

# localtownpages Hopedale

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Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

June 1, 2026

## Library's Laura Brilliant-Giangrande receives Celebrate Literacy Award

By KEELY BETHEL-PENNY

Congratulations to Bancroft Memorial Library's Youth Services Librarian, Laura Brilliant-Giangrande, on receiving the Celebrate Literacy Award from the Nobscot Reading Council in recognition of her outstanding dedication to promoting literacy and enriching the lives of Hopedale's children and families.

The award celebration featured a special presentation by David A. Kelly, author of the popular Ballpark Mysteries and Football Mysteries series.



**Bancroft Memorial Library's Youth Services Librarian Laura Brilliant-Giangrande (right), who received the Celebrate Literacy Award from the Nobscot Reading Council. Author David A. Kelly presented the award at a recent celebration. Source: Facebook/Hopedale Town Administrator**

**BRILLANT-GIANGRANDE**

*continued on page 3*

**Town election results:**

## Mullen wins Select Board seat over incumbent

By THERESA KNAPP

According to the Annual Town Election results posted by Town Clerk Lisa Pedroli, 1,087 voters turned out for the May 12 annual election.

Carole Mullen is the newest member of the Hopedale Select Board. Mullen won her seat over incumbent Scott M. Savage, who was first elected to the board in 2023, by a vote of 710 to 363. Mullen previously served as the director of the Hopedale Council on Aging for 30 years.


Other election winners

included:

- **Board of Health:** Andrew Francis Finlay
- **Housing Authority:** Christine Lynn Luccini (*write-in with most votes*)
- **Library Trustee:** Marie Riddell
- **Park Commissioner:** Mark Wyspianski
- **Planning Board:** Kaplan Hasanoglu
- **Road Commissioner:** Eli J. Potty

**MULLEN**

*continued on page 3*



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# Bancroft descendants visit library

On May 14, Bancroft Memorial Library Director Keely Bethel-Penny and Library Trustee Frederick Oldfield III had the honor of welcoming Allyson A. Shippee-Whitmer and her family to the library.

Shippee-Whitmer's lineage traces directly to the Bancroft family through Anna Bancroft Winsor Shippee. Her father is William Shippee, son of Robert Shippee, whose mother, Anna Bancroft Winsor Shippee, was a direct descendant of Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft.

During the visit, the family was given an opportunity to explore a collection of histori-



**Allyson A. Shippee-Whitmer, a descendant of the Bancroft family, was excited to visit the Bancroft Memorial Library to share her heritage with her family. Shippee-Whitmer (front row, right) is pictured with her daughter Celina, and (L to R, back) son David Jr., husband David, son William.** *Courtesy photo*

cal artifacts and archival materials connected to Joseph Bancroft and the early history of the area. Allyson and her family were invited to sign the library's treasured 1889 Visitor Ledger. As the very first signature recorded in the ledger belongs to Joseph Bancroft himself, it created a meaningful link between past and present generations.

Oldfield said, "To see descendants of Joseph Bancroft

signing the very ledger he signed in 1889 was incredibly meaningful. Preserving these stories and connections is at the heart of what our library strives to do for community. The visit served as a reminder of the enduring legacy of the Bancroft family and the value of preserving historical records in the Library."

*Submitted by Bancroft Memorial Library*

**"To see descendants of Joseph Bancroft signing the very ledger he signed in 1899 was incredibly meaningful... The visit served as a reminder of the enduring legacy of the Bancroft family and the value of preserving historical records in the Library."**

*~Frederick Oldfield III  
Trustee, Bancroft Memorial Library*

# Class of 2026 celebrated during district School Walk Through

On May 21, the Hopedale High School Senior Class participated in one of the district's most meaningful traditions, the annual Senior Walk Through at Bright Beginnings Center and Memorial Elementary School.

Dressed proudly in their graduation gowns, seniors walked through the hallways of the schools where many of their educational journeys first began. Students, teachers, and staff lined the hallways cheering, clapping, and celebrating the accomplishments of the graduating class. The event created an emotional and heartfelt atmosphere filled with smiles, memories, and hugs shared between former teachers, current students, and graduating seniors.

For many seniors, the Walk served as a full-circle moment as they returned to the classrooms and hallways where they first learned to read, write, and grow as students. Younger students looked on with excitement and admiration, inspired by the example set before them and reminded of the possibilities that lie ahead in their own educational journeys.

The Senior Walk Through also highlights an important truth about education in Hopedale Public Schools, graduating seniors is an accomplishment that begins on the very first day



a child enters preschool. Every teacher, support staff member, administrator, custodian, nurse, paraprofessional, cafeteria worker, and staff member across the district plays a critical role in supporting students throughout their years in Hopedale schools. The success celebrated on graduation day is truly the result of years of dedication, care, encouragement, and partnership.

The day was filled with pride, reflection, and gratitude as staff members celebrated not only the achievements of the Class of 2026, but also the relationships built over the years. From preschool to graduation, the Senior Walk Through serves as a powerful reminder of the strength of the Hopedale school community and the lasting impact educators have on the lives of students.

It was truly an incredible day for everyone involved, one filled with applause, laughter, memories, and hugs all around.

*Submitted by Hopedale Public Schools*

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# Memorial School holds annual Memorial Day ceremony



The annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the Memorial School. Courtesy photo

The students and staff of Memorial Elementary School recently welcomed local veterans, families, and community members for the school's cherished annual Memorial Day Ceremony, a meaningful tradition focused on gratitude, remembrance, and patriotism.

The ceremony brought together veterans from multiple branches of the military for a special day of recognition. One of the most touching moments of the event occurred as each veteran was called forward individually by name and branch of service. Students proudly presented each veteran with a commemorative token of appreciation, often creating emotional moments when children were able to honor their own parents, grandparents, or relatives who have served our country.

Throughout the program, every grade level contributed to the celebration through musical performances that highlighted themes of freedom, sacrifice, and national pride. Students also shared original poems they had written in tribute to veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States. Their thoughtful words reflected both gratitude and an understanding of the importance of honoring our nation's heroes.

The annual ceremony continues to be one of the most meaningful traditions at Memorial Elementary School, providing students with an opportunity to connect classroom learning with the values of service, citizenship, and respect. The event also serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by members of the

armed forces and the importance of preserving their stories for future generations.

Memorial Elementary School extends its sincere appreciation to all veterans who attended and to the staff, students, and families who helped make the ceremony such a memorable and heartfelt event. Submitted by Hopedale Public Schools

## BRILLANT-GIANGRANDE

continued from page 1

Since joining the library in 2023, Laura has significantly expanded youth programming and community outreach efforts, helping to drive a remarkable 42% increase in Children's Room circulation while strengthening the library's role as a vital community resource.

