

## Current Town Residents Attended Milford Hospital Nursing School Before it Closed in 1959

**Founded in 1905, the school graduated hundreds to fill the hospital's staffing needs**

By Linda Chuss

Every year from 1905 to 1959, a dozen or so young women from Milford and the surrounding region enrolled at the Milford Hospital Training School for Nursing. It was located at Main and Prospect streets next to the hospital which opened in 1903. Funds to build the hospital were donated by Hopedale's Eben Draper, who became Governor of Massachusetts. His wife, Susan, was the benefactor for the nursing school, where the women boarded and took classes.

The students were trail-



May Richards and Mary Villani attended the nursing school at Milford Hospital. Photo by Linda Chuss

blazers; before the mid-20th century, few women pursued professional careers.

Women chose nursing for different reasons. Mary Villani, a current and lifelong resident of Milford, said, "I

always wanted to be a nurse. I would fix my doll's broken legs and take care of them."

### NURSING SCHOOL

continued on page 6

## Gold Award Project Focuses on Racism

**Creates "Resolving Racism at its Roots" curriculum for 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

By Theresa Knapp

Natalie da Cunha of Milford has always been passionate about social justice issues. She now wants to enhance the school curriculum "to make it less white-washed and more inclusive of other cultures."

As part of her Girl Scout Gold Award project, she created "Resolving Racism at its Roots," a program to be added to the 8th grade curriculum at Milford Public Schools.

"I decided that tackling the eighth grade curriculum would be the most efficient route for my project," she says.

Da Cunha created an advisory team, which included teachers and administrators, gathered resources, and created a curriculum to be used in the middle school.

"I helped write curriculum that takes effect as an overarching theme throughout the year and finishes with an art project. My



Natalie da Cunha will receive her Gold Award pin in June. Courtesy photo

team followed a template given to us by the Massachusetts Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment," says da Cunha.

The MCIEA also funded the

### GOLD AWARD

continued on page 14

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# Local Real Estate Veteran Joins Mendon Local Realty

## Angel Moscatelli joins boutique brokerage, Mendon Local Realty



Angel Moscatelli

Mendon Local (MLO) Realty owner, Melissa Lodi, announced long-time REALTOR® Angel Moscatelli has signed on with the boutique firm. Moscatelli, who recently managed Milford's ERA Key Realty & previously owned a brokerage, Angel's Realty, is

excited about this new venture and working with the community.

Angel shared her thoughts on the transition:

"When looking for a real estate company that was a good fit for me, I was looking for a place that is professional yet has that personal touch; that combination of experience and knowledge, while also caring about their agents, goes a long way in the real estate industry. That extends to their clients as well. In meeting with Melissa Lodi, I found their motto of 'Why Go Big, When You Can Go Home' is exactly what they practice - a boutique office grounded in professionalism

and caring, has real estate agents that feel the same and are successful. Respect, integrity, with an outlook for you (the agent) and the client, is what it is all about. Melissa keeps business in mind for all, not just the company. Focusing on the agent and what we can provide to our clients looking to sell and buy, is very important to success for all. I am excited to begin anew at Mendon Local Realty."

MLO Realty prides itself with their personal, customized boutique approach that sets them apart from large brokerages. Dedicated to their community, MLO is more likely to be found at town festivals/parades than big glossy

ads. As their tagline says, "Why go big when you can go home?"

Owner Melissa Lodi is excited about the addition of Moscatelli to the team, stating "Angel coming on board is a wonderful thing for not only the brokerage, but for the entire team as well. She is incredibly knowledgeable and has so much to offer - in addition to being an incredibly kind soul. We share the same values and goals, so this is truly a wonderful match. I couldn't be happier for her to make the choice to come on board!"

Mendon Local Realty is located at 1 Hastings Street, Mendon, MA 01756.

# Milford Greenleaf Garden Club to Host Begonia Presentation



Betsy Szymczak will be a guest speaker at the Greenleaf Garden Club on March 20. Source: www.betsyszymczak.com

On March 20, the Greenleaf Garden Club will host Betsy Szymczak and her presentation "A Begonia for Every Season."

As winter wanes and we think about spring, begonias as bedding and container plants are a beautiful addition to any garden. A month-by-month plan for enjoying this diverse and versatile genus will be described. Attendees will walk away with the knowledge to grow begonias inside and outside in all seasons.

Betsy has recently retired from more than 35 years of teaching clinical microbiology at several Boston area colleges and universities. She is a member of the Buxton Branch of the American Begonia Society (ABS), an ABS certified begonia judge, and was recently named ABS Judging Co-Chair. She has also judged begonia sections at the Philadelphia and Boston Flower Shows and is a student judge for the Gesneriad Society.

The event will be held at the Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center, 60 North Bow Street, Milford, on Monday, March 20, at 7:15 p.m. A donation of \$5 is suggested.

The Greenleaf Garden Club is a community-based organization that works on local gardens and plots all around Milford, in addition to sponsoring scholarships and hosting horticulture-based programs in local nursing homes and youth centers.

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# Police Department's New Family Services Unit will Respond to Calls with Tri-lingual Support

## Program provides services in English, Portuguese, Spanish

The Milford Police Department has created a "Family Services Unit" which is located at the Community Impact Office at 12 Congress Street. They are a community partnership for positive change.

The Family Services Unit aims to provide a tri-lingual (Portuguese and Spanish) proactive community services to those in need before their situation becomes catastrophic. A multidisciplinary team of police, mental health clinicians, peer specialists, and recovery coaches supports individuals at risk of arrest, overdose, medical complications, and other behavioral health needs. By bringing together the skills and services of both the Milford Police Department and Community Impact, the team can help create positive change in the community of Milford.

The co-response services provided through the Family Services Unit include:

- **Intervention:** The Family Services Unit will be providing a tri-lingual (Portuguese and Spanish) co-response to calls for service and will be on-scene to provide an immediate assessment of the individual's safety and mental health service needs.
- **Follow-up:** The Clinician and Family Services Unit, which provides a tri-lingual (Portuguese and Spanish) support and stability to people whose situation would typically result

in another emergency, further reduces cases of crises.

- **Training:** Through a combination of different training modalities, police officers learn to recognize how the signs and symptoms of mental illness may be displayed in the community and how to apply specialized de-escalation techniques.
- **Community Partnerships:** Close coordination and collaboration with community stakeholders forms a continuum of community-based care, providing the essential services that allow for successful diversion.

The Family Services Unit is located at the Community Impact Office 12 Congress Street in Milford. The staff includes:

- Milford Police Department Detective Sergeant Paul Pinto, bi-lingual English and Portuguese
- Milford Police Department Detective Stephen Foss
- Clinical Director Amy Leone, MS, MA, LMHC
- Clinical Program Coordinator Amanda DaSilva Rizoli, MSW, LCSW, tri-lingual English, Portuguese, and Spanish
- Clinician Ashley Hemstreet, MS

If you or someone you know is struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse, please reach out for assistance. The Family Services Unit can be reached by phone or email. 508-488-9456 or mpdfamilyservices@gmail.com



Members of the new Family Services Unit of the Milford Police Department. Courtesy photo



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# Memorial Hall Museum Exhibit Features Collection of Local Historian Robin Philbin

Memorial Hall, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is an impressive building rich in history, built by the Town in 1884 to honor the Civil War soldiers and sailors. It has since been rededicated to all veterans. The Milford Historical Commission maintains the Museum and the Lyn Lovell Research Room.



