



# local town pages **Medway & Millis**

Vol. 17 No. 4

Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

May 1, 2026

## Millis election May 11, contested seat for Select Board

BY THERESA KNAPP

The Town of Millis will hold its annual election on Mon., May 11, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the gym of the Veterans Memorial Building at 900 Main Street.

A sample ballot can be found at [www.millisma.gov](http://www.millisma.gov) or <https://bit.ly/MillisSampleBallot2026>.

The only contested race on the ballot is for one seat on the Millis Select Board. Candidates include Erin T. Underhill (Candidate for Re-Election) and James F. McKay, retired director of the Millis Department of Public Works.

The following campaign statements were posted on @millispublicforum on Facebook on April 17. The candidates are listed in the order they appear on the election ballot, and the posts are verbatim.

**Erin Espie Underhill, April 17 at 6:02 a.m.**

“Good morning Millis!!!

As you all know, I’m running for re-election for the Select Board. I believe one of the biggest gaps in town government is communication—people want to know what’s happening, why decisions are made, and to feel like their voices actually matter. I’m committed to being accessible, listening to residents, and making sure our government is open and transparent. When people are informed and involved, we make better decisions as a community. I’d be honored to earn your vote on May 11th!

My platform consists of four main areas:

1. Fiscal Responsibility
  - Provide disciplined budgeting and long-term planning
  - Clearly communicate

where tax dollars are applied

2. Strong Schools and Town Services
  - Maintain high-quality schools as a priority investment
  - Ensure police, fire and DPW are properly supported

3. Transparency and Communication

- Provide clear, accessible town updates via our website and social media
- Promote and maintain a town-wide calendar of events
- Encourage public input before major decisions
- Continue to be available and accessible for questions and concerns

4. Long-Term Planning

- Capital planning (roads, buildings, equipment) to focus on upcoming needs and budget

### ELECTIONS

*continued on page 2*



Bill Hoffman poses with his 1924 Model T at one of the many parades he participated in during his 40 years in Medway.

## Remembering Bill Hoffman and his Model T

### Family seeks new driver to carry on tradition

BY JUDY MOFFATT

Bill Hoffman was a Medway resident for more than 40 years and was easy to spot as he drove around town in his 1924 Model T. He passed away in March from ALS, and his family hopes

to find a new driver in time for this year’s Memorial Day parade.

Hoffman began what he fondly called his “retirement”

### HOFFMAN

*continued on page 4*

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### ELECTIONS

*continued from page 1*

concerns

• Water and sewer sustainability planning - continue to seek grants for PFAS facilities and investigate increasing sewer capacity

This is of course not an exhaustive list however, areas where I'd like to focus moving forward.

housing type (including HOA and 40B); departmental resource sharing; asset condition and utilization (land, buildings, infrastructure); and how capital spending is tracked, integrated, and evaluated over time.

With property taxes up roughly 32% since FY21 (as of our May Town Meeting), on top of rising utility and energy costs, and with relatively flat population growth, the pressure on households is real. The work



I'm happy to engage and further discuss any of these areas with you - simply reach out to me.

[ErinU4Millis@gmail.com](mailto:ErinU4Millis@gmail.com)

**Jim McKay, April 17 at 1:20 p.m.**

"While I've officially retired after 20 years at the Millis DPW, I remain retained in service to continue key capital projects and support the succession plan I began five years ago.

I think many residents are now asking a different question: not "Did we spend the money as approved?" but "Are we spending it as effectively as possible?"

Our town's mandated annual financial audit is essential for compliance. A broader Municipal Cost Review would go further, examining long-term liabilities; regional service sharing; consortium purchasing power; true costs and revenue by

already underway in DPW and public safety shows that collaboration and consortium purchasing can strengthen value—but the question is whether we are applying that mindset consistently across all functions.

This is not about criticism or "fraud"—it's about continuous improvement and long-term stewardship. Subject-matter experts in our community have already offered to help explore new approaches, and an Innovation Task Force could help turn that knowledge into a practical action plan. Enterprise funds also provide a useful framework for better cost transparency in infrastructure services.

There is only upside in taking a closer, more strategic look at how we deliver services—and in ensuring taxpayers have the clearest possible understanding of value for their money."

*Editor's note: [mckay4millis@gmail.com](mailto:mckay4millis@gmail.com)*



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# Millis Town Meeting

The Town of Millis will hold its Annual Town Meeting on Mon., May 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Millis Middle/High School, 245 Plain Street.

- The 24 warrant articles include:
- Ambulance revolving fund [\$70,000]
  - FY26 additional wages and expenses
  - FY27 operating budget
  - Sewer Enterprise Fund
  - Water Enterprise Fund
  - Stormwater Enterprise Fund
  - Consent agenda (amendments to personnel plan, Board of Health appointing authority, revolving funds: increase COA transportation and program services expenditure limits, Community Preservation Fund)
  - Capital items [\$684,935]
  - Borrowing for water meter replacement program [\$1,286,633]
  - Lease of new police cruiser [\$76,854]
  - Tri-County school debt
  - Community Preservation project: 1178 Main St., afford-

able housing [at Hammond St., \$200,000]

- Community Preservation project: High School baseball scoreboard project [\$12,000]
  - FEMA flood map revision project [\$120,000]
  - PILOT agreement for 1073 Main St. [solar photovoltaic facilities]
  - Amend Capital Planning bylaw
  - Amend Zoning bylaw: battery storage systems and data storage
  - Appropriate of PFAS settlement funds for PFAS remediation capital project [\$1,168,158.69]
  - Recission of borrowing authorization: D'Angelis Well Project [\$206,021]
  - Unemployment Insurance Fund
  - MGL c. 41 Sec. 111F Injury Leave Indemnity Fund
  - Compensated Absences Reserve Fund
  - OPEB [Other Post Employment Benefits] Fund
  - Stabilization Fund
- The full warrant can be found at [www.millisma.gov](http://www.millisma.gov).*

# Medway to hold Annual, Special Town Meetings on May 11

The Town of Medway will hold its Annual Town Meeting on May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Medway High School auditorium, 88 Summer Street.

Before that meeting, a Special Town Meeting will be held at 7 p.m.

The warrants were not available at press time but can be found at [www.medwayma.gov](http://www.medwayma.gov).

# Medway election to be held May 19

The Town of Medway's annual election will take place on May 19 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Medway Middle School in the old gym, 45 Holliston Street, Door 8.

A sample ballot can be found

at <https://bit.ly/MedwaySampleBallot2026>.

There are nine seats available. Most races include incumbents running unopposed except for that of Library Trustee, where new candidate Tara M.

Rice is running against incumbent Lisa Sheehan.

There is one seat available on the Parks Commission for which new candidate Timothy A. Rice is running unopposed.

# Medway to host 5th Annual Pride Flag Raising

The 5th Annual Medway Pride Flag Raising will take place on May 31, bringing the community together to celebrate inclusion, visibility, and support for LGBTQIA+ residents.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. along Route 109, where Pride flags will be raised near the entrance to Choate Park.

Community members are encouraged to wear colorful attire and line Route 109 in a show of pride and solidarity.

Following the ceremony, festivities will continue at the Choate Park Pavilion from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Attendees can enjoy a variety of activities, including local vendors, crafts,

music, and ice cream.

Organized by Medway Marches, the annual event has become a meaningful tradition in the town, offering residents an opportunity to gather in a welcoming, family-friendly environment while celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community.

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**HOFFMAN**

*continued from page 1*

job at the Medway Public Library in 1995. Bringing decades of experience in the computer industry, he created the library's first website and designed signage and print materials. At the circulation desk, he became known for his quick wit and remarkable knack for finding answers.

But his favorite role was delivering books for the library's "Outreach Program" behind the wheel of his gleaming black 1924 Model T. Fully registered for street use, the car doubled as his delivery vehicle, delighting patrons as he arrived with both their books and a piece of living history. Many older residents fondly recalled family members who had driven similar cars.

