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Medway & Millis

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Medway Historical Museum reopens after historic renovation

By Theresa Knapp



A piece of Medway's history has a renewed future following the grand reopening of the Medway Historical Museum on Oct. 3.

The Medway Historical Society welcomed an estimated 175 visitors to the newly renovated Jacob Ide House at 158 Main St. for an afternoon of local history, special exhibits and a glimpse into the town's past. The event featured military-themed displays, portraits by Anson Daniels and artifacts from a recently unearthed 1988 time capsule. Light refreshments and a door prize rounded out the celebration.

"We had visitors from near and afar, including Utah, and some folks from neighboring

MUSEUM
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'Stonewalk' from Millis to Sherborn honors man deported to Vietnam

Community remembers Nghia Van Vy, others affected by deportation

A six-mile "Stonewalk" from Millis to Sherborn took place on Oct. 3 to honor the memory of Nghia Van Vy, a Vietnamese man who was deported from Millis last year and died two months later.

The Stonewalk is part of an "international journey of conscience that was initiated through The Peace Abbey in 1999, with the participation of interns from Harvard Divinity School," according to Lewis Randa, the founder and director of The Peace Abbey. It is a physical journey in which a



A photo of Nghia Van Vy, who was deported to Vietnam and died a short time later.

heavy granite memorial stone is pulled by participants to a des-

STONEWALK
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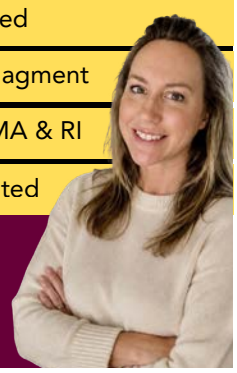


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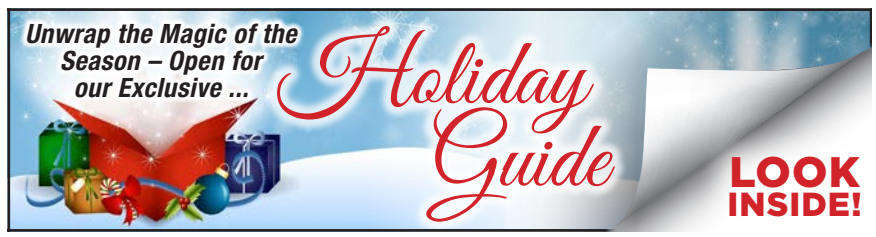
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MUSEUM

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historical commissions. The museum was more than they expected," said Medway Historical Society President Sheila Dubrawski. "The house itself provides the perfect backdrop to exhibit historical artifacts. We're very fortunate to have preserved this history in our community. The Medway Historical Society was established in 1902 and has been collecting pieces of Medway History since then. It was so exciting to finally share some of the museum collection, visitors loved it."

Dubrawski also thanked "the many people within the Town administration who helped to make this happen."

The reopening marked an important milestone for the historic property, which has undergone extensive renovations to preserve the building and make it safer and more accessible for visitors. Featured items included:

Exhibits exploring the Cole Library, the Historical Society, Medway's police and fire departments, the town seal adopted in 1923, and memorabilia marking the town's 275th anniversary, including a recently discovered time capsule.

Original Beehive Oven used to cure meat, along with its built-in wash basin.

Displays included an original Luther Metcalf cabinet, a pantry exhibit honoring the Medway Women's Club and its contributions to the community.

A former birthing room now displays portraits of Medway residents, including works by Anson Daniels.

Artifacts tell the stories of the Clark and Beers families, the Village Inn and the Opera House. A restored portrait of Jacob Ide hangs above the fireplace alongside a painting by longtime Medway resident and artist Calvin Burnett.

An alcove photo gallery includes portraits of Addison Parsons Thayer, Harriet Rachel (Lovering) Daniels, and others.

The original Franklin milestone marker is displayed near the circular staircase, along with the house's original manual front doorbell.

Jacob Ide's former office and bedroom feature family photographs, a red-and-white quilt bearing the names of relatives, and historical documents connected to the founding of the Community Church.

A military-focused exhibit is located in the former carriage house.

Together, the exhibits offer visitors a look at Medway's civic history, domestic life, local families, community organizations and military heritage, preserving stories and artifacts for future generations.

The Town of Medway purchased the property in 2017 using Community Preservation Act funds, helping protect the historic structure for future generations. Subsequent work by the town and the historical society addressed structural needs and improvements to meet safety and accessibility requirements, with Community Preservation funding supporting the effort.

Built around 1816 by Malachi Bullard, the Federal-style house is closely associated with the Rev. Dr. Jacob Ide, one of Medway's prominent 19th-century religious and civic figures. Ide served as pastor of the Second Church of Christ for 51 years (1814-1865) and lived in the house for decades.

Ide was also an educator and an outspoken opponent of slavery. He reportedly prepared more than 40 men for the ministry, extending his influence beyond Medway and into the broader religious community of New England.

To watch a video of the Open House, visit https://new.medwaycable.com/internetchannel/show/4351?site=2.

The Medway Historical Society will be hosting its Holiday House Tour, its biggest fundraiser of the year, on Sun., Dec. 6, from 1-4 p.m. Jump into the holiday spirit by visiting five decorated historic homes. Ticket/brochure pickup will be at the Christ Episcopal Church where the church sanctuary still has most of its original features. The Medway Historical Museum, the historic Jacob Ide House, will be decorated and on the tour. Tickets are $40. More information is available on Facebook @MedwayHistoricalSociety and www.medwayhistoricalsociety.org.









Clockwise: In the main room, a long bookcase built for the Cole Library holds items related to the Historical Society, Medway Police and Fire, and the town's hat and boot industry; the pantry highlights the town's women's clubs; the original beehive oven; and items from Medway's 250th and 275th anniversary celebrations. Photos by Theresa Knapp

The Medway Historical Museum is located in the Historic Rev. Dr. Jacob Ide House (circa 1816) at 158 Main St. October hours include:

Sun., Nov. 1: 1-3 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 11: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Veterans Day)
Sun., Nov. 15: 1-3 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 25: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Subsequent hours will be posted on the sign on the property, Facebook @MedwayHistoricalSociety, and www.medwayhistoricalsociety.org.

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STONEWALK

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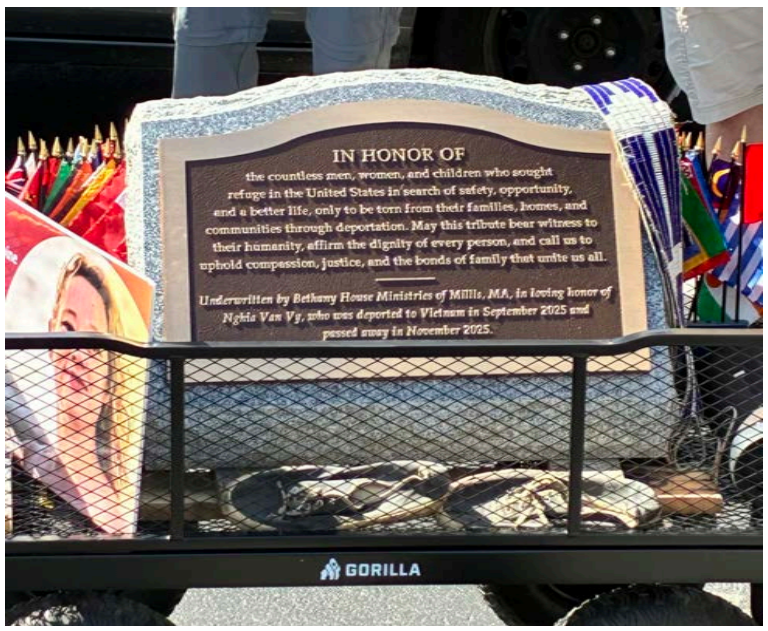
tination. The stone carries an inscription or message, and the act of moving it is meant to be both a spiritual and communal experience.

About 20 people participated in the solemn journey pulling the stone (in a wagon) from the Bethany House Hope Chest in Millis, where Van Vy had been employed, to The Peace Abbey Memorial in Sherborn.

As the group prepared to leave Millis, Randa said, "Every step we do will be a stop for peace."

The event was organized by the Peace Abbey in collaboration with Common Street Spiritual Center, Bethany House Ministries of Millis, and Music with Love.

In her remarks, Sister Ruth Raichle of Bethany House described Nghia as a compassionate, gentle and deeply spiritual man who cared for others throughout his life, from helping Vietnamese refugees escape to safety to creating paper flowers in prison [where he was serving a sentence for a felony] and praying for the people who would receive them. During his 15 years of incarceration, he embraced his Catholic faith, developed his artistic talents and earned the respect of fellow inmates, correctional officers and staff. After his release, he found family at Bethany House, where he lived and worked for more than 17 years, sharing his gifts with the community and bringing joy to others through his work with dogs.