Library Director Keely Bethel-Penny said, "Laura's

passion, creativity, and commitment to our children and families have made an incredible impact on our community. Her work has helped make the library a welcoming, engaging, and inspiring place for young readers, and we are so fortunate to have her serving Hopedale," said Library Director Keely Bethel-Penny, who thanked Brilliant-Giangrande for all she does "to inspire a love of reading and learning in our community."

## MULLEN

continued from page 1

- School Committee: Anne D. Sullivan

- Water & Sewer Commissioner: James M. Morin  
The Town Clerk's official results can be found at <https://bit.ly/HopedaleElectionResults2026>.



Carole Mullen (right) with Rep. Brian Murray, who nominated Mullen as a Commonwealth Heroine for 2022 through the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women. Photo source: Facebook/RepBrianMurray

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# Evan Griffin one of two BVT Superintendent's Scholars

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) seniors Evan Griffin of Hopedale and Justin Fransen of Upton were recently honored as the school's 2026 Worcester County Superintendents' Association (WCSA) Scholar Award recipients at the WCSA's annual recognition luncheon.

They are also recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.) Award of Academic Excellence. The honor, commonly known as the Superintendent's Scholar Award, is presented annually to two seniors who exemplify the school's commitment to cutting-edge career technical training and rigorous academics. Evan Griffin is the class valedictorian, and Justin Fransen is the salutatorian.

Both students demonstrate exceptional academic achievement

and strong contributions to their school community.

### Evan Griffin

Evan Griffin excels in the Information Technology program at BVT, earning more than 10 industry certifications. He serves as captain of the varsity golf team and is a member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society. He also helped establish and grow the school's chess club.

He earned a silver medal in Internetworking at the 2025 SkillsUSA State Leadership & Skills Conference. A John & Abigail Adams Scholarship recipient, Evan has achieved Commendation List honors every term. He also volunteers with Project Just Because and Learning First Charter Public School.

Evan plans to continue his career and technical education by

pursuing a degree in computer science or cybersecurity at a four-year university.

### Justin Fransen

Justin Fransen is a distinguished student in the Engineering & Robotics program at BVT. He was named a Commended Student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program, serves as captain of the varsity lacrosse team, and is a member of the National Honor Society and the math team. He has competed annually in SkillsUSA, advancing to the National Leadership and Skills Conference Championships in 2024, where he placed sixth, and earning a gold medal in Mechatronics in 2025.

He is also a John & Abigail Adams Scholarship recipient and has earned Commendation List honors every term of his high school career. Through



High School seniors Evan Griffin and Justin Fransen have been named BVT's recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence. Photo source: BVT

BVT's cooperative education program, he is employed at Primetals in Sutton, where he applies his mechanical engineering skills.

Justin plans to pursue both a bachelor's and a master's degree in electrical engineering to further advance his technical

expertise.

"Evan and Justin demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to their career and technical education," said Principal Michele Denise. "We are proud to have them represent BVT and look forward to their continued success."

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# 'Plant a Seed, Read!' is library summer reading theme

Readers of all ages are invited to participate in Bancroft Memorial Library's 2026 Summer Reading Program "Plant a Seed, Read!"

Registration for Summer Reading begins on Monday, June 1, and community members of all ages - from infants to adults - are encouraged to participate. The program is designed to keep readers engaged throughout the summer while offering fun activities and special events.

The official kickoff to Summer Reading will be held on Monday, June 22, at the library

and features a live petting zoo with baby animals presented by Animal Craze.

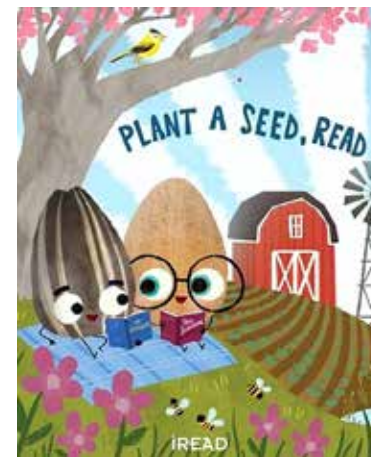
Throughout the summer, programs will include opportunities to learn about bees, discover the importance of farm-to-table agriculture, and planting herbs in new raised garden beds that will be maintained outside the Library. There will also be weekly events such as DragonCon, Movie Matinees, Arts & Crafts, Infant Tummy Time and more.

Adults and teens will receive reading logs to track their summer reading. Children will participate in the popular Read n'

Bead Program which logs reading time while earning unique pony beads. Each completed reading log earns a raffle ticket for a chance to win one of many prizes available in every age category.

The Friends of the Hopedale Library will also be hosting an online auction during the week of August 10th, featuring a variety of special items and community donations to bid on.

For more information and to register for programs, please visit the Event Calendar on the Library's website [www.bancroftmemoriallibrary.org](http://www.bancroftmemoriallibrary.org) or call the



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Submitted by Bancroft Memorial Library



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# Learning outside the box: 'Forest Friends' celebrates four years of nature-based success

While traditional preschool classrooms are filled with the sounds of bright toys and the scratching of crayons on paper, a unique group of Hopedale's youngest learners spend their mornings listening to the rustle of leaves, measuring the circumference of tree trunks, and tracking animal footprints in the mud or snow. This spring, the Forest Friends program, the innovative, nature-based preschool track offered by the Hopedale Public Schools at the Bright Beginnings Center, is proudly completing its fourth year of operation. Since its inception, the program has transformed local early childhood education by trading four walls for the open canopy of the great outdoors.

At first glance, the Forest Friends program might look like an extended recess, but the philosophy driving it is deeply academic. The curriculum is entirely STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

based and child-directed, allowing the natural wonder of the students to dictate the day's lessons. If a child notices a fallen bird's nest, the day's focus seamlessly pivots to studying avian habitats, sorting found materials by size, and engineering makeshift shelters out of twigs. A European model, the concept of the "forest school," where nature acts as the primary classroom, is not a specialized alternative or a passing trend; it is a foundational pillar of early childhood education. In countries like Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, connection to nature is viewed as a vital component of human well-being and citizenship. Forest schools are seen as the natural extension of this philosophy. There is a famous Scandinavian saying that dictates the school day: "There is no bad weather, only bad clothing." Whether it is a sunny May morning or a freezing January afternoon, children are dressed in high-quality

waterproof layers and sent outside to learn.

While the day-to-day exploration for the Forest Friends is led by what the children discover, the educators, led by Classroom Teacher Marianne Watson, carefully map these organic moments back to structured educational milestones. The program is fully aligned with DESE's Massachusetts Pre-K Curriculum Frameworks, ensuring that when these outdoor adventurers eventually transition to traditional indoor kindergarten classrooms, they are fully equipped with the foundational literacy, mathematics, and social-emotional skills required for future success.

