

Franklin Police Receive Accreditation

Chief Thomas Lynch is pleased to inform you that on October 26, 2022, the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) voted to award Accreditation to the Franklin Police Department.

Accreditation is a self-initiated process by which police agencies voluntarily strive to meet and maintain standards that have been established for the profession by the profession. The Mission of the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission is to ensure that the delivery of police services within the Commonwealth is at the highest level of professionalism and integrity.

The Franklin Police Department underwent a complete assessment on June 22 & 23, 2022 by a team of MPAC assessors and successfully completed all of the requirements.

Accreditation Manager Deputy Chief James West, Officer Richard Martini, and the entire Franklin Police Department worked diligently over the past year to achieve this



Presentation of accreditation certificate to the Franklin Police Department by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC). L-R: Chief Michael Bradley, Upton Police Department – Treasurer of MPAC, Chief Thomas Lynch, Franklin Police Department, Deputy Chief James West, Franklin Police Department, Chief Scott MacDonald, Orleans Police Department – Secretary of MPAC

prestigious award and all are proud of this accomplishment.

There are two credentialing programs: certification and accreditation.

Accreditation is the higher of the two program awards consisting of 382 standards. 257 are mandatory and 125

are optional. These standards reflect the best practices in police management, administration, operations, and support services.

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The Santa Foundation - Still Going Strong in Its 37th Year!

The Santa Foundation (SF) continues to provide gifts and support for any family in need in Bellingham, Franklin, Norfolk, Wrentham and towns in the surrounding areas during the holiday season. We work with local food pantries, The Salvation Army, St

Vincent de Paul and local housing authorities. The Santa Foundation assisted a total of approximately 570 families last year and is already assisting over 450 fami-

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Franklin Performing Arts Compan

SANTA

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lies for 2022, well on our way to helping over 500 families again this year.

The Santa foundation couldn't do what it does without the support of many local businesses (many are listed on our website sfjoy.org) and local community support. We are overwhelmed with the constant influx of support through donations, adopting families and gifts from our local giving trees (see the list below, all you need to do is pick a tag off the tree, buy the gift listed, tape the name tag to the unwrapped gift, and the Santa Foundation will get the gift delivered! Dick Tomaino coordinates getting all the tags delivered and picking up the gifts as needed.

- Franklin Police Department, 911 Panther Way, Franklin
- Grove Street Auto, 79 Grove Street, Franklin
- James Roadside Café, 850 Franklin St., Wrentham
- King Street Cafe, 390 King St., Franklin
- Medway Police Department, 315 Village St., Franklin

- Middlesex Bank, 1000 Franklin Village Drive, Franklin
- Norfolk Credit Union, 194 Main St., Norfolk
- Norfolk Fire Department, 117 Main St, Norfolk
- Postal Center, 279 E Central Street, Franklin
- Postal Center, 9 Medway Rd., Ste. C, Milford
- Postal Center, 14 Milliston Rd., Millis
- Zuzu's Petals, 19 Dean Street, Franklin

Our volunteers that work at The Santa Foundation are still concerned about the ongoing COVID, Flu and RSV risks, so we're operating with a light staff. This does mean longer days and hours for Jan Prentice, Lia Thomas, and Patty Toney, who are the best Santa Helpers in the world. They all work hard getting the wish lists, getting information to adopting families, and coordinating the pickup of gifts when everything is accounted for. We also have two younger volunteers, Patrick Timmons and Karina Thomas, who help maintain our website and assist with our annual fundraisers at La Cantina Winery and the well-loved November Calendar raffle.

People always ask what we need! Santa Foundation President Richard Timmons says, "The best gifts for most recipients are still gift cards. Walmart, Target and local food chains are

gifts that allow families to get a gift but also go shopping for clothes and food as needed." This year, there is a concern on increasing prices, and inflation is a big concern this year with electric, oil and gas prices all significantly higher. We have had a few recipients' requests for gas cards to lighten the burden, so this may be a new gift idea.

The Santa Foundation not only provides families with gifts during the holiday season, but also helps families in need throughout the year. We have paid rent, utilities, and expenses for daily necessities as needed. Jan and Lia note the current needs for families this year are, "pampers of all sizes, clothes for boys and girls under age 5, gifts for teenagers, and gift cards." Donations of these items can be purchased and dropped off at the Santa Foundation located at 1 Joy Street Franklin Ma.

Says Timmons, "The generosity we see from everyone is amazing during the timeframe from now until Christmas. I wish everyone could see the faces and hear the thank you as the gifts are given to the recipients.

The Santa Foundation wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy healthy New Year."

To reach the Santa Foundation, located at 1 Joy Street in Franklin, visit www.sfjoy.org, or find them on Facebook. You can also call (508) 528-4715 or email hello@sfjoy.org.

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Standards address areas such as:

- Agency Authority, Jurisdiction and Use of Force
- Recruitment, Selection, and Promotion of Personnel
- Training, Discipline and Internal Affairs
- Patrol, Traffic Operations and Criminal Investigations
- Victim/Witness Assistance
- Emergency Response Planning
- Detainee Transportation and Holding Facilities

- Records and Communications
- Collection and Preservation of Evidence
- Property and Evidence Control

There are currently 256 agencies in Massachusetts that participate in MPAC: 104 are Accredited, 21 are Certified, and 131 are in Self-Assessment

Law Enforcement Accreditation is a "Badge of Honor" in the Law Enforcement Profession. It is one of the best measures of a Police Department's compliance with professional Law Enforcement standards.

Dean College History Department Celebrates 5th Annual History Reception at the Franklin Historical Museum

The Dean College history department will celebrate its 5th Annual History Reception at the Franklin Historical Museum on Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

The reception will feature remarks from a Dean history alumnus, an exhibition of student work and an award ceremony by the New England History Teachers Association.

Dean's bachelor's degree program in history provides students with a broad understanding of historical perspectives, historical thinking and methods and ethi-

cal issues linked to history, preparing them for graduate studies or careers in public history, museum work, historical societies, archival work, education, business, journalism, media, law and more. The history community at Dean looks forward to celebrating the accomplishments of its history majors at the Franklin Historical Museum, amongst the vibrant history of the Town of Franklin.

Learn more about Dean College at www.dean.edu/history.

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FPAC to present *The Wolves*

The Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC) will present Sarah DeLappe’s wildly popular play *The Wolves* January 6-8 at THE BLACK BOX. Directed by New York actress Ali Funkhouser, the all female-identifying cast of 10 is comprised of young professional artists, collegiate actors, and student apprentices from the Franklin School for the Performing Arts.

The Wolves follows a girls indoor soccer team. From the safety of their suburban stretch circle, the team navigates big questions and wages tiny battles with all the vim and vigor of a pack of adolescent warriors. A portrait of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for nine American girls who just want to score some goals.

The play will feature soccer movement directed by Franklin’s Calen Frongillo. “One of

the many intriguing aspects of this play is that we see the girls warm up and perform actual soccer drills over the course of the show,” comments director Ali Funkhouser. “We’re so lucky to have Calen’s soccer expertise to train the ‘team’ and help the cast execute these moments on stage.”

Known only by their numbers to the audience, the characters of *The Wolves* will be portrayed by NYC’s Elena Doyno (#00), LA’s Courtney Beyer (#46), University of Tampa Musical Theatre’s Kelsey Breslin (#11), University of Connecticut’s Caroline Wilkins (#25), University of Oklahoma Acting’s Sami Goldman (#7), FPAC Apprentices Erin Belger (#2), Tzintli Cerda (#14), Anya Fox (#13), Madigan Wirkus (#8), and actress Hallie Wetzell (Soccer Mom).

A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize

Business spotlight

for Drama, *The Wolves* tackles mature themes including characters in honest discussions about relationships, politics, death, and more. Because of its subject matter and strong language, it is not recommended for children.

The Franklin Performing Arts Company at THE BLACK BOX is a professional Equity theater producing musicals, plays, and more, featuring Broadway stars, professional and regional performers, and emerging artists.

For tickets and more information, visit THEBLACKBOXonline.com or call the box office at (508) 528-3370.



Top Row L to R: Elena Doyno, Courtney Beyer, Kelsey Breslin. Middle: Sami Goldman, Caroline Wilkins, Erin Belger. Bottom: Tzintli Cerda, Anya Fox, Madigan Wirkus



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My wife and I are relatively recent new residents in Franklin from another town in Massachusetts. We are happily relocated and enjoying our new life in Franklin. It was delightful to see the article in this week’s edition of our local paper that elucidated some of the traditions associated with the Jewish Holiday of Chanukah. My wife and I are Jewish, and we are both particularly knowledgeable about Jewish traditions. That is what brings us to communicate with you, to point out two particularly glaring fallacies that were described in the article. The first, is that there is absolutely no ritual observance, or even a non-religious custom, associated with Chanukah that involves using a shofar. In fact, the shofar is only used during Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur – the High Holy Days in the Jewish religion. The other statement that is inaccurate has to do

with referring to Chanukah as a “relatively modern holiday.” The celebration of Chanukah dates back to the biblical story of a biblical figure named Judah, who along with his 4 brothers and a band of ‘renegades’ fought against the Assyrian-Greek army (who were mentioned correctly in the article as the defilers of the first temple) and won the day. This story is reportedly placed by biblical scholars in the year circa 360 BCE. For me that would not describe a relatively modern holiday. It certainly predates every Christian and Muslim holiday by centuries – just for chronological comparison.

All of the other content was very enjoyable to read. My wife and I are committed to disseminating correct information when it comes to sharing cultural heritage as well as “historical” story lines, as best we know them.

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Trail Riders Important Supporters of SNETT

By DAVE DUNBAR

A well-known multi-use recreational trail – “SNETT” – runs from Franklin in the east to Douglas in the west, terminating in Connecticut. The Southern New England Trunkline Trail receives support from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a variety of local volunteer and non-profit organizations. One of them is the Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA).

“It’s a labor of love,” says Becky Kalagher, president of the 285-member equestrian organization established in 1973 and based in Douglas, Mass. “I seriously believe that the horseback riding community must be part of the solution and be involved especially at the local level. If you are willing to invest sweat equity, time, or money, land-owning agencies are more willing to work with you as a partner because they know you care.”

One of BSTRA’s founding members is a Bellingham resident who began organizing

the association almost 50 years ago. “Ed Whalley was instrumental in convincing the state to purchase the abandoned railroad bed to be used as a trail,” says Kalagher. “He had a vision of this trail becoming the backbone of huge trail system that we could all enjoy, not just horseback riders.” Whalley, who lived around Silver Lake, passed away a few years ago. Kalagher became president in 1990.

“Our goal,” she explains, “was to start at one end of the trail in Connecticut and work towards the other end at Franklin State Park. We are glad that residents of Franklin and Bellingham came together to advocate and work on those sections, too! The more that people are involved, the better it is for all of us that use the SNETT.”

Rose Zariczny is the organization’s Recording Secretary who joined in the early 1980’s.

Her favorite activity is camping with the horses. “It’s usually a long weekend,” she says, “and we pack up our trailers and trucks and horses and head out



The Bay State Trail Riders Association is an organization whose number one priority is keeping trails, like the SNETT, open for equestrian use.

to a campground.” Her favorite spot is Miles Standish State Forest in Carver, Mass.

“I love horse people,” she smiles. “And riding in areas where we might otherwise not go.”

Looking forward into 2023, BSTRA is planning a celebration of its 50th anniversary. And there’s lots of work to be done along the length of the trail itself. “Now, if we can establish

a place to park some truck and trailer rigs, then local horseback riders and visitors will be able to enjoy the SNETT and ride to the Franklin State Park,” says Kalagher.

Zariczny adds that the association is always on the lookout for new, younger members. “We need people to follow in our footsteps, so we encourage involvement. We love horses and people... and we’d like to share

the love and keep this going.”

According to its website, the Bay State Trail Riders Association is an organization whose number one priority is keeping trails open for equestrian use. It also advocates for multi-use trails that are horse-friendly such as hiking, mountain biking, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, running, and snowshoeing.