**Memorial Hall on School Street. The Milford Historical Commission maintains the Museum and the Lyn Lovell Research Room.**  
*Courtesy photo*

Recently, Robin Philbin, local historian, donated a collection of memorabilia, town photos, booklets, maps, souvenir programs, and an 1861 MHS diploma, etc. In the past, Robin's articles were published by the MDN as "Milford: A Look Back - Forgotten Memories."

Displays include military uniforms, a signal cannon made at Draper Corporation, Mil-

ford bottles, a granite exhibit, boot and shoe display, a nurses uniform, as well as, a baseball uniform worn by Dr. Joseph Murray who won a Nobel Prize in Medicine. The Research Room has an extensive collection of pictures and articles on businesses, industries, railroads, granite, churches, military, schools and sports.

The Museum is open to visitors every Thursday 1 - 4 p.m. or by appointment. Meetings, which are open to the public, are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall.

For further information please call 774-462-3316 or email [memorialhall@townofmilford.com](mailto:memorialhall@townofmilford.com).

# Milford Town Election: Who's Running

The following nomination papers have been returned for the April 4 town election.

CANDIDATE	NEW or INCUMBENT	OFFICE & TERM	DATE PULLED	DATE RET'D
Jonathan M. Bruce	NEW	Water Commissioner (2 YR)	1/3/2023	1/9/2023
Thomas J. O'Loughlin	INCUMBENT	Select Board (3 YR)	1/3/2023	1/9/2023
Michelangelo BonTempo	INCUMBENT	Moderator (3 YR)	1/3/2023	2/13/2023
Amy E. Hennessy Neves	INCUMBENT	Town Clerk (3 YR)	1/3/2023	1/19/2023
Michael P. Visconti	NEW	Planning Board (3 YR Unexpir.)	1/3/2023	1/18/2023
Philip J. Ciaramicoli	NEW	Water Commissioner (3YR)	1/3/2023	1/10/2023
Leonardo L. Morcone	INCUMBENT	Sewer Commissioner (3 YR)	1/3/2023	1/11/2023
John Ted E. DePaolo Jr.	NEW	Planning Board (3 YR Unexpir.)	1/3/2023	2/10/2023
Steven Borges	INCUMBENT	Board of Assessors (3 YR)	1/3/2023	2/13/2023
Edward Bertorelli	INCUMBENT	Bd of Library Trustees (3 YR)	1/4/2023	1/17/2023
Scott Crisafulli	INCUMBENT	Vernon Grove Trustee (3 YR)	1/4/2023	1/24/2023
Scott Crisafulli	INCUMBENT	Highway Surveyor (3 YR)	1/4/2023	1/24/2023
Jamie Luchini	NEW	Water Commissioner (1YR)	1/4/2023	1/31/2023
Scott Vecchiolla	NEW	Planning Board (5 YR)	1/6/2023	1/17/2023
Jane T. Casey	NEW	TMM P2	1/9/2023	2/13/2023
Paul Braza	INCUMBENT	Parks Commissioner (3 YR)	1/9/2023	1/18/2023
Mary Frances Best	NEW	Bd. Of Library Trustees (3 YR)	1/9/2023	1/25/2023
Leonard A. Izzo Sr.	INCUMBENT	Board of Health (3 YR)	1/9/2023	2/6/2023
Ann M. Ragosta	INCUMBENT	Bd. Of Library Trustees (3 YR)	1/12/2023	NOT RET'D
Charles E. Reneau	INCUMBENT	Tree Warden (3 YR)	1/11/2023	2/7/2023
Kathryn Mastroianni	NEW	TMM P1	1/12/2023	NOT RET'D
Donato F. Niro	NEW	TMM P8	1/12/2023	NOT RET'D
Mitchell Ruscitti	NEW	TMM P5	1/17/2023	2/14/2023
Robert DeDominick	NEW	TMM P4	1/17/2023	NOT RET'D
Douglas C. Rennie	NEW	TMM P3	1/17/2023	2/9/2023
Brendan Rickert	NEW	School Committee (3 YR)	1/17/2023	2/13/2023
Angelo A. Calagione	NEW	TMM P6	1/18/2023	2/13/2023
Martin I. Montoya	NEW	School Committee (3 YR)	1/19/2023	2/14/2023
RJ Sheedy	NEW	School Committee (3 YR)	1/24/2023	2/4/2023
Jonathan R Capece	NEW	TMM P1	1/25/2023	NOT RET'D
Lorraine Velez Mendez	NEW	TMM P6	1/25/2023	NOT RET'D
Wilfredo Vazquez Jr	NEW	School Committee (3 YR)	1/26/2023	2/13/2023
Donald S Francy	NEW	TMM P8	1/30/2023	NOT RET'D
Matthew Zacchilli	NEW	TMM P6	1/31/2023	2/14/2023
Derrick K. Sobers	NEW	School Committee (3 YR)	2/2/2023	NOT RET'D
Christopher Wilson	NEW	Planning Bd. (5 YR)	2/8/2023	2/14/2023
Michael Aghajanian	INCUMBENT	School Committee (3 YR)	2/9/2023	2/10/2023
<b>DEADLINE</b> 2/10/23 5PM	<b>DEADLINE</b> 2/14/23 5PM			

**Note: "TMM P1" means Town Meeting Member Precinct 1.  
Source: Submitted by Milford Town Clerk**

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# Open the (Back) Door to a Roth IRA



Mark Freeman

## FINANCIAL FOCUS

There aren't many drawbacks to having a high income — but being unable to invest in a Roth IRA might be one of them. Are there strategies that allow high-income earners to contribute to this valuable retirement account?

Before we delve into that question, let's consider the rules. In 2023, you can contribute the full amount to a Roth IRA

— \$6,500, or \$7,500 if you're 50 or older — if your modified adjusted gross income is less than \$138,000 (if you're single) or \$218,000 (if you're married and filing jointly). If you earn more than these amounts, the amount you can contribute decreases until it's phased out completely if your income exceeds \$153,000 (single) or \$228,000 (married, filing jointly).

A Roth IRA is attractive because its earnings and withdrawals are tax free, provided you've had the account at least five years and you don't start taking money out until you're 59½. Furthermore, when you own a Roth IRA, you're not required to take withdrawals from it when you turn 72, as you would with a traditional IRA, so you'll have more flexibility in your retirement income planning and your money will have the chance to potentially keep growing. But given your in-

come, how can you contribute to a Roth?

You may want to consider what's known as a "backdoor Roth" strategy. Essentially, this involves contributing money to a new traditional IRA, or taking money from an existing one, and then converting the funds to a Roth IRA. But while this backdoor strategy sounds simple, it involves some serious considerations.

Specifically, you need to evaluate how much of your traditional IRA is in pretax or after-tax dollars. When you contribute pretax dollars to a traditional IRA, your contributions lower your annual taxable income. However, if your income is high enough to disqualify you from contributing directly to a Roth IRA, you may also earn too much to make deductible (pretax) contributions to a traditional IRA. Consequently, you might have

contributed after-tax dollars to your traditional IRA, on top of the pretax ones you may have put in when your income was lower. (Earnings on after-tax contributions will be treated as pretax amounts.)

