

## Charles 'Babe' Frascotti celebrates 100th birthday

The Milford Senior Center held a special celebration in June to honor both the 250th birthday of the United States and the 100th birthday of Milford resident Charles "Babe" Frascotti.

The event took place at the Milford Senior Center and featured live music from the East/West Duo along with food from Gene's Variety.

Frascotti's life has been marked by service to both his country and his community. A lifelong Milford resident, he served honorably in the United States Navy as a Seabee during World War II. He and his wife, Lucy, have built a family that includes two chil-



The Milford Senior Center recently celebrated the 100th birthday of lifelong resident Babe Frascotti and the 250th birthday of the United States of America. Photo: Milford Senior Center

**FRASCOTTI**  
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## Longtime library director retires

### Susan Edmonds excelled at building relationships, first-class service

July brings major changes to the Milford Town Library as longtime director Susan Edmonds retires.

Harmony Birch, a Massachusetts native, who comes from the Canarsie Library in Brooklyn, New York, will be the next director.

Edmonds came to Milford in 2008 from the State Library of Massachusetts. During her tenure in Milford, she served a term as President of the Board of CWMARS [Central and Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing, a library consortium] from 2013 through 2014 and President of the New England Library Association from 2018-2019.

Among Edmonds' most important achievements are the strong relationships the library built



Former Milford Town Library Director Susan Edmonds retired in June. Photo Source: Milford Town Library

and maintained with other town departments and organizations,

**RETIRES**

continued on page 2

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**FRASCOTTI**

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dren, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. As he celebrates his 100th birthday, family, friends, and fellow community members recognized his lifetime of dedication, service, and local pride. Submitted by Milford Senior Center, edited by Theresa Knapp



The Milford Senior Center recently celebrated the 100th birthday of lifelong resident Babe Frascotti and the 250th birthday of the United States of America. Photos Milford Senior Center



**RETIRES**

*continued from page 1*

collaborating with the Youth Center, Senior Center, and the Friends of the Milford Town Library to offer book groups and other programs and events. Edmonds is especially proud of the service the library staff provided during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Milford Town Library was one of the first in the Commonwealth to reopen,

and to provide full service, with appropriate modifications, including curbside pickup. Sue gives full credit to the staff members who are the backbone of the library service. As for the future, Edmonds is looking forward to taking the summer off to relax and contemplate plans going forward. "I'm going to miss it, but I'm looking forward to the new chapter. I wish Harmony the best in this new part of her career." Submitted by Milford Town Library

# Summer playgroups at Milford Family & Community Network CFCE

The Milford Family & Community Network CFCE will be offering six weeks of Summer Drop-In Playgroups on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, starting on July 7 and ending on Aug. 12, from 9-11 a.m. These structured playgroups are free for children from birth to 5 and their caregiver(s) and are on a first-come, first served basis. Please

check out our FaceBook page or website for more information. Questions? Call our office at 508-277-4981 or email [familynetwork@milfordma.com](mailto:familynetwork@milfordma.com). Don't forget to find, like, and follow us on Facebook at Milford Family & Community Network CFCE, or look us up at [www.milfordpublicschools.com/milfordfcn](http://www.milfordpublicschools.com/milfordfcn).

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**Nate Hahn**

*has joined the firm as a financial advisor and certified financial planner.*

*Nate may be contacted at 401-421-3965.*

# Call to artists for picnic table project

**Deadline to enter is July 24**

The Milford Cultural Council (MCC), in partnership with the Italian American World War Veterans of the U.S. Post 40 (ITAM), is excited to announce a Call to Artists seeking designs for three new picnic tables to be creatively painted in a patriotic theme to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The completed tables will be placed under the pavilion at Milford's ITAM Veterans Hall, just steps off the Upper Charles Trail at 4 Hayward Field, in time for Labor Day.

Artists of all levels, including student, amateur, and professional artists, are invited to submit designs and paint the tables. ITAM Post 40 is purchasing and priming the tables and awarding a stipend of \$500 to all three of the winning artists. Artists will be recognized on a metal plaque that will be installed on each table upon completion. The artists will also be recognized in an online portfolio of Milford's public art projects.

Detailed information for artists, including a design template and link to the entry form, can be found at <https://bit.ly/MilfordPicnicTables2026>.

Artists are required to submit their designs digitally using this online form: [bit.ly/43BZRt1](https://bit.ly/43BZRt1).

The deadline to submit designs is midnight on Fri., July 24. The MCC reserves the right to extend this deadline if needed. Each artist is welcome to submit

more than one design proposal.

ITAM Post 40 Commander Eric Ruscitti states, "Our members are pleased to be working with the Milford Cultural Council to bring more patriotic tables to our outdoor public space. We look forward to seeing the amazing designs local artists create to commemorate America 250."

Designs will be reviewed by members of the MCC and ITAM Post 40 based on feasibility, originality, innovation, and adherence to design criteria. The MCC will announce the winning artists on Mon., Aug. 3. All tables will be completed and put on public display on Sun., Sept. 6.

"The Milford Cultural Council launched the Brush to Table project back in 2021 as the first installment in our ongoing Art in the Parks initiative," says Joanne Goggins, MCC Chair.

"As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, working with the members of the ITAM Post 40 to add more patriotically themed tables to their location off the bike trail presented an excellent opportunity to add to our collection of functional art."

This year's public art project is a third round of the MCC's Brush to Table Picnic Table Project, which has placed artistically painted picnic tables throughout Milford's parks and outdoor community spaces since 2021. In 2022, the council launched Trash to Treasure, which invited artists to trans-



"Peace Protectors" by Kaylin Holmes completed for the 2022 Brush to Table Public Art Project. Photo source: Milford Cultural Council

form trash barrels into works of art for placement in parks and along the Upper Charles River Trail. And in 2025, the council worked with the Parks Department, the National Fitness Campaign, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to bring the Town's first large-scale mural to Milford Town Park as an eye-catching central element of the newly installed Fitness Court Studio®. Collectively, the council refers to all of these projects as Art in the Parks.

To see a map and portfolio of Brush to Table and Trash to Treasure designs completed

since the inaugural project initiated in 2021, go to [MilfordMA.gov/309/Cultural-Council](https://MilfordMA.gov/309/Cultural-Council) and click "Public Art Portfolio" under "Related Documents" on the bottom of the page.

Questions about this project can be emailed to [culturalcouncil@townofmilford.com](mailto:culturalcouncil@townofmilford.com).

As a local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Milford Cultural Council seeks to promote excellence, inclusion, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and sciences to foster a rich cultural life for all Milford residents, thereby contributing to the vitality of

our community and economy. The council welcomes ideas, recommendations, and feedback regarding programs and events funded or sponsored by the council. Interested Milford residents are encouraged to attend meetings, which are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. typically in Room 14 of Town Hall. Comments and requests for information can be emailed to the council at [CulturalCouncil@TownofMilford.com](mailto:CulturalCouncil@TownofMilford.com). Learn more online at: [MilfordMA.gov/309/Cultural-Council](https://MilfordMA.gov/309/Cultural-Council).

*Submitted by Milford Cultural Council*

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# BVT Signing Day celebrates skilled Seniors

## Co-Op program connects 180 students to high-skill, high-wage jobs

UPTON – The Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) held its 6th annual Career Signing Day on May 15. The ceremony recognized the senior Co-Op and career placement students, who proudly announced their career or military plans and signed commitment letters to work with their employers after graduation.

Vocational Director Kerri Baltramaitis welcomed the

soon-to-be graduates, parents, instructors, industry partners, and school administrators before highlighting each student's achievement in their trade area and the Co-Op program.

The Class of 2026 produced record-setting Co-Op numbers, with 180 students participating in the program. Since March of 2025, students have worked more than 75,000 hours and earned a combined total of more than \$1.3 million in wages. The Co-Op experience is made possible through partnerships with a growing number of local businesses that

support students each year, demonstrating the program's positive impact on the local workforce and community.