Kalagher adds, “Since we started doing work on trails in 1989, we have put over \$712,000 back into trails, and that is something we are very proud of. This is in the form of volunteer labor, donated machine work/materials, grants, and cash.”

BSTRA members participate in a variety of events including pleasure and competitive trail rides, workdays, raffles/opportunity drawings, fund-raisers, silent auctions, campouts, and an annual awards presentation.

You can learn more about the Bay State Trail Riders Association at www.bstra.org and by visiting the organization’s Facebook page. Or by calling (508) 476-3960.

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establishing access to equity, raising emergency funds availability, modeling for variables such as inflation on expenses as well as remaining true to your risk tolerance.

Sure, it's easy to bemoan things that's didn't go as planned with investments, like bonds not playing their role portfolio stability in 2022. But this too shall pass as Fed pivots away from their feverishly raising of interest rates next year. Can the same be said next year about an opportunity to lock in your mortgage under 3% or get your remodel done at 30-40% less?

There's still some good improvements you can do by year-end, if appropriate.

Roth Conversion. Have sizable Traditional IRAs? Think taxes are going up? You believe your holdings will rebound? With a strong handle on your sources of income and capital gains for 2022, consider modeling tax liability of different amounts converted to a Roth IRA.

Remember, unlike a few years ago, you can no longer undo a conversion via "recharacterization", so what's done is done.

Tax-Loss Harvesting. Sell investments for large gains earlier

in the year? Sitting on sizable unrealized losses? Consider selling to realize tax-losses that can offset current year gains or be carried forward against future year gains as well as write off up to \$3,000 against ordinary income.

Recall the IRS wash-sale rule prohibits selling an investment for a loss and replacing it with the same or a "substantially identical" investment across all household portfolios 30 days before or after the sale. So if you are going to sell and buy back, verify it's clean 30 days prior and then wait 31 days.

Last minute 401(k), 403(b) and 457 plan contributions. Ideally, you'd be at \$20,500 maximum contributions limits (\$27,000 if 50 or older). If not, many plans allow online changes up to 50% of wages. Have a year-end bonus? Can forgo a paycheck or two? Act quickly as plans require a pay cycle for updates to take effect.

And if you're late to impact 2022, then see how long you go with higher contributions to front load towards 2023 contributions limits of \$22,500 (\$30,000 if 50 or older).

Still waiting for perfect, instead of executing on the good?

Ok, there's this 30-year old "genius" that founded a crypto exchange in the Bahamas and issued their own coin for trading. In 3 years, he's worth \$25 billion and his firm's Marketing/PR includes Tom Brady, Stephen Curry, MLB, NBA, plus TV personalities call him a modern-day J.P. Morgan and has clout as 2nd largest US political donor in 2022.

Perfect, right?

Please note the sarcasm, and put the work in towards the good.

May you and those closest to you enjoy a happy and safe holiday season.

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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Winter Vacation Tips for College Bound Seniors

Winter vacation is the perfect time for high school seniors to take advantage of a well-needed break from their late night studying and the juggling of sports, work, and clubs. It is a time to catch up on sleep, enjoy the holidays, and of course, cross a few things off the college application checklist :) Here are a few suggestions to help seniors get organized and help reduce future stress:

Get Organized:

Students have already submitted their Early Decision (ED) and Early Action (EA) college applications, but there are still some important steps to complete over break. The holiday break is also an ideal time for students to submit any outstanding college applications for the Regular Decision (RD) deadlines.

• 2 General Reminders:

- **Supporting Materials:** Be certain your teacher & guidance counselor recommendation letters and transcripts have been uploaded to the Common Application prior to break in case you have

any issues while working on your applications over vacation.

- **Admission Portals:** Most colleges provide access to their admission portal so that students can check the status of their applications. Students should confirm that the colleges have received all of the supplemental materials (transcript, high school profile, recommendation letters). A student's application will not be reviewed until all materials have been received. If a student has not received a portal email notification from a college, call the college's admission office.

• Regular Decision Applications:

- Complete your Regular Decision Applications first - and as soon as possible. Enjoy the rest of the break knowing that the last of the college applications have been submitted.

- Confirm application deadlines and required materials needed, complete the final edits on the main college essay, and check ahead of time for any supplemental essays to complete for the remaining Regular Decision applications.

- And, whatever you do do not wait till 12/31/22 to submit your 1/1/23 applications. Nothing good will come from that!

- **College List:** Once the applications are complete, create a spreadsheet with the final list of colleges. Recommended information includes: college name, campus visit status, "Acceptance Students Day" dates, intended major, scholarship deadlines, and any other college criteria that is important.

- **College Tuition:** Once accepted by a college, add the cost of attendance and include any merit awards & financial aid offered to



Maryline Michel Kulewicz and Tracy Sullivan of College 101 Admissions Consultants

the spreadsheet - this will help the student and family compare the financial commitments for each college. FREE resource: email us if you would like the spreadsheet we use.

- **Financial Aid Forms:** Complete and submit the FAFSA and CSS forms (if required). Each school posts their deadlines on the financial aid page of their website. Rule of thumb - ED and EA financial aid forms are usually due in the fall of the student's senior year and RD forms are usually due by the 1st of the new year.

- **College List- 2nd Glance:** Take a moment to evaluate, one last time, the college list. Would the student be happy to attend any of the colleges on the list, especially the "likelies". Having a balanced college list: 2 or 3 likely, probable, and selective colleges will allow the student a broader range of possibilities. Lastly, take the time to reflect the colleges on the list. Is there a school that's missing- perhaps a dream school? If it is - dream - and apply!

Schedule Campus Tours:

- The best way to truly understand whether a college is the right fit is to visit the campus. There is no better way to explore the campus setting and see the students

who attend than to visit when the school is in session - so it's best not to visit campuses over winter break, but plan your campus tour schedule for the spring.

- Best touring tip: Attend as many "Accepted Student Days" as possible! The special visit days, generally scheduled in March and April, offer a variety of informational sessions as well as tours to view dorm options, academic buildings, and student recreation facilities. Some colleges will host Early Action Acceptance Days as early as February so be certain to check the college website. The colleges roll out the red carpet- it is a fun day!

Don't Let your Academic Guard Down:

Make a plan to finish the year strong! Colleges will definitely review the final transcript at the end of the academic year to be certain the student has completed the necessary credits and that their grades are still in good-standing. A college acceptance can be rescinded if the requirements have not been fulfilled or grades plummet.

Balancing work and play is an important part of maintaining good mental health. The winter break can achieve both! Take time to also do what you love most. And maybe if you run out of fun things to do, you can have your mom & dad teach you how to do laundry and make a budget - helpful skills in college!

Good luck and enjoy the journey!

College 101 Admissions Consultants LLC. Website:

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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

GIFTING: 3 RULES TO SHOP BY

By GINA WOELFEL

Good gift-giving is an art! There's nothing like watching someone light up with joy when they open your gift! The perfect present can lift your mood, strengthen a relationship and even leave you feeling happier and healthier. Gift giving releases the "feel good" chemicals in your brain for an instantaneous mood-boost. Maybe that's why we feel so good around the holidays?

A gift can be many things and doesn't need to be big or expensive to be amazing. Giving with intent and keeping your gift choices relevant says "I see you" and "you're worth it". When we take the time to emotionally customize gift-giving it speaks volumes to its recipient and makes even the smallest gestures feel incredibly thoughtful.

Themes are a wonderful way to personalize a gift. A theme encourages you to think about who you're gifting and what they'd love to receive. You can choose a spa package and candle for a friend who needs a little "me-time" or how about a gourmet cooking basket of spices and specialty foods for your sister who loves to cook? There's a theme for everyone on your list!

Let's face it, gone are the days when Black Friday opened the holiday shopping season. The retail madness starts the day after Halloween and it's easy to get lost in the sea of holiday sales. With a little planning, though, you can manage this chaos like a boss and curate some amazing gifts with minimal (or at least enjoyable) in-person and online shopping.

Giftgiving: 101

Make a list and check it twice!

Break it down by order of importance. You'll have your first tier recipients like family and friends whose gifts you'll need to give the most thought to. It's important to consider their personalities, hobbies, and pastimes when choosing their gifts. Keeping it personal and recipient specific makes both you, the giver, and the receiver very merry! Your next tier of gifts will be for the people in your life who support, service, educate and soothe you. Now, you probably don't know your mailman or your kid's

teachers well enough to know their hobbies, but the holidays are an excellent opportunity to show your appreciation and an end-of-year gift certificate or tip is the perfect way to say thank you. Most of your favorite stores, salons and restaurants now offer gift cards online, so take advantage of this convenience! Light a fire, pour a glass of wine and with just a few clicks, your gift card shopping will be done and you can enjoy some holiday downtime!

Budget, budget, budget!

Nothing will ruin your holiday spirit more than stressing over your bank account! Keep things simple, know what you can spend and find ways to keep your purchases within those parameters. Sometimes, we may feel pressured to splurge beyond our means, forgetting that homemade and smaller gifts are just as special. Giving a \$5 Starbucks card might feel insignificant to you, but the gift of an afternoon coffee might be exactly the break someone needs. No gift is EVER too small when it's given with gratitude. Even a small bobble or stocking stuffer is a treasure when paired with a thoughtful card. And now in the time of texts and tweets, your hand-written words are more meaningful than ever.

Always remember to treat yourself!

There's no one who works harder than you to plan the perfect holiday. You've got this! So, stop, take a breath and give yourself the gift of grace (and maybe a spa facial package, too!)

b.LUXE is here to make your holiday shopping easier than ever with our huge selection of spa and beauty gifts!

We've also put together two specially priced spa packages that can be purchased online and delivered via email or purchased in person at the studio.

- Scalp Spa Package \$100 - \$120 value
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a super absorbent, eco-friendly hair wrap, a scalp massaging brush and a wide-toothed, static-free comb. It's only \$100 and can be shipped anywhere in the US for \$10.

If you're shopping on a budget, remember, it's the thought that counts! Our signature lip gloss trios, hair accessories, Soi brand soy candles and smaller retail items make lovely gifts, too!

And if you're not sure what to give, pick up a b.LUXE gift card!!

As we close out 2022, The b.LUXE family would like to wish you all peace, love and so much joy! We're truly blessed with this amazing community and hope the warmth of family, friends and festivities brings you all a well deserved and magical holiday season.

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Living Healthy

Glaucoma Treatment: DURYSTA

Commonly Asked Questions

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

Glaucoma is a condition that can damage our field of vision. It affects us when the pressure inside the eye is higher than what the eye can tolerate. Glaucoma is treatable with drops targeted at lowering the eye pressure. There are patients who have problems remembering to use the drops and sometimes the preservative in the drop cause irritation, redness and intolerance to the drops. In other instances, one can be traveling and forget to carry the eye drops during the trip. In those instances, a novel treatment using DURYSTA glaucoma implants can help manage the pressure while reducing or eliminating the need for drops.

What is Durysta?

Durysta is a breakthrough in the treatment of open-angle glaucoma and ocular hyper-

tension with FDA approval. Durysta (made by Allergan) will be a game-changer for those patients who have difficulty taking daily medicated eye drops for glaucoma because it frees patients from having to apply drops altogether.

How does Durysta work?

Durysta is the first biodegradable sustained-release implant that continuously delivers Bimatoprost, a prostaglandin analog, within the eye that helps reduce and maintain healthy eye pressure levels. The preservative-free medication is housed within a tiny rod-shaped cartridge that is inserted in the eye's anterior chamber by an ophthalmologist during a safe 5-minute office procedure.

