

localtownpages Franklin

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Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

June 1, 2026

Dads gone local

Franklin Fathers unites dads; plans kickball tourney June 14

By NATALEE WEBB

Fatherhood is a cherished state of being where love, nurturing and support are affectionately bestowed upon their treasured offspring. Although there are some family resources through-

out the Commonwealth, a direct, community supported network with other dads was unavailable in Norfolk County until now. Established in 2025, Franklin Fathers is the first such network.

Franklin Fathers is a non-profit, community based, 501(c)(4) organization dedicated to the town's fathers. It seeks to unite men and caregivers around family connections, mutual support, and engage in advocacy for local families.

Franklin dad Jayson Joyce noticed the town did not have a fatherhood outlet like a moms' group who connect with other moms. Although several organizations exist to support families in need or for those parents raising a disabled or challenged child, there are few organizations that provide local dads with a direct outlet, kinship, and support around Fatherhood.



The Franklin Fathers Group hold their monthly meetings at local establishments in support of small business in Franklin. Photo by Will Lee.



Patrick Hodgdon, former Franklin Rod & Gun Fishing Derby winner with his son Nico, last year's under 7 champion. This year's derby is June 6, (rain date June 7). Photo courtesy of Franklin Rod & Gun Club

Franklin's fishing derby a day of family & fun

Annual Franklin Rod & Gun Club event June 6

By JUDITH DORATO O'GARA

Word has gotten out that

the Franklin Rod & Gun Club, located at 53 Florence St. at Uncas Pond in Franklin, is a great place for pristine views, boating, and outdoor family fun that rivals screen time. Participation in the annual Franklin Rod & Gun Fishing Derby has grown so much in the past couple of years, the group has purchased new rods and reels, including a lot more children's fishing poles, in anticipation, and "we're growing the night crawlers as we speak," says Jim Gianotti, club Conservation chair. Last year, the fishing contest, which has cash prizes for adult winners and trophies for youngsters, drew 250 participants,

"A big part of our success in delivering a very low-cost family-friendly event for the community has been our derby sponsors and the countless

DADS
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DADS

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Jayson, along with neighbor Chris Stickney, discussed this problem and the idea to have a group of dads to foster the importance of community support and connection. Chris, Franklin Fathers' first president, commented, "Franklin is full of dads who want to show up for their kids, their schools, and their town—sometimes they just need a simple way to plug in."

Jayson and Chris reached out to other dads they knew to see if there was an interest in starting such a group. And there was. Ten other fathers and they founded Franklin Fathers in July of 2025. It is a diverse group of dads who range from fathers in their twenties with young tots, dads in their fifties with teenagers, and stay-at-home dads.

More than just networking, they strive to enrich the town with resources that set Franklin apart as a community of caring. The group is structured with a communications team that seeks to engage other dads and how they can be supported. Their wellness group addresses both

physical and mental health issues with a community group that focuses on giving back. They meet at local establishments in support of Franklin's businesses, volunteer at Franklin Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity and have organized more than ten community-focused events, including volunteer service days, Daddy Daughter Hair School at the Franklin Public Library, Holiday Stories & Songs, Trunk or Treat, and Dean College football tailgates. They also host a running group and are planning a kick ball tournament for June 14, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Beaver Pond Recreational Area, a first of its kind in Massachusetts.

Edward Leslie Grant, a third baseman, was mortally wounded during World War I, becoming the first Major



Franklin Dads, Joe Mascia, Mike Laino, Co-founder Chris Stickney, Mike from the Franklin Food Pantry, Andy Machjeralong with Reis Hansen and Joe Costa

League Baseball player killed in action. The Franklin Fathers named their first-of-a-kind tournament in honor of him, joining the Edward L. Grant American Legion Post 75 in recognizing Grant's heroism.

As their first Father's Day as a group nears, they are wished success and are praised for reaching out to other Dads in Franklin. They can be found on Facebook, or contact them by email at FranklinFathersMA@gmail.com.

Calling all you Dads – Come network!

Franklin children's book author launches new picture book

FRANKLIN, MA – A new picture book, *Owls Make Terrible Teachers*, by Franklin author, Kristi Mahoney, was released just prior to Teacher Appreciation Week, celebrated in early May.

Surprises await in *Owls Make Terrible Teachers* when an owl takes flight in a classroom as a substitute teacher.

Mahoney's debut book, *Alpacas Make Terrible Librarians*, (illustrated by Chantelle and Burgen Throne and published by Gnome Road), was released in October 2024. It was



awarded the Children's Book Council's 2025 Children's Favorite Award.

Correction:

Last month, *Franklin Local Town Pages* incorrectly attributed a donation supporting the "Amazing Airways" exhibit at the Children's Museum of Franklin to the family of Peter Brunelli, long-time organizer of Feast of St. Rocco. In fact, the donation was funded by family members of Peter L. Brunelli, also a committed town member, who served on numerous boards including 29 years on the Franklin Housing Authority, and a distant relation to his namesake from town.

We sincerely apologize for this mixup.

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Mass Ready Act to Build a More Resilient, Sustainable MA

BOSTON, MA –In mid-April, the Massachusetts Senate passed the Mass Ready Act, an

environmental bond bill which, among other measures, allows municipalities strategic state

borrowing to remediate PFAS. To view the text of the bill, S.3050, An Act to build resil-

ience for Massachusetts communities, visit malegislature.gov/Bills/194/S3050.

Franklin Fire Receives State Funding to Support Fire Safety Education

FRANKLIN, MA — The Franklin Fire Department has been awarded \$13,117 in state fire safety grant funding from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services.

The department received

\$9,367 for the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Program and \$3,750 for the Senior SAFE Program for 2026.

These grants are part of a broader initiative by the Healey-Driscoll Administration, which

awarded nearly \$2 million statewide to support fire safety education for children and older adults.

"These grant funds allow our Fire Department to continue providing essential fire safety education to some of our most

vulnerable populations," said Fire Chief Chuck Allen. "By reaching both students and seniors, we are helping to prevent emergencies before they happen and ensuring residents are better prepared to stay safe."



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DERBY

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hours our members put in to make the event a great experience for all," says Gianotti.

This year's derby will take place on the morning of the Franklin Porchfest, June 6, from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m., with an all-you-can-eat breakfast for just five bucks, or a \$3 breakfast sandwich to go for those who want to hurry up and get fishing. There will also be free homemade pizza for lunch. No license is

required that day, and participants, adults (\$10) and children 12 and under (\$5) can have free use of bait, gear, rod and reel while supplies last.

"All 20 of our boats were out last year, and all 25 rods were used (for those who needed them)," says Gianotti, "It was a spectacular day for the kids, as many were catching their first fish. Every child who caught a fish, under 12, got a trophy. Our helpers made sure all caught a fish." Over 100 children under 12 fished in the

derby last year, and 50 participants were aged 12-16.

The club has expanded its beach area this year, giving folks a lot more room to fish, and sponsor MRN Diagnostics is loaning a large golf cart to make the trip from the parking lot to the club house and back a little easier. "Events by Chik," will sponsor a photo booth with pics taken by a professional, which folks can post to social media. The club has also improved efforts to preserve the health of its rainbow trout with an improved

catch-and-release program that minimizes handling of the fish, thus increasing the chance they'll survive being caught. Of course, he says, fishers can also take their good-sized catch home for dinner.

Gianotti is pleased with the growth of membership to the club, now at a strong 250 members.

"The last six months have seen the biggest growth," he says. And members are not just from Franklin. "Bellingham has the largest member population outside Franklin," says Gianotti.

Gianotti believes the club's addition of a family membership has made a difference in rising interest, as adult members can bring immediate family members to access Uncas Pond.

"A lot of parents are actually

joining for their kids, so they can fish in a safe area," says Gianotti, who estimates pickleball might be the only leisure activity in town growing as quickly.

"But who wants to run around chasing a ball when you can relax on the open water paddling a canoe or using one of our paddle boats, or have a friendly game of pool, horseshoes, darts, cornhole or ping pong. If total relaxing is your pleasure, sitting on the back deck at sunset watching the otters, osprey, fish jumping and an occasional bald eagle, then the Franklin Rod & Gun Club is for you."

You can find out more about the Franklin Rod & Gun Club at www.franklinrodandgun.org, or visit their Facebook page!

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**"Embrace Your Quilty Creativity"
Tuesday, June 9 in Franklin**

(FRANKLIN) Yankee Quilters, a nonprofit quilt guild, will present a program by Janet Elia on inspiring quilt projects at its meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 9th, at Emma's Quilt Cupboard in the Horace Mann Plaza, East Central Street in Franklin. Elia is a quilter, instructor and lecturer from Taunton. Her slide show will reveal her creative process and sources of inspiration to develop quilting motifs and designs. See her work at <https://janetanncreations.blogspot.com>. Open to non-members for a one-time fee of \$5.

The June meeting will also include the organization's annual "Strawberry Social," which wraps up the program year, dates for

summer events, and a report on the many quilts donated for charity in the past six months.

Yankee will hold a summer "staycation" open to all quilters Friday July 31st to Sunday August 2nd at Christ The King Lutheran Church in Holliston. Cost for 3 days of quilting space is \$125 for non-members (\$100 for members). Annual membership for the 2026-2027 program year will be \$40 for new members and includes an embroidered name badge. Contact yankeequilters11@gmail.com, call 508-657-4770 or mail payment in full to PO Box 53, Franklin, MA 02038.

For information about other events, please contact YankeeQuilters11@gmail.com.



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Strawberry Stroll set for June 12 with more activities up Main St.