The learners at Forest Friends have embarked on some truly remarkable creative adventures, turning the great outdoors into a vibrant, living classroom. By tracking the grueling Iditarod sled dog race, they didn't just learn about geography and



Teacher Marianne Watson works with students in their Bath House classroom.

teamwork; they immersed themselves in the spirit of resilience and northern climates. This exploration naturally bridged into a deeper study of animal habitats and adaptations, where they discovered the ingenious ways wildlife survives and thrives in changing environments. Bring-

ing their focus back to their own backyard, the group spent time exploring the rich biodiversity of Hopedale, mapping out and observing the unique types of

## FOREST FRIENDS

*continued on page 11*

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### Hopedale 100 years ago:

# Princess visit, falling sugar barrel, moving buildings

## Series looks at Hopedale in 1920s

By DAN MALLOY  
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR

As we continue to look at the Town of Hopedale 100 years ago, here are a few newsworthy events from 1926 from the weekly Milford Gazette.

A girls' fencing club has been organized at the Community House under the direction of Supt. R.E. Gourley.(5 Park St.).

E.L. Chichester (86 Hopedale Street) has been confined to the house with an injured foot, sustained recently when a barrel of sugar fell at the Patrick corner store.

Moving pictures in Town Hall, Saturday afternoon and evening. Mary Pickford in "Little Annie Rooney," Pathe News and Pathe comedy.

At the high school rhetoricals last Thursday, Edith Deiana (230 Mendon Street) and Joseph Saville won first, and Barbara Shippee (7 Highland Street) and Henry Spadoni (7 Home Park Avenue) second honors.

The Penny Vaudeville building, which George Phipps (47 Bancroft Park) purchased from the Lake Nipmuc Park Co., has been moved across the ice to the Phipps lot and will be made into a summer cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. B.H.B. Draper (45 Adin Street) are at Miami, Florida, where they have chartered a houseboat for a cruise.

At the Community House, Women's Club meeting at 3 on Tuesday, Mrs. Harry Burnham, State Chairman of Home Economics, will speak on "Poetry and Dishwashing."

The High School senior class will hold a rummage sale in Town Hall Tuesday afternoon. Those

willing to donate articles please call Janet Turner. (12 Progress Street) Tel. 1056-J.

Princess Margaret Draper Boncompagni has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Clare H. Draper (54 Adin Street – now where Memorial School is located) this week.

A gas explosion from soft coal started a fire Wednesday afternoon which gutted the printing plant of H.C. Forbes at 9 Dennett Street.

Paul Bracci,(138 Mendon Street) who has spent the winter in Italy, has returned to his home here.

Julius E. Hoyle, a forger at the Westcott Mills, died of pneumonia yesterday at the Milford Hospital. He was 31 years old and leaves a wife, daughter, and four brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Giles of Tulsa, Oklahoma, are guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman A. Shippee. (7 Highland Street) The trip of 2000 miles was made by auto.

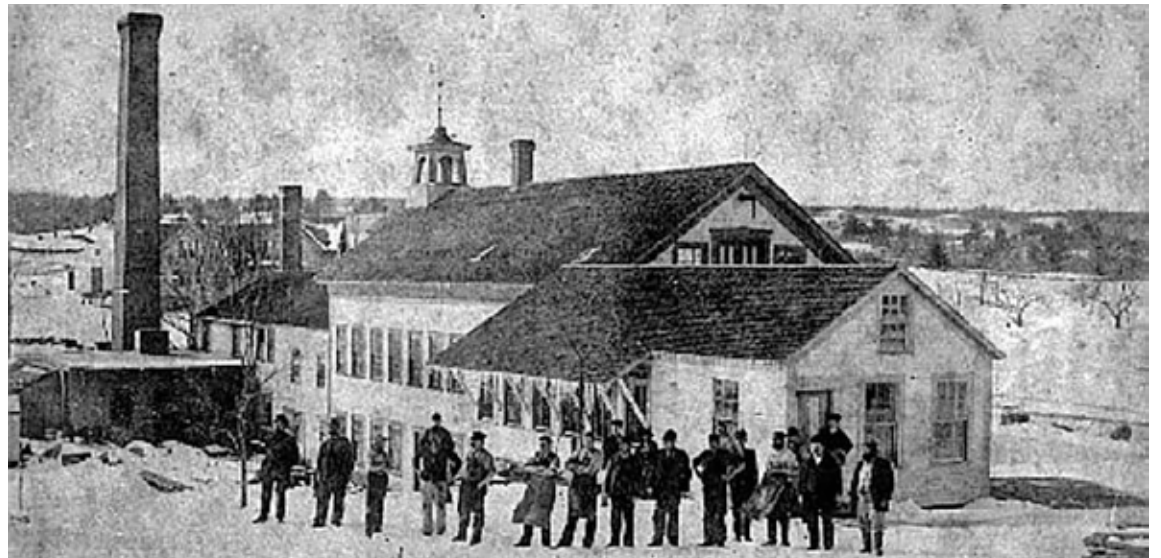
Dan Malloy is the founder of www.hope1842.com, a website devoted to the history of Hopedale.



Princess Margaret Draper Boncompagni.



The Clare and Matilda Draper home on Adin Street, at the site where Memorial School is now.



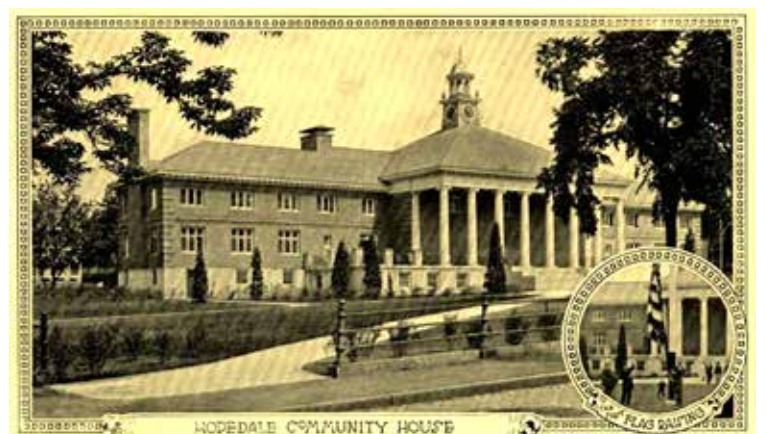
Westcott Mill on Mill Street by Spindleville Pond. All photos provided by Dan Malloy



First Hopedale High School, which in 1935 became Sacred Heart Church.



Patrick's Corner Store, where Stone's Furniture is now.



Hopedale Community House postcard.

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Your Money, Your Independence

# Avoid the F.I.R.E. trap: Why true independence is flexible



Glenn Brown, CFP

In the world of personal finance, few concepts have captured the public imagination quite like the “FIRE” movement (Financial Independence, Retire Early). The premise sounds intoxicating: live in extreme frugality, sacrifice your lifestyle to save half your income, hit a precise mathematical milestone, and exit the workforce forever.