The implant comes pre-loaded with 10 mcg of Bimatoprost in a single-use applicator that your ophthalmologist uses

DURYSTA™
(bimatoprost implant) 10 mcg

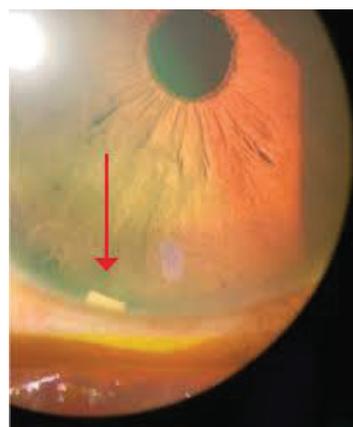
Sustained Release Glaucoma Implant

to inject the implant directly into the front side of your eye. This means that the drug delivery system is a one-time use sterile applicator used on you and you alone.

The bimatoprost implant is biodegradable and breaks down naturally over time, so you do not require another procedure to remove the delivery system. It simply dissolves and is eliminated by your body. In fact, most patients continue to have controlled intraocular pressure levels even after Durysta has broken down.

How long does Durysta last?

The great news for patients with open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension is that the Durysta implant is designed to last up to 6 months. However, most patients continue to have



controlled intraocular pressure levels after Durysta has broken down. This means you'll continue to benefit from Durysta for months and sometimes a year or 2 later. Meanwhile, you'll be free from having to deal with inserting eye drops and worrying about whether the correct amount of medication actually got into your eye.

Who is a candidate for Durysta?

Durysta is indicated for people diagnosed with open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension. That said, not everyone is an ideal candidate for Durysta and it is contraindicated under the following circumstances:

- If you have an infection within or surrounding your eye
- If you have undergone a corneal transplant
- If you are diagnosed with corneal endothelial cell dystrophy
- If your posterior lens capsule is ruptured or absent
- If you are allergic to bimatoprost or to the components of the implant

What are the side effects of Durysta?

As with any medication, clinical trials have shown that some people can experience side effects from Durysta. However, the interesting thing about the Durysta trials was that patients who were randomized to receive Durysta actually experienced fewer side effects than the control group patients taking standard glaucoma eye drops.

It's highly unusual for a new medication to exhibit fewer side effects than the standard medicine it's being compared to, but that's exactly what happened with Durysta. The Durysta patients had fewer complaints and

tolerated the medication better than the patients using traditional glaucoma eye drops. Fewer side effects and better eye pressure control make for a compelling argument to consider switching to Durysta.

Some adverse events for Durysta patients can include:

- Eye redness
- Eye irritation
- Eye pain
- A foreign body sensation within the eye
- Light sensitivity (photophobia)
- Blurred vision
- Headache
- Conjunctival hemorrhage
- Iritis
- Increased intraocular pressure

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Also, the safety of taking Durysta during pregnancy has not been studied.

Is Durysta for me?

If you have tried other treatments for glaucoma, including eye drops and they did not work, or If you've found eye drops are challenging or you can't use them as prescribed, contact us. Eye drops are not always the best option for every patient, and Durysta may be a better solution.

At Milford Franklin Eye Center, Dr. Kaldawy was among the first surgeons in the area to offer Durysta. We perform the procedure in a state-of-the-art surgery center in Milford and closer to home. We can also offer the same in our procedure room in Franklin. With those centers available to you here in your backyard there is no reason to travel hours to have eye surgery and laser glaucoma surgery. If your eye provider is still recommending you travel far away to have eye surgery, we are available for a second opinion. We are proud to offer excellence in glaucoma management and surgery with world class outcomes and here is the great news: Closer to home than ever before!

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Living Healthy

Franklin Garden Club to Sell Holiday Wreaths & Arrangements

The Franklin Garden Club will sell decorated holiday wreaths and cemetery arrangements on Saturday, December 3 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Daddario’s Hardware Store, 528 West Central Street, Franklin. In addition, holiday fresh floral arrangements will be sold on Instagram beginning December 17. The Franklin Garden Club Instagram handle is @franklingar-

denclubma. The sales will benefit several different club activities.

The real wreaths will be decorated in a variety of colors and styles and will include eye-catching bows and other ornamentation. Many will include a variety of greens, as will the cemetery boxes. All items will be reasonably priced from \$25 - \$40. The floral arrangements, created with fresh flowers and greens, will

feature either holiday or winter themes and will be priced from \$15 - \$40.

Payment for the wreaths and centerpieces may be made through credit card, check, cash, or Venmo.

Club Co-Presidents Janice Cederquist and Mary Anne Dean stated, “We are very excited to offer area residents the opportunity to purchase beautiful holiday

wreaths and arrangements created by members of the Franklin Garden Club. This will help those who may not have the time to decorate their own wreaths or make arrangements, while also assisting the Club. All proceeds will benefit Garden Club activities, including the Club scholarship, pine tree seedling program for elementary school students, some of the Franklin Common



and library plantings, and education programs open to the public. The Franklin Garden Club is a member of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts.

Christmas Food Drive December 10-11, 2022

The Knights of Columbus (Sacred Heart Council, Franklin MA) is holding our annual Christmas Fundraiser at St. Mary Church in Franklin, Mass. for those who are in need. All proceeds will benefit the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Knights will have a table set up

outside the church after Mass on Saturday, December 10th and Sunday, December 11th. They will be selling Stop & Shop gift cards (5% of sale benefits St. Vincent).

In recognition of significant need, we are also suggesting a second way you can share your

generosity: by donating one or more of the gift cards you purchased (100% of donated cards benefit St. Vincent). Simply drop a purchased gift card into the Donation Box.

ONLINE GIVING OPTION: If people would prefer

to contribute online, please visit our Website <https://kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations>. Online orders will accept Credit Cards. On the website there will be a link(s) to Donate Food Cards - Christmas Food Card Drive. (Please note that the website will

accept donations for this food card drive from November 15th until December 15th.)

We thank you in advance for your continued compassion and charity for those less fortunate.



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Dean College Announces New Vice President for Student Success & Campus Life and New Vice President for Enrollment Services

Dean College is pleased to announce Adam Keyes as the new Vice President for Student Success & Campus Life and Paul Vaccaro as the new Vice President for Enrollment Services.

Reporting to President Kenneth Elmore, Keyes will be responsible for student success programs, campus life and community engagement to support student learning and growth. He joins Dean from Clark University, where he most recently served as director of strategic initiatives. At Clark, Keyes progressed from the director of residential life & housing to senior associate dean of students and deputy Title IX coordinator. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Keyes also took on the role of director of COVID testing and operations, establishing and running Clark's testing center and operations. He held residential life positions at Endicott College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and

Boston University before arriving at Clark in 2014. He holds a bachelor's degree from Fitchburg State College and a master's degree from the University of New Haven.

With more than 15 years of experience in student life, enrollment, operations and project management, Keyes looks forward to developing meaningful, equitable experiences for students and the institutional processes and policies needed to sustain them.

"Fundamentally, I want the area of student services and campus life to impactfully shape students' lives by being a parallel educational experience to the curricular offerings," said Keyes. "Students come here to learn; academically, socially and emotionally. If properly implemented, that learning is equally important and memorable."

"Dean has been well positioned to help students become the best version of themselves during the undergraduate educational years," he added. "The support services, campus engagement opportunities and caring faculty and staff are the perfect combination of resources to help challenge and grow students. I'm really looking forward to being a part of that impactful transformation."

Also reporting to President Elmore, Vaccaro will oversee areas related to admissions, enrollment operations, admissions marketing and admissions information systems to achieve enrollment goals. With over 25 years of experience in enrollment management, Vaccaro returns to Dean as vice president for enrollment services. He previously served as assistant vice president of enrollment services and dean of admissions at Dean College from 2004 to 2009, before moving on to vice presi-

dent roles at Regis College and Newbury College. Most recently, Vaccaro was the associate vice president for enrollment at Anna Maria College. Vaccaro is also a past recipient of the prestigious New England College Board

Distinguished Service Award for leadership, innovation and advocacy in higher education. He is an alumnus of Suffolk University, where he earned both a bachelor's degree in journalism and an MBA.

"My experience in leading enrollment teams at small colleges in Massachusetts and understanding the challenges that institutions face in today's competitive higher ed marketplace has drawn me to promote a holistic approach to enrollment management," Vaccaro said. "Dean is a collective community

that genuinely cares about its students and seeks to put their needs first and foremost, and when the opportunity presented itself to be part of that culture again, it was a very easy decision for me to make."

"I am very much looking forward to joining President Elmore's leadership team and helping to move the College forward in a thriving baccalaureate mindset," he added. "Above all, we remain about providing educational access and opportunity while instilling a confidence and belief in our students that I feel few colleges can approach. To be able to contribute again to this type of mission is both exciting and inspiring."

To learn more about Dean College, visit www.dean.edu.

Volunteers Needed at Franklin Public Library!

Volunteer Tutors Needed for ESL & Adult Literacy Program

The Franklin Public Library is starting an English as a Second Language and Adult Literacy Program to serve Franklin and its surrounding communities. If you have the time and interest to help adult learners improve their English reading, writing, speaking and listening, please consider volunteering!

To volunteer, you must have a high school diploma or equivalent, have patience, and be able to speak English clearly. Prior teaching experience is not required. Volunteer Tutors will be

given training and all supporting materials will be provided. The time commitment is one orientation session, 18 hours of tutor training, and to meet with your student 2 hours per week for one year. Volunteers and students do not need to be Franklin residents. If interested, please contact Assistant Library Director Kim Shipala at kshipala@minlib.net, or fill out the registration form on the library's website .

Volunteers Needed for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

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Dean College Presents December Theatre and Dance Performances

The School of the Arts and the Joan Phelps Palladino School of Dance at Dean College will present a number of performances throughout the month of December, including the New Thespian Showcase, the New Dancer Showcase and Faculty Dance Works.

The New Thespian Showcase is an informal showing of monologues, scenes, songs and theatre works brought to the stage by our first-year theatre majors. The New Thespian Showcase will take place Thursday, December 1 and Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m.

The New Dancer Showcase is an informal showing of dance works created by upperclassmen dance majors and performed by our first-year dance majors. The New Dancer Showcase will take place Friday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Faculty Dance Works will take place Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. Join us for an energetic and exciting weekend of dance, featuring outstanding works conceived by the Joan Phelps Palladino School of Dance faculty and renowned guest artists.

Dean College dance students will perform in a diverse variety of dance styles, from modern dance to ballet to tap and more.

All three productions will take place in the Main Stage in the Dr. Paula M. Rooney Student Center at Dean College, 109 West Central Street, Franklin.

Dean College welcomes children and families to all of our performances, provided patrons have complied with all safety guidelines. However, infants and children under 2 years of age are not allowed in the theatre, and children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. All patrons must have their own ticketed seats; lap sitting is not permitted.

To learn more about the show and all safety policies, and to purchase tickets, visit www.dean.edu/boxoffice.

Special Holiday Program at Franklin Historical Museum Dec. 11th



On Sunday, December 11th, the Franklin Historical Museum will host the return of the women's barbershop chorus, Note Able Blend, at 1:15 p.m., for a festive holiday musical presentation. The chorus regularly performs in a variety of venues in the southeastern Massachusetts area. Get yourself in the spirit with this live holiday performance that will please audiences of all ages.

Then, at 2 p.m. (through 4 p.m.), we are excited to once again welcome Mrs. Claus for

a storytime and photo ops for young and old. Mrs. Claus will be available to read Christmas stories and have the children pose for a photo with their favorite lady of the North Pole.

Time is running out! Don't miss your chance to purchase this year's ladybug ornament from the museum gift shop. Many additional items – mugs, pillows, maps, etc. are available for that hard-to-buy-for person on your list who just loves Franklin!

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Franklin Veterans Receive Quilts of Valor

By J.D. O'GARA

On Wednesday, November 16th, 2022, 18 Franklin veterans, residents of Magnolia Heights Gracious Retirement Living were honored with quilts from the organization, Quilts of Valor, in a special ceremony attended by members of the Franklin American Legion Edward L. Grant Post 75, Massachusetts American Legion Norfolk County District Post 6 Commander Bob Lewis, Franklin Veterans Services Officer Shannon Nisbett, Rep. Jeff Roy, and other members of the Magnolia Heights community.