The 22nd Annual Strawberry Stroll is set for Friday June 12th from 4 to 8 p.m. Rain date is Saturday June 13 from 4 to 8 p.m. The event is expanded up Main Street to Dean College and Franklin Public Library.

There's something for everyone at the Strawberry Stroll. Food, music, entertainment, 100+ vendors, community groups, activities, and strawberry shortcake. "We are excited to extend the Strawberry Stroll up Main Street to the library for the second year. The extension has elevated this special community day to a new level of fun," said Kevin Johnson, Strawberry

Stroll Chair. "With so much going on, the entire family will have an enjoyable experience. Each year, the Strawberry Stroll attracts a record number of visitors, and this year I anticipate the most visitors ever..."

FIRST, THE FOOD!

The Food Court: (the parking lot at The Little Shop of Olive Oils) Boston Events Food Truck, Central Pizza, C&C Ice Cream, and Maguro House. **Along Main Street:** Fresh Strawberry Shortcake, Applause Gelato, Ferrara's Market, Intermission Cafe, Poppy and Crumb, and



Teddy Gallagher's Pub.

Other food options: Visit downtown's many restaurants and shops on Main, East Central and surrounding streets.

THE AGENDA

Strawberry Shortcake served by Dean Bank's staff in front of the bank. Fresh strawberries donated and cut by Dean College will top hundreds of shortcakes complete with whipped cream.

Children's Parade at Dean's College's main campus at 5 p.m. Strut your strawberry-summer spirit at this 20-minute parade at the quad.

Cultural Hub by Franklin Library. A variety of arts-focused activities and information in Franklin all day. The Hub includes: Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy; Children's Museum of Franklin; Cultural Council; Cultural District Committee; Franklin Art Association; and Franklin Public Library.

Franklin Historical Mu-

seum will educate visitors about Franklin's history and sell books and Franklin-oriented merchandise.

Children's Museum of Franklin will have a pop-up space offering creative children's activities.

Franklin Public Library will be bubbling with fun games on the front lawn.

Touch-A-Truck Fire Truck will be at the top of Main Street near the library and Ginley Funeral Home.

Music will be provided by Heath Nisbett, 4-6 p.m.; Dom DeBaggis 6-8 p.m. on Dean Ave., and the Padula Family will perform 4-8 p.m. near Dean College and the library.

Desi Swag Queens will perform at 6:30 p.m. near the library.

Feet in Motion School of Dance will perform at 5:30 and 7 p.m. near MyFM 101.3 booth

Radio Station MyFM 101.3 will broadcast live from 4-8 p.m.

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Dreams do come true

By NATALEE WEBB-RUBINO

Pizza restaurants once commonly called “pizza parlors,” generate more than half of the Massachusetts restaurant industry’s revenue. One local contributor to that success is Mak’s Roast Beef and Breakfast.

Born in Albania, Maksim (Mak) moved to Greece at the age of fifteen to gain culinary education at Aristotle University. Five years later, his family immigrated to this land of opportunity and dropped anchor in the coastal town of Revere.

Mak arrived in America determined to turn his dream of entrepreneurship into reality. He quickly began cultivating that goal as a cook at the well-known Mike’s Roast Beef in Gloucester rising to the position of manager. Working long hours seven days a week, he steadily increased his savings and achieved another dream: buying a sports car.

In 2005, Mak discovered a pizza parlor in his hometown of Revere was for sale and saw his opportunity. He hurried

to speak with the owner, but with limited funds he knew he needed a miracle. That miracle happened when the owner agreed to trade his truck for Mak’s snazzy sports car, accept his down payment, and finance the rest of the purchase. With his strong work ethic, Mak repaid the loan in just three years!

After his flagship “Mak’s Roast Beef” in Revere became profitable, he opened a second store in Norwood and then in 2013, Bellingham. His dream was realized - he was now a successful entrepreneur of three franchises that he built from the ground up.

But it was tough traveling from Revere to Bellingham, as the more than hour long ride was not affording Mak the family time he craved. In 2014 the family chose Franklin for its rich history, cultural initiatives, thriving community life, and quality of education to raise their brood.

In early 2019 the well-loved Ann’s Market went up for sale after 35 years in Franklin. Mak approached Ann to purchase



Mak stands next to his daughter Nejxhi age 12, and three boys: Noah 9, Nick 7 with Tisa holding Jack age 4 in front of their award-winning breakfast trophies.



the store but alas she had another buyer. His wife Tisa told him, “If it was meant to be, it will happen.”

And just like that the second miracle happened! Ann Brunelli called Mak a few months later to let him know the deal had fallen through and the store was available. Ann was so taken by Mak and his family that in a letter to them she wrote “I’m happy to know that such a wonderful family is carrying on our legacy at this location. Your food is delicious, and Franklin is very lucky to have you.” Now framed, that letter is proudly displayed.

Mak’s Roast Beef and Breakfast in Franklin became real. And just like that the world shut down as his new

parlor was just getting underway. When COVID hit hard and many businesses were failing never to open again, Mak simply took it in stride. Ever the entrepreneur, he adjusted his business to sustain the worldwide pandemic by offering delivery services and limiting hours for a “brunch” in lieu of a full dining experience. Because of his savvy restructuring, Tisa’s catering business grew and a breakfast crowd began brewing.

Award-Winning Breakfast

In addition to pizza, subs, sandwiches, and other favorites, Mak’s pizza parlor has been recognized for its breakfast offerings more than once. Restaurantji Choice has honored those morning delights by naming it

Business spotlight

Franklin’s #1 breakfast spot for four consecutive years. They recommend; Nanas Buttermilk Pancakes, Crème Brulle French Toast, a Breakfast Casserole and praised their Cornbread French Toast as “especially popular and very yummy.”

The staff at Maks are customer-centric, always greeting their patrons with joy. Mak instilled this trait through valuing his employees and treating them like family. As he said, “If they’re happy, we’re happy!” And it’s obvious they are.

Maks Roast Beef at 451 West Central Street is opened seven days a week, Monday thru Friday from 10-8, Saturdays from 9-8 and Sundays from 9-7. Its award-winning breakfast can be enjoyed all day long. Their culinary delights for delivery or take can be ordered online at maksroastbeef.com or by calling 508-530-0735.

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8,300 meals for Franklin Food Pantry collected through "Stamp Out Hunger"

FRANKLIN, MA — On Saturday, May 9, the Franklin Letter Carriers collected approximately 10,000 pounds of food and household essentials during the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Despite rain, residents across Franklin



Photos used courtesy of Franklin Food Pantry

filled bags with donations, providing the equivalent of 8,300 meals to help support neighbors experiencing food insecurity. The town-wide outpouring of support comes as the need for food assistance has reached an all-time high.

For households who missed the drive but still wish to participate, The Pantry accepts donations at their 341 W Central St.

location. Items can be placed in the purple bin on the loading

dock at the back of the building. Supporters can shop and send donations directly through The Pantry's Amazon Wish List, and monetary donations can be made on The Pantry's website.

Stamp Out Hunger 2027 is scheduled for Saturday, May 8, 2027, rain or shine! For more information the Franklin Food Pantry, please visit www.franklinfoodpantry.org.

6/1-6/5



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Franklin Town Hall: community highlights & updates

1. FY27 Budget Process

The Finance Committee will make recommendations on the proposed FY27 Budget at its meeting on June 3, 2026. Following the Finance Committee's review, the Town Council will take a final vote on the Town Administrator's proposed FY27 Operating Budget at its meeting on June 10, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in both upcoming public hearings to

share feedback and provide input on the proposed budget.

Learn more about the FY27 Budget: <https://tinyurl.com/FranklinFY27Budget>

Upcoming Public Budget Hearings:

- Finance Committee Budget Meetings: Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026 at 6 p.m.

- Town Council Final Budget Vote: Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 7 p.m.

2. New Franklin Spotlight Series Showcases Local Small Businesses

The Town of Franklin celebrated National Small Business Week 2026 with the launch of the Franklin Small Business Spotlight Series, a new initiative designed to highlight and support the local businesses that help drive the community's economy.

The ongoing series will feature Franklin businesses across Town communication platforms, including the Franklin First newsletter, the Town website, and official social media channels, sharing their stories and showcasing the importance of supporting local businesses. Franklin small businesses interested in being featured are encouraged to participate.

Learn more: franklinma.gov/1337/Small-Business-Spotlight-Series

3. Franklin Designated as 2026 Housing Choice Community

The Town of Franklin has been designated as a 2026 Housing Choice Community by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in recognition of the Town's ongoing efforts to support housing growth and expand housing opportunities. Franklin was one of 29 communities recognized by the Healey-Driscoll Administration for taking concrete steps to encourage responsible housing development and sustainable growth.

The designation makes Franklin eligible for the state's Housing Choice Grant Program and provides additional consideration for several state funding opportunities that support infrastructure, transportation, and community development projects.

4. Kick Off Summer with the Flavors of Franklin!

Franklin Restaurant Week is coming soon! From May 31 through June 6, 2026, residents and visitors will have the opportunity to explore and enjoy the many flavors of Franklin's local dining scene during the Town's inaugural Restaurant Week.

Participating restaurants will feature special menus, promotions, discounts, or limited-time offerings throughout the week, encouraging the community to

discover new favorites while supporting local businesses.

The Town of Franklin is still seeking restaurants interested in participating in this exciting community-wide event. Local restaurants are encouraged to join and showcase what makes Franklin's dining scene unique.

