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August 2020

*The Voice of Your Community*

## Summer Program Brings a Little Bit of Joy During The Pandemic

BY SUSAN MANNING  
STAFF WRITER

Not even a pandemic could stop the annual tradition of the Hopedale Summer program.

The program, which has been around for 60+ years, had a few adjustments because of COVID-19, but still kept kids entertained last month as it has every year.

“Throughout this time, there have been some changes, but the very basics have remained the same and have been part of Hopedale’s Summers for awhile. There are signatures from young adults who ran this program in the Bandstand that date back to 1982,” said Jennie Holland, one of five students who ran the program this summer.

Holland, a rising college junior, said turnout was decent.

“Given the circumstances, we can not complain about the turnout. On average, we sold around 15-20 crafts. There are some busier days where we have sold over 30, and some slower days depending on the weather, where it’s closer to 10,” said the Hopedale native.

The program offered tennis lessons as well as the opportunity to buy a craft bag at the bandstand most days in July. Holland said the tennis lessons for children ran on a two-week session and children had to sign up ahead of time. There were also adult lessons.



Jennie Holland, Trevor Bache, and Edd Phillips (left to right) were in charge of the crafts at the Bandstand. Jake Kracinovich and Brittany Dupuis (not pictured) ran the Tennis Program. Photo: courtesy

The bandstand crafts were offered without a sign-up necessary.

“In previous years, we had a long bench with stools

### SUMMER PROGRAM

*continued on page 2*

## New Sign Stands Out at Police Station



BY SUSAN MANNING  
STAFF WRITER

Hopedale Police Chief Mark A. Giovanella saw a need and filled it.

The signs in front of the police station we’re not in good shape, so we found a way to fix that.

“The old signs started to rot out and they looked horrible. As the town budgets are tight and they would have been expensive to have professionally done, I talked a few friends into helping me out,” he said.

The blue signs came out shiny and new, but it wasn’t a quick project.

“It took some time as we were only able to work on them in small increments and used hand tools to chisel out the letters,” said the chief.


Thanks to his — and his friends — patience and resourcefulness, the police station signs are in place and look great.

“It’s not a hobby; it was something I just needed to get done,” he said.

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**SUMMER PROGRAM**

*continued from page 1*

where kids could sit and do the crafts right there. However with COVID, we have had to adapt to doing individually bagged crafts. It has been working perfectly given the circumstances and I believe Hopedale is just excited to have this program up and running," said Holland.

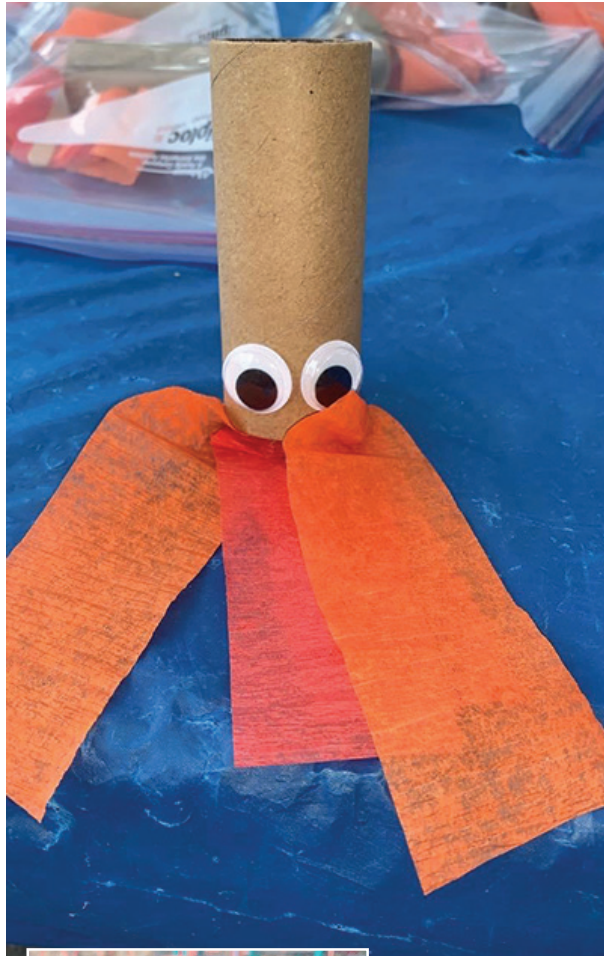
The requirements due to coronavirus did not seem to deter many participants. In addition to a mask requirement, everyone who went had to be 10 feet away from others, but were allowed to bring a towel or a blanket to sit on to make it more comfortable.

She said the crafts were a hit not only because they are fun, but also because they are almost always just \$1.

"This allows for a cheap activity to do everyday Monday-Friday," said Holland.

Crafts included macaroni necklaces and paper cup ducks, among others. The biggest draw usually is the tie-dye day.

"The most popular activity every summer is tie-dye. We were nervous we wouldn't be able to have it this summer, but we



and controlled the Facebook Page. She also organized registration for the Tennis Program with help from the Parks Department Secretary Mary Arcudi.