Above: The granite memorial stone is in honor of "countless" people who have been deported and is "in loving honor of Nghia Vany Vy." Right: Lewis Randa, the founder and director of The Peace Abbey, hands the microphone to Sister Ruth Raichle of Bethany House Ministries to say a few words before the Stonewalk begins. Photos by Theresa Knapp

"He was so happy, living and working with us for over 17 years. Everyone loved him, Bethany was truly his family and Nghia was truly our brother," said Sr. Ruth.

In June 2025, event organizers say Van Vy was told to report to ICE to be deported back to Vietnam. After months in ICE custody, he returned to Saigon in September 2025. In November 2025, the Vietnamese government told him he could not stay in that country because of his felony (he would have to go to El Salvador or Sudan or someplace similar); he died by suicide later that night.

Stonewalk organizers said their event was intended to honor Van Vy and ensure his story would not be forgotten, while also remembering others who have been deported. The inscription on the memorial stone read, "In honor of the countless men, women, and children who sought refuge in the United States in search of safety, opportunity, and a better life, only to be torn from their families, homes, and communities through deportation. May this tribute bear witness to their humanity, affirm the dignity of every person, and call us to uphold compassion, justice, and the bonds of family that unite us all. – Underwritten by Bethany House Ministries in Millis, MA, in loving honor of Nghia Van Vy, who was deported to Vietnam in September 2025 and passed away in November 2025."





Medway Trail Spotlight: Briggs property

For more than a year now, Medway & Millis News has privileged us, the stewards of all things Medway trails, to get the word out about the hot button town trails' news items. Traditionally, the spotlight has highlighted one trail per month but recently there have been a few updates about trails that have already been highlighted in the past though future issues will also include articles about current trails again and include a future trail in the works.

In October, it was mentioned that Hoag Woods was dedicated by the Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust. In September's issue, the privately-owned property known as the Willows was highlighted. There are certain categories that our trails fall into besides private versus public and some of these category's overlap. Currently, trails are also categorized as walking trails, water trails, historical trails and agricultural trails. Eventually, we will list all that Medway residents have access to by easement or town ownership,

A recent walk around the parcels that comprise the Briggs property, which were approved for purchase at the Spring 2026 town meeting, opened the possibility of divvying the parcels into agricultural and/or walking trails or just overlapping them as both. There is still work to be done there before it is open to the public though Select Board members have hired a local farmer to do some haying for this year. Once 2027 comes, expect to see more information about the progress of the new trail as currently, it is not ready for public access. When it gets completely cleared out, it will connect with both the red trail in one area and the high school trail in another.

Meanwhile, the new Miyawaki Forest is not a trail but is at the Idylbrook Conservation area, which includes a walking trail adjacent to the new forest, so that addition could be considered agricultural. Medway's multiple trails can be considered multi definable.



Fall foliage at the Briggs property. Photo source: Medway Open Space Committee and Medway Trail Club

Submitted by Medway Open Space Committee and Medway Trail Club

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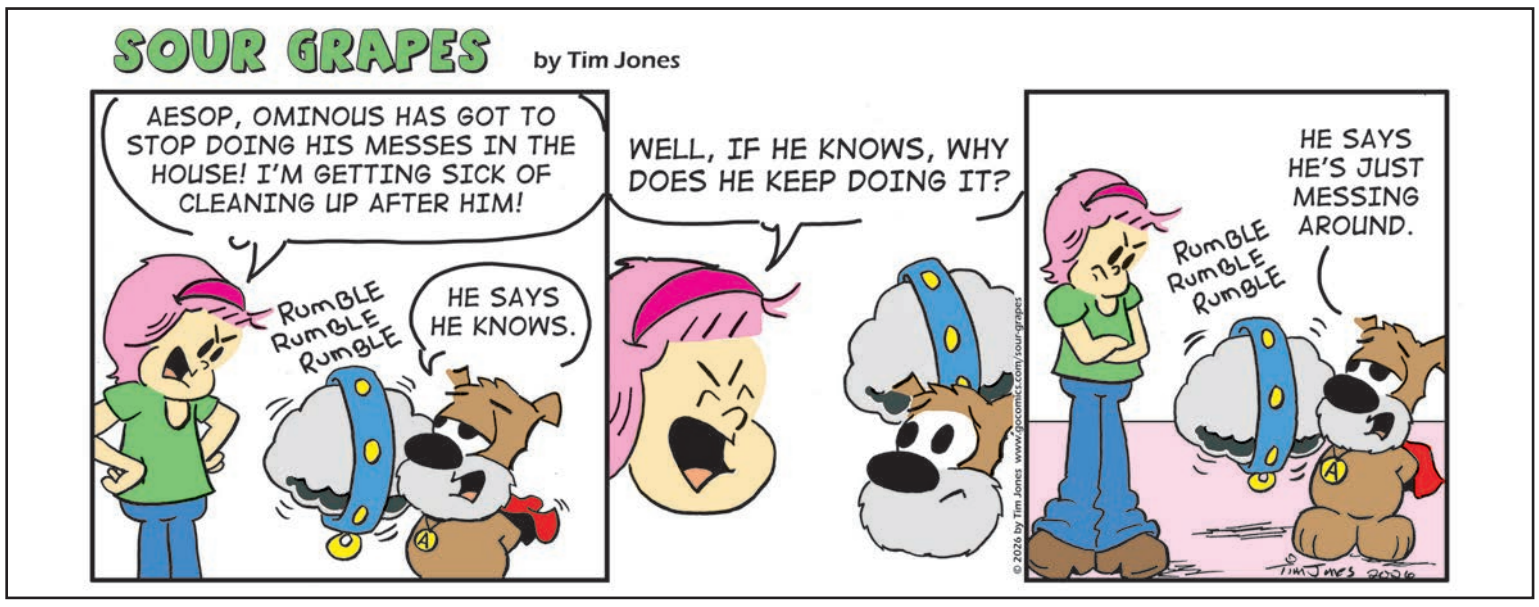
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Debunking five common Social Security myths



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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Social Security is often one of the most important income sources in retirement. Yet widespread myths about how it works can lead to confusion, unnecessary worry and poor planning decisions. Here's the truth behind five of the most common misconceptions.

Myth 1: Social Security is going broke. You've probably heard this one, but the full picture is more nuanced. According to the 2026 Social Security Board of Trustees Report, if Congress does nothing, the program would need to reduce benefits starting in 2032, paying roughly 78 cents for every dollar owed.

But that's just one scenario. Congress could raise the combined payroll tax from 12.4% to 16.65%, which the trustees estimate would secure full benefits through 2100. Other options include eliminating the earnings cap subject to payroll tax or adjusting retirement ages. Lawmakers have tools to address this.

Myth 2: Social Security will cover all your retirement needs. Think of Social Security as a financial foundation, not the full building. According to the Social Security Administration, benefits replace only about 40% of pre-retirement income for a median earner. That means you'll likely need to account for most of your retirement income yourself. Building a strong personal savings strategy now can help close that gap.

Myth 3: You lose benefits permanently if you keep working. Not true. Social Security does have an "earnings test" that can temporarily reduce benefits for people who claim early and keep working. If your earnings exceed a set annual cap – which changes each year – Social Security will withhold a portion of your benefits. But once you reach full retirement age, the Social Security Administration adjusts your monthly check higher to repay those withheld amounts over time.

Myth 4: An ex-spouse's benefits come out of your own. If you were married for at least 10 years and are currently unmarried, your former spouse may be eligible to collect on your earnings record, or you may be able to collect on theirs. Divorced spouse benefits can be up to 50% of the other person's full retirement benefit. But those payments don't affect yours. Your monthly benefit is not reduced by anything paid to an ex-spouse or even a current spouse.

Myth 5: Social Security benefits are no longer taxed. Recent legislation caused some confusion here. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits. If your combined income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll still owe taxes on a portion of your benefits.

The law also created a temporary deduction (available through 2028) for people 65 and older. Eligible taxpayers can deduct $6,000 per qualifying filer if their modified adjusted gross income is $75,000 or less for singles or $150,000 for couples. The deduction phases out at $175,000 for singles and $250,000 for joint filers.

The more you understand Social Security, the more control you have over your retirement outcome. Grounding your decisions in facts rather than assumptions can make a meaningful difference in your long-term financial security.

