

After 104 years, Morin's Studio has closed its doors

Liquidation sale set for June 8-13

By Theresa Knapp

After more than a century of preserving memories for local families, Morin's Studio has closed its doors, marking the end of a business that has been woven into the fabric of the community since 1922.

Closing the family business was a difficult decision, says Sue Morin Schoenberg, citing "family health issues and changing times" as the primary reasons for closing the Pine Street business. "Milford is not the town we grew up in. We enjoyed a vital downtown and local businesses provided all the services you might need. Store owners were united in a partnership that, unfortunately, doesn't exist today."



A family photo from Morin's Studio's 100th anniversary celebration in 2022. Front row: Clarence Morin (1925-2024). Back row: David Rebel (an honorary member of the Morin family); Sue Morin Schoenberg (Clarence's daughter); and Chris Morin (Clarence's grandson). Photo source: Morin family

Throughout its 104-year history, Morin's built its reputation on hard work, customer service, and a commitment to quality. Generations

MORIN'S
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Pereira, Weiner named MHS co-valedictorians

Assistant Principal Zaleski honored for dedication and support of senior class

Milford High School recently hosted a special ceremony to honor co-valedictorians Ana Julia Pereira and Giovanna Weiner of the Class of 2026. The event celebrated their outstanding academic achievements, leadership, perseverance, and contributions to the school community. Milford High School Principal Josh Otlin and Superintendent Dr. Craig Consigli offered remarks, and the ceremony was organized by the students' guidance counselors, Ms. Claudia Tamsky and Ms. Jenn Hartford Mitchell. Family and friends were on hand to proudly celebrate Ana Julia and Giovanna's accomplishments.

Ana Julia Pereira, who is also a nationally recognized Quest-Bridge Scholar, was honored for her academic accomplishments

and dedication. She received an official citation from Governor Maura Healey, presented during the ceremony by Ambassador Santiago Mourão, Brazilian Consul in Boston. Ana Julia will be continuing her academics at Wesleyan University and studying Biology.

Giovanna Weiner was honored for her exceptional academic achievement, leadership, creativity, service, and commitment to her community. Her distinctions span academics, the arts, athletics, leadership organizations, and community involvement. Giovanna will be attending Boston University in the Fall, and studying Film and Television in

CO-VALEDICTORIANS
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CO-VALEDICTORIANS

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the Kilachand Honors College.

Principal Josh Otlin shared, "Ana Julia and Giovanna are both exceptional students. They have a proven track record over the past four years of extraordinary academic achievement in some of our most difficult courses. But what also makes these two young women so worthy of recognition goes beyond their academics. They are both heavily involved in our community. They devote their time and leadership to different clubs and activities at Milford High School, while still finding the time to excel academically. They are, and will be, outstanding representatives of a Milford High School graduate."

School Committee Chairperson Michael Aghajanian also presented both Ana Julia and



Co-Valedictorian Ana Julia Pereira with Guidance Counselor Claudia Tamsky. Photo source: Milford Public Schools

Giovanna with official citations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives on behalf of Representative Brian Murray.

The event also featured a surprise recognition for Assistant Principal Jess Zaleski for her dedication and support of the senior class. Kaleigh Morin, Secretary of the Class of 2026

Student Council, presented Ms. Zaleski with flowers on behalf of the students.

Milford High School congratulates Ana Julia Pereira and Giovanna Weiner and thanks all families, staff, community leaders, and guests who participated in celebrating these remarkable students.



Co-Valedictorian Giovanna Weiner with Guidance Counselor Jennifer Hartford Mitchell. Photo source: Milford Public Schools



Assistant Principal Jessica Zaleski was presented flowers on behalf of the senior class by Student Council Secretary Kaleigh Morin. Photo source: Milford Public Schools

SUMMER EVENTS AT SOUTHWICK'S ZOO

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Milford Family & Community Network CFCE offers summer playgroups

We are excited to announce our Summer Playgroup schedule for 2026. We will offer 6 weeks of playgroups on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m., starting on July 7 and ending on Aug. 12. These drop-in playgroups do not require registration.

Information on the MFCN CFCE Playgroups: All playgroups are free and intended

for children from birth to 5 years old with their parent/caregiver, unless otherwise specified. For more information on MFCN CFCE programs, email familynetwork@milfordma.com or call 508-277-4981.

You can always find and follow us on Facebook at "Milford Family and Community Network CFCE."

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I've made a move



Milford students among winners at statewide STEM Applied Learning Student Showcase

Presented original work to 500 industry professionals

Students from the Milford Public Schools joined peers from across Massachusetts on May 8th at the One8 Applied Learning Student Showcase, held at the TRACK at New Balance in Boston. The event brought together students in grades 4-12 to present Applied Learning work to more than 500 STEM industry professionals who provided real-time feedback.

"Milford students in Grades K-12 are heavily involved in STEM education and applied learning, whether in year-round STEM courses and OpenSciED science curriculum units at the elementary level, various Project Lead the Way units of study in Science and STEM classes at Stacy Middle School, or Science electives and career pathway courses at Milford High School," said Ms. Kerry Taylor, Deputy Superintendent for Instruction and Student Services. "This showcase was an amazing opportunity for some of our students to show off what they have been learning and doing in class, while also seeing the opportunities and industries that might be available to them in the future."

The Milford Schools were represented by student teams from Woodland Elementary School, Stacy Middle School, and Milford High School. Students shared learning they had completed as part of their courses and curriculum using Project Lead The Way and OpenSciEd. During the school year, these students tackled real-

world challenges, from designing clean energy solutions to engineering adaptive technology, and at the Applied Learning Student Showcase, they had the chance to share what they built and learned with professionals working in related fields.

The Milford Public Schools is extremely proud to share that two Milford Public Schools' projects were awarded "Projects of Distinction" at the showcase: one from Stacy Middle School and one from Milford High School.

Stacy Middle School

For the first time since adopting the OpenSciEd curriculum, Stacy Middle School students received the Project of Distinction recognition for their hard work. Sixth graders Ryder Rebecchi, Liam Cunningham, and Kellan KokEnnen from Ms. Megan Burke's Science class showcased their "How Does Sound Affect Matter?" project and impressed industry professionals with their knowledge of content and their application of the content to explain subjects they were curious about.

Milford High School

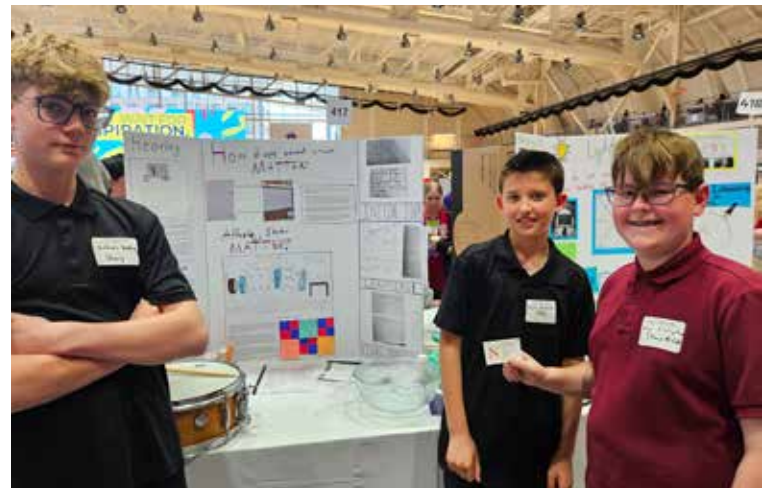
Milford High School also had a team recognized by the judges. Seniors Tony Huynh, Paulo Fernandes, and Anthony Norris in the PLTW: Engineering Design and Development class with teacher Mr. Robert Knapp created a Haptic Keyboard, earning themselves the PLTW Capstone Project of Distinction Award. The project they designed and engineered is a

keyboard that uses input filtering and haptics to allow people with neurological disorders to type more efficiently. They designed and engineered a project that shows great technological promise while increasing access and inclusion for those with a disability or medical condition.