Recently re-elected Rep. Jeff Roy spoke to the veterans that was honored to take part in the event, as he sets out to continue his "important work" at the State House. "I would not be able to do that work but for the work that you did to protect this



Volunteers from Quilts of Valor lovingly wrapped each nominated veteran in attendance at a Magnolia Heights service with a personalized, hand-sewn quilt "to comfort and remind you that someone is always thinking of you."

country, protect this people and preserve freedom for everyone, so for that, I'm sure I speak for everyone in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, we give you a heartfelt thank you for everything you've done."

Theresa Perreault, the Massachusetts State Coordinator for the Quilts of Valor Foundation, thanked the honored veterans, welcoming them "home." She spoke of the Quilts of Valor organization's history, noting that more than 6,000 chapters combine efforts to create the unique pieces, which have been given to over 300,000 former service-members "touched by war."

"We expect that you're going to use them. They are beautiful.



You might want to put them on a wall or you might want to put him in a box or put them away. Don't do that. We want you to be wrapped in it. We want it to keep you warm. It is to comfort and remind you that someone is



always thinking about you," said Perrault.

For more information on Quilts of Valor, visit www.qovf.org.



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“Train Town Franklin” Coming to Historical Museum

Beginning December 18th, the Franklin Historical Museum will exhibit the first in a series of annual dioramas entitled, “Train Town Franklin” -- a Historical Exact replica of the area around the train depot, circa 1932, a time when the rhythm of the daily trains set the pace for a small New England Town -- and news from ‘down at the depot’ was the news everyone wanted to hear!

The first diorama in this series will focus on the downtown Franklin area centered on the historic Franklin train station, the Franklin Furniture Warehouse, the W.K. Gilmore Coal Com-

pany, and the Railroad Express Agency as well as the bridge over Main/East Central Street. Over time, additional nearby areas will be modeled to make a complete recreation of the heart of old Franklin.

The creativity behind this project comes from Franklin native, and former Town Council Chair, Scott Mason who, throughout his life, has honed his historical knowledge and model building skills.

Young and old will be captivated by this miniature look at “the way we used to be.”

The structures in this exhibit are built to exact scale from pho-

tographs and films taken from that period. Information about these buildings will also be on display.

Historical items related to the railroad in Franklin at that time, including the actual “Franklin” sign that hung from the station and other artifacts will be on display.

The exhibit is set to run through 2/5/2023. The Historical Museum is open to the public every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Charles River Chorale to Perform at Medway High School

The Charles River Chorale will be presenting their Winter Concert on Sunday, December 4 at 2 p.m. at the Medway High School Auditorium. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. Children 5 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased prior to the concert by using the QR code below or by visiting our website at www.charlesriverchorale.com/tickets. Tickets can also be purchased at the door with payment by cash or check. No credit cards will be accepted at the door.

Purchase Tickets



www.charlesriverchorale.com/tickets

The theme of this concert is “Let’s Cozy Up for a Movie!” The concert will feature a wide variety of songs from some of your favorite holiday movies, ranging from “White Christmas” to “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch.” Children will delight in selections from Polar Express and Olaf’s Frozen Adventure while everyone will enjoy classic holiday favorites such as “Frosty the Snowman,” “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” and a jazzy rendition of “O Tannenbaum.”

Under the leadership of director Ashley Nelson-Oneschuk, the Charles River Chorale is in its 39th year as a non-profit 501(c)3 chorale. Members continued to rehearse throughout the pandemic, bringing joy to ourselves and the greater community by meeting online and providing virtual concerts twice a year. Membership has grown, and the chorale is very excited to be back on stage to present our joyful work to the greater community!

Free Legal Help Available for Norfolk County

The Bar Association of Norfolk County’s next **Free Legal Clinic will be in person on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Quincy District Court, 1 Dennis Ryan Pkwy., Quincy, Mass.** for those in need of legal assistance. Attorneys experienced in all areas of the law will be available for a free one on one confidential consultation, to those who have questions or concerns regarding a legal issue.

Franklin DPW News

Discounted Compost Bins

The Town of Franklin Solid Waste Division is offering a limited amount of discounted residential compost bins to the residents of Franklin. This offer is supported by a grant awarded through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Sustainable Materials Recovery Program.

Reach out to the Environmental Affairs Coordinator Derek Adams at dadams@franklinma.gov for more information. First come, first served!

Stormwater

While some rainwater evaporates or seeps into the ground, most water runs across the land, into our storm drains and ultimately into our streams and bodies of water. That post precipitation runoff is called stormwater, which carries pollutants that are harmful to humans, animals and our greater ecosystem.

There are a variety of things we can do as a community to reduce harmful runoff. Learn more about stormwater at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e45452a3047e4c83b27170a8f4f79aa5>

Reminder: Fall curbside yard waste collection will now run the week of December 5, 2022.

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My junk bags include yard, books, RVs, appliances, etc.



Light Up Franklin 2022!

Saturday, December 31, Beginning at 6 p.m.

On Saturday, December 31st let's transform our town into a beautiful winter community! Come together and join us in celebrating this New Year's Eve by lining our neighborhoods with candle luminaries! Proceeds from the sale of luminaries will benefit BSA Troop 126 and the Franklin Food Pantry.

BSA Troop 126 Luminary Kits – Order Your Kit by December 17th

Each \$12 Kit contains supplies for 10 luminaries: 10 white bags, 10 votive candles, sand, and instructions
#LightUpFranklin

2 Ways to Participate & Order Your Luminary Kits

1. Use QR code
2. Fill out the attached form and mail or drop off to: BSA Troop 126 c/o Iris Park, 100 Beech St, Franklin, MA 02038, Checks payable to: BSA Troop 126

Pick Up Dates & Times at the Franklin Historical Museum, 80 West Central St, Franklin

Sunday, December 18th 2 p.m.-4 p.m. & Wednesday, December 28th 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Questions? Email Troop-126fundraising@gmail.com -- Thank you for your support!

The Peace Light Coming to Franklin!

In addition to BSA Troop 126 Light Up Franklin event, the troop is excited to receive the The Peace Light. The Peace Light is meant to promote peace, harmony and unity among all people of the world regardless of race, ethnicity or creed. Many churches, Scouting, and associated community organizations use the Peace Light in Advent worship services, parish tree lighting events, and other special ceremonies. The light's pilgrimage across the U.S. begins from NYC via volunteers, many of whom are Scouts and Scouters associated with the Boy Scouts of

America and Girl Scouts of the USA, transferring and sharing it in their communities.

Please join the scouts in the Franklin Common on December 31 starting at 4pm-5:30 p.m.



to welcome the Peace Light to Franklin. Come to the common with a candle or lantern to light your luminaries as we start 2023 with peace.

 		BSA Troop 126 Luminary Kits (Circle Choice)	
Name:		Pick Up*	Delivery (in Franklin +\$3)
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Phone:		3 Kits	\$36
		4 Kits	\$48
		5 Kits	\$60
			\$63

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From 12/1 to 12/26

Franklin Food Pantry Launches Food Elves Holiday Drive

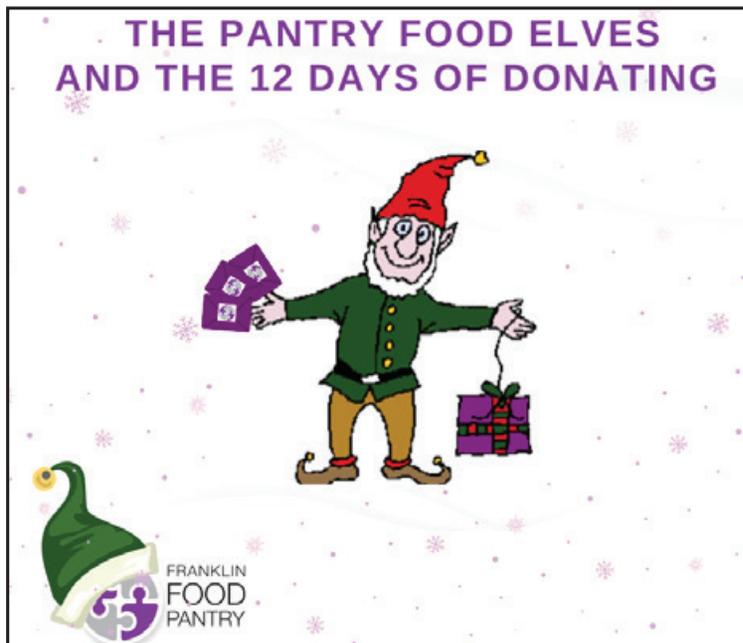
"12 Days of Donating" Campaign Celebrates 17 Years

The Franklin Food Pantry is excited to announce Food Elves 2022. This year the Franklin Food Elves "12 Days of Donating" Campaign marks 17 years of helping neighbors in need during the holiday season and beyond. Between December 1 through 12, the neighborhood collection by local middle and high school students serves as the largest fundraiser for The Franklin Food Pantry. In 2021, the Food Elves collected over \$95,000 and we are excited to see what they accomplish this year!

The Elves collect monetary donations only for The Pantry. With several food and fund drives underway, the Pantry is quickly filling up its small warehouse. The Pantry uses monetary donations to purchase chicken, beef and other meats, dairy prod-

ucts, eggs, fresh vegetables, and fruits at a deep discount from the Greater Boston Food Bank at a time when the need for those items is highest. With food prices increasing nationally by 13.1% and locally by 10.9% this year, it's more expensive than ever to serve our neighbors in need.

"Our amazing community is highly involved at this time of year, collecting food for the Pantry and educating their neighbors about food insecurity," said Tina Powderly, Executive Director for the Franklin Food Pantry. "We are grateful for the bountiful donations of food we receive. But, after the holidays, when end-of-year giving naturally subsides and food drives lessen, monetary donations help us continue to meet the increasing need through the leaner months that follow."



"Our Food Elves are amazing students who are dedicated to giving back to the community. We appreciate their commitment and hard work as well as the tireless efforts of our district parents. Special thanks to Colleen Bond,

Lisa Frankina, Deb Morandi, Denise Flynn Wright, Kathleen McGuigan, Laurie Cain and Kristen DeMayo."

The Food Elves distribute flyers about their donation drive and our signature purple enve-

lopes in their neighborhoods. Their flyers direct community members about how to donate. Donations can be made in two ways: through a check donation that the Elves will pick up personally; or through each Elf's own online personal campaign page. Each Elf sets their own fundraising goal and will be able to keep track of how much they personally raise. Students will receive 12 community service hours for in-person fundraising and 10 hours for online only fundraising.

Although the deadline has passed for this year, students get more information about signing up at <https://www.franklinfoodpantry.org/franklin-food-elves/>

If an Elf doesn't visit your neighborhood, you can donate to the general page at <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E188424&id=51>.

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Coming Up at the Franklin Senior Center

Monday, December 5th at 7 p.m. Come join us for a fun night out to listen to the best holiday tunes played by the Southeastern MA Community Concert Band. Community is welcome to join us and we encourage everyone to wear a mask.

Wednesday, December 7th at 1 p.m.: popular local historian Joe Landry presents: Franklin Trivia!

Thursday, December 15th: The Friends of the Franklin Elders in collaboration with the Franklin Senior Center presents: Winter Wonderland.

Enjoy a night out to see the beautifully decorated trees and lights around the Senior Center while listening to live entertainment and enjoying refreshments. I even hear Santa may be coming! Call for more details (508) 520-4945.

Franklin Newcomers Yankee Swap & Party, December 14th

Not just for Newcomers!

Come join your Franklin friends and neighbors at the Franklin Newcomers and Friends annual Yankee Swap and Holiday Party. Join us at Escape Into Fiction Book Store, 12 Main Street, Franklin on Wednesday, December 14th at 7 p.m. To participate in the swap, bring a wrapped gift (\$20 limit) and get one in return during the swap - you never know what you'll get! Light refreshments will be served.

No need to be a newcomer to the area. Come make connections in your community.

