goal coordination:** Balance competing priorities, help partners merge their financial visions and remind you of goals you've tucked away and didn't know still mattered
- **Accountability:** Keep you on track with your financial strategy through life's inevitable changes
- **Emotional support:** Offer reassurance and wisdom during major financial decisions

Research validates it: Those who regularly work with a financial advisor and have a financial strategy are more likely to feel optimistic about their financial future than those who manage finances on their own, according to 2025 research from Edward Jones and Morning Consult.

Find the right balance. The future likely lies in a hybrid approach: combining data-driven AI insights with the human wisdom of a financial advisor who understands your values, priorities and life's inevitable curveballs. Think of AI as a powerful calculator and your financial ad-

visor as the mathematician who knows which equations to use.

As these technologies evolve, the key is treating AI as a tool, not a guide.

Stay curious about what technology can do for your finances. Stay critical of its limitations. And remember: What matters most in your financial life is something only you can define.

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
Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com

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Select Board recognizes Boy Scout Adam French

By THERESA KNAPP

At its Dec. 15 meeting, the Medway Select Board recognized Adam French, a Medway 7th grader and a Second Class Scout in Boy Scout Troop 367.

French was the first to speak during Public Comment and said he was attending the meeting as part of work on a badge he needs on his way to Eagle Scout.

“I am attending this meeting as part of my work on the Communication Merit Badge, which requires me to observe how different points of view are shared on community issues. I

appreciate being able to see how local government works and how residents and board members respectfully express their opinions.

“I want to thank the Select

Board for the time and effort you put into serving our town. Meetings like this help students like me understand the importance of listening, clear communication, and civic responsibility. Thank you for allowing me to participate and learn from this experience,” said French.

Though the board typically does not ask questions during Public Comment, they made an exception for the scout.

They asked him his favorite subjects in

school – English or science – and which was the most difficult badge he has earned so far.

He told the Board, “Probably First Aid because I did a one-week camp and you had to...do a fireman’s carry and it was kind of hard.”

Selectman Frank Rossi said, “In all the years I’ve been on the board, I don’t ever remember seeing someone like Adam come up and say this so, you’re the first, congratulations.”

All board members encouraged French to run for a seat on the Select Board in the future.



Medway Select Board members Frank Rossi, Maryjane White, Todd Alessandri, Dennis Crowley, Glenn Trindade pose with Boy Scout Adam French who attended the board’s Dec. 15 meeting as part of a Communications Merit Badge. Image source: www.medwaycable.com

3

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Collaborations between Medway Public Library and Medway Parks and Recreation taking flight on Jan. 28

Not sure what to do on a half-day of school? Take your elementary schooler out for some free, eye-catching science!

Join the Medway Public Library and Medway Parks and Recreation as they welcome Wingmasters and their World of Owls program. See a presentation with these beautiful birds and learn about what makes owls so unique. This program will be held at the Parks and Recreation building at 123 Holliston Street for participants ages 6 and up on Wed., Jan. 28, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Registration is required and can be found on the Medway Public Library calendar. This program is free, thanks to the Friends of Medway Public Library.

Submitted by Medway Public Library

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Already Bid Adieu to “New Year, New You”?



Glenn Brown, CFP

Did you make New Year’s resolutions to improve your financial wellness in 2026?

The start of a new year invites reflection on what went well, what didn’t, and what to change.

Think back to 2025. Was it supposed to be the year you’d pay off all debts, max out savings, run a marathon, learn a new language, and still book that dream vacation—all before February?

Lasting financial change is difficult to achieve. Understanding why resolutions fail can help turn intentions into sustainable strategies.

1. Unrealistic Expectations

The most common reason resolutions fail is that goals don’t match reality.

For example, someone might plan to save half their income while paying off long-standing loans, only to realize monthly expenses and unexpected bills make this unrealistic. Progress feels slow, leading to frustration and eventual abandonment.

Resolution: Break goals into smaller, achievable steps. For example, aim to reduce debt by 25% over six months. Celebrating incremental wins keeps motivation high, builds confidence, and reinforces the habit of financial discipline.

2. Lack of a Clear Plan

Vague goals such as “save more” or “get out of debt” offer little guidance. Goals like these are the financial equivalent of saying “eat healthier” without changing what’s in your fridge.

Rules and opportunities change yearly, so without a clear plan, it’s easy to miss important steps like evolving retirement contribution rules, tax planning opportunities, or other proactive financial strategies.

Resolution: Create a clear plan. Review monthly expenses, budget upcoming projects and aspirations, set up automatic transfers, and monitor progress.

3. Failure to Track Progress

Goals fade without structured review, even when apps are used

to track spending. Many avoid holistic review until problems become too great to ignore.

Even small oversights like pausing emergency savings transfers, frequent DoorDashing restaurants a mile away, or buying from social media ads can derail intentions. It’s also important to evaluate actual income, since “spenders” believe their pay will match their top year, overlooking factors like unique company performance or equity grants.

Resolution: Schedule quarterly check-ins that leverage technology and constructive feedback. Celebrating milestones helps maintain motivation and reinforces strong financial habits.

4. Emotional Spending and Instant Gratification

Many struggle with impulse spending or seek instant gratification, especially after a stressful day. Afraid to look at your Amazon spending history? This behavior derails the best-laid plans.

Resolution: Identify triggers and implement strategies to delay or review purchase decisions. Create a spending prioritization strategy by identifying where you

want to spend your money; this helps shift focus from immediate desires to long-term financial goals and encourages thoughtful, deliberate financial choices.

5. Lack of Accountability

Some thrive independently; others struggle without support. It’s easier to justify financial decisions when no one else is watching. Couples, friends, or professional advisors who provide accountability often help keep each other honest and motivated.

Resolution: Accountability goes beyond “no.” Sharing progress and receiving guidance builds confidence, strengthens financial habits, and motivates continued long-term efforts.

Quick Hits To Start 2026

401(k) Catch-Up Rules: Workers over 50 making over \$150,000 must direct catch-up contributions to Roth accounts, reducing traditional tax benefits.

Roth Conversions: Converting pre-tax accounts to Roth can be strategic but may trigger higher taxes if not timed carefully, so model in Q1.

Cash Reserves: With slower job growth in late 2025, increasing emergency savings can help avoid reliance on credit or early retirement withdrawals.

Final Thoughts

Financial resolutions can be powerful tools for long-term security but require more than wishful thinking.

Make 2026 the year to socialize your goals, set action steps, and partner with a Certified Financial Planner™ professional to turn intentions into lasting progress.

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

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

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Medway High School hosts inaugural Career Day

Medway High School welcomed 55 industry professionals on Dec. 10 for its inaugural Career Day, giving students a firsthand look at a wide range of post-graduation career paths.

Students met with professionals from fields including engineering, health care, business, public service and the arts. Throughout the day, presenters shared their personal career journeys and discussed the skills and education needed to succeed in today's workforce.

Career Day is part of Medway High School's My Career and Academic Plan (MyCAP) program, which helps students prepare for life after graduation

by encouraging exploration of career options aligned with their interests and strengths.