In any case, if you convert pretax assets from your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, the amount converted will be fully taxable in the year of the conversion. So, if you were to convert a large amount of these assets, you could face a hefty tax bill. And since you probably don't want to take funds from the converted IRA itself to pay for the taxes, you'd need another source of funding, possibly from your savings and other investments.

Ultimately, then, a backdoor Roth IRA strategy may make the most sense if you have few or no pretax assets in any traditional IRA, including a SEP-IRA and a SIMPLE IRA. If

you do have a sizable amount of pretax dollars in your IRA, and you'd still like to convert it to a Roth IRA, you could consider spreading the conversion over a period of years, potentially diluting your tax burden.

Consult with your tax advisor when considering a backdoor Roth strategy. But if it's appropriate for your situation, it could play a role in your financial strategy, so give it some thought.

If you would like to discuss your personal situation with a financial advisor contact:

Mark Freeman  
Edward Jones Financial Advisor  
77 West Main Street,  
Hopkinton, MA  
508-293-4017  
[Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com](mailto:Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com)

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for Town of Milford Planning Board on April 4, 2023. Thank You.

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### NURSING SCHOOL

*continued from page 1*

Another town resident May Richards said, "I wanted a job so I became a Blue Girl. We were called that because we wore blue uniforms. Our job was to wash dishes. A few nursing students encouraged me to apply to the program."

Six months after matriculating, students who met the criteria were awarded their caps, meaning they could continue. They learned in the hospital wards and the operating and emergency rooms. For special subjects like pediatrics and infectious diseases, they went to hospital schools from Providence to Boston, where the Milford students were well-regarded.

Villani graduated from the training school and worked at the hospital for 15 years. As for Richards, the nursing school closed during her first year, so she completed the curriculum in Everett then returned to work at Milford Hospital.

Both women had profound experiences. Once, an older patient in a coma surprised Villani. "She bolted up, smiled, and raised her arms. Then she

slumped back onto her pillow and soon passed away." Villani had another memorable patient, the hospital's founder, former Governor Draper, which made her nervous.

There were lighter moments as well. Richards enjoyed special celebrations when "We could talk with the doctors on a friendly level."

Villani recalled a late-night pillow fight in the residence. "When we heard the supervisor coming, everyone hid in a closet, but it was too full for me. I started to hide under the bed when the supervisor came in. She asked me what I was doing on the floor." They escaped consequences.

During the era they worked, antibiotics had a significant impact by greatly reducing the time patients were hospitalized for infections. Similarly, the polio vaccine eradicated the disease.

Richards and Villani are grateful to have helped many patients. Milford Hospital has been reliant on nurses like them for its original building, and after a century of growth, for its network of facilities across the region today.



Milford Nursing School and Hospital in 1905 at Prospect and Main streets. Photo courtesy of the Milford Historical Society



Nursing students - Mary Villani is front and center in this photo of her graduating class. Photo courtesy of Mary Villani


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# Cataract Surgery in 2023: Questions and Options

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

Cataract surgery is by far the most common surgery performed in the United States. With advanced technology and if you choose an experienced and highly skilled surgeon, modern cataract surgery should be a rather quick outpatient and a minimal risk procedure. If you are considering cataract surgery, your expectations should not only be to improve your vision, reduce glare at night, see more vivid colors and improve your day to day activities, but you should also be given an opportunity to reduce your dependence on glasses or contacts and in many cases eliminate this need. Your expectations should also be to have your surgery by a world-class surgeon close to where you live and not be told to travel hours for testing and surgery. Many choices exist on where to have the surgery and by whom. Here are the specific questions to ask when it's time to have the surgery:

**1. Why are you referring me to this surgeon?** Your optometrist may ask you to travel miles and hours away from home to have your surgery with a particular surgeon of their choice. When you have experienced surgeons within minutes from where you live and when those top-notch ethical surgeons with excellent nationwide reputation will perform your surgery in a state-of-the-art surgery center closer to home. Ask your provider why they want you to travel hours and miles away. Unfortunately, if you dig enough, you will find the only reason for this remote referral is financial and business-related interest your provider has with the far-away surgeon. In many of these referrals the referring optometrist and surgeons may also be in violation of the STARK law and anti-kickback statues. Beware referral bias. In our center, we eliminated the



middleman. 100% of the surgeries are performed in a state-of-the-art facility in Milford. Very close to home. Your interest comes first.

**2. What is my cost?** Did you know that when your optometrist refers you to a surgeon who will perform your surgery at a hospital your insurance deductible and co-insurance will be higher at a hospital? If this is happening to you, we are available for a second opinion! All our surgeries are

performed at an ambulatory surgery center in Milford with potential cost savings to you.

**3. What type of anesthesia am I going to get?** With modern cataract surgery, most surgeries should be completed under topical anesthesia. This means that the surgery eye becomes numb with drops. No need for injections or shots around or behind your eye. No shots will reduce the risk of bleeding and serious complications from the shots. Ask about the techniques of the surgeon you are being asked to travel to see. In our center, 100% of the surgeries are performed under topical simple anesthesia.

**4. What are the risks?** One of the most dreaded risks of cataract surgery is accidental damage to the posterior capsule, which is the back wall of the bag holding your lens. Ask about the complication rate of the surgeon

you are being asked to travel to. In our center this rate is close to zero percent.

**5. What is the rate of infections in your center?** Another potentially devastating risk of cataract surgery is an infection inside the eye called "endophthalmitis". Ask the complication rate of the surgeon you are being asked to travel to. In our center this rate is close to zero percent.

**6. What type of technology is available at your surgery facility?** Different centers have different equipment and resources. For instance, Massachusetts has only few centers offering laser-assisted bladeless cataract surgery. This should be an option if you want to reduce dependence on glasses and treat low grades of astigmatism at the same time as your

**EYES**

*continued on page 9*



## MILFORD - FRANKLIN EYE CENTER



Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.



John F. Hatch, M.D.



Bryan Hong, M.D.



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## Milford Town Library Calendar of Events

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

By Reference Department

### AARP Tax Program & Tax Forms

Appointments are now available for free income tax filing for senior citizens and lower income individuals. AARP preparers are able to assist with filing taxes for 2022, 2021 and 2020. Please note a separate appointment is needed for each tax year. Call 508-473-2145 ext. 219 to make an appointment or for more information. For those filing their own taxes, the federal and state tax form that have arrived are available on the Grab & Go Table located at the library entrance, between the double doors. Schedules may be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

### Be the Strongest Homebuyer on the Block

A free workshop for first time homebuyers or others looking to buy a home in this complicated real estate market will be held on Thursday, March 16 at 7 p.m. in the Granite & Quarry Rooms. Presenters will be Senior Mortgage Advisor David Gaffin, Realtor Audra Lizarralde and Attorney Jeremy Cohen.

### I Dissent: Sheryl Faye as Ruth Bader Ginsberg

The Friends of the Milford Town Library welcome Sheryl Faye performing as the late, great Supreme Court Justice on Tuesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. in the Granite & Quarry Rooms. The event is free and open to all.

### Milford Rotary Sponsors English Learning Lab

A newly created English Learning Lab, featuring iPads loaded with language tools such as Mango Languages and Transparent Languages is now live. Students can borrow iPads and wireless headphones for self-paced, in-library use of these tools to learn English. For more information, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145 ext. 219. We thank the Milford Rotary for their sponsorship.