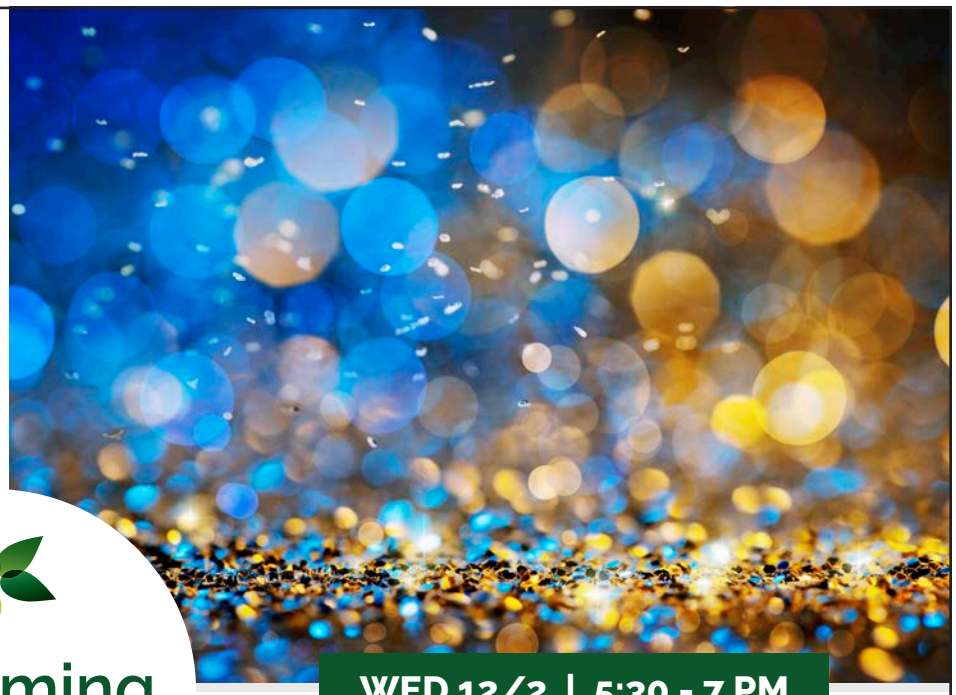
Contact Mark today to discuss this topic or any of your financial goals.

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Jim McCloughan to be guest speaker at Medway Veterans Day ceremony

Medway's Veterans Day ceremony will take place on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at Medway Parks and Recreation (the former VFW) at 123 Holliston St.

This year's guest speaker will be Jim "Doc" McCloughan.

Born in South Haven, Michigan, McCloughan was raised in the rural area of Bangor, MI. He graduated from Olivet College in 1968 with a BA in Sociology. Drafted into the United States Army in 1968, Jim served as a combat medic with the American Division where he rose to the rank of Specialist Five. In one battle alone "Doc" McCloughan has been credited with moving into the "kill zone" on 10 occasions, saving 10 American lives and one Vietnamese interpreter's life.

To watch an interview with McCloughan as he recalls being in battle in Vietnam in May 1969, visit www.army.mil/medalofhonor/mccloughan/#video3.

Specialist McCloughan was highly decorated receiving the Combat Medic Badge, two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars with "V" device for valor, the U.S. Army Valorous Unit Citation, the Nation Defense Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with three Battle Stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palms and one Oak Leaf Cluster, and the M16 Expert Rifle Badge. In 2017, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military commendations.

In 1970, upon returning home from service to our country, McCloughan resumed his contract with South Haven Public Schools, where he was the founder of the South Haven chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. In 1972, he earned an MA in counseling. Remaining with South Haven High School for 38 years, he taught psychology and sociology while coaching football, wrestling, baseball, and American Leion Baseball. As a MHSAA wrestling official, he was selected to referee 18 MI Wrestling State Finals. He has been inducted into three athletic halls of fame, plus the MI High School Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, the MI High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame, the MI Wrestling Hall of Fame, and the MI High School Coaches Hall of Fame which represents coaches for all boys' and girls' sports. In June 2019, Jim was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

McCloughan has also received a few other prestigious awards including the Wolverine Conference Distinguished Service Award, the Olivet College Distinguished Alumni Award, the Olivet College Leadership Award, National DAR Distinguished Citizen Medal, the Paul Harris Fellow Award by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, 2017 MI Fitness Foundation Governor's Award - Veteran of the Year, the Peaceful Warrior's Foundation Military and Career Service Award. In 2017, he was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

Since retirement, McCloughan has remained dedicated to this community and the nation, as a member of non-profit organizations, servicing multiple charitable projects, assuming roles on boards and performing as a vocalist, and representing the Medal of Honor Society.

McCloughan will also speak at Medway High School on Nov. 12.

Source: www.medwayma.gov





Above left: Jim "Doc" McCloughan in front of the 22nd Replacement Bn Snack Bar in 1969. Source: Wikipedia
Above right: Official photo of James McCloughan in July 2017. McCloughan will be the guest speaker at the Medway Veterans Day ceremony on Nov. 11. Source: Wikipedia

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Your Money, Your Independence

Spend it forward: In retirement 'someday' is the real risk



Glenn Brown, CFP

For anyone nearing retirement or just starting out in it, seeing the light at the end of the tunnel brings incredible excitement and gratitude. You worked decades for this moment.

Yet, as a Certified Financial Planner, I often witness a quiet paradox play out among diligent savers: they build a nest egg to secure their future, but when the day comes to actually enjoy it, their mindset doesn't change.

A recent *Bloomberg* article highlighted a trend: retired Americans are putting off fun out of fear of running out of money. Studies show over 60% of retirees with substantial savings feel uncomfortable spending on pure enjoyment, while nearly 90% feel guilt over bucket-list purchases or travel.

Researchers call this the tension between FOMO (Fear of Missing Out on life) and FORO (Fear of Running Out of money). After decades of watching accounts grow, spending down principal triggers a loss reflex. But here's the truth many don't talk about: money delayed is often an opportunity denied.

The three phases of retirement

While gerontologists and planners traditionally stretch post-career phases out to age 75 and 85, my experience with clients shows these transitions happen sooner. Here is how those years typically unfold in practice:

1. **"Go-Go" Years (ages 60 to 72):** You have the health, energy, and mobility to hike, travel, or explore demanding itineraries.
2. **"Slow-Go" Years (ages 72 to 80):** Health slows you down slightly. Trips become simpler, closer to home, and less physically taxing.
3. **"No-Go" Years (ages 80+):** Life centers around home, routine, and medical care.

The biggest tragedy in retirement isn't spending a little extra in your early 60s, it's saving all your fun money for a phase when your body can no longer support the adventure. Spending it forward means funding your "Go-Go" years while you can fully experience them.

Cash flow analysis & scenario modeling

How do you overcome FORO without jeopardizing your future? Through interactive cash flow analysis and scenario modeling.

Instead of relying on static rules, dynamic modeling tests "what-if" scenarios side by side. For example, we can test adding an extra $25,000 per year specifically for travel during your first 7 "Go-Go" years.

By modeling this $175,000 front-loaded investment, you measure the actual delta on your total portfolio in your 80s and 90s. Because spending naturally dials back in the "Slow-Go" and "No-Go" phases, front-loading $25K a year early on typically creates a surprisingly negligible impact on long-term security. Seeing that tiny delta on paper provides the empirical proof (and emotional permission) to travel guilt-free.

Structured security: The strategic 3-bucket strategy

If scenarios make sense on paper but your stomach still churns, structure provides peace of mind. Segmenting wealth into 3 time-horizon buckets insulates your lifestyle:

- **BUCKET 1: Cash (Years 1 to 3).** This covers the income shortfall or gap between income sources (Social Security, pensions, rentals, dividends) and actual spending. Keeping this gap in liquid cash insulates your planned lifestyle from market swings.
- **BUCKET 2: Conservative Growth (Years 4 to 5).** Structured conservatively (like a 40/60 stock-to-bond allocation), this medium-term bridge earns modest returns while systematically replenishing Bucket 1.
- **BUCKET 3: Moderate to High Growth (Years 5+).** Positioned for capital appreciation, this bucket fuels long-term needs, healthcare inflation, or legacy goals (like passing tax-free growth in a Roth IRA to heirs).

When your short-term cash flow gap is secured in Bucket 1 and your legacy is compounding in Bucket 3, taking that dream vacation isn't "depleting wealth," it's executing a well-designed plan.

Give yourself permission to shift from a mindset of accumulation to one of fulfillment. You worked hard to earn your independence, now make sure you're around to enjoy it..

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

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Millis Garden Club celebrates two new gardens

With fall in complete residency, the Millis Garden Club continues to brighten the Millis landscape with mums, pumpkins, decorative cabbage and corn stalks. On any given day you might catch a glimpse of a member planting bulbs for a wondrous spring bouquet particularly in the two new gardens newly created.

The first garden is a charming sidewalk oasis on Exchange Street sponsored by businesses located nearby: Dan's Barbershop, Foreign Car Repair, Hair Salon, Luca's, and Victory Bar and Grille. Its featured flowering shrubs, perennials and spring bulbs are guaranteed to brighten your day after winter's bleakness.

The second garden is located in Prospect Hill Cemetery. Named "The Garden of Angels," it is a collaboration among the Cemetery Committee, the Department of Public Works, and the Millis Garden Club. An engraved rock surrounded by flowering shrubs, perennials, and spring bulbs commemorate the infants who rest there, celebrating their short lives and bringing comfort with their beauty.