During the ceremony, students signed employment contracts with representatives from local companies, including A.S Jones, Adaptive Plumbing & Heating, AFDJ Contracting, Armed Services, Avenue Fifty, Back Bay Mechanical, Boots on the Ground Landscaping, Boston Lawnmower, Boston Volvo, Boucher Energy Systems, Bulldog Fire Apparatus, Capurso Electric, Control Point, Crothers Tire & Auto Repair,

D.C. Bates Equipment, G&C Plumbing & Heating, Grasseschi Plumbing, J&P Truck and Auto, JTS Diesel Performance, Kevin Allen Carpentry, L.R Favreau Septic, Lavallee Systems, Marty's Auto Service, Medway Oil & Propane, Milton CAT, Nicks Landscaping, Northbridge Smiles, Notturmo Home Services, nVent, Pace Auto Service, RJM Custom Auto-body, Rob Roy Hair Salon, Scott Caffrey Plumbing, T&J Plumbing & Heating, Tegra Medical, Top Notch HVAC, Valente Plumbing, Heating & AC, Waters Corporation,

Wayne J. Griffin Electric, and Z&E Landscaping.

Career Signing Day reflects a growing upward trend of students pursuing employment over post-secondary education. These modern vocational students are heading directly into industry careers with high-skill, high-wage employment, while continuing to build experience through full-time work and on-the-job training.

For more information about the school, the Cooperative Education program, and Signing Day, visit [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/signingday](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/signingday).

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Jen Schofield

508-570-6544

[jenschofield@localtownpages.com](mailto:jenschofield@localtownpages.com)

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Kim Vasseur

Wendy Watkins

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#### Please submit to:

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## Martelli, Metivier graduate from TEC Connections Academy

TEC Connections Academy (TECCA), the statewide virtual public school serving students in grades K-12 across Massachusetts, celebrated the accomplishments of its graduating Class of 2026 during a commencement ceremony held June 2 at the DCU Center in Worcester. Graduates, families, educators, and staff gathered to honor the hard work, perseverance, and achievements of this year's seniors as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives.

The Class of 2026 includes graduates from communities across Massachusetts, each with a unique educational journey and vision for the future. Members of the graduating class will pursue a variety of postsecondary pathways, including higher education, workforce opportunities, military service, and career training programs.

Among the graduates were Milford residents Michael Martelli, Jr. and Gabriella Metivier. "The Class of 2026 repre-

sents the very best of what is possible when students are empowered to learn in ways that meet their individual needs," said Dr. Patrick Lattuca, Superintendent of TEC Connections Academy. "These graduates have demonstrated resilience, determination, and a commitment to their goals. We are proud of all they have accomplished and excited to see the impact they will make in their communities, workplaces, and colleges in the years ahead.

#### School to change name

This year's graduating class also marks an important milestone in the school's history as the final class to graduate under the TEC Connections Academy name. Beginning July 1, the school will become Massachusetts Connections Academy, continuing its commitment to serving students and families across the Commonwealth through a flexible, student-centered public education program.

## BVT past student records to be destroyed

### Class of 2019 should claim records by Aug. 6

In accordance with state and federal regulations, temporary student records, including

special education files (IEP), 504 plans, and student health records, will be destroyed seven

years after a student leaves the school.

For the Class of 2019, records

#### RECORDS

*continued on page 5*

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# Four stages of raising confident, money-smart kids



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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Good financial habits are a little like brushing your teeth. When you learn them early, they become second nature, and you carry them with you for life. And while money can feel complicated, especially today, the foundation starts simply.

Parents can begin the conversation with very young children, and young adults can build on those basics as they take on more responsibility. Step by step, these habits create confidence that helps build longterm financial security and a more fulfilling life.

The following are the four key stages of financial growth.

**Stage 1:** For very young children, the goal is to make money feel simple and manageable. A great place to start is with three jars labeled “Spend,” “Save” and “Share.” When kids can actually see their money grow or shrink, the idea starts to make sense. Saving also introduces them to goalsetting, and working toward paying for a small toy or outing teaches patience. Most important, you’re helping your children see money as a tool they can understand easily and use with confidence.

**Stage 2:** If you have tweens

(children roughly 9 to 12 years old), they’re usually ready for slightly bigger financial ideas. This is a great time for them to earn money through chores or small jobs, helping them see the connection between effort and reward and building a sense of ownership. Conversations about needs versus wants also become more meaningful, because kids are now making real choices with money they earned themselves. Your tween may be ready for a simple savings account to watch their savings grow, or a reloadable cash card for spending.

**Stage 3:** By the time teens reach high school or young adulthood, budgeting becomes essential. This doesn’t need to be overly strict or complicated. A simple system that helps them track deposits and withdrawals can make all the difference. Whether they use an app, a paper notebook or

a spreadsheet, the real goal is awareness. Teenagers also benefit from learning how credit works. Understanding how to build a healthy credit score and how to use credit wisely protects them from costly mistakes in later life.

**Stage 4:** Then come the early working years, when habits shift from learning to building. One of the smartest steps at this stage is paying yourself first. Automatic transfers to savings or retirement accounts help establish stability without extra effort. Even small retirement contributions matter more than most people realize, because time allows compounding to do the heavy lifting. This is also when young adults can start organizing their money into different buckets for rent, automobile payments, emergencies, retirement and everyday spending. These habits help lay the groundwork for financial

freedom down the road.

Throughout every stage, the theme is confidence. Each small success creates a sense of control and each good habit makes the next one easier. Over time, these habits turn into a lifetime of financial security and fulfillment. When you start strong and stay consistent, money becomes a tool that helps your children support the lives they want.

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

Mark Freeman, CEPA  
Edward Jones Financial Advisor  
77 West Main Street,  
Hopkinton, MA 508-293-4017  
Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com

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## RECORDS

continued from page 4

are scheduled for destruction on Aug. 6, 2026.

Members of the Class of

2019 may request their temporary student records (any information not contained in their transcript) before the Aug. 6 shred date by submitting a written request. If you want to obtain your record, please send

a written request indicating the year of graduation and your name while attending school to Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Student Services Record Dept., 65 Pleasant Street,

Upton, MA 01568.

Student transcripts (records of grades) will be retained for 60 years after a student leaves the school. For the Class of 2019, transcripts are scheduled for destruction on Aug. 6, 2026.

Alumni may request transcripts at any time between 2019 graduation and Aug. 6, 2026.

If you want to retain your records, learn how at: [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/student-records](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/student-records).

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# Happenings

## Events happening in and around the area

The following is a sampling of events happening in the area. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list. Please confirm details before you head to an event.

### July 13

**6:30 p.m. – Great Card-board Boat Race**, Mendon Town Beach. Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. Rain date: July 14. [www.taftpubliclibrary.org](http://www.taftpubliclibrary.org)

### July 14

**6 p.m. - Hearts, Hugs & Hope: An Alzheimer's Support Group**, on Zoom. Sponsored by Cornerstone at Milford, will meet on July 14 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Contact [jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com](mailto:jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com) for more information and Zoom link.

### July 15

**6 p.m., Upton Recreation Summer Concert Series**, Kiwanis Beach. Featuring Roger That Band.

### July 15

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

### July 22

**6 p.m., Upton Recreation Summer Concert Series**, Kiwanis Beach. Featuring Tim and Jim.

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

### July 29

**1 p.m. – Worm Race**, Taft Public Library, 29 North Ave., Mendon. Details at [www.taft-publiclibrary.org](http://www.taft-publiclibrary.org)

**6 p.m., Upton Recreation Summer Concert Series**, Kiwanis Beach. Featuring Band from UNCLE. Transportation available, contact Upton CoA.

### July 31

**8 p.m. – Reckless Comedy for Safe Recovery**, First Congregational Church, 4 Congress St., Milford. Double featuring Liam McGurk & Jason Cordova. Social hour at 7 p.m. Tickets \$20. Proceeds to benefit the church.

### Aug. 4

**Drop off by 6 p.m. - Stuffed Animal Sleepover**, all ages. The library's fuzziest patrons are invited to a special overnight after hours! Stuffed animals should be dropped off Aug. 4 no later than 6 p.m. for their overnight of fun.

### Aug. 5

**6 p.m., Upton Recreation Summer Concert Series**, Kiwanis Beach. Featuring MOXIE.

### Aug. 12

**6 p.m., Upton Recreation Summer Concert Series**, Kiwanis Beach. Featuring Christopher Principe.

### SAVE THE DATES:

### Sept. 10

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

### Sept. 19

**Hopedale Day in the Park**

### Sept. 20

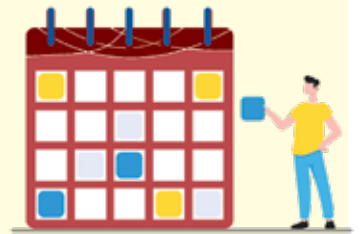
**Mendon Senior Citizen Day**, honoring Justine Southwick Brewer as 2026 Senior Citizen of the Year. Event details to follow.