### Center Book Group

The Center Book Group will meet on March 21 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center to discuss *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni. This coming of age novel

features a boy born with red pupils due to an eye condition. He's bullied by classmates and grows up to become an ophthalmologist who is devoted to his patients and their struggles.

To reserve a copy or to learn more about the Center Book Group, please call the Information Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 219 or email Anne at [aberard@milfordtownlibrary.org](mailto:aberard@milfordtownlibrary.org).

### Cookbook Club

The Cookbook Group will meet on Wednesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the Children's Program Room to try recipes from *Milk Street: Cookish: Throw It Together: Big Flavors. Simple Techniques. 200 Ways to Reinvent Dinner* by Christopher Kimball. Place a copy on hold at the Information Desk in person or by calling 508-473-2145 ext. 219. If interested in becoming a member, email the Reference Department at [reference@milfordtownlibrary.org](mailto:reference@milfordtownlibrary.org).

### The Contemporary Book

The Contemporary Book Group will discuss *We Are Water* by Wally Lamb on Wednesday,

March 22 at 7 p.m. in the Children's Program Room.

*We are Water* is a complicated and sensitive portrayal of Annie, an artist and mother of three who after being married for 27 years, falls in love with Viveca, an art dealer. Annie and Viveca choose to marry and that decision sets a string of revelations in motion.

To reserve a copy of *We Are Water* or for more info, call Shelley at 508-473-2145, ext. 223 or email [msgammato@milfordtownlibrary.org](mailto:msgammato@milfordtownlibrary.org).

### ESL Drop in Classes

During March, Drop-In ESL Classes will meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the ESL classroom on the lower level. No registration is necessary.

The English Learning Lab is available Mon-Thurs 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Fri 9:30 - 5:30 p.m. and Sat 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. iPads may be used in the library for 30, 60, or 90-minute sessions. Got to the Reference Desk to sign-up.

### Oil Paintings: Angelo Falcone

Angelo's exhibit will be ex-

tended through March. If you haven't seen his beautiful still life and landscape scenes, don't miss your chance. Angelo is affiliated with the Atelier Artists group.

### Coming soon:

Catherine Marengi will be part of the Shawna Foundation Library Poetry Tour on Wednesday, April 5 at 7 p.m.

Dr. James Buckley will give a history talk, *Milford Man Played Role in America's Secret War*, on Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m.

Libia Goncalves will offer an acrylic floral painting workshop on Tuesday, April 11 at 7 p.m. There will be a small materials fee and the workshop is open for ages 13 and older.

Eric the Plant Guy will present a cannabis growing workshop on Saturday, April 22 at 1 p.m. This event is 21+

Friends of the Library Spring Booksale, Friday, April 28 4-7 (members) and Saturday, April 29 open to the public 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Matt York will perform songs by and tell stories about Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson & Willie Nelson on Saturday, May 6 at 1 p.m.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

ELECT

Brendan  
RICKERT

School Committee

Tuesday April 4th, 2023

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT BRENDAN RICKERT



**EYES**

*continued from page 7*

cataract surgery. Our center was among the first in the State and New England to offer this technology. Did you know that many hospitals and other centers do not offer laser-assisted bladeless cataract surgery? We do!

**7. What type of implant am I going to get?** Different lens implants can be used during cataract surgery with different materials, quality and ability to reduce your need for glasses. Ask your referring provider about his/her surgeon choice of implants. Our center was the first in the greater Boston area to offer the new diffractive and extended-focus implants. With those implants you can

see clearly at distance, close and intermediate like your phone and computer screen with little or no dependence on glasses.

**8. Will my need to wear glasses be reduced?** Cataract surgery is a wonderful opportunity to limit or eliminate your need for glasses. As the surgeon removes the cataract, there is an opportunity to replace the cloudy lens with a special high-tech implant able to achieve this goal. Ask your referring provider about his/her surgeon of choice ability to achieve those goals. Our center has many happy and glasses free patients.

**9. Will I have stitches?** It is ideal to eliminate the need for stitches such as the surgery is a no-stitch surgery. Placing a stitch can be com-

plicated by stitch induced astigmatism, a foreign body sensation and a broken and irritating stitch. Ask your referring provider if his/her surgeon of choice is still using stitches. 100% of our cataract procedures are stitch-free.

**10. What will be my vision on day 1 after the surgery?**

One of the measurements defining quality of outcomes after cataract surgery is the quality of vision on day 1 after the surgery. Surgeons should strive to make the vision correct to as close to best as possible on day 1. Ask your referring provider about his/her surgeon of choice ability to achieve this outcome. Our center has many patients with happy 20/20 vision on day 1 after

cataract surgery. Cataract surgery is all about better precision, more safety and excellent outcomes. At Milford Franklin Eye Center, Dr. Kaldawy is proud to have been the first surgeon in the area and among the first in Massachusetts to offer bladeless laser assisted cataract surgery and the first surgeon in the greater Boston area to implant the PanOptix and Vivity lens implants. We have trained local and out-of-state surgeons on how to perform cataract surgery. We offer bladeless laser cataract surgery. We implant high quality premium lenses, with correction for distance, near and everything in between. Many cases of astigmatism are no longer a problem. Our percentage of posterior capsule complications and infections is one of the lowest in the Nation. No longer need to travel

hours for your cataract surgery! We operate in a state-of-the-art surgery center in Milford offering bladeless laser cataract surgery. Our surgery center passed certification and accreditation by the most rigorous State and National accreditation agencies. 100% of the surgeries are performed under topical anesthesia, so only drops, no need for shots and no need for stitches. Brand new gorgeous office in Franklin and 2 other locations in Milford and Millis. Over 30 thousand procedures performed and 7 providers with your interest in mind offering the best cost-efficient surgical care in an ambulatory surgery center closer to home.

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## Recent Home Sales

Date	Milford	Amount
02/22/2023	5 Dynasty Drive	\$655,000
02/21/2023	5 Fordham Drive	\$535,000
02/21/2023	44 Lawrence Street	\$450,000
02/15/2023	30 Purchase Street	\$335,000
02/15/2023	5 Governors Way #B	\$452,000
02/14/2023	103 Purchase Street	\$490,000
02/14/2023	207 1/2 Purchase Street	\$631,000
02/14/2023	10D Governors Way	\$429,000
02/13/2023	27 Shadowbrook Lane #16	\$250,000
02/08/2023	4 Governors Way #A	\$442,000
02/06/2023	30 Meade Street	\$355,000
01/26/2023	54 Whitewood Road	\$469,900

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



30 Purchase Street in Milford recently sold for \$335,000. Photo credit www.zillow.com

# Milford High School Students Eligible for COFC Scholarship

Central One Federal Credit Union is excited to announce they are now accepting applications for their seven 2023 Academic and Member Scholarships.

We are excited to open this year's Academic Scholarship to graduating seniors of Milford High School and look forward to welcoming the community to our new Milford branch opening in late spring. The Academic Scholarship applications will be accepted from graduating seniors from Algonquin Regional High School,

Auburn High School, Milford High School, Shrewsbury High School, Westborough High School, and Worcester Public High Schools. Six total academic scholarships will be awarded: Five-\$1,000 one-time Academic Scholarships and one-\$4,000 Academic Scholarship paid over four years. A \$1,000 Member Scholarship is available to graduating seniors who are a member of Central One Federal Credit Union.