Submitted by Millis Garden Club



A garden located in Prospect Hill Cemetery is one of two new gardens created by the Millis Garden Club. Photo credit: Millis Garden Club

Alzheimer's Support Group to meet Nov. 10

Hearts, Hugs & Hope, an Alzheimer's support group at Cornerstone at Milford, will meet on Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. at Cornerstone at Milford Assisted Living and Memory Support Community, 11 Birch St., Milford.

This month's group for caregivers meets in person, and the program will be "Preparing for the Holidays."

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.

For more information, contact Director of Compass Programming Jenn Hozempa at jhozempa@cornerstonemilford.com.

This group meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

Medway Holiday House Tour on Dec. 6

The Medway Historical Society will be hosting its Holiday House Tour, its biggest fundraiser of the year, on Sun., Dec. 6, from 1-4 p.m.

Jump into the holiday spirit by visiting five decorated historic homes. Ticket/brochure pickup will be at the Christ Episcopal Church where the church sanctuary still has most of its original features.

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Letter to the editor

To the Editor,

On November 9, Medway residents will have the opportunity to make a crucial decision regarding the future of automated surveillance in our community. Thanks to a citizen petition backed by over 400 signatures from Medway voters, the upcoming Fall Town Meeting warrant includes an article to ban the use of Flock Safety Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs) in our town.

While DeFlock Medway—the local community group spearheading this initiative—has immense respect and support for the Medway Police Department, we have significant concerns about the privacy threats, massive data collection, and financial implications of Flock Safety's sprawling network. Unlike traditional security cameras, Flock operates on a subscription "Safety-as-a-Service" model, continuously scanning license plates and vehicle characteristics. It feeds this data into a massive, searchable database shared across thousands of jurisdictions without a warrant, effectively tracking the daily movements of innocent residents.

We are not alone in our concerns. Over 40 other Massachusetts towns have recently voted to remove their Flock systems or cancel their contracts following public outcry over civil liberties and transparency.

Throughout October, our community came together at local standouts and educational events with the ACLU to highlight these exact dangers. The debate over Flock cameras asks us a critical question: how do we balance modern policing tools with our constitutional right to privacy? Now, the time for discussion is culminating in action, and the people of Medway have the final say.

I strongly encourage all residents to learn more by visiting deflockmedway.com or our Facebook page, and most importantly, to attend the Fall Town Meeting on November 9 to cast your vote on this pivotal issue.

Sincerely,

Michael Fahey, DeFlock Medway

Coffee & Conversations on Nov. 21

The last fall 2026 'Coffee and Conversations' will be held at the Millis Public Library on Sat., Nov. 21, from 10-11:30 a.m. While topics range, conversations are moderated to focus less on debate and more on understanding. Democracy needs all of us so all political perspectives are welcome and respected. This event is not sponsored by the Millis Public Library.



Millis' SAFE educators got a head start on National Fire Prevention Week by visiting with students in early October. Source: Facebook @MillisFireDepartment

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Medway Christmas Parade Nov. 28

Grand Marshall to be Carol Pratt

The Medway Christmas parade and fireworks will take place on Sat., Nov. 28, stepping off at Medway High School at 5:30 p.m.

This year's Grand Marshal will be recently retired Finance Director Carol Pratt. She will be riding in the parade in Medway's newly refurbished 1964 Engine 1.

The parade route will be: leave Medway High School, take a left onto Summer Street, left onto Milford Street, follow to Franklin Street, left onto Village Street, left onto Holliston Street, left onto Main Street, and finish at Choate Park for the lighting and fireworks.

To register to be in the parade, visit bit.ly/MedwayChristmasParadeEntryForm2026 or contact christmasparade@townofmedway.org. All parade floats and entries must strictly represent a Christmas theme. No political signs, messages, or unrelated advertising will be permitted. Throwing of candy or other items from floats is prohibited.

For more information, visit www.medwayma.gov. The rain date is Nov. 29.



This year's Grand Marshal, Carol Pratt, will be riding in Medway Fire Department's newly refurbished 1964 Engine 1. Source: www.medwayma.gov

Pratt to be parade Grand Marshal



Retired Medway Finance Director Carol Pratt (right), pictured here with Medway Town Administrator Michael Boynton.
Source: www.medwayma.gov

Carol Pratt worked for the Town of Medway for 19 years and had served as the Finance Director from 2016 until she retired in July.

During her tenue, Pratt utilized her skill, integrity and professionalism to implement best practices and policies to establish and maintain a sound financial foundation, which was instrumental in helping the Town to achieve and maintain its prestigious AAA bond rating.

Pratt obtained certifications to become a Governmental Accountant and a Public Purchasing Official. She served as president of the Massachusetts Government Financial Officers Association and as a board member of the New England States Governmental Financial Officers Association.

Source: www.medwayma.gov

Millis Council on Aging Upcoming Events

Location: 900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
Phone: (508) 376-7051
Hours: 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:30 AM- 12:30 PM Friday

Tues., Nov. 10, at 12 p.m. Tech Time. Drop-In Help for computers & smartphones with Esther Davis of the Millis Public Library.

Thurs., Nov. 12, at 9 a.m. Retirement Roundtable Breakfast: What I Wish I Knew. Was your transition from work to retirement a smooth one, or did you encounter surprises along the way? Join others who have retired in the last few years to share your stories of roadblocks you encountered and successful transitions made. We'll share tips and tricks for negotiating life when the structure of your day has entirely changed. Join Nancy Snow for part 1 in this new breakfast series about planning for and living a fulfilling next chapter. Sign up at (508) 376-7051.

Mon., Nov. 16, at 11 a.m. Office Hours with State Rep. James Arena-DeRosa.

Tues., Nov. 17, at 1 p.m. Holiday Wreathmaking. Grapevine wreaths and holiday accents provided to make your own festive wreath. Feel free to bring your own choice of ribbon; some provided. Class leader: Joyce Boiardi. Sign up at (508) 376-7051. Cost $3.00 at sign up.

Fri., Nov. 20, at 11 a.m. Lunch and Learn: Let's Talk about A1C and Diabetes. November is National Diabetes Month and Marianne Chojnicki, RN,CDES, will join us to discuss how best to keep healthy. Part 2 in January. Free. Sign up at (508) 376-7051.

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Millis Garden Club donates photography exhibit, finalizes winter 2027 exhibit

At a meeting of the Millis Select Board on Sept. 14, 2026, The Millis Garden donated its 2026 First Annual Garden Photography Exhibit to the town. It was accepted and approved to be installed on the second floor of the Memorial Building outside of the meeting room for all to enjoy.

The exhibit consists of photographs of various aspects of gardens in Millis, both public and private, donated by residents who shared glimpses of their back and front yard garden life. They range from single shots of a dahlia to a group of sentinel sunflowers to a cluster of birdhouses or gourds to a racoon family hiding in a tree. Each one a delight to behold, reflecting the heart of Millis.

Next exhibit

The second annual Garden Photography Exhibit, "Garden Story" will be held at the Millis Public Library commencing in January 2027 with submissions due at the library circulation desk by mid-December.

We invite Millis residents of any age again to submit your favorite garden story framed photo with a ring or wire for hanging. A variety of sizes and colors for frames and subjects is acceptable and there may be multiple photos in one frame if desired to tell your tale.

Title your photo if you want and identify it on the back with your name and address. Your photos are required to be taken in a Millis garden as this exhibit reflects the wide variety of efforts both public and private to create a beautiful community. You don't need to be an expert... your story is special and unique!

Submitted by Millis Garden Club



Samples of work found in the Millis Garden Club's 2026 Garden Photography Exhibit now installed on the second floor of the Memorial Building. Photos provided by Millis Garden Club

Soup, Salad, and Soul in the Sukkah

Temple Etz Chaim Sisterhood hosted its annual Soup, Salad, and Soul in the Sukkah on Tues., Sept. 29, welcoming 20 members for an evening of food, friendship, and community.

Guests enjoyed a homemade dinner of soups, salads, roasted vegetables, bread, drinks, and dessert, all provided by the TEC Sisterhood Board. The evening also included blessings and shaking the lulav in the sukkah, followed by a presentation from Robin Krieger of Women of Reform Judaism Northeast about WRJ and its YES Fund, which supports youth, education, and special projects.

In keeping with the evening's spirit of giving, Sisterhood members also collected much-needed hygiene items for the Franklin Middle School nurse to provide to students. Donations included maxi pads, new underwear, and sweatpants.

It was a wonderful evening of gathering, learning, and giving back to the community.



Temple Etz Chaim Sisterhood hosted its annual Soup, Salad, and Soul in the Sukkah. Courtesy photo





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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

Before the holiday rush, a little thanks

By Gina Woelfe

Somewhere between booking your November appointments and deciding whether last year's party outfit can make another appearance, the holidays start taking over the calendar. There's gifts to buy, people to see, and at least one family group text that could use a mute button.