We are a multi-generational, member-driven organization, offering a wide range of activities, and are always excited to welcome new faces and new ideas. Residents of Franklin, or any surrounding town that doesn't have a Newcomers Club, are welcome to join us.

Look for us on our Meetup and Facebook pages for more information.

<https://www.meetup.com/Franklin-Newcomers-Friends>
<https://facebook.com/FranklinNewcomersFriendsClub>

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Voice of Franklin Toastmasters Builds Public Speaking Confidence

By J.D. O'GARA

"If there's any time to have a horrible speech, it's in a safe environment, says Chris Soares.

The HR technology professional joined Toastmasters International's "Voice of Franklin" chapter about five months ago, to sharpen his speaking skills at work. The local group holds hybrid meetings the first and third Tuesday of the month at Franklin TV, and it provides a supportive space for members to hone their public speaking and leadership skills. Toastmasters International has been providing that environment since 1924. The international nonprofit educational group boasts 14,700 clubs in 144 countries and about 280,000 members.

"I've probably been involved in (Voice of Franklin) for about four years," says Bruce Atlas, who prefers Voice of Franklin's relaxed atmosphere to some corporate Toastmasters groups he's tried. "I like hearing other people speak. It's entertaining, a mix of personalities and jobs, and I like the mentorship of helping other people grow and expand their speaking skills," says Atlas.

The group's location is another bonus.

"The Franklin TV station has a beautiful setup for Zoom," says Atlas. "It's called an Owl camera that can scan the whole room and (display) multiple pictures and a microphone, and it has a huge TV."

Juman Hijab, retired physician, joined the group about three years ago, hoping to better convey her knowledge of how protein in cells work to a broader audience.

"I'd been a member many years ago, so I knew the value of Toastmasters," says Hijab. "The main reason I joined was to improve my confidence in public speaking, standing in front of a small or large crowd. What I really gained, in addition to the public speaking, is confidence. I learned to trust myself more and feel good about the things I can contribute."

Confidence was what Leigh McStay hoped to improve when she sought Toastmasters just over a year ago, after losing her job. "My confidence hit the dirt, and someone mentioned Toastmasters years ago, because I'm horrible at public speaking – ter-



Voice of Franklin, a local club of Toastmasters International, meets at Franklin TV the first and third of each month at 7:30 with a hybrid format.

rified," says McStay, who participates remotely. "It's helped a lot so far. I don't know how I'd be in front of a live room, but I'm gaining confidence through the back door by doing it through Zoom," says Leigh, who has since begun her own Reiki business.

Vincent Klinga, a civil engineer and current president of the Voice of Franklin chapter, has been a regular member for just under a year. "I was doing a YouTube channel at the time about mental health and some LGBT topics, and I'd wanted to do a better job with that," says Vincent, who also serves on his company's diversity action council. "In that part of my job, I have to speak more than my job as a civil engineer," says Klinga. "I want to do that effectively."

Meetings adhere to an efficient agenda, where participants are encouraged to take turns trying out various roles, including Toastmaster, who runs the meeting. Before attendees begin their speeches, which number 2-4 per meeting at 5-7 minutes in length, a member tells a Joke of the Day, followed by a Word of the Day (which participants are encouraged to try to use that night the course of informal 2-minute speeches, or Table Topics). Someone always acts as a General Evaluator for the meeting, and there are evaluators for each speech. The Grammarian tracks the number of filler words, or "ahs" and "ums," per speech, while the Timer keeps check on presentation time.

Hijab points out that the process is more fun when there are

more people to fill the roles, but currently, members often take more than one role per meeting.

"Feedback is designed using the sandwich method – what you did well, what you could improve upon, and reinforcing what you did well again. The idea is to reinforce what someone did well, and in room for improvement, you give (speakers) one or two ideas they can improve. The idea is not to overwhelm. It's like climbing a ladder. Improve those, and then in the next step, add more, such as volume, or pauses," says Atlas.

A \$20 initial fee and subsequent dues of \$50 every six months allow members access to Toastmasters International's online learning management system, Pathways, which offers 11 specialized learning paths with more than 300 unique competencies. Topics include communication style, giving and receiving feedback, body language, and icebreakers.

"It helps you to get some focus," says Vincent.

"I go to my path, see what I have to do, and go through a series of steps," says Juman. Although the program needs updating, she says, "the material is very good."

The Voice of Franklin chapter also provides mentorship.

"We make sure anyone that's new is given the opportunity to have someone more experienced help them select a Pathway, help answer questions and help them get ready for their icebreaker speech," says Vincent.

Mentors also make gains in leadership development.



Bruce Atlas, member of Voice of Franklin Toastmasters, proudly displays the local club's award for "Select Distinguished Club, 2021-2022."

"The change from guest to member is very high, because the meetings are so enjoyable, and our goal is to get more guests to come," says Hijab. "You learn very quickly that it's ok to fail. Everyone is there to help everyone else."

If you'd like to be a guest at the next Voice of Franklin, stop by a meeting on the first or third Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. at Franklin TV, 23 Hutchinson St., Franklin. All are encouraged to arrive by 7:15. For Zoom access, reach out via the "Contact Us" link at <https://voiceoffranklin.toastmastersclubs.org/>.

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Baker Visits Tri-County

Former Governor Baker visited Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School in Franklin, Mass. to see the interdisciplinary collaboration happening during STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Week. Baker attended a special presentation earlier in the month at Thermo Fisher Scientific, where Graphic Communications students from Tri-County were being recognized for their submissions to the smART creative science art Contest. Their artwork was prominently displayed at the company's new manufacturing facility. After seeing their impressive work, Governor Baker reached out to Tri-County to see what other innovative projects the students were working on. Students and staff toured Governor Baker through several of the school's classrooms and programs to showcase the vital work our students are conducting.



A few of the Career Programs Governor Baker requested to visit during his tour were Metal Fabrication, Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing, and HVAC&R to witness the updates and modifications that the Skills Capital Grant have awarded these career programs.

“The Governor was surprisingly funny and made us feel comfortable. He shared fascinating stories and showed a great interest in Tri-County and its students,” said Michel Emile, Grade 12 Engineering student from North Attleboro.

The Skills Gap Grant was launched in 2015 with the goal

of replacing outdated equipment and technology, mainly at vocational technical high schools and community colleges. Since its inception, the program has evolved into a crucial component of local workforce training by expanding the number of young people and adults that are trained and experienced with the newest technol-

ogy used by local employers.

“Due to Governor Baker’s leadership, the State of Massachusetts allocated over 160 million dollars for program improvements in vocational schools. Tri-County has been fortunate to be the recipient of a portion of these funds, which were used to upgrade equipment and add new

programs- such as medical assisting,” said Dr. Karen Maguire, Superintendent-Director of Tri-County RVTHS. Tri-County has been awarded over \$1 million since 2016 from the Skills Gap Grant. These funds allow Tri-County to modernize labs to continue providing students with state-of-the-art equipment and advanced knowledge to support high school and adult education classes as well as provide training and placement for underemployed individuals.

Governor Baker was presented with an official citation commemorating October 20 as Governor Charles Baker Day at Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School from Dr. Maguire and the Tri-County School Committee. “We hope that the next Governor, along with our legislature, will pick up where Governor Baker left off and allocate funds to assist our communities with new building projects. This is a concern across the commonwealth as many communities are trying to find ways to rebuild some of our 50-year-old vocational school facilities,” said Dr. Maguire. Tri-County, built in 1977, is moving to the next steps in a proposed building project.

Congratulations to Local Dance Student

Samantha LoMonaco, of Franklin, had an outstanding dancing season which ended with a National and Regional titles as

a soloist and a team performer. Samantha took first in World Class Talent, On Pointe Dance, Diva Dance and the Elite Dance

Challenge, as well as won the national title of National Teen Miss Elite. Currently, the 13 year-old is an 8th grader at Benjamin

Franklin Charter Classical Public School and Dances out of

New England Dance Academy in North Attleboro, Mass.

Edward Jones

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December Highlights at the Franklin Public Library

The library will be closing at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 23rd, and Saturday, December 24th for Christmas Eve. The library will also be closing at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 31st for New Year's Eve. The library will be closed on Sunday, December 25th and Monday, December 26th for Christmas Day (observed).

Book Sale

Franklin Library Book Sale
Friday, December 9th, 1-5 p.m. Saturday, December 10th, 9 a.m. to 12 Noon.

Bag Sale - \$5 A Bag—Saturday, December 10th, from 1-4 p.m.

For Kids & Families

Miss Bree's Bookopoly! November 1-December 31

Hot Cocoa and Coloring! Friday afternoons in December (12/2, 12/9, 12/16), 2:30-4:30PM

Pancakes and Pajamas! Saturday December 17th @10:30 a.m.

Join us in your jammies for a pancake breakfast, hot cocoa, and holiday music with Jamie Barrett!

Last Minute Wrapping Station! Friday December 23rd 10 a.m - 1 p.m.

Families are welcome to drop in to wrap their last minute gifts at the library! We'll have rolls of paper, tape, scissors, ribbons, (and of course hot cocoa!)

Pumpkin Puppets! Tuesday December 27th @10:30 a.m.

Trevor the Games Man! Wednesday December 28th @10:30 a.m.

Featuring Stiltwalking and Cooperative Games, TREVOR leads the audience through a wide variety of unusual, interactive, cooperative, FUN, participatory activities!

Box City! Wednesday December 28th 3-5 p.m.

We're turning the Meeting Room into a city made out of boxes! Donate your empty boxes from the holidays through December 29!

Music at the Blissful Concert! Thursday December 29th, 10:30 a.m.

Musician Evan Hallor brings the energy to get the whole crowd up and dancing!

Mobile Mini Golf! Friday December 30th, 1-4 p.m.

Join us as we transform the library into a Mini Golf course that's fun for all ages*!! *Children under the age of 14 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Noon Year's Eve Party! Saturday December 31st @11 a.m.

For Teens

Teen Take & Makes: Resin Ornament!

Starting Monday December 5th stop by the library to pick up your very own resin ornament kit. SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED!

Be Your Own Barista! Saturday December 3rd 4 p.m.

Registration Required! There is nothing like a Peppermint Mocha in December, so let's make one!!

Register here: http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/ekform.cfm?curOrg=FRANKLIN&curName=2022/12/03_Be_Your_Own_Barista

Community Conversations! Thursday December 8th @6 p.m.

Folks of all ages are welcome to join us one Thursday each month as we unpack, discuss, and engage with topics relevant both within our community and beyond. This Month's Topic: "I

wish you knew..." Connecting through Generation Gaps.

Teen Yule Ball! Wednesday December 28th @6:30 p.m.

Join the Volunteens for a night of Harry Potter-themed crafts, games, and dancing!

Teen Murder Mystery Party! Murder at the 80's Prom! Thursday December 29th @2 p.m.

For Adults

Cook Book Collage!

Fill out an index card with your favorite family recipe for the holidays and pin it to our community collage!

Adult Crafts Sunday December 4th 2 p.m., Enjoy acrylic painting collaged with poetry!

Adult Take & Makes: Winter Wonderland Luminaries!

Starting Monday December 5th stop by the library to pick up your very own Winter Wonderland Luminary kit. SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED!

YA Book Club Monday December 5th 7 p.m.,

The Whispering Dark by Kelly Andrew (Available on Hoopla!)

Remote option available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8122222222>

Friends of the Franklin Library Book Club Tuesday December 6th 6:30 p.m.

Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson (Available on Hoopla!)

Friends of Franklin Library Meeting Wednesday December 7th 7 p.m.

Contact us at: f0f102038@gmail.com Follow us on Twitter: @FriendsFranklin

An Evening with Mystery Writers: Sulari Gentill, Hank Phillippi Ryan, and Eva Jurczyk!

Thursday, December 8th 7 p.m.

Find more information on the authors and their latest books on our events calendar and Facebook Page!

Register Here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8122222222>

Crafting Your Cocktail December 12th 6:30 p.m., with Chef Liz Barbor of The Creative Feast

Virtual Event

Register here! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8122222222>

Table Top, Tuesday, December 13th & 27th 6 p.m.