"Creative solutions to the world's most pressing problems is what Massachusetts does best. The One8 Foundation's Applied Learning Student Showcase is shining a light on how our students are solving real world challenges and building their future success," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're thankful for the educators and the industry experts who supported this year's showcase, and we're thrilled that so many students from school districts across the state were able to take part in this incredible program."

"I've witnessed Applied Learning at multiple school districts where students are not just learning content, but using it in authentic ways," said Massachusetts Education Secretary Steve Zrike. "One8's Applied Learning Showcase was an opportunity to see how students across Massachusetts are benefiting from rigorous learning that is relevant, engaging, and connected to the world beyond the classroom."

The Student Showcase is an annual event for Applied Learning programs across Massachusetts, giving students an authentic audience for the project- and inquiry-based work



(L to R) Stacy Middle School sixth grade students Kellan KokEnnen, Ryder Rebecchi, and Liam Cunningham were awarded a 'Project of Distinction' for their "How Does Sound Affect Matter?" project. Photo source: Milford Public Schools



(L to R) Milford High School seniors Anthony Norris and Tony Huynh, along with Paulo Fernandes (not pictured), were awarded a 'Project of Distinction' for their Haptic Keyboard. Photo source: Milford Public Schools

they do in the classroom. Industry volunteers engaged teams in conversation about their process, their products, and the tools they used. Drawn from fields including engineering, medicine, finance, law, design, computer science, and public policy, indus-

try volunteers circulated among student tables - asking questions and offering both verbal and written feedback. The event is organized by One8 Foundation's Applied Learning Hub, which supports schools across the state focused on Applied Learning.

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What did Milford have to do with the Civil War? Plenty!

By Marsha Mancuso
Milford Historical Commission

The first meeting to discuss the situation as related to the Civil War and how that would correlate with the little town of Milford was held on May 13, 1861, just a month after the start of that conflict between the North and the South.

At the meeting, it was determined the town would provide \$3,000 to equip the soldiers; and money was also allocated as war funds to support the families of those in the military. In July of that year, it was determined that each man who

volunteered for a three-year assignment would receive \$125, the equivalent of about \$3,500 today. In addition, money was appropriated for the families of those men who would be killed in the fighting.

Every town was requested to send a certain number of volunteers. Milford met and exceeded its quota. When the 35th Massachusetts Company F had filled their share, additional men from our town were sent to New York to be part of the New York 40th Regiment.

Not only the men were involved in the Civil War; the women of Milford were, too, albeit indirectly. They provided the soldiers throughout the entirety of the war with handmade goods such as sheets, pillowcases, and pillows, slippers, socks, underwear, handkerchiefs, and hospital gowns.

The young people took part, as well. There were about 70 boys, aged 15 to 18, who were outfitted with uniforms and "light guns," and were taught drill procedures. They performed "escort duties" when needed while the older guys were "seeing the elephant," a phrase from that war that

meant "experiencing battle."

At the museum [30 School St.], you can view a shirt that was worn by a 14-year-old boy, who had succeeded in bypassing the age requirement for becoming a soldier. His name was Whitman Howard and he was born in Milford in 1849. He was wounded at Petersburg, Virginia, in April of 1863. When his injuries brought notice to his age, he was returned to his home in Milford. He married in 1877 and lived a long life.

Not all fared so well. In the end of it all, Milford lost 50 soldiers and officers, 180 more were discharged due to disabilities, and 76 died from wounds or disease.

Toward the end of 1867, in commemoration of the military accomplishments and the services of our soldiers in the Civil War, the Great Army of the Republic, Post #22, was organized. It was established to honor those who fought, to foster patriotism and to promote compensation for the survivors. Weekly meetings were held; Decoration Day (at the end of May) was established; and the widows and orphans were taken care of. Events



Memorial Hall from lower Spruce Street with cannons and balls decorating the grounds. Image source: "History of Milford, Massachusetts 1780-1980" by the Milford Historical Commission (1980). www.milfordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2049/History-of-Milford-from-1780-1980-PDF

were held in the room upstairs, such as ham and bean suppers, and oyster dinners. It was also used for encampments, which brought veterans from other towns.

The building that houses our town's museum today, now called Memorial Hall, is a testament to our participation in that great war. The beauty of this building, made with Milford granite, is so astonishing. The names of the men lost are engraved into the marble walls of the foyer and each step of the staircase leading up to the second floor is embossed with

the name of a battle of the Civil War, in the order in which they took place. A grand entrance to a time long gone.

The Milford Historical Commission opens the museum at Memorial Hall on Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. You can experience the many treasures from that era, as well as others. Take a look at the artifacts related to the wars that followed, and also items affiliated with manufacturing, business, music, entertainment, sports, and more. Visit the museum and experience a journey through Milford's past.

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This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

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Thriving after gray divorce



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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There's a growing trend of divorce among those ages 50 and older, often called "gray divorce." While finding yourself in this situation can feel overwhelming, it also can be an opportunity to reclaim your independence and create a life that reflects your dreams and values.

Today, one-third (36%) of divorcing adults are 50 or older (The Journals of Gerontology, 2022) and 77% of women who experienced gray divorce remain single 10 years after divorce ("Repartnering following gray divorce," 2019). While that might sound surprising, many women view this as a time to focus on goals, dreams and well-being without compromise.

Of course, there are financial realities to consider. Women older than 50 often experience a 45% drop in their standard of living after divorce (compared to 21% for men), and household income can fall by 23% to 40% in the first year ("The Economic Consequences of Gray Divorce for Women and Men," 2020). So, building financial confidence isn't just important; it's empowering.

If you are 50 or older and recently divorced, take the following steps with your financial

advisor. You don't have to do it all at once; small steps can help lead to greater financial security over time.

- 1. Find a financial advisor who truly listens.** If you've ever felt unheard or dismissed, don't settle. Your future deserves someone who respects your voice.
- 2. Get clear on your finances.** List your assets, debts, income and expenses to understand your financial situation — the first step toward taking control.
- 3. Create a flexible plan.** Include your current needs, short-term goals and retirement aspirations. Instead of feeling intimidated, you can let a financial advisor help make this simple and manageable.
- 4. Learn about money.** Read, attend workshops and join online communities focused

on women and finance. Every bit of knowledge adds confidence.

- 5. Build an emergency fund.** Work toward having three to six months of living expenses in a low-risk, liquid account. This may take gradual, consistent contributions, but ultimately, this cushion can help provide a sense of security as you navigate your new circumstances.
- 6. Review insurance and your employer benefits.** Make sure your medical insurance coverage is adequate. Consider long-term care insurance to help preserve your retirement assets.
- 7. Estate planning.** Work with an attorney to review beneficiary designations on bank and brokerage accounts while updating your will, powers of attorney and, as needed, a revocable living trust.

8. Social Security. If you were married 10 years or longer, understand your rights to Social Security benefits from your ex-spouse.

Rather than being the end, gray divorce can represent a new chapter. The future is yours to shape, and it can be as bold, bright and fulfilling as you want it to be.

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

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MORIN'S

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of local residents trusted the studio to document life's milestones from weddings and graduations to family portraits and special celebrations.