We'll get to the shopping... In fact, b.LUXE is having a sale that will help!

But first, a little appreciation for the people who make b.LUXE Hair & Makeup Studio what it is. The team behind your appointment. The guests who keep coming back. And the neighbors and organizations that give us reasons to gather beyond the studio.

First, our team

A salon runs on talent, but talent alone doesn't keep a busy day moving.

That takes people who offer a second opinion, share a technique, or step in when a colleague needs help. It takes experienced stylists who make time to teach and apprentices who bring good questions to the conversation.

That exchange is part of daily life at b.LUXE. You may come in to see one person, but there's a whole team invested in your visit.

The b.LUXE front desk team deserves its own thank-you. They answer your questions, help you find time in the schedule, and welcome you when you arrive. They make a busy day feel easy, even when the phone has other plans.

As we head into the holiday rush, we want everyone on our studio team to know how much we appreciate the work they do, including the things that happen quietly between appointments.

And then, there's you

You've trusted us with the haircut you saved on your phone for six months. With your wedding morning. With the appointment you finally made for yourself after putting everyone else first.

You've also sent your friends, brought in your family, and made b.LUXE part of your routine.

Those relationships matter to us. We get to know the person in the chair, hear what's happening in your life, and help you decide what you'd like to see in the mirror. It's one of the pleasures of this work.

To our guests in Medway and the surrounding communities, thank you for continuing to choose us.

"When I think about what I'm most thankful for, it's the people. Our team, the guests who have become friends, and the community that has supported us over the years. b.LUXE has grown into so much more than I ever expected, and I never take that support for granted."

- Heather Cohen, Owner

To our wig community

This year, we want to give special recognition to our growing wig and topper community.

To the women who have shared their stories and allowed us to help them find hair that feels like their own: thank you. That first appointment can come with uncertainty. Heather understands that personally, and your trust means a great deal to her and our team.

We're thankful for the loved ones who come along for support, too. And for everyone who has shared their experience or recommended our studio to another woman facing hair loss. You may have made that first call a little easier.



Gratitude beyond the studio

Our community connections have taken many forms over the years, including support for PAWS New England, the Medway and Franklin food pantries, Stairs for Troops, Gilly's House, The Hummingbird Foundation, and local school programs and sports teams.

This fall, we also participated in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in Boston, the Patriots Foundation's Crucial Catch event, and contributed to the Susan G. Komen MORE THAN PINK Walk.

We appreciate the organizations that include us and the volunteers who put so much time into making these efforts happen.

Helping make the holidays happen

This season, we're proud to contribute again to The Santa Foundation.

The Franklin-based organization provides holiday gifts for families in need in Franklin and surrounding communities. When the pressure to provide feels especially heavy, that support matters.

You can join the effort, too. Visit sfjoy.org for information about donating, sponsoring a family, or volunteering.

And a little something for your shopping list...

Beginning November 1, our Buy 3, Get 1 FREE sale includes all salon hair, skincare, and makeup products.

Pick up gifts, replenish your favorites, or do a little of both. Our team can help you choose. Useful gifts count. So does replacing that shampoo you've been turning upside down for a week!

Before the calendar fills up, thank you for making room for us. In your routines, in your conversations, and in the recommendations you pass along to a friend.

Those everyday gestures mean so much to all of us at b.LUXE..

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Millis voters to weigh sewer capacity purchase, land preservation at Town Meeting on Nov. 9

By Theresa Knapp

Sewer capacity, school construction funding and the future of town-owned land are among the issues facing Millis voters at this year's Fall Annual Town Meeting.

The meeting is scheduled for Mon., Nov. 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle-Senior High School auditorium at 245 Plain Street.

The warrant includes 10 articles. Among the proposals under consideration are a potential $1.575 million purchase of additional sewer capacity from Franklin, a plan to rescind $2,134,180 in remaining Clyde Brown School project funds, and a citizens' petition concerning the preservation of Cassidy Field.

Sewer and water

One of the meeting's major financial questions involves a proposed purchase of 150,000 gallons per day of sewer capacity from the Town of Franklin at the Charles River Pollution Control District for $1.575 million.

Millis officials have discussed the purchase as a way to increase the town's available sewer capacity. During an October Finance Committee discussion, the Department of Public Works reported the town was using approximately 93% of its existing capacity.

Financing and the potential effect on the Sewer Enterprise Fund are among the considerations for voters as they evaluate the proposal. The purchase could also affect the town's ability to accommodate future development. A two-thirds vote is required.

An additional article seeks a $165,000 transfer to fund a Lead Service Line Inventory of the water system in Millis.

School construction funding

Voters will be asked to rescind $2,134,180 in remaining borrowing proceeds and reimbursements associated with the Clyde Brown School building project. Town finance officials have discussed putting those funds toward the middle-senior high school renovation and construction project, subject to applicabl-e restrictions on how the money may be spent. A majority vote is required.

Other articles

A citizens' petition would authorize the Select Board to "dedicate and permanently preserve" the remaining town-owned parcels at Cassidy Field for conservation and passive recreation. This requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

An article asks voters to approve a request from the Select Board to dispose of three parcels of town-owned property: two parcels at Millis Heights with a lot size of .06 acres each with an assessed value of $2,000 each, and one parcel on Brandywine Terrace with a lot size of 2.25 acres and an assed value of $68,000. A two-thirds vote is required.

The full warrant can be found at https://bit.ly/Millis-FTM2026.

Medway Fall Town Meeting set for Nov. 9

Medway residents will gather on Mon., Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. for Fall Town Meeting at the Medway High School auditorium, 88 Summer Street.

Among the anticipated items are zoning amendments addressing nonconforming uses and structures, trail signs and other housekeeping changes to the town's zoning bylaws. A citizens' petition concerning automated license plate reader systems is also expected to be considered.

When finalized, the warrant will be posted at www.medwayma.gov.



LIVING HEALTHY

Beyond daily drops: How modern advances are changing glaucoma care

By Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.
Milford Franklin Eye Center

Glaucoma remains one of the leading causes of preventable blindness worldwide. Widely referred to as the "silent thief of sight," this condition typically develops gradually without warning signs. Because vision loss begins in the periphery, many people do not notice changes until significant and irreversible optic nerve damage has already occurred.

Understanding how glaucoma develops—and how modern medical technology has transformed its treatment—is key to protecting your vision.

Understanding the mechanics of glaucoma

Inside the front section of a healthy eye, a fluid called **aqueous humor** continuously circulates to nourish surrounding tissues and maintain internal pressure. In a properly functioning eye, fluid drains out through a specialized mesh network known as the trabecular meshwork.

When these drainage channels become clogged or inefficient, fluid builds up, causing elevated intraocular pressure (IOP). This excess pressure exerts mechanical stress on the **optic nerve**—the biological cable transmitting visual information from the retina to the brain.

- **Open-Angle Glaucoma:** The most common form, where the drainage angle remains open but becomes progressively inefficient over time.
- **Angle-Closure Glaucoma:** A less common, sudden block of the drainage angle that can cause rapid pressure spikes and requires immediate medical attention.
- **Normal-Tension Glaucoma:** Optic nerve damage occurs even when eye pressure measures within standard, normal ranges.

Comprehensive early detection

Because early-stage glaucoma causes no physical discomfort or noticeable blurriness, routine comprehensive eye exams are vital. Modern clinical evaluation relies on multiple diagnostic technologies:

1. **Tonometry:** Measures internal intraocular pressure.
2. **Ophthalmoscopy & OCT Scans:** Optical Coherence Tomography generates high-resolution cross-sectional images of the retina and optic nerve head to detect microscopic nerve fiber loss.
3. **Visual Field Testing:** Maps peripheral vision to identify subtle blind spots.
4. **Gonioscopy:** Directly inspects the eye's drainage angle structure.



Modern treatment paradigms: From daily drops to sustained care

The primary goal of glaucoma management is lowering eye pressure to halt or slow disease progression. Historically, daily prescription eye drops were the standard starting point. Today, frontline care has shifted toward longer-lasting, low-maintenance therapies.

1. Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) as first-line care

Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) has increasingly replaced daily eye drops as a preferred first-line therapy for open-angle glaucoma. Performed in-office in just a few minutes, SLT applies gentle laser energy to stimulate the body's natural cellular repair mechanism, clearing drainage channels. It is painless, repeatable, highly effective, and eliminates the daily burden of managing medication schedules.

2. Sustained-Release Drug Implants

For patients needing pharmaceutical control, novel sustained-release delivery systems solve the compliance challenges associated with eye drops:

iDose TR: A tiny, bio-compatible ocular implant placed inside the anterior chamber that steadily releases travoprost over many months, maintaining consistent pressure control without daily dosing.

Durysta: A biodegradable implant inserted into the eye that gradually dissolves while continuously delivering a prespecified dose of bimatoprost.