It looks perfect on a spreadsheet. But as a Certified Financial Planner, I see a glaring, human flaw in this hyper-fixa-

tion on a “magic number.” It turns money into a rigid prison rather than a tool for living. True financial independence isn’t about hitting an artificial finish line and pulling up the drawbridge; it is about building a life flexible enough to handle reality and generous enough to share.

### The myth of the flat-line life

The fundamental math of traditional FIRE assumes your life will remain perfectly linear. It projects your future based on your current lifestyle, locking you into a permanent state of hyper-calculated spending to protect your safe withdrawal rate.

But life does not stay flat. A rigid financial plan leaves absolutely no room for the unpredictable, beautiful, and sometimes expensive shifts in our personal journeys.

What happens if you choose to care for aging parents down the road? What if you want to fund a loved one’s education, marry someone with a differ-

ent financial reality, or navigate a medical curveball? If your financial plan breaks the moment your life expands, it isn’t independence. It’s a self-imposed constraint disguised as freedom.

### Reclaiming the power of flexibility

Instead of racing toward an arbitrary retirement date, a healthier approach is to design a wealth strategy around being “Work Option-Ready.”

Financial independence shouldn’t mean doing nothing; it means having the power to choose what you do, when, and with whom.

When you build a plan focused on flexibility rather than an escape hatch, you don’t have to view your career as a prison sentence to endure. You gain the agency to take a sabbatical, pivot to a lower-paying but more fulfilling role, or launch a passion project. Money is a tool for personal sovereignty, not just a metric for tracking how quickly you can stop contribut-

ing your talents to the world.

### The generosity premium

Perhaps the deepest flaw of the hyper-frugal milestone mindset is its inherent isolation. When your entire identity is wrapped up in protecting a fixed lump sum, spending money becomes a chronic source of anxiety. This often forces people to say no to shared experiences or decline opportunities to support their community because any extra expense threatens their spreadsheet.

True wealth is social, not just mathematical. A sophisticated financial plan accounts for a “generosity premium.” It explicitly builds in the margin required to share your success, support causes you care about, and show up financially for the people in your life when it matters most.

True independence means having enough abundance to be altruistic without compromising your future.

### Freedom is a behavior, not a metric

Do not let internet trends convince you that financial success is a race to a rigid finish line. The goal of comprehensive financial planning isn’t to cross an artificial boundary and stop living; it is to ensure your financial foundation is strong enough to weather life’s changes and flexible enough to let you live and give abundantly.

That is the kind of financial independence worth pursuing.

*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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# Bancroft Memorial Library news

50 Hopedale Street,  
Hopedale MA 01747  
Contact: Keely Bethel-Penny,  
Library Director  
508-634-2209

**The Library will be closed on Fri., June 19, in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.**

REMINDER: Our Friday Summer Hours (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) begin on July 10 and will run through the end of August.

**Helen Symonds Book Group – Wed., June 3, at 1 p.m.**

The group will be discussing *The Stolen Queen* by Fiona Davis.

**Community Conversations – Wed., June 3, at 6:30 p.m.**

Community Conversations will meet in the Program Room to talk about “The Problem with Gerrymandering.”

**10th Annual Hopedale Fairy Walk – Sat., June 13, from 1 to 3 p.m.**

Join us as the Hopedale Parklands transform into an enchanted forest filled with fairies, gnomes, and magical folk!

Be sure to find the magical Fairy House created by the Library, and don't miss the Friends of the Hopedale Library table: they will have books, sun catchers and a special craft!

**NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE HOPEDALE LIBRARY:**

**Help support the Friends of the Hopedale Library!**

Did you know that you can shop our Ongoing Book Sale anytime the Library is open? We offer a selection of adult and children's titles and even puzzles! You can find the sale area downstairs just outside the Program Room. All monies raised go back to the Bancroft Memorial Library to pay for children's and adult programs, museum passes, and other expenses not covered by the Library budget.

**The Friends of the Library**

The Friends of the Hopedale Library, founded in 1983, is an active volunteer, non-profit organization with a town-wide membership and a representa-

tive executive board. We work with the Library staff and the Trustees to support the Library in providing funds for equipment, materials, and programs not covered by the Library's regular operating budget. The Friends of the Hopedale Library meets the second Wednesday of the month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. New members and ideas are always welcome.

**NEWS FROM THE MARJORIE HATTERSLEY CHILDREN'S ROOM:**

**Summer Reading 2026 – “Plant a Seed, Read!”**

Summer Reading is here, and we're thrilled to invite you to eight weeks of excitement, creativity, and adventure at Bancroft Memorial Library! This year's theme is “Plant a Seed, Read!” Registration opens Monday, June 1 and programs run from Mon., June 22, through Friday, Aug. 14. Each week brings something new with themed activities and events. Grand Prize Raffles will be held



for kids, teens, and adults - everyone has a chance to win!

**Celebrate International Yo-Yo Day! - Sat., June 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Celebrate the birthday of Donald F. Duncan, Sr. with us! Drop in the Children's Room today and get a free yo-yo!

**Builder Saturdays! - Sat., June 13, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

If you love Legos, we've got thousands to play with! Use our Legos to create a masterpiece that we can put on display for all to see. Drop in and all ages welcome!

**Summer Reading Kick-Off Event - Monday, June 22 from 2 to 3 p.m.**

Visit with baby chicks, bunnies, piglets and more at our Petting Zoo with Animal Craze! Registration is required for this event. For more details and to register, visit our Event Calendar at [www.bancroftmemoriallibrary.org](http://www.bancroftmemoriallibrary.org).

**Tummy Time Summer Reading Style – Tuesdays, 6/23 & 6/30 at 10 a.m., ages 0-18 months**

Drop in for some safe and comfortable movement and socialization for infants from birth through 18 months.

**Nature Scavenger Hunt – Wed., June 2, from 2 to 6 p.m.**

Go on a Nature Scavenger Hunt in the Library's backyard searching for nature items that we can use in craft activities throughout the summer. We will give you a brown paper bag with a list of items to be on the lookout for. Find your "treasures," return your bag to Miss Laura and you'll get a prize! Drop in for all ages.

**Open Play – Thursday, June 25, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for kids in Grades 2 - 6**

School age kids can drop in for Open Play in the Program Room. Different play opportunities will change weekly, such as arts and crafts, a crochet lesson, board games, Wii gaming, assorted puzzles, life size games, learn a card game and more!

**Sat. Movie Matinee – Sat., June 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Drop in at the Library to beat the heat or just to enjoy a fun, family friendly movie! (G or PG titles only). You can bring a snack, a blanket, a stuffy and even come in your PJs! Stop by or call the Library to find out what the movie is (hint: it's about barnyard ballplayers!)

**DragonCon – Monday, June 29, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Reading Dragons is our most popular reading program and we want everyone to know about it! Join us as we make a dragon mask, create your own dragon art designs, play games with your dragon cards and play Spin-to-Win some dragon candy. Every attendee gets a mystery dragon card! Drop in and bring your cards!