Learn more: <https://tinyurl.com/FranklinRestaurant-Week2026>

Restaurants interested in participating can sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/Franklin-RestaurantSignUp>

5. Stay Informed: Franklin First Newsletter & Town Updates

Residents are encouraged to stay up to date with Town news, highlights, and important announcements by reading the monthly Franklin First Newsletter. The newsletter features key updates, community highlights, and information on upcoming events and initiatives.

Read the latest edition: <https://www.franklinma.gov/1139/Franklin-First-Newsletter>

Subscribe for Town news and announcements:

<https://tinyurl.com/Franklin-NewsandAnnouncements>

Residents can also follow the Town of Franklin on social media for timely updates, reminders, and community news.



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Norfolk Aggie Awarded \$3.5M State Grant

WALPOLE, MA – Norfolk County Agricultural High School will receive a \$3.5 million state grant – the largest in its history. The grant will support a \$2.45 million renovation and expansion on the current campus, increasing space and providing much-needed building and systems upgrades. Laboratory space will be expanded, allowing about 100 additional students to pursue careers in Plant Science and Environmental Science.

Another \$550,000 will go toward the purchase of new, modern greenhouses, with the latest in agricultural technology. Also, \$350,000 will be spent to create multipurpose classrooms and modular computer labs that will be used by both daytime students and those in state-approved After Dark/CTI adult training on nights and weekends.

These improvements will give

students the tools and experiential learning they need to obtain high-paying jobs after graduation, as well as create additional opportunities for dual enrollment at Massasoit and Bristol Community College.

Expanded lab and greenhouse capacity will allow Norfolk Aggie to expand after-school and weekend programming to an additional 60-80 high school students annually from surrounding communities. Another 30-40 incumbent workers and adult learners will be able to earn industry-recognized credentials through Commonwealth Corporation (CTI) training partnerships.

In total, the Healey-Driscoll Administration awarded more than \$70 million in capital grants to 28 high schools and career technical schools on Thursday, April 30.

Your Money, Your Independence

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



Glenn Brown, CFP

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 different 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.

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-fixation on a "magic number." It turns money into a rigid prison rather than a tool for living.

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 contributing 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.

vince 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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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

The split end fix that saves your length

We've all sat down in the salon chair and said it. "Just a tiny trim. Maybe an inch." And then your stylist holds your ends up to the light and gives you that look. You know exactly the one.

Split ends are one of the most common things we see at b.LUXE, and they're not a sign of failure. They happen to almost everyone, no matter the hair type, the length, or the effort you put into your routine. Knowing what causes them, though, puts you one step ahead.

So what's actually going on?

Each strand of hair has an outer layer called the cuticle, a protective shield made up of tiny overlapping scales. Think of it like shingles on a roof. When those scales get worn down, the inside of the strand becomes exposed, and that's when you start to see fraying, splitting, and breakage.

A few of the biggest reasons for split ends

Heat styling: Reaching for the flat iron or curling wand every morning without a heat protectant slowly chips away at that cuticle. Over time, high temperatures cause real structural damage to the strand.

Color and chemical services: Color services and chemical treatments are some of the most sought-after services we provide, and while they create stunning results, they inherently place stress on the hair fiber. Even with a consistent conditioning routine, some level of breakage is a natural part of the process.

The environment: Sun, wind, hard water, and humidity can quietly sap moisture from your hair over time. UV exposure alone breaks down the natural keratin that keeps hair strong.

Everyday wear and tear: None of these habits feel like a big deal in the moment, but over time, rough towel drying, brushing through wet tangles, tight elastics, and even your cotton pillowcase can quietly

lead to breakage and wear on the hair.

Growing your hair out:

The longer your hair gets, the older those ends are and the more they've been through. By the time your hair reaches a meaningful length, those ends can be two or even three years old. They've seen a lot... and they need more attention, not less.

That's where the right care makes all the difference. Using high-quality, reparative salon products between appointments helps keep hair stronger, healthier, and better able to handle everything we put it through.

The part no one wants to hear:

You can easily have four or more inches of damage sitting on your ends. And when you've been growing your hair out, the idea of cutting off four inches can feel like starting all over again.

This is where so many people get stuck. Keep the length and live with the damage... or

"The goal isn't just to grow your hair," says Heather Cohen. "It's to grow hair that actually feels healthy, strong, and looks the way you want it to."

cut it off and feel like you're back at square one.

At b.LUXE, we approach this differently. Instead of treating it like an all-or-nothing situation, we create a plan. That might mean strategically removing damage over a few visits, strengthening the hair with targeted treatments, and adjusting your at-home routine so you're not undoing the progress.



Fix the Damage, Leave the Length

With a b.LUXE Split End Treatment

Our Solution to split ends: Fix the damage. Keep the length. We'll show you how!

Our Split End Correction Treatment is a simple \$40 add-on to any b.LUXE service with a blow dry and takes just 10 minutes. For clients growing their hair out who don't want a big chop, we remove the inch you came in for, clean up the most damaged ends, and then the treatment gets to work sealing and strengthening the rest.

Hair that comes in looking frayed and straw-like walks out smoother, stronger, and noticeably easier to manage. It lasts up to four weeks, which means your ends stay protected as your hair continues to grow.

It's not magic, but it's honestly pretty close. It's the solution to the conversation we have every day... wanting healthier ends without giving up your length. Now you don't

have to choose.

And here's a little gift

Every client who adds a **Split End Correction Treatment** to their service for the month of June goes home with a complimentary **Oribe Dry Texturizing Spray** in a deluxe travel size. This invisible dry hairspray builds serious volume and texture while tiny zeolite crystallines act like sponges, trapping dirt, oil, and odor. Oribe's Signature Complex of watermelon, lychee, and edelweiss flower shields hair from oxidative stress, UV damage, and the breakdown of natural keratin (**further protecting those split ends!**) It's vegan, cruelty-free, color-safe, and completely free of parabens and sulfates.

Keep your length, fix the damage. We'll show you how!

Your ends have been

through a lot. It's time to show them a little love.

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Metrowest Regional Fan Zones Announced



FRANKLIN, MA – The MetroWest Boston Visitors Bureau, in partnership with the City of Marlborough and the Town of Franklin, in April announced plans for a coordinated MetroWest Regional Fan Zone initiative at two locations to celebrate the 2026 FIFA World Cup™ and bring a major tournament viewing event to the region.

“The World Cup is a hugely unifying global event, and this initiative brings that energy directly to MetroWest,” said Stacey David, Executive Director of the MetroWest Boston Visitors Bureau. “By working together across communities, we’re creating a regional hub where residents and visitors can

experience the excitement of the tournament and celebrate together...”

Each Fan Zone will feature live match broadcasts on a jumbotron, surrounded by an outdoor festival with a beer garden, food trucks, arts & crafts and other vendors, and family-friendly activities. Organizers expect the events to draw thousands daily across the two sites, which will serve as a regional gathering place for spectators to experience the excitement of the FIFA World Cup™ close to home.

Marlborough’s Fan Zone will take place June 11–13 at Kellerher Field, with livestreams of:

- Mexico vs. South Africa (June 11)

- USA vs. Paraguay (June 12)
- Brazil vs. Morocco and Haiti vs. Scotland (June 13)

Franklin will host the second Fan Zone on June 24–25 at the Franklin Town Common and adjacent Hayward Manor, featuring:

- Switzerland vs Canada and Scotland vs. Brazil (June 24)
- Ecuador vs. Germany and Tunisia vs. Netherlands (June 25)

“As we celebrate America’s 250th anniversary, Franklin is proud to ‘Welcome the World’ to our Town Common, which has long been a place where our community comes together,” said Cory Shea, Director of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy for the Town of Franklin. “This Fan Zone blends

the excitement of a global event with the warmth and tradition of a New England town, offering a family-friendly gathering place where residents and visitors alike can share in a truly special experience.”

Shea adds that Franklin, Marlborough and the MetroWest Visitors Bureau of Boston together applied for and were awarded a grant from the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, securing \$120,000 to support the MetroWest Fan Zone—helping drive economic activity and create a vibrant, welcoming experience across the region.

Additional details will be available in the official Fan Zone Guide, at www.metrowestvisitors.org/world-cup. The guide will be

available in English, Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese.

Local retailers, arts and crafts vendors, and nonprofit organizations are invited to participate. Vendor applications are available at www.metrowestvisitors.org/fan-vendors. Businesses may also host interactive activity or brand activation booths; more information is available at www.metrowestvisitors.org/fan-activations.



Franklin PorchFest 2026 June 6th

Get Ready PorchFest 2026 is Coming! The Town of Franklin will be filled with music as PorchFest returns on Saturday, June 6. The event runs from 12–6 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, June 7th.

Find out more on our website, franklin.porchfest.info.

This year’s event is shaping up to be our biggest yet. Musicians and bands of all genres will be performing on porches and patios throughout Franklin’s

Cultural District. This walkable event is also the perfect opportunity to check out our local shops and restaurants. The Town Common will feature opening and closing ceremonies, Food Trucks, and picnic tables.

Public bathrooms will also be available.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram. You’ll find all the information needed to celebrate an amazing day of live music in Franklin!