Holland and the other students— Jake Kracinovich, Brittany Duipre, Trevor Bache, and Edda Phillips—reported to Don Howes, a Board Member for the Parks Department.

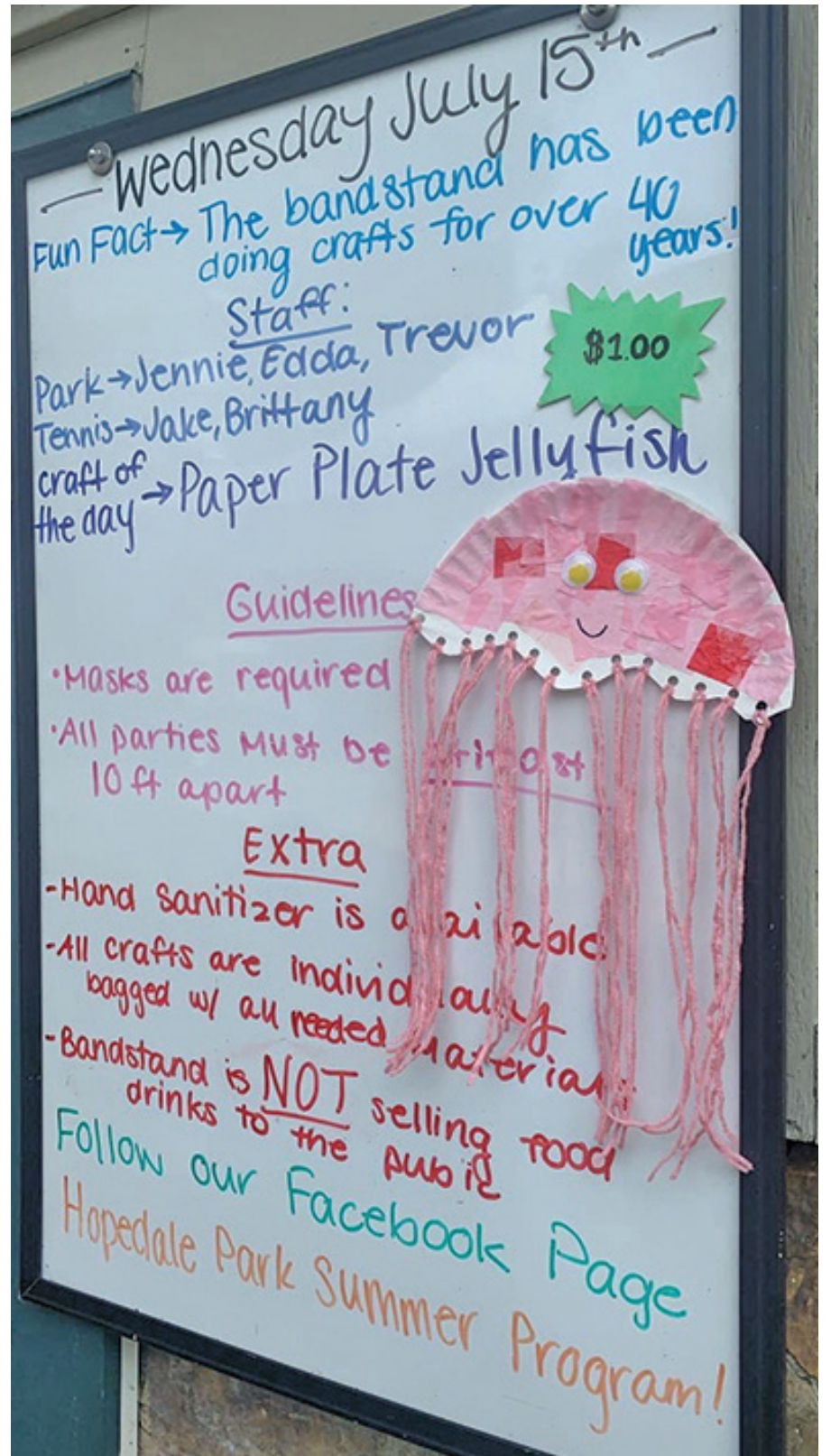
found a safe and cautious way to do it. ... The staff helps families and children though the whole process and is just a classic activity we have always had," she said.

The program, which is funded through the Parks Department, employed three rising college juniors and two rising high school seniors this year.

As the student leader, Holland planned the schedule for crafts, shopped for the materials

"Without the other four workers, ... this program would not be as successful as it has been this summer with the circumstances," she said.

Holland said she loves the program because it has a personal tie for her.



"My personal favorite part about this program (and everyone else I talk to) is how unique it is to Hopedale. I love how it magically works its way through generations within families. Personally, my dad (Hopedale graduate of 1983) remembers

taking part in it when he was a kid. Then when I was younger, my babysitter would bring me down each day and now I help run it. Such a unique program in Hopedale that has a lot of meaning to all generations," she said.

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**Alan Khazei will bust down the doors of Congress to let the people of Hopedale back in.**

Alan Khazei is a movement leader who understands too many people are hurting and ignored by the system.