**Weekly and Rolling Programs: Tummy Time – Tuesdays, 6/2, 6/9 & 6/16 at 10 a.m., ages 0-18 months**

Join us for some infant fun in a safe environment! Along with a story there will be fun, developmentally appropriate toys that encourage gross motor development. Drop in!

**LIBRARY**

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**LIBRARY**

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**Toddler Tunes – Thursdays, 6/4, 6/11 & 6/18 at 10 a.m., ages 18 months– 3 years**

This program is perfect for energetic toddlers! Along with a story, we will work on gross motor skills and play with balls, a parachute, instruments, bean bags, scarves and more. Drop in!

**Genre Book Club – All ages**

Join the Genre Book Club and create your own bookmark with a cable ring. Read any book you choose on your own schedule; after each finished book, stop by the Children’s Room to collect a genre badge. The club has no scheduled meetings, is open to all and can be joined at any time.

**Reading Dragons: A Card Game Reading Club – All ages**

Reading Dragons allows readers to earn collectible dragon cards through logged reading time. Every 30 minutes recorded on a Time Tracker earns one card, and completing two hours earns all

four stages of a dragon. The card game can be played with friends as additional dragons are earned. Readers are invited to add book recommendations as “Book Scales” to the dragon display in the Program Room. The program runs on a rolling basis and can be joined at any time.

**1000 Books Before Kindergarten**

Bancroft Memorial Library offers the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program. for young families and early readers. At registration, you will be provided a starting kit with a library book bag, cable for achievement tags, program information, suggested book list and a log for books 1–100. Every 100 books read earns a tag for the cable, and reaching 1,000 books earns a lawn sign celebrating the achievement. This program runs on a rolling basis and can be joined anytime.

For updates throughout the month, Friend us on Facebook and sign up at [www.wowbrary.org](http://www.wowbrary.org) to discover the Library’s newest books, movies and music. Our webpage is [www.bancroftmemorial-library.org](http://www.bancroftmemorial-library.org)

# How to control the deadliest animal on the planet!



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

Mosquito and tick populations are on the rise again as the country transitions to the Spring season. While these pests are certainly nuisances, they can also transmit harmful diseases like Zika virus, West Nile virus, Lyme disease, and more, which is why WPC Pest Control is helping to advocate for increased awareness of mosquito and tick prevention this season.

“One of the best ways to fight off mosquito and tick bites and

subsequent disease transmission is to apply insect repellent before going outside,” said Jim Mazzuchelli, owner of WPC Pest Control .

Yet, many people don’t make it a priority to protect against these biting pests by taking this simple action. Those who do may not realize that there is a correct way to use repellent for it to be effective.

To properly apply insect repellent for maximum protection against mosquitoes and ticks, follow this five-step method from the National Pest Management Association (NPMA):

Look for a product containing an active EPA-registered ingredient, such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon-eucalyptus or IR3535.

Read the product label and follow the instructions carefully. If sunscreen is also being worn, repellent should be used over top of sunscreen.

Shake the product well. Then, hold it about 6-8 inches away from exposed skin and spray evenly in a sweeping motion.

Spray the palms of hands to apply the repellent to the face and ears, being sure to avoid eye and nostril contact.

Apply the repellent over clothing, which should completely cover feet and ankles.

“Another great way to avoid contact with mosquitoes specifically is to remove any standing water around the yard to deter mosquito breeding,” said, Jim Mazzuchelli.

A licensed pest control professional can work with a homeowner to help identify these hot spots. The ultimate protection would be to have your yard treated by a professional pest control operator. You will get the knowledge and protection needed to combat these dangerous threats. Your loved ones deserve it.

For more information, visit [nobugsnopests.com](http://nobugsnopests.com) to schedule a complete inspection and treatment. WPC Pest Control is located right here in Hopkinton!

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## 25th Anniversary Glass Ornament Fundraiser

Help The Friends of the Bancroft Memorial Library celebrate the library’s 125th Anniversary by purchasing a commemorative glass sun catcher ornament featuring the Library. These hand-crafted ornaments by Becker Glass are available in blue

and clear for \$15 each.

To purchase, simply stop by the Library. Cash and checks will be accepted. Any checks should be made out to The Friends of the Hopedale Library. These are a perfect Graduation or Father's Day gift!



To celebrate the library’s 125th anniversary, the Friends of the Bancroft Memorial Library are selling commemorative glass sun-catcher ornaments, featuring the library.

## Town issues Notice of Tax Taking for five properties

The Town of Hopedale has issued its latest Notice of Tax Taking. There are five proper-

ties on the list with outstanding taxes ranging from \$83.25 to \$7,260.23.

For more information, visit [www.hopedale-ma.gov](http://www.hopedale-ma.gov).

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# Hopedale public safety log

## Attempted murder, intoxicated persons, repossession

Between April 15 and May 15, the Hopedale Police and Fire Departments responded to hundreds of calls, many related to motor vehicle stops, vehicle accidents/crashes, traffic complaints, erratic operators, preventative patrolling, community policing, illegal parking, theft/larceny/forgery/fraud, burglar alarms, lost/found property, property checks, animal complaints, road hazards, LTC/FIC (license to carry/firearms identification card) matters, warrant service, suspicious persons/activity, court appearances, 911 hang-ups/open lines, safety detail officers, school resource officer, general information, public assistance and training.

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

**April 15** at 7:10 a.m., Hopedale Jr/Sr High School, school resource officer  
**April 15** at 3:07 p.m., Laurel-

wood Dr., suspicious activity  
**April 15** at 6:21 p.m., Hollyhock Ln., breaking and entering  
**April 17** at 11:18 a.m., Mendon & Hopedale Sts., public assist  
**April 17** at 9:11 p.m., Lake St., suspicious activity  
**April 18** at 8:14 p.m., Dec Ct., warrant service  
**April 18** at 11:02 p.m., Hopedale St., disturbance  
**April 19** at 7:15 p.m., Tammie Rd., animal complaint  
**April 21** at 4:17 a.m., So. Main St., suspicious activity  
**April 21** at 7:01 p.m., HPD, report of theft/larceny/forgery/fraud  
**April 22** at 6:54 p.m., Mendon St., suspicious activity  
**April 23** at 11:42 p.m., Bath House, suspicious activity  
**April 24** at 6:29 a.m., Hopedale & Draper Sts., speed sign/message board info  
**April 24** at 8:16 a.m., Hopedale & Hope Sts., arrest. A 61-year-old Hopedale male was arrested

and charged with possession to distribute a Class B substance (subsequent offense), and possession of a Class B substance (subsequent offense)  
**April 25** at 2:52 p.m., Westcott Rd., animal complaint  
**April 25** at 6:29 p.m., So. Main St., erratic operator  
**April 26** at 6:50 p.m., Mendon St., traffic hazard  
**April 26** at 8:06 p.m., Whitney Rd., disturbance  
**April 28** at 10:34 a.m., Daniels St., wires down  
**April 30** at 1:24 p.m., Overdale Pkwy, soliciting  
**May 1** at 8:50 a.m., HPD, prisoner transport to court  
**May 2** at 10:11 p.m., Union St., trespassing/unwanted person, arrest. A 42-year-old Hopedale male was arrested and charged with possession of a Class B drug.  
**May 2** at 10:29 p.m., Hazel St., disturbance  
**May 3** at 6:04 p.m., Freedom