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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

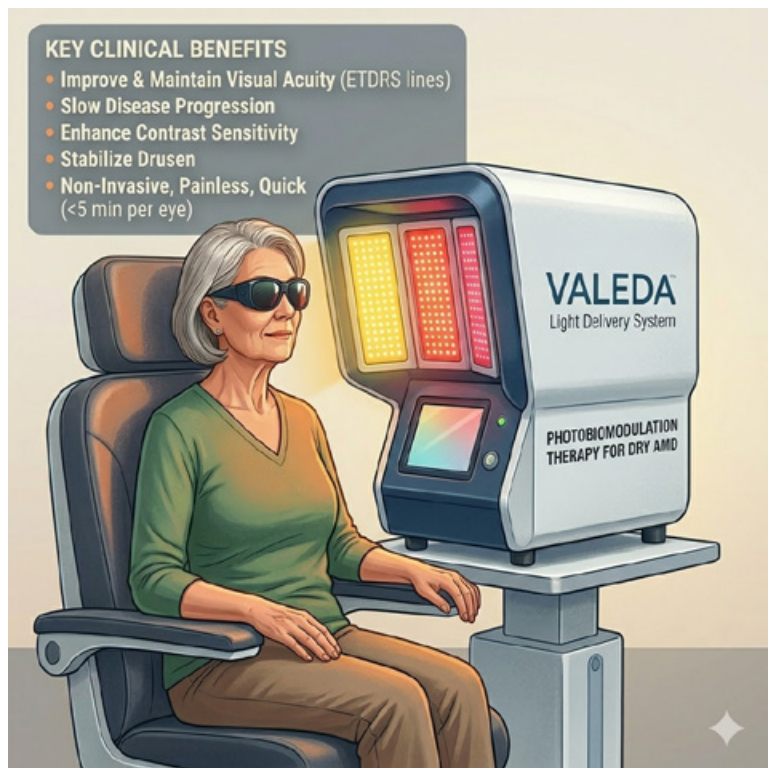
patients living with dry AMD. Delivered through the Valeda Light Delivery System, PBM therapy represents one of the most exciting innovations in retina care in many years. For the first time, patients with dry AMD may now have access to a treatment shown in clinical studies to improve visual function 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 observed 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

EYES

continued on page 13





MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER





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Highlighted Franklin Senior Center June Programs

The Franklin Senior Center is located at 10 Daniel McCahill St., Franklin. Reach them at (508) 520-4945.

Here's just some of the fun and continued learning to be had at Franklin Senior Center:

- Joe Landry, June 3, 1 p.m.
- Take a trip down memory lane with old photography of downtown Franklin!
- Beer Can Museum, June 5, 1 p.m.

Join us for a nostalgic look at the history of beer with Curator Kevin Logan.

- Talkin' Trash, June 8, noon
- With the Town of Franklin DPW and MA Dept of Environmental Protection
- Aging Well a Panel Discussion with Industry Professionals, June 9, 1 p.m.
- SuperAging: The Elite Neurobiology of Brain Plasticity, June 10, 1:30 p.m.

Dive into the Neuroscience of the "ageless" brain with Kymberlee O'Brien

- Cognitive Stimulation Therapy Info Session, June 11, 11 a.m.
- Learn about this evidence-based, non-pharmacological program designed for people living with mild to moderate dementia.
- Senior Prom, June 12, 11 a.m.
- Dancing and live music with

The Blue Hotel band, photos by Vicario Studios

- Is this Ageism? 50+ Job Seekers, June 15, 1:30 p.m.
- Job coach George Armstrong will share insights and guidance.
- Free Shred Event (townwide), June 16, 10 a.m.
- Memory Café, June 17, 1 p.m.
- Senior Medical Patrol Program, June 23, 1 p.m.
- Learn how you can prevent Medicare fraud with Dennis

- Hohengasser.
- Tech Scams with Mike, June 25, 1 p.m.
- Learn about common grandparent scams and how AI has changed the game.
- Pizza & Movie Night, June 25, 4 p.m.
- Project Hail Mary*

EYES

continued from page 12

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 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.

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Franklin LGBTQ Alliance pride month events

Final Celebrate with Pride Prep!

Thursday, June 4th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin
Join us as we do final prep work for our fifth annual Cel-

brate with Pride!

Strawberry Stroll

Friday, June 12th 4 to 8 p.m., Main St., Franklin
We will have a booth again at the Strawberry Stroll! Come say hi and buy a tee shirt! Come

grab a flyer for our fundraiser at Santa Fe Burrito Grill!

Flag Planting!

Saturday, June 13th, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin
Join us as we put up mini flags on the common! This year we will be doing it in front of the Civil War monument to accommodate for the soccer event happening.

Rainbowrittos!

Saturday, June 13th ALL DAY at Santa Fe Burrito Grill, 28 W.

Central St., Franklin

We will be holding a fundraiser at Santa Fe! Come in with the flyer (handed out at the Strawberry Stroll the previous day), and a portion of your purchase will go towards Celebrate with Pride!

Farmers Market

Friday, June 26th 2 to 6 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin
We will have a booth at the Farmers Market! Come say hi and buy a tee shirt!

Celebrate with Pride!

Saturday June 27th 12 to 4 p.m. (rain date the next day), Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin

Join us for our fifth annual Celebrate with Pride! It will be a fun day of activities, music, food trucks and booths, and other exhibitors! We are still looking for volunteers and exhibitors! If you're interested, go to franklin-lgbtqalliance.com, go to the menu and look for Celebrate with Pride 2026, and look for the corresponding link!

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BBB A+ Rating

Franklin's Ryan Pare signs to New England Revolution Unified Team

On May 6, 2026, The New England Revolution and Special Olympics Massachusetts (SOMA) officially welcomed SOMA athletes and Unified partners to the 2026 Revolution Unified Team at Gillette Stadium. The annual Signing Day event marked the start of the program's 12th season, with the Unified roster featuring 19 athletes and partners from

across New England.

Ryan Pare, is a Special Olympics athlete (a player with and intellectual or developmental disability or autism) in his first year on the Revolution Unified team. Ryan Loves to play soccer and said he will bring teamwork and speed to the team this year. Outside of soccer, Ryan loves rollercoasters and has a goal to visit all the major theme parks. To support Special Olympics, Ryan took part in the first ever Polar Plunge at Gillette Stadium before the Revs home match on April 4th, raising \$770!



Ryan Pare, of Franklin, officially joined The New England Revolution's 2026 Unified Team last month. Supplied photo.

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Wind Phone coming to Franklin June 4!

BY JUDITH DORATO O'GARA

Thanks to funding from the Franklin Cultural District, the Franklin Sculpture Park will welcome a new exhibit, a Wind Phone, on Thursday, June 4, at 4 p.m.

"It is a disconnected telephone with the purpose to speak to loved ones who have passed on, allowing messages to be 'carried by the wind,'" Franklin artist Amy Adams told Local Town Pages back when she installed one at the Common Street Spiritual Center in Natick, "It is a symbolic way to share memories, and hold space, so that healing from grief can begin."

Ian Mevorach, Director of the Common Street Spiritual Center, says Adams' earlier Wind Phone

installation has been warmly received. "People appreciate the artistry of it and the opportunity it gives for people to grieve their losses," he says.

Adams, who lost her mom several years ago, is excited to "marry art with this really great tool, helpful for healing and processing grief." She's looking to lessen the stigma surrounding it.

"It's alright to talk about it, or process it, if we're ready to," says Adams, "I'm trying to normalize this as a universal experience."

Franklin artist Peg Munson, who befriended Adams as they worked on the downtown Franklin Flower Alley public mural art project, stepped forward to help Adams with this sculpture park exhibit.

"I was very excited to know that Amy had been the driving force behind the Wind Phone project in Natick and was working on getting a Wind Phone for Franklin," says Munson, who was first introduced to a Wind Phone in Olympia, WA in 2024. "I lost my son to suicide on Memorial Day in 2014. I really connected with the idea of a Wind Phone that would enable someone experiencing grief to 'talk' to their deceased loved one," she says.

As a way to offer the Franklin community a sense of contribution and connection, Adams has invited folks to decorate kindness rocks to be placed inside the art installation. "I've explained it as, people can be conduits for positivity and uplifting messages," she says, "Maybe someone painted

a butterfly, and (someone grieving) will receive that as a message. We'll have a nice rotation of uplifting words and colors and positivity around the Wind Phone."

The exhibit will also provide resources, such as a support hotline number for mothers who have lost children and a resource for children dealing with grief and loss, for dealing with grief. "We don't always know how to approach someone who has experienced loss. This is a way to say, 'Hey, there's some support. Here are some resources to reach out to,'" says Adams, whose latest endeavor, she says, is part of her Healing with HeART initiative, to create an opportunity for the community to engage with functional public art.

The new Wind Phone will add



On Saturday, May 2nd, folks gathered to paint rocks at the Franklin Public Library with bright colors and uplifting messages. The 90 decorated rocks produced will add to a Wind Phone installation opening June 4 at Franklin Sculpture Park. Photo by Amy Adams.

to 404 Wind Phones in the United States, with an additional 168 outside the U.S. To find out more, visit www.mywindphone.com.

Franklin Food Pantry Celebrates Volunteers

FRANKLIN, MA - In celebration of National Volunteer Month, the Franklin Food Pantry hosted its Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 29, honoring the 150 dedicated individuals who drive the organization's mission.

The luncheon featured motivational speaker and local author Ali Rheame who offered, "Franklin Food Pantry volunteers do more than provide food—they provide dignity. Volunteering to clean isn't just maintenance; it's creating a

welcoming, safe space. Stocking shelves isn't just labor; it's providing nutrition. Opening the door isn't just a task; it's an invitation to connection. And a smile from a volunteer tells a shopper, 'You are seen.'"

G&C Plumbing and Heating

sponsored the luncheon, New England Chapel provided the space, Vicario Studio took photography, 495 Rental provided the tables, and Starbucks on E. Central Street, The Rome, Elizabeth's Bagels, and Board members supplied food, beverages,

and desserts. Special thanks to Franklin High School's JV and Varsity Softball teams for setting up and to Franklin Fathers for breaking down and cleaning up.