### Sept. 26

**9 a.m. – Upton Heritage Day**, Upton Town Common. Vendors, crafters, entertainers, etc., can contact [uptonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com](mailto:uptonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com) or 508-529-6600.

**10 a.m. - Holiday Vendor Fair**, Community House, 8 Court St., Uxbridge (behind Town Common). Tables available by contacting [dataless1@yahoo.com](mailto:dataless1@yahoo.com) 508-244-7849.

If you have an event you'd like listed in the calendar, send it to [editor@milfordfreepress.com](mailto:editor@milfordfreepress.com)



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# Summer cleanout is greener with *Affordable Junk Removal*

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe walking through your basement has gotten difficult or there is no more room in the attic? Perhaps you are planning to move, and you need to de-clutter before your open house?

Figuring out who to call can be challenging. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2005. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with eight trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting. Jay and his team have

handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and

## Business spotlight

more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even



handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk re-

moval appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

Contact Affordable Junk Removal and Dumpster Rental and let a local small business take care of everything for you. Call Jay Schadler at 774-287-1133 or visit us online at AffordableJunkRemoval.com.

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# Understanding macular degeneration:

## Causes, symptoms, and new treatment options

BY ROGER M. KALDAWY, M.D.

### What is macular degeneration?

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is one of the leading causes of vision loss in adults over the age of 50. The disease affects the macula, the central portion of the retina responsible for sharp, detailed vision needed for reading, driving, recognizing faces, and performing daily activities. Although AMD usually does not cause total blindness, it can significantly impair central vision and reduce independence and quality of life if not diagnosed and treated early.

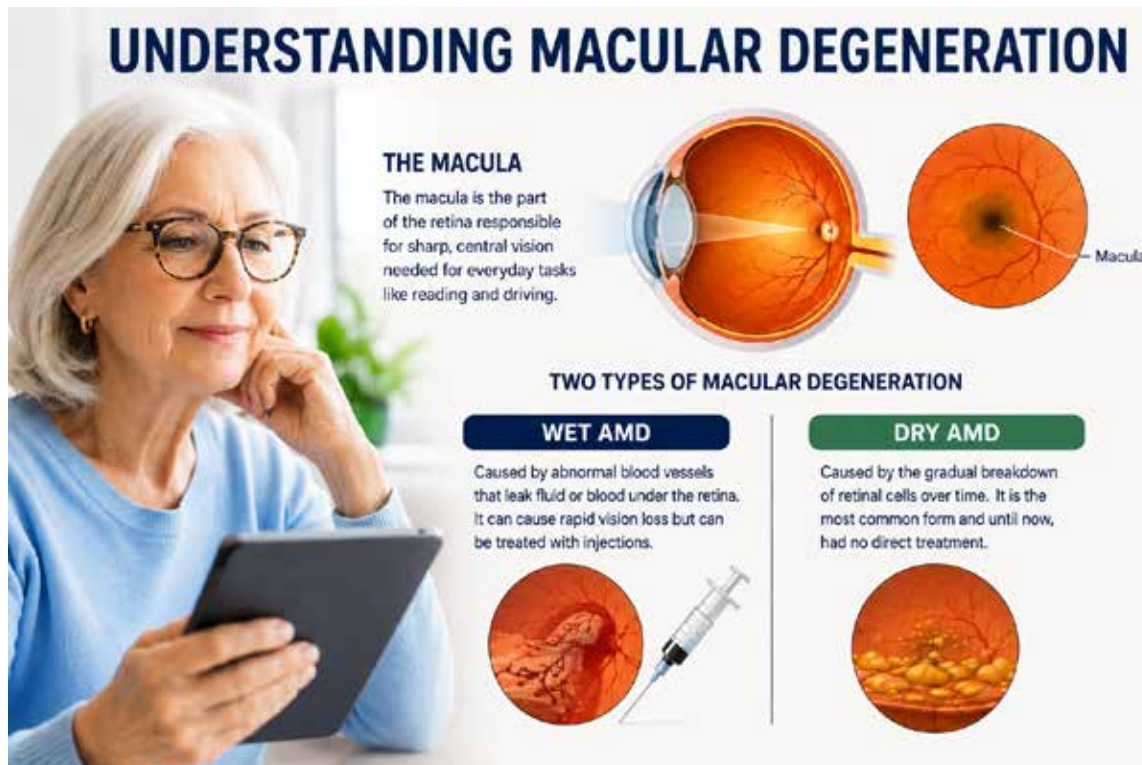
AMD develops from aging changes within the retina combined with genetic and environmental factors. Over time, retinal tissues become less efficient at clearing waste products, leading to deposits called drusen beneath the retina. Several risk factors increase the likelihood of developing AMD, including

advancing age, family history, smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, ultraviolet light exposure, and poor nutrition. Because early AMD can progress silently, routine eye examinations remain essential for early detection.

### Common symptoms of AMD

Patients with macular degeneration may experience blurred central vision, distortion of straight lines, difficulty reading, trouble recognizing faces, dark or empty areas in central vision, reduced color sensitivity, or an increased need for brighter lighting. Symptoms may develop gradually or suddenly depending on the type of AMD involved.

There are two primary forms of AMD: wet macular degeneration and dry macular degeneration. Although both affect the same part of the retina, they behave very differently and require different treatment approaches.



### Wet macular degeneration: the more serious form

Wet AMD is less common but far more aggressive and dangerous. In wet AMD, abnormal


blood vessels grow beneath the retina and leak blood or fluid into the macula, causing rapid and potentially permanent vision loss if treatment is delayed.

Patients may suddenly notice wavy vision, blurred central vi-

**EYE**

*continued on page 9*






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 Alyse Richard, M.D.

  
 Dan Liu, M.D.

  
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**EYE**

*continued from page 8*

sion, distortion, or dark spots that worsen over days or weeks. Because vision can deteriorate quickly, wet AMD requires urgent evaluation and treatment. Fortunately, major advances in retinal medicine have dramatically improved outcomes for patients with wet AMD through the use of intravitreal injections. These specialized medications are injected directly into the eye and work by reducing abnormal blood vessel growth and leakage. These treatments have revolutionized wet AMD care and have helped many patients stabilize or even improve their vision.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, patients with wet AMD have access to advanced retinal diagnostics and modern injection therapies using the latest evidence-based treatments available today. Early diagnosis remains critical because time equals vision.

**Dry macular degeneration: the most common form**

Dry AMD accounts for approximately 85–90% of all cases of macular degeneration and progresses more slowly than the wet form. In dry AMD, retinal cells gradually deteriorate over time, leading to progressive central vision loss. Although it

is generally less aggressive than wet AMD, dry AMD can still significantly affect quality of life and independence.

Traditionally, ophthalmologists often had difficult conversations with patients diagnosed with dry AMD because there was no direct treatment available for the disease itself. Patients were commonly told, “You have the dry form of macular degeneration. Unfortunately, there is no treatment available.” While vitamins, lifestyle modifications, smoking cessation, and monitoring could sometimes slow progression, there historically has been little available to directly target the disease process.

**A new breakthrough: PMB therapy for dry AMD**

That is now beginning to change with the emergence of PMB therapy, one of the most exciting recent advances in ophthalmology for dry macular degeneration. PMB represents a promising new treatment option that offers hope to patients who previously had limited choices beyond observation and supportive care. This innovative technology may help slow disease progression and preserve functional vision in patients with dry AMD.

Milford Franklin Eye Center is proud to be among the first

practices in Massachusetts to offer PMB therapy and currently remains the only practice in the area providing this advanced treatment option for dry AMD patients. This reflects the practice’s commitment to bringing state-of-the-art retinal care and innovative technology to the community.

**On-site retina specialty care**

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. Having on-site retina specialty care allows patients to receive comprehensive retinal evaluations, advanced imaging, injections, monitoring, and

ongoing treatment in one convenient location.

**Early evaluation can preserve vision**

Macular degeneration remains one of the leading causes of vision loss in older adults, but advances in retinal care are rapidly transforming outcomes for patients. Early evaluation and treatment can make a meaningful difference in preserving vision, maintaining independence, and improving quality of life.

If you or a loved one has been

diagnosed with dry AMD, now is the time to learn more about this exciting breakthrough in treatment. 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.

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## Alzheimer's support group to meet on July 14

Hearts, Hugs & Hope, an Alzheimer’s support group sponsored by Cornerstone at Milford, will meet on July 14 at 6 p.m. on Zoom.