A 30-year member of the Model T Club, Hoffman took pride in sharing his passion for the past. As recently as Sept. 20, 2025, he entered the car in Medway's "Endless Summer Cruise-In," where it was judged by representatives from the

Lars Anderson Car Museum and won a trophy. The award recognized the vehicle's unique

dubbed the category the "Fifty-Fifty," honoring the blend of restored and original elements.



**Bill Hoffman, with his wife Judy, driving his 1924 Model T in the 2025 Medway Memorial Day Parade. Hoffman died in March and his family is seeking a new driver to carry on the tradition.**

balance of restoration and original condition—featuring details such as a wind-up clock, map light, original seat backs, spotlight, and taillight. Judges were especially charmed by the antique doctor's bag mounted on the running board, a nod to the type of owner who might have driven such a car in 1924. They

Hoffman and his Model T were also a familiar sight in Medway's parades, where the car's distinctive chug, brass bulb horn, and playful wolf whistle drew cheers from spectators lining the streets.

His final parade appearance was in Medway's Memorial Day Parade in May 2025. His wish

was for the Model T to continue bringing joy to the community he loved. To honor that wish, his family is seeking someone new to take the wheel and carry on the tradition for future generations.

If you'd like to see the car, you can visit it at Hoffman's Celebration of Life and ALS Fundraiser on Sun., June 28, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 1077 Pond St., Franklin, where members from the Model T club will be bringing their cars, along with Bill's Model T.

For more information on driving the car or the Celebration of Life, please contact Judy at Hoffmoff@JudithMoffatt.com

Donations in Bill Hoffman's memory can be made to Compassionate Care ALS at ccals.org, or CCALS, P.O. Box 1052, West Falmouth, MA 02574.

**Bill Hoffman's wish was for the Model T to continue bringing joy to the community he loved. To honor that wish, his family is seeking someone new to take the wheel and carry on the tradition for future generations. If you are interested, please contact Judy at Hoffmoff@JudithMoffatt.com.**

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 Jennifer Schofield  
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**SOUR GRAPES** by Tim Jones

**Panel 1:** Dog: "I'LL HAVE THE DAILY SPECIAL, PLEASE." Cashier: "WE DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIALS TODAY, AESOP."

**Panel 2:** Dog: "Tik TAP TIK TAP" (knocking on the wall). Cashier: "YOU'LL HAVE TO PICK FROM THE MAIN MENU UP ON THE WALL BEHIND ME. THE CAFE DOESN'T OFFER SPECIALS ANYMORE, SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?"

**Panel 3:** Dog: "OH, NOTHING SPECIAL." Cashier: "CAFE CASHIER"

**Panel 4:** Dog: "CAFE CASHIER"

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# Which retirement plan is right for your business?



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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If you're a local business owner, a workplace retirement plan can be a powerful tool – helping you manage taxes, strengthen employee retention and build personal financial security.

Many in your situation, however, assume retirement plans are complicated or only suitable for large companies. The reality is quite different. Today's retirement plan options encompass

businesses of every size, from solo entrepreneurs to companies with dozens of employees.

The key is understanding which plans work best for different kinds of businesses:

**Self-employed individuals or businesses without employees.** Three commonly used retirement plans:

- Simplified employee pension (SEP) plans are relatively straightforward, low-maintenance, lower-cost and flexible on how much you contribute each year.
- Owner-only 401(k) plans are ideal if you're willing to accept additional cost and complexity in exchange for benefits like higher contribution limits and borrowing options.
- Owner only defined benefit plans work best for owners with high, steady income who want to maximize their retirement contributions and guaranteed retirement income. These plans come with required annual

funding and greater administrative complexity.

**Businesses with employees** can also consider an SEP plan, although it only allows for employer contributions. Other plan options include:

- The SIMPLE IRA (savings incentive match plan for employees) can work well for companies with 100 or fewer employees seeking a low-maintenance option. Employer contributions are required, and it has lower contribution limits compared to other plan types.
- Traditional 401(k) plans offer maximum flexibility by allowing both employee salary deferrals and employer contributions that can be adjusted based on business performance. These plans have added costs and administrative responsibilities.
- Safe harbor 401(k) plans are ideal if you want to maximize your own retirement contributions without complex testing require-

ments and you're willing to make required employer contributions.

- A cash balance plan is often paired with another plan type, such as a 401(k), to allow greater retirement savings. It works well when you have a smaller company with high-earning employees and consistent cash flow, and you're comfortable making required contributions.

Each plan type involves different eligibility requirements, establishment deadlines, contribution limits, complexity and costs. In determining a workplace retirement plan that's right for your business, you'll want to consider your number of employees, desired contribution levels, comfort with required employer contributions and willingness to handle administrative responsibilities. And, of course, the goals for your business and your own retirement are important criteria.

Fortunately, you don't have to navigate this decision alone. A

financial advisor can help you evaluate the trade-offs among different plan types and select the option that best fits your situation. They can explain how various plans work and guide you through the setup process.

Starting a workplace retirement plan is an investment in your future, your business and your employees. With professional guidance, you can find a plan that helps everyone build financial security while positioning your business for continued success.

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

Mark Freeman, CEPA  
Edward Jones Financial Advisor  
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# Medway Memorial Day Parade May 25 at 10 a.m.

Medway will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade on Mon., May 25 and this year's Grand Marshal will be Medway resident Peter Ciolek.

Ciolek was born May 16, 1946, in Punto San Giorgio, Italy. His father served as a soldier in the Polish Army fighting for the allies during World War II. After the war, Ciolek and his family emigrated first to Argentina and later to the United States, settling in Dorchester. He

graduated from Boston English High School before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1966. During his service, he was stationed at Naval Air Station South Weymouth, where he served as a crew member on naval aircraft conducting anti-submarine operations.

Ciolek later met his wife, Gloria, and together they raised two daughters, Kerry and Robin. The couple has lived in Medway for more than 50 years. A long-

time local business owner, Ciolek operated a well-known glass repair company in the area. He has also been an active member of the Medway Memorial Committee, where he has been a dedicated advocate for veterans and a steadfast supporter of the community.

The Memorial Committee is honored to recognize Ciolek for his many contributions.

The town's Memorial Day parade will step off at 10 a.m.



from the former VFW building on Holliston Street. Ceremonies honoring the men and women who have served in the armed forces will follow at Matondi Square.

As in previous years, participants will include the Medway Police Department, Medway Fire Department, the Medway High School Band, the Worcester Kilties, veterans, town officials, and local community organizations. Veterans are encouraged to take part in both

the parade and the ceremonies.

For more information, contact Richard Parrella at (508) 533-2741.

**Medway's Memorial Day Parade will take place on May 25 and will step off at 10 a.m. from the former VFW building on Holliston Street. Ceremonies honoring the men and women who have served in the armed forces will follow at Matondi Square.**



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Your Money, Your Independence

# Grads: Don't Pay the Comfort Tax, Invest in the "Struggle"



Glenn Brown, CFP

Every commencement season, a familiar debate plays out: move back home to save money or head to a cramped apartment on a diet of ramen and determination?

On a spreadsheet, the live-at-home option looks like a win. By eliminating rent and utilities, the theory suggests you can save \$20,000 to \$40,000 in your first year.

Sorry Grads, but this premise rarely becomes reality. It's ironic: you rolled your eyes at professors steeped in abstract theory, yet here you are committing the same nonsense.

### The Myth of Boomerang Savings

When the Bank of Mom and Dad subsidizes your life, psychological urgency evapo-

rates. Without the boundary of a rent check, savings leak into high-end gyms, trips, subscriptions and tech. The justification is: "I'm suffering enough by living at home; I deserve this." Instead of a surplus, you entrench expensive habits you can't afford once you leave.

To build financial independence, you first need to take flight. Just as a plane needs the resistance of wind to generate lift, you need the friction of real-world expenses to get off the ground. Living at home removes headwinds and leaves you idling on the runway while your peers are taking off.

### The Geography of Opportunity

High-rent brain-hubs trigger the Agglomeration Effect, forcing you into a network of mentors and peers that hometowns lack. Research shows physical proximity leads to faster promotions and better career matching. You can't effectively network from your basement with AI; career-defining windows of opportunity open when you are present, both at work and socializing outside of it.