For more information on the Franklin Food Pantry, visit www.franklinfoodpantry.org.

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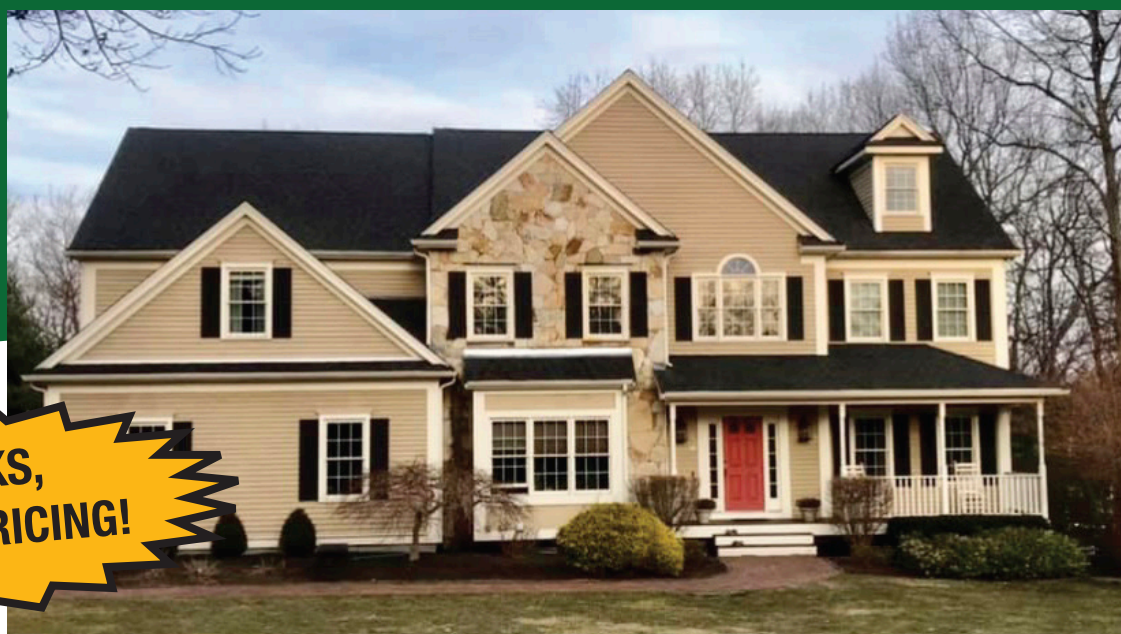
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2026 Franklin 4th celebration July 1-5

Still accepting sponsors through June 12

By Judith Dorato O’Gara
Plans for the five-day Franklin 4th celebration are well under-way, with the event taking place

this year from July 1-5. The event boasts a carnival by Fiesta Shows! every night, with musical entertainment and food booths. Fireworks will take place on the night of July 2, and the 8th Mike Crandall Blues Festival, always a highlight, will take place on our nation’s 250th birthday, July 4, 2026.

Be sure to check out the food booths run by local nonprofits! This year, those booths include:

- Franklin 4th -of July Coalition: soda ,ice cream
- Franklin Rod & Gun Club: fried dough, French fries, iced tea

• Franklin Democratic Committee: pizza, hot dogs, water
• Franklin High School Class of 1978—strawberry shortcake
Joe Carmignani and Paul Kortick, organizers of the event, which is 100% privately funded, are in the process of securing sponsors for this year. Sponsors will appear in their mailing and on banners. Any businesses interested can reach out by June 12th. Potential sponsors, as well as individuals who’d like to contribute, should reach out on the event website at www.franklin4th.com.

Volunteers are also needed as well, for things like trash removal and cleanup. This is a great opportunity for student volunteer hours, says Carmignani.

At press time, the following schedule had been set. Look for more details in our July issue!

Wednesday, July 1
Carnival Hours: 6-10, Wrist



bands: 6-10, Music: 8-10
8 p.m.: GQ & The Lady, a musically diverse dance band with versatile and dynamic lead female vocalists

Thursday, July 2
Carnival Hours: 6-10, Wrist bands: 6-10, Music: 6-10, Fireworks: 10

6 p.m.: Garden of Hedon, a 70s-influenced psychedelic blues-rock band.

8 p.m.: The Zajac Brothers, features songwriter Tyler Zajac and his brother Matthew on drums

Friday July 3
Carnival Hours: 12-10, Wrist bands: 12-5, MEGAPASS: 12-10, Music: 12-10

12 p.m., Two Guys Who Like Sharks, acoustic rock with driving bass lines

1:15 p.m., Midnight Ride, high-energy rock from 60s to 90s

2:45 p.m., George Cross Project, a unique blend of ‘East Coast Blues’

4:15 p.m., Attleboro School of Rock, a leader in performance-based music education

6 p.m., Full Circle, a five-

4TH CELEBRATION

continued on page 17

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Benchmark's Jason Last awarded

FRANKLIN, MA – Benchmark Senior Living, a leading senior living provider in the

Northeast, today has named Jason Last of Franklin, Mass., executive director of Bench-

mark Senior Living at Forge Hill, the recipient of the 2025

Be The Benchmark Award. Last was honored at Bench-

mark's 23rd Annual Awards Gala on March 5, 2026.

Enclave earns U.S. News & World Report recognition

ORLANDO, FL – Enclave of Franklin, a Bridge Senior-Living Community, was recently recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as a 2026 highly-rated community.

Earning seven honors, Enclave of Franklin in Franklin, Mass., is 2026 winner for Best

Assisted Living and Best Memory Care. The community also earned five high performance accolades including Assisted Living Caregiving; Assisted Living Food & Dining; Memory Care Caregiving; Memory Care Activities & Enrichment; and Memory Care Food & Dining.

4TH CELEBRATION

continued from page 16

piece Rock & Roll dance band 8 p.m., Jeff Pitchell, an American singer, songwriter, guitarist and recording artist

Saturday, July 4
12-10 p.m. Mike Crandall Franklin Blues Festival: Local, National and International Blues Artists perform and pay tribute to Mike Crandall and his music.

12 p.m., ED PEABODY & THE BIG BLUE THANG
1:15 p.m., THE BRANDT TAYLOR BAND
2:30 p.m., NEAL & THE VIPERS

3:45 p.m. - MIKE CRANDALL TRIBUTE BAND
5 p.m. - SUGAR RAY & THE BLUETONES
6:15 p.m. - CARL RICCI & 706 UNION AVE

7:30 p.m. - THE DARRELL NULISCH BAND

8:45 p.m. - RICHIMAND & GROOVE NICE

Carnival Hours: 12-10, Wrist bands, 12-5, MEGAPASS: 12-10, Music: 12-10 Sunday, July 5

Carnival Hours: 12-6, Wrist bands: 12-4, MEGAPASS: 12-6, Music: 12-6

12 p.m., Jamie Barrett, a beloved Franklin singer, songwriter, guitarist and teacher

1 p.m., Padula Family Band, Franklin's own performs timeless jazz standards and the sounds of blues

3 p.m., Midnight Ride, - Midnight Ride, Dave Fields offers soulful singing with guitar virtuosity

4:45 p.m., Beantown Swing Orchestra, distinct big band sound recognized by generations worldwide

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Norfolk Probate and Family Court 35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021

Docket No. N025P3423GD

In the Matter of: Rory Elias Calloway-Gouzoules of: Franklin, MA:
Respondent: Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Alexis K. Gouzoules of Franklin, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Rory Elias Calloway-Gouzoules** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Alexis K. Gouzoules of Franklin, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

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 **4/15/2026**. 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. Lee M. Peterson, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 9, 2026
Colleen M Brierley, Register of Probate

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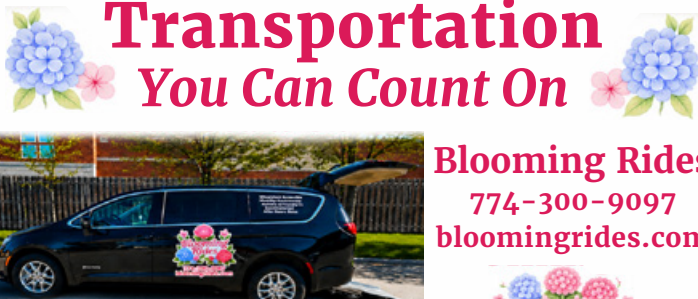
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Historic Happenings at Franklin Historical Museum, June 2026

Reading of the Wrentham/Franklin Declaration of Independence

- Friday, June 5 - Wrentham Common, 5-7 p.m.
- Saturday, June 6 – Franklin Historical Museum, just before noon, (copies for visitors)

Back in 1776, with encouragement from the provisional state government, Wrentham (which then included Franklin, Norfolk, and Plainville) joined with several other Massachusetts towns

to write and issue its own Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, stealing a march on the delegates of the Continental Congress then meeting in Philadelphia. Wrentham officials will recreate this event, with representatives of Franklin in attendance from 5-7 p.m.

The declaration will also be read at the museum on June 6th, right before Porchfest.

Saturday, June 6 – 3rd Annual Porchfest (Rain date

June 7), noon – 6 p.m.

- On the front porch of the Franklin Historical Museum:
 - Jamie Barrett – beloved local educator and performer – noon to 1
 - Jabbering Trout – from 1:30-3 p.m.
 - an additional performer TBD

Franklin Art Association will hold Fakes and Forgeries exhibit opening and awards

Friday, June 12 Strawberry Stroll, 4-8 p.m.