Dealing with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia isn't easy, so it is helpful to share your concerns and personal experiences with others who completely understand what you're going through. You will also

learn about proven strategies to help you better care for your family member. Contact Director of Compass Programming Jenn Hozempa at [jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com](mailto:jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com) for more information and the Zoom link. This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

The group’s next meeting will be held on Aug. 11.

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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. CLOSED • Sun. CLOSED

### By Reference Department

**Summer Hours.** The library is closed on Saturdays during the summer. Saturday hours will return after Labor Day. Weekday library hours remain the same: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

**ESL Classes. No classes in summer,** will return in September. Volverán en septiembre.

**Conversation Circles, Mondays, 11 a.m.** Círculos de Conversación. Practice speaking English in a small informal group in the ESL Classroom. Practicar hablar Inglés en un grupo pequeño e informal. El círculo se reunirá todos los lunes a 11:00 am en el salón de clases de ESL.

**Center Book Group, Tues., July 21, 10 a.m.** Book: "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus. In this delightful novel,

Garmus creates a singular character in chemist Elizabeth Zott who's working in the male dominated chemical research field in the 1960s. Elizabeth, an exacting scientist, suffers no fools. She finds an unexpected love, navigates her way as a single mother and a reluctant (then much beloved) cooking show host. Elizabeth fights for her work to be recognized as her own and not be co-opted by male colleagues.

Garmus worked as an editor and copywriter for scientific publications. Lessons in Chemistry was inspired by her real-world experience in the workplace.

Newcomers are always welcome to attend the discussions. To reserve a copy of the book or to learn more about the Center Book Group, call 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

**Milford Town Library Adult Book Club, July 16, 7 p.m.** Book: "North Woods" by Dan-

iel Mason. For ages 18 and older. This book was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2023. This historical novel, set in western Massachusetts, traces the inhabitants of a house over many centuries. Mason honors both the human and animal home dwellers as well as the land itself. In an interview with NPR, Mason spoke about writing about an old house, "Gives me a lot of solace, not only a connection to people around me at a particular period of time, but the sense of a connection to the people and plants and animals who went before me."

Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk, or check out on the Libby app. Questions? Call 508-473-2145 ext. 2 or email milfordreference@cwmar.org.

**World Cup Watch Party, July 15, 3:30 p.m.** Join us for a community watch party for the World Cup Semi-Finals. The game will be shown on the lower level in the Granite & Quarry Rooms. All ages are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

**Mahjong, July 21, Aug. 4, Aug. 18., 6-8 p.m.** 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. For more information call 508-473-2145 ext. 2.

**Milford Area Wordsmiths, July 20, Aug. 3, Aug. 17, 7-8:30 p.m.** Looking for a quiet, dedicated time and place



A piece from last year's Free Little Art Gallery, a drawing depicting a holiday home front created by Kris McDermott. Source: Facebook @ MilfordCulturalCouncil

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. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, call 508-473-2145, ext. 2.

**The Friends Bookstore and Book Table sale, ongoing.** Find your next summer read at bargain prices, replenished weekly.

**Puzzle Community, ongoing.** Be a part of the Puzzle Community and bring order to a small part of the world. We always have a jigsaw puzzle or two in progress in the adult services area.

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### Miniature artwork needed for little art gallery

Are you crafty? Milford Town Library is now accepting your artwork in miniature for the Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG) located in the library garden. Simply bring your small drawing, painting, sculpture, and open the blue doors and add your artwork. You can take any art that appeals to you. In turn, your artwork may be taken by someone who visits the FLAG.

The FLAG is sponsored by the Milford Cultural Council. Sometimes the Council shares artwork from other towns, cities, and states as well.

Questions? Please contact the council at [Culturalcouncil@townofmilford.com](mailto:Culturalcouncil@townofmilford.com).

## Silvestri earns Dean's List recognition at Norwich University

Norwich University recently announced its Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester.

Among those students is

Dominic Silvestri of Milford.

Dean's List recognition is awarded to full-time undergraduate students who achieve a semester grade

point average of 3.4 or higher, acknowledging sustained academic achievement and dedication to scholarly success.

# Library adult summer reading program runs through Sept. 4

The Milford Town Library's adult summer reading program is going on now through Sept. 4.

This year's theme is "Plant a Seed, Read" and they're gamifying their 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, you can visit the Information Desk to pick up your "Milfordland" Garden Path Log, OR print the sheet from our website, [www.milfordtown-library.org](http://www.milfordtown-library.org).

As part of the program, there will be several in-person events for you to enjoy. Check our calendar page for details and to register for:

- Wed., July 15, 6 p.m., Family Nature Walk at Louisa Lake with Author Brad Timm, collaborative event with Youth Services department
- Tues., July 21, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., "Ask a Gardener" with Greenleaf Garden Club
- Aug. 11, 7-8 p.m., local flower arranging workshop with Greenleaf Garden Club

## 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 four 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. 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 and 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.
- **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@cw-mars.org](mailto:milfordreference@cw-mars.org) or call us at 508-473-2145 Option 2.

Best of luck.

*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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# Milford Community School Use Program announces summer programs

**New adult programming: from courts to bowls.** Two brand-new adult programs are making their debut this July, offering the perfect balance of high-energy play and calm restoration.

- **Intro to Pickleball Academy:** Ready to see what the global craze is all about? A new 6-week beginner pickleball academy is launching on Tuesday mornings starting July 14 at Town Park. The program will be led by instructor Scott VanBuskirk, a Milford Alum and familiar face in town known for his work as a former Summer Day camp supervisor. Scott is currently a physical education teacher at Stacy Middle School. The sessions are specifically designed to introduce novices to the rules, equipment, and gameplay mechanics in a supportive environment.
- **Meditation and Sound Bath Night:** For those looking to decompress, a special one-night wellness event is scheduled for

Thursday, July 16, from 6 to 7 p.m. Led by Kathryn Mahoney founder of Kiri's Haven & Wellness, the session features a meditative sound bath utilizing authentic Tibetan sound bowls. The event will take place inside the gorgeous, historic Memorial Hall located at 30 School Street.

**Action-packed youth & preschool camps.** Keeping younger residents engaged and active is a major focus of this summer's lineup, featuring a robust mix of full-day and specialized half-day camps.

**For Children:**

- **Summer Day Camp:** Flexible scheduling is available to fit busy family calendars, with registration open for both individual days and full-week blocks.
- **Sarah Behn Basketball Camp:** This premier camp returns to offer skill-building, teamwork drills, and friendly competition for young hoopers.
- **FAST Half-Day Camps:** For

specialized, fast-paced sports action, half-day camps are open for registration covering Street Hockey, Flag Football, and a high-energy Flag Football & Basketball Combo.

**For Preschoolers:**

- **Sports Mania Week:** Designed with the youngest athletes in mind, this special introductory week gives preschoolers a safe, fun, and energetic environment to try out basic sports movements and playground games.

**Creative Arts and Sneak Peeks.** The summer schedule extends well beyond the athletic fields, tapping into the local creative scene while teasing more camps to open down the road.

- **Jazz Camp:** For the musically inclined youth in Milford, a dedicated summer Jazz Camp for one week at Woodland Elementary. The program will be led by local music educator and band director at Stacy Middle School, Jason Samiango, providing young musicians

with a chance to hone their improvisation and ensemble playing skills. Percussionists must have at least two years' experience on a drum set and guitarists should know basic chord voicing and be able to read music (not TAB)

- **Coming Soon:** Parents are encouraged to stay tuned for a wave of upcoming camp announcements. Registrations will soon open for **Middle School and High School Girls' Volleyball Camps, Summer**

**Tennis Camps, and an innovative Lego Robotics Camp** that will introduce young minds to engineering basics and foundational computer coding

**How to register.** Space for several of these high-demand programs—particularly the 12-player pickleball clinic and the indoor sound bath—is limited. Residents are encouraged to the Milford Community School Use website for more information and to register.

## BVT students earn 132 medals at SkillsUSA Competitions in 2025-26

UPTON – Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) students demonstrated their vocational-technical abilities at the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC), held in June in Atlanta. The annual event is the world's largest gathering of career and technical education students and highlights the critical role of career-ready skills.

The national conference marked the third and final stage of the SkillsUSA competition series. BVT students earned five bronze medals, while contestants who earned medals or met a threshold score for their event were also awarded skill point certificates representing achievement in demonstrating proficiency and workplace readiness.