Registration Requested! Table Top is a Monthly game of Table Top Role Playing Games for Adults!

Email mgousie@minlib.net for more info!

We are currently exploring the mist shrouded moors in *Curse of Strahd*.

An Introduction to Hanukkah December 15th 7 p.m. Virtual Event - All Ages

Learn about Hanukkah -- a fun-filled eight-day festival celebrated by people all around the world who practice the Jewish faith -- in this virtual presentation from the Lappin Foundation.

Brought to you in collaboration with the Tewksbury, Carlisle, Danvers, Georgetown, Groton, Hopkinton, Peabody, Saugus, Swampscott, Wakefield, Waltham, & Wellesley Public Libraries.

Register Here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8122222222>

Holiday Concert from NoteAble Blend Saturday December 17th 3 p.m.

Bring a little festive cheer and maybe even sing along with a dynamic Women's Barbershop Chorus!

Franklin Public Library Book Club Tuesday December 27th 7:00 PM

The book for discussion is *Circe*, by Madeline Miller

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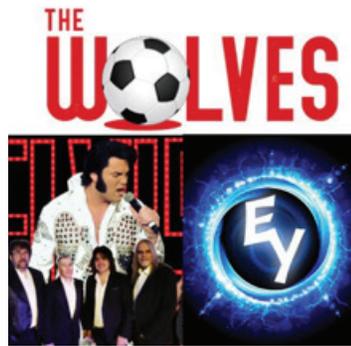
And as always, find us online at franklintownnews.com



THE BLACK BOX announces January Programming

THE BLACK BOX, Franklin's own professional theater and music venue, has an exciting lineup of plays, musicals, concerts and more in 2023.

2023 kicks off with the Franklin Performing Arts Company's production of *The Wolves*. Sarah DeLappe's wildly popular play runs January 6-8. Directed by New York actress Ali Funkhouser, the all female-identifying cast of 10 is comprised of young professional artists, collegiate actors, and student apprentices from the Franklin School for the Performing Arts. *The Wolves* follows a girls indoor soccer team. From the safety of their suburban stretch circle, the team navigates big questions and wages tiny battles with all the vim and vigor of a pack of adolescent warriors. A portrait of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for nine American girls who just want to score some goals. The play will feature soccer movement directed by Franklin's Calen Frongillo. A finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, *The Wolves* tackles mature themes including characters in honest discussions



about relationships, politics, death, and more. Because of its subject matter and strong language, it is not recommended for children.

The following weekend, THE BLACK BOX will present "Viva Las Elvis" - a tribute concert celebrating the 50th Anniversary of "Aloha from Hawaii via Satellite" featuring multi-award winning tribute artist Dan Fontaine & Memphis Sun Mafia Band on Saturday January 14 at 8:00pm. Dan Fontaine grew up in Massachusetts and was raised listening to the music of Elvis Presley. In 2014, Dan began performing his tribute to Elvis all over New England. He spent those years working his craft which aims to

capture the energy, passion, and vocal prowess of The King. Dan is a gifted band leader, originally fronting Fellowship of The King and currently performing his newest tribute show, "Viva Las Elvis" feat. Memphis Sun Mafia Band.

On January 21, THE BLACK BOX is excited to present the 2023 debut of *Electric Youth*. *Electric Youth* delivers high-energy, fully choreographed performances of classic rock, contemporary pop, Broadway, and country hits for audiences of all ages. The American touring ensemble of talented singer-dancers, ages 14-18, is backed by the eight-piece Boston Show Band — world class musicians who've worked with music legends Tony Bennett, Aretha Franklin, Dizzy Gillespie, B.B. King, Diana Ross, The Temptations, Van Morrison and more.

For tickets and more information, visit THEBLACKBOXonline.com or call (508) 528-3370. THE BLACK BOX is located at 15 W. Central St. in downtown Franklin, MA.

Franklin's Future Leaders Work with Franklin PD to Collect Toys for Tots

Franklin's Future Leaders, a group of children, boys and girls, ages 4-10+, learning how to help the community and learning how the community helps us, started collecting NEW Toys for the Toys for Tots Program through the Franklin Police. We have the pleasure of working with the police department for Toys for Tots as they visit our group, collect the toys and speak with the children about the importance of giving, with a tour of the department and safety rules planned in April.

The Franklin Senior Center gift bags have begun with new blankets or knitted lap blankets for the seniors, along with masks, word searches, pencil, eye glass repair kits, magnifying glasses, hats, mit-

tens and scarfs and gift cards. The Senior Center's Arielle Doggett will be visiting our group to speak of the importance of helping our Elders.

Donations are still being accepted; please contact Cheryl Hobbs at cas324@msn.com.

Franklin's Future Leaders delivered 75 filled Backpacks to the Franklin Food Pantry, and Tina Powderly, Executive Director of the Franklin Food Pantry, visited the group to speak of the importance of helping our neighbors.

Our current year is filled with local speakers. We look forward to our speakers and our new visit to The Franklin Fire Department. We are a 501c3 Children's Organization.

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MORE INFO & TICKETS

Register O'Donnell Announces 2022 Holiday Food Drive through December 13th

As inflation rates continue to rise and the cost of living becomes an increasing challenge for some families across Norfolk County, Register of Deeds William O'Donnell is asking people to take a moment to contribute to the Annual Registry of Deeds Food Drive, starting Monday November 14th and running through Tuesday December 13th.

"There is no doubt that Norfolk County is a desirable place to live and to work. However, there are people throughout the county that are truly hurting. This year we, as a community, have seen an unprecedented rise

in inflation rates, especially in the cost of food. Some Norfolk County families are hit harder by these increased costs and worry about putting food on the table this holiday season."

Today, according to the latest Project Bread statistics, 19.6% of households in Massachusetts are considered food insecure. Furthermore, 22% of children in the state are also considered food insecure. The increasing cost of housing and food are likely factors that contribute to the rising rates of food insecurity.

Non-perishable food items can be brought directly to the Registry of Deeds, which is

located at 649 High Street in Dedham. A donation bin will be set-up in the Registry's lobby and food can be dropped off Monday through Friday between 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Suggested donations include canned goods, breakfast cereals, pasta, sauces, toiletries, and paper products.

If you can't get to the Registry of Deeds building to drop off food, you can check the Registry website at www.norfolkdeeds.org for a pantry location in your community.

Working together, we can truly make a huge difference this holiday season," concluded Register O'Donnell.

Do You Know Any Teens Passionate about Fighting Climate Change?

Several faith communities are joining together to form an Interfaith/ Inter-town (Franklin & No Attleboro) group of youth to learn, teach, lead and act to save our planet. You don't have to be a member of any faith community to be involved.

The first meeting will be on Sunday, December 4th at 7 p.m. at St John's to gauge interest and

plan our actions. Pizza provided. Please spread the word and bring your friends.

St John's Episcopal Church, 237 Pleasant Street, Franklin

For more information: Call (508) 528-2387, Email Rector@StJohnsFranklinMA.org, Like us on Facebook and Twitter, or visit www.stjohnsfranklinma.org.

Rypos Announces Leadership Changes

Franklin, Mass., - Rypos Inc., a world leader in the design and manufacture of Active Diesel Particulate Filters (ADPFs), has announced changes within its leadership team. Paul Anderson has been appointed Chief Executive Officer, and Una Crowley has been named Chief Financial Officer. Anderson succeeds Peter Bransfield, who will serve as Executive Chairman of Rypos.

About Rypos

Founded in 1997 in Franklin, Mass., Rypos is a leading provider of Active Diesel Particulate Filter (ADPF) products for OEM and aftermarket customers.

Franklin Town Report Now Available

The Annual Franklin Town Report is now available. To view it, visit

https://www.franklinma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhli6896/f/uploads/2022_annual_report_0.pdf

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

FPAC Holiday Productions presents 'Tis the Season!

FPAC Holiday Productions will bring back family-favorite 'Tis the Season! December 17 and 18 at the Franklin High School Auditorium.

The holidays are jolly and bright as 'Tis the Season! returns to entertain audiences with great merriment, fanfare, and fun. An original large cast musical first presented by FPAC Holiday



Productions in 1995, 'Tis is an upbeat, jazzy extravaganza featuring members of the Kenny Hadley Big Band, with contemporary arrangements of favorite holiday classics in musical styles ranging from R&B, gospel, and Motown to Rock, Pop, and Broadway.

The critically acclaimed Kenny Hadley Big Band, led by drummer Kenny Hadley, boasts masterful musicians with performance ties to big band legends Woody Herman, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Maynard Ferguson, Buddy Rich, and more. The Kenny Hadley Big Band has shared the stage with such notables as The Count Basie Orchestra and The Duke Ellington Orchestra and has hosted guest soloists including Clark Terry and Louie Bellson.

'Tis the Season! is directed by FPAC Artistic Director Raye Lynn Mercer with Music Direction by Hallie Wetzell. It also features exciting choreography by Mercer, Kellie Stamp, and Broadway's Christopher Rice-Thomson.

FPAC Holiday Productions are presented at the Franklin High School Auditorium. For tickets and more information, visit www.FPAConline.com or call the box office at (508) 528-3370.

Think Franklin First Gift Cards Available this Season

Gift-giving gift season is approaching! Looking for the perfect gift? How does one card with countless possibilities sound? With over 40+ local participating businesses, shopping and gifting local just got a whole lot easier.

Buy a Think Franklin First Gift Card today in person at Dean Bank in Franklin, or buy online at <https://franklingiftcard.com/buy-a-gift-card>.

Franklin Art Association Announces "Show & Tell" Program

The Franklin Art Association will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. Members and friends are asked to bring samples of their current artwork to talk about their techniques, inspiration and mediums. Beverages and snacks will be served, and holiday music will create a festive atmosphere. The public is invited to learn about the creative process and see what association members have been working on.

Meetings are held at the Franklin Senior Center the first



Wednesday of every month September through June. More information can be found on the Franklin Art Association Facebook Page, Instagram and website www.franklinart.org.

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Support Comfort Quilts with Raffle Purchase!

Rhododendron Needlers Quilt Guild, with members from Franklin and surrounding communities, invites you to visit Emma's Quilt Cupboard during December to purchase your Raffle Tickets for this year's Raffle Quilt "Blue Plate Specials."

The Raffle Quilt features 42 Dresden plates in a variety of beautiful blues, greens, purples and more. The quilt measures 81 X 93 inches and was cooperatively made by over 35 guild members. It was designed by Laura Rosenspan and quilted by Diana R. Annis, a nationally known long arm quilter. Tickets are 3 for \$5 and \$2 each.

Raffle ticket sales support the guild's philanthropy, specifically to purchase fabric and batting for

the over 100 Comfort Quilts a year that are supplied to local homeless shelters, nursing homes,

college counseling centers, pediatric ICUs, veterans and foster care agencies.

Emma's Quilt Cupboard is located in the Horace Mann Plaza on East Central Street, Franklin. Tickets are also available via the guild's email raffletix@rnqg.com Check out the website www.RNQG.org for information about the guild and their upcoming show "A Community of Quilters" March 18-19, 2023 at Blue Hills



Regional Vocational School. Enclosed: Photo of 2022 RNQG Raffle Quilt "Blue Plate Specials"

Register O'Donnell Announces Toys for Tots Drive

Believing that the true spirit of the holidays is based on giving, Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell announced today that the Registry will be sponsoring its 15th Annual U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots drive.

"The registry is proud to partner with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to help deliver a happy Christmas to children this holiday season," said Register O'Donnell. "Also, we thank the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and all our Military personnel for their service."

Donations of new toys and games for toddlers and children up to age ten can be brought directly to the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds building located at 649 High St. in Dedham from Monday, No-

vember 21, 2022, until noon on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. A marked donation bin will be set up in the lobby, which is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

"This year, especially with inflation rates at record highs, the registry is reaching out to the Norfolk County community to give to the Toys for Tots drive," said O'Donnell. "Because no family should have to struggle to give their child a gift this holiday season."