Stop by the museum for complimentary popcorn and visit our booth in the main stroll area!

Saturday, June 13 – Welcome FIFA!

Short films on soccer history and a poster board display of newspaper stories highlighting early years of soccer in Franklin.

Sunday, June 14 – ‘Second Sunday Speaker’ Panel: Soccer’s Massachusetts Roots & Branches

In coordination with FIFA games in Foxboro and inspired by the May 28 Soccer History Event in New Bedford, the

museum will host a world class array of experts to delve into the rich, regional history of soccer, which includes the Oneida Football Club that inaugurated organized “foot ball” of all kinds on American soil on Boston Common in 1862. *Panelists start with:

- Rich Frongillo, top-scoring FHS soccer player and long-time soccer coach

- Kristine Moore, Patriot’s Hall of Fame historian, who holds a Master’s degree in Public/Applied History from Southern New Hampshire University and is an expert on the intertwined origins of US football and soccer

- Dr. Kevin Tallec Marston, long-time research fellow and lecturer with FIFA’s International Centre for Sport Studies (CIES) in Switzerland, and current president of the Society for American Soccer History (SASH).

*Other experts had not yet confirmed their attendance at press time.

The Museum opens at 1, with the program running from

1:15-3:15 (with a break in the middle). Reserve your free ticket at tinyurl.com/FHMSoccer.

Saturday & Sunday, June 20-21: Revolutionaries in White: a look across three centuries of bridal fashion

Brides didn’t always wear white, but in the 19th century, a number of factors combined to make that the preferred color, which remains dominant today. Revolutionaries in White will display gowns from the 19th to the 21st century, offering insights into rapid social changes, including multi-generational family gowns and the unique 1946 Parachute Dress with its spectacular 13-foot train. This exhibit will continue through July.

The Franklin Historical Museum is located at 80 W. Central St., Franklin. The museum is open Saturday mornings, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Sunday afternoons, 1-4 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are encouraged. Questions? Contact Alan Earls at 508-560-3786. Visit us at franklinmuseum1778.org

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Celtic championships and festival comes to Milford with world-class athletes, culture, & community

Come experience a full day of elite athletics, live entertainment, food, and Celtic culture for all ages.

The roar of the crowd, call of the bagpipes, clash of Celtic wrestlers, and the sight of athletes tossing towering cabers will once again fill Milford this June as the No Fame Games returns for its biggest year yet.

On Saturday, June 13 at Fino Field Annex in Milford, Massachusetts, No Fame Games returns for its sixth year bringing together world-class athletes, Celtic traditions, live entertainment, and family-friendly activities for a one-of-a-kind cultural sports festival unlike anything else in New England.

Inspired by Scottish Highland Games and expanded to celebrate the broader spirit of Celtic strength and heritage, the event has quickly become a regional favorite for families, athletes, and spectators alike.

More than 120 athletes from across the United States, Europe, and beyond are expected to compete in multiple competitions throughout the day. Spectators will witness awe-inspiring feats of strength, including the crowd-favorite Team Highlander competition featuring heavy deadlifts, truck pulls, and team challenges from New England's top barbell clubs.

This year's Games will also host two major wrestling championships: the North American Scottish Backhold Wrestling Championship and the Northeast Irish Collar & Elbow Championship. Once the most popular sport in New England

over 100 years ago, Irish Collar & Elbow wrestling was even practiced by George Washington.

As important as the elite-level competition, No Fame Games creates a welcoming, community-centered atmosphere for all ages. Families enjoy a lively Kids Village packed with activities, including the always-popular Kids Tug-of-War against the pros. Attendees can also explore Celtic heritage booths, artisan vendors, and demonstrations of Celtic Martial Arts.

The festival atmosphere continues throughout the day with live Celtic music, food trucks, and a beer garden featuring The Black Harp Traveling Irish Pub. Unique to this year will be a "What is Celtic Strength?" cultural panel discussion featuring lecturers from Harvard University, Boston College, and Celtic educators. Whether visitors come for the sports, the culture, the food, or simply a fun summer day outdoors, there truly is something for everyone.

"Our mission has always been bigger than sport," said founder Joshua Mackintosh. "We want to create an event that brings people together through strength, heritage, and community. The Games are about celebrating tradition while building something positive and inclusive for future generations."

Opening ceremonies begin at 9am. This year be sure to meet Games Chieftain, Clan MacGillivray



Chief Iain MacGillivray. Listen to Irish poetry readings, Celtic organization heads, athlete presentations, and cultural celebrations setting the tone for a day packed with nonstop action and entertainment.

Mark your calendars for June 13 at Fino Field Annex in Milford from 9am-4pm. Lawn chairs are encouraged. Buy your tickets early! Tickets are very affordable for families, with children under five admitted free.

For tickets, schedules, and more information, visit [No Fame Games Official Website. www.nofamegames.com](http://www.nofamegames.com)

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Franklin Police, Fire receive award

In early May, the Central Massachusetts Emergency Medical Systems Corporation recognized the Franklin Police Department and Franklin Fire Department with the EMS Service/Organization of the Year Award for their outstanding dedication and service to our community.

The award stems from an incident last year in which Officer Dave Gove and Officer Amanda Ayer, working alongside members of the Franklin Fire Department, performed successful life-saving



measures on a newborn experiencing cardiac arrest.

This recognition is a testament to the professionalism, teamwork, and commitment shown by all involved during a

critical moment when every second mattered.

Congratulations to everyone on this well-deserved honor.

Photo posted by Franklin Police Department.

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June 2026 Calendar Sponsored by Notturmo Home Services

June 2

Rotary Club of Franklin, MA meeting, 5:30 p.m., Rome Restaurant, 4 E. Central St., Franklin. If you would like to come to a meeting, email Diane Padula, dmpadula@deanbank.com.

Voice of Franklin Toastmasters, 7:30 p.m., Franklin TV, 23 Hutchinson St., Franklin, work on your presentation skills with a supportive group in Zoom or in person, <https://voiceoffranklin.toastmastersclubs.org>

Franklin Restaurant Week, find details at <https://tinyurl.com/Franklin-RestaurantWeek2026>.

June 3

Veterans Monthly Coffee Social, 10 a.m., Franklin Senior Center, 10 Daniel McCahill St., Franklin. All Veterans welcome.

Finance Committee Budget Meeting, 6 p.m., Franklin Municipal Building, 355 E. Central St., Franklin

June 4

Franklin Wind phone Installation, 4 p.m., Franklin Sculpture Park, Panther Way, Franklin, public art installation to uplift community members experiencing grief, with artwork by Amy Adams and Peg Munson as well as a community rock garden

Franklin LGBTQ Alliance Final Celebrate with Pride Prep, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin

Stony Brook Camera Club member competition, 7:30 p.m., Anglican Church of the Redeemer, 195 Main Street, Franklin, www.stonybrookcc.com

June 5

Franklin High School graduation day, 5 p.m., Pisini Field, between FHS and FMS, Franklin TV to livestream

Tee-Off for Tri-County, 12:30 p.m., Wentworth Hills Country Club, Plainville, MA, <https://www.tri-county.us/o/tri-county-vocational-tech/page/golf-tournament>

June 6

Franklin Rod & Gun Club Fishing Derby, 7 a.m.-2 p.m., 53 Florence St., Uncas Pond, Franklin, \$10 Adults, \$5 Kids 12 and under, trophies 16 and under, cash prizes top 3 adults, raffles, use of bait and rods & reel while supplies last, all-you-can-eat breakfast \$5

Franklin PorchFest 2026, 12-6 p.m. (rain date Sunday, June 7th), locations at <https://franklin.porchfest.info>.

June 9

"Embrace Your Quilty Creativity," 7 p.m., Yankee Quilters program with Janet Elia, Emma's Quilt Cup-

board, Horace Mann Plaza, E. Central St., Franklin. Members free, non-members \$5.

Learn to Mahjong! Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin

Tri-County Regional Chamber Taste of Tri-County, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Tangerini's Farm, 139 Spring St., Millis, regional restaurants, bakeries, farms & breweries offer samples, \$20 per ticket, <https://www.tricountychamberma.org/taste-of-tricounty>

June 10

Franklin Town Council meeting and vote on FY 2027 budget, Council Chambers, 7 p.m., Franklin Municipal Building, 355 E. Central St., Franklin, agenda at <https://www.franklinma.gov/AgendaCenter/Town-Council-4>

June 11

Stony Brook Camera Club Business meeting and End of Year dinner, 7:30 p.m., Anglican Church of the Redeemer, 195 Main Street, Franklin, www.stonybrookcc.com

14th Annual Information Security Summit, co-sponsored by Towerwall and MassBay Community College, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., MassBay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley Hills, MA, open to anyone interested in the latest developments in cybersecurity, visit www.towerwall.com for tickets.

June 12

Strawberry pom poms, 3 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, start your stroll early at the library

Franklin Downtown Partnership's Annual Strawberry Stroll, 4-8 p.m., Downtown Franklin to Dean College and Franklin Public Library, (Rain date Saturday, June 13), music 4-8 p.m. near Dean Ave. and Dean College, Desi Swag Queens at 6:30 p.m. near library, Feet in Motion School of Dance at MyFM Booth at 5:30 & 7 p.m., children's activities, games, touch-a-truck and vendors, and great food! www.franklindowntownpartnership.org.

Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, Books \$1

June 13

Pride Flag Planting, 10 a.m.-noon, Franklin Town Common, by the Civil War Monument, presented by Franklin LGBTQ Alliance, franklinlgbtqalliance.com.