Eligibility for the academic and member scholarships is as follows: Milford students must

graduate in June 2023 and enter a four-year accredited program in the fall of 2023 and major in Business and Finance. Consideration will be based on academic merit, school activities/community involvement, and need.

All applications and requested documentation must be dropped off at any Central One branch location or emailed to member\_support@centralfcu.com by April 15, 2023.

For more information and to download the application form, visit <https://www.centralfcu.com/scholarships>

# Police Chief Search Committee Makes Preliminary Moves

By Scott Calzolaio

On Feb. 16, the newly-formed Milford Police Chief Search Committee had its second meeting to discuss the wording of the job description, the hiring of an Request for Proposals search consultant, and a potential timeline.

In mid-January, the Select Board appointed the members of search committee to include:

- Selectman Paul Mazzuchelli
- President of the Milford Police Association, Police Officer Anthony Bavosi



- Personnel Board member, Jodie Nosiglia
- Current Police Chief, James Falvey
- Chair of the Finance Committee, Alberto Correia
- Town Meeting Member, Dr. Richard Heller
- Town Meeting Member, Attorney Melanie Soloman
- Retired Milford Deputy Police Chief Ronald Marino, at-large member
- Stacy Darling, resident
- Gregg Allegrezza, resident
- Keith McGrath, resident

The hour-long meeting gave the newly-formed committee a chance to narrow down the details on what kind of candidate the town is looking for, and how best to find them. When discussing the potential job description for the chief position a few changes and additions were suggested such as a push for bilingual applicants, as well as many "preferred" conditions like having 15 years of experi-

ence. No decisions were made to amend the application.

To assist with additional amendments and sift through candidate backgrounds, Select Board Chair Paul Mazzuchelli suggested hiring an RFP search consultant.

"This search consultant is going to be very important to us," he said. "This agency will be guiding us on the job description, guiding us on interviews, and interview questions."

A search for a consultant will be underway between meetings, and a job description subcommittee will also be formed to finalize the wording before it goes out.

Mazzuchelli said he hopes to have candidates interviewing in front of the Select Board by mid-September.

Milford has been looking for someone to take a more permanent hold over the police department after a few years of inconsistency with the position. In 2019, the Select Board voted not to renew former chief Tom O'Loughlin's contract. Current Interim Chief James Falvey has a two-year contract that will expire at the end of September.

The February 16 meeting can be viewed online at MilfordTV.net. Navigate to "On Demand," and find the video in the "Featured" section. The date of their next meeting was not announced.

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- Past president of the Massachusetts Library Staff Association (MLSA)
- Member American Federation of Teachers Union



I will be a strong advocate for the library and the residents of Milford. I will fight for intellectual freedom and stand with the American Library Association against censorship in any form.

I respectfully ask for your vote on April 4 Libraries Belong to Everyone!

PAID FOR BY CANDIDATE MARY FRANCES BEST



# EMASS Senior Softball League Opens Registration for 2023 Season

**Be part of a team, form lasting friendships and enjoy balanced competition**

Eastern Massachusetts Senior Softball (EMASS) is opening its annual registration campaign for slow-pitch softball players age 50 and older. With over 450 members, the league attracts players from towns across Eastern Massachusetts with games played on fields in Wayland, Medfield, and Framingham. The EMASS season opens in late April with 16 or more weeks of regular season games and year-end playoffs completed by October 1. Interested players can register for the EMASS 2023 season at <https://e-mass.org/current-programs>.

“Playing on a senior softball team has tremendous health benefits,” said Walker Royce, EMASS Commissioner. “It is addictively fun and immerses you in a healthy community of like-minded pals.”

*Softball Helps Seniors Stay In Good Shape as They Age.*

“Playing a team sport like softball allows our older members to compete in a game they love while engaging in anaerobic exercise that helps with heart health, strength conditioning, weight control and cognitive focus,” said Gary Seigel, the EMASS Wednesday Metro division coordinator. “We have over 150 players in their 70s and more than 20 in their 80s still playing competitive softball.”

*Retired Or Not, Players Love A Weekly Physical Outlet.*

EMASS players cherish their weekly double-headers. The three-hour escape to the ballfield is a weekly high point of camaraderie, teamwork and healthy outdoor competition. EMASS has many younger seniors in their fifties and sixties who can still hit a ball over a 300-foot fence, run down a deep line drive in the outfield or turn a double-play in the infield.

“Our younger players aspire to be one of those guys that can still play in their 70s and 80s,” said Steve Bober, EMASS Tuesday Pacific division coordinator. “Playing safely and together with others focused on physical longevity builds a strong community of mutual health coaches.”

*The EMASS Community Continues To Grow.*

EMASS has added about 60 new players in each of the last three years. “We shuffle up team rosters every year in all divisions to enhance connections across our large softball-loving community,” said Rich Goldberg, the EMASS Thursday Atlantic division coordinator. “Our members enjoy competing with and against their friends.”

“Hitting, catching and throwing a softball and being on a team is fun. When your health routines are fun, you make them a priority,” said Royce. “Some seniors are hesitant to play because their knee hurts or their

shoulder is shot, or they are carrying too much weight. Every Senior Softball player has similar complaints. Aches and pains are easily tolerated when they are offset by the joy of playing and competing on a softball team with friends.”

*About EMASS Senior Softball League.*

EMASS was founded in 1995 and offers active seniors of all skill levels a safe, well-organized opportunity to play competitive slow-pitch softball. EMASS members range in age from 50 to 90. Skill levels range from casual recreational players to those who play on nationally competitive tournament teams. Players of any skill level will find a spot with teams of similar abilities in one or more of EMASS’s six divisions. There are two Saturday divisions and four weekday divisions. All divisions play a double-header each week and many members play on different teams in multiple divisions.

For more information about EMASS Senior Softball League, visit [www.e-mass.org](http://www.e-mass.org).

# Milford Lions’ Mother Son Games on March 19

The Lions Club Mother Son Games will be held on Sunday, March 19, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Milford High School gymnasium. The event will include friendly competition with mom/son teams, field day type activities, refreshments, and DJ Mike Rutkowski. No athletic ability is needed. Wear your favorite team jersey or colors. Tickets can be purchased at the



door: \$25 per team, \$5 for each additional child. Any adult escort over the age of 18 is welcome. For more information, contact Loriann Braza at [lbraza@verizon.net](mailto:lbraza@verizon.net)

# Celebrate Milford to be Held on May 20

“Celebrate Milford” will take place on Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Milford Town Park.

The event is a time to celebrate everything that makes Milford our home. Sponsorship, vendor and volunteer registration forms can be found at

[www.CelebrateMilford.com](http://www.CelebrateMilford.com).



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



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# Citizens for Milford Announces Forum Featuring Candidates in Contested Races

## All Milford voters invited to attend and ask questions of the candidates on March 21

Citizens for Milford, in partnership with Milford TV, invites all Milford voters to attend the tenth annual Candidate Forum featuring candidates in the three contested races in Milford's upcoming town election.

The forum will be held Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. and will feature candidates running for the 3-year seat on the Planning Board, the 5-year seat on the Planning Board, and candidates running for School Committee. The forum will take place in Upper Town Hall. All candidates have been invited to meet voters beginning at 6:30 p.m. before the forum begins. This event is free and open to the public.