In the 30 years since he started City Year and built AmeriCorps, Alan has helped put 1.1 million young people to work fighting poverty, fixing schools, and supporting seniors.

He helped organize national marches for women’s rights and gun safety, and was among the very first candidates in the nation to refuse all corporate lobbyist money.

Now he’s running for Congress because he knows the only way to change a system that shuts people out is to bust down the doors and let the people back in.

It’s why he’s leading the push, in this crisis, to secure employee paychecks and protect small businesses.

**Alan Khazei will put people before politics, just as he has his whole life.**



“Alan Khazei is a proven, progressive trailblazer, showing us through thoughtful, innovative policy why we need him in Congress to help tackle the COVID-19 crisis and emerge a safer, more equitable, and more vibrant community here in Massachusetts. We can trust Alan to represent the people of the 4th district because he has spent a lifetime building organizations like City Year that serve our local communities and put people before politics.”

-MA State Representative  
Jeff Roy

Alan with his wife Vanessa and their two children.

# Audubon Trails Open

Great news! After careful analysis and discussions with local officials, we have determined that we can safely open trails on many of our wildlife sanctuaries for local visitation.

These sanctuaries were selected based on a variety of conditions including being able to manage capacity for expected level of use—both on the trails and in the parking areas—as well as support from the communities where they are located.

We need your help to make sure they can stay open! Please follow these guidelines to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

- Remember that all buildings and facilities are closed (including restrooms and water fountains), dogs and bikes are not permitted, and please carry out anything you bring in.

## Before You Visit

- Stay local—look for an open sanctuary in your community or neighborhood.
- Print or download a trail map at home—there will be no paper maps on site.
- Pack a mask/face covering and hand sanitizer.

## Upon Arriving

- If the parking lot is full, please come back another time.
- Park only in designated areas; do not park on the road, in fields not designated for parking, or on our neighbors' properties.
- Wear or bring your mask with you; wear it if you see other visitors nearby.
- Do not gather in groups of people outside of your household.
- Keep at least 6 feet apart from staff and other visitors.
- Avoid high-touch surfaces such as benches, picnic tables, and Nature Play Areas.

## On the Trails

- Wear a mask if there are other visitors nearby.
- Be sure to stay at least 6 feet apart from others.
- Step aside to allow others to pass.
- Keep visits short.

Thank you for caring for our wildlife sanctuaries as much as we do. Please stay safe and healthy!

**Welcome!** Mass Audubon

**TO KEEP OUR TRAILS OPEN AND FOR YOUR SAFETY AND SAFETY OF OTHERS PLEASE:**

- Wear a mask or face covering
- Do not use nature play areas, benches, or other high-touch surfaces
- Stay at least 6 feet from other visitors & step aside to allow others to pass
- Choose the least crowded trail

**REMEMBER:**

- Take a photo of the map (or download it from [massaudubon.org/trails](http://massaudubon.org/trails))
- Bathrooms and other facilities are closed
- Anything you carry in, carry out
- No dogs & no bikes

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# New Paint Job For Little Red Shop Museum

The Little Red Shop Museum is looking beautiful thanks to a new paint job from DJF Painting. The new paint job was made possible by a donation from the Friends of Historic Hopedale! From the organization: "Once again we thank all of you for your support of our events and fundraisers!"




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# Our Lady of the Valley Regional School Holds Eighth Grade Graduation

Our Lady of the Valley Regional Catholic School graduated 13 eighth-graders. The students were honored during an outdoor graduation ceremony held June 4, at the school.

At the celebration, the graduates in the company of their families and socially-distanced teachers, celebrated their completion of eighth grade as well as their academic accomplishments and contributions to school activities.

The graduates will be attending the following high schools: St. Paul's, Blackstone Valley Tech, Whitinsville Christian, Medway High, St. John's, Mount St

Charles, Notre Dame and Nipmuc Regional High.

Our Lady of the Valley is a PreK-8 regional school that fosters a safe, structured learning environment, anchored in faith, where students are encouraged to develop their God given talents. Our Lady of the Valley is situated on the grounds of St. Mary's Catholic Church and provides high quality education to children of all denominations. Transportation is available for enrolled students that are Uxbridge residents.



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# MassBay Graduate Earns His Degree His Way

When Benjamin Coulombe of Hopedale, was a high school senior, he was determined to earn his college degree his own way. He researched colleges where he could achieve his educational goals within a flexible timeline and without leaving him thousands of dollars in debt. He found the perfect learning opportunity at MassBay Community College.

“It was incredibly important to me that I earn my college degree my way. I did not want to sacrifice the quality of my education, but wanted to find a college that I could do on my own time and on my own dime. MassBay provided me with the opportunity to do just that. I was met by a group of experienced and kind professors who challenged me and allowed me to grow,” Coulombe said.

Coulombe saved time and money by receiving college credits for subjects he had already studied, taking advantage of MassBay’s Credit for Prior Learning program.

