do it. This is going to cost money," said Selectman Lawney.

Currently, only the Upper Town Hall has the necessary equipment to tape meetings.

Merolli spoke at the Selectmen’s October 1 meeting about transparency but more about “accessibility to the meeting floor prior to voting. Resident Kathy Schotfield, who was in attendance at the October 1 meeting, felt tape meetings wasn’t necessarily about transparency but more about “accessibility to information,” for residents who are unable to attend evening meetings regularly.

Another citizen’s petition would increase the number of Selectmen from three to five if passed by voters. “Fifty-two percent of towns in Massachusetts that are our size have a five-member board,” said Merolli, adding that hearing more viewpoints would be a positive for the community.

Tinio was opposed to the increase. “We can’t even get two of us on the same board—how are they going to make a decision? It’s a difficult decision to make.”

And finally, it will be up to voters whether or not to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board. The Selectmen’s petition is on the warrant concerning the change.

By Michelle Sanford

Staff Reporter

The Upton Bloomer Girls organization is keeping tradition alive and well by taking over the towns very popular Fall Fair that was previously sponsored by the now defunct Upton Women’s Club. The Fall Fair is scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 2, at Blackstone Valley Technical High School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. After being a part of the community for more than 100 years, the Upton Women’s Club disbanded in 2018 due to a lack of membership, marking the end of one of the town’s longest standing clubs.

“When they disbanded, we were invited to attend their last meeting,” explained Upton Bloomer Girls President Donna MacNaughton. “In return, we wanted to extend an invitation to their members who were still interested in continuing on in an organization helping out the town.” MacNaughton said many of the Woman’s Club members spoke about their traditional Fall Fair and what a huge money-making event it was and therefore the good it did for the community.

“We thought, why don’t we try it over?” said MacNaughton. In order to make the event the success it had been in the past, the members of the Woman’s Club needed to find a way to pitch in and assist with the fair. They were very helpful. They gave us their list of vendors to contact, even their floor plan,” said MacNaughton.

So after no Fall Fair in 2018, it appears this year’s event is right back on track for another success. More than 30 vendors are scheduled to attend, selling everything from cosmetics, homemade honey and soaps, to crafts, jewelry, children’s books, knitted items, and more.

Many attenders take the opportunity to get a head start on their holiday shopping. A bake sale, raffles, a door prize, and Grandma’s Attic are also part of the event. And for hungry attendees, pizza, sandwiches, and chowder donated by the Rose Garden will be available to purchase. Proceeds the Bloomer Girls raise from the Fall Fair go to helping people in the Upton community. Through their hard work and efforts, the Bloomer Girls have helped purchase air conditioning units for seniors, provided holiday meals for families and individuals in need, among many other charitable offerings.

Mendon Lions Country Fair will be held Saturday, October 19 in the fields behind the Blessing Barn, Rt. 16, and behind Clough School, North Ave. in Mendon. With free admission for all, the fair will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and feature food, entertainment, kids activities and fun.

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Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare Open Enrollment runs from October 15 to December 7. Every year, Medicare Part D and Medicare Advantage (HMO, PPO) plans can change their premiums, co-pays, deductibles, list of drugs covered and preferred pharmacies. In the case of Medicare Advantage Plans they can also drop providers from their Plan. It’s important to review available options every year. Drug plans also change and should be checked.

SHINE Counselors can help explain plan changes and options. Numerous update meetings have been scheduled in the area, including Thursday, October 31 at the Mendon Senior Center, 62 Providence St., register at 508-478-6175; Thursday, October 24 at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center, 60 North Bow St., register at 508-473-8334; and Thursday, November 7 at 10 a.m. at the Grafton Senior Center, 30 Providence Rd., register at 508-839-5335.

For more information, visit SHINEMA.org or call 1-800-243-4636.