Candidates running for Planning Board who will be participating in the forum include John Ted E. DePaolo Jr, Michael P. Visconti, and Christopher Wilson. School Committee candidates who will be participating include Martin I. Montoya, Brendan Rickert, and Wilfredo Vazquez Jr.

Citizens for Milford members José Costa and Geri Eddins will be joined by Milford resident and former School Committee member Joe Morais to moderate the forum. The forum will begin with a two-minute opening statement

from each of the candidates. A highlight of the forum will be the presentation of challenge issues by the candidates in which each candidate presents one key issue he believes the Planning Board or School Committee must address. Following the challenge issue segment, the moderators will invite audience members to pose questions to the candidates.

Citizens for Milford Chairperson Geri Eddins states, "Citizens for Milford is pleased to be hosting the Candidate Forum for the tenth year. We encourage voters to join us in Town Hall on March 21 to meet the candidates and ask their own questions regarding issues confronting the community and our schools."

Milford voters who are unable to attend the forum are encouraged to send their questions for the candidates in advance by email [citizensformilford@gmail.com](mailto:citizensformilford@gmail.com) or by Facebook messenger @CitizensforMilford. In addition, Citizens for Milford will accept questions during each live broadcast by email [citizensformilford@gmail.com](mailto:citizensformilford@gmail.com), Facebook messenger @CitizensforMilford, and by phone. The phone number will be displayed on the TV screen during

each broadcast. The moderators will make every effort to ensure as many voter questions as possible are posed to the candidates.

Milford TV will broadcast the forum live on the public channel Comcast 8 | Verizon 38, Verizon channel HD 2140, [MilfordTV.net](http://MilfordTV.net), and the Milford TV app. In addition, Milford TV will record the forum for on-demand viewing and will rebroadcast it in the days leading up to the election on April 4. Citizens for Milford will also provide a link to the video on its website and Facebook page as soon as it is available.

More information about the forums and the candidates is available on the Citizens for Milford website [CitizensforMilford.com](http://CitizensforMilford.com). Questions can be emailed to [CitizensforMilford@gmail.com](mailto:CitizensforMilford@gmail.com).

*About Citizens for Milford*  
Citizens for Milford is a volunteer, nonpartisan, grassroots organization based in Milford, Massachusetts. We are a diverse group of citizens who care about our community. Working together with town entities and other community groups, we carry out projects and events that encourage active citizen participation and that seek to improve the quality of life in our community. More information is available on the group's website [CitizensforMilford.com](http://CitizensforMilford.com).



Margaret Morahan and Sam Hamilton at a recent event at Cornerstone at Milford where residents enjoyed having their caricatures done. For more photos, visit us at [www.facebook.com/FreePressPapers](http://www.facebook.com/FreePressPapers)




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1:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	6:00 p.m.



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# Milford Commission on Disability Seeks Members

The Milford Commission on Disability is in need of new members to serve on the commission.

The commission serves as an advisory board to the Town of Milford on issues of equal access for individu-

als with disabilities. Members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen and serve three-year terms. The commission is also a resource for individuals with disabilities regarding employment, programs and services provided by state and

local governments, goods and services provided by private companies, and access to commercial facilities.

Anyone interested in joining can complete the application form at [milfordma.gov](http://milfordma.gov) or <https://bit.ly/3S52QDr>

## GOLD AWARD

*continued from page 1*

project with a \$5,000 grant that da Cunha wrote with Milford Public Schools Assistant Superintendent Craig Consigli.

The 10-section program has an "overarching theme due to the content and prerequisite skills that students need to acquire before moving on to this unit. In this way, teachers are thinking about the end result throughout the year as they are teaching other content."

One requirement of the Gold Award process is to measure impact. To do that, she created a teacher survey "asking them how their feelings about the subject matter have changed since the beginning of my project."

She received several positive responses including this from a Stacy Middle School teacher:

"I just wanted to say thank you for initiating this project. This project has fostered some very deep, meaningful conversations about our students, community, teaching, and learning. It has also allowed for collaboration between teachers that did not exist to this level before."

Da Cunha said she enjoyed this project because she was able to see meaningful change being done in the community. She also learned a great deal about the work school administrators do before assignments reach the



**The Girl Scout Gold Award is the most prestigious award that Girl Scout Seniors can receive. To earn the award, Girl Scouts must spend a suggested 80 hours to complete the required steps: identifying an issue, investigating it thoroughly, getting help and building a team, creating a plan, presenting a plan, gathering feedback, taking action, and educating and inspiring others.**  
Source: [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

students.

"I know that going forward, students of all races, backgrounds, and identities will feel more included because they will be able to see themselves in the class discussions, literature, and history." She said the process "gave me a much deeper level of appreciation for my education know the amount of work that is done to get it in the classroom."

Da Cunha passed her Gold Award review and will receive her pin in June.

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# SPARK Kindness Free Virtual Program

SPARK Kindness will present a free virtual program on Thursday, March 23, at 7 p.m. entitled "Stopping the Cycle of Anger: How to Navigate Anxiety and



Big Feelings with Calm and Compassion" with Renee Jain, MA. To learn more and register for the event, visit [SPARKKindness.org](http://SPARKKindness.org).

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[editor@milfordfreepress.com](mailto:editor@milfordfreepress.com)



SCHOOLS

# Milford Public School Highlights

Compiled by Scott Calzolaio

**Districtwide News**

Kindergarten Packet Drop Off is scheduled for March 13 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Kindergarten Information Nights will take place at a later date at each school. Call the Milford Public Schools Family Resource Center at 774-268-3843 with questions. Representatives are available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

DMH Behavioral Health Hotline: The Department of Mental Health has launched a new Behavioral Health Help Line that people can call or text at 833-773-2445. The helpline aids individuals and families in navigating the behavioral health system and access treatment, including mobile crisis services. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in more than 200 languages. Anyone with questions or concerns about the helpline can email the helpline director at Mio.Tamanna@mass.gov.

Save the dates:  
 3/17: Early Release - K-12 - PreK Closed - School Offices Open.  
 3/22: String Vertical Concert (MHS Gym), 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Milford High School**

Senior Capstone Engineering students were hard at work in the Media Center with their instructor, Mr. Knapp, building a Pinewood Derby Track. The track will be used by peers in physics and engineering classes. Brooke Ferreira, JiaLi Madden, Nathan Cameron, and Kay Wheelock worked collaboratively with Mr. Knapp to ensure the design and build met specifications to ensure the best possible track for their peers.

Save the dates:  
 3/17: Theater Production: Wizard of Oz, 7 p.m.  
 3/18: Theater Production: Wizard of Oz, 7 p.m.  
 3/19: Theater Production: Wizard of Oz, 2 p.m.  
 4/29/23: Junior Prom.

4/28/23: Best Buddies Sweetheart Pageant, 5 - 8 p.m.  
 5/26/23: Senior Prom.  
 6/4/23: Graduation.

**Stacy Middle School**

In January, the Stacy Middle School French Club had a successful trip to Boston to experience the Immersive Monet and Impressionists Exhibit. Students and staff enjoyed being immersed in the 30,000-square-foot exhibit.

On February 5, seventh grade student Aubrie Buckley was recognized as the District Eight Patriot's Pen winner at the Massachusetts VFW awards dinner for all district winners who advanced to compete at the state level. Aubrie placed sixth in the state. Aubrie received a certificate and \$100 award check. She wrote her essay in Mrs. Monahan's sixth grade ELA class last year.