Franklin Library Book Sale, 9 a.m.-noon, Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, Books \$1, bag

sale from 1-4 p.m.

6th Annual No Fame Games, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Fino Field Annex, Milford, all-ages sport festival that follows the model of the Scottish Highland Games. Tickets at www.sitickets.com/nofamegames.

SAFE Coalition "Night to Remember," 8-11 p.m., 31 Hayward St., Ste. 2C, Franklin, free, sober prom night celebration for high school students

June 15

Play Fore the Kids Charity Golf Classic for Children's Museum of Franklin, 10 a.m. shotgun start, scramble, Franklin Country Club, 672 E. Central St., Franklin, <https://www.childrensmuseumfranklin.org/play-fore-the-kids>

June 16

Townwide Shred Event, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Franklin Senior Center, 10 Daniel McCahill St., Franklin

Rotary Club of Franklin, MA meeting, 5:30 p.m., Rome Restaurant, 4 E. Central St., Franklin. If you would like to come to a meeting, email Diane Padula, dmpadula@deanbank.com.

Voice of Franklin Toastmasters, 7:30 p.m., Franklin TV, 23 Hutchinson St., Franklin, work on your presentation skills with a supportive group in Zoom or in person, <https://voiceoffranklin.toastmastersclubs.org>

June 18

Due Dolce Concert, 7 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, street-style jazz and European folk songs from the early 1900's

Blanket Fort Family Night, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin. Families - bring blankets, pillows, and flashlights to create cozy forts, includes s'mores, stories

June 19

Juneteenth Festival with Medway Marches, Bellforge Arts Center, 45 Hospital Rd., Medfield, free but please register, www.bellforge.org, annual festival celebrates Black culture, creativity, and excellence while honoring the history and significance of Juneteenth.

June 22

Seed-Starting Workshop, 4 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, summer reading kickoff, supplies limited

June 23

Mahjong Meetup, Tuesday, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, 18+

June 24

Town of Franklin World Cup official 2026 MetroWest Regional Fan Zone watch party, 3-9 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin & Hayward Manor beer garden, live match viewings on large outdoor screen, local entertainment, food & beverage vendors and community activities celebrating international soccer and local culture.

June 25

Town of Franklin World Cup official 2026 MetroWest Regional Fan Zone watch party, 3-9 p.m., Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin & Hayward Manor beer garden, live match viewings on large outdoor screen, local entertainment, food & beverage vendors and community activities celebrating international soccer and local culture.

June 27

Celebrate with Pride 2026 Franklin, 12-4 p.m. (Rain date June 28), Franklin Town Common, 200 Main St., Franklin, family fun, food trucks, live music and more. <https://franklinlgbtqalliance.com/pride-2026>

Butterfly Garden, 1 p.m., Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, tunnel of adult butterflies, plants, caterpillars, eggs, and chrysalis

July 1-5

Franklin 4th of July Celebration, carnival, rides, food booths, entertainment every night, fireworks July 2, Mike Crandall Blues Festival July 4, details at <https://www.franklin4th.com>.

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BFCCPS announces middle school achievements

FRANKLIN, MA – The Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School (BFCCPS) is thrilled to announce middle school achievements in the fields of Science, Technology and Engineering.

The One8 Applied Learning Hub and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) hosted an Applied Learning Student Showcase on May 8 at The TRACK at New Balance in Boston, MA. Following an in-school STEAM showcase, 8th grade BFCCPS

teams were selected to take part, supported and chaperoned by STEAM Teacher and Grades 6-8 Librarian Jessica Kelleher.

Students who participated in this year's statewide expo created a tri-fold board presentation and produced a functioning app on MIT App Inventor to present to industry experts. Students included; Aagam Shah and James Jaeggli with their app about medications for the elderly, Max Greene and Jacob Simmons with their app about

Ninja Warrior, and Anagha Balagurumoorthy and Shreya Kirikera with their app about water safety with drinking water.

The next day, 16 BFCCPS grade 7 & 8 students participated in the Massachusetts Science & Engineering Fair (MSEF) held at Clark University. The following students earned accolades:

Cabot Grand Award: Aagam Shah and Chittesh Patel "Selective Capture of Harmful Pathogens Using a Mucin-Based

Trapping Mechanism"

Second Place Award: Dishita Noolu: "Does a natural bandage infused with healing and anti-bacterial ingredients promote faster skin recovery than a regular store-bought bandage"

Third Place Award: Anagha Balagurumoorthy and Shreya Kirikera "Investigation of Pharmaceutical Waste in Public Water Systems"

Honorable Mention: Mansha Khatri and Poorvi Rajaboyina "Freezing of Different Water

Types"

Thermo Fisher Junior Innovators Challenge Delegates: Aagam Shah and Chittesh Patel

We are incredibly excited to share that Aagam Shah, Chittesh Patel and Dishita Noolu have qualified to participate in a national event which will take place in the Fall of 2026.

Thank you to both Mr. Pontes-Macedo and Mrs. Nestor for supporting and encouraging our scientists.

SAFE Coalition to host soberprom night for Norfolk County teens

FRANKLIN, MA — SAFE Coalition will host "Night to Remember," a free, sober prom night celebration for high school students, on Saturday, June 13, 2026, from 8-11 p.m. at their office at 31 Hayward St., Ste. C., Franklin.

Prom season is widely recognized as one of the highest-risk times of year for teen substance use. This event offers Norfolk County teens a safe, fun, and welcoming Saturday night alternative.

"We know that protective factors like positive peer environments and community con-

nection make a real difference," says Director of Adolescent Wellness Emma Kelley. "Night to Remember gives teens a space to celebrate safely with their peers, and it gives parents peace of mind during a time of year that can feel especially uncertain."

The glow-and-neon themed evening will feature a live DJ, a mocktail bar, snacks, a photo booth, games including cornhole and oversized Jenga, glow bracelets, temporary tattoos, and prizes.

This event is part of SAFE's ongoing substance use diver-

sion and prevention work with adolescents and reflects the organization's commitment to providing community spaces where teens can gather safely and confidently.

"Humans need connection, fun, and celebration, and teens are no different," says Adolescent Wellness Instructor Mikaela Weinstein "Our goal was to create a space for our community that embodies all of this without having the added pressures of substance use."

Registration is free and required by Thursday, June 11. Spots are limited. Parents,



guardians, and teens can register at <https://tinyurl.com/safeprom>
Night to Remember is made possible by the generous support of the Lawson Charitable Foundation, Community Health Systems Foundation, and Rockland Trust.

MA awards \$1.25M to help communities address the opioid crisis

On May 5, the Healey administration announced SAFE Coalition as one of 18 municipalities and community-based organizations to receive an earmark of matching grants through the state's Mosaic Municipal Matching Grant program. In total, the state will award \$1.25M to help communities address the opioid crisis in the second of three rounds of funding.

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Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. CLOSED Sunday

Helping students start the college process earlier - without the stress

For years, many families believed the college process truly began during junior year of high school. While junior year is still the most intensive planning period, the reality is that college admissions have become increasingly nuanced and competitive.

Today's students are not just applying with grades and test scores. Colleges are evaluating course rigor, activities, demonstrated interest, academic direction, leadership, and how a student's experiences connect to their intended major.

Financial planning and merit scholarship strategy have also become important parts of the conversation much earlier in the process.

Because of these changes, families who wait until spring of junior year often find themselves feeling rushed and reactive. There may still be time to complete applications successfully, but there is often less opportunity to thoughtfully plan, explore interests, strengthen activities, improve academics, or build a balanced college list.

The good news? Starting

earlier does not mean students need to "do college admissions" in 10th grade. Sophomore year should still be about growing academically, socially, and personally. However, it is an ideal time for families to begin organizing, exploring, and creating a loose roadmap for the future. A little preparation now can significantly reduce stress later.

Sophomore year: small steps that make a big difference

Focus on academics first. Grades and course rigor remain the two most important factors in college admissions. Sophomore year is an excellent time for students to evaluate their study habits, seek help early if needed, and think carefully about junior and senior year course selection. Colleges like to see students challenge themselves appropriately over time. A good question to ask: "How much can I push myself without being shoved?"

Begin exploring interests. Students do not need to know their future career path yet. However, sophomore year is a great time to start paying attention to interests, strengths, and curiosities. Exploring potential majors or ca-



Maryline Michel Kulewicz and Tracy Sullivan of College 101 Admissions Consultants

reers early often helps students make better decisions later about classes, summer opportunities, volunteering, jobs, or extracurricular involvement.

Start building an activity résumé. Many students wait until senior year to remember everything they have done since freshman year - and quickly realize they forgot half of it. Keeping a simple running list of activities, work experience, leadership roles, volunteering, awards, and accomplishments can make the process much easier later.

Learn the college language early. Terms like Common App, demonstrated interest, Early Decision, merit aid, superscoring, Naviance, Scoir, and weighted GPA can feel overwhelming if families hear them all at once during junior year. Becoming familiar with the process gradually helps families feel more confident and informed.

Visit colleges casually. Families do not need a finalized college list to begin visiting campuses. Touring a few local colleges during sophomore year can help students start identifying preferences, such as, small vs. large schools; urban vs. suburban vs. rural campuses; public vs. private universities; and spirited campuses vs. quieter environments. These early visits often make future college research much more focused and productive.

vary dramatically. Sophomore year is a good time for families to begin discussing affordability, researching merit scholarships, understanding financial aid basics, and setting realistic expectations together. Excellent financial aid resource: studentaid.gov. And it is never too late to start saving - 529 plans!