St., past hit and run  
**May 7** at 6:13 a.m., Union St., suspicious activity  
**May 8** at 3:54 a.m., HPD, arrest. A 22-year-old Hopedale male was charged with assault and battery.  
**May 9** at 9:23 a.m., HPD, arrest. A 60-year-old Hopedale male was charged with attempted murder, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon over 60, strangulation or suffocation, assault and battery/serious bodily injury.  
**May 9** at 7:55 p.m., Cemetery St., property repossession  
**May 9** at 10:25 p.m., Mendon St., intoxicated person, arrest.


A 32-year-old Milford male was charged with assault and battery on a family/household member, and walking/riding on railroad tracks.  
**May 10** at 5:45 p.m., Parklands, missing person  
**May 12** at 6:21 p.m., Dutcher St., intoxicated person, transported to hospital  
**May 14** at 11:25 p.m., Jones Rd., open door/window  
**May 15** at 10:30 a.m., HPD, threats  
**May 15** at 5:25 p.m., Adin St., disturbance

Source: Hopedale Police Department

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## Pet of the month: Sydney

It's been 5 months since we first posted Sydney. We are so shocked that she hasn't been adopted that we had to post her again. Sydney is a beautiful long haired black and white tuxedo cat with big eyes that make her look perpetually surprised. Friendly, outgoing, cuddly and playful, Sydney is an all-around great cat.

It is possible that Sydney isn't everyone's perfect cat. If you prefer your cat to be whisper quiet, Sydney is not your cat. Sydney does enjoy singing. If you need a cat to be a companion for another animal in your home, Sydney is not your cat.



Sydney needs to be an only child. If you prefer your cat to spend its time like a loaf of bread lying around the house, Sydney is not your cat. Sydney

likes to explore, jump and play.

Sydney is on a prescription diet due to an allergy or sensitivity that makes the skin on her neck breakout. Keeping her strictly on the prescription diet reduces the amount and duration of the breakouts.

Sydney is such a happy girl. She is looking forward to spending her days with a family who loves her. Could it be yours?

For information on meeting Sydney or the other cats at the Milford Humane Society please visit <https://www.milfordhumane.org/>

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**FOREST FRIENDS**

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birds and animals that share their local home. Through these hands-on, imaginative projects, Forest Friends successfully fosters a deep, lifelong connection to the natural world.

The program's unique setting is made possible by a close knit, innovative collaboration between the Hopedale Public Schools and the local Parks Department, as well as support from the Hopedale Foundation. Rather than confining the children to standard school grounds, the community partnered to repurpose a piece of local history: the historic Bath House space at Hopedale Pond, located at the

gateway to the beautiful Hopedale Parklands. Using the Bath House as a crucial sheltered home base for extreme weather conditions and gear storage, the Forest Friends class spends their time fully immersed in the surrounding woods, trails, and shorelines. This collaborative use of public space has created a seamless bridge between local municipal resources and early public education.

Now concluding its fourth year, Forest Friends has proven to be a highly sought-after alternative for local families looking to foster independence, physical coordination, and environmental stewardship in their children. Enrollment has steadily grown and the program is full with a waitlist for the 2026-2027 school

year. Parents of Forest Friends frequently praise the program for building immense emotional resilience and flexibility in their little ones, who learn to adapt to the changing Massachusetts seasons rain or shine. As the program wraps up another successful academic year, the trails around Hopedale Pond stand well-trodden by a new generation of scientists, engineers, and nature lovers, proving that sometimes, the best classroom is the one without a roof.

For more information about the Forest Friends program and upcoming registration cycles, residents can contact the Bright Beginnings Center.

*Submitted by Hopedale Public Schools*



Forest Friends explore a creek in the Parklands.

# Hopedale Summer concerts announced

The Hopedale Cultural Council announces the following 2026 summer band concerts to be held at the Hopedale Community House on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted (June 17).

Rain dates are the following

Thursday.

June 17 - Fun Night with DJ Mike Rutkowski

June 24 - Carolyn Rae and the Rumors (pop hits)

July 8 - The Pub Kings (electro acoustic quartet) with pre-concert fun with DJ Mike at 5:30 p.m.

July 15 - Soul Syndicate (R&B, Motown, soul)

July 22 - Elastic 5 (pop, rock, folk) with pre-concert fun with DJ Mike at 5:30 p.m.

Various food items will

be available including pizza and beverages (Boy Scouts); lemonade, water, and cookies (Cultural Council); and hot dogs, fries, and popcorn (Fire Department).

On the following dates, attendees can sign up at the Council table for a free gift card giveaway: June 24, July 8, July 15, and July 22.

# Stony Brook Camera Club to meet in June

The Stony Brook Camera Club meets in-person and/or virtually on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. from September to June.

In person meetings are held at the Anglican Church of the Redeemer, 195 Main Street, Franklin. Our meetings feature speakers, competitions, image studies, and discussions of general interest.

We also sponsor a number of photography activities and

workshops throughout the year. SBCC includes and welcomes members of all abilities.

June meetings include:

June 4: Women vs. Men, a member competition

June 11: Business meeting and end-of-the-year dinner

Meetings will then resume in September. For a calendar of events and more information, visit stonybrookccc.com.

6/1-6/5



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LIVING HEALTHY

# A new era of hope for patients with dry macular degeneration

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

For decades, patients diagnosed with dry age-related macular degeneration (AMD) have often faced a frustrating and discouraging reality: there were very limited treatment options available. Unlike wet macular degeneration, which can often be treated with injections, dry AMD — which accounts for approximately 90% of all AMD cases — historically offered little beyond observation, monitoring, nutritional supplements, and lifestyle recommendations. Many patients were told to simply “watch and wait” as their central vision slowly declined over time. Today, however, that reality is beginning to change dramatically.