Mendon residents can make an appointment with volunteer Larry Goldman on the first and third Tuesday of the month by calling the Mendon Senior Center, 508-478-6175. Upton residents may call the Upton Center, 508-529-4558 for a referral to a local SHINE counselor.

Additionally, all beneficiaries are urged to sign up for a “MyMedicare Account”. Having this account will allow SHINE to assist individuals more comprehensively with the 2020 choices. Information on signing up is available on SHINEMA.org and clicking on the MyMedicare link.

Help us celebrate!

Four-Year Anniversary Community Giving Program

UniBank will be donating $10,000 to the Hopkinton community and you decide where the donations will go! Stop in to UniBank’s Hopkinton branch to cast your vote today! Poll closes on November 29, 2019.

UniBank’s Hopkinton Branch
87 West Main Street Hopkinton, MA 01748
unibank.com 1.800.578.4270

Volunteers Needed to Help Prepare Taxes

Tax-Aide, a partnership between the IRS and the AARP, needs volunteer counselors to help local low and moderate income persons prepare their taxes. Additional positions available for site greeters. Training begins in December and volunteers work four to six hours per week from February 1 to April 15. Basic computer skills are necessary. For further information, visit AARP.org/taxaide.

SMOC Fuel Assistance

Residents who received Fuel Assistance last heating season will start receiving renewal applications for the upcoming heating season. Please note, the season does not start until November 1. Anyone in Mendon who needs help with completing the application or feels they could apply this year, should call the Senior Center at 508-478-6175 while Upton residents should call Janice Read Nowicki at 508-529-5088.

The Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail

The Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail have a few events coming up in October and November.

The Friends will be at the Milford Pumpkin Stroll on Saturday, October 26, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the DCH Toyota of Milford, 300 Fortune Blvd. Everyone is invited to meet the Friends, get some candy and learn more about the local bike trail.

The Annual Fall Trail Cleanup is Saturday, November 2, from 9 a.m to 12 noon. Meet at a new location, in the Main St. parking lot across from Sacred Heart Church in Milford. Volunteers of all ages are needed to help clean up the trail after a busy summer season. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.

The Friends next meeting is Wednesday, November 6, 6 p.m. in the Milford Senior Center, 60 North Bow St., Milford.

Interfaith Speaker Series

The St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church’s Peace & Social Justice Ministry is presenting an interfaith speaker series. The goal of the series is to help build understanding of other faiths through three evenings with special guests speaking on and answering questions about other religions.

• Monday, November 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: “Judaism” with Rabbi Rachel Gurevitz from Congregation B’nai Shalom in Westborough.
• Wednesday, February 5, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: “Buddhism” with Paul Galvin, Priest and Senior Dharma Teacher, Boundless Way Zen Temple, Worcester.
• Wednesday, March 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m.: “Islam” with a speaker to be confirmed.

Each interactive presentation will provide an overview of the religion’s basic tenets and origin, leave plenty of time for questions, and include time for small group discussion and reflection. Light refreshments will be served. This speaker series is open to all members of local community.

St. Gabriel’s Church is located 151 Mendon St., Upton. For questions, contact Sarah at sbaldiga@gmail.com or 508-320-8676.
Greater Milford Chorus Welcomes New Director