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Toys for Tots. The program was established in 1947 when the wife of a Marine major wanted to donate a Raggedy Ann doll for Christmas, but couldn't find an organization to accept it. Since then, the national program has delivered

over 627 million toys.

Register O'Donnell noted, "Every holiday season, the Registry witnesses firsthand the many acts of kindness and Christmas spirit as numerous people drop off gifts for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots drive. It's truly wonderful to see so many people drop off gifts, from Registry employees to title examiners to attorneys and from the general public," noted Register O'Donnell.

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program's mission is to help less fortunate children experience the joy and happiness associated with Christmas. The program operates in more than 800 cities and towns throughout all 50 states.

"Since that time, this program has spread so much joy

with the gifts that have been donated," noted the Register.

Register O'Donnell concluded, "We all have the power to make a child's Christmas something special, and therefore, giving to the Toys for Tots drive just might make it the best Christmas present you can give yourself this holiday season."

If you would like to stay up to date on upcoming Registry of Deeds events, programs and real estate information you can sign up for our Registry email updates at www.norfolkdeeds.org, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/norfolkdeeds or

follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/norfolkdeeds. Our Customer Service Center is also available to assist you at (781) 461-6101

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High St., Dedham, is the principal office for real property in Norfolk County. All land record research information can be found on the Registry's website, www.norfolkdeeds.org. Residents in need of assistance can contact the Registry of Deeds Customer Service Center at (781) 461-6101 or email us at registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.



Sandy Hook Vigil Dec. 14

On Wednesday, December 14 a candlelight vigil will be held to honor the memories of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. The vigil will be held at Bellingham Town Common at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome.

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Shelter Full of Animals Seeking Love around the Holidays

By J.D. O'GARA

Is pet adoption the wrong thing to do around the holiday season?

Baypath Humane Society's Kathy Lundgren says it depends.

"There's always so much going on around the holidays to adopt a pet," says the Baypath volunteer. "It's not an ideal time if you're going to have company over and a lot of people coming and going at your house. It is ideal for some people who have time off from work and can acclimate them to their homes. It really depends on what people are expecting, company, and the holiday hustle and bustle."

Adopting a pet as a surprise gift? Lundgren says no.

"We always want to be talking to (potential owners), to meet them or at least talk to them to make sure everyone is on board," says the volunteer. "It's not fair to the animal to bounce them around. Rather than a lot of paperwork, she says, "We find out more about people just by having a conversation with them. If you live in an apartment, we want to make sure your landlord is ok with it, if you're adopting a dog, we want to make sure there's no breed restrictions, and if you have a pet at home, we like to



Layla is one of the puppy dogs available for adoption at Baypath Humane Society. See her story at Layla and a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jUMNukemxGA&t=16s>



One-year-old Margarita is a current resident of Baypath in search of a new home with lots of love.



Maia and Max were recently saved from a Korean meat market. Thanks to a generous grant, these two potential adoptees will come with a free positive training package.

ask for the vet information. We can find out a lot just by talking to the veterinarian's office, like if someone has 10 pets at home and is overwhelmed, or that this person is a great pet owner."

During COVID, says Lundgren, "a lot of people were bored – they were home, and they were getting pets and trying to entertain the kids." Sometimes, she says, that could be the "wrong reason for getting a pet that's going to live with you for 18 years." Asking how long a potential owner has wanted a pet, she says, "avoids knee jerk reactions. We didn't want those bounce backs, but now, we're getting a lot more of those bounce backs."

In fact, a higher number of the animals than usual are local surrenders, says Lundgren.

"That's unusual for us," she says, "and it's really tough. We only have room in our shelters for 20 dogs, so we rely on fosters a lot. The other 50% are a few from down south and, believe it or not, Korea. We have four dogs from the Korean meat market." Baypath has worked with the International Humane Society to save these dogs from Korea and has, and you can watch the story of two of the dogs at <https://youtu.be/zxFiaSFCzVc>. Many of the current rescue dogs from south U.S. are beagles removed from Envigo, and you can view their stories at <https://youtu.be/eqhZ92VgFxs>.

Most cats, she says, come from the local area.

"There are still little colonies of cats. I know in Franklin there was a group of people who were tracking, neutering, and spaying cats. We also work with a couple different vets on that," says Lundgren. At the press time, about 25 cats were available for adoption.

For a staff of only about 10, Baypath Humane Society, which has been around for 40 years, manages to adopt out about 900 dogs and cats per year.

"We get out a lot of animals, we have an incredible staff, only about 10 people that work very hard," says Lundgren, "Ninety percent of our business is run by volunteers. It's a pretty well-oiled machine."

Baypath Humane Society, located at 500 Legacy Farms in Hopkinton, is currently closed for public drop-ins, although they are still actively taking in, caring for and rehoming cats and dogs. Those interested are encouraged to call (508) 435-6938 between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends. To view available animals up for adoption and learn more, visit www.baypathhumane.org, or follow @BaypathHumane on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

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Sports

Allen's Work Ethic Makes Him a Top-notch Panther

FHS Co-captain Starts at Point Guard

By KEN HAMWEY,
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Justin Allen's insatiable work ethic is an attribute that not only defines him, but it also has become a key that's opening doors. That trait is a major plus for him in basketball and also in the classroom, where he's an honor student with a 3.8 GPA.

The Franklin High senior, who hardly played his sophomore year, is now a co-captain and the Panthers' starting point guard. Coach C.J. Neely calls Allen "special in so many ways."

"Justin has earned everything through hard work," Neely emphasized. "He's become our best shooter, he's a captain who leads by example, and he's unselfish and supportive. Justin also has spent time at camps and gets involved in community service. If a teammate needs a ride, Justin provides it."

Neely definitely likes what Allen brings to the basketball table. "He's improved so much. He's got a high basketball IQ, he's instinctive, he's overcome adversity, and knows how to stretch the floor with his shot. He's worked while he's waited."

The 5-foot-11 Allen had the option to star for the jayvees as a sophomore or be on the varsity — not to play but to learn and observe. He chose limited to no playing time on the varsity.

"That was the best decision I ever made," Allen offered. "I learned from players who were older, several were Hockomock League all-stars, and I learned the system from Coach Neely. I grew with the older players and got valuable advice from them and the coach."

Allen started his junior year as a combo guard — at the point and on the wing. His final statistics weren't eye-popping, but there were signs that Allen could handle the point-guard role and become the quarterback on offense.

His points per game average was a meager 5.5, but there were encounters where he scored 11 against Mansfield, 12 against

Oliver Ames and 16 against Milford. His three-point shooting clip, however, was an impressive 40 percent. But there were times he was willing to pass up good shots. That changed when the Worcester City Tournament arrived at the end of the regular season. That competition provided proof that Allen had arrived.

The Franklin native scored 12 of his 14 points in the fourth quarter to give the Panthers a hard-fought 41-39 triumph over Worcester North. He also connected on three three-pointers.

"We beat Burncoat and Leominster, then won the title in a back-and-forth game where the defenses created poor shooting," Allen said. "That game was my best and I was pleased I could propel my team to the championship."

With Allen controlling the point, Franklin went 20-3 overall then split a pair of games in the state tourney, ending the season with a 21-4 record.

This year, Allen has set goals that are lofty, but he believes, "they're attainable."

"My team goals are to win the Kelley-Rex Division title and be the best team in the league," he said. "Then, after we qualify for the tourney, I want us to compete for and win the state championship. My individual goals are to be the best captain I can be, become a league all-star and shoot threes at 40 percent or higher ... We've got 10 returning players who are hungry to win," he emphasized. "And for me to attain my individual goals means I must impact winning."



Justin Allen has worked long hours to sharpen his shooting skills.

Franklin will open its season on Dec. 13 at Oliver Ames.

The 18-year-old Allen, who started playing basketball when he was seven, truly embraces his role at point guard.

"I like the responsibility," he said. "I like controlling the pace of a game, and I'm comfortable with the ball in my hands. The key to success is to take care of

the ball and limit turnovers. Being instinctive and having good court vision are very important in being able to direct my teammates. Staying one step ahead of the defense is crucial."

Quick to credit others, Allen has high praise for his teammates, especially co-captain Ben Harvey, junior combo guard Henry DiGorgio and junior forward-

center Sean O'Leary. Neely gets high marks, too. "Coach Neely is an excellent motivator who works long hours," Allen noted. "His practices are organized, he's super positive and reminds us to act how you want to be remembered."

Calling his parents (Shawn and Marissa) role models for their support and encouragement, Allen relies on an athletic philosophy that stresses winning, but he's also acutely aware that reaching his potential and enjoying his sport are essential.

"I put a high priority on winning, but losing can teach an athlete how to adjust," he said. "Life lessons that can be learned through sports are overcoming adversity, how to develop a strong work ethic, how to be a good teammate and leader, and how to be resilient."

Allen, who hasn't decided on a college or a major, hopes to continue his basketball career at a Division 3 school. "I think Justin can achieve that goal," Neely said. "Recruiters like taller guards but his shooting will draw attention, and his willingness to adapt to pressure situations is a big plus. Justin has developed confidence."

Once timid taking shots, Allen, a fan of Isaiah Thomas, now is a threat offensively and that should help him become more proficient getting assists. "Improving on offense will draw opponents to me and that will hopefully lead to making good passes for assists," he said.

Justin Allen top thrill in sports was winning Most Improved Player last year. "That said a lot about my work ethic. All the hours of work paid off," said Allen.

Indeed they did.

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Franklin Honors Vets at Elks Post Luncheon

Franklin's annual Veteran's Day luncheon returned to the Franklin Elks Lodge #2136 this year, with Robert Gardner, U.S. Army-RET, Purple Heart, and Bronze Star recipient, serving as keynote speaker. The event, which was packed, opened with the posting of the colors by Commander John Milot and James McNeil from American Legion Post 75, the National Anthem by

the Franklin High School Chorus, Pledge of Allegiance by U.S. Air Force veteran Marilyn Shaw, an invocation by Robert Markunis, Chaplain of American Legion Post 75, and a welcome by Shannon Nisbett, Franklin Veterans Services Officer.

Following are some images from the event.

Photo by Linda Rondeau



Franklin Elks man the kitchen to provide a great lunch for local veterans.



The Veterans Day lunch gave veterans a chance to talk with each other. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



American Legion Post 75 members enjoy a laugh prior to lunch. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



Robert Markunis, Chaplain of American Legion Post 75, speaks with another veteran prior to the ceremony. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



Town and local officials show their support for veterans. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



Robert Gardner, Purple Heart, and Bronze Star recipient, served as keynote speaker. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



Cmdr. John Milot and James McNeil, American Legion Post 75, post the colors. *Photo by Linda Rondeau*



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Members of the Franklin High School Chorus sing the National Anthem.

Calendar

Through December 31

Bookopoly, Franklin Public Library, 118 Main St., Franklin, read a variety of books with chances to win prizes! Visit <https://www.franklinma.gov/franklin-public-library>

December 2

Bellforge Arts Center 8th Annual Holiday Stroll, 4-9 p.m., 30+ local artist vendors, carolers, ice sculpture demonstrations, and festive activities in Downtown Medfield. All events within walking distance of Main Street, 3 indoor sites: Zullo Gallery, the United Church of Christ, and the Memorial Public Library.

MyFM 101.3 Annual Toys For Kids and Teens Drive, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., outside Walmart in Bellingham.

December 3

Franklin Garden Club Holiday Wreath and Arrangement Sale, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Daddario's Hardware Store, 528 West Central Street, Franklin. Also, holiday fresh floral arrangements will be sold on Instagram beginning December 17. Prices \$15 - \$40 @ [franklingardenclubma](https://www.franklingardenclubma.com).