"Our students welcome the

opportunity to compete against themselves and other highly skilled students at the SkillsUSA district, state, and national championships," said Superintendent-Director Anthony E. Steele II. "During the 2025-26 school year, our students proved their technical skills are among the best in the country by earning 132 medals at all three levels."

The following local BVT students placed among the top 30 competitors at the 2026 SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Additional information is available at [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa).

**MILFORD**

- National Voting Delegate:* Maria De Oliveira, also the outgoing Western Region Vice President.
- 13th Place:* Emily Kee, Health Occupations Portfolio.
- 15th Place:* Dominic Quintino, Cyber Security.

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## Lyons earns President's List recognition at Norwich University

Norwich University recently announced the names of students who earned President's List honors for the Spring 2026 semester. Among those students is Robert Lyons of Milford.

President's List recognition is awarded to full-time undergraduate students who achieve

a semester grade point average of 4.0, acknowledging sustained academic achievement and dedication to scholarly success.

Founded in 1819, Norwich University is recognized for its emphasis on experiential education and leadership development.

# Milford Cultural Council awards announced

The following programs were funded in FY26 by the Milford Cultural Council.

Source: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/milford/>



NAME	PROJECT
Applefield, Janet	Combatting Hate and Prejudice
Blackstone Valley Education Foundation, Inc.	Arts in the Valley
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School	BVT Holiday/Winter Art Show
Citizens for Milford, Inc.	Milford Tree Lighting
Discovery Museum, Inc.	Open Door Connections
Greater Milford Community Chorus	2025-26 Concert Support
Hopkinton Center for the Arts	New Year's Eve Family Party at the HCA
Infinity Performing Arts Inc.	Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike
Kelly, Kaye	StickManBlue: A Contemporary Duo with Chapman Stick
Moffett, William	Birch Alley Brass Christmas Concert
MusicDance.edu	Hip Hop Square Dance for Seniors and Chair Dance
Memorial Elementary School	A Musical Journey Through the Caribbean
Milford Family and Community Network Helpers	Vacation Education
Milford Performing Arts Center, Inc.	MPAC Spring Musical - Chicago
Milford Permanent Firefighters Local 2140	2025 Welcome Santa Parade
Milford Public Schools	Perseus and Medusa Marionette Show
Milford Youth Center	MYC Teaching Lab!
Newman, Howard	Knock on Wood, acoustic folk-rock duo
Polatin, David	"Music from Memphis"
Rull, Thomas E	"A Musical Journey Through the Years"
Stacy Middle School	Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Through Music, Crafts and Food
The Clafin Hill Music Performance Foundation, Inc.	Music for All: A Community Symphony Night
The Greater Milford Ballet Association, Inc.	The Nutcracker
Tincknell, Rogert L.	Beatles and Beyond
Woodland Elementary School	Tales That Teach: Interactive Storytelling in Elementary Education
Woodland Elementary School	Immersive Glow-in-the-Dark Art Experience
Woodland Elementary School	STEMPOWERED Girls
York, Matt	Bob Dylan & Johnny Cash – Songs & Stories w/ Matt York

# Welcome new library director Harmony Birch

The Milford Town Library welcomes new director Harmony Birch, a Massachusetts native, who comes from the Canarsie Library, a branch of the Brooklyn, New York Public Library.

Longtime library director Susan Edmonds retired in June.

Birch grew up in Worcester County, earning her bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and her master's degree in information science from Rutgers's University in 2022. She has been the Assistant Branch Manager, Brooklyn Public Library, Canarsie since 2023, twice serving as Acting Branch Manager. Previously, she was a Senior Young Adult Librarian at Canarsie. She has also worked as a school librarian, and while in graduate school served as a Graduate Assistant at the New Brunswick, New Jersey, Public Library.

As acting Branch Manager at Canarsie, Birch fulfilled the administrative duties of the position and oversaw the closing of the branch in preparation for demolition and



**Harmony Birch is the new director of the Milford Town Library.**  
Photo source: LinkedIn

construction of a new building. While her staff was relocated to several other branch libraries, she coordinated their schedules while maintaining outreach and community service programming. She instituted a strong young adult service program to address behavior issues, increased community partnerships, developed and expanded programs, and sought and received grants to fund them.

As Birch prepared for her position, she said, "I'm from Worcester County, I'm excited to return, and I'm happy to join such a vibrant library community. I aim to continue Sue's stewardship of a welcoming library environment that reflects the needs of the Milford community. I'm also excited to meet everyone!"

*Submitted by Milford Town Library*



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**The Milford Free Press is currently seeking freelance writers who live in the area and are interested in writing for our publication. If interested, please contact [editor@milfordfreepress.com](mailto:editor@milfordfreepress.com).**

# Milford Public Schools

## Important Dates:

- Please note the "Back to School" dates below... It's a shorter than normal summer break!
- Aug. 20 - District Open House
  - Aug. 26 - First Day of School - Grades 1-12
  - Aug. 27 - First Day - Shining Star Pre-K
  - Aug. 31 - First Day - Kindergarten
  - Sept. 4 - No School
  - Sept. 7 - No School - Labor Day

## District News:

Seventeen MPS English Learner educators across the PreK-12 levels attended the state MATSOL Conference in Framingham on May 28. The conference was paid through grant funding. Educators appreciated the professional learning and networking offered at the conference.

We'd like to celebrate, recognize, and thank a number of retirees from the Milford Public Schools. These are folks that have dedicated many years of service to the Milford Public Schools. We have had the honor of working with these staff members in one way or another over the years. They are a great group of people that have touched many lives. Thank you is not enough for what they have meant to our community. Wishing them a long and healthy retirement!

## Milford High School

On May 28, Milford High School was very proud and honored to host Holocaust survivor, author, and speaker Janet Applefield. MHS Juniors heard her story of escaping and

Name of Retirees	Location	Position	Years of Service
Kevin McIntyre	District	Superintendent	13 years
Lucy Jenkins	District	Special Education Director	26 years
Suzanne Kowalczyk	Woodland	Reading Teacher	27 years
Heidi Squadrito	Memorial	Math Specialist	22 years
Jill DiAntonio	MHS	Special Education	4 years
Salome Grendell	Stacy	World Language	25 years
Maria Pillarella	Brookside	Teacher Assistant	13 years
Robert Gilmore	Woodland	Grade 5 Science	19 years
Mary Pinho-Robinson	Brookside	EL Teacher	20 years
Darlene Rasio	Brookside	Elementary Teacher	20 years
Tara Cafarella	Memorial	Elementary Teacher	18 years
Jennifer Mulcahy	District	Special Ed	20 years
Nadine Pomeroy	District	Music Director	28 years
Mette Schwartz	Stacy	Math	3 years
Colleen Hughes-Paterno	Memorial	Psychologist	9 years
Roselle Viegas	Brookside	Physical Education	26 years

surviving Nazi-occupied Poland during WWII, when so many of her family members, friends, and community did not. Her story of courage, resilience, and determination is truly remarkable and inspiring. Being witness to history and sharing the personal story of a survivor of the Holocaust is a privilege for our students. Thank you, Janet Applefield, for your courage and inspiration! You can follow Ms. Applefield on Instagram @janetapplefield - she loves to add followers! - or read her story in her book, *Becoming Janet: Finding Myself in the Holocaust*.

Career Counseling Happenings! Congratulations to our students that are making connections and having success as they look beyond MHS! And THANK YOU to our career and internship partners for their commitment to our students!

- Congratulations to our START Manufacturing

Program students, Innocent Duah and Jordy Daquilema, who were recognized at this year's graduation ceremony for their hard work, technical training, and career readiness in advanced manufacturing!

- The MASSDOT Pre-Apprenticeship Program recently wrapped up, with two Milford High School students, Elias Leite and Lisseth Guaman, moving on to complete summer internships with the Milford Highway Department — an exciting opportunity to gain hands-on experience in public works and construction careers.
- The annual Senior Scoop event at Polar Park Stadium connected career-bound seniors with local hiring employers, workforce programs, and postsecondary opportunities as they prepare for life after graduation.