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Mark Schiappucci can now add Milford Chorus Director to his long list of "note" worthy career accomplishments. The Hopedale resident was named the new Director of the Greater Milford Community Chorus (GMCC) when Dan Zabinski stepped down after several successful seasons. The GMCC is a not-for-profit organization which runs under the umbrella of the Milford Community School Use Program and is supported by the Milford, Bellingham, Hopedale, and Mendon Cultural Councils. The 50-member Chorus is made up of singers from the Greater Milford area who perform concerts during the holiday season and in the spring, as well. Schiappucci is currently in rehearsals for the GMCC's very popular December concert performances, which he says consists mostly of Christmas songs but some Hanukkah songs too. "It's going really, really well," he said. "I'm having a lot of fun and looking forward to moving forward in this role." Schiappucci started working on the music over the summer to prepare for rehearsals, which began in September. "It was a little strange listening to so much holiday music in July and August," he said. The new Chorus Director has been involved in the arts as long as he can remember. "I started singing and acting around age six or seven," he said. Schiappucci graduated with a degree in Voice Performance from the New England Conservatory and has been working steadily performing choral works, art song repertoire, operetta, and musical theatre. He's also teaches classes and has music directed productions at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts and serves as a Cantor for several local parishes. When it comes to his own personal musical tastes, Schiappucci says they vary. "I like classical, Broadway theater, and I listen to pop music and Jazz too. "I try to listen to a little bit of everything, not just one genre," he stated. However, these days he's likely listening to a great deal of holiday music for GMCC's December performances, which will be here in a matter of a few short months "they're going to be great," Schiappucci said of the performances. "Something for everyone." On Friday and Saturday, December 6 and 7, the GMCC will be performing with the Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra. The December 6 performance will take place at the Stadium Theater in Woonsocket, and the December 7 concert will take place at Milford Town Hall. The GMCC will then have their own holiday performances at Milford Town Hall on Saturday and Sunday December 14 and 15. For more information including information on tickets and pricing, view GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus.org.
Cooking, Wailing and Screaming in Upton Town Hall

The “joyful noise” of superb jazz cooked, wailed and screamed at the Upton Town Hall on Sunday, October 6. Sponsored by the Upton Cultural Council, the active duty United States Air Force Heritage of America Rhythm in Blue stationed at Langley Air Force Base, Hampton, Va. performed a variety of jazz and fusion pieces. The band members, including amazing soloists could have easily played with the best of them and have earned worldwide acclaim. For more information about the band, visit HeritageofAmericaBand.af.mil. Harry Platcow photo

A Guest Reader

Youngsters in the pre-K class at United Parish Early Learning Center were excited to have a guest reader. An older brother of a student read the class a story. United Parish photo

Archaeology Day at Upton State Forest

On Saturday November 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., learn how to think like an archaeologist, excavate a test unit, screen for and identify artifacts, and document and record soil levels at Upton State Forest, 205 Westboro Rd. Other activities focus on the extensive and rich peopling of the area dating back thousands of years.

Find out why this place was and is so special to the First People of Massachusetts. Learn how to use a bow-drill, grind corn with a mortar and pestle, weave a fish net, make a ceramic pot in the traditional indigenous way, and even try throwing an atlatl.

Appropriate for all ages, all children must be accompanied by an adult. Reasonable accommodations available upon advance request.

For more information, call Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park Visitor Center at 508-278-7604 or DCR Staff Archaeologist Ellen Berkland at 617-626-1377.

Holiday Family Paint Party

Bring the whole family for a Sunday afternoon of creative fun on at the Holiday Paint Party on November 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. at United Parish Church of Upton. Families and adults of all ages are invited to join Clarytime of Shrewsbury for the Holiday Family Paint Party. There is limited space so participants must sign up and pre-order in advance by visiting UnitedParishUpton.org by Sunday, November 3. Paper signup forms are also available in the church office. Contact Leanne Luetkemeyer at 774-573-3155 for more info.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please call TOLL FREE Central Admissions at 844.322.3648 or Fax 978.522.8329

Blaire House of Milford
ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAM

See how OUR ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAM can lead you down the best path to senior care.

Blaire House of Milford Adult Day Health provides quality care to adults with a variety of health conditions and disabilities. We offer a wide range of services that support the physical and mental health of our participants. Our Adult Day Health Program is tailored with the individuals’ interests and level of functioning in mind. This includes meeting the needs of those who have been diagnosed with a memory disorder, such as Alzheimer’s disease.

We provide preferred access for our members to the continuum of services provided on the campus, as well as our other community services. As their care needs change, your loved one can keep that vibrant smile you have come to know, by knowing that they are still among family.