"We watched generations of local families grow up, and we are sure there isn't a home in the area that doesn't have at least one photo from Morin's," said Schoenberg. She credits her father, Clarence Morin – who died in 2024 at the age of 98 – for the studio's success.

"He was the core of our business and his example of fair dealings, and doing your best to provide a good product and customer service, left an impact on all of us and helped guide us for so many years," said Schoenberg.

Over the past century, the photography industry itself has changed dramatically. What once required technical expertise in lighting, film, and manual camera controls has become increasingly automated through digital technology and smartphone apps.



Morin's Studio & Camera Shop at 14 Pine Street has closed after 104 years in business. It will hold a liquidation sale from June 8-13.
Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

"Now everyone is a 'photographer,'" said Schoenberg. "Results are immediate, and flaws can be corrected with an app. You really can't compare the two."

Among the countless memories accumulated over the years, one story stands out to Schoenberg. While booking her wedding photography, a bride-to-be shared that as a little girl she would walk past Morin's Studio and admire the wedding portraits displayed in the window. The bride told her, "I hoped that someday my wedding picture would be there;" and it was.

Morin's Studio & Camera Shop at 14 Pine St. will hold a liquidation sale from June 8 to June 13. All studio equipment and accessories are suitable for both beginners and professionals. Everything must go, no reasonable offers refused. Cash and Venmo only.

As news of the closure continues to spread, customers are responding with an outpouring of support, sharing messages of gratitude, disbelief, and appreciation for the role the studio played in preserving their family histories.

Schoenberg said the Morin family is most proud of its work ethic and commitment to its customers over the years, and it is the customers they will miss the most.

"The people who supported us for so many years became the basis of our success. To those customers, the Morins say, "You were more than just customers; you became extended family to us all."



Examples of photographs taken over the past decade by Morin's Studio. *Photo source: Morin family*

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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 9 a.m. 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 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 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 [NoFameGames Official Website](http://NoFameGamesOfficialWebsite.com).

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2021 QUEST-BEST, 2022 QUEST-BEST, 2023 QUEST-BEST

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

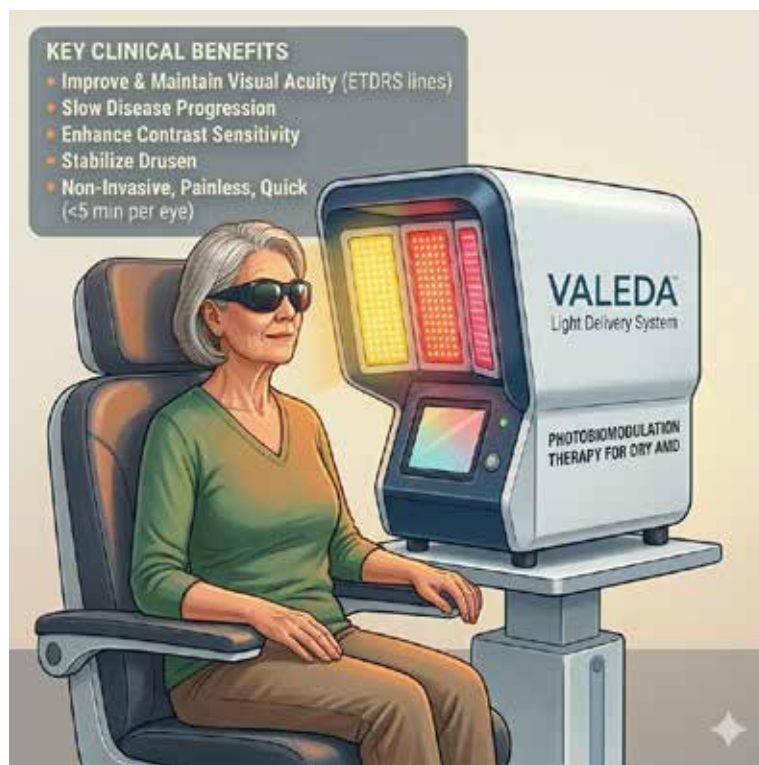
Light Delivery System, PBM therapy represents one of the most exciting innovations in retina care in many years. For the first time, patients with dry AMD may now have access to a treatment shown in clinical studies to improve visual function and potentially slow disease progression.

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 ex-

tensive 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 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 treat-

EYE

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MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER




 Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.


 Alyse Richard, M.D.


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EYE

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ment. 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.

For more details, see our ad on page 8.

Battle of the Bartenders raises \$4,440 for child awaiting heart transplant

In May, a Raydio 2026 Battle of the Bartenders at Legends Sports Bar & Grille was more than just a bartending competition. It was a night filled with energy, laughter, creativity, community spirit, and an incredible outpouring of generosity.

Hosted by Raydio at the DoubleTree by Hilton Boston Milford, the event featured six talented local bartenders competing in a series of fun and challenging contests while raising money for a very special cause.

When the final scores were tallied, Iris Bentley of Cornell's Irish Pub was crowned the 2026 Battle of the Bartenders Champion, earning the \$250 grand prize after narrowly edging out a strong field of competitors.

Participating bartenders included:

- Ashley Smith from Valley Pub / Polish Hall
- Kristen Precourt from The



(L to R) Zack Andrew (Rail Trail Flatbread Co.); Kristen Precourt (The Shed / KCooks); Ashley Smith (Valley Pub / Polish Hall); Iris Bentley (Cornell's, and winner); and Dario Palombo (Italian Vets). Back row: Ray Auger of Raydio. Photo credit: Tim Rice Photo

- SHED / K Cooks
- Iris Bentley from Cornell's Irish Pub
- Jeanne Barry from The Black Harp
- Zack Andrew from Rail Trail Flatbread Co.
- Dario Palombo from Italian Vets in Milford

Each bartender also received a \$50 tip bonus in appreciation for participating and helping support the fundraiser.

While the cocktail competi-

tion kept the crowd entertained, the true focus of the evening was raising money for 5-year-old Elina, who is bravely living with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome while awaiting a heart transplant at Boston Children's Hospital.

The fundraiser was held in partnership with Radiate Positivity Initiative, whose mission is

BARTENDERS

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Milford Town Library Calendar of Events

80 Spruce Street, Milford • 508-473-2145 • MilfordTownLibrary.org • HOURS: Mon. – Thurs. 9-9 • Fri. 9-6 • Sat. 9-5 • Sun. CLOSED

Summer Hours

Beginning on **Sat., June 20, the library will be closed on Saturdays during the summer.** Saturday hours will resume after Labor Day.

Atelier Artists: New Work 2026

Throughout June, new work by the Atelier Artists will be exhibited at the library both on the main and lower levels of the library. This collective of senior artists works together to encourage and inspire each other in their artistic pursuits. The members foster a spirit of camaraderie and an appreciation of individual styles. Members showing in 2026 include Charles Abrahamson, Jr., Anne Berard, Helen Bonnett, Maggie Budd, Priscilla Gregory, Iurii Neshcheretnyi, Olena Neshcheretna, Glen Peterson, Patricia Peterson, Janice Rodriguez, Don Rose, Dona Marie Son, Mari Steinmann, Verne Thayer and Walda Vasile.

The artists encourage everyone to stop by and see their latest acrylic, oil, watercolor paintings and photographs.

Step Into a Book - Audio-book walking club

Take your book for a walk with the library! Whether you're an avowed audiobook fan or audio-curious, walking is a great way to enjoy an audiobook while keeping your body engaged. This cross-town program featured one walk in Milford last month on the Milford Upper Charles Trail led by Milford Town Library's Annie Glater. The second walk will be on Sat., June 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hughes and Echo Loop in Hopkinton, led by Hopkinton Public Library's Danielle Wolber. Park at 192 Hayden Rowe, Hopkinton.