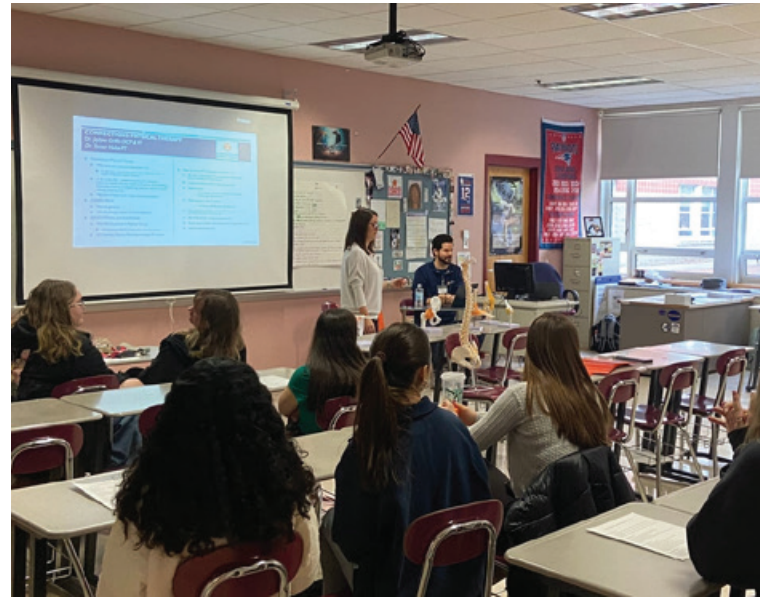
"I'd like to thank all of the professionals who took time out of their day to meet our students," said Innovation Career Pathways Coordinator Carly Brousseau. "Career Day supports students as they make plans and set goals for their futures by offering a valuable opportunity to connect with real-world professionals and take the first-hand knowledge and experience to build toward their own postsecondary futures."

"When students connect with professionals who share their interests, they are able to explore

career paths on a deeper level, build relationships with industry experts and learn about the many options available to them," said MHS Principal John Murray. "These opportunities are incredibly valuable, and we're grateful to the community members who made this day possible."

Top right: Students met with professionals from fields including engineering, health care, business, public service and the arts during the inaugural Career Day at Medway High School.

Bottom right: Medway Police officers speak to students during the inaugural Career Day at Medway High School. (Photos Courtesy Medway Public Schools)



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Millis ‘cement truck versus car’ results in truck on its side, MedFlight

On the afternoon of Dec. 18, a serious motor vehicle crash caused injuries, damage, and hours of traffic delays.

In a social media post, the Millis Fire Department said, “At 1:30pm this afternoon [Dec. 18], Millis Fire and Police responded to a report of a serious motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Route 109 and Village Street. On arrival of Fire Chief Richard Barrett, it was reported to be a fully loaded cement truck versus car with the cement truck on its side.

“Millis Fire was already on a medical [call] when this call came in, staffing of the second ambulance treated these patients. Chief Barrett requested an ambulance and Engine from Medfield and an Engine from Norfolk to the scene. Medfield C1 and an Engine from Sherborn secured the landing zone.

“The removal of the cement truck required a very skilled team from Ted’s Towing who were able to upright the truck and prepare it for removal.

“Millis Fire crews were on



A cement truck lays on its side after a motor vehicle crash on Dec. 18 at the intersection of Route 109 and Village Street in Millis. Photo credit: Alan Handel



Photos by Millis Fire Department.



scene for over six hours, and during that time there were an additional three medicals handled by

our recall staff, Sherborn Engine and Medway Ambulance,” concluded the MFD post.

In a separate post, the Millis Police Department said, “The driver of the passenger car was a 68-year-old male. He was transported by Boston MedFlight to Boston Medical Center with serious injuries. The driver of the

cement truck was a 53-year-old male who sustained no injuries. The crash is currently under investigation by the Millis Police Department.”

Sources: Millis Fire Department and Millis Police Department posts on Facebook @millispublicforum. Posts edited for clarity.



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Millis Council on Aging

Upcoming Events

Located at 900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
(508) 376-7051
Hours: 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:30 AM- 12:30 PM Friday
Monthly Newsletters can be found at the Senior Center, Town Hall, and the Millis Public Library.
TECH TIME Drop-In Help for computers & smartphones! Esther Davis of the Millis Public Library will be here to help!
Tuesday, January 13 at 12:00 PM
COA LIBRARY LUNCH BUNCH
Join Patsy Divver and Sandra Scott of the Millis Public Library for this monthly event to discuss new authors and books to read!
Thursday, January 22 at 12:00 PM.
Sign up (508) 376-7051 for lunch. Free.
LUNCH & LEARN
Fraud Prevention. Keeping

Yourself and Your Money Safe. Presented by Needham Bank.
Tuesday, January 27 at 11:00 AM. Sign up for lunch (508) 376-7051. Free.
PIZZA AND PREVENTION with the Millis Fire Department
Monthly informative and fun program about fire prevention and life safety. Pizza served courtesy of the Friends of the Millis COA.
Monday, January 12 at 11:30 AM. Free. Sign up: (508) 376-7051
LIFELONG LEARNING SERIES
Philosophy for Everyday Life: Marcus Aurelius, his life and meditations.
3 weeks starting Tuesday, January 20 at 12:00 PM.
Sign up: (508) 376-7051. Free.
HOW TO LEARN YOUR SEWING MACHINE
For all levels of experience.
Thursday, January 22 at 11:00 AM. Cost \$5.00.
Sign up (508) 376-7051

Campbell is new Medway firefighter

On Dec. 12, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy leadership announced the graduation of 25 firefighters from the 50-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program.
Among those graduates was Colin Campbell of the Medway Fire Department.
Other members in the #BW37 graduating class represented the fire departments of Brewster, Canton, Cohasset, Dennis, East Bridgewater, Fairhaven, Hingham, North Attleborough, Norton, Quincy, Sharon, Somerset, Stoughton, Truro, Wellfleet, and Yarmouth.
“Massachusetts firefighters are on the frontlines protecting their communities every day, and today’s graduates are needed now more than ever,” said State Fire Marshal Davine, at the event. “The hundreds of hours of foundational training they’ve received will



Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
Career Recruit Class #BW37 Graduation • December 12, 2025

Medway’s newest firefighter, Colin Campbell. Photo source: Massachusetts Department of Fire Services

provide them with the physical, mental, and technical skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely.”
“Massachusetts Firefighting Academy instructors draw on decades of experience in the fire service to train new recruits,” said Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier. “Through consistent class-

room instruction and practical exercises, today’s graduates have developed the tools they’ll need to work seamlessly with veteran firefighters in their home departments and in neighboring communities as mutual aid.”
Video of the ceremony can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/dfsosfm>.

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Transforming Potential into Purpose at Dean College

In the heart of Franklin, Dean College has been shaping futures for more than 160 years. Stroll across its compact, tree-lined campus and you'll see students headed to class, rehearsing in the theatre, or on their way to internships that put their classroom learning into action. For many, this is where raw potential is transformed into confidence, skill, and purpose.