Sending some recognition to the MHS Boys' Volleyball team. Over the past year, this is a team that has had the spotlight on them for on and off the court reasons. And with the spotlight on them, they rose to

the occasion! Not only did they win the Hockomock League title, but they also earned a high seed in the playoffs playing a very tough schedule against some of the top teams in the state. This helped prepare them for an incredible playoff run that took them to the Division 2 "Final Four" game, where they were supported by a huge Milford crowd cheering them on every point. Although the outcome wasn't what they hoped, this team had a lot to be proud of this season! Opposing teams, coaches, officials, and fans took notice of how this team conducted themselves. The team and Coach Andrew Mainini were awarded the MIAA D2 Sportsmanship Award. Of the 80 teams competing in D2, our boys and coaches were recognized for the way they played on the court, while showing respect and care for their opponents, the officials, and the game of volleyball. While their record and accomplishments on the court are noteworthy, earning the Sportsmanship Award is equally important for celebration. Well done, players and

coaches - the Milford community is proud of you!

Sending a shout out to some of our MHS French students that achieved outstanding results on the recent National French Exam (Grand Concours) sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF). Magnifique!

- **Gold Medal:** Ella Knapp
- **Silver Medal:** Lauren Williams
- **Bronze Medal:** Julia Leite, Juniece Sainvilus, Aakash Vootla
- **Mention Honorable:** Gabriella Barbosa, Judith De Melo, Lilliana DeTore, Naedsa Gaspard, Mazie Gomez, Nathan Peniche, Luana Rosa, Brenda Soares, Isabella Sullivan, Brihanna Tene

## Stacy Middle School

Some of our rising 6th Graders at Woodland were treated to an early preview of Stacy Middle School by groups of current 8th Grade student leaders. These students know Stacy well and were great tour guides for our future new students. Meanwhile, several Stacy 8th Grade students visited Woodland School to talk with Grade 5 students about what to expect and look forward to at Stacy Middle School. Their expertise on all things Stacy was appreciated!

8th grade students in their Social Studies classes worked on a Civics Project. They picked a topic important to our community (e-bike safety, mental health in adolescents, vaping or drinking among teens, CTE, immigration, brain rot, social media and its' effects, phones in schools, etc). During the project process, they had to identify the problem, research the issues by interviewing experts in the community, come up with solutions that could address the problem, and create written and visual materials to present to their teachers, administrators, and classmates. They became teachers with the goal of making a difference in their own community.

## Woodland Elementary School

In partnership with the Milford Tree Warden, 400 sapling trees were distributed to Wood-

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Date	Milford	Amount
06/25/2026	5 Dana Cir.	\$775,000
06/25/2026	17 Salvia Dr.	\$671,500
06/24/2026	3 Prentice Ave.	\$400,000
06/24/2026	3 Tomaso Rd.	\$620,000
06/23/2026	12 Fenway Dr.	\$580,000
06/22/2026	15 John St.	\$525,000
06/18/2026	39 Briar Dr.	\$798,000
06/18/2026	57-59 School St.	\$875,000
06/18/2026	3 Shadowbrook Ln.	\$325,000
06/17/2026	29 S. Central St.	\$745,000
06/17/2026	73 Beaver St. #A	\$560,000
06/16/2026	6 Poplar St.	\$500,000
06/15/2026	2 Larson Rd.	\$705,000
06/15/2026	20 Larson Rd.	\$699,000
06/12/2026	23 Shadowbrook Ln. #18	\$255,500
06/12/2026	3 Sunnyside Ln.	\$565,000
06/12/2026	9 Granite St.	\$485,000
06/11/2026	59 Howard St.	\$625,000
06/11/2026	13 Black Bear Cir.	\$629,900
06/10/2026	4 Waterfall Ln.	\$465,000
06/09/2026	19 Bowdoin Dr.	\$575,000
06/09/2026	33 Godfrey Ln.	\$450,000
06/05/2026	17 Haven St.	\$935,000
06/05/2026	40 Chestnut St.	\$470,000
06/01/2026	16 Willow Rd.	\$500,000
06/01/2026	6 Canali Dr.	\$485,000
05/29/2026	8 Shadowbrook Ln. #41	\$255,000
05/29/2026	58 Bowdoin Dr.	\$470,000
05/29/2026	26 Harding St.	\$645,000
05/29/2026	67 Pine St.	\$530,000
05/29/2026	3 Godfrey Ln.	\$417,000
05/28/2026	30 Camp St.	\$736,000
05/28/2026	8 Green St.	\$500,000
05/27/2026	3 Winterberry Ln.	\$763,000
05/27/2026	10 Lavoie Ave.	\$579,900
05/27/2026	64 Prospect Hts.	\$345,000
05/27/2026	48 Black Bear Cir.	\$649,900
05/27/2026	67 E. Main St.	\$903,000

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



The 9-bed, 4-bath, 3,703-square-foot house at 57-59 School Street in Milford recently sold for \$875,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

## Nipmuc's Class of 1966 holds 60th high school reunion



In June, members of the Nipmuc Regional High School Class of 1966 gathered at Red Rock Bar and Grille to commemorate their 60th year of graduation. Photo source: Larry Pearson

Members of the Nipmuc Regional High School Class of 1966 recently held a gathering to commemorate their 60th year of

graduation.

The event was held at Red Rock Bar and Grille in Upton in their outdoor patio. Attendees say

the food and service was excellent and everyone had a great time, and there were some attendees the others hadn't seen in 60 years.



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**SCHOOLS**

*continued from page 14*

land students who accepted the responsibility of planting these where they can become part of and help our environment for years to come. A special thank you to Bartlett Tree Services who sourced and delivered these trees for distribution.

Woodland Grade 4 students had the opportunity to experience a marionette show made possible by a Milford Cultural Council Grant received by Ms. Tracy Pevzner and Ms. Victoria Pettinari. This was a wonderful performance for our Woodland students, who had a great experience but also learned lessons about theater etiquette and routines.

116 Woodland students graduated from the English Learner program at Woodland after achieving high scores on the WIDA ACCESS test of language proficiency. This represents more than 13 percent of WES' student body. This is a testament to the hard work of our students, faculty, and staff! Many proud family members joined students for this recognition. A huge thank you to Ms. Megan Gabellieri for organizing the celebration!

Woodland Elementary School hosted its annual field day. Over 900 students participated in field games, a dance party, obstacle courses, and more! A great time was had by all. An event like this is not possible without the support of the entire Woodland faculty and staff. Thank you to our Physical Education teachers, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Young, and Mr. DeCataldo, for organizing this event. Thank you as well to the Woodland PTO for volunteering and financially supporting these activities!

**Brookside Elementary School**

Mr. Duane Abel, artist of the cartoon comic strip "Zed," presented to the Brookside families. He inspired our students to reach for their goals. Thank you to the PTO for funding this!

Brookside held their first Cultural Fashion Show on June 4th, showcasing traditional and typical styles of dress from around the world. Students and teachers very proudly took to the stage to celebrate a country near and dear to themselves and their family. The audience also cheered for countries and cultures they connected with. At Brookside, you belong here!

**Memorial Elementary School**

Memorial First Grade students learned about the life cycle of a butterfly as part of their spring science unit, exploring the four stages to understand how living things grow and change. The unit culminated in the exciting release of their butterflies into the wild, giving students a real-world connection to what they have learned.

Our second graders took center stage with a musical performance for the kindergarten and first grade students. The students dazzled the audience with their singing, movement, and the many musical skills they've developed during their time at MES. A huge thank you to Mrs. Samiagio and Mrs. Rohde, along with the entire Music Department, for putting together a memorable and impressive event!

The fun continued when our second graders headed off on a field trip to the Ecotarium in Worcester. Students enjoyed a scenic train ride and spent the day discovering three floors of hands-on indoor exhibits.

Our kindergartners also had

an amazing time at Southwick's Zoo! They were able to explore 200 acres of animal habitats and over 900 animals from around the world. It was a day full of wonder and unforgettable wildlife moments!

- Mrs. DeMeglio's kindergarten class enjoyed a visit from 6th grade students at Stacy Middle School, who wrote and read aloud their own book about a flying penguin. The class also had a wonderful time meeting Jiji the penguin!

- Memorial Elementary School celebrated a day full of FUN on June 18! Students bounced, danced, and splashed their way through a bounce house, outdoor games, a dance party, and water balloons. A huge thank you to our amazing PE teachers, Ms. Ana Atherton and Mr. Chris Manguso, for planning such a memorable day for everyone! The fun continued into the afternoon with a special program, "The Science Behind Superheroes," where students explored the real-world science behind their favorite super-powered characters.

Memorial hit their goal of 100% on ST Math! To celebrate, students slimed Mrs. Heidi Squadrito! Great work, Memorial students!