Furthermore, roommates are a masterclass in negotiation. Sharing a kitchen, bathroom and utility bills teaches conflict resolution and accountability. These soft skills create an independence gap between those

who handle their own friction points and those who have them smoothed over by parents.

### The Real Cost of Entry-Level

Manage your burn rate without suffocating your future. Aim for the 30% Rule: keep all housing costs under 30% of your gross income. In the Boston-area, this means Davis Square or Allston/Brighton, not splitting a Seaport two-bedroom.

Parents, if your graduate is complaining of costs and can't get ahead, don't pay their rent as it kills urgency. Instead, offer a one-time "get out of jail" card for a true crisis. This provides security without removing the daily incentive to work hard to change outcomes.

### Independence is a Habit

Living at home for "just a year" often turns into three. Grads, when you live like Boomers in a cozy setup, you lose the primary engine of growth: discontent. If you aren't bothered by your surroundings, you won't hunt for a promotion or take a career risk. The most effective career coach is a little room you're desperate to leave; that daily

friction creates an obsession with progress and a determination to never return.

### Advice to Class of 2026

**To the parents:** Supporting independence means letting them struggle. The best gift this May isn't their old room back (or worse, refinishing the basement); it's the belief that they are capable of building their own independence.

**To the graduates:** The money you think you'll save at home comes at the cost of your ambition. Renting a room you can barely afford in a city that excites you is a form of aggressive investing; you are betting on your own ability to grow into future expenses.

Go find the cramped apartment. Deal with noisy room-

mates. The struggle of your 20's is how you get a 2X-5X return in your 30's. Financial independence isn't something you're given; it starts by choosing to outgrow the Comfort Tax.

*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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Your ponytail feels a little thinner.

The volume you used to count on just... isn't there.

You try a new product. Switch your shampoo. Blame the weather. Blame your water.

But something still feels off.

And eventually, the thought crosses your mind:

**Why doesn't my hair feel like mine anymore?**

At b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio in Medway, this is one of the most common conversations we have with our clients. Not always out loud. Sometimes it's said quietly. Sometimes it's not said at all.

But we see it.

"We can usually tell within the first few minutes," says owner Heather Cohen. "A guest will sit down and say, 'I don't know what's going on with my hair lately,' and what they really mean is... something has changed."

And they're right.

Hair changes more than people expect it to. It responds to hormones, stress, age, illness, and lifestyle. Even subtle shifts in your body can affect the thickness, texture, and manageability of your hair.

The challenge is, most people don't have the language for it.

So it gets labeled as frizzy. Flat. Thin.

Or the one we hear most: "I just have bad hair."

But that's almost never the full story.

"Hair doesn't just suddenly become 'bad,'" Heather explains. "There's always a reason. And once you understand that, everything starts to make more sense."

Sometimes, it comes down to the haircut. A shape that works with your natural texture, not against it, can completely change how your hair behaves day to day.

For curly and wavy hair especially, our signature b.LUXE Curly Cut is designed to enhance your pattern, shape, and overall fullness. This multi-stage cutting approach is tailored to how your curls actually live, helping bring back movement, definition, and that effortless bounce so many clients feel they've lost. It also includes a styling lesson, so you can recreate the look at home!

It can also be your routine. Many clients jump from product to product hoping for a change, but small adjustments in how you blow dry or style your hair can make a bigger difference than switching products ever will. At your next appointment, ask your stylist to walk you through their techniques so you can recreate that fresh-from-the-salon feel at home.

And sometimes, the issue starts at the scalp.

The scalp is skin, and just like the skin on your face, it can become congested. Product buildup, hard water minerals, and excess oil can block follicles and weigh hair down, leading to that dull, limp feeling so many people describe.

At b.LUXE, our Scalp Spa Treatments are designed to gently exfoliate, reset, and rebalance the scalp so hair can grow and perform the way it's meant to. With consistent treatments and the right at-home clarifying care, many guests begin to notice improved fullness and a healthier texture over time.

And then there are the moments when the change feels different. More noticeable.

You see more hair in your brush. A little less density at your hairline. Not dramatic. Just enough to make you pause and think... Okay, something is definitely going on.

For many women, this isn't just about hair.

It's about identity.

We hear it every day:

"My hair is so limp lately."

"I don't know how to style it



## SOMETHING'S OFF

why doesn't my hair feel the same anymore?

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anymore."

"I used to love my hair."

And underneath all of that, there's often something deeper. A quiet disconnect from the version of yourself you're used to seeing.

The good news is, there isn't just one solution.

There are options. More than most people realize. And you don't have to navigate it alone.

After taking a closer look at your scalp health, haircut, and routine, we can guide you toward personalized solutions, including our wig and topper services for those experiencing thinning or looking for added fullness and flexibility.

"We're not here to change how you look," Heather says. "We're here to help you feel like yourself again."

And if you're thinking, I'm not there yet... you're not alone.

Most people aren't. Until they are.

And when they are, the most common thing we hear is:

"I wish I had known about this sooner."

If your hair has been feeling different lately... harder to manage, less full, not quite like it used to... You don't have to figure it out on your own.

Sometimes, all it takes is the right conversation.

You're always welcome to start that conversation with us here at b.LUXE.

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# Seasonal LookBook: Introducing 5 Must-Have for Spring at Apricot Lane Boutique



BY JANE LEBAK

Warmer temperatures bring the excitement of outdoor social gatherings, from school graduations, wedding events, to backyard parties. You don't have to travel far to refresh your closet with a couple of new outfits. Apricot Lane, your local boutique, is ready with five on-trend looks to feel great this season.

Your first step into this sweet boutique, tucked behind Starbucks on Route 140 in Franklin, welcomes you with a wide assortment of hand-selected pieces in spring colors, mixed and matched personally by the owner, Marta McNulty. With an extensive experience in visual merchandising, Marta has perfected a sense for how the right combination of tops, bottoms, and layering pieces can create an individual look for everyone's personal style.

Marta says, "I am excited about the new season collection and wanted to share my favorite five key items that have come to the spotlight."

While you are planning your spring and summer events, Apricot Lane has a multitude of dresses to choose from. Silky fabric, flowy silhouettes, and gorgeous floral prints abound, from poppies to daisies to tropical hibiscus prints.

For the nautical New England feel, Apricot Lane showcases stripes, from bold to subtle, on blouses, light sweaters, and dresses. Stripes project confidence with their polished, upscale look. Apricot Lane's bestsellers are pieces from Canadian brands RD Style and Dex.

Tencel Denim takes an important spot in manufacturing this season, bringing cloud-soft jean jackets, dresses, and shorts.



## Business Spotlight

"Combined with lace detailing on a vest or embroidery on jeans, our denim is feminine and stylish," Marta says. While you are there, check out featured brands like Elan, French designer Molly Bracken, or Skies are Blue.

Perhaps the season favorite is the open knitwear. Loose and airy summer tops, crochet vests, and open cardigans all ripple with lace-like textures, perfect to layer over a dress to create a delicate look. Marta says, "Their neutral tones coordinate perfectly with

our spring dresses, adding artisanal flair to everyday or event outfits."

For a final touch, elevate your outfit by pairing it with the perfect necklace. This season calls for chunky jewelry. A bold statement necklace looks chic tucked just under the collar. "We have a variety of nautical inspired jewelry", says Marta. "I love the trending fish charm, anchor, coin, or pearl pendants." Whether it's a puffy heart or a horseshoe detail, chunky necklaces accentuate the clothes by drawing the eye and adding a whimsical touch.

"You have to wear what you love," says Marta, "otherwise you won't feel like your true self. Our team is always excited and eager to help in selecting exactly the right pieces to give every customer a great shopping experience and confidence in her look."