"Every student walks onto Dean's campus with unique strengths and aspirations," says Dr. Scott Sibley, Provost. "Our role is to meet them where they are, challenge them, and guide them toward becoming confident, capable professionals."

That philosophy is woven into every aspect of the Dean experience. With just 1,200 full-time undergraduates, small class sizes make it easy for faculty to know students by name. Advisors tailor an academic plan to each individual's goals, while required internships ensure every graduate has a meaningful real-world experience. Partnerships with organizations like Kraft Sports + Entertainment and the Franklin Performing Arts Company connect students directly to industry networks.

The results speak for themselves, with 96 percent of graduates employed or in graduate school within one year of earning their degree.

For recent graduate, Bree Gazeille '24, that attention made all the difference. "Thanks to the incredible support from Dean, I've surpassed my academic expectations and achieved more than I thought possible," she says. "Their guidance paved the way for two incredible internships, a job in my desired field post-graduation, and acceptance into grad school."

In a higher education landscape often defined by large lecture halls and anonymous crowds, Dean offers something refreshingly different with a close-knit community dedicated to helping students achieve their full potential. That kind of outcome is no accident. Alongside academic expertise, Dean students leave with the skills employers value most, including communication, collaboration, leadership, global awareness, and problem-solving. These abilities are practiced and refined through both coursework and campus life.

Performing Arts alumna, Gabrielle Fernandes credits Dean with giving her more than technical training. "Dean has been an integral part of my professional success," she says. "Through Dean, I have been able to grow my network by meeting and connecting with other alumni, which has led to jobs and bookings. Dean's tight-knit community really is a family."

For a growing number of students, Dean offers something rare in higher education: a place where talent is nurtured, ambition is matched with opportunity, and futures are built one experience at a time.

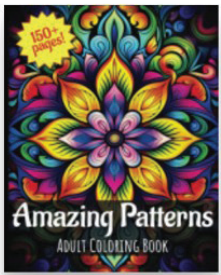
Millis expands its 'Library of Things'

Did you know you can borrow a lot more than just books from the Millis Public Library. In addition to movies, music, magazines, and video games, the library lends out toys, tools, games, and musical instruments.

Specific items include Ukeleles, soil testers, telescopes, binoculars, board games, metal detectors, stud finders, Bocce sets, electric meter, and cake pans. It has recently added knitting needles, sewing machines, coloring books, and an engraving kit.

All of these items are loaned out for two weeks, just like a book.

Source: www.millislibrary.org/things



The Millis Public Library lends several 'non-book' items to borrowers including sewing machines, knitting needles, coloring books, and an engraving kit. Source: www.millislibrary.org/things

Discover Dean's 2026 Summer Programs

Pre-College Programs

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- Dance Intensive**
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7/26-8/2

It's Time to Register!

Visit dean.edu/summeratdean to learn more and register for Dean's 2026 Summer Programs.



6th annual ‘A Novel Occasion’ brings bestselling authors to local book lovers on Jan. 31

Book Lovers are gearing up for a literary celebration as A Novel Occasion returns for its 6th year on Jan. 31, bringing bestselling authors, intimate conversations, and a unique virtual book-lover experience to the community.

Hosted by the Friends of the Millis Public Library, the annual fundraiser has grown into a beloved local tradition, one that invites readers from Millis and beyond to gather online, meet their favorite authors, and support the library in a fun, interactive way.

This year’s lineup features bestselling and award-winning writers across genres, including Bart Baker, Brendan Slocumb, Diane Barnes, Jon Lindstrom, Paula Munier, Samantha Downing, Stephanie Burns, Tiffany L. Warren, and Vanessa Riley.

Attendees choose the book from their first-choice author, then join two small-group roundtable sessions where they can ask questions, talk craft, discuss story inspirations, and connect directly

with the authors. “It feels like being invited to the table with writers you normally only see on book jackets,” said Sandra Elaine Scott, President of the Friends of the Millis Public Library. “It brings joy, connection, and community—all while supporting the mission of our library.”

The 2026 event will once again be held live on Zoom from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., offering a rare opportunity to enjoy an international author event without leaving home.

Tickets are available now. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Millis Public Library, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to supporting programming, community outreach, and library enhancement projects. To learn more, visit anoveloccasion.com.

For questions, community groups, or book clubs interested in attending together, contact Sandra Elaine Scott, President, Friends of the Millis Public Library sandra@sandraelainescott.com

The lineup for this year’s 6th annual ‘A Novel Occasion,’ to be held on Jan. 31, features bestselling and award-winning writers across genres, including Bart Baker, Brendan Slocumb, Diane Barnes, Jon Lindstrom, Paula Munier, Samantha Downing, Stephanie Burns, Tiffany L. Warren, and Vanessa Riley.

Submitted by Friends of Millis Public Library

Medway High School students accepted to CDMMEA Senior Festival

Sixteen Medway High School students have been selected to perform in this year’s Central District Massachusetts Music Educators’ Association (CDMMEA) Senior Festival.

This year, students from 57 schools were selected for the festival ensembles. Those who qualified earned their seats by performing solo repertoire, required scales or rudiments and a sight-reading piece before an adjudicator.

Festival rehearsals will take place at North Middlesex Regional High School on Jan. 14 and 16. The festival will conclude with a performance at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on Jan. 17.

Students who received a recommendation will move onto the next round at Grafton High School on Jan. 24, where they will audition for the MMEA All-State ensembles.

The Medway Public Schools community congratulates these

students for their work and dedication.

“We are incredibly proud of these students,” said Medway High School Band Director Amanda Webster. “Their dedication and hard work in rehearsal and at auditions show the strength of our music program. We are excited to watch these students represent Medway at the Senior Festival.”

“Congratulations to our students on this well-deserved recognition,” said MHS Principal John Murray. “Their commitment to their craft and to the Medway Public Schools community is inspiring, and we look forward to seeing them perform at the festival.”

2026 CDMMEA Senior Festival Accepted Students

An asterisk () indicates a recommendation to audition for an All-State ensemble.*

Festival rehearsals will take place at North Middlesex Regional High School on Jan. 14 and 16. The festival will conclude with a performance at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on Jan. 17.

- BAND**
- Aurelia Mello (*27, Flute)
 - Sadie Baldner (*28, Clarinet)
 - Danny Pylee (*26, Alto Saxophone)
- ORCHESTRA**
- Charlotte George (*26, Trumpet)*
- CHORUS**
- Kaitlyn D’Souza* (*26, Alto)
 - Allyson Fagan* (*26, Alto)
 - Emma Keavany* (*28, Alto)
 - Kaitlyn McMahon* (*28, Alto)
 - Gabrielle Sewell* (*28, Alto)
 - Aidan Christie* (*27, Bass)
 - Will Nassiff* (*26, Bass)
 - Parley Bradosky* (*26, Soprano)
 - Amelia Dahlheimer* (*26, Soprano)
 - Riley Gallerani* (*27, Soprano)
 - Meghan Kealey* (*26, Soprano)
 - Samuel Rivadalves* (*26, Tenor)

The Central District Massachusetts Music Educators’ Association is a regional affiliate of the Massachusetts Music Educators’ Association, committed to advancing music education in schools throughout Central Massachusetts. The Central District spans 4 counties, includes 79 towns, and represents 103 schools, bringing together public, private, charter, and regional communities in support of student musicians.