Save the dates:  
 3/10: Performing Arts presenting High School Musical Jr.

7 - 8: p.m.  
 3/ 11: Performing Arts Department presenting High School Musical Jr. 7 - 8 p.m.  
 PTO Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month unless otherwise posted.  
 3/15: Stacy PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.  
 3/24: MindMatters Read-A-Thon 4 - 9 p.m.

**Woodland Elementary School (WES)**

Principal Kearnan is pleased to announce the sixth Principal's Council recognition for this school year. The sixth Council of the year has been nominated by their teachers for Perseverance. Teachers nominate students who exemplify certain values that are important to the Woodland School Community. Respect, effort, inclusiveness, leadership, and helpfulness are examples of the types of prosocial, positive behaviors valued at Woodland and in the Milford school community. WES wants

to recognize and celebrate students that demonstrate these behaviors consistently in class, in school, and in their community. WES hopes that students who have earned, and deserve, this nomination will be celebrated and recognized in the community and at home. Students nominated for the sixth council never give up and never give in. When the going gets tough, these students get going. Principal Kearnan and the WES school community thank these students/classmates for setting a great example with their perseverance.

Perseverance Grade 3: Edi Namina Pesantez, Michelle Guaman Guasco, Davi Maia, Sophia Gomes, Christopher Hohn, Molly Moore, Cristofer Caguana Guaman, Isabel Hanchett-Lopez, Miguel Dos Santos, Jacob Galipeau, Gabriella DeSouza, Jefferson Poma-

**SCHOOLS**

continued on page 17

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# SCHOOLS

## MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*continued from page 15*

villa Clavijo, Jhuniar Pesantez, Johnny Acero, Ana Clara Alves, Paloma da Cruz, Ella Burrows, Joao Varela

**Perseverance Grade 4:** Pedro Alves Bispo, Ethan Boudreau, Kaden Bendas, Camilly Souza, Gustavo Moreira, Alicia Silva, Tasso De Lima, Jhou Yupa Siguencia, Sheila Caguana Caguana, Jayden Peters, Shreya Thomas, Kennedy Barbosa, Kindra Tacuri Castro, Sarah Esteves Rodrigues, Emma Santomena

**Perseverance Grade 5:** Lukas Evans, Samson Gelmini, Samantha Caldeira, Emmett O'Toole, Alexandra Albert, Jessenia Guasco Zamora, Enzo Ferreira, Emilly Souto, Finnegan Howland, Yadira Agualema Rivera, Carlos Caguana Saeteros, Kristal Da Silva, Ben Alves, Theo Lopes, Jennifer Castro Dutan

Save the date:  
3/8: Woodland PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.

PTO Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

### Memorial Elementary School

Memorial Elementary School will participate in the Books and Beyond Reading Program. Books and Beyond is an 8-week reading program in which students are challenged to read 7 books or 56 pages each week. This year's theme is Candyland.

Students who complete the reading will have their Candyland character move across the

Candyland board. Students who complete the 8-week challenge will be invited to a ceremony and receive a medal.

On January 24, Memorial hosted a "Cozy Up and Read" evening for families. Fourteen guest readers, including the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and a Milford Firefighter, took turns reading. There were over 200 people in attendance at this event, which is being dubbed a tremendous success. Families listened to two stories and enjoyed milk and cookies at the end of the evening.

On February 15, a group of K-5 educators participated in a ST Math Champion Professional Development Day. Educators had the opportunity to participate in over 12 sessions and to network with colleagues and peers from other districts on goal setting, station development and student math tools to elevate math instruction within the classroom. Educators worked together to prepare for the March MATHness Challenge.

Save the date:  
3/1: Memorial PTO meeting, 7 p.m.

PTO Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

### Brookside Elementary School

Mrs. Nadolski's class participated in a Valentine exchange with schools from across the country. The class received their first Valentine from Virginia. The Valentine Map of the United States is outside Room 93. Students placed a red heart on each state each time they received a card.

Save the date:  
3/1: Brookside PTO Meeting, 7 p.m.

PTO Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

### Shining Star Early Childhood Center (SSECC)

Shining Star students participated in a Dental Hygiene program sponsored by the Tri-County Dental Hygiene program on February 16 and 17. The hygienists taught and demonstrated the importance of brushing, flossing, and healthy eating.

Save the date:  
3/8: Shining Star PTO, 7 p.m.  
PTO Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise posted.

### Family and Community Network

The Milford Family and

Community Network CFCE (MFCN) holds weekly, registered playgroups for children ages birth to 5 years old and their parent/caregiver. These facilitator-led playgroups are two hours in length. Session II playgroups will run through May 27. If you are not in a registered playgroup, feel free to call the office to be added to the waitlist.

In February, the MFCN ran several programs for families with young children including a STEM Workshop, "Exploring Animals In Winter", a drop-in playgroup and a puppet show both held over February school break.

An additional drop-in playgroup will be held on April 19 from 9 - 11 a.m. during April school break. For more information, visit the Family and Community Network at <https://bit.ly/3ZhNAWq>, email [family-network@milfordma.com](mailto:family-network@milfordma.com) or call 508-277-4981.

## Bishop Feehan announces Second Quarter Honor Roll

Bishop Feehan Vice Principal for Academics Charlotte Lourenco is proud to announce the Honor Roll students for the second quarter.

Honorees include James Bradley, grade 12, of Milford.

Honor Roll is a recognition of high-performing students based on the student's overall average in any given quarter, regardless of the levels of their classes. Bishop Feehan has three levels of Honor Roll. First Honors is awarded to students whose overall average in that quarter is grade 93.00 or higher, Second Honors is grade 90.00 or higher, and Third Honors is 85.00 or higher, with no individual grade below 80.



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SPORTS

# Milford Wrestling Repeats as State Champs

By Chris Villani  
Sports Writer

The Milford High wrestling program capped off perhaps the most successful season in the history of the storied program when it captured the Division II state championship, the second straight title for the Scarlet Hawks.

Milford came in as the favorite at the D2 meet and the deep MHS lineup saw a dozen wrestlers compete in the 14 weight classes. The Hawks had a pair of individual state champs with Michael Boulanger winning the 126lb division and Hampton Kaye-Kuter capturing the title in the heavyweight class.

The Scarlet Hawks also had three wrestlers place second in their respective divisions.

Ryan Donovan earned runner up honors in the 152lb weight class, Aiden Baum finished second at 113lbs and Derek Marcolini placed second at 106lbs.

Together, Milford amassed a team total of 187.5 points to easily outpace second-place Minnechaug.

Prior to last season, Milford had last captured a state title in 1996, when head coach P.J. Boccia was a member of the team. The victory at states provided a fitting end to a year of nothing but winning for Milford. The Scarlet Hawks rolled through the dual meet campaign with a perfect 27-0 record.

MHS won the state dual meet and sectional crowns as well and 10 wrestlers qualified



Milford High School wrestling team captures Division II state championship again this year. Courtesy photo

for the all-state competition. The individual success continued against the state's best, with Kaye-Kuter and Boulanger both earning second-place fin-

ishes in their weight classes.

Milford showcased its depth in the D2 state meet. In addition to having five wrestlers place in the top two, Sean Donovan earned a third place finish, Milford's Robby Lyons and Matt Donis both placed fifth and Mike Mastroianni earned

a sixth place finish. Luke Donis added a seventh place finish and Owen Matthews checked in eighth.