Whether it's a beach dress embellished with shell ornaments or a silky top with an asymmetric floral embellishment on one shoulder, Marta chose each piece

for Apricot Lane because of the way it stands out from the crowd. Marta explains, "I take the time to source unique pieces from designers in Canada, Denmark, or Spain, and especially from businesses with a positive sense of social responsibility. I am especially excited about brands like Vero Moda, Dex, B.Young, or ICHI, which are eco-friendly every step of their manufacturing, using 100% recycled materials. Even a basic t-shirt can surprise you with the softness of organic cotton and make it so special and different. I believe we should all embrace our individual style, and I'd love to encourage you to take advantage of these One-of-a-kind finds."

You can visit Apricot Lane's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/apricotlanefranklin>, but afterward, you'll probably want to spring over to the shop at 342 East Central Street in Franklin to try it all on for yourself.

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LIVING HEALTHY

# Over 50 and Tired of Reading Glasses? Refractive Lens Exchange May Be for You

By ROGER M. KALDAWY, M.D.  
MILFORD FRANKLIN EYE CENTER

If you are over 50 and constantly reaching for reading glasses, you are not alone. Age-related vision changes, especially presbyopia, make it harder to focus up close. Refractive Lens Exchange, or RLE, is an advanced surgical option that can significantly reduce or eliminate your need for glasses for both distance and near vision.

### What is presbyopia?

Presbyopia is a natural part of aging in which the eye's lens gradually loses flexibility. This reduces the ability to focus on close objects, especially when reading, using a phone, or working on a computer. It typically begins in the early to mid-40s and progresses over time, often leading to increasing

dependence on reading glasses or bifocals for nearly all near tasks.

### What is Refractive Lens Exchange?

Refractive Lens Exchange is a procedure in which the eye's natural lens is removed and replaced with an artificial intraocular lens, commonly called an IOL. The procedure is essentially the same as modern cataract surgery, but it is performed before a cataract becomes visually significant.

Unlike LASIK or PRK, which reshape the cornea, RLE works inside the eye and corrects vision by replacing the lens itself. This allows correction of distance, intermediate, and near vision, depending on the lens selected.

### Who is a good candidate?

RLE is most often recommended for individuals over 50



who are frustrated with glasses or contact lenses. Ideal candidates have difficulty with near vision due to presbyopia and

may also have farsightedness, nearsightedness, or astigmatism. It is also an option for patients not ideal for LASIK because of thin corneas, dry eye concerns, or higher prescriptions.

Candidates should have healthy eyes without significant retinal disease, uncontrolled glaucoma, or other major ocular conditions. They should also understand realistic expectations, including that some patients may still need glasses for fine print or low light tasks after surgery.

### Benefits of RLE

One major benefit of RLE is freedom from reading glasses. Modern intraocular lenses can provide a full range of vision, including distance, intermediate, and near, depending on the chosen lens.

The results are long-lasting because the artificial lens does not age or change. Since the natural lens is removed, patients will not develop cataracts in the future, eliminating the need for cataract surgery later in life.

Many patients report improved clarity, brightness, and contrast with modern lens technology. Daily activities such as driving, reading, computer use, and travel often become easier

and more convenient without glasses or contact lenses.

### Insurance coverage

In most cases, Refractive Lens Exchange is considered elective and is not covered by insurance. This is because it is performed to reduce dependence on glasses rather than to treat cataracts. If a cataract is present and affecting vision, insurance may cover part of the procedure like cataract surgery. However, premium lenses and advanced technology upgrades are usually out-of-pocket expenses. Patients should review benefits in advance so they clearly understand expected costs and options.

### Risks and considerations

RLE is a safe and commonly performed procedure, but it carries some risks as with any eye surgery. These include infection, inflammation, or swelling, though these complications are uncommon with modern techniques.

There is a small risk of retinal detachment, particularly in highly nearsighted patients. Some patients may notice glare, halos, or starbursts at night, especially with multifocal lenses.

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# Letter to the Editor:

## Why Scouting Matters to Me

I started Scouts in 2018 as a Lion in Cub Scouts, and what first pulled me in was the outdoors. I loved camping, exploring, and doing things that felt like real adventures. When I crossed over into Boy Scouts, I realized it was a completely different experience. In Cub Scouts, most activities are planned for you. In Boy Scouts, you decide what you want to do and how far you want to go. It teaches independence, and like my mom says, adulthood is all about being independent.

That freedom is one of the best parts. There are about 140 merit badges to choose from, and you only need 21 to earn Eagle Scout. But you can challenge yourself by earning more and learning new skills. For example, I already liked golf, but earning the Golfing merit badge made me enjoy it even more because I got to practice, learn the rules, and improve. I also earned Citizenship in the World, where I interviewed a friend whose family is from India. I learned about different cultures,

traditions, and how diverse one country can be.

Scouting also gives you opportunities to try new things like white water rafting, rock climbing, and even chess. I didn't think I would like chess, but now I almost have that merit badge

completed. These experiences build confidence and independence while also being fun.

Being in Boy Scouts has taught me real-life skills like cooking, camping, leadership, and teamwork. You don't have to aim for Eagle to enjoy Scouts.

You can join for the adventures, friendships, and experiences. I think more kids should try Scouts because it helps you discover who you are.

— Adam French  
Troop 367, Medway MA

### EYES

*continued from page 10*

A later occurrence is posterior capsule opacification, a mild clouding behind the implant that can develop months or years later. This is easily treated with a quick, painless laser procedure.

#### Alternatives to RLE

Other options depend on age and vision needs. LASIK and PRK effectively treat distance vision but do not correct age-related reading vision loss after the mid-40s or early 50s.

Implantable lenses are typically used in younger patients and do not address presbyopia. Monovision, where one eye is corrected for distance and the other for near, can work well for some patients, but others may not adapt comfortably or may notice reduced depth perception.

#### Final thoughts

Refractive Lens Exchange is a proven option for patients over 50 who are tired of glasses. By replacing the natural lens with a customized artificial lens, it is possible to restore a broad range of vision and improve quality of life.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we use advanced diagnostics and modern surgical techniques to achieve precise outcomes. All procedures are performed in an accredited surgery center under topical anesthesia with anesthesia professionals present for safety and comfort.

If you are over 50 and frustrated with reading glasses, RLE may be worth considering. A consultation can help determine the best approach for your vision and lifestyle goals.

For more details, see our ad on page 10.

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# Millis Council on Aging Upcoming Events

900 Main Street, Millis  
(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 comput-  
ers & smartphones with Esther  
Davis of the Millis Public Li-  
brary.  
Tuesday, May 12 at 12PM

**Pizza and Prevention  
with the Millis Fire  
Department**  
Monthly informative and  
fun program about fire preven-  
tion and life safety. Pizza served  
courtesy of the Friends of the  
Millis COA. Monday, May 11 at

11:30 AM. Free. Sign up: (508) 376-7051

**ART with AMY ADAMS**  
A fun afternoon of creative  
guided painting on canvas.  
All materials provided. No ex-  
perience necessary. Session is  
free courtesy of a grant from  
the Millis Cultural Council, a  
member of the Massachusetts  
Cultural Council. Tuesday, May  
12 at 1:00 PM. Sign up (508)  
376-7051

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sachusetts Cultural Council.  
Tuesday, May 5 at 11:00 AM:  
Exploring Outdoor Photogra-  
phy with iPhone  
Friday, May 15 at 11:00 AM:  
How to Use Netflix, YouTube,  
and Streaming on iPhone  
Friday, May 22 at 11:00 AM:  
Using Uber and Lyft Rideshare  
Services on iPhone

**MILLIS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
CHORUS CONCERT**  
at the Millis Senior Center.  
Tuesday, May 19 at 1:00 PM

**KEV TECH**  
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## Millis Public Safety Log

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

This is not an exhaustive list of all calls. Entries of note include:

- March 17 at 10:10 a.m., Main St., soliciting
- March 18 at 3:34 p.m., Union St., disturbance, de-escalated
- March 19 at 12:46 a.m., Pondview, suspicious activity
- March 20 at 6:57 a.m., Causeway St., breaking and entering past
- March 22 at 10:23 p.m., Stoney Brook Dr., disturbance, de-escalated
- March 25 at 3:41 p.m., Dover Rd., larceny/forgery/fraud
- March 25 at 7:20 p.m., Main St., structure fire
- March 28 at 4:03 p.m., Pleasant St., structure fire
- March 30 at 10:12 a.m., Walnut St., larceny/forgery/fraud
- March 30 at 8:58 p.m., Main St., complaint
- March 31 at 10:40 a.m., Main St., disturbance, de-escalated
- April 2 at 2:26 p.m., Saratoga Ter., complaint
- April 2 at 3:30 p.m., Ironwood Ln., disturbance, de-escalated
- April 6 at 3:54 p.m., Main St., complaint
- April 8 at 11:11 a.m., Main St., vandalism
- April 9 at 3:18 p.m., Ridge St., brush fire
- April 10 at 3:42 p.m., Heritage Path, missing person

Source: Millis Police Department

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# Why Heat Pumps Are a Smarter, Healthier Choice for Your Home



Alexandra McKernan



Ryan McKernan

signed to run smoothly and quietly, so comfort doesn't come at the cost of background noise.