“I was surprised to learn my Advanced Placement (AP) classes from high school counted toward college credit, saving me time and money. Credits from my AP United States History courses, English Composition, and Psychology were applied at MassBay. I also passed a challenge exam at MassBay and was able to test out of two required courses, Critical Thinking and Freshman English. All those credits I was able to secure were equivalent to an entire semester’s worth of courses,” added Coulombe.

Coulombe joined other students in producing the MassBay literary magazine, lumière, and this year, enjoyed helping the award-winning club transform the typical hard-copy issue into its first digital edition.

“My responsibilities for lumière included reviewing peer submission pieces as well as assisting in mapping out the structure of the magazine. Working at lumière was a great experience that helped prepare me

for my future in the journalism field.”

“I would like to thank my academic advisor, Sean Fortney, for not only providing me with a stable road map toward attaining my bachelor’s degree, but all the professors I had along the way, whose selfless work and dedication helped improve my life and the lives of so many others. I’d also like to thank Professor Matthew Walsh, the faculty advisor to lumière, who gave me the chance to gain valuable experience in my dream job environment. I’m also grateful for my parents, who, unconditionally, stood by my decision to attend MassBay and gave me the support and love that allowed me to grow into the person I wanted to be,” he added.

Coulombe earned his Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts with “absolutely no debt” and he will transfer to UMass Amherst to study journalism in the fall.



## Food Assistance is Available

You may have never needed or considered applying for Food Stamps. Now is a very different time. We urge anyone who needs help obtaining sufficient food to call us for application assistance or a voucher to The Milford, MA Food Pantry. All inquires are confidential. The Hopedale Sr. Center assists all Hopedale residents regardless of their age. We can be reached at (508)634-2208. Spread the word.



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# Living Healthy

## iStent Inject for Glaucoma

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

Glaucoma is a progressive disease of the optic nerve which works like a cable, connecting the eye and the brain. Glaucoma happens when the pressure inside the eye is higher than the optic nerve can withstand. The most common form of glaucoma is silent in the beginning but can cause a patient to slowly lose the vision if left untreated, starting with the peripheral vision. The most frustrating characteristic of glaucoma is that for many years, the loss of vision will go unnoticed by a patient.

The optic nerve is like a cable made up of over 1 million nerve fibers that carry the information collected by your eye (retina) to

the visual cortex of the brain for processing. Glaucoma slowly, decreases the ability of your optic nerve to carry this information to your brain.

The buildup of pressure, in your eye, causes glaucoma. There are currently two basic theories as to why excessive ocular pressure causes glaucoma. Either high intra-ocular pressure decreases blood flow to the optic nerve, or high pressure, over time, physically crushes and kills the individual nerve fibers.

At first, open-angle glaucoma has no symptoms. Vision stays normal, and there is no pain. As glaucoma remains untreated, people may notice that although they see clearly in front of them, they miss objects to the side and out of the corner of their eye.

It may seem as though they are looking through a tunnel. Over time, the remaining vision may decrease until there is no vision left. Optic nerve damage caused by glaucoma is permanent; therefore, it is important to seek treatment in the early stages of the disease.

Glaucoma is a lifelong disease that will always require treatment. Glaucoma is much like hypertension and diabetes. We can control these diseases, however we cannot, as of yet, cure them. Today, there are numerous ophthalmic medications available to us in the treatment of glaucoma. Some are eye drops that are used only once a day; others are used up to four times a day. More than one medication may be used to treat glaucoma. If glaucoma cannot be controlled with medications other procedures, including laser and surgery may be considered.

The laser can be used in a focused beam of light to treat the drainage angle of the eye in an additional attempt to lower the pressure. This surgery makes it easier for fluid to flow out of the front part of the eye, decreasing pressure inside the eye. Selective laser trabeculoplasty or SLT is the name of the laser procedure used to lower the pressure. SLT has been in use for more than 25

years in the United States and around the world.

If drops and SLT are not controlling the pressure, glaucoma surgery may be needed. Minimally invasive glaucoma surgery is a newer approach to controlling pressure. When compared to classical glaucoma surgery, this approach leads to much less risk of complications. The iStent inject is small device that can be used during this type of minimally invasive surgery and can help reduce pressure inside the eye. The iStent *inject* can be performed as a stand-alone surgery or if cataract surgery is planned, at the same time as cataract surgery.

The iStent inject consists of two very small, titanium stents that are surgically implanted into the trabecular meshwork (the tissue that drains fluid away from the eye). The stents create tiny channels that fluid can drain through, which helps to lower eye pressure. Following the surgery, most patients are able to stop or reduce the number of eye drops they use to treat their glaucoma.