3. Traditional topical medications

When drops are prescribed, several classes exist, each targeting fluid dynamics differently:

- **Prostaglandin Analogs** (e.g., latanoprost, bimatoprost): Enhance fluid outflow.
- **Beta Blockers** (e.g., timolol): Decrease fluid production inside the eye.
- **Alpha Agonists & Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors:** Lower production and promote drainage.
- **Rho Kinase Inhibitors** (e.g., netarsudil): Target the trabecular meshwork to lower resistance to fluid outflow.

4. Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS)

MIGS procedures have al-

EYES
continued on page 15

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Millis town-owned parcels available for purchase, offers due Nov. 16

By Theresa Knapp

On Sept. 28, Millis town officials announced there are several "town owned parcels available for purchase" by any interested party.

The properties are located on or near the following streets/roads: Acorn, Boylston, Brandywine, Broad, Commonwealth, Congress, Court, Federal, George, Henry, Lincoln, Margo, Millis Heights, Morris, Pleasant, Ridge, Roosevelt, and Spencer.

The full list of 88 properties can be found at www.millisma.gov/article/3118877.

On Sept. 2, abutters received an "offer to sell land" from the town with the list of properties, their acreage, and assessed value. All properties are under one acre with an assed value of less than $2,500 each, except for a 2.25 acre parcel on Brandywine Terrace assessed at $68,500. Three of these parcels are on the Nov. 9 Fall Town Meeting warrant.

According to the abutter letter, "The Town has no planned uses for these Parcels and none of these Parcels, on their own, constitutes a buildable lot. It is believed that the highest and best use of these Parcels would be for combination or assemblage with adjacent property owned by abutters, such as yourselves."

The letter stated, "Since these Parcels have minimal assessed values, the Town may reject offers that don't either match or exceed the assessed values. Should you wish to purchase more than one Parcel, the offer must specify a bid price for each Parcel that you wish to purchase. Please note that we are bound to accept only those offers that are in the best interest of the Town. Should your offer be accepted by the Select Board, a routine purchase and sale agreement would be prepared for your consideration and execution."

Offers are due by Mon., Nov. 16, at noon, and should be sent to Town Administrator Michael Guzinski at mguzinski@millisma.gov or mailed/delivered to his attention at 900 Main St., Room 220.

Source: www.millisma.gov

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EYES

continued from page 14

tered surgical glaucoma management. Using tiny microscopic equipment and small self-sealing incisions, devices such as the iStent, Hydrus Microstent, or Xen Gel Stent are inserted to create reliable drainage routes. Often combined with routine cataract surgery, MIGS offers a fast recovery profile and significantly reduced risk compared to traditional surgeries.

5. Advanced incisional surgeries

In severe, advanced cases where non-invasive options fall short, traditional incisional surgeries are utilized to achieve maximum pressure reduction:

- **Trabeculectomy:** Creates a small flap in the sclera (white part of the eye) to allow fluid to bypass blocked channels into a reservoir beneath the conjunctiva.
- **Aqueous Shunt/Tube Implants:** Places a tiny silicone tube that drains fluid into an external reservoir plate implanted under the eye tissue.

Summary and clinical commitment

Glaucoma care has evolved beyond reliance on daily topical drops. Today's patients benefit from a comprehensive toolkit ranging from targeted lasers and sustained-release implants to minimally invasive microscopic stents.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we are committed to providing the latest evidence-based technologies. Our team was among the first in New England to offer DSLT laser treatment for glaucoma and perform the iDose TR procedure at the Cataract and Surgery Center of Milford—an achievement highlighted on local Channel 5 news. Through early detection, personalized treatment, and advanced technology, protecting your long-term sight is more achievable than ever.

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Camera Club to hold November meetings

The Stony Brook Camera Club meets in-person and/or virtually by Zoom on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. from September to June. In-person meetings are held at the Anglican Church of the Redeemer, 195 Main Street, Franklin.

Our meetings feature speakers, competitions, image studies, and discussions of general interest. We also sponsor a number of photography activities and workshops throughout the year.

SBCC includes and welcomes members of all abilities.

Nov. 5: (Hybrid) Member competition

Nov. 12: (Zoom) "How Competition Can Save Photographs" with Essdras Suarez

Nov. 19: (Zoom):"Be in control of Your Camera" with Mollie Isaacs

See our website: stonybrookcc.com for a calendar of events and membership information.

Millis Jolly Holly Fair on Dec. 5

Join us for the annual Jolly Holly Fair on Sat., Dec. 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Church of Christ in Millis.

A cherished Millis tradition of more than 70 years, our fair is full of unique gift ideas for the special ones in your life! From needlework to wreaths, our Silent Auction, Pictures with Santa, baked goods, candy and Snack Bar, it's a fun time for the whole family! The Church of Christ, Congregational is located at 142 Exchange St. in Millis. For more information contact us at 508-376-5034 or millisucc@msn.com.

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Tree planted in memory of Betty Wickis

On Sept. 23, an American Sycamore tree was planted and dedicated in honor of long-time Medway Trail Club and Open Space Committee member, Betty Wickis (1946-2025).

Surrounded by family, friends, and community members, her husband Jim planted the tree along the trail system, about two-tenths of a mile from Lovering Street. Among those present to pay tribute were members of the Medway Trail Club and Open Space Committee, Medway Conservation Agent Bridget Graziano, and Parks Superintendent Steve Carew.





An American Sycamore tree has been planted and dedicated in honor of long-time Medway Trail Club and Open Space Committee member Betty Wickis. Photos by Theresa Knapp

The new sycamore serves as a living tribute to Betty, honoring her many years of dedicated service and lasting contributions to the Town of Medway.

The group read aloud her favorite song, "You Are My Sunshine."

Source: www.medwayma.gov

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Millis Public Safety Log

Missing person, carbon monoxide alarm, disturbances

According to safety logs, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, the Millis Police and Fire Department spent the majority of its time on calls related to motor vehicle stops and violations, car crashes, disabled motor vehicles, general traffic control, alarms (master box, carbon monoxide), suspicious activity, disturbances, larceny/forgery/fraud, lost/found property, general complaints, warrant service, and assisting citizens.

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

Sept. 16 at 10:47 a.m., Frontier Ln., complaint
Sept. 16 at 1:48 p.m., Main St., suspicious activity
Sept. 17 at 6:56 p.m., Union St., suspicious activity
Sept. 20 at 9:13 a.m., Island Rd., disturbance
Sept. 20 at 2:16 p.m., Park Rd., disturbance
Sept. 22 at 8:50 a.m., Myrtle St., complaint
Sept. 22 at 6:56 p.m., Baltimore St., missing person
Sept. 27 at 1:11 p.m., Heritage Path, carbon monoxide alarm
Sept. 29 at 7:40 p.m., Meadowbrook Rd., serve warrant
Oct. 1 at 8:11 p.m., Stoney Brook Dr., suspicious activity
Oct. 2 at 11:45 p.m., Ridge St., suspicious activity
Oct. 4 at 12:22 p.m., Village St., disturbance
Oct. 9 at 12:41 a.m., Plain St., suspicious activity
Oct. 9 at 8:20 p.m., Stoney Brook Dr., fire/other
Oct. 14 at 9:03 p.m., Island Rd., suspicious activity

Source: Millis Police Department

Medway Municipal Complex gets two approvals, moves forward

By Theresa Knapp

Medway's proposed municipal complex at 120 Main St., the site of the former Medway Block, continued through Planning and Economic Development Board (PEDB) review in September, with officials examining traffic safety, emergency vehicle access, stormwater management and construction logistics.

The approximately 41,000-square-foot complex would consolidate Town Hall operations, the Police Department and the Fire Department all in one location. Plans also include parking areas, access drives, landscaping, stormwater management facilities, and a shared police and fire training facility that would serve as an Emergency Operations Center.

At the Sept. 22 meeting of the PEDB, engineers presented revised plans addressing comments from the town's peer reviewer, Tetra Tech. The fire station would be located closest to Main Street, with Town Hall



This (angled) image shows the overall project site for the new Medway Municipal Complex Pond Street (left) and Main Street/Route 109 (bottom right). The darkened area shows the complex footprint with the fire department facing Main Street, Town Hall in the center, and the police department in the back. Source: www.medwaycable.com.

COMPLEX
continued on page 20

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SPORTS

Rebuilt from ground up: Millis Boys Soccer back on Varsity stage

By Matt Hylen
Sports Writer

One number stands out for Millis Boys Soccer this fall, and it has nothing to do with the standings: 56.

That is how many players are in the program this year, "which I think is probably a record for Millis Boys soccer," said Head Coach Reg Wilcox. "That's fantastic."

The number matters because of where the program has been. This fall is Millis' first year back at the varsity level since 2023, and its first fielding middle school, JV and varsity teams since 2021.

Wilcox is a physical therapist by day, in his ninth year on the Millis staff and third as head coach. Both of his children played for the school. "I like being a mentor to young men," he said. "It's a way for me to contribute back to my community."