### All-in-One Simplicity

Instead of maintaining two major systems, you get one smart solution that handles heating and cooling year-round.

### Choosing Wisely Matters

Not all heat pumps, or installers, are created equal. The brand you choose and the quality of the installation have a huge impact on performance, efficiency, and long-term reliability. Working with a knowledgeable, properly trained professional ensures your system is sized, installed, and optimized correctly from day one.

### Incentives That Make It Affordable

Thanks to local programs like Mass Save, upgrading to a heat pump is more accessible than ever. These incentives reward homeowners for choosing



energy-efficient solutions that benefit both their homes and the environment.

### The Bottom Line

If you're looking for a smarter, healthier, and more efficient way to heat and cool your home, a heat pump is a strong investment. Local experts like Pro Comfort Control

can guide you through your options, help you maximize available incentives, and install a system that keeps your home comfortable and on course for years to come.

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## HEATING INSIGHTS

For many homeowners, staying comfortable year-round has traditionally meant juggling two systems: a furnace to get through winter and an air conditioner to survive summer. Today, there's a simpler, smarter option that does both - the heat pump.

### What Is a Heat Pump?

Traditional heating systems like furnaces and boilers create heat by burning fuel or using electric resistance. Cooling, meanwhile, requires a separate air conditioner. A heat pump works differently and more efficiently.

Instead of generating heat, a heat pump moves heat. In winter, it pulls warmth from the outdoor air (yes, even when it's cold) and transfers it into your home. In summer, it reverses direction, removing heat from inside and keeping your home cool.

The result? One system that replaces both your furnace and your air conditioner, simplifying comfort and reducing energy use.

### Why Homeowners Love Heat Pumps Energy Smart

Because heat pumps move heat rather than create it, they use significantly less energy. That means lower utility bills and a more efficient home overall.

### Consistent Comfort

No more temperature swings or rooms that never feel quite right. Heat pumps deliver steady, even comfort throughout the house.

### Healthier Air

Many heat pump systems offer advanced filtration and humidity control, helping reduce dust, allergens, and excess moisture - great news for families, pets, and anyone with allergies.

### Quiet Operation

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# Carpenter Ants: A Serious Threat to MetroWest Homes



**Jim Maxxuchelli, owner, WPC Pest and Termite Control**

In Massachusetts, homeowners face unique pest challenges due to our changing seasons and moisture prone climate. While many people dismiss ants as a minor annoyance, carpenter ants are one of the most destructive pests affecting homes in the MetroWest Area.

We regularly see carpenter ant infestations throughout MetroWest—and the damage they cause can be extensive if

left untreated. Said, Jim Maz-zuchelli from WPC Pest and Termite Control, Inc.,

### Warning Signs Homeowners Should Watch For

- Large black or reddish ants, often active at night, inside your home
- Winged ants (swarmers) appearing indoors in spring
- Piles of sawdust like debris near baseboards or windows
- Faint rustling sounds inside walls
- Ant trails from basements, kitchens, or exterior siding
- These signs should never be ignored—especially in homes with moisture issues or older construction.

### Why DIY Treatments Often Fail

Over the counter sprays and baits may kill visible ants but rarely address the nest hidden deep within walls or structural wood. In many cases, improper

treatment allows infestations to spread and continue causing damage. Effective carpenter ant control requires professional experience, proper identification, and targeted treatment.

At WPC Pest and Termite Control, Inc., we understand the specific pest pressures MetroWest homeowners face. Our experienced technicians use proven methods to locate carpenter ant nests, eliminate infestations at the source, and help prevent future problems.

If you suspect carpenter ants—or want peace of mind before damage worsens—don't wait.

Contact WPC Pest and Termite Control, Inc. today for a FREE professional carpenter ant inspection and protect your home from hidden structural damage. WPC Pest and Termite Control, Inc. 508-366-1820. [nobugsnopests.com](http://nobugsnopests.com)

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## Medway's 'water trails'

When we speak of our town trails, we automatically visualize walking or hiking paths, but in the Town of Medway, there are places that could be more aptly categorized as part of a "water trail." Sections of the Charles River are navigable by canoe or kayak. One such launching spot, established in 2015 on the Charles River, is located at 57 Village Street. Its entrance is almost hidden as it sets back from the road. You will be rewarded for looking for it though, as you will come upon a kiosk naming the site, Bresnahan's Landing. Posted in its kiosk are distance markers between the spot and Populatic Pond and other noteworthy destinations. It has a 24-hour surveillance camera. Other signage includes Fishing notifications from the state as it has proven to be a popular spot for casting and there is a dirt launch for canoes or kayaks. Chain pickerel and large mouthed bass

are frequently fished for. The parking lot includes an area for drop off or pickup of your unmotorized watercraft.

The peaceful and appealing site is also popular as a stop off place of reflection; there are two benches there where you can just sit and watch the river flow. A former Open Space Committee member, Bruce Hamblin, was instrumental in obtaining a grant and facilitating the site's construction after the Bresnahan family essentially bequeathed the property to the town to provide public access to the river for recreational purposes. Photographers find it to be quite scenic too and some stunning photos have developed after a visit to Bresnahan's landing.

*Submitted by Andrea Burke, Medway Open Space Committee and Trail Club*

## Alzheimer's support group to meet on May 12

Hearts, Hugs & Hope: An Alzheimer's Support Group at Cornerstone at Milford will meet on May 12, at 6 p.m. at Cornerstone at Milford Assisted Living and Memory Support Community, 11 Birch Street, Milford. This group for caregivers meets in person.

Dealing with Alzheimer's dis-

ease and related dementia isn't easy, so it is helpful to share your concerns and personal experiences with others who completely understand what you're going through. You will also learn about proven strategies to help you better care for your family member.

Our guest speaker this month

will be elder law attorney Jay Marsden, PC. Call 508-473-0035 to RSVP or contact Director of Compass Programming Jenn Hozempa at [jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com](mailto:jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com) for more information.

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

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# Happenings

Events happening in and around the area

### May 2

**3 p.m. - The A Capella Singers spring concert**, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 3 Maple St., Framingham. "Pay as you can." [www.theacappellasingers.org](http://www.theacappellasingers.org)

### May 3

**3 p.m. - The A Capella Singers spring concert**, First Congregational Church, 2 East Central St., Natick. "Pay as you can." [www.theacappellasingers.org](http://www.theacappellasingers.org)

### May 6

**5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Multicultural Night 2026**, Nipmuc Regional H.S., Upton. Experience cultures from around the world. Public invited.

### May 12

**6 p.m. - Alzheimer's Support Group**, Cornerstone at Milford, 11 Birch St., Milford. Guest speaker to discuss elder

[law.jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com](mailto:law.jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com)

### May 16

**9 a.m. - Medway Garden Club Annual Plant Sale**, Medway Recycling Center, 46 Broad St. MedwayMAGardenClub@gmail.com

### May 16-17

**9 a.m. to 4 p.m., times vary - USA Luge Slider Search**, McGovern Elementary School, 9 Lovering St., Medway. Boys and girls ages 10-13. Register at <https://www.usaluge.org/try-luge/slider-search#Register> or call 1-800-USA-LUGE.