The published data over the last few years has shown that the iStent inject system is effective at lowering eye pressure. The procedure is very quick. Through a mini-incision in the front of the eye, a special surgical instrument is used to implant the stent into the drainage tissue. A second stent is implanted in a different area of the tissue, before the in-

strument is removed from the eye. In experienced hands, the iStent inject takes roughly two minutes to insert.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, we use state-of-the-art technology and lasers to diagnose and treat a variety of eye problems, including glaucoma. We offer high definition optic coherence tomography testing (OCT) that can predict glaucoma before it even happens and two types of laser treatment when medications alone are not enough. All our offices are equipped with OCT and state-of-the-art computerized visual field testing. We operate in a state-of-the-art surgery center close to home, here at the Cataract and Laser Surgery Center of Milford. Are you still being told to go to Waltham and Attleboro for your eye surgery? Call us for a second opinion! We offer stellar outcomes closer to home. 100% of the surgeries are performed under topical anesthesia, so only drops, no need for shots and their risks and no need for stitches. With 20 years of established experience and thousands of procedures performed, we are happy to offer state-of-the-art medical and surgical eye care and now SLT laser and the iStent inject for treatment of glaucoma and now closer to home than ever before.

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# Hopedale Water Restriction

A reminder that due to the recent dry spell, extremely high demands and the significant drop in our water storage tank, we must implement additional water restrictions

- 1) State mandated ban: no outside watering between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.
- 2) Mandatory odd/even ban:
  - > Residents with odd numbered houses can water outdoors on odd calendar days between 5 P.M. and 9 A.M.
  - > Residents with even numbered houses can water outdoors on even calendar days between 5 P.M. and 9 A.M.

These restrictions are mandatory and enforceable. Your assistance is greatly needed.  
Thank you in advance,

*Tim Watson*  
Manager  
Hopedale Water & Sewer  
Department



**FUEL ASSISTANCE RE-CERTIFICATION FORMS  
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*We are the Fuel Assistance resource for everyone in Hopedale.*

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### Sacred Heart Church "Twice Blessed" Thrift Shop

During the Covid-19 Pandemic the Sacred Heart Church will remain closed for the summer until further notice. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are directly impacted as well as the First Responders and Essential Workers.

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### Meals on Wheels Tri-Valley, Inc. - August 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>3</b> <b>Beef Stew</b> Rice Corn Niblets Mandarin Oranges Marble Rye Bread	<b>4</b> <b>Buttermilk Chicken</b> Herbed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Peaches Muffin	<b>5</b> <b>Baked Potato with Chili &amp; Cheese</b> Broccoli Sour Cream Chocolate Mousse Italian Bread	<b>6</b> <b>Hot Dog</b> Baked Beans Green Beans Coleslaw Fruit Hot Dog Bun	<b>7</b> <b>Garlic Herbed Chicken</b> Bread Stuffing Roasted Broccoli & Carrots Lemon Pudding Diet = SF Tapioca Pudding Whole Wheat Bread
<b>10</b> <b>Chicken Mornay</b> Couscous Roman Blend Vegetables Yogurt Marble Rye Bread	<b>11</b> <b>Meatloaf with Gravy</b> Garlic Mashed Potatoes Carrots Butterscotch Pudding Diet = SF Vanilla Pudding Whole Wheat Bread	<b>12</b> <b>Roast Turkey with Gravy</b> Mashed Sweet Potatoes Summer Blend Vegetables Pineapple Corn Muffin	<b>13</b> <b>Macaroni &amp; Cheese</b> Stewed Tomatoes Green Beans Peaches Italian Bread	<b>14</b> <b>Fish w/Parmesan Cream Sauce</b> Wild Rice Broccoli w/Red Peppers Mandarin Oranges Pumpernickel Bread
<b>17</b> <b>Swedish Meatballs</b> Mashed Potatoes Scandinavian Vegetables Vanilla Pudding Diet = SF Vanilla Pudding Marble Rye Bread	<b>18</b> <b>Roast Pork with Gravy</b> Cranberry Stuffing Roasted California Vegetables Applesauce Muffin	<b>19</b> <b>Sloppy Joe</b> Steak Cut French Fries Summer Corn Strawberries Sandwich Roll	<b>20</b> <b>Chicken Cacciatore</b> Gemelli Pasta Broccoli Fruit Crunch Bar Italian Bread	<b>21</b> <b>Fish with Crumb Topping</b> Lemon Seasoned Rice Tuscany Style Vegetables Fruited Ambrosia Whole Wheat Bread
<b>24</b> <b>Chicken Pot Pie</b> Mashed Potatoes Corn Niblets Peaches Biscuit	<b>25</b> <b>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs</b> Green Beans Chocolate Pudding Diet = SF Choc Pudding Italian Bread	<b>26</b> <b>Potato Crunch Fish</b> Herbed Potatoes Peas & Onions Mixed Fruit Tartar Sauce Pumpernickel Bread	<b>27</b> <b>Cranberry Chicken Salad</b> Pasta Salad Three Bean Salad Mandarin Oranges Sandwich Roll	<b>28</b> <b>Shepherd's Pie</b> Carrots Peas Cookie Whole Wheat Bread
<b>31</b> <b>Pork Rib-i-que</b> Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Pineapple Sandwich Roll	Dudley 508-949-6640, Franklin 508-520-1422, Milford 508-478-8102, Northbridge 508-234-2002, Southbridge 774-289-9438, Spencer 508-885-5767, Sturbridge 508-347-5063, Sutton 508-234-0703, Upton 508-529-9094, Uxbridge 774-482-6174, West Brookfield 508-867-1411 Tri-Valley receives federal financial support under the Older Americans Act furnished by the Central Mass Agency on Aging and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.			