Our Adult Day Health Program Services Include:
• Specialized Memory Care
• Nursing care and social work services
• Physical, occupational, and speech therapies
• Transportation to/from the facility and to medical appointments during the day
• Professional staff trained in Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias
• Monitoring of blood sugar levels, weight and vital signs
• Personal care assistance, including bathing, showering, toileting and incontinence care
• Daily breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack
• Family & caregiver support, and discharge planning

TAKE A TOUR TODAY!
The Upton Center

The Upton Center is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Staff is available by phone from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities are subject to change. Please call 508-529-4558 with any questions.

Friday, October 18
BVT Salon Visit, Depart 8:45 a.m. for 9 a.m. Appointments.
SHINE Appointments, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Trip to Franklin Farmer’s Market, 12:30 p.m. Men’s Club Supper, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, October 21
Mindfulness & Meditation w/Robin, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 22
Shopping Trip to Market Basket, Hudson, 9:15 a.m.
Ice Cream Social with Fun & Games, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 23
Lunch Trip to TJs in Ashland, 12 p.m. Departure

Friday, October 25
Birthday Bash, 12:45 p.m.

Monday, October 28
Shopping Trip to Shaw’s, CVS, Job Lots, Northbridge, 9:15 a.m.
Halloween Socky Social with Music by Gary Landgren, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 30
Shopping Trip to Walmart, Northbridge, 12:30 p.m.
Blood Pressure Checks with the Town Nurse, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 31
Trunk or Treat Event at United Parish, Depart at 5:15 p.m. Return Approximately 8 p.m.

Monday
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.

Tuesday
Card Players Group, 10 a.m.

Wednesday
Computer Class, 9 a.m.
Strength and Stretch, 10 a.m.
Library Table, 11 a.m.
Canasta, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday
Knit and Crochet Group, 10 a.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Friday
Strength and Stretch, 10 a.m.

Boy Scout Troop 132 - Annual Wreath Sale

Upton Boy Scout Troop 132 is kicking off the holiday season with its annual holiday wreath sale. Boy Scouts will be going door-to-door the week of November 10 to take wreath orders from Upton residents. Delivery will be on Saturday, November 30, starting at 9 a.m. Wreaths will also be available for sale on the Upton Town Common on November 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The large balsam wreaths include a deep red weather resistant velvet bow and cost $15 each. This is the Troop’s one major fundraiser for the year with the money helping support the costs of running the Troop, purchasing new equipment and funding trips. To learn more about scouting or to place an order for a wreath online, visit Troop132Upton.org.

For any additional information, please email UptonScouting@gmail.com. Boy Scout Troop 132 thanks all for their support.

Upton’s Fire Department Serving for 180 Years

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Walking into the Upton Fire Station, it’s easy to tell, current and past members of the Department are proudly steeped in their own history. Much of the Church St. station’s interior is like a museum filled with memorabilia and artifacts, paying tribute to those who have helped provide fire services to the community for the last 180 years.

Although the first mention of fire services on record actually took place in Upton in 1753, it was in April 1839 that Upton’s Fire Department was officially established during a town meeting vote. “Each member had to provide their own bucket,” said Upton’s EMT and unofficial Department historian Zachary Ward.

Back in those days, members of the Department were alerted by church bells if there was a fire, met at a designated location with their buckets, and formed a brigade to fight the fire utilizing a handumper wagon.

It was nearly 160 years ago that an acquisition was made, that today sits in the Station’s front lobby and continues to honors the Fire Department’s legacy. In 1866, the town voted to replace the Old No.1 apparatus and purchased a hand pumper wagon from Boston Fire Department’s Engine 16. The Hunneman Handtruck was constructed in 1846 and ultimately became Upton’s Niagra No. 2, serving Upton until 1908. Now refurbished, the Niagara is housed in the entrance of the Fire Station for visitors to view.