### May 19

**5 p.m. - 'First Lady Dolley Madison' historical interpreter**, Medway Public Library, free.

### May 25

**10 a.m. - Medway Memorial Day Parade**, leaves Holliston St.

### May 31

**10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** - Medway 5th Annual Pride Flag Raising, Choate Park.

### June 1

**Times vary** - Spring pickleball lessons, Millis Recreation. [www.millisrecreation.activityreg.com](http://www.millisrecreation.activityreg.com)

### June 6

**12 p.m. to 6 p.m.** - Franklin PorchFest. Rain date: June 7. [franklin.porchfest.info/](http://franklin.porchfest.info/)

### June 20

**6 p.m.** - Nipmuc Regional H.S. Class of 1966 60th reunion, Red Rock Grill and Bar, 66 West Main St., Upton. Members of, and anyone associated with, the class are invited. For more information, contact [Larrypearson48@gmail.com](mailto:Larrypearson48@gmail.com).



*If you have an event you'd like listed in the calendar, send it to editor@millismedwaynews.com*

## 'First Lady Dolley Madison' to visit Medway Library on May 19

The public is invited to step into the social and political world of post-Revolutionary America during a special program at the Medway Public Library on May 19 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Historical interpreter Janet

Parnes will portray Dolley Madison, offering a glimpse into the life of one of the nation's most influential early First Ladies. The program is presented in recognition of the country's 250th anniversary and Madison's birthday

on May 20.

The event is free and is supported in part by a grant from the Medway Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



In April, the playground at Choate Park underwent some repairs and was offline for a few days. According to the Medway DPW, tree roots were raising the playing surface near the splash pad, thereby creating a tripping hazard. The tree was removed, and the playing surface was reinstalled. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp



Millis Beautification Day is Millis at its best as volunteers and organizations come together for the betterment of our town. Millis Lions and Millis DPW thank everyone for all your efforts that helped make the 21st Beautification day a success. Courtesy photo

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# Medway Gavin Tramontozzi receives M.A.S.S. Senior Student Leadership award, scholarship

Medway High School senior Gavin Tramontozzi has been named the winner of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) Senior Student Leadership and Scholarship Award.

Gavin received the award, which includes a \$3,000 scholarship, during the Medway School Committee meeting on March

19. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pires presented the award to Gavin in recognition of his leadership, service and positive impact on the Medway Public Schools community.

The MASS Senior Student Leadership and Scholarship Award is a newly established award that is presented to graduating seniors who demonstrate

strong academic effort, leadership, citizenship and character.

Moving forward, MASS intends to present this award to two students each year. The scholarship is intended to support students as they pursue a college degree. The president of MASS selects one recipient and then another superintendent from the association chooses the

other recipient. Due to his service as the president of MASS during the 2024-25 school year, Dr. Pires was able to select Gavin for the award.

Dr. Pires explained that Gavin has demonstrated leadership throughout his high school career through his involvement in Scouting America and community service. As an Eagle Scout, he planned and organized a project to deliver emergency preparedness buckets to every classroom in Medway Public Schools, providing critical supplies intended to support students and staff during an emergency or prolonged lockdown.

Gavin also serves as President of the National Honor Society and the Leo Club, and as an officer in the Peer Counseling program, where he mentors freshmen and new students.

“Gavin is a dedicated, service-oriented student whose leadership and character have made a meaningful and lasting impact on the Medway Public Schools community,” Dr. Pires said. “Throughout his high school career, Gavin has demonstrated strong academic commitment, particularly in the humanities, where he applies thoughtful analysis, curiosity, and a desire to understand the world around him. He approaches his studies with diligence and integrity, consistently striving to grow and improve

while contributing positively to the classroom environment.”

Dr. Pires and MHS Principal Dr. Murray congratulated Gavin on receiving the award and recognized his leadership, service and contributions to the school community.

“Gavin is a student who exemplifies true leadership, always looking for ways to help others,” said Dr. Murray. “He has made a profound positive impact on our school community through his leadership, service and commitment to making Medway High School a supportive place for all students. Congratulations to Gavin and his family. He truly deserves it.”

“Whether volunteering at the food pantry, participating in town clean-ups, or supporting peers academically, Gavin consistently demonstrates compassion, initiative, and a genuine commitment to helping others,” said Dr. Pires. “Gavin exemplifies the qualities of integrity, citizenship, and leadership that this scholarship seeks to recognize. He leads by example, strengthens the community around him, and embodies the values of service and responsibility that will continue to guide him in his future endeavors. Congratulations, Gavin!”

*Submitted by Medway Public Schools*

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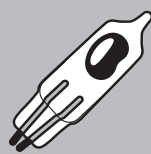
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# 'Soccer's Big Event' is coming to 'Boston Stadium'

Two million people will be looking for things to do in surrounding towns

BY THERESA KNAPP

*Editor's note: Due to copyright issues, the more commonly known name for the football/soccer matches cannot be used by publications outside of the official association. We are calling it "Soccer's Big Event."*

The most popular sport in the world is football (or "soccer" in the U.S.) and this year several matches of the global soccer tournament – or "Soccer's Big Event" – will be played in June and July in Massachusetts.

Boston is one of 16 cities across North America that will host matches. Specific dates

Many visitors know they will not get a ticket but they want to be in Massachusetts to support their team, which is an opportunity for local fan festivals, fan marches, pep rallies, watch parties, and more.

– Greta Teller, Bostonfwc26  
<https://bostonfwc26.com>

for the Boston area will be announced closer to the event, but will be between June 13 and July 9.

At a recent Tourism Summit and Legislative Breakfast hosted by the MetroWest Boston Visitors Bureau, state and local officials explained how Massachusetts is preparing for the event.

The main speaker at the conference was Greta Teller of "Bostonfwc26," the group that is overseeing local logistics for the world organization. She said there are many ways MetroWest communities can provide experiences for the millions of visitors who are expected to flood the area.

"Two million people are coming, and there are only 740,000 tickets," Teller said. "And many of those people are coming without tickets and will need things to do."

There are opportunities for communities all around Eastern Massachusetts, and beyond, to join in the festivities and revelry, Teller said, adding fans just want to be in Massachusetts to support their team, which is an opportunity for local fan festivals,

fan marches, fan zones, pep rallies, watch parties, and more.

The event, Teller said, will provide a significant boost to hotels, restaurants and other local businesses; and the Bostonfwc is encouraging towns to organize fan festivals and cultural celebrations in the area, and to promote those events through the organization's website and the MWVB (for free).

At the summit, it was noted that MetroWest has the largest population of Brazilians outside of Brazil, Brockton has the largest Cape Verde population outside of Cape Verde, and Worcester is home to a large Ghana population – all of which can be a consideration when organizing activities around Soccer's Big Event.

MetroWest Visitors Bureau Executive Director Stacey David said local towns and organizations should think about

experiences visitors might enjoy and market them accordingly – anything related to arts, culture, living history, outdoor activities (trail systems) – will be a big draw.

"Think about what you have in your town, and let the MetroWest Visitors Bureau help promote it," said David.

However, the very first action anyone should take, she said, is to change all website references from "Gillette Stadium" to "Boston Stadium," which is what visitors will be searching for when planning their trip.

When creating watch parties and other events, organizers should consult the organization's public viewing regulations, including broadcast licenses, branding, etc., which can be

found at <https://bit.ly/FIFA-publicViewing>.

The MetroWest Boston Visitors Bureau is available to provide assistance to local organizations. The organization promotes travel and tourism throughout the 19 towns of the MetroWest region, which include Ashland, Bellingham, Framingham, Franklin, Holliston, Hopedale, Hopkinton, Hudson, Marlborough, Medway, Millis, Natick, Northborough, Sherborn, Southborough, Sudbury, Wayland, and Westborough, according to [www.metrowestvisitors.org](http://www.metrowestvisitors.org).

For more information, visit [www.ffa.com](http://www.ffa.com) or <https://bostonfwc26.com>



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SPORTS

# Kearney leads Medway Boys Tennis into another big season

By MATT HYLEN, SPORTS WRITER

Coming off another very strong season in 2025, Head Coach Jeff Kearney will lead the Mustangs into what will hopefully be another successful season.