Make sure to bring your own water! Hydration is important! Snacks will be provided at the midpoint. We will have two walking groups to accommodate different walking speeds. The program will be canceled in the event of extreme weather, but we will walk if there is light rain.

Registration is not required. Please register if you would like weather updates.

Need help getting set up with

an audiobook? Your librarians can help you find books on CD, all-in-one Playaway, or free to download on your phone. Stop into your library a few days before the program to get assistance.

This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail and the Hopkinton Trails Club. Our thanks to them for their assistance navigating their trails.

Summer ESL Class Schedule

Regular drop-in classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays will end the week of June 9-11 and will return in September. Las clases regulares sin inscripción previa los martes y jueves terminan la semana del 9 al 11 de junio y volverán en septiembre.

Conversation Circles for Spanish Speakers ~ Círculos de Conversación para Hablantes de Español

Practice speaking English in a small informal group. The circle will meet every Mon. in June at 11 a.m. in the ESL Classroom. Practicar hablar Inglés en un grupo pequeño e informal. El círculo se reunirá todos los lunes de junio a

11:00 am en el salón de clases de ESL.

Center Book Group

The Center Book Group meets next at the Milford Senior Center on Tues., June 16 at 10 a.m. to discuss *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. The premise of *The Measure* is a provocative one. Would you want to know the exact length of your life? How would that impact your decisions? In this inventive novel, every person on Earth receives a small box with a string. The length of the string determines who much time you have. Erlick follows eight characters in *The Measure* which has added resonance in our post-pandemic world.

Newcomers are always welcome at the informal book discussions. Copies can be reserved by calling the Information Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 2, via the CWMARS or Libby apps.

Milford Town Library Adult Book Club

Love reading and discussing books with others? Come join us at the Milford Town Library Adult Book Club! Designed for readers 18 and older, our meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

This month's discussion of *Everything is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection* by John Green will be on Thurs., June 18 at 7 p.m. Green brings compassion to his research. *Kirkus Reviews* noted that, "This highly readable call to action could not be more timely."

Titles are provided in various formats (e.g. large print and audio) when available. The library will have copies of the book on hand prior to the scheduled date of the discussion for you to borrow

Lucky Day Bestsellers

We know how frustrating it can be to be on a waiting list for a book you're dying to read. Try your luck with our Lucky Day Bestsellers! Many of the most requested books will be available on a first come, first served basis for a 7-day loan with one renewal. Lucky Day titles cannot be reserved. Look for the Lucky Day titles on the endcaps at the beginning of the fiction stacks.

Mahjong @ MTL

A Mahjong group meets twice a month at the Milford Town Library. This group welcomes players familiar with Mahjong for enjoyment of the game, not

for high stakes competition! The group meets on select Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. at the library in the Quarry Room. Those who are interested can attend any of the meetings. Mahjong sets are provided. Questions? Please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

Mahjong Summer Meetings: June 23, July 7, July 21.

Milford Area Wordsmiths

Looking for a quiet, dedicated time and place where you can write? Join the Milford Area Wordsmiths writers' group! We provide a safe place for adults (18+) to write and even share your work if you desire. All levels and genres are welcome, from first-time writers to published authors. The group meets the first and third Mon. of each month (except holidays) from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, please call 508-473-2145, ext. 2. Wordsmiths Summer Meetings: June 15, July 6, July 20.

Milford Adult Summer Reading Program starts June 15

Milford Town Library is excited to present the 2026 Adult Summer Reading Program, Mon., June 15 - Fri., Sept. 4! This year's theme is "Plant a Seed, Read" and we're gamifying our reading logs to help you have some fun, while exploring food, gardening, and stories that connect us to our local culture and history! Everyone who participates will win a prize, but the more you participate, the more tickets you will earn to put toward our "Plant a Seed, Read" prize drawings. To join in, starting on June 15 you can visit the Information Desk to pick up your "Milfordland" Garden Path Log, or print the sheet from our website, www.milfordtownlibrary.org.

As part of our 2026 Adult Summer Reading Program, we have several in-person events for you to enjoy this summer. Check our calendar page for details and to register:

- **Books in Bloom with the Greenleaf Garden Club** - Mon., June 15 - Thurs., June 18
- **Plant Hospital Adoption Event** - Wed., June 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (or until supplies last)
- **Pen Pal Club** - Mon., July 13, 2 - 4 p.m. collaborative event with Youth Services department
- **Family Nature Walk at Louisa**



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LIBRARY

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Sophia Silva named 2026 Delegate to Massachusetts Girls State



(L to R) Sophia Silva, a junior at Milford High School, has been chosen by the Sgt. John W. Powers Post American Legion Auxiliary Unit #59 as the 2026 Delegate to Massachusetts Girls State. She is pictured here with Jo-Ann DeMaria Morgan, the Unit #59 Chairman of the Girls State Program. *Courtesy photo*

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Massachusetts will be holding its annual Girls State Program at Stonehill College in Easton from June 13 to June 19.

Ms. Sophia Silva, daughter of Natalie and Felipe Silva of Milford, has been chosen by the Sgt. John W. Powers Post American Legion Auxiliary Unit #59 as the 2026 Delegate to Massachusetts Girls State. Sophia is a Junior at Milford High School and is an honor student. She is a member of SADD, Cure Club, Newspaper, Tri-M National English Honor Society, National Spanish Society, Yearbook Committee and Concert Choir. More than 30,000 students have participated in this program since its inception in 1945.

Students from across Massachusetts will come together to participate in this week-long study of local and state government. The citizens will establish and operate their own municipalities, form political parties, nominate candidates for office, conduct campaigns, and participate in elections.

Speakers, such as State Senators and Representatives as well as other community leaders, will speak to the students about their experiences as well as answer questions about their experiences. Students will learn the responsibilities of different branches of government, and the qualifications and benefits of many of the leading professions in political science.

At each ALA Girls State program, two representatives are chosen to travel to Washington D.C. to participate in civics on a national level at The American Legion Auxiliary's Girls Nation program. They will travel to the capital, visiting many landmarks and historical sites while learning about our nation's government. This year's Girls Nation program will be held from July 18-25 2026.

Jo-Ann DeMaria Morgan is the Unit #59 Chairman of the Girls State Program and has met with the delegate for orientation. Sophia was chosen from a pool of applicants in the Junior Class at Milford High School.

Harold Rhodes donates \$10,000 to the Aaron Zenus Foundation in honor of his late wife, Marcia Rhodes

Harold Rhodes has made a generous donation of \$10,000 to the Aaron Zenus Foundation on behalf of the Rhodes Family, honoring the life and legacy of his beloved late wife, Marcia Rhodes.

This meaningful contribution reflects both Harold Rhodes' personal commitment to community impact and the Rhodes Family's desire to celebrate Marcia's life through acts of compassion and generosity. Marcia Rhodes was known for her kindness, strength, and dedication to helping others—values that this donation seeks to carry forward.

The Aaron Zenus Foundation, recognized for its work supporting differently abled individuals and fostering opportunity, will utilize the donation to further its mission and expand its programs.



"We are deeply grateful to Harold Rhodes and the Rhodes Family for this generous gift," said a representative of the Foundation. "This donation not only strengthens our efforts but also serves as a touching tribute to Marcia Rhodes' enduring legacy."

The Rhodes Family hopes that this gesture will inspire oth-

ers to honor loved ones through meaningful contributions that uplift and support those in need.

About the Aaron Zenus Foundation

The Aaron Zenus Foundation is dedicated to empowering individuals and communities through outreach, support services, and initiatives that promote growth, resilience, and opportunity.