As for the season, the goals have been clear since day one. "It's our goal to make the playoffs," Wilcox said, and to keep strong numbers so Millis can "continue competing at the varsity level for years to come."

Much of the program's upward trajectory seems to have come from the set of principles Wilcox has set for the program: academics come first, health, being a good teammate, and communicating well.

"Those are key principles in life, even when our soccer careers are over," he said.

With those principles in mind, Wilcox has approached this season with a unique mindset. "My coaching style is to learn from every opportunity," Wilcox said, whether it comes in a win or against a team that was much better. He asks his players for feedback in practice, the team has held film sessions, and players share their team and individual goals "so that we can support each other."

Much of the credit for the return to varsity, Wilcox said, goes to the seniors. Four of his nine seniors played varsity as freshmen and stayed through two years at the JV level.

"They [the seniors] were not discouraged when we had to rebuild," he said. "They've stuck to the program and the process. They're the big reason why we're back. They could have easily stepped away, because we weren't at varsity, and found another sport, but they're passionate about soccer. They'll be the class that I look back on and say, 'They helped me rebuild the program.'"

The leadership brought by these seniors has also gone beyond the field. The most notable initiative came on Oct. 24 when the team helped the Fire Department by painting fire hydrants.

"I've seen a number of my players really grow up over the last four years and become leaders on and off the field, and contribute in ways I wouldn't have predicted," Wilcox said.

Reflecting on what the team has accomplished so far, Wilcox said the biggest lesson for him has been adjusting his own expectations. In the first JV season, the team had to play eighth graders just to field a roster. Last year's JV team lost only one game.

"We all knew that taking the step to varsity this year was going to be a big jump," he said. "I think it's been a bigger jump for some of the guys than they had thought, but we've had to adapt and be a little more disciplined and take it one game at a time and one learning opportunity at a time."

Wilcox is also intentional about the program's future. The week before preseason, Millis ran a clinic for youth players, with close to 20 of his players volunteering and close to 50 youth players taking part.

"You're watching the current Millis soccer players, but you guys are the future Millis soccer players," he tells them. In a small school, he said, "I often say I have more uniform kits than I do players. So, it's always a matter of trying to keep people playing soccer as long as they possibly want to play."

That is also why he keeps coaching. "I've stayed in touch with players that I coached five, six, seven years ago," Wilcox said. "They're now out of college and still reach out to me for guidance or advice. I do this because I want to stay connected and be a mentor to young men."

After a few key injuries early in the season, Wilcox said players are starting to come back, and he is hopeful they will make Millis "a stronger unit" for the second half of the season.



Flavio Ferreria is one of 56 members of this year's Millis Boys Soccer team. Courtesy photo

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SPORTS

Planning for higher education costs and building college savings

September 19, 2026 This article originally appeared on Springfield News-Leader.

Higher living costs have been a reality for many people across the U.S. throughout the past decade, and many families have adapted their budgets to account for rising prices. Higher education institutions have not been exempt from this, and many colleges and universities have increased their admission prices to combat these rising costs. The College Board reported an over $6,000 increase in average annual tuition costs at public four-year colleges and universities, with costs jumping from $4,900 per year to $11,000 per year over the past three decades.

While having a degree may not guarantee employment, higher education is still vital for securing jobs in many industries. Even in fields where a degree is not required to start a career, getting a degree in that area can be beneficial for personal advancement and development. Parents with children who plan to attend college can use the following recommendations to start saving for higher education or continue building those savings.

View the cost of college as an investment

Having a varied investment portfolio tends to be a good thing, so look at tuition prices for public and private four-year universities, as well as those for community colleges, trade schools and specialized institutions. From there, parents can choose to set the average price tag as their savings goal or plan to start saving for the most expensive price tag they encountered. For those who are starting to save later in their child's life, it might be better to aim to save up enough to cover the cost for their first two years of school, then work on saving for the last two as they make decisions on where they want to continue their education. There's no right or wrong method to save for your child's tuition, but it is important to choose the most effective method for your family and your financial situation.

Consider different approaches to saving

Starting a savings account for your child and adding to it as they grow up is probably the most common way people can approach saving for college. This can go one of two ways, though: either the parents can add to the savings account as the child grows up to create a college tuition nest egg or the parents can have their children add to the savings account as they grow up. For kids, this could look like dedicating part of an allowance to savings, putting birthday or Christmas money in savings or adding money from paychecks to this savings account. Either of these approaches will work, but the second might work better for parents and children who are getting a later start on saving for higher education. A less common and more complicated option is establishing a trust fund, which requires parents or grandparents to seek advice from wealth management professionals. Trust funds often come with conditions though, so it might be better to stick to more traditional tuition savings methods. If you are unsure which method would work best for your situation, you may want to consult a trusted financial advisor.

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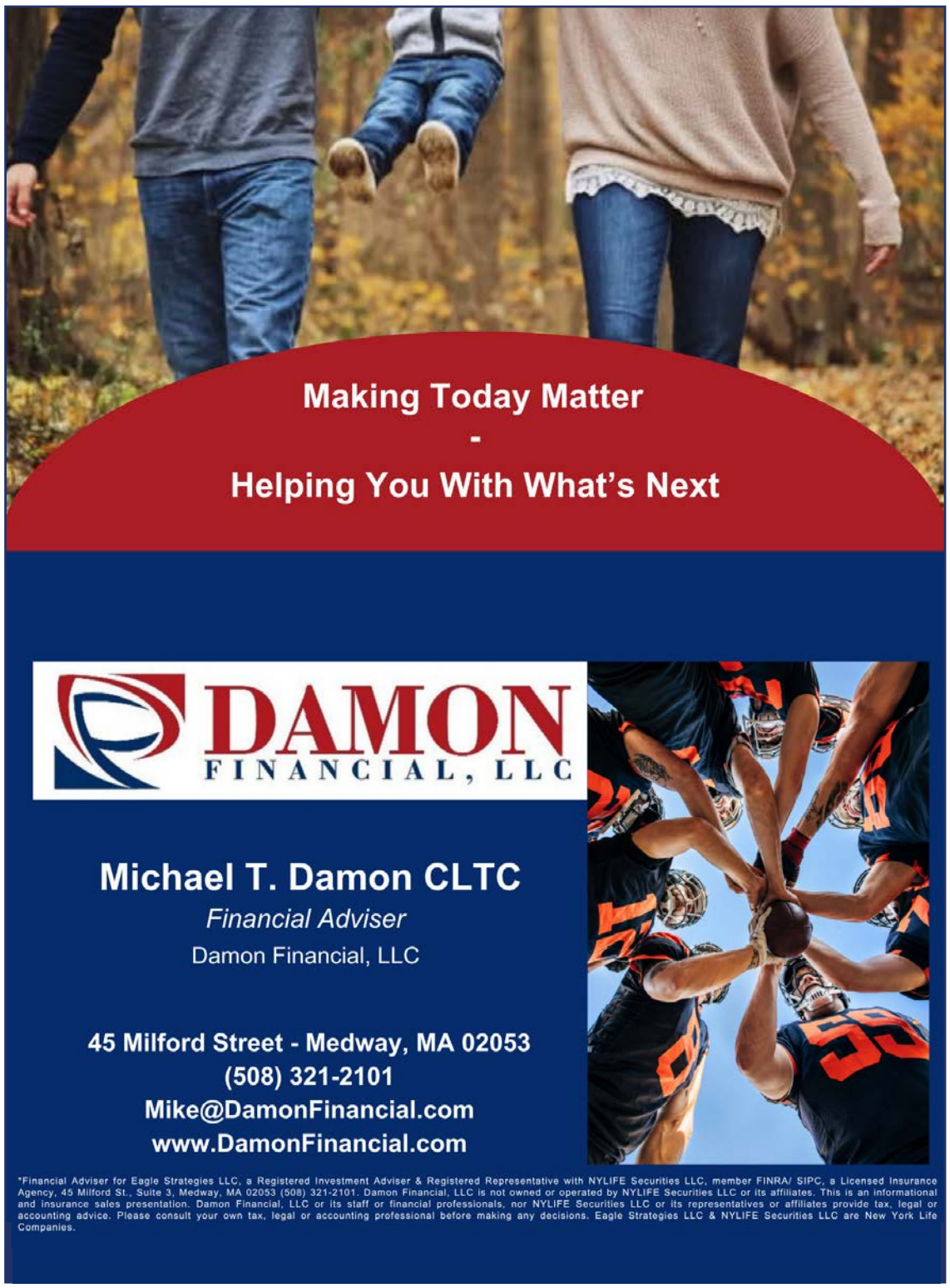
Bonus: Consider saving for additional costs

Most college students will need a laptop, dorm furniture, general school supplies and textbooks. These can come with hefty price tags as well, so create a separate plan to save for these items. That might look like having your children put money earned from after school or summer jobs in a dedicated savings account, gifting them these items for birthdays or holidays or setting aside extra money in their tuition savings account to cover the cost of these items. Proactively accounting for extra costs can help alleviate stress as you help your child transition from high school to college.