Run Your Ads With Us! Call Jen Schofield (508) 570-6544

# Hopedale's Sr. Center Van is Available for Rides for Seniors and Disabled Adults

Seniors and disabled adults who don't drive and need transportation may use the Sr. Center van to go grocery shopping, personal shopping or get to the bank, hair salon, barber or other local non-medical destinations.

The current van schedule is:

## Monday through Thursday

**9:00 am - 2:00 pm (Times and dates subject to availability of the driver.)**

The cost for most roundtrips is \$3.00. Please call to schedule an appointment at least forty-eight (48) hours before your appointment.

*If you would like to use the Hopedale Sr. Center van you must register as a van rider by calling the Sr. Center at (508)634-2208. The van will come directly to your home and pick you up!*

Please remember that we have a separate van service for medical appointments and pre-prescription pick-ups. Call the Sr. Center directly at (508)634-2208 for rides to your medical appointments.

## COVID-19 Requirements:

All van riders will be required to:

- Answer screening questions
- Have temperature taken
- Wear a mask
- Use hand-sanitizer before taking a seat

The van's high-contact surfaces will be wiped-down with sanitizing cloths between trips. There is a two (2) person maximum on each trip. Please let us know if you have particular questions or concerns. We can assist with your van rider registration.

The van is available through a partnership between the town of Hopedale and The MetroWest Regional Transit Authority. The service offers Hopedale residents a wonderful opportunity for expanded transportation services. Spread the word.



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# Fairy Walk a Success Despite the Pandemic Challenges

The Hopedale Fairy Walk Reverse Parade, so challenged by the new normal, was a hit. So many turned out, in fact, changes

had to be made on the fly. Is the route started filling that morning, the organizers had to change how things were happening to

be able to meet social distancing requirements. In the end, have a one family at a time come to the corner to take pictures from

a distance worked out fine with no complaints. DJ Mike and the five characters were definitely a welcome visit to Hopedale!



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## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### DIVISION OF BANKS

The Check Stop, LLC, Hopedale Massachusetts has petitioned the Commissioner of Banks for permission to operate as a check casher at 404 South Main Street, Hopedale, Massachusetts, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 169A. The Division of Banks is establishing a public comment period on this petition from Monday, August 10, 2020 through Monday, August 24, 2020. Any objections or comments concerning this proposal must be filed with the Division of Banks by Monday, August 24, 2020 via email to Chief Director Elizabeth Benotti at [Elizabeth.Benotti@mass.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Benotti@mass.gov). The petitioner's application and all communications relative to the application are available for public inspection at the Division of Banks, 1000 Washington Street, 10th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts.

Mary L. Gallagher - Commissioner of Banks

# Sports

## Daniel J Hollis Foundation Remembers Standout Student

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY,  
STAFF SPORTS WRITERS

Daniel Hollis excelled in three sports (lacrosse, hockey, and golf) over six years for the Hopedale Junior-Senior High School.

Following his 2018 graduation he was able to continue playing lacrosse on the next level; the former Blue Raider goaltender had earned himself the opportunity to play lacrosse for Emerson College in Boston, where he was majoring in Marketing and Communications.

In September 2019, the beginning of his sophomore year, Hollis was going out to grab a bite to eat with a bunch of his friends when they were approached by another group. An altercation eventually occurred, and Hollis was hit, falling to the ground striking his head.

Then on Oct. 2, the Hopedale standout passed away. Soon

after, his parents decided that they needed to do something in remembrance of their son.

“Unfortunately, while he lay in a coma in the hospital, things kept popping up in my head to what we would do if he died,” his mother Jen Kelly said. “We wanted to do something in his name, something that Dan stood for. The outpouring from the community was mind blowing and more than I could have ever imagined; people from all over had things to say about him.”

Not only was Hollis an exceptional athlete, he was also highly creative and wanted to travel. His parents wanted to start a foundation in their son’s name for what he stood for while giving younger kids an opportunity to excel as well.

Hollis’ parents came up with the 3 C’s (Community, Competition and Curiosity); all things their son stood for.



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In the beginning, the Daniel J Hollis Foundation saw numerous donations flowing in to help his parents get things off the ground. Then in January of this year, they officially became an organization.

Thus far the foundation has secured a service dog for an 8-year-old boy with autism (according to his mother Hollis was also a lover of animals); on March 9, (Hollis’ birthday) they had a social media event where people would send in videos of themselves doing acts of kindness in Hollis’ honor; they also handed out a \$1500 grant during the Covid-19 isolation with people sending in pictures of themselves being creative; have been able to sponsor two students for Summer camp at the Hockomock YMCA and when the first annual golf tournament (which is to take place on Aug. 10) was announced it sold out in 36 hours.

Although all of the foundation’s efforts have been impressive in such a short period of time, the one that holds the dearest to his parents is the Daniel J Hollis Outstanding Teammate Award, which will be given yearly to a Hopedale senior athlete. In order to be able to eligible for the award, athletes must meet four criteria: 1) leadership on and off the field 2) selfless play 3) dedication and commitment to the team and 4) overall love for their sport.