Kearney, who has been the Medway Boys' Tennis coach for what will be his 6th year, entered the season with a little bit of the unknown. "We graduated nine seniors last

year, so there were some question marks entering this season," Kearney said. "But we have three new players in the starting lineup who have been working hard, embracing our culture, and helping us get out to a hot start."

Expectations were high coming into 2026 for the Mustangs' boys' tennis team which was able to go above and beyond the goals set in 2025. "Last year was our

second straight year in the Elite Eight... which is unprecedented in Medway High School history," Kearney explained. "Our guys have gone from 'just happy to be there' in the postseason, to expecting to compete and advance in the postseason."

This sort of historic success did not come by accident, however. Through unity, hard work, and dedication, Kearney and his players have been able



The 2026 Medway Boys Tennis Team. Photo source: Medway Athletics X page

to turn the program around over the past few years.

"The winning culture has been building over the past four years and the guys are thriving," Kearney said. "Our four seniors are continuing these high expectations this year. These players deserve all the credit - they are self-motivated."

As the 2026 season has progressed, the connection between Kearney and his players has been special already. "As a coach, I am pretty low key. I believe in the veteran players doing most of the leading, as opposed to the coach. All the headaches you hear about that coaches have to deal with these days simply don't exist with Medway Boys' Tennis, and the kids deserve credit for that," Kearney stated.

Speaking of senior leadership, Kearney believes the group he has this year can lead the team to great things once again. "We have four solid returning seniors that I knew would keep us competitive," Kearney said. "Captain Tommy Vallante plays number one singles, with Danny Ramos is at two singles, while Jayson Ettenhofer is at 3 singles. Captain Tommy Stotz also anchors first doubles."

Along with the leadership brought by the seniors, the newcomers have also made an early impact. According to Kearney, sophomore Matthew Fecteau is playing with Tommy Stotz at first doubles while junior Liam McCarthy and freshman Seyon Shankar are at second doubles.

Though all the recent success the team has earned

through their hard work is incredible to witness, Kearney always remembers to prioritize the important things when it comes to coaching.

"We aren't just having a tennis season...we are helping these student athletes learn and build leadership skills they will carry throughout their lives," Kearney expressed. "My hope is that players have a super positive experience in the program and learn about what goes into building a positive team culture. I hope they feel empowered, trusted and respected."

When reflecting on his time as a Medway coach, Kearney was not shy to emphasize the impact the Medway community has had on him and the team. "The families in Medway have shown me nothing but kindness from day one," he said. "At the matches, there is a lot of time to speak to families and build relationships. I have met so many great people in the Medway community through this position. It has been incredibly rewarding to be the coach of this team."

Medway has gotten off to a blazing start, winning the first five games in convincing fashion. Though he will always credit the players first, Coach Kearney has played a critical role in building a culture within this team that has completely turned the trajectory of the program around. What he and his players have accomplished over the past few years has been nothing short of extraordinary, with this season already picking up right where they left off.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court  
 Probate and Family Court  
 Worcester Probate and Family Court, 225 Main Street  
 Worcester, MA 01608

**Docket No. W023P1815GD**  
**In the Interests of: Joseph Niro, of Millis, MA**  
**Respondent: Incapacitated Person/Protected Person**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Willowbrook Manor Rest Home of Millis, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **05/19/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.**

**WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**  
 Date: April 21, 2026  
 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate



SPORTS

# Inherited IRAs & Roth Conversions: Answers to Common Questions



By JOY TAYLOR

## 1. Inherited IRA

My son inherited his younger brother's Roth IRA in 2009 when he passed away. Did he need to clean out that IRA within 10 years?

**Joy Taylor:** No, your son did not need to clean out the inherited IRA within 10 years. The 10-year rule applies only to certain IRAs inherited after 2019. The rule also doesn't apply when the beneficiary is older than the decedent. The exception is technically for beneficiaries who are not more than 10 years younger than the decedent and that would include an older beneficiary.

## 2. Roth conversions

I'm planning on converting a portion of my traditional IRA to a Roth IRA this year. Do I have to first withdraw my annual required minimum distribution (RMD) before doing the conversion?

**Joy Taylor:** Yes. People of RMD age who are planning a Roth IRA conversion must first take their full annual RMD for the year before doing the conversion.

For people with multiple traditional IRAs, the rule that you must take your annual RMD before doing a Roth conversion for the year can be tricky. That's because if a person has multiple traditional IRAs, the total aggregate RMD for the year must be withdrawn

during the year before doing a Roth conversion from any of the traditional IRAs. (Note that this doesn't include RMDs from 401(k)s or other workplace retirement plans.)

## 3. MLP investments in IRAs

I have a traditional IRA. Can my IRA invest in shares of master limited partnerships (MLPs)?

**Joy Taylor:** Yes, and these types of investments are popular among certain IRA owners. But be wary of MLPs because of the potential unrelated business taxable income (UBTI) issues.

MLPs issue Schedule K-1s to their owners (including IRAs), reporting the owner's share of ordinary business income or loss. For IRAs, this income is generally considered UBTI, and the IRA may owe tax. If UBTI from all an IRA's investments exceeds \$1,000, then the excess is taxed at a rate of up to 37%. The IRA, not the individual owner, uses Form 990-T to report and compute the tax, which is paid from available assets within that IRA. Most big IRA custodians handle the preparation and filing of the 990-T. For self-directed IRAs, the burden of filing the 990-T would fall on the IRA owner.

I would speak with your financial advisor and a CPA before making any such investments. I'm not saying they are bad investments for IRAs — many people have MLPs in their IRAs. I'm just saying you should understand all the potential consequences that might arise

before you put such interests in your IRA.

## 4. QCDs

I am 74 and still working. I have a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA. I currently contribute to my Roth IRA. Can I do a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from my traditional IRA this year?

**Joy Taylor:** Yes. For 2026, IRA owners who are 70½ or older can transfer up to \$111,000 from their tradi-

tional IRAs directly to charity. QCDs count as part of one's RMD, but they are not taxable and they're not included in adjusted gross income. QCDs aren't deductible as a charitable contribution on Schedule A of Form 1040.

A special rule applies for people who make deductible IRA contributions after 70½. Essentially, these post-70½ con-

tributions reduce one's allowable tax-free QCD amounts until they are used up. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible, so post-70½ contributions to a Roth IRA will not impact your ability to do a QCD.

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# Pets of the Month:

## Lali-Pop and Poquita-Banana are curious, silly, sweet sisters



Poquita-Banana and Lali-Pop are curious, silly, and sweet bonded sisters who will make you laugh. Courtesy photo

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### REMODEL - NEW CONSTRUCTION - KITCHENS & BATHS - ADDITIONS

Lali (grey/white) and Poquita (black/white) are beautiful 3-year-old sisters who were found as strays. They are very, very bonded and truly love each other. They can almost always be found cuddled together, sleeping curled up in a sunbeam.

They are incredibly sweet with each other, never have disagreements, and love to play together, chasing each other in fun games of tag. Their signature move is the classic "jump scare," where one will crouch behind something and jump out to surprise the other. It's hilarious to watch! They also love sitting in their cat tree by the window, watching the world outside.

Lali is a very gentle girl and so sweet she's earned the nickname Lali-Pop. She loves to play with wand toys and will happily chase them as you swing them around, expertly snatching them out of the air. She also enjoys sitting near you and just being close.

Poquita is the more curious of the two and likes to be right in the middle of everything. She will follow you around to see what you're doing and wants to investigate anything new in her space. She's also a bit of a clown, jumping high to catch

toys, hanging upside down, rolling around, and showing off her silly side, earning her the nickname Poquita-Banana.

Both girls are shy and cautious by nature and will need time and patience as they adjust to a new home. They enjoy playing, hanging out nearby, and will take treats from your hand. They are still building confidence with touch and are not yet comfortable with full petting, but they are making progress. They will do best in a home with an experienced, cat-savvy person.