Boccia earned a repeat performance of his own in 2023, winning Division II Coach of the Year honors for the second season in a row.

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## SPORTS

# Strong Season for Milford High Swimming

By Chris Villani  
Sports Writer

The Milford High School swim teams capped off a strong season that featured a run to the league title for the boys and a number of strong individual performances for both squads.

"It was a very successful season in a lot of ways," said head coach Dave Chaplin. "The boys were undefeated until our last meet against Attleboro and they were just a little bit stronger than us, but it was a great year and we are very young."

The Scarlet Hawk boys finished the dual meet campaign at 6-1, good enough for second place in the Hockomock League standings. Milford went on to earn a third-place finish at the league showcase meet. Senior captain Josh Anderson led the way again this winter after an MVP season during his junior year.

"He did a great job, he was a leader," Chaplin said. "We were



Milford High School swim team. Courtesy photo

loaded with sophomores and freshmen and they learned a lot by watching him. It went a long way."

Sophomores Aaron McIsaac, Ben Pezza, Corey Rattray and Oskar Khoury and freshman Ethan Fielder were all reliable contributors for MHS this season. The core group helped Milford compete in all of the events throughout the year and all of the team's relays qualified for

the sectional championship.

The 400 freestyle relay team earned a spot at states, where the combination of Anderson, McIsaac, Pezza, and Rattray swam their best overall time and best individual splits during the final race of the year.

"The future is bright and they are all going to be coming back and looking to improve," Chaplin said. "They are going to keep going."



Milford Scarlet Hawk boys at a recent meet. Courtesy photo

The Milford girls finished 2-5 during the dual meet season but the program continued to develop behind the leadership of seniors Caitlin Bangert, Emily Daudelin, and Maddie Stochaj.

"They were the glue that kept things going," Chaplin said. "They had to keep things rolling from a leadership point of view to keep everyone on pace and maintain our program

and they did that, they were very influential."

Chaplin described Bangert as a "stalwart" who frequently swam some of the toughest events and who was able to step into the butterfly and individual medley when called upon. Daudelin stood out in the freestyle and breaststroke and Stochaj found success as a distance freestyle swimmer and a backstroker.

Some younger athletes also had excellent seasons. Sophomore Vedi Raval and junior Sarah Wengal were among the team's best sprinters and both figure to be key cogs for the Scarlet Hawks next year.

"The girls will keep the ball rolling," Chaplin said. "The big thing with swimming is gaining an understanding of who you are and your relationship to the other swimmers. We have a good understanding of who we are and that has been a strength of our program."

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<p><b>CAR FAX ONE OWNER VEHICLES</b></p> <p>665 ONE OWNER VEHICLES <b>IN STOCK!</b></p>	<p><b>2019 CHEVY EQUINOX LS</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$67/WK</b></p> <p>#D13130L • ALLOYS, AWD, TURBO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$35,490</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$21,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 HONDA PILOT EX-L</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$87/WK</b></p> <p>#H03548 • ALLOYS, AWD, SUNROOF</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,220</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$21,477</b></p>	<p><b>2018 FORD F-150 XLT 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$96/WK</b></p> <p>#122-673A • NAV, HEATED SEATS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$50,950</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,977</b></p>	<p><b>2020 FORD EXPLORER 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$113/WK</b></p> <p>#P15711L • XLT, LEATHER, TURBO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$45,765</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$34,977</b></p>	<p><b>2020 JEEP WRANGLER 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$122/WK</b></p> <p>#P15686GG • UNLIMITED SPORT</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,810</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,477</b></p>	
	<p><b>2022 JEEP RENEGADE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$80/WK</b></p> <p>#D12811R • 4X4, ALLOYS, TURBO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$36,165</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,677</b></p>	<p><b>2021 TOYOTA TACOMA 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$117/WK</b></p> <p>#TM23-36A • SR5, CPO, ALLOYS, V6</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$53,605</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$35,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 DODGE DURANGO SXT</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$94/WK</b></p> <p>#D12955L • 18" ALLOYS, AWD, V6</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,595</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,477</b></p>	<p><b>2017 TOYOTA SIENNA XLE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$99/WK</b></p> <p>#TM23-316A • AWD, 3RD ROW SEATS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,725</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 TOYOTA CAMRY SE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$71/WK</b></p> <p>#TP2156 • LANE DEPARTURE, CPO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,625</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,977</b></p>	<p><b>2018 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$127/WK</b></p> <p>#123-099A • LT, PREMIUM AUDIO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$54,180</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$38,977</b></p>
	<p><b>2022 GENESIS G70 2.0T SEDAN</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$120/WK</b></p> <p>#H03331 • LEATHER, NAV, SUNROOF</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$50,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$36,977</b></p>	<p><b>2020 GMC ACADIA SLE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$103/WK</b></p> <p>#44674 • AWD, APPLE CARPLAY, V6</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$37,865</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,977</b></p>	<p><b>2021 TOYOTA TUNDRA SR5</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$159/WK</b></p> <p>#P14966A • ALLOYS, 4X4, CREWMAX</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$54,970</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$47,977</b></p>	<p><b>2020 JEEP CHEROKEE 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$81/WK</b></p> <p>#D13057 • LATITUDE PLUS, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$38,400</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 HYUNDAI TUCSON SUV</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$78/WK</b></p> <p>#H03638 • AWD, LIMITED TRIM, CPO</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$36,750</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$24,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 FORD FUSION SEL</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$54/WK</b></p> <p>#TP2059 • 23/34 CITY/HIGHWAY MPG</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$28,690</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$18,377</b></p>
	<p><b>2018 CHEVY TRAVERSE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$96/WK</b></p> <p>#44410 • AWD, LT TRIM, ALLOYS, V6</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$39,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,977</b></p>	<p><b>2022 HYUNDAI KONA N SUV</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$101/WK</b></p> <p>#22-004B • NAV, LEATHER, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$39,235</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,477</b></p>	<p><b>2017 FORD FOCUS SE</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$39/WK</b></p> <p>#P15524A • 30/40 MPG CITY/HWY</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$19,995</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$13,977</b></p>	<p><b>2021 MERCEDES GLC 300</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$166/WK</b></p> <p>#H03231 • 19" ALLOYS, 4MATIC AWD</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$64,670</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$49,977</b></p>	<p><b>2019 TESLA MODEL 3 AWD</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$127/WK</b></p> <p>#43553B • SUNROOF, NAV, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$59,990</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$38,977</b></p>	<p><b>2022 FORD BRONCO 4x4</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$223/WK</b></p> <p>#P15348GG • WILDTRAK TRIM, NAV</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$76,425</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$65,977</b></p>
<p><b>2019 SUBARU FORESTER</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$74/WK</b></p> <p>#H03600 • AWD, ALLOYS, SUNROOF</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$30,695</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$23,977</b></p>	<p><b>2020 HONDA ACCORD SPORT</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$85/WK</b></p> <p>#44438 • LEATHER, TURBO, ALLOYS</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$34,660</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977</b></p>	<p><b>2022 JEEP GLADIATOR</b></p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>\$142/WK</b></p> <p>#D13075 • SPORT TRIM, ALLOYS, V6</p> <p>NEW RETAIL PRICE: <del>\$49,450</del>   <b>WHOLESALE PRICE: \$42,977</b></p>				

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