“We wanted the student athletes to be the ones that choose the seniors that would eventually win the award,” Kelly said. “They were the ones to choose the graduating seniors that they felt was not only the best teammate, but ones that exemplified leadership on and off the field. We had a survey created and sent to all the student athletes at the high school.”

The inaugural winners of the Daniel J Hollis Outstanding

Teammate Award went to Zoe Athanasopoulos, who is heading to Worcester State University to play lacrosse, and Blake Moxim, who will be playing lacrosse at Lincoln Memorial University at Tennessee.

“To have Zoe and Blake win the award, we were thrilled,” Kelly said. “We knew of Zoe’s reputation for working hard, but Blake and Dane were really close friends. It seemed appropriate that he was part of the first year, it made a lot of sense. And we’re thrilled at the outcome.”

Kelly went on to say it has really been amazing at how many people have come out to show their support for Dan and all that he stood for. The foundation will continue to raise money throughout the year to do good and give back to the community.

Anyone interested in donating can go to [danieljhollisfoundation.org](http://danieljhollisfoundation.org) or hit up any of their social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram).

# The Dangers of Do-It-Yourself Wills and Living Trusts

In light of the current pandemic, many Americans are becoming aware of the importance of creating or updating their estate planning documents. If you are considering writing your own will or using an online “do it yourself” (DIY) document creator, there are many reasons why this is one project you shouldn’t undertake without the help of a professional.

It is very easy to overlook important legal and technical planning points that can cause your estate to go to the wrong beneficiaries, or your beneficiaries to pay unnecessary higher taxes and/or expensive fees to attorneys or probate court. What may seem like a great deal could cost your family significantly in the long-run.

A notable case reflecting this is that of a successful Washington businessman who wrote his own Will assuming his assets would be free of estate tax. However, due to the language he used, the IRS interpreted the law differently and claimed all the assets he passed to his wife were subject to \$800,000 in estate tax plus \$130,000 in back interest. His family went to court and eventually won, but only after nearly

ten years of costly litigation and years of turmoil. One of the biggest problems with do-it-yourself plans is the lack of personal advice. You need a customized plan based on in-depth discussions about your family, their future and your legacy. In fact, many of the do-it-yourself resources have a strong disclaimer that says they are not a substitute for legal advice and to consult an attorney for help in understanding how the law may apply to your particular situation.

A comprehensive plan is based on knowing what questions to ask to understand your individual needs. Some examples:

- Owning real estate or a share in a small business
- Leaving money to your grandchildren separate of your children
- Having children from a previous marriage
- Wishing to arrange long-term care for a disabled beneficiary
- Having minor children
- Updates in laws that affect retirement investments
- Protecting beneficiaries from foolish financial decisions

- Potential taxes that will be paid or avoided
- Creditor or divorce protection for your children

We have had distraught clients come in after they used software. In one case, a grandfather used software he purchased to name his grandchildren as heirs instead of his children. Skipping a generation allowed the IRS to tax his assets twice, and the grandchildren only received 20% of the estate. Even a simple estate plan can run into trouble if not executed properly. For example, Massachusetts requires two witnesses for a Will who must be present at the time the Will is signed. If one of those witnesses is also a beneficiary (like, for example, your spouse), that witness could be disqualified from receiving any assets from your Will or Trust. Some states allow handwritten wills, while others (including Massachusetts) do not recognize them.

Tax planning of your estate is especially complicated. Most people don’t know how much money they can pass, without paying taxes. While the 2020, federal estate tax exemption is \$11.58 million, in Massachusetts

it is \$1 million. A married couple does not automatically get \$2 million tax free. Our office has seen too many DIY plans that do not plan for taxes, which can cost your family \$100,000 in unnecessary taxes to Massachusetts. These examples are just the tip of the iceberg of things an estate planning attorney will help you consider. Do-it-yourself kits are simply not designed to cover all possible financial and taxation situations. Every person has their own unique goals and objectives, and an estate plan should reflect that.

An effective estate plan will provide financial stability to your spouse, children, or other beneficiaries, protect your assets for future generations, ensure your wishes are carried out, and protect the privacy of your loved ones. We are currently offering free personal estate planning consultations, call today to schedule yours (781) 237-2815.

*This article was provided by the Estate Planning & Asset Protection Law Center of Dennis Sullivan & Associates.*

**Run Your Ads With Us!**  
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**(508) 570-6544**

## Sales Tax Holiday This Month

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that the annual sales tax-free weekend will take place the weekend of Aug. 29-30. This marks the second sales tax holiday held under the new law signed by Gov. Baker in 2018 that made the weekend an annual occurrence.

“The annual sales tax holiday is an opportunity for us to support small businesses and consumers, and this year, it’s a great way to support our economy that’s been impacted by COVID-19,” said Baker. “This pandemic has created enormous challenges for the Commonwealth’s small businesses, and the sales tax-free weekend is one way that we can encourage more economic activity to help Main Street businesses and local economies.”