Memorial Elementary School had their English Learner Re-classification Ceremony. Ten students graduated from the ELD program! They had a wonderful ceremony celebrating with students, teachers, and families.

**Shining Star Early Childhood Center**

Shining Star held their year-end luau, with lots of tropical spirit wear and plenty of pop-sicles for a hot summer night. Thank you to the Shining Star PTO for organizing this fun night of play and friendship!

Shining Star shines its staff

spotlight on:

- **Ms. Laura Richardson.**

Laura has been incredibly supportive in the classroom this year. She always jumps in to help without being asked and is always incredibly flexible. She is kind and loving to all of our students. Ms. Richardson is also incredibly organized, responsible, and attentive to the classroom needs.

- **Ms. Rose Ferreira.** She has made an impact on the students she is working with. Her bright smile and positive attitude brings a warm energy to the classrooms she works in.

Rose is always ready to jump in and help whenever and wherever she is needed.

- **Ms. Krestina Seidhorn.**

She is personable, kind, and pleasant to work with. Ms. Seidhorn consistently demonstrates a great attitude and is always willing to assist colleagues whenever they need help!


- **Ms. Meaghan McIntyre.**

She always has a smile on her face. She is very attentive and caring toward the children. On many occasions, Ms. McIntyre brings joy and laughter to our students.

**Pictures of the Week:**



Woodland School and staff hosted a very successful blood drive sponsored by the Red Cross to Stomp Out Children's Cancer. Many staff contributed to this event, with a special shoutout to Ms. Alison Salvucci for her efforts to spearhead the drive held in memory of Woodland student Noah DiFava, who tragically lost his battle with cancer earlier this year. There were 85 donors and about 70 units of donations were collected. Over 20 volunteers helped make this a very successful event in memory of a very special boy. Members of the DiFava family were on hand, adding to the significance of this effort. The Milford community continues to send them our love and support. Submitted by Milford Public Schools



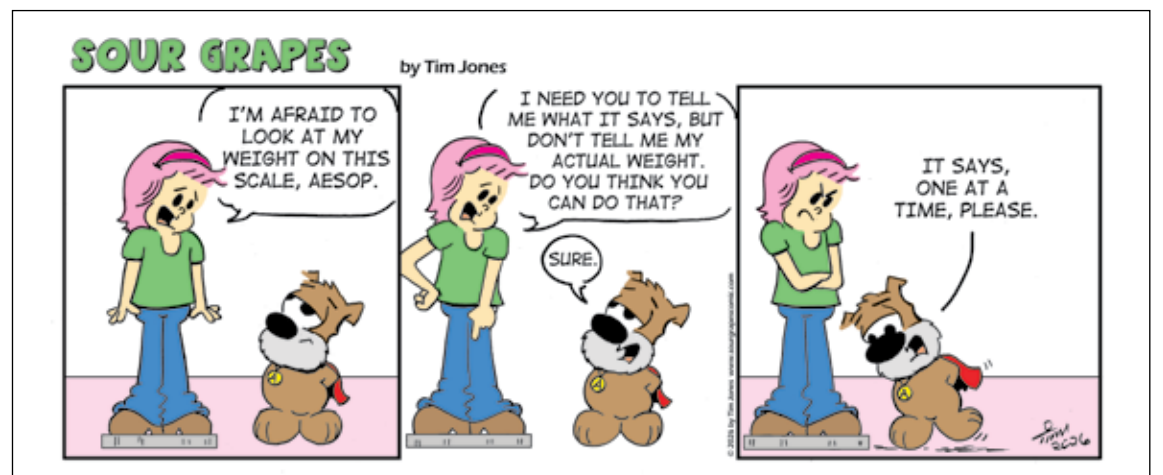
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**Pictures of the Week:**



MHS History teacher Mr. Dustin Santomenna invited long-time Milford resident and veteran, Mr. John Barrows, to speak with students. Mr. Barrows shared his experiences before, during, and after the Vietnam War to a group of over 50 MHS students. Mr. Barrows, with his guitar, also performed some music of that era, helping to bring history to life. The session ended with a Q&A. Submitted by Milford Public Schools



Brookside Elementary held its Grade 2 Parade for students moving on to Woodland. The ceremony featured some of the members of the Milford High Class of 2026 leading the parade at Brookside. All of the students were impressed by the Seniors graduates. It is such an important vision to instill in our early elementary students where they are headed in the future and show some of that Milford Pride. Submitted by Milford Public Schools

# Pet of the month: Nalia

This petite little miss is a boss, but she also knows how to let loose and have fun. To see Nalia sitting so regally in her bed you would never guess she can zoom around the room like a pinball bouncing off the bumpers. Bring out the string toys, and she leaps into the air like a gazelle.

Nalia has no problem relaxing either. She is happy to lounge in a cozy bed and take plenty of catnaps.

At 5 years old, Nalia knows her own mind. If you are petting her and she thinks you might stop, she may reach out her paw to pull you back. If she's had enough, she will let you know she's done. Nalia likes to let the other shelter cats know she's the boss, too. For this reason we think she would do best as the only pet in

her new home.

Nalia is taking visitors at Milford Humane Society on Sundays between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

For information on the Milford Humane Society or the cats in our care, please visit <https://www.milfordhumane.org>



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SPORTS

# Milford Police win 2nd annual Battle of the Badges



Members of the Milford Police Department celebrate their win over Milford Fire after this year's Battle of the Badges, a fundraising event held in June to benefit Shining Star Preschool, Brookside Elementary PTO, and Memorial Elementary PTO.



WooSox mascots Smiley, center, and Woofster, right, sit among the spectators. For more photos, visit @brooksidechoolpto on Facebook. Photos: Brookside Elementary School PTO/Facebook

# Milford set to host 2026 Legion State Tournament

Post 59 brings experience from recent tourneys to July event



Milford Legion President Cindy Stulac is hoping to bring the community together when Milford hosts the state legion tournament. Courtesy photo

By Chris Villani

Milford's Fino Field is gearing up for the 2026 American Legion State Tournament, the fourth time Post 59 has hosted the state's final eight legion baseball teams in the past decade.

"I think we are in good shape," said Cindy Stulac, the president of the Milford Legion Baseball Club. "We are excited. We are very, very excited."

Milford hosted the state tournament in 2017, 2019, and most recently in 2022. Stulac

said there are numerous meetings scheduled for July to discuss volunteer roles and responsibilities, as well as meetings with the Parks Department and more than a dozen interns who have been part of the extensive planning process.

The tournament is scheduled to begin July 25 and a champion will be crowned on July 29. The format is double elimination and Milford, as the host, will be one of the eight teams in the field. The team will have the chance to play its way into the tournament, and started the year with a blistering 12-2 record.

"The team is in great shape and doing what they need to do," Stulac said.

The main theme Stulac is stressing heading into this, her fourth state tournament, is community involvement.

"From my perspective, what I look for is community support," she said. "When I came in, I found that there were a lot of people who didn't know who we were anymore. I am trying to do a lot of marketing and social media to get everybody involved."

Stulac said the role of the board is to preserve the legacy of Milford Legion baseball, which has been one of the most successful programs in the state in its nearly 100 years in existence. She is hoping to spread the word about the states so that people from outside the eight fan bases, which have teams in the field, will also come to Fino and take in the action.

"It's an amazing thing to see these 18-year-olds playing competitive baseball and some of them are truly excellent," Stulac said. "My goal is to get even more people than we have had in the past down to Fino."

The deep bench of volunteers is expected to include representatives from the various companies that partner with the team, as well as parents of players, nonprofit organizations like the Milford Lions Club, interns, and what Stulac called some of their "regulars" who traditionally come out and support the team, even if they do not personally know any of the players.

"It's not just a baseball legacy," Stulac said. "It's a community legacy."

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SPORTS

# Another sizzling summer for Milford Legion

**Post 59 again one of state's best**



**Nolan Murray, Brady Wajda, Sean Burchard line up before a recent Milford legion game.** Photo credit: Ashley Lester

By Chris Villani

Just past the midway point of the season, the Milford Legion baseball team has established itself as one of the area's top squads. Post 59 rattled off 12

wins in its first 14 games, many of them by double-digit margins that meant the game ended before the regulation seven innings.

Head coach Steve DiVitto

said he is hoping the best is yet to come. "I don't want to be playing our best baseball at the beginning of the year," he said. "We have bigger goals in mind than just gathering a lot of regular season wins."