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Memorial Day in Milford



Draper Memorial Park Field of Flags in honor of Memorial Day 2026. The flags are placed each year by Citizens for Milford to recognize the sacrifice and service of the nation's veterans. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

BARTENDERS

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to support children and families facing difficult medical journeys.

Funds raised from the event will help provide Elina with an oxygen concentrator, portable oxygen tanks, battery packs, and support for her adaptive bicycle, giving her greater freedom and independence while she continues her fight.

"With everything Elina and her family are facing, seeing the community rally together like this was incredibly emotional," said Ray Auger, owner and operator of Raydio. "We thought our goal of \$3,800 was going to be difficult to hit, but the generosity in that room was absolutely amazing."

By the end of the night, attendees and sponsors helped raise an incredible \$4,440 for Elina and other children in need through Radiate Positivity Initiative.

Raydio would like to thank judges Rich Cyr, Juli Johnson,

and Amanda Bedrossian, last year's Battle of the Bartenders champion, for helping make the evening a success, along with the outstanding staff at Legends and the DoubleTree.

Special thanks also go out to Tim Rice Photo for capturing the event and to sponsors:

- Blackstone Valley Power Washing
- DoubleTree by Hilton Boston Milford
- Masters Touch Design Build
- Berry Hill Farm, which also made an additional donation to the cause

Raydio also extended a heartfelt thank you to Julie Atherton of Milford Hardwood Floors for her generous contribution.

Raydio continues its mission of bringing the community together through fun, meaningful local events that make a positive impact throughout the Greater Milford area.

For more information about Raydio, visit www.localraydio.com or follow @LocalRaydio on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.



Bartender Zack Andrew (Rail Trail Flatbread Co.) during a fundraiser that raised \$4,440 for a child awaiting a heart transplant. Photo credit: Tim Rice Photo

The focus of the Battle of the Bartenders fundraiser was to support 5-year-old Elina, who is bravely living with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome while awaiting a heart transplant.



Kristen Precourt (The Shed / KCooks) during the Battle of the Bartenders fundraiser. Photo credit: Tim Rice Photo

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Lake with Author Brad Timm

- Wed., July 15, 6 p.m. collaborative event with Youth Services department

• **"Ask a Gardener"** with Greenleaf Garden Club - Tues., July 21, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

• **Local Flower Arranging Workshop** with Greenleaf Garden Club - Tues., August 11, 7 - 8 p.m.

You may also visit the Library anytime during our regular operating hours to participate in our Spice of the Month Club or join a nationwide Pen Pal Program!

How it Works

Much like a real garden path where you can meander or take

a direct route, complete the Milfordland Garden Path in the order you choose! Rules for colored squares are on the reverse side of the Milfordland Garden Path board.

Finish four squares of any color to receive your first ticket. By completing the main part of the Garden Path using both Central St. Bridge and Pink Granite Pass, you'll earn 4 tickets to distribute amongst whichever prize drawings you choose! By also completing squares 4-7 and/or 21-24 (skipping Central St. Bridge and/or Pink Granite Pass), you will earn BONUS tickets (4 per path section, up to 8)!

You can present your Milfordland Log at the Information Desk for verification and ticket(s). All Milfordland Logs must be submitted prior to our 6 p.m. closing

time on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026. Prize drawings and winner notification will take place Tues., Sept. 8. Prizes can be picked up at the Information Desk anytime during regular Library hours, through Fri., Sept. 18. Prizes not picked up will be awarded to another winner.

Prizes

Participating Submit your name to the Information Desk. You'll earn:

- **1 "Book Bucks" certificate** to spend at the Friends Bookstore (located next to the grandfather clock on the Library's main floor)
- **A packet of wildflower seeds** to use during the course of the Adult Summer Reading Program

Finishing the Milfordland Garden Path

Finish four squares of any color

to receive your first ticket. Using both Central St. Bridge & Pink Granite Pass (skipping squares 4-7 and 21-24) to complete the path earns you 4 tickets. Completing squares 4-7 and/or 21-24 will earn you 4 more tickets for each path section (up to 8 additional tickets). You may apply your tickets toward any of our three "Plant a Seed, Read" Prize Drawings:

• **Prize 1: Books & Beans**

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

• **Prize 2: Farm to Table** A \$75 gift certificate from our friends at UxLocale in Uxbridge! Specializing in wood-fired pizza, pasta, and nightly Mediterranean-inspired specials.

nean-inspired specials.


• **Prize 3: Plant Your Own Patch**

A \$75 gift certificate to Kelly's Farm in Upton! Locally grown fruit, vegetables, plants, flowers, pumpkins and Christmas trees; plus an ever-changing variety of local products and baked goods from their farm store.

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

Good luck - we're looking forward to reading with you this summer!

This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Town Library, and supported by our friends at Blooming Hearts Roastery, Kelly's Farm, and the UxLocale!



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Pet of the month: Sydney

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



It is possible that Sydney isn't everyone's perfect cat. If you prefer your cat to be whisper quiet, Sydney is not your cat. Sydney does enjoy singing. If you need a cat to be a companion for another animal in your home, Sydney is not your cat. Sydney needs to be an only child. If you prefer your cat to spend its time like a loaf of bread lying around the house, Sydney is not your cat. Sydney likes to explore, jump and play.

her neck breakout. Keeping her strictly on the prescription diet reduces the amount and duration of the breakouts.

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

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

Sydney is on a prescription diet due to an allergy or sensitivity that makes the skin on

MPS music students participated in CDMMEA and MMEA festivals



(L to R with grade): Junior Districts: Morgan Bruder 7, Seth Karlin 7, Joshua Ojoseitan 7, Lilliana Johnson 7, Elizabeth Jorge 7, Addison Ross 8, Isabella Silva Hughes 8, and Reham Alshawabkeh 8. *Courtesy photo*

Senior Districts and All State (denoted by *): (Front row, L to R with grade): Luci Cruz 12*, Giovanna Weiner 12*, Camilla Costa 12*. (Middle): Luke Stachowski 12*, Oliver Akari 12, Sofia Figueroa 11, Davi Gomes 10, Daniel Majkut 10. (Back): Nathan Mandrick 11, Will Brown 12*, and Alex Kerr 12*. *Courtesy photo*



MHS Percussion Ensemble achieved an "Excellent" rating at the RI Percussion Festival held at the University of Rhode Island in March. In alphabetical order: Grade 12: Marcelo Gomes da Silva, Diego Gomes, Nick Lalangui Ponce, Dan O'Leary, Caleb Ramnauth, Maggy Zou. Grade 11: Brenda Soares. Grade 10: Chris Lalangui Ponce, Victor Topham. Grade 9: David Lopez Ochoa. *Courtesy photo*

The Milford Public Schools Music Department and Parents for Music group would like to congratulate our highly talented MPS Music students for acceptance into the CDMMEA Junior and Senior Festivals, and the MMEA All State Festival for 2025/2026.

The students were recently accepted into the CDMMEA Festivals for Chorus, Orchestra or Concert Band.

Participation in the festival is by audition only and offers the opportunity to work with guest conductors and students from other towns within the

Central Massachusetts District. Students receiving an All State recommendation will have an opportunity to audition for the MMEA All State Concert.

We are very proud of all our dedicated music students. They have all worked very hard and practiced for many hours to prepare for these events.