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Pet of the Month: Meet Harriet

Harriet is a 13-year-old beauty who spent most of her life outdoors before coming to the Metrowest Humane Society, and is now enjoying the safety and comfort of a foster home. She's completely deaf and in the early stages of kidney disease, but that doesn't stop her from living life exactly as she pleases.

Harriet has no interest in sharing her space with other animals. She'll graciously tolerate humans — mostly because they make excellent food servants and providers of a comfy bed. She's not aggressive, and she's easy to care for when needed, but she prefers relationships to unfold slowly. Yet with patience and a gentle

approach, she may surprise you with small steps forward. Her favorite time is nighttime, when the house is quiet and hers alone. That's when she'll explore, patrol from a window perch, and enjoy a spirited game with a catnip toy. Daytime is for luxurious naps in sunny, low-traffic spots.

Harriet is looking for a calm, patient, cat-savvy home that will respect her boundaries while still giving her the chance to build confidence and enjoy the quiet companionship of "her" human. She may never be a lap cat, but she's the kind of roommate who knows what she likes — and when she's content, her slow blinks are her way of saying thanks.

Adoptions are by appointment only. If you have an interest in meeting Harriet, please fill out the shelter's online adoption application at <https://www.shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/MWHS/Cat>.



Millis Public Safety Log

Structure fire, missing person, disturbances

According to safety logs, between Nov. 16 and Dec. 15, the Millis Police and Fire Department spent the majority of its time on calls related to motor vehicle stops and violations, car crashes, general traffic control, alarms (burglar, master box, carbon monoxide), suspicious activity, lost/found property, building checks, larceny/forgery/fraud, general complaints, and assisting citizens. They also provided assistance to neighboring towns including Medfield, Medway, and Sherborn.

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

- Nov. 17 at 2:34 p.m., Milliston Rd., larceny/forgery/fraud
- Nov. 17 at 3:34 p.m., Milliston Rd., larceny/forgery/fraud
- Nov. 18 at 8:46 p.m., Main St., suspicious activity
- Nov. 18 at 7:11 a.m., Exchange St., disturbance
- Nov. 18 at 11:51 a.m., Causeway St., structure fire
- Nov. 22 at 5:08 p.m., Village St., disturbance
- Nov. 23 at 7:34 p.m., Union St., assault
- Nov. 24 at 12:03 a.m., Orchard St., suspicious activity
- Nov. 30 at 10:26 p.m., Debrah Ln., suspicious activity
- Dec. 1 at 3:52 p.m., Curve St., soliciting
- Dec. 2 at 7:52 p.m., Union St., disturbance
- Dec. 3 at 1:01 a.m., Stoney Brook Dr., suspicious activity, transported to hospital
- Dec. 3 at 4:29 p.m., Park Rd., missing person
- Dec. 8 at 12:13 p.m., Auburn Rd., suspicious activity
- Dec. 9 at 6:55 a.m., Island Rd., vehicle fire
- Dec. 9 at 11:51 a.m., May Rd. and June Way, suspicious activity
- Dec. 9 at 1:29 p.m., Plain St., larceny/forgery/fraud
- Dec. 14 at 4:01 p.m., Spencer St., carbon monoxide alarm
- Dec. 15 at 11:51 a.m., Main St., complaint, advised

Source: Millis Police Department

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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

New-To-You Services to Love in 2026!

Hidden Gems at b.LUXE

By GINA WOELFEL

Happy New Year, b.LUXE Beauties! As we step into 2026, we thought it was the perfect time to share some of our best-kept secrets! These four services are already on our menu but might have flown under your radar. Once our clients discover them, they can't stop raving about them, and we have a feeling you'll love them, too. So if one of your resolutions is to take better care of yourself or try something new this year, this is your sign to book one of these game-changers!

Scalp Spa: The Treatment Your Hair Has Been Begging For \$60

When's the last time you gave your scalp some real TLC? If you're like most people, you focus on your hair but forget about the foundation it grows from. Our Scalp Spa treatment is like hitting the reset button for your hair and scalp, and trust us, it's an experience you won't forget.

We start with a thorough consultation to understand your scalp's specific needs, whether you're dealing with dryness,

oiliness, buildup, or sensitivity. Then we move into a deep cleanse and gentle exfoliation to remove all that product buildup, dead skin cells, and everyday grime that accumulates over time. This is especially important if you use a lot of styling products, dry shampoo, or wearing winter hats.

The best part is the relaxing scalp massage with nourishing treatments customized to your needs. We use premium products that boost circulation, balance oil production, and promote healthier hair growth from the roots up. The massage itself is incredibly relaxing (some clients even fall asleep!), but it's also therapeutic, helping to relieve the tension and stress we all carry in our heads and necks.

The results speak for themselves: your scalp feels refreshed and revitalized, your hair looks shinier and fuller, and most clients are booking their next visit before they even sit up! It's one of those rare self-care treatments that feels incredible in the moment and leaves you looking noticeably better afterward.



Lash Lift & Tint: Your Morning Routine Just Got Easier \$90

Imagine rolling out of bed with perfectly curled, defined lashes. No mascara wand, no lash curler, no worrying about smudges by noon or raccoon eyes after the gym. That's exactly what a lash lift and tint delivers. Our Lash Lift & Tint devotees are hooked!

Here's how it works: We lift and curl your natural lashes from the root using a gentle, safe process that enhances what you already have. Then we add a custom tint in the shade that works best for your coloring. That could be classic black, soft brown, or something in between. The results last 6-8 weeks, which means you're looking at two months of stress-free lashes.

It's one of those treatments where you don't realize how much you need it until you have it (then you wonder how you ever lived without it!) Perfect for vacations, busy mornings,



anyone who wears contacts or glasses, or if you just want to simplify your beauty routine without sacrificing that polished look.

Color Balance Treatment: The Perfect In-Between Service \$60+

Not quite ready for full highlights or balayage, but your roots are starting to show and your color feels a bit flat? Is your hair craving high-shine and manageability? Our Color Balance Treatment is the sweet spot you've been looking for, and it's ideal for maintaining that salon-fresh color without the major time or financial commitment.

Good for both natural and chemically treated hair, this service adds instant radiance and mirror-like shine. You can book it as a standalone treatment or use it between your balayage or highlight appointments at around the 6 to 8 week mark. It adds just the right amount of dimension while blending regrowth and keeping your color looking vibrant. Think of it as maintaining the beautiful color you already have without starting from scratch every time. Your hair looks intentional and polished, never grown out or neglected. It's the icing on the cake.

Face Frame Highlight: Maximum Impact, Minimal Commitment \$55 - \$80+

Sometimes all you need is

a little brightness around your face to feel like a whole new person. Our mini face frame highlight focuses strategically on the hair that frames your features (the pieces that catch the light and make the biggest visual impact when people look at you.)

It's perfect for extending the life of your full color service by refreshing just the most visible sections, testing out a lighter shade before committing to an all-over change, or just getting that fresh-from-the-salon feeling without blocking out half your day. Placement is key here, highlighting exactly where it counts to help brighten your face and add that lit-from-within glow. Quick, gorgeous, and totally transformative.