St. John's Christmas Fair, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 237 Pleasant Street, Franklin, baked goods, a cookie walk, children's activities, refreshments, a silent auction, raffle items, and fresh wreaths

Winter Farmers Market, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fairmount Fruit Farm, local farms, vendors, artisans, and crafters

SL "Hay" Ride, 3-6 p.m. (registration required), Fairmount Fruit Farm, lit up tractor a wagon ride with cocoa, blankets, holiday jingles around orchard, \$10 pp

Bollywood Dance Party! 11 a.m., Franklin Public Library

December 4

The Charles River Chorale Winter Concert, 2 p.m., Medway High

School Auditorium. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. \$20 adults, \$15 for seniors and students. Children 5 and under free. Purchase tickets at www.charlesriverchorale.com/tickets. Tickets can also be purchased at the door with payment by cash or check.

December 6

Friends of the Franklin Library Book Club Tuesday December 6th 6:30 p.m., Franklin Public Library
Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson (Available on Hoopla!)

December 7

Franklin Art Association monthly meeting, 6:30 p.m., members and friends encouraged to bring samples of their work and discuss inspiration and mediums, more at Franklin Art Association Facebook Page, Instagram, and website www.franklinart.org.

December 8

Community Conversation: "I wish you knew..." Connecting through Generation Gaps, 6 p.m., Franklin Public Library, folks of all ages welcome

SAFE Coalition presents Jack Frost Jubilee, 4-8 p.m., Proctor Mansion, 36 Common St., Wrentham, \$25 per family, or family plus 2 drink tickets & ornament, \$75

December 9

Franklin Library Book Sale, 1-5 p.m., Franklin Public Library

December 10

Franklin Knights of Columbus Christmas Food Drive, table set up after each Mass at St. Mary's, Stop & Shop gift card sale to benefit St. Vincent de Paul, or visit <https://kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations>. 5% of each card goes to SVdP, or purchase a gift card to donate to SVdP

SL "Hay" Ride, 3-6 p.m. (registration required), Fairmount Fruit Farm, 885 Lincoln St., Franklin, lit up tractor a wagon

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ride with cocoa, blankets, holiday jingles around orchard, \$10 pp

Franklin Library Book Sale, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m., Franklin Public Library, bag sale 1-4 p.m.

December 11

Franklin Knights of Columbus Christmas Food Drive, table set up after each Mass at St. Mary's, Stop & Shop gift card sale to benefit St. Vincent de Paul, or visit <https://kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations>. 5% of each card goes to SVdP, or purchase a gift card to donate to SVdP

Note Able Blend Holiday Concert, Franklin Historical Museum, 1:15 p.m., followed by Mrs. Claus story/time photo opportunity from 2-4 p.m., 80 West Central St., Franklin

December 15

An Introduction to Hanukkah, virtual program, 7 p.m., through Franklin Public Library, https://us02web.zoom.us/join/2416685478169/WN_hN-7VV6gASQWhchifnIagLQ

December 17

Winter Farmers Market, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fairmount Fruit Farm, 885 Lincoln St., Franklin, local farms, vendors, artisans, and crafters

Holiday Concert from Note-Able Blend, Franklin Public

Library, 3 p.m., women's barber-shop chorus

FPAC presents *Tis the Season!*, For tickets and more information, visit www.FPAConline.com or call the box office at 508-528-3370.

SL "Hay" Ride, 3-6 p.m. (registration required), Fairmount Fruit Farm, 885 Lincoln St., Franklin, lit up tractor a wagon ride with cocoa, blankets, holiday jingles around orchard, \$10 pp

December 17

Pancakes and Pajamas, with Jamie Barrett, pancake breakfast, hot cocoa, holiday music, 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library

December 18

FPAC presents *Tis the Season!*, For tickets and more information, visit www.FPAConline.com or call the box office at 508-528-3370.

"Train Town Franklin" opens at Franklin Historical Museum, 80 W. Central St., Franklin, open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

December 23

Last Minute Wrapping Station! 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Franklin Public Library, families welcome, we'll have rolls of paper, tape, scissors, ribbons, (and of course hot cocoa!) for all your wrapping needs!

December 27

Pumpnickel Puppets, 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library
Franklin Public Library Book Club, 7 p.m., Circe, by Madeline Miller

December 28

Trevor the Games Man! 10:30 a.m., Franklin Public Library, Box City, 3-5 p.m., donate your boxes to help create a box city for the family to enjoy. Donations accepted through December 29th, Teen Yule Ball, 6:30 p.m.

December 19

Music at the Blissful Concert! 10:30 a.m., featuring Evan Hallor, Franklin Public Library

December 30

Mobile Mini Golf, 1-4 p.m., Franklin Public Library, children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

December 31

Noon Year's Eve Party, 11 a.m., Franklin Public Library, family program

BSA Troop 126 Light Up Franklin Peace Light Ceremony, 4-5:30 p.m., Franklin Town Common, come to the common with a candle or lantern to light your luminaries as we start 2023 with peace.

MA Legislature Passes Bill to Protect Open Spaces

The Massachusetts Legislature last month passed legislation that protects open and public spaces throughout the Commonwealth and ensures their conservation for future generations. This legislation, known as the Public Land Preservation Act, permanently preserves and protects the amount of land

designated as open spaces and prevents it from being used for other purposes.

"As we work to mitigate the effects of climate change we see and feel every day, it's important that we do not allow the quality and acreage of open lands in Massachusetts to decrease," said Senate

President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "Open lands protect against floods, reduce heat from man-made roads and cities, increase carbon capture from plants and soils, protect our clean drinking water, and provide residents with wonderful outdoor recreational opportunities. I want to thank all

the conferees, especially Senator DiDomenico for his leadership and Senator Eldridge for his years of attention and perseverance in seeing this legislation passed, as well as Senator Rodrigues for his review and support."

"I am thrilled that we have reached an agreement on this

bill which will protect our public land so our communities can have parks, green spaces, and clean water to enjoy throughout the Commonwealth," said Senator Sal N. DiDomenico (D-Everett), Chair

Real Estate Corner



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LEGISLATURE

continued from page 31

of the Senate Committee on Bills in the Third Reading. "Protecting our public lands is so critically important in our state because they also help protect our residents from the effects of climate change; our forests keep our air clean, our trees cool down our streets and communities, and our wetlands mitigate the effects of flooding and storms. I am grateful for Senate President Spilka's dedication to getting this important bill passed, Senator Eldridge and Representative Balsler for their years of work on this issue, and all the conference committee members for their help getting this bill over the finish line."

"I am extremely proud that an agreement has been reached between the House and Senate on the landmark Public Land Preservation Act (PLPA), which will strengthen the state's commitment to ensuring that there is no net loss of open space in the Commonwealth," said Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary and the bill's original sponsor. "I'm grateful to Senate President Spilka's commitment to passing this environmental legislation, the work of the conferees, and the persistent advocacy by conservation groups. I also want to acknowledge the godfather of PLPA, Phil Saunders, who dedicated his professional life to passing this bill."

"With the passage of the Public Lands Preservation Act today, our public lands and open spaces will be preserved and protected for current and future generations to come," said Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. "Thank you to Senate President Spilka for her leadership and thank you to Senator Eldridge, Senator DiDomenico, and others

for their leadership on this vital issue as well. Ensuring the preservation of our most important public lands, farms, recreational areas, drinking water supply lands, sensitive wildlife habitats, forests, and other conservation and open space lands is critical in our collective efforts to adapt to and confront climate change, while protecting the public health of our communities, and passage of this legislation is a testament to the Senate's steadfast commitment to protecting our environment at all costs."

Since its passage as a ballot initiative in 1972, Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution has recognized the importance of conservation purposes under Article 97 have protected status, and such lands' sale or conversion to other use must be approved by a two-thirds vote of each branch of the Legislature. Recognizing the importance of maintaining public lands, the Legislature, working with the Administration, has for many years ensured 'no net loss' of open spaces by requiring equivalent replacement land into open space when disposing of Article 97 land.

The conference report passed by the Legislature today codifies a 'no net loss' policy into law, making it legally binding. It ensures a public process takes place when a public entity considers disposing of Article 97 land and that replacement land is located nearby and of comparable acreage, fair market value, and natural resource value. The legislation includes a provision that allows for a cash payment in lieu of replacement land, provided that the payment amount is no less than 110 percent of the value of the land and the money is used to purchase replacement land within three years.

Having passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, the bill now goes before the Governor for her consideration.

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Wishing Everyone Joy and Peace this Holiday Season!



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Real Estate Corner

Milford Regional's M \acute{e} lange Gala Raises Unprecedented \$1.1M

Milford Regional Medical Center's M \acute{e} lange 2022 Gala and Live Auction – "A Lifeline to Our Future"—raised a record-breaking \$1.1 million this year. The November 5th fundraiser returned to an in-person occasion and took place at the Willows in Medway. The event was sponsored by Salmon Health & Retirement and attended by more than 400 Milford area businesses and community leaders, sponsors, friends and supporters of the hospital.

Since 2005, the M \acute{e} lange Gala has been raising funds for the most crucial needs of the hospital. This year's much anticipated in-person benefit was chaired by Anthony and Susan Consigli. "It was truly amazing for Susan and I to experience the community coming together to support Milford Regional in a such a big way," said Anthony Consigli. "Raising a record-breaking \$1.1 million is a testament to our community's collective generosity and

dedication to our community hospital, which continues to play such a vital role in the lives of so many."

The live auction portion of the evening was hosted by celebrity auctioneer Paul Zekos of The Zekos Group and included a number of high-ticket bid items such as an eight-day stay in the Tuscan countryside, a two-night stay in Nashville with tickets to the Country Music Awards, a five-night stay in Kildare Ireland and four hours of flight time for 14 individuals on a private jet.

Pledges were also accepted to support the creation of a Congestive Heart Failure program at Milford Regional during the "Fund-a-Need" portion of the auction. CHF affects approximately six million Americans and is one of the most common reasons people aged 65 and older go into the hospital, according



to the American Heart Association. Heart failure is a serious long-term condition, but with the proper medical treatment and attention, patients afflicted with CHF can enjoy a high quality of life.

"I want to personally thank everyone who contributed to this unprecedented level of philanthropic support of Milford Regional, making this year's M \acute{e} lange the most successful to date," said MRMC Vice President of Philanthropy and Executive Director of the Milford Regional Healthcare Foundation Emily Quinn. "The tremendous and selfless generosity of our

many incredible donors, supporters and friends speaks volumes to our community's commitment to Milford Regional's mission and the patients we proudly serve."

"Hero" sponsors (\$25,000) included: The Brucato Family, Consigli Construction Co., Inc., Green Site Services Group, ImperialCars.com, Cliff Rucker & the Worcester Railers, SALMON Health & Retirement and Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc.

"Livesaver" sponsors (\$10,000) included: A & A Window Products, Inc., Bessa Brothers Construction and New Generation Custom Homes, Vascen J. Bogigian, Boston Children's Hospital, Brown & Brown of Massachusetts, Inc., Central Travel, Century 21 The Real Estate Group, Community EMS, Inc., Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center,

Family Orthodontics, Hillview Equipment, Hyman & Shirley Hill Foundation, Inc., Kimball Sand Company, Inc., Koopman Lumber Co., Lobisser & Ferreira Construction Corp., Lockheed Architectural Solutions, Inc., MAS Building & Bridge, Inc., Milford Anesthesia Consultants, P.C., Mirick O'Connell, Mohan Family Foundation, Orion Emergency Services, Inc., Mr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Osterman, Physicians Insurance Agency of Massachusetts, REC Hopkinton, LLC, Riverdale Mills Corporation, Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation, Rubicon Builders, SOS Corporation, Specialty Services of New England, LLC, Sunrise Erectors, Inc., Terva Corporation, UniBank, W. L. French Excavating Corporation and Worldband/Tinio Corporation.

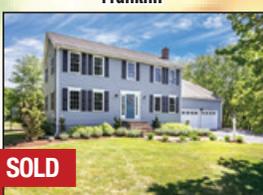
For more information on the event, visit <https://foundation.milfordregional.org/getinvolved/specialevents/melange/>.

Happy Holidays!



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