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Milford Public Schools updates

Important dates

- June 19 - No School - June-teenth
- June 23 - Last day of school (Grades K-11) - Early release
- June 22 - Last day of school for Shining Star

District News:

We are thrilled to share outstanding results from the 2026 WIDA ACCESS assessment: 1,247 K-12 English Learners participated — 1,229 in ACCESS and 18 in Alternate ACCESS — and 192 students met reclassification criteria, a tremendous milestone reflecting real growth and hard work. Congratulations to Jenn Noorjani and our English Language department, our EL students, and the dedicated teachers who walk alongside them every step of the way — we are so proud of you!

Milford sent teams of students and teachers to the One8 Foundation's Applied Learning Showcase to highlight student work in their OpenSciEd and Project Lead the Way programs. Student work was shown with other schools from across the state at the New Balance Arena Boston to over 500 industry professionals. Students received written and verbal feedback that celebrates their work while making meaningful connections to the "real world." TWO(!) Milford projects were awarded "Projects of Distinction" at the showcase.

- For the first time since adopting the OpenSciEd cur-

riculum, Stacy Middle School students received the "Project of Distinction" recognition for their hard work. Ryder Rebecchi, Liam Cunningham, and Kellan KokEnnen from Ms. Megan Burke's 6th grade class showcased their "How does Sound Affect Matter?" project and impressed industry professionals with their knowledge of content and their application of the content to explain subjects they were curious about.

- Milford High School also had a team recognized by the judges - for the second year in a row! Seniors Tony Huynh, Paulo Fernandes, and Anthony Norris in the PLTW: Engineering Design and Development class with teacher Mr. Robert Knapp created a Haptic Keyboard. The project they created is a keyboard that uses input filtering and haptics to allow people with neurological disorders to type more efficiently. They designed and engineered a project that shows great technological promise while increasing access and inclusion for those with a disability or medical condition.

The annual "Best Day of the Year" School Day Games was May 21st at MHS. Bringing together students, athletes, staff, and volunteers for a day of fun and games, Special Olympics-style. Lots of smiles, high fives, and celebrations of inclusive competition and fun. Thank you

to our Special Education staff, led by Loren Blanchard, for organizing another great event. We also want to acknowledge all the staff and volunteers who helped to run the activities and help our students. Also, thank you to the Milford Fire Department and Police Department for your support of this event, helping to make it all the more special. Finally, thank you to our Veterans, MHS students, and families for coming out to cheer on these students and volunteers!

We're happy to announce the District has chosen to rename the Family Resource Center (FRC) to the Family Welcome Center (FWC) to better reflect its purpose. The previous name, while functional, felt transactional and clinical — suggesting a place families visited only out of necessity. In addition, the state has recently begun creating regional Family Resource Centers, and thus, there is confusion in the community and surrounding communities about who to contact and for what purposes. The Family Welcome Center (FWC) conveys warmth, inclusion, and openness, signaling that every family belongs and is valued in our school community. The new name reinforces the district's commitment to being

a true partner with families, not just a provider of services. Many people are familiar with the Family Welcome Center as the place to go for student registration when students enter the Milford Public Schools. But so much more happens at the FWC! Interpretation and translation services, health and vaccination clinics, student data management, and our Multilingual Services administration are all housed at the FWC. And, if you are ever unsure of who to contact or where to go for support in the Milford Public schools, our friendly FWC staff can always help and point you in the right direction!

Milford High School

Earlier this year, MHS Junior Catie Delaney developed an idea to create a "STEM Powered Girls" activity club at Woodland. She outlined her plan, sought out grant funding and sponsorships, identified club teachers and advisors, and purchased materials and supplies for the club. Thank you to the Milford Cultural Council for their grant funding to support this wonderful opportunity! Over the past 12 weeks, this group of students have immersed themselves in a variety of STEM projects, including: robot programming, which led



Memorial School celebrated and honored Memorial Day. Students and staff recited poems, sung songs, and honored Veterans in attendance for their service.
Courtesy photo

to a robot dance party; charm design, where students created designs that will be 3D printed into charms for bracelets; and game design, where the girls developed original games featuring 3D-printed pieces and/or boards to proudly display at the showcase. Recently, they showcased some of their work for their families at Woodland. Phenomenal job Catie!

Congratulations are also in order to MHS Junior, Sophia Silva Hughes, who was selected to represent Milford High

SCHOOLS

continued on page 17

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Milford appoints Steven DiVitto to Athletic Director

The Milford Public Schools is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Steven DiVitto to the role of Athletic Director, effective immediately. DiVitto was named to the position in an interim capacity in late February. He now takes over in a full-time capacity.

Prior to taking on the Interim AD position, DiVitto served as the Dean of Students at Milford High School for the past 5 years. He has also served as coordinator for an alternative pathway program for high school students for several years, and a high school teacher for approximately 5 years. After graduating from MHS in 2003, DiVitto obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Assumption University in Organizational Communications in 2007, and his Master's Degree from American International College in Special Education in 2017.

In the realm of Athletics, DiVitto served as Head Coach of the Girls' Softball team at MHS between 2014 and 2025, resigning prior to this past season to take on the Interim AD role. DiVitto also serves as Head Coach of the Milford Legion Baseball team, a position he has held for the past 12 years. Of note, DiVitto's teams have won state championships in softball (2017) and Legion baseball (2014), and he has been recog-

nized as state Softball Coach of the Year (2017).

"As a proud alumnus, former player, and coach who grew up in this community, stepping into the permanent role of Athletic Director is an honor. Having experienced Milford Athletics from the field to the sidelines, this leadership position has been a long-term goal of mine," said DiVitto. "The rich legacy of Milford Athletics is something I deeply respect, and I am fully committed to upholding and building upon the high standards our community expects. I look forward to leading our programs with passion, purpose, and an unwavering dedication to our student-athletes and the community I am proud to call home."

Dr. Josh Otlin, Principal of Milford High School, shared, "Milford High School has a long and distinguished history of success, not only in athletic competitions but in producing student-athletes that are community leaders and champions in the classroom. Steven is a distinguished alumnus, successful coach, and respected school leader. I have no doubt that he will continue and enhance the tradition of Scarlet Hawk Pride that our student-athletes and coaches have cultivated for generations."

DiVitto takes over a Milford Public School Athletic Department that includes:



- 27 Varsity teams
- 19 sub-Varsity teams
- 7 middle school level teams
- 3 Unified/Special Olympics teams

Milford High School is a member of the highly competitive and very successful Hockomock League, where member schools routinely compete for state championships in nearly every boys' and girls' sport.

"Having someone who understands the traditions and embodies the championship culture of Milford Athletics was very important to me when we hired our next AD. Steven checks those boxes," said Dr. Craig Consigli, Superintendent of Schools. "I am very excited to work closely with Steven as the next Milford Public Schools' Athletic Director. He is a Scarlet Hawk through and through. Having grown up in the Milford community, and having competed and coached at a championship level, he knows what it takes to win. Milford Athletics is a great source of pride for everyone in our community. We share similar goals for the Athletics Department and I am looking forward to seeing our programs and athletes flourish."