Let's simplify, streamline and make 2026 your best beauty year yet! This is your moment to strip away the noise, focus on what truly works for you, and build a routine that feels less like a chore and more like an act of self care. You deserve a beauty regimen that energizes rather than overwhelms, one that celebrates your unique features and fits seamlessly into your real life.

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Millis High School Drama Club takes a classic to the stage

By TARYN STRECK
STUDENT WRITER

On Nov. 21 and 22, the Millis High School Drama Club put on a captivating performance of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.”

A staple holiday performance, the play follows the transforma-

The MHS production starred junior Kevin Brynczka as Ebenezer Scrooge, joined by Chace O’Connell as Bob Cratchit, Klara Sieczkiewicz as Jacob Marley, Rio Spies as The Ghost of Christmas Past, Aureja Johnson as The Ghost of Christmas Present, and Thomas Cranmer

the aisles of the auditorium left a strong impression on the audience. He thanks everyone who attended the show.

O’Connell stated that “A Christmas Carol” was “the most complex play we’ve ever performed in terms of production, yet had the most satisfying result by far.” The Nov. 22 performance concluded with a heartfelt goodbye to the club’s seniors, Chace O’Connell and Phoenix Silva, who have helped bring performances to life for years, both on and off the stage. “I couldn’t have asked for a better exit from



The Cratchit family enjoying a Christmas meal. (L to R) Roman Chetsas, Megan Bartley, Rio Spies, Chace O’Connell, Taney Martin, and Willow Saegh. Photo credit: Shannon Graham



From left: Ebenezer Scrooge (Kevin Brynczka) and Bob Cratchit (Chace O’Connell) arguing in the bank. Photo credit: Shannon Graham

tion of Ebenezer Scrooge, a bitter banker who initially rejects any form of charity. After being visited by four Christmas spirits, including his disgruntled former banking partner Jacob Marley, and confronting his past, Scrooge learns the importance of compassion and generosity. The play was directed by Victoria Bartley and managed by Shannon Graham, both MHS teachers, and choreographed by MHS sophomore Shaelyn Cronin.

as The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.

The cast also featured students from the Millis Middle School drama club.

Brynczka said he enjoyed the opportunity to put his “own unique spin” on Scrooge. Taking “a well-known character in a somewhat unique direction” was a fun yet daunting challenge, and he certainly delivered. His departure from the stage to perform impactful monologues down

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A close-up photograph of several US coins (pennies, nickels, dimes) and a portion of a US dollar bill.

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Roger Kaldawy, M.D.

Dr. Kaldawy is an eye physician, surgeon, and corneal spe-

cialist trained at the University of Rochester and the University of Iowa. A former Assistant Professor at Boston University, he has performed more than 32,000 surgeries, pioneering advanced techniques in corneal transplants, innovative glaucoma surgery, premium implants, and bladeless femtosecond cataract surgery. He has trained numerous physicians, has been featured in multiple news articles including Channel 5, and serves as Medical Director of the Cataract Surgery Center of Milford.

Alyse Richard, M.D.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Alyse Richard, who will join our team in January 2026. She is a well-regarded retina specialist with expertise in macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinal tears, and retina-related emergencies. Dr. Richard completed her medical degree at Al-

bany Medical College, residency at the University of Rochester's Flaum Eye Institute, and a medical retina fellowship at New England Eye Center, Tufts Medical Center. She is known for her efficient, skilled approach to patient care and her commitment to maximizing diagnostic precision. She performs intraocular injections, laser procedures, and repairs of retinal tears and detachments.

Dan Liu, M.D.

Dr. Liu graduated from Northwestern University and Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, where she was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha. She completed residency at Albany Medical Center as Chief Resident and a fellowship in Cornea and Anterior Segment Surgery at Tufts. Her expertise includes cataract surgery with ORA, DMEK/DSEK/PK corneal transplants,



keratoconus treatment, MIGS glaucoma procedures, ocular surface tumors, and pterygia. She is board-certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology.

Shalin Zia, O.D.

Dr. Zia earned her Doctor of Optometry degree from Indiana University. She provides care for patients of all ages, specializing in routine vision exams, contact lenses, and management of eye disease.

Michael Adams, O.D.

Dr. Adams graduated from John Carroll University, completed a Master's in Biochemistry at Ohio State, and earned his optometry degree from the New England College of Optometry. His training includes corneal pathology, specialty contact lenses, and advanced ocular disease.

Donald L. Conn, O.D.

Dr. Conn received his optometry degree from the New England College of Optometry and completed a residency in Ocular Disease and Primary Care at the Bedford VA. He provides care to both adult and pediatric patients.

Purvi Patel, O.D.

Dr. Patel earned her Doctor of Optometry degree at SUNY and completed a residency in Ocular Disease. As a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, she has held leadership roles at Boston community health centers. Her clinical focus includes diabetes, glaucoma, and community-based care.

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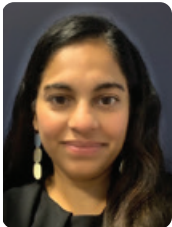

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EYE

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Medway featured trails: Idyllbrook Recreation and Conservation Area

Part of a series that focuses on Medway's trail system

As mentioned in last month's Open Space article, there are two separate trailheads at Idyllbrook Conservation and Recreation property, but they do connect. The North and South signage designations are basically to guide athletes who enter the fields at Idyllbrook South (on Ward's Lane) or to Idyllbrook North (at 99 Kimberly Drive) in Medway.

If you go during a time when the fields are being used, you may have an opportunity to use the porta potty clone located in Idyllbrook North.

Whether you go to the South or North trailhead, you can gaze diagonally across the field and see the opposite trailhead. Hikers and recreational walkers can follow the trail and can rest on

ers and recreational walkers can follow the trail and can rest on



the new bench installed by the Medway Trail Club. Idyllbrook is a great launching point to proceed to trails in nearby towns such as Holliston, Hopkinton, Milford and Sherborn.

Idyllbrook is also one of several property pockets in Massachusetts that the American Chestnut Foundation (based in N.C.) selected to plant a grove of trees to emulate the formerly

These orchards contain hybrid plants that have most of the American Chestnut qualities but were coupled with other properties in the hopes of emulating the original American Chestnut tree without the factors believed to make those originals disease prone as the plant was almost completely blighted in the last century. One of the hybrid trees planted in Idyllbrook has proven to be successful in assuming the American Chestnut without the disease risk factor.

Once some of the other Medway trails have been showcased, this fascinating facet of our trails will be explored in depth more.

blighted American Chestnut tree. The American Chestnut Foundation planted several orchards around the country including Medway (Franklin and Westborough also have sites).