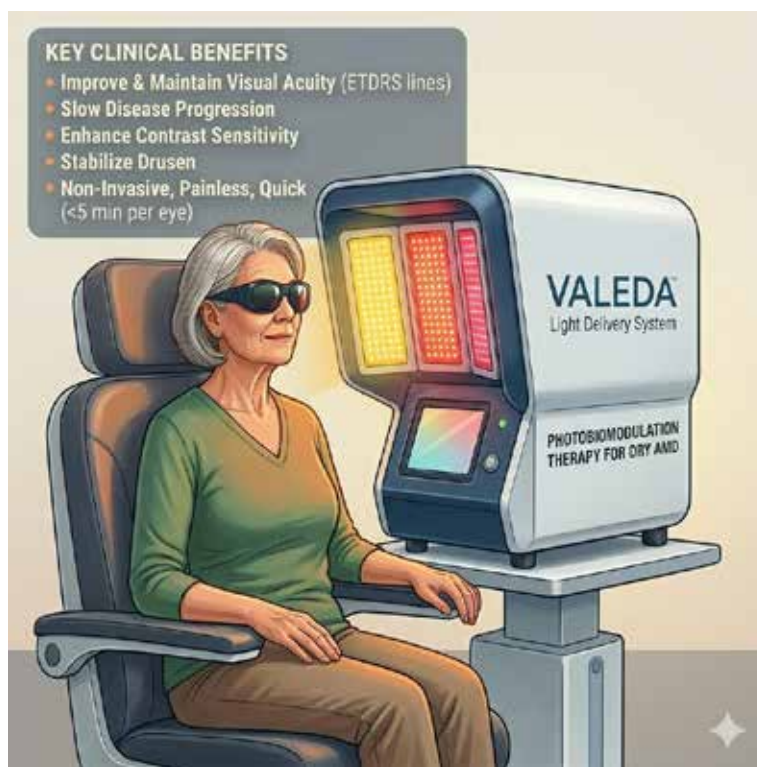
A groundbreaking FDA-authorized technology known

as Photobiomodulation (PBM) therapy is bringing new hope to patients living with dry AMD. Delivered through the Valeda Light Delivery System, PBM therapy represents one of the most exciting innovations in retina care in many years. For the first time, patients with dry AMD may now have access to a treatment shown in clinical studies to improve visual function and potentially slow disease progression.

Photobiomodulation works by using specific wavelengths of light to stimulate retinal cells and improve cellular function deep within the retina. Scientific research has shown that PBM may enhance mitochondrial activity, reduce inflammation, improve blood flow, and decrease oxidative stress — all factors believed to contribute

to the progression of macular degeneration. By improving the health and metabolism of retinal cells, PBM helps support the retina’s ability to function more effectively.

The FDA authorization of the Valeda system followed extensive scientific investigation and multiple clinical trials. The landmark LIGHTSITE studies generated tremendous excitement among retina specialists and ophthalmologists worldwide. In these studies, patients treated with PBM demonstrated measurable improvements in visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, and overall retinal function compared to untreated patients. Many patients gained letters on standardized vision testing, and some maintained these improvements over extended follow-up periods. Researchers also ob-



served signs suggesting slower progression of retinal damage in treated eyes.

For patients who have spent years hearing that “nothing can be done” for dry AMD, these findings are incredibly meaningful. PBM therapy is changing the conversation surrounding dry macular degeneration and offering patients genuine optimism for the future.

One of the most remarkable aspects of PBM therapy is its excellent safety profile. The treatment is completely non-invasive, painless, and comfortable. There are no injections into the eye, no surgery, no needles, and no recovery time. Patients simply sit comfortably during a series of light therapy sessions that take only minutes to perform. Clinical studies have demonstrated virtually no significant side effects or safety concerns associated with treatment. This makes PBM one of the safest and most patient-friendly technologies currently available in retinal care.

Patients often ask who may qualify for treatment. In general, the best candidates are individuals with early to intermediate dry AMD who are beginning to experience symptoms such as blurry central vision, difficulty reading, trouble driving at night, decreased contrast sensitivity, or distortion in vision. Patients with drusen deposits or non-central geographic atrophy may

particularly benefit from evaluation. Determining candidacy requires a comprehensive retinal examination and advanced retinal imaging performed by an experienced eye specialist.

Milford Franklin Eye Center is proud to be among the very first centers in Massachusetts — and among the earliest centers in the United States — to offer this revolutionary FDA-authorized technology. In fact, MFEC is the fourth center in Massachusetts to acquire the Valeda PBM system. Remarkably, many major hospitals and eye centers in Boston still do not yet offer this breakthrough treatment. Milford Franklin Eye Center has always remained committed to bringing the most advanced and innovative technologies directly to the communities we serve so patients can receive world-class care closer to home.

This commitment to innovation reflects the core mission of MFEC: providing exceptional eye care using the latest advancements in medicine while maintaining the personalized attention and compassion of a community-based practice. Our goal has always been to empower local patients with access to the same cutting-edge technology available at leading centers across the country, without requiring long-distance travel for

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# HAPPENINGS

Events happening in and around the area

## June 6

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

## June 9

7 p.m. – Yankee Quilters program featuring Janet Elia at Emma’s Quilt Cupboard, Horace Mann Plaza, East Central St., Franklin. For more information, contact YankeeQuilters11@gmail.com.

## June 13

10 a.m. – 10th Annual Hopedale Fairy Walk, Hopedale Parklands blue trail, 76 Dutcher St. (enter just past the bath house). One mile in, same mile back (not a loop). <https://friendsofhistorichopedale.com/hopedale-fairy-walk>

## June 13

8 p.m. – SAFE Sober Prom Night, SAFE Coalition of-fices, Franklin. Glow-and-neon theme, free. Pre-registration required. <https://tinyurl.com/safeprom>

## June 17

6 p.m. – Fun Night with DJ MikeRutkowski, Hopedale Community House.

## June 19

7:30 p.m. – Charles River Sinfonietta, Church of Christ, 142 Exchange St., Millis. [charlesriversinfonietta.com](http://charlesriversinfonietta.com)

## June 20

6 p.m. – Nipmuc Regional H.S. Class of 1966 60th re-union, Red Rock Grill and Bar, 66 West Main Street, Upton. Members of, and anyone associated with, the class are invited. If attending, please send number of people in your party to Larrypearson48@gmail.com.

## June 24

6:30 p.m. – Carolyn Rae and the Rumors (pop hits), Hopedale Community House.

### SAVE THE DATES

## July 8

6:30 p.m. – The Pub Kings (electro acoustic quartet), Hopedale Community House.

## July 15

6:30 p.m. – Soul Syndicate, Hopedale Community House.

## July 18

12 p.m. – Medway Day, Thayer Homestead, Choate Park. Booths 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., activities and entertainment 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Fireworks after dark. Free event. Rain or shine.

## July 22

6:30 p.m. – Elastic 5 (pop, rock, folk), Hopedale Community House.

## Sept. 10

6:30 p.m. – Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Upton Community Center.

## Sept. 19

Hopedale Day in the Park

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



## EYE

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specialized care.

Patients diagnosed with dry AMD are strongly encouraged to contact our office for an evaluation, consultation, or second opinion regarding PBM therapy. Many optometrists and ophthalmologists may not yet offer this technology or may not yet be familiar with the newest treatment advances available for dry macular degeneration. PBM therapy represents a true revolution in eye care because it offers something patients with dry AMD have rarely had before: hope for preserving — and in some cases improving — vision.