Recent Home Sales

Date	Milford	Amount
05/22/2026	3 S. Central St.	\$695,000
05/22/2026	56 S. Bow St.	\$534,000
05/22/2026	9 Canali Dr.	\$435,000
05/21/2026	6 Field Pond Rd.	\$825,000
05/21/2026	16 Godfrey Ln.	\$475,000
05/20/2026	11 Shadowbrook Ln. #8	\$285,000
05/20/2026	57 Beach St.	\$477,500
05/19/2026	14 Emmons St.	\$630,000
05/19/2026	46 Bancroft Ave.	\$699,000
05/15/2026	21 Carp Rd.	\$700,000
05/15/2026	6 Paula Rd.	\$410,000
05/15/2026	10 Black Bear Cir.	\$649,900
05/15/2026	43 Black Bear Cir.	\$629,900
05/14/2026	5 Hunter Cir.	\$701,500
05/14/2026	4 Six State St.	\$700,000
05/13/2026	47 W. Walnut St.	\$560,000
05/08/2026	41 Grant St.	\$400,000
05/07/2026	6 Jenpaul Way. #8	\$415,000
05/07/2026	9 Hancock St.	\$570,000
04/30/2026	241 Purchase St.	\$630,000
04/30/2026	3 Mohegan Cir.	\$820,000
04/30/2026	1221 Congress St.	\$500,000
04/30/2026	39 Godfrey Ln.	\$445,000
04/30/2026	5 Country Club Ln. #B	\$385,000
04/30/2026	40 Oliver St.	\$490,000
04/29/2026	6 Pinewood Rd.	\$690,000
04/27/2026	7 Woodland Ct. #8	\$580,000

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



The 4-bed, 2-bath, 1,607-square-foot house at 67 Pine Street in Milford recently sold for \$530,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

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SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones

Panel 1: A man with yellow hair sits on the grass talking to a dog. The man says, "YOU KNOW, AESOP, I THINK I'M A PRETTY CLASSY GUY. I'VE GOT GOOD MANNERS AND I CONDUCT MYSELF VERY WELL..."

Panel 2: The man continues, "FOR INSTANCE, I DON'T USE FOUL LANGUAGE OR ANY SORT OF PROFANITY." The dog replies, "YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?"

Panel 3: The man says, "I SWEAR." The dog replies, "Smack!"

SCHOOLS

continued from page 15

School at the Girls State Conference this summer. Massachusetts Girls State is a week-long leadership and civics program, where participants simulate local and state government, run for office, and draft legislation. Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, this program focuses on responsible citizenship, Americanism, and leadership development.

Congratulations to the 54 newest members of the Milford High School Honor Society, who were inducted to this select group earlier in May. Students earn membership to the National Honor Society for their scholarship, leadership, character, and community service. 71 MHS graduating Seniors were also awarded their NHS Chords, which they will proudly wear during graduation.

Stacy Middle School

Stacy Middle School Grade 6 students worked on practicing their writing skills during their SOAR block recently. One group of students wrote a children's book they are hoping to share with friends at Memorial School. Another group wrote an "All you need to know about Grade 6" Survival Guide for incoming 6th Graders. A third group researched studies about recess, and made an argument to Dr. Lopez as to why recess should be longer for middle school students.

Stacy Middle School, funded via the MetroWest Education Foundation, has been providing an AfterSchool Math Tutoring Club to Grade 6-8 students since the 2024-2025 school year. During this past year, this tutoring program provided Grade 6 students with access to approximately 45 additional hours of instructional support doing mathematics with a virtual tutor through SAGE Education, while the Grade 7 and 8 students were provided with access to asynchronous tutoring for approximately 30 additional hours. In order to honor the students' success participating in the tutoring, Stacy staff celebrated with them twice this year. Families were invited to Stacy for the end-of-the-year celebration where students were recognized for their hard work and received individual student awards.

Brookside Elementary School

Milford's Animal Control Officer Keith Haynes visited Brookside's Grade One classrooms. He spoke to our students about his important role in our community and gave them safety tips for what to do around wild or distressed animals.

The Charles River Watershed Association visited Brookside's second grade classrooms to demonstrate "Watershed in a Box." This was a hands-on demonstration that teaches students the importance of nature, different kinds of pollution and how they are all interconnected.

Shout out to Brookside's Ms. Tonya Allegrezza, a Speech and Language Pathologist. Ms. Allegrezza worked with some of our students that use an AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) Device to allow students that are non-verbal to say the Pledge of Allegiance and Brookside Promise during morning announcements. This is inclusion at its best!

Brookside held two great events for students. The Brookside PTO sponsored a Laser Show that dazzled students and staff alike. The school also hosted a ceremony to honor and commemorate Memorial Day, helping students to recognize the purpose and importance of respecting our veterans that have served and sacrificed for our freedoms.

Memorial Elementary School

The Multicultural Night at Memorial School was a huge success! It was wonderful to see so many families come together to celebrate the many cultures that make our school community so special. Families had a great time exploring, creating, and connecting with one another. Thank you to all of the teachers and staff who came and helped make the evening so meaningful and memorable for our students and families!

Memorial Elementary School hosted a Fun Run earlier as part of their PTO fundraiser. Thank you to Memorial families for helping raise money for our school. The students and staff had a blast on the Fun Run Day!

Memorial School celebrated and honored Memorial Day. Students and staff recited poems, sung songs, and honored Veterans in attendance for their service. The ceremony was an



Brookside held its first "Masked Reader" event during which 12 school volunteers masked up and read stories to students and families. Students were given clues throughout the week to try and guess the reader behind the mask. Courtesy photo

excellent reminder of the purpose and significance of Memorial Day, as we honor those that made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms and country. The respect, pride, and patriotism of our community was on full display!

Shining Star Early Childhood Center

Shining Star's Staff Spotlight shines on:

- **Ms. Melani Galante, SSECC Team Chair.** Melani's exceptional organization, collaborative spirit, and deep knowledge of Special

Education make a meaningful impact on our entire team. She leads with professionalism, compassion, and a clear commitment to student success, consistently ensuring that every voice is heard and every student's needs are thoughtfully addressed. Her ability to bring people together, problem-solve with purpose, and support both staff and students sets a powerful example for our school community. We are grateful for her leadership, dedication, and the positive energy she brings each day.

- **Ms. Maggie Takita.** Ms. Takita has fostered many children over the years along with raising her own family. This is where her love and compassion for children at Shining Star comes from. She does an exemplary job working with our students at Shining Star - we are so grateful for her support!
- **Ms. Cindy Forgit.** She is a dedicated, caring, and thoughtful Student Assistant who consistently shows love for her students. The growth her current student has made

this year has been truly incredible and is a reflection of the strong connection and trust Cindy has built. It is always heartwarming to hear them in the hallway laughing, playing games, and engaging in conversations together. Her student clearly enjoys working with Cindy, and the bond they have formed has had a positive impact. Beyond her work with students, her kindness, supportive nature, and ability to make others smile make her a valued colleague.

- **Ms. Amanda Dickson.** She has made an immediate and positive impact in our Milestones program at Shining Star. Her exceptional ability to connect with students is evident in her teaching approach. Amanda cultivates a serene and supportive classroom atmosphere through her calm and composed demeanor, which benefits her students. It is a pleasure to work alongside a colleague who demonstrates such care and commitment to both her students and colleagues.

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SPORTS

Milford Legion ready for summer season

Post 59 to host 2026 state tournament at Fino Field

By Chris Villani

The Milford Legion baseball team brings a solid mix of returners and newcomers to the field this season, a year that will see Post 59 play host to the state tournament at the end of July.

“It’s an honor to be able to be the host of the states,” said Milford manager Steve DiVitto. “We are going to make sure we are in a position to play our best when that time rolls around, but we don’t want to look ahead and worry about what’s coming down the road. We have to make sure we put ourselves in a great spot.”

Milford returns four players with college baseball experience this summer. Brayden Lewis earned rookie of the year honors in his first season at Wheaton and figures to be a big part

of the Milford lineup. Tyler Ballard, a Milford High grad who also attends Wheaton, will be at the top of the Post 59 rotation on the mound.

Hopkinton graduate Nick Pedroli will play both outfield and pitch for Milford this summer. Sam Schoenberg, a Holliston graduate who attends Johnson & Wales, will play middle infield along with Milford senior Joey McGee.