Submitted by Medway Open Space Committee and Trail Club

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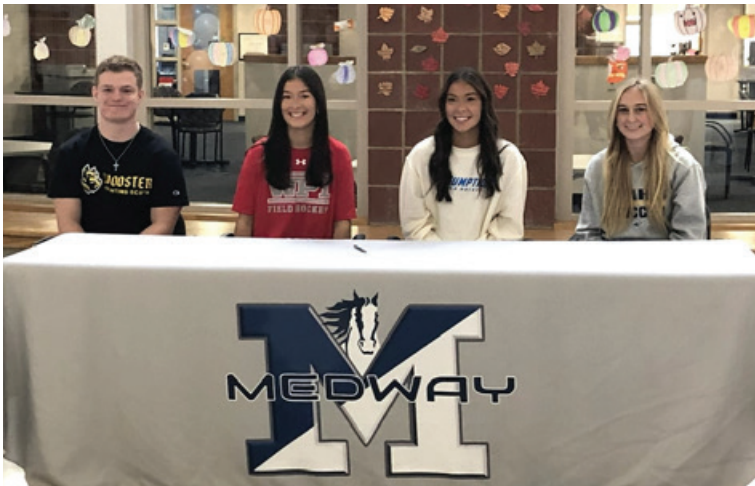
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Medway High School recognizes four student athletes at NCAA Commitment Ceremony

Medway High School recently recognized four student-athletes during a Commitment Ceremony held on Nov. 26, celebrating their decisions to continue competing in sports at the collegiate level. Families, teammates, faculty, staff and friends gathered in the main lobby as the athletes signed their letters of intent to compete in NCAA Division II and III athletics. “We are proud of these



Medway High School recognized four student-athletes during a Commitment Ceremony held on Wednesday, Nov. 26. From left to right, Eamon McCarthy, Ava Cortis, Bella Cortis and Alicia MacRury. (Photo Courtesy Medway Public Schools)

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students not only for their athletic accomplishments but also for the leadership, work ethic and character they have displayed throughout their time at Medway High School,” Medway Public Schools Athletic Director Jeff Parcels said. “They have made meaningful contributions to their teams and to our school community, and we look forward to seeing

them shine at the next level. Congratulations to our student-athletes.” The following student-athletes were recognized: Ava Cortis, Bella Cortis, Alicia MacRury and Eamon McCarthy MPS Superintendent Pires and MHS Principal John Murray congratulated the

COMMITMENT
continued on page 21

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New members welcome to Charles River Chorale open rehearsals in January

The Charles River Chorale will begin open rehearsals for its Spring 2026 season and is actively recruiting new members. Come and experience choral singing with a non-audition chorus. Our members come from throughout the MetroWest region and span all ages. All attest to the joy it brings them every week.

Under the leadership of our award-winning director, Ashley Nelson-Oneschuk, we would love to have you come see if this is for you. We meet

every Tuesday through early May from 7:30-9:30PM at the Church of Christ, 142 Exchange St. in Millis.

Our spring concert is in early May. The first three rehearsals (Jan. 20, Jan. 27 and Feb. 3) are open for new members without obligation. To attend, you can either meet at the church

for any of our open rehearsals or fill out our sign-up form (no obligation) at <https://forms.gle/mgnj9NCiRSLU4jTG9> or by using this QR code.



COMMITMENT

continued from page 20

student-athletes and thanked families, staff, and coaches for supporting the students throughout their athletic and academic journeys.

“I want to congratulate these four seniors for making their commitments as they look forward to the rest of their time here at Medway High School and to the next phase of their lives pursuing sports and academics at the college level,” Principal Murray said. “I wish each of them continued success in the classroom and on the athletic field.”

“Each of these students has demonstrated tremendous dedication over many years,” Superintendent Pires said. “We are proud of their achievements and excited to see them represent Medway at the collegiate level.”

Submitted by Medway Public Schools.

Ava Cortis, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (NCAA Division III Field Hockey)

Ava has committed to continuing her academic and athletic career at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where she will compete for the Engineers field hockey program.

“Ava is a dedicated and reliable player who consistently set the tone for our team. Her determination and steady presence on the field made her a leader for our younger athletes,” said Coach Abby Clark. “WPI is gaining a hardworking and driven student-athlete who will continue to grow at the collegiate level.”



Bella Cortis, Assumption University (NCAA Division II Field Hockey)

Bella will continue her field hockey career at Assumption University, joining a competitive Division II program known for its strong athletic and academic environment.

“Bella brings incredible energy and competitiveness to everything she does,” said Coach Abby Clark.



“She elevates the play of those around her and has been an important part of our program. She has the talent and mindset to thrive at Assumption, and I’m excited to see what she accomplishes next.”

Alicia MacRury, Southern New Hampshire University (NCAA Division II Women’s Soccer)

Alicia committed to Southern New Hampshire University, where she will join the Penmen women’s soccer program. This past season at Medway, Alicia recorded 9 goals and 8 assists, including four game-winning goals, becoming a major offensive contributor and a standout teammate.

“Alicia is one of the hardest working players I have ever coached. She made a huge impact this year at Medway with her will to win, which became infectious through the team,” said Girls’ Soccer Head Coach Ryan Elster. “Her commitment to growing both on and off the field will allow her to have huge success at the next level. I wish her nothing but the best and look forward to seeing all that she is able to accomplish at SNHU.”



Eamon McCarthy, The College of Wooster (NCAA Division III Men’s Lacrosse)

Eamon will continue his athletic career with the men’s lacrosse team at The College of Wooster in Ohio.



“Eamon is a smart, disciplined, and highly coachable player who brings consistency and competitiveness to every practice and game. His leadership and commitment to improvement set the standard for our program,” said Boys’ Lacrosse Head Coach Shane Jackson. “Wooster is getting a strong addition to its roster, and I’m confident he will make an immediate impact.”

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Sports

Medway High Girls Basketball, consistent and successful

By KEN HAMWEY
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

The Medway High girls basketball team personifies consistency.

For the last 16 years, the length of time that Joe Iannone has been head coach, the Mustangs have compiled a 233-124 won-lost record, qualified for the playoffs 14 times, and advanced to the Final Four on three occasions.

One reason for Medway's continual success is a common-sense goal that the 58-year-old Iannone stresses every year. "We strive for daily improvement and aim to be a much better team at the end of the season than we were at the beginning," he said. "Our other goal is to qualify for the tourney and advance as far as possible."

The Mustangs, who last year posted a 16-5 regular season record and earned a No. 4 power ranking in Division 3, split a pair of games in the playoffs, defeating Pope Francis then losing to Old Rochester. The 2025-26 campaign will probably live up to the successes of the past but Iannone's roster of 12 has only five players with experience.

The veteran coach, however, likes his squad's athleticism, rebounding ability, coachable manner, and strong work ethic. "We also have good defensive instincts, some height and versatility," Iannone offered. "We can

score either inside or from the perimeter, and our girls are capable of playing a variety of positions."

There's also another facet he likes that can take the Mustangs on a long playoff ride.

"Our three senior captains not only lead by example, but they also lead by being communicative, supportive, positive and vocal when needed," Iannone emphasized.

The captains are Anna Freeman, a 6-foot-1 center; Regan Longval, a guard-forward; and Eva Miranda, who can play either point guard or on the wing. Freeman was a Tri Valley League all-star last year and Longval was an honorable-mention choice.