Milford Franklin Eye Center is also proud to provide on-site retina specialty care through Dr. Alyse Richard, a highly trained retina specialist dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of retinal diseases including dry and wet macular degeneration,

diabetic retinopathy, retinal vascular disease, retinal tears, and other complex retinal conditions. Dr. Richard combines advanced subspecialty expertise with compassionate, patient-centered care and is committed to helping patients preserve their vision using the latest evidence-based treatments available today.

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with dry AMD, now is the time to learn more about this exciting breakthrough. Early evaluation and treatment may make a meaningful difference in preserving vision, maintaining independence, and improving quality of life. Time equals vision. Patients are encouraged to contact Milford Franklin Eye Center for immediate appointments and second opinions regarding this revolutionary new technology that is changing the future of dry macular degeneration care.

For more details, see our ad on page 12.

# Fairy Walk at Parklands on June 13

The Friends of Historic Hopedale will hold its 10th Annual Hopedale Fairy Walk on June 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will take place at Hopedale Parklands along the Blue Trail, and will feature more than 30 house builders.

Enter the area behind the Bath House at 76 Dutcher Street.

The walk is one mile in and then the same mile back out; it is not a loop.

The event will include artisans, food, entertainment.

For more information, visit



<https://friendsofhistorichopedale.com/hopedale-fairy-walk>

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HOPEDALE SPORTS

# Wajda looking to finish on high note

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY,  
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Baseball was one of many sports that Brady Wajda played as a youngster growing up in Hopedale, but now, as he nears his final few months as a Blue Raider, the senior is hoping to be able to capitalize on his last baseball season.

T-Ball was definitely part of his life beginning at the age of six, but baseball wasn't the only sport he was looking at.

"At that age, I was playing everything that I could trying to find out what sport I liked and where I best fit in," Wajda said. "Overall, I'd basically do anything for my team; I just wanted to find a way to get on the field."

Upon entering the Hopedale Jr/Sr High School, Wajda had his interests cut down to two sports: baseball and golf with baseball taking the top spot. During his first year, he would play for the freshman team, but when he returned the following year he was set on trying out for a position on the varsity squad.

Wajda made the varsity team as a sophomore and when the coach asked him if he had ever played first base, he could positively answer yes. Wajda would primarily be a DH that season but would also see occasional



Photos of Brady Wajda (#17) in his last baseball season with the Blue Raiders. Courtesy photos

play as the team's back-up first baseman. With minimal playing time that season, Wajda batted .383 with 23 hits and 19 RBI.

"Having played the position, I was given the opportunity to show what I had," Wajda said.



"I was more of a DH that year and saw my plate appearances coming lower in the lineup. I worked hard to move my way up the lineup and eventually found myself hitting from the clean-up position." These days, he hits third for Hopedale.

While getting his chance that season, Wajda just wanted to get onto the field and have fun. He wanted to meet his teammates and find out about them while staying humble to himself – he

just wanted to play baseball.

The biggest highlight of his young career came against Milford, a top-notch baseball team, when he went 3-3 at the plate with 3 RBI. It was this game that not only boosted his confidence at the plate, but helped him realize he could probably play the game of baseball on the next level.

As a junior, he would once again see time in the field but his time on the mound would

also increase, and he would move up to the team's number two pitcher.

"He's been doing a great job for us since his sophomore season; that year he played a lot of first base while only pitching 10 innings for us," Hopedale Coach Kevin Bresciani said. "During his junior year, he was

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**WAJDA**

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HOPEDALE SPORTS



Photos of Brady Wajda (#17) in his last baseball season with the Blue Raiders. Courtesy photos



**WAJDA**

*continued from page 14*

moved up to where he pitched 40 innings and stepped into a larger role. He was definitely a big part of us getting to the Final 4 that year.”

That season the Blue Raiders went 13-7 and were awarded the number four seed in the Division 5 State Tournament. Hopedale would defeat Hull, Carver and Ware before eventually falling to Pioneer Valley, the number one seed, in the Final 4. At the plate, the junior had 19 hits and 220 RBI. When he took

to the mound that campaign, he allowed 31 hits and 13 earned runs over 40 innings of work, while striking out 35 batters and walking 12, posting a 2.28 ERA.

“That year, I had success on the mound,” Wajda said. “I’d go out there, keep my head down, throw hard and just be myself.”

With the extra work that he received pitching that year, he set a goal for himself to work harder and make himself better for his team as well as himself. As his senior season began, he found that he was named the team’s top hurler, however he was having some problems with his efficiency; something he be-

lieved was in his head mentally and just needed to do his job and regain his confidence.

“As the team’s ace, there was definitely pressure on him to succeed,” he said. “I wanted to go out and support my team on the mound, but as a captain, I also wanted to be a good role model to the younger players.”

Bresciani noted that, although Wajda had taken over the number one spot and was seeing more of the tougher teams, he was still giving the team an opportunity to compete, as well as a fighting chance to walk away with a win.

Last year, while playing for his

club team, the Northeast Longhorns (out of Holliston), Wajda and his teammates were playing in a tournament near the end of the season. The Hopedale athlete was pitching when a handful of college coaches happened to be at the game. A few days later, he was contacted by Lasalle University in Newton to come to a prospect camp.

“After the camp, Lasalle called me and told me I had a presence on the mound and a good fit for the [Division 3] school,” he said. “While it will once again be a different environment, much like my sophomore year at Hopedale, I am going to give it my all and work hard.”

The team opened the year with a slow start and found themselves sitting at 3-6 at the time of this writing, but according to the Hopedale coach, they have been involved in some winnable games that could have gone either way. Wajda has been given the majority of the stronger teams and thus,

through 21 innings, has allowed 19 hits and 7 earned runs, while striking out 27 and walking 16. Over that time, the now-senior has gone 1-1 with a few no decisions and a 2.33 ERA.

“Brady has been a great player for Hopedale and over his years he’s continued to improve and I’m sure he’ll take the same trajectory in college,” Bresciani said. “He will be a good fit for Lasalle.”

Although Wajda has everything lined up following his high school graduation, the senior and his teammates still have work to do on the diamond. The Blue Raiders are hoping they can go out and play good baseball the remainder of the season and end on a high note. If they can turn things around, and earn themselves another high seed in the Division 5 Tournament, Wajda and his teammates firmly believe they can make some noise and go deep into the tournament.

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Date	Hopedale	Amount
05/04/2026	129 Mill St.	\$648,945
04/30/2026	256 S. Main St.	\$570,000
04/28/2026	106 Laurelwood Dr.	\$433,000
04/23/2026	16 Bancroft Park	\$375,000

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



The 3-bed, 1-bath, 1,600-square-foot condo at 16 Bancroft Park in Hopedale recently sold for \$375,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

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