“They are two really good middle infielders,” DiVitto said. “I am excited that they are the guys who are going to man the middle.”

Nipmuc High is represented by five players, with Josh Giancola leading the way after a very strong spring for his high school team. Fellow seniors Cole McGovern, Gavin Metcalf and Sean Burchard will also play big

roles, along with Nipmuc junior Adam Dubowik.

Jackson Fournier is joining the Post 59 from St. John’s of Shrewsbury. A Milford resident, he is already committed to attend college at Maryland. “He is a great player,” DiVitto said, adding that he was also excited to add St. John’s pitcher Josh Bouchard.

Blackstone Valley Tech’s Jordan Martorano, Hopedale’s Brady Wajda, and Jaxen Lindsey of Milford are three players who should add to Milford’s depth on the mound.

Outfielder Ben Maiorano is a Holliston graduate who is committed to play at UMass Boston. “Ben can fly,” DiVitto said. “He is a good table setter at the top or bottom of the lineup. We are excited for him to play his debut.”



Milford manager Steve DiVitto addresses his newly selected 2026 legion baseball team. Photo credit: Ashley Lester Photography

Sharing the catching duties will be Bellingham sophomore Brady Iarussi and Hopedale sophomore Nolan Murray.

DiVitto said the strength of

the team should be its offense. “We have a lot of hitters and guys who have a real pop in their bat,” he said. “I am excited to have them show that.”

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SPORTS

Milford Volleyball among best teams in state

Scarlet Hawks shown through challenging schedule

By Chris Villani

At the start of the season, Milford head boys' volleyball coach Andrew Mainini said he wanted his team to be one of the best in the state, and he thought it was an ambition well within reach. He was proven correct 18 matches later as the Scarlet Hawks earned 12 regular season victories and entered the state tournament as the fourth-ranked team in division II.

"This was an experienced team," Mainini said. "We had 12 seniors, but we came into the season a little slow and hit a couple of early bumps in the road. But we are excited because we hit a groove just at the right time of the year."

Milford scored a first-round playoff victory and has its sights set on a deep tournament run. Three players — Mayck Moreira, Gus Da Silva, and Sam Abreu — have driven the MHS offense.

"Mayck transitioned from being a libero to an outside hitter this year," Mainini said of the junior. "He is super athletic and a six-position player for us. He kind of does it all."

Moreira took over the team lead in kills from Da Silva late in the season. Mainini said Da Silva is another player who seldom leaves the court and works alongside Moreira to solidify Milford's serve receive. Abreu is third on the team in kills, though

all three players have been extremely consistent throughout the year.

Milford has also been lifted by the play of setter Eston Lebron and libero Jude Moffitt.

"They were really solid, consistent players who are super dedicated to the sport," Mainini said. "Their ability to play well and be consistent and solid allowed us to move other players around in the lineup and, as leaders in the court, they set the tone for us this season in terms of having high expectations and playing hard."

Mainini said he expected the Scarlet Hawks to be one of the top teams in Massachusetts, regardless of division. He said the feedback he has gotten from other teams reinforces the notion that Milford is a team to be reckoned with. The coach was also impressed with the way his team was able to recover from a slow start.

"Our confidence was a little rocked at the beginning of the year when we had some losses where we thought we should have competed better," he said.

But it was a loss that helped Mainini's players start to gain confidence. Milford lost to Wayland, potentially the top team in the state, in a five-set thriller.

"That was really a moment for us where it reinforced the team that we can play with, and potentially beat, any team we come up against," Mainini said.



The Milford boys' volleyball team after a recent victory. Courtesy photo



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NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$55,265~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,977**

2022 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4
AS LOW AS **\$120/WK**
#TP6960 • SR5 TRIM, ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$42,605~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,977**

2024 DODGE DURANGO SXT
AS LOW AS **\$120/WK**
#D15978 • AWD, 3K MILES, V6
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$49,595~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,677**

2022 SUBARU ASCENT
AS LOW AS **\$110/WK**
#22P3359 • LIMITED, NAV, ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$44,700~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,977**

2024 TOYOTA CAMRY SE
AS LOW AS **\$96/WK**
#TP6899 • ALLOYS, SIRIUSXM
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$38,625~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977**

2022 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4
AS LOW AS **\$120/WK**
#48352 • CUSTOM, 2.7L TURBO
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$54,180~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,977**

2024 NISSAN ROGUE AWD
AS LOW AS **\$81/WK**
#TP6687 • SV TRIM, 18" ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$31,710~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977**

2024 CHEVY TRAX SUV
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**
#125-500A • RS TRIM, 18" ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,565~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977**

2024 TOYOTA TUNDRA 4x4
AS LOW AS **\$170/WK**
#TP6721 • SR5, ALLOYS, 3.4L V6
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$58,405~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$47,977**

2022 JEEP COMPASS 4x4
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**
#D15556 • LIMITED, HEATED SEATS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,400~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977**

2022 HYUNDAI TUCSON SEL
AS LOW AS **\$72/WK**
#24P4399A • 26/33 CITY/HWY MPG
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$36,750~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977**

2023 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**
#ST1128A • 32/41 MPG CITY/HWY
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$26,569~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977**

2021 SUBARU CROSSTREK
AS LOW AS **\$82/WK**
#TRB4313A • 17" ALLOYS, CPO
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,265~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977**

2023 TOYOTA RAV4 XLE
AS LOW AS **\$110/WK**
#TM26-531A • HEATED SEATS, CPO
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$36,160~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,977**

2022 FORD EDGE SEL
AS LOW AS **\$89/WK**
#P18939 • NAV, 18" ALLOYS, AWD
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$40,395~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,977**

2025 VW JETTA 1.5T
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**
#P18718 • HEATED SEATS, SPORT
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$29,550~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,977**

2021 LINCOLN CORSAIR
AS LOW AS **\$96/WK**
#P18546A • SUNROOF, LEATHER
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$46,645~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977**

2025 FORD BRONCO 4x4
AS LOW AS **\$135/WK**
#P18525 • CPO, BIG BEND TRIM
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$46,995~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977**

2024 SUBARU OUTBACK
AS LOW AS **\$89/WK**
#24P6082 • CPO, PREMIUM TRIM
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,695~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977**

2025 MERCEDES GLA 250 SUV
AS LOW AS **\$132/WK**
#25P3938 • 2.0L TURBO, LEATHER
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$50,800~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,977**

2025 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
AS LOW AS **\$72/WK**
#TP6604 • SE TRIM, ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,686~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,977**

2024 CHEVY COLORADO
AS LOW AS **\$128/WK**
#48281 • TURBO, 4X4, ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$44,290~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,977**

2025 HONDA CIVIC SPORT
AS LOW AS **\$96/WK**
#TP6679 • 31/39 MPG CITY/HWY
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,190~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,377**

2024 BUICK ENCORE AWD
AS LOW AS **\$85/WK**
#48464 • GX PREFERRED, TURBO
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$32,225~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,977**

2023 MAZDA CX-5 2.5 S
AS LOW AS **\$85/WK**
#P18804 • AWD, HEATED SEATS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$29,899~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,977**

2023 BMW X1 xDrive28i
AS LOW AS **\$118/WK**
#25409A • AWD, TWIN TURBO, NAV
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$51,595~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,977**

2022 RAM 1500 BIG HORN
AS LOW AS **\$118/WK**
#D15893A • 4X4, V8, 20" ALLOYS
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$45,710~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$32,977**

2023 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
AS LOW AS **\$145/WK**
#TP6841 • XLE TRIM, SUNROOF
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$45,775~~ | **WHOLESALE PRICE: \$40,977**

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Mike Penner
General Manager

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