They are wonderful, beautiful girls who will bring fun, laughter, and joy to a patient and loving home.

Adoptions are by appointment only. If you have an interest in meeting Lali and Poquita, please fill out our online adoption application (<https://www.shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/MWHS/Cat>).

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--- June 13<sup>th</sup> --- June 27<sup>th</sup> --- July 11<sup>th</sup> ---  
--- August 15<sup>th</sup> --- Sept 12<sup>th</sup> ---

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August 15<sup>th</sup> the Fragrant Hosta should be flowering!  
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Check out our website - [www.thehostafarmofmendon.com](http://www.thehostafarmofmendon.com)



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*-D. Mazzola March 2026*

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# Millis receives \$30k grant from Clean Water Trust

The Massachusetts Clean Water Trust's (the Trust) Board of Trustees recently approved \$107,900 in new grants, including a \$30,000 "cybersecurity improvement grant" to the Town of Millis.

According to mass.gov, "the goal of this grant is to support

PWSs [public water suppliers] in improving their cybersecurity defense, mitigating the risks of cyber-attacks, and enhancing overall resiliency and compliance."

Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Upgrading, replacing, or

removing unsupported and end-of-life hardware, software, and operating systems

- Incident response planning
- Employee training programs
- Network segmentation
- Improving remote access security
- Encryption Implementation

• Developing and Updating an Emergency Response Plan/ Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan

- Penetration Testing (only if all assessment findings have been taken care of)

For more information, visit

www.mass.gov/info-details/public-water-suppliers-cybersecurity-improvements-grant-program.

Other recipients included North Chelmsford Water District (\$17,900), Plainville (\$30,000), and South Hadley Fire District #1 (\$30,000).

# Medway, Millis receive grants for fire departments

The Healey-Driscoll Administration recently announced that 307 Massachusetts fire departments will share \$5 million in grant funding to support the purchase of new safety equipment.

Those grants include 14,234.05 to the Town of Medway, and \$9,368.04 to the Town of Millis.

"Massachusetts firefighters answer the call in every corner of our state and our job is to make sure they have what they need to do it safely," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're investing in the equipment that protects them on the front lines and strengthening departments in more than 300 communities so they can continue

protecting all of us."

Fire departments across Massachusetts were invited to apply to the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program, which provides reimbursement on purchases of nearly 100 different types of equipment. Eligible items include hoses and nozzles, turnout gear, ballistic protective

equipment, portable and mobile radios, thermal imaging cameras, hand tools and extrication equipment, hazardous gas meters, and more. In many cases, the purchase of this equipment will help departments attain compliance with Occupational Safety & Health Administration or National Fire Protection Association

safety standards.

According to mass.gov, the most frequently funded categories this year's grants were hoses, nozzles, fittings, and adaptors; gloves; hoods/ coats; boots; pants; helmets; and combustible/hazardous gas detectors.

Source: Mass. Department of Fire Services

## REAL ESTATE CORNER



**Looking to advertise in our Real Estate Corner?**  
**Contact Jen Schofield today at 508-570-6544 or by email at jenschofield@localtownpages.com**

### Recent Home Sale



The 4-bed, 4-bath, 3,752-square-foot unit at 1 Granite Drive in Millis recently sold for \$1,325,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

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**UNDER AGREEMENT IN TWO DAYS!!!**




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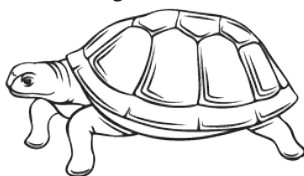


# REAL ESTATE CORNER

## Recent Home Sales

Date	Medway	Amount
04/14/2026	3 Thayer Rd.	\$727,500
04/10/2026	23 Cedar Farms Rd.	\$979,000
04/06/2026	8 Liberty Rd.	\$900,000
03/31/2026	10 Franklin St.	\$690,000
03/31/2026	11 Fairway Ln.	\$930,000
03/27/2026	20 Broad St.	\$578,000
03/27/2026	22 Granite St.	\$580,000
03/26/2026	19 Barber St. #A	\$365,000
03/25/2026	19 Evergreen St. #A	\$495,000
03/23/2026	8 Winthrop St.	\$559,000
03/23/2026	58 Holliston St.	\$720,000
Date	Millis	Amount
04/17/2026	1032 Main St. #6	\$476,000
04/15/2026	1 Granite Dr.	\$1.33 mil
04/10/2026	200 Pleasant St.	\$725,000
03/26/2026	20 Hemlock Cir.	\$385,000
03/26/2026	33 Spencer St.	\$465,000
03/25/2026	6 Glen Ellen Blvd.	\$975,000
03/23/2026	188 Pleasant St.	\$620,000
03/20/2026	6 April Way	\$1.06 mil
03/17/2026	28 Key St.	\$456,000

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



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**Jodi Kairit, REALTOR®**  
**508-523-5890**  
Jodi@BHHSpagerealty.com  
Jodi.BHHSpagerealty.com



## Commercial Properties



FOR SALE

196 Grove St., Franklin  
Industrial Land \$1,100,000



FOR SALE

198 Grove St., Franklin  
Industrial, \$800,000



FOR LEASE

36-107 E Central St, Franklin  
\$850/mo



SOLD

323 W. Central St., Franklin



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## Over 475 Homes Sold!



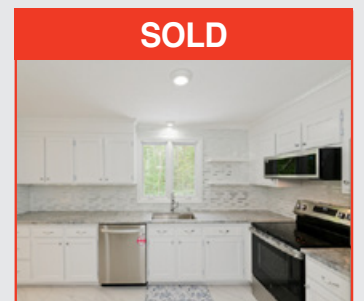
SOLD

36 Lakin Street  
Needham - \$2,300,000



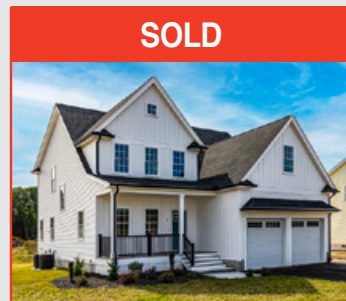
SOLD

Lakefront, 3 living levels, 3400sf  
Norfolk - \$995,000



SOLD

60 Spencer Street  
Millis - \$530,000



SOLD

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



UNDER AGREEMENT

56 S. Bow Street  
Milford - \$549,000



SOLD

485 Main Street  
Millis - \$989,900



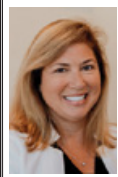
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DIRECT: 508-577-3538  
**#1 Single Family Agent in Medway '25**



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Realtor®, Broker, ABR, SRS, CBR, LMC, CHS,  
CRB, BPOR, RENE, PSA, Team Signature  
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21 Stable Way, Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SALE PENDING**

\$849,900  
3 Millbrook Rd Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SALE PENDING**

\$820,000  
32 Ohlson Circle, Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SALE PENDING**

\$419,900  
283 Orchard St Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SALE PENDING**

\$1,095,000  
5 Apple Rock Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SOLD**

\$900,000  
8 Liberty Road in Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SALE PENDING**

\$945,000  
3 Nobscott Road, Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SOLD**

\$784,000  
2 Gerald Avenue, Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SOLD**

\$725,000  
34 Pollard Drive, Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SOLD - BUYER CLIENT**

\$1,400,000  
9 Flynn Street, Natick  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SOLD**

\$477,000  
5 Stone Ridge Rd, Franklin  
Laina Regan Kaplan



**SOLD**

\$730,000  
238 Village Street, Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature



**SOLD - BUYER CLIENT**

\$771,319  
1 Cypress Circle, Bellingham  
Sue Kuphal



**SOLD**

\$589,000  
37 Railroad Ave., Whitman  
Sue Kuphal



**FOR SALE**

\$364,000  
19 Oak Street, Hopedale  
Sue Kuphal



**SOLD**

\$929,000  
21 Grove Street, Millis  
Sue Kuphal



**SOLD**

\$866,000  
16 Blueberry Hill Lane, Medway  
Laina Regan Kaplan

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**SOLD**

\$595,000  
9 Heritage Path, Millis  
Jennifer/Team Signature

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