Determine if you need outside guidance Independent Educational Consultants (IEC) have broad experience in navigating the many aspects of the college admissions process - and help families create timelines, reduce stress, and make informed decisions before the process becomes overwhelming.

The goal of starting earlier is not to create pressure - but to make the process easier and less stressful. Students who begin thinking about the process during sophomore year often enter junior year feeling more confident, organized, and prepared to make thoughtful decisions - allowing them to spend less time reacting and more time building opportunities that genuinely fit who they are.

Good luck and enjoy the journey!

College 101 Admissions Consultants LLC. Website: www.mycollege101.com. Email: tracy@mycollege101.com. Phone: 508-380-3845.

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How to control the deadliest animal on the planet!

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 profes-

sional 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 to schedule a complete inspection and treatment. WPC Pest Control is located right here in Hopkinton!

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Rotary Club of Franklin MA seeks vendors & crafters

Annual Craft Fair November 14, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

FRANKLIN, MA. — The Rotary Club of Franklin is proud to announce its 51st Annual Craft Fair, taking place on Saturday, November 14, 2026, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Tri-County Vocational Technical High School, 147 Pond St., Franklin.

“This craft fair is an exciting new tradition for our club and our community, handed down to Rotary from the Franklin Newcomers,” said Diane Padula, President of the Rotary Club of Franklin. “We’re thrilled to showcase the incredible talent of local artisans while raising funds to support our ongoing service projects and charitable initiatives.”

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Rotary Club’s service projects for our Franklin Senior Citizens, our Tri-County and FHS Sophomore (RYLA) Rotary Youth Leadership Awards,

our Tri-County and Annual FHS Senior Scholarship and local outreach efforts to Franklin Food Pantry and Gilly’s House.

In addition to vendor booths, the event will include a collection for Franklin Food Pantry, raffles, refreshments, and opportunities to learn more about the Rotary Club.

Space is limited. Vendor applications are currently being accepted and due by July 10.

For more information, please contact: Vicky Rawlinson or Diane Padula at franklinrotarycluboffranklin@gmail.com or our via website calendar at www.franklinmarotary.org.

The Rotary Club of Franklin is part of Rotary International, a global network of volunteers dedicated to community service, leadership, and humanitarian efforts.

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AICUM recognizes Rep. Roy as Legislator of the Year

(WALTHAM, MA) — The Association of Independent Colleges & Universities in Massachusetts (AICUM) has named State Representative Jeffrey N. Roy (D-Franklin) a Legislator of the Year, honoring his sustained leadership and advocacy for higher education. The award was presented at AICUM's annual meeting at Bentley University.

Rep. Roy was recognized alongside Senator Barry Finegold (D-Andover) for his strong support of Massachusetts' private, nonprofit colleges and universities—an essential sector represented by AICUM's 58 member institutions.

“Chair Roy has consistently demonstrated a deep understanding of the critical role private colleges and universities play in driving the Commonwealth's economic vitality,” said

AICUM President and CEO Rob McCarron. “From the local impact of Dean College in Franklin to the world-class research that fuels Massachusetts' competitive edge, he has been a steadfast champion for higher education.”

Over his 14 years in the Legislature, Rep. Roy has been a leading voice on education policy, including serving as Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education from 2019-2021. A first-generation college graduate and former member of the Franklin School Committee, he understands firsthand the transformative power of education. In Massachusetts, where more than 70% of jobs require education beyond high school, that perspective has shaped his work to expand access and opportunity.

“My higher education jour-



ney changed the trajectory of my life,” said Representative Roy. “I've made it my mission to ensure every student has access to that same life-changing opportunity. This recognition reflects our shared commitment to expanding access, affordability, and opportunity across the Commonwealth. I'm grateful to AICUM for this honor and for their continued work on behalf of students.”

Photo provided.

MassBay Launches Apprenticeship Degree Program to Meet Urgent Workforce Needs

WELLESLEY HILLS, MA – MassBay Community College is one of six Massachusetts community colleges launching apprenticeship degree programs that combine paid, on-the-job training with academic coursework. The programs provide students with direct pathways into high-demand careers while helping employers address critical workforce shortages across the Commonwealth.

MassBay began enrolling students in its Behavioral Health apprenticeship degree program in fall 2025 with 33 currently enrolled students. The program will expand to include Medical Assisting in summer 2026 and Extended Certified Nursing Assistant in fall 2026.

While apprenticeship degrees are new in Massachusetts, the model builds on a proven approach long used in the skilled trades and adapts it for fields with urgent and sustained work-

force needs. The six Massachusetts community colleges are receiving funding through multi-year grants as part of a statewide initiative backed by more than \$6 million from the Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation and Accelerate the Future. The funding is accelerating the launch of apprenticeship degree programs across the Commonwealth.

Participating institutions include MassBay Community College, Bunker Hill Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, Middlesex Community College, North Shore Community College, and Northern Essex Community College. MassBay is among the first institutions to enroll students, with additional colleges launching programs beginning in fall 2026.

For more information, email apprenticeships@massbay.edu.

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June 2026 at Franklin Public Library

2026 Reading Challenge June: A Book with a Sympathetic Villain

Looking for a way to expand your reading habits this year? Join the Massachusetts Center for the Book 2026 Reading Challenge for adults, and the library will reward your reading with a free book coupon redeemable at our book sale! Details on our Reading Challenges page.

Special Events for Kids & Teens

Minecraft Party, Wednesday, June 10 @ 1 p.m.
 Get ready to play games,

mine for treasure, and more fun surprises!

Blanket Fort Family Night, Thursday, June 18 @ 6 p.m.

Families are invited to bring blankets, pillows, and flashlights to create cozy forts as we turn the library into the ultimate indoor camping adventure!

Legendary Foam Party! Saturday, June 27 @ 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy some tunes and sudsy fun with Legendary Foam.

(Don't forget your towel!)

Special Events for Adults

Crafter's Circle, Thursday June 4 @ 6 p.m. New Program! Gather round the circle to work

your latest craft project and maybe learn something new!

Diamond Art De-stress, Saturday, June 6 @ 2:30 p.m. & Thursday, June 11 @ 6 p.m.

Registration Required

Create some Sparkle & Zen with a meditative diamond art project! 18+, materials provided.

Learn to Mahjong! Tuesday, June 9 @ 6:30 p.m.

This intro to Mahjong session will introduce the suits, the rules, the card, and other basics of American Mahjong!

Mahjong Meetup, Tuesday, June 23 @ 6 p.m.

Novices may hone their skills

and experienced players may share their knowledge. Ages 18+.

Special Events for All Ages

Strawberry Pompoms craft, Friday, June 12 @ 3 p.m.

Due Dolce Concert, Thursday, June 18 @ 7 p.m.

Sweet sounds of nostalgic, street-style jazz and European folk songs from the early 1900's with Due Dolce!

Seed-Starting Workshop, Monday, June 22 @ 4 p.m.

Summer Reading is here and we're planting a seed of imagination to read our way to

adventure! Supplies are limited. Please consider donating egg cartons!

Butterfly Garden, Saturday, June 27 @ 1 p.m.

Explore a tunnel of adult butterflies, plants, caterpillars, eggs, and chrysalis! Come see a native species of New England up close!

Franklin Library Book Sale Friday, June 12 15: 1 – 5 p.m., Saturday, June 13: 9 a.m. – noon, All books \$1 Bag Sale - \$5 Per Bag, Saturday, June 13: 1 – 4 p.m.

June 2025 – Veterans' Services Office notes

508-613-1315

June 3 - Monthly Coffee Social - 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. All Veterans are welcome to join us for updates, coffee and conversation!

June 6 – 82nd Anniversary of the D-Day Invasion - On June 6, 1944, Allied Forces launched a combined naval, air and land assault on Nazi-occupied France which led to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi control.

June 14 - Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the U.S. flag by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed June 14 as the official date to celebrate Flag Day.

June 14 - U.S. Army's 251st Birthday

June 18 - Veterans' Council Meeting - 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. Any Franklin resident interested in Veterans' activities is welcome to join us!

Purple Heart Recipients - Please let our office know if you or a family member (residing in Franklin) is a Purple Heart recipient, so we can add you to our database. The Purple Heart is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. military. National Purple Heart Day is celebrated on August 7 every year.

The Tune It Out guitar lessons program for Veterans meets on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. There is no charge for lessons and no guitar experience is required. We have guitars! The last class of the season will be on June 16. Classes resume on September 15.

Warrior Within Yoga for Veterans and first responders meets on Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. at the Senior Center. No charge for classes. The last class of the season will be on June 18. Call our office to sign up for guitar and/or yoga classes.

The next engraved brick installation on the Veterans Memorial Walkway on the Town Common will be in November 2026. Brick order forms are available in the Town Hall and Senior Center lobbies and online at: www.franklinma.gov/335/Veterans-Services

Thank you to all who have supported the Memorial Walkway Project!

NOTE: No Veterans Coffee Social or Veterans Council Meeting in July. We'll be back to our normal schedule in August!



Thank you to the Franklin Food Pantry for their pop-up market for our vets at the May Veterans Coffee Social! Photo used courtesy of Franklin Veterans' Services Office.



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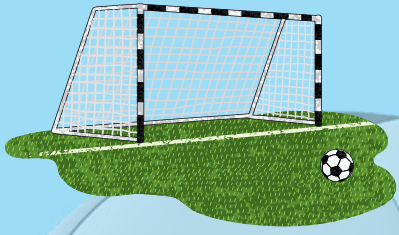
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I SOLD THIS!

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UNDER CONTRACT

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