Higher education can be costly but is still essential in today's job market. The earlier families can start saving for college, the better, but even putting back enough money to cover the cost of one to two years at a community college can help young adults earn the degrees and get the experience they need to be successful.

Kristy Roach is a community development mortgage lender for Arvest Bank – Springfield Region. She can be reached at kroach1@arvest.com.

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COMPLEX

continued from page 17

behind it and the police department connected to the complex with access from Pond Street. A loop road would connect Main Street and Pond Street, providing access to the site.

The revised landscaping plan adds trees, reduces groundcover, and preserves mature specimens. John Perry, a civil engineer with Langan, said there will now be a reduction of approximately 80,000 square feet of existing impervious surface, "basically adding about two acres of green space."

The site would also have 200 solar arrays.

During the traffic pattern discussion, Perry showed a graphic that demonstrated how a firetruck would be able to make a left-hand turn off Pond Street onto Main Street when another car is at the stop sign on Pond Street; and added "that other car might have to scooch."

Cory Wilde, senior project manager with Consigli (who grew up and lives in Medway), said the construction plans call for trucks to travel from Interstate 495 up Route 109, turn left into the site from Main Street using the center turning lane, and exit with a required left turn only onto Pond Street and a required right turn back onto 109 back to 495. There may be an exception for the concrete supplier who is local but to the east.

During specific phases of the project, they expect 20-30 concrete trucks per day, 2-3 steel deliveries a day, and soil export will also require numerous trucks.

Deliveries would begin no earlier than 7 a.m., with potential restrictions during school bus and peak commuting periods. A wheel-washing station and warning signals are planned for the Pond Street exit. Construction staffing could include 70 to 120 workers daily with the expected average being 75-90.

Medway Cable Access has created a short video that summarizes the Medway Municipal Complex project. It can be found at www.medwayma.gov, or on Facebook @MedwayTownHall

Traffic signal improvements were also discussed.

Chairperson Andy Rodenhiser said the PEDB, and the public, would be seeking assurance from the town's traffic engineer that the proposed traffic plan will work.

"In order to make this thing successful, the public has to have faith so that when they go to vote on funding this, they're assured that it's going to actually work and not have things get dramatically worse; I mean, some of those intersections are already failing."

The board granted waivers for (1) parking after the applicant demonstrated that additional parking is needed: and (2) Site Plan Regulations as set forth as being consistent with the purpose and intent of the Site Plan Rules and Regulations.

The public hearing was continued to Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

Recordings of the Sept. 22 and Oct. 27 meetings can be found on Medway Cable at https://new.medway-cable.com/internetchannel/show/4335?site=3.

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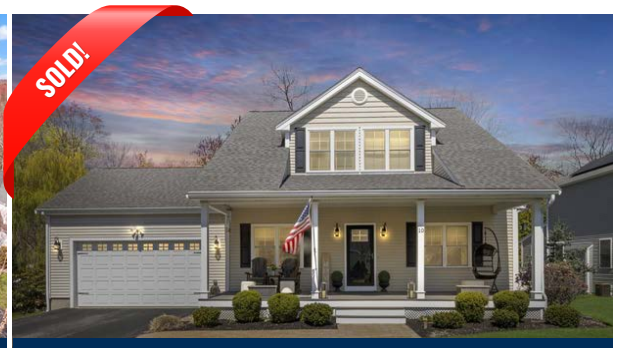
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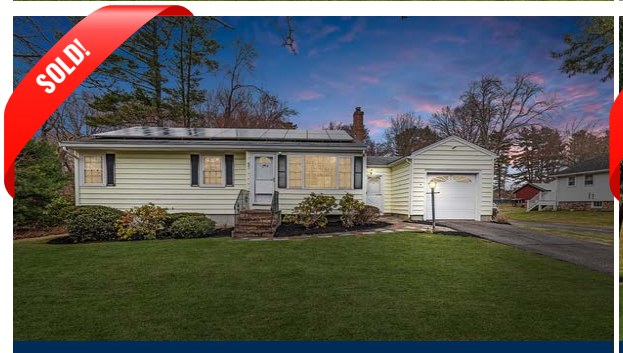
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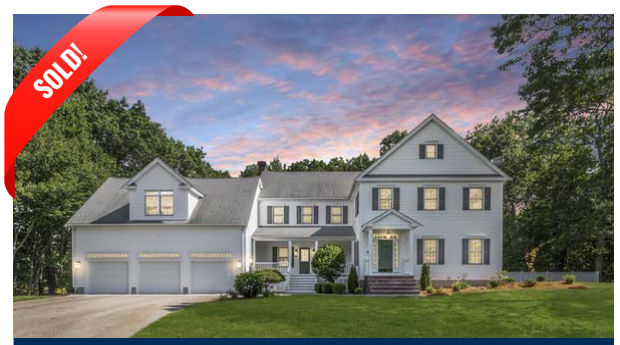
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Pets of the Month: Ryu & Majesty

Ryu and Majesty are two adorable grey cats who came to us separately as strays but found each other here at the shelter. Ryu had been living with a group of cats who have since moved on to foster homes or been adopted, and when Majesty arrived, it quickly became clear that the two were a perfect match. It didn't take long before they were curled up together in their cat bed, and they have been inseparable ever since.

Both Ryu and Majesty are on the shy side and are still building their confidence around people. They are food motivated, which makes mealtimes a great time to start earning their trust. Ryu has also come far enough in his journey that he will happily accept a chin scratch if you take your time and approach him slowly and calmly. Majesty isn't quite there yet, but with Ryu by her side and the right environment around her, we have every confidence she will get there.

Ryu is on a weight management diet to keep him healthy, and mealtime will need a little supervision as he has no qualms about helping himself to Majesty's bowl if given the chance.

Ryu and Majesty would do best in a calm, quiet home with patient adopters who are comfortable working with shy cats and willing to let them settle in at their own pace. They are a bonded pair and must be adopted together. Given time, patience, and a stable environment, these two can blossom into loving companions that will be well worth the wait.

Adoptions are by appointment only. If you have an interest in meeting Ryu & Majesty, please fill out the adoption application at https://www.shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/MWHS/Cat.

Submitted by the Metrowest Humane Society



Ryu & Majesty, a calm and quiet pair, are available for adoption at the Metrowest Humane Society. Courtesy photo

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Recent Home Sale



The 4-bed, 3-bath, 2,694-square-foot house at 14 April Way in Millis recently sold for $1,150,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com





REAL ESTATE CORNER

Recent Home Sales

Date	Medway	Amount
10/15/2026	17 Fox Run Rd.	$900,000
10/15/2026	20 Broad St. #3	$590,000
10/14/2026	10 Charles View Ln.	$959,000
10/13/2026	94 West St.	$615,000
09/28/2026	73 Lovering St.	$778,000
09/25/2026	17 Farm St.	$710,000
09/24/2026	15 Little Tree Rd.	$930,000
09/24/2026	199 Main St.	$720,000
09/22/2026	92 Lovering St.	$685,000
09/21/2026	52 Lovering St.	$750,000
Date	**Millis**	**Amount**
10/09/2026	172 Village St.	$500,000
10/02/2026	193 Orchard St.	$565,000
10/02/2026	14 April Way	$1.15 mil
09/30/2026	1 Greenwood Dr.	$895,000
09/30/2026	1 Country Village Way	$420,000
09/25/2026	333 Union St.	$540,000
09/18/2026	25 Birch St.	$579,900
09/18/2026	50 Bridge St.	$310,000

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

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25 Birch St. - 1 acre lot plus
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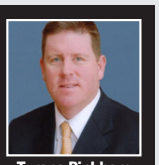
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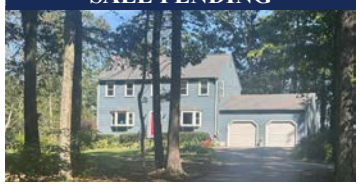
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164 Ridge Street, Millis
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SALE PENDING



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SOLD



$425,000
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Susan Kuphal

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SOLD-BUYER CLIENT



$500,000
7 Hemlock Drive, Medway
Sue Kuphal

SOLD



$1,100,000
32 Field Road, Medway
Laina Regan Kaplan

SOLD



$1,130,000
5 Apple Rock Road, Millis
Jennifer/Team Signature

SOLD



$695,000
1 Riverstone Drive, Medway
Sue Kuphal

SOLD



$820,000
10 Nouvelle Way, Unit S807, Natick
Sue Kuphal

SOLD



$519,000
283 Orchard Street, Millis
Jennifer/Team Signature

SOLD



$1,010,000
3 Nobscott Road, Medway
Laina Regan Kaplan

SOLD – BUYER CLIENT



$771,319
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