"Anna averaged 12 points and 11 rebounds last year," Iannone noted. "She's consistent, physically strong, and very athletic. A great offensive rebounder, she's got good footwork in the post. Regan is one of the best defenders in the league. She's quick, active and anticipates well. On offense, she can shoot and drive. Eva can pass effectively and on defense she's physical, quick, instinctive and competes with lots of energy."

Two juniors who'll be key contributors are forward Maeve Kelly and guard Brooke Parlon.

"Maeve is a versatile six-footer who's able to play any position," Iannone said. "She's a very capable defender and shot-blocker. Very active and energetic, she's improved as a scorer. Brooke can

play either guard position. She's got good ball-handling skills and is an excellent shooter who can hit threes. Very focused on defense, she competes with lots of intensity."

Five top-notch competitors on the jayvees last year have moved up to the varsity. They include juniors Ashley Cairney (guard), Kaylie Higgins (forward), and Taylor Carpenter (guard); and sophomores Olivia Coyle (guard) and Sophie Oldmixon (guard). "They're learning the challenges of varsity basketball and I'm very pleased with the way they've responded," Iannone said.

The five can provide offense, defense and athleticism.

"Ashley and Kaylie can both shoot from outside; Taylor is intense on defense; and Olivia and Sophie are athletic, all-around players who are improving daily," Iannone noted.

The coach labeled freshmen guard Elena Klaus and forward Maggie Girard as "pleasant surprises."

"Elena has a well-rounded game and will earn significant minutes," he said. "Maggie is very coachable and plays with lots of poise for a freshman."

Iannone's staff includes junior-varsity coach Katy Golden and varsity aides Connor Guiou and Bryan Connolly. "They're very dedicated and did additional prep work for this season," he said. "They maintain consistency and are key components to



Medway's captains are, from left, Regan Longval, Anna Freeman and Eva Miranda. Courtesy photo

a positive culture."

A native of Paramus, N.J., Iannone has a competitive philosophy that's linked to the goals he sets. "I want our players to strive to reach their potential and to enjoy their athletic endeavors," he emphasized. "Winning will follow if those two elements are in place."

Life lessons learned from sports can be valuable and Iannone has some favorites. "It's important to learn how to overcome adversity and to be resilient," he noted. "Other key lessons are to be supportive teammates, effective leaders, mentally tough, and

able to anticipate what's next."

Although he was still mulling roster decisions late in pre-season workouts, Iannone and the Mustangs opened their season on the road against a traditionally strong Mansfield quintet. Medway defeated Mansfield, 42-33.

The victory no doubt gave the Mustangs and early dose of success and was a reminder of how valuable a relentless work ethic can be. Another plus is Medway's past success. The last 16 years should give the current edition of the Mustangs plenty of inspiration.

SPORTS EXTRA

Medway High School Athletic Department recognizes fall 2025 season achievements

Medway Public Schools Athletic Director Jeff Parcels and Medway High School Principal John Murray recently recognized MHS's student-athletes who recently completed a successful 2025 fall athletics season.

"This was another great fall for our Athletic Department," said Parcels. "Months of hard

work put in by our student-athletes paid off. We are very proud of all our athletes, and we'd like to commend our teams and students who earned special recognition this season. I'd also like to thank and congratulate our dedicated teachers and coaches for their ongoing efforts to help our student-athletes to achieve."

"Each season, our student-athletes continue to show what it means to represent Medway with pride, resilience and integrity," said Murray. "This fall was no different. Our athletes balanced demanding academic schedules with the commitment required to compete at a high level. These 2025 season achievements reflect

that dedication. I am grateful for our coaches, teachers and families who support them every step of the way, and I congratulate all of our teams and award recipients on another truly outstanding fall season."

Fall Cheer

Tri-Valley League (TVL)

Champions, champions of three competitions, 2nd place at South Regionals, 6th place at State Championships

Team Captains: Jillian Bartel, Chloe Giallonardo, Olivia Olyn-ciw, Samantha Tovar

SPORTS EXTRA

continued on page 23

Sports

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They will then create a strategy that is aligned with your goals and priorities. Finally, together, you will review, refine,

and begin implementing your financial plan with your advisor guiding you every step of the way.

As Warren Buffett said, "Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago." The sooner you start planning, the brighter your future will be!

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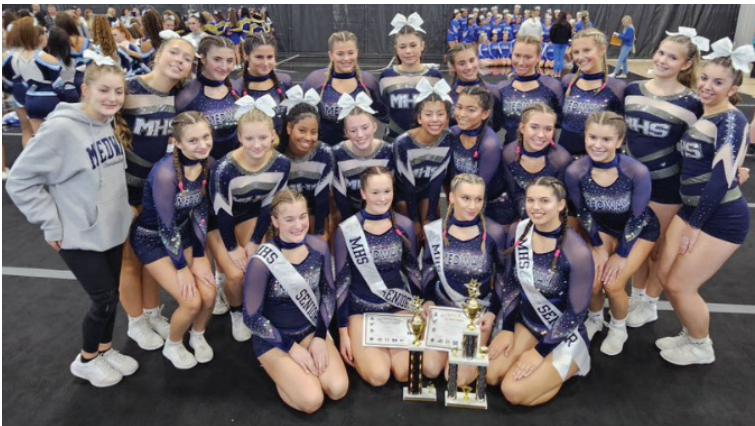
continued from page 22

TVL All-Stars: Jillian Bartel, Olivia Olynciw
Head Coach: Adrienne Hunter (2nd season)

Head Coach: Andrew Nassiff (3rd season)

Girls Cross Country

Record: 0-5 overall, 0-5 TVL, MIAA State Divisional Race Qualifier
Team Captains: Elle Heiden,



The Medway High School Cheer team won the title of Tri-Valley League (TVL) Champions during the fall 2025 season. (Photo Courtesy Medway Public Schools)

Boys Cross Country

Record: 2-3 overall, 2-3 TVL, MIAA State Divisional Race Qualifier
Team Captains: Myles Hoffman, Aadhavan Sivakumar
TVL All-Star: Aidan Christie, Charlie LaMonica
Honorable Mention All-Stars: Harsh Balamurugan, Aadhavan Sivakumar

Winter Lafferty
Honorable Mention All-Stars: Elle Heiden
Head Coach: Melissa Cecchi (16th season)
Field Hockey
Record: 10-6-2 overall, 7-4-1 TVL

SPORTS EXTRA

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SPORTS EXTRA

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6th in tournament ranking, competed through Round of 16
Team Captains: Ava Cortis, Isabella Cortis, Haley Gales
TVL All-Star: Isabella Cortis
Honorable Mention All-Star: Ava Cortis, Maggie Drake, Brooke Eliadi, Bryanna Fauton, Haley Gales, Ciara Maloney, Sophia Nielsen
Head Coach: Abby Clark (1st season)

Football

Record: 6-5 overall, 3-2 TVL Small
10th in tournament ranking, competed through Round of 16
Team Captains: Dylan Costa, Logan Keaney, Aidan Tkowski, Jacob White
TVL All-Star: Christian Cautilli, Dylan Costa, Logan Keaney (Co-Offensive MVP), Justin Pilard, Jacob White
Honorable Mention All-Star: Jackson Duguay, Grant Hetzel, James Kerls, Will Parrella, Aidan Tkowski
Head Coach: Ted Rigney (2nd season)