Milford rolled through the regular season a year ago undefeated, only to be knocked out early in the postseason. This year, Post 59 is guaranteed a spot in the state tournament by virtue of being the tournament host, and has several key cogs who could help the team make a lot of noise in its own tournament.

Hopedale's Brayden Lewis committed to play at North-eastern this month after starting his college career at Wheaton, and DiVitto said he has been a leader at the plate.

"He is one of the best hitters that I have seen," DiVitto said. "He has incredible pop and speed on the base paths, it's

fun to watch."

Milford High graduate Joey McGee has been a standout on defense in the middle infield. A natural shortstop, DiVitto said McGee has made a seamless transition to second base.

"I don't remember having someone with his ability at second base," the coach said. "He is a phenomenal athlete, and he gives us an incredible fielding presence."

On the mound, Milford High graduate Tyler Ballard has been an ace. DiVitto said the coaching staff has been working on getting his pitch count up because he didn't throw a ton of innings in the spring.

"We are getting him ready to go deeper into the season," DiVitto said.

The night-in, night-out legion schedule comes on the heels of either high school or college seasons for most of the players, and injuries have impacted the

team this summer.

Hopedale's Brady Wajda has seen time on the mound and in the infield in an effort to fill in wherever he's needed.

Milford's outfield is another strength. In addition to Lewis, Hopkinton's Nick Pedroli is a college player and a strong leader. Milford's Jackson Fournier, a St. John's rising senior, is a player DiVitto calls a "stud."

"He changes the lineup with his ability to have outstanding at bats and how he approaches the game," DiVitto said. "It's hard to explain how impressive he is."

DiVitto hopes this will be a team poised for a strong showing in the states.

"We are excited about the state tournament," he said. "It'll be a great thing for not just Milford, but for the surrounding towns as well. We have to do our best to be playing our best baseball."

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SALES: M-TH 9-9, FRI & SAT 9-6, SUN 12-6  
SERVICE: M-F 7:30-6, SAT 7:30-5

**508-488-2382**

IF YOU CAN  
DREAM IT  
YOU CAN  
DRIVE IT!

# SIZZLING Summer SALES EVENT



NOW GET  
**NO PAYMENTS**  
for  
**5 MONTHS!**

TWO MONTHS DEFERRED PAYMENTS PLUS THREE MONTHS PAYMENTS  
IN THE FORM OF A DISCOUNT. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

WE ARE **STOCKED TO THE GILLS** WITH HUNDREDS OF ONE OWNER, LATE MODEL VEHICLES - MANY WITH FACTORY WARRANTIES!



## CAR FAX ONE-OWNER VEHICLES

980 ONE-OWNER VEHICLES  
**IN STOCK!**

**2024 CHRYSLER PACIFICA**  
AS LOW AS **\$127/WK**  
#D16114 • HEATED SEATS, ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$55,265~~ **\$35,677**

**2023 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4**  
AS LOW AS **\$124/WK**  
#TM26-811A0 • SR5 TRIM, CPO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$42,605~~ **\$34,677**

**2022 DODGE DURANGO GT**  
AS LOW AS **\$120/WK**  
#D16273A • LEATHER, SUNROOF  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$49,595~~ **\$33,677**

**2023 SUBARU ASCENT**  
AS LOW AS **\$110/WK**  
#TM26-657A • LIMITED, SUNROOF  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$44,700~~ **\$30,977**

**2024 TOYOTA CAMRY SE**  
AS LOW AS **\$106/WK**  
#TRB3296A • 18" ALLOYS, AWD  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$38,625~~ **\$29,977**

**2022 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4**  
AS LOW AS **\$131/WK**  
#C48799 • CUSTOM, 2.7L TURBO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$54,180~~ **\$36,977**

**2024 NISSAN ROGUE AWD**  
AS LOW AS **\$81/WK**  
#TP7106 • SV TRIM, 18" ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$31,710~~ **\$22,977**

**2024 CHEVY TRAX SUV**  
AS LOW AS **\$67/WK**  
#125-500A • RS TRIM, 18" ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,565~~ **\$18,977**

**2024 TOYOTA TUNDRA 4x4**  
AS LOW AS **\$170/WK**  
#ST1181A • SR5, ALLOYS, 3.4L  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$58,405~~ **\$47,977**

**2024 JEEP COMPASS 4x4**  
AS LOW AS **\$81/WK**  
#D16358 • LATITUDE TRIM, ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,400~~ **\$22,677**

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

**2024 TOYOTA COROLLA LE**  
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**  
#TP7211 • 32/41 MPG CITY/HWY  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$26,569~~ **\$23,677**

**2024 SUBARU CROSSTREK**  
AS LOW AS **\$89/WK**  
#TRA4405A • 17" ALLOYS, CPO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,265~~ **\$24,977**

**2023 TOYOTA RAV4 XLE**  
AS LOW AS **\$117/WK**  
#TP7055A • AWD, SUNROOF, CPO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$36,160~~ **\$32,677**

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

**2023 GMC TERRAIN SLE**  
AS LOW AS **\$89/WK**  
#48637 • AWD, ALLOYS, TURBO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$32,195~~ **\$24,977**

**2022 LINCOLN CORSAIR**  
AS LOW AS **\$110/WK**  
#P19218 • SUNROOF, LEATHER  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$46,645~~ **\$30,977**

**2025 FORD BRONCO 4x4**  
AS LOW AS **\$142/WK**  
#P19027 • CPO, BIG BEND TRIM  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$46,995~~ **\$39,677**

**2023 SUBARU OUTBACK**  
AS LOW AS **\$96/WK**  
#23A7316 • CPO, PREMIUM TRIM  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,695~~ **\$26,977**

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

**2023 HYUNDAI ELANTRA**  
AS LOW AS **\$74/WK**  
#TM26-766A • LIMITED, ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,686~~ **\$20,977**

**2023 CHEVY COLORADO**  
AS LOW AS **\$132/WK**  
#C48652 • TURBO, 4X4, NAV  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$44,290~~ **\$36,977**

**2026 HONDA CIVIC SPORT**  
AS LOW AS **\$99/WK**  
#P19121 • 31/39 MPG CITY/HWY  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$34,190~~ **\$27,977**

**2025 BUICK ENCORE AWD**  
AS LOW AS **\$89/WK**  
#48900 • GX PREFERRED, TURBO  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$32,225~~ **\$24,977**

**2023 MAZDA CX-5 2.5 S**  
AS LOW AS **\$103/WK**  
#TP7142 • AWD, HEATED SEATS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$32,899~~ **\$28,677**

**2025 BMW X1 xDrive28i**  
AS LOW AS **\$127/WK**  
#48834 • AWD, TWIN TURBO, NAV  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$51,595~~ **\$35,977**

**2022 RAM 1500 BIG HORN**  
AS LOW AS **\$135/WK**  
#TP7020 • 4X4, V6, 20" ALLOYS  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$50,710~~ **\$37,677**

**2024 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER**  
AS LOW AS **\$135/WK**  
#TP6877A • XLE TRIM, SUNROOF  
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$45,775~~ **\$37,977**

WHY PAY THE DIFFERENCE IF YOU CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

**BAD CREDIT?  
DON'T SWEAT IT!**  
*We finance your future  
- not your past.*

WE WORK WITH OVER 60 BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS  
TO GET YOU THE **LOWEST RATE POSSIBLE!**

*"We sell more -  
so you  
save more!"*



Mike Penner  
Sr. Vice President

### SEVEN-DAY VEHICLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

SALE ENDS 07/31/2026. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. THIS OFFER IS NOT VALID ON PRIOR SALES AND IS BASED ON THE MSRP, AND NOT COMBINABLE WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT, PROMOTIONS, OR INCENTIVES. PRICE LISTED INCLUDES ALL APPLICABLE MANUFACTURER REBATES (NOT EVERYONE WILL QUALIFY) AND IMPERIAL DISCOUNTS INCLUDING A \$1,000 IMPERIAL TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS FOR A QUALIFYING 2016 OR NEWER TRADE. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION, DOCUMENTATION OR ACQUISITION FEES AND CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS OR PROMOTIONS. WEEKLY PAYMENTS CALCULATED WITH AN ESTIMATED DOWN PAYMENT OF \$2,999 CASH OR TRADE. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. CALL 1-508-488-2382 TO SEE WHICH REBATES YOU QUALIFY FOR.