“As the Commonwealth continues its phased reopening process, we recognize that many small businesses continue to face difficulties,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “We are proud that our Administration



worked with the Legislature to enact legislation making the sales tax holiday permanent and look forward to this year’s tax free weekend and the economic activity that will come with it.”

“We are proud to continue supporting local businesses and consumers as we work with our colleagues in the Legislature to navigate the evolving COVID-19 environment while adhering to public health guidelines,” said Secretary for Administration and Finance Michael J. Heffernan. “The upcoming sales tax holiday will be an opportunity for people throughout Massachusetts to help support local companies and generate much needed economic activity.”

In 2018, Gov. Baker signed legislation that makes the annual sales tax holiday permanent.



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# Hopedale - Bancroft Memorial Library News

## Library Visits

Library visits by appointment are coming soon. Patrons will be able to schedule a 20-minute appointment in the library to pick up books, browse, or use the computer/copier/fax machine. Curbside pickup will still be available during this time. Please check our website or Facebook for more information.

## YouTube Channel

We have a YouTube Channel! Search for "Bancroft Memorial Library" to find us and subscribe today.

## Beginner Yoga

Eager to de-stress? Then try Beginner Yoga with instructor, Marise Nazzaro. There are 4 sessions left! Sessions can be found on the Bancroft Memorial Library YouTube Channel on Thursday mornings at 9 am and last between 30-45 minutes.

## Book Returns

Please note that we must quarantine books for 72 hours. This means that even if you return books, they may still appear on your record for a few days afterward. Once we check the books in, the items will be removed from your record, and you will NOT accumulate any fines. Mistakes may happen, so please give us a call at 508-634-2209 or send an email at [hopedalelibrary@cwmar.org](mailto:hopedalelibrary@cwmar.org) to let us know if you see an error.

## Checkout History

Do you enjoy reading? Have you ever found yourself holding



a book in your hand and thinking, "Have I read this one before?" Sounds familiar but ... I have a solution for this problem. Ask your computer to keep track of the books for you! Here's how...

To Keep a Record of Your Checkout History

- Go to the Hopedale website, click Library and then click Catalog.
- Log into your account using your library card number and password.
- Click on Account Preferences tab.
- Click on Search and History Preferences tab.
- Scroll down and check box next to Keep History of Checked Out Items.
- Scroll down and click Save.

The items you check out from the date you set the preferences will display. To find this list.....

- Click Items Checked Out tab.
  - Click Checkout History tab.
- And just like that, from this day forward, you will have the list at your disposal whenever you need. If you have any problems, just call the library. We're happy to help!

## Virtual Programming Survey

The Bancroft Memorial Library is changing its programming to an online format for the next few months and we need your input. Check our website for more information. Thank you for your help.

## Ongoing Monthly Library Events

Helen Symonds Book Group  
The Helen Symonds Book Group will not meet in September. Everyone, enjoy your summer reading and stay safe.

## Friends of the Hopedale Library

Want to join The Friends of the Hopedale Library? The Friends meet at the library on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 am during the school year. We always welcome new members!

The Friends of the Hopedale Library helps to support the Library by providing funds for equipment, materials and programs not covered by the regular operating budget. They offer adult events September- June and pay for the children's summer reading and other programs. More information can be found at: <http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/bancroft-memorial-library/pages/friends-library>.

## News from the Marjorie Hattersley Children's Room

## Summer Reading Registration 2020

Summer Reading ends on Aug. 7. The Barnes and Noble Raffle will be drawn the second week of August.

## PJ Virtual Storytime with Mrs. Kraimer

The last session of Mrs. Kraimer's PJ Virtual Storytime is Wednesday, Aug. 5, at 5:30pm. Craft kits will be available at the curbside pickup spot at 5pm on Wednesday or all day Thursday.

Please call and register with Mrs. Kraimer for the following virtual programs at 508-634-2209.

## Animal Adventures: Furry Animals

On Tuesday, Aug. 3, at 2pm, learn about some furry critters from Animal Adventures! This one-hour program gives participants the ability to see the animals up close on camera and ask questions. (All ages)

## Kidding Around with Yoga

Join yoga teacher, Aubrie Rojee, as she leads a virtual yoga class for youngsters on Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 11am – healthy and fun for mind and body. (Ages 5+)

## Grades 3-5 Book Club

Join Mrs. Kraimer as she reads a book of current interest on Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 3pm.

## WonderSpark Puppet Show

On Friday, Aug. 7, at 11am enjoy a live puppet show by WonderSpark Puppets on their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/WonderSparkPuppets/> . (All ages)

For updates throughout the month, Friend us on Facebook, sign up at [www.hopedale-ma.gov/subscribe](http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/subscribe) to receive library news via email, and be sure to add the Mobile App to your phone for up-to-date reminders. The library webpage is - <https://www.hopedale-ma.gov/bancroft-memorial-library>.

## Real Estate Corner

**Zentangle Art Classes coming to Hopedale Cable TV**

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*It's easy, relaxing, creative, fun and free! Contact the Hopedale Sr. Center at (508)634-2208 for August scheduling details.*

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