The Medway High Field Hockey Team was led during the Fall 2025 season by Team Captains Ava Cortis, Isabella Cortis and Haley Gales, along with Head Coach Abby Clark. (Photo Courtesy Medway Public Schools)

Co-Ed Golf

Record: 7-7 overall, 5-6 TVL, MIAA Division II State Sectional Qualifier
Team Captains: Michael Cortis, Jason Drake, Tommy Vallante
TVL All-Star: Michael Cortis
Honorable Mention: Jason Drake, Evan Goodman, Brayden Komola, Matthew Plante, Tommy Vallante
Head Coach: Jim Bruce (6th season)

Boys Soccer

Record: 2-15-1 overall, 1-12-1 TVL
Team Captains: Pedro Barbosa, Connor Levasseur, Kevin Moreau, Alex Stott
TVL All-Star: Kevin Moreau
Honorable Mention All-Star: Pedro Barbosa, Tommy Stotz
Head Coach: Chris Borden (6th season)

Girls Soccer

Record: 11-8-1 overall, 10-6 TVL
19th in tournament ranking, competed through the Round of 16
Team Captains: Molly Johnson, Regan Longval, Eva Miranda, Ella Ruggeri
TVL All-Star: Maeve Kelly,

Unified Basketball

Record: 4-4, 3-0 at the Unified Jamboree
Team Captains: Olivia Fraser, Patrick Whouley
Head Coach: Katy Golden (4th season)

Volleyball

Record: 9-11 overall, 6-8 TVL



Medway High School Volleyball went 9-11 overall this season, and the team also won the TVL Sportsmanship Award Winner. (Photo Courtesy Medway Public Schools)

Regan Longval
Honorable Mention All-Star: Sadie Bomfim, Sarah Kagan, Alicia MacRury, Eva Miranda, Ella Ruggeri
Head Coach: Ryan Elster (3rd season)

27th in tournament ranking, competed through Round of 32
Team Captains: Emma Cope-

SPORTS EXTRA

continued on page 26

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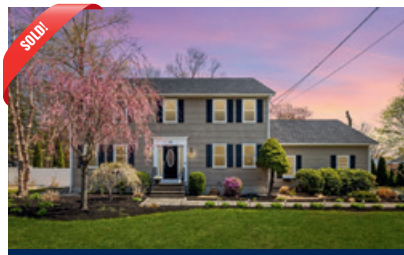
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17 Gilbert Street, Newton



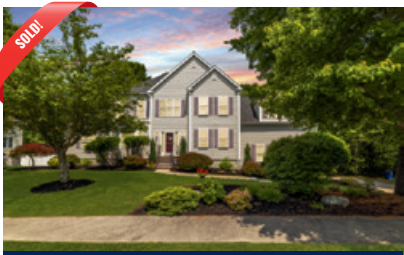
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104 Holliston Street, Medway | 104Holliston.com



18 Candlewood Drive, Medway | 18Candlewood.com



7 Tulip Way, Medway | 7Tulip.com



12 Olde Surrey Lane, Medway | 12OldeSurrey.com



2 Claybrook Farm Road, Medway | 2ClaybrookFarm.com



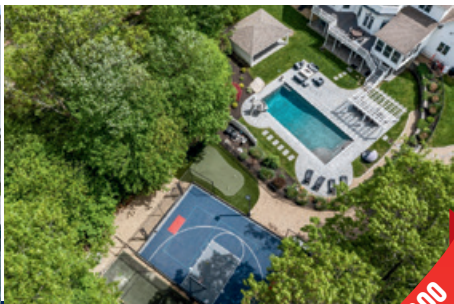
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SPORTS EXTRA

continued from page 24

land, Charlotte George, Mackenzie Klaus

TVL All-Star: Emma Copeland, Lucy Mitchell

Honorable Mention All-Star: Maeve Curley, Charlotte George, Kaylie Higgins, Mackenzie Klaus

Team Award: TVL Sportsmanship Award Winner

Head Coach: Shawn Thompson (3rd season)

Middle School Results

Middle School Volleyball:

10-4

Middle School Girls Cross Country: 4-3

Middle School Boys Cross Country: 3-4

Medway High School Boys Soccer finished with an overall record of 2-15-1. (Photo Courtesy Medway Public Schools)



Real Estate Corner

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Recent Home Sale

The 4-bed, 3-bath, 2,808-square-foot house at 2 April Way in Millis recently sold for \$1,030,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

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Broker - REALTOR®

Susan Brouwer
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Real Estate Corner

Recent Home Sales

Date	Medway	Amount
12/10/2025	12 Longmeadow Ln.	\$650,000
12/10/2025	22 Sunset Dr.	\$720,000
12/09/2025	28 Wellington St.	\$530,000
12/05/2025	15 Broad Acres Farm Rd.	\$1.22 mil
11/24/2025	17 Farm St.	\$580,000
11/20/2025	16 Blueberry Hill Rd.	\$866,000
Date	Millis	Amount
12/15/2025	1 Jameson Dr.	\$1.15 mil
12/12/2025	324 Union St. #6	\$376,000
12/10/2025	210 Causeway St.	\$710,000
12/10/2025	2 Spencer St.	\$635,000
12/10/2025	2 April Way	\$1.03 mil
12/08/2025	84 Mddlesex St.	\$785,000
12/04/2025	242 Farm St.	\$835,000
12/03/2025	37 Crestview Dr.	\$580,000
11/25/2025	34 Pollard Dr.	\$725,000

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

Clean Water Trust approves \$104.2 million in new loans and grants, sends \$126,000 to Medway

In December, the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust's (the Trust) Board of Trustees approved \$104,199,464 in new low-interest loans and grants, including a \$126,000 Asset Management Planning grant to the Town of Medway.

The Trust, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), helps communities build or replace water infrastructure that enhances ground and surface water resources, ensures the safety of drinking water, protects pub-

lic health and develops resilient communities. It accomplishes these objectives by providing low-interest loans and grants to cities, towns and water utilities through the Massachusetts State Revolving Funds (SRFs). The SRF programs are partnerships between the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. SRFs function like an environmental infrastructure bank by financing water infrastructure projects in cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

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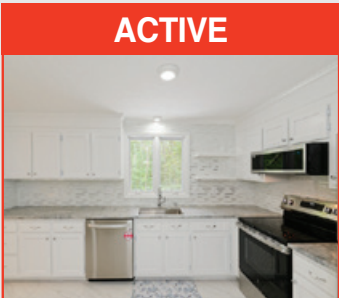
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36 Lakin Street
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Millis - \$549,900



SOLD

2 April Way
Millis - \$1,030,000



ACTIVE

56 S. Bow Street
Milford - \$569,000



SOLD

485 Main Street
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Client Testimonial for Laina Regan Kaplan:

"We would highly recommend Laina! She was extremely knowledgeable throughout the entire process. She helped us with everything, was always available, and went above and beyond! We could not have done it without her! Thank you Laina!!"

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