Likewise, a display case in the lobby is filled with multiple artifacts from the Department’s past including photos, helmets, lanterns, and even a box full of black and white marbles. “That’s how they voted in members of the Fire Department,” explained Ward. “If you received all white marbles you were in, if you received a black marble, it was a no. That’s where the term black balled came from.” The marble system was used up until the 1960s.

Electronic Voting and Citizen’s Petitions on Upton November Warrant

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

During an October 1 meeting, the Upton Board of Selectmen reviewed and debated a number of articles on a draft copy of the November Special Town Meeting warrant. The most updated copy of the draft document, as of October 10, shows 21 articles on the warrant, several of which involve the downtown revitalization project, electronic voting, and two citizen’s petitions.

One of the articles on the draft warrant asks residents whether or not they would like to move forward with electronic voting during town meetings.

The Electronic Voting Committee was formed by the Selectmen approximately six months ago and charged with investigating the pros and cons of electronic voting. By a majority vote, the Committee found electronic voting would be beneficial to the town. “In short, we found the merits of electronic voting are efficient, precise, and an equitable method to collect a private vote,” said Committee member Michelle Antinarello to the Selectmen during a September meeting. Still, all agreed the matter should be decided by voters. The article will amend the general bylaws with wording that states an article is put forward, “the vote shall be counted by electronic voting technology; if available. If electronic voting technology is not available, then the Moderator shall call for a voice vote.”

Several articles on the draft warrant involve the downtown revitalization project. One is to purchase the 6 Main St. property for $195,000. If the article is approved, the plan is to demolish the building and repurpose it. Also related to the downtown revitalization, is an article requesting $700,000 to fund the procurement, design development, construction documents, and bidding phases of design for the proposed construction of the town’s Municipal Community Center. The aim of the Community Center is to house both the Upton Center and the Library to allow residents to access various services in one location. Both the Library and Upton Center are more than 40 years old, insufficient for the needs of the community, and are not ADA complaint.

There are two citizen’s petitions on the warrant. The first is asking voters whether or not they support banning the use of single use plastic check out bags distributed by stores and ultimately promote the use of reusable bags. The next citizen’s petition aims to eliminate all food establishments in town from dispensing prepared foods to patrons in disposable food service containers made from expanded polystyrene. Styrofoam is the brand name for polystyrene. Per the petition, the definition of a disposable food service container includes, but is not limited to, plates, cups, bowls, trays, hinged or lidded containers, straws, cup lids, or utensils. It does not include single use disposable packaging for unprepared foods.

The Selectmen were scheduled to meet on October 15 to continue to review and finalized the warrant.

Upton Public Hearing Notice

Special Permit for Marijuana Grow Establishment

LOCATED AT

162 Milford Street
Upton, MA, 01568

HEARING AT UPTON TOWN HALL, RM. 203
Thursday, October 24, 2019
7:00 pm

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the Bylaws of the Town of Upton that the above public hearing will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 7 pm at Upton Town Hall Room 203

Application of Jon Kim, Grow Rite, LLC 9 Freeland St, Apt. 1L, Worcester MA for a special permit allowing cultivation of Marijuana Establishment which is an allowed use in the Commercial and Industrial Zone within the Marijuana Overlay District.

The Niagras, a hand pump used by firefighters for 40 years in the late 1800s, is on display in the entryway of Upton’s Fire Station part of the many artifacts showcasing the Department’s history.

Also in the lobby hangs a portrait of Lt. Orrin Francis, the Department’s only official line of duty death in 1967. Photos of Upton’s Fire personnel are filled throughout the station and continue to be reminder of all the men and women who have proudly served the town and how much has changed. In addition, former Upton EMT, Heidi Shultz, painted a mural on a fire station wall depicting the fire that destroyed the Hotel Pleasant in 1920.

According to Ward, the town has a history of being proactive when it comes to the public’s safety. Upton has had its own ambulance since 1941. “That’s extremely early to have that service, very few towns did,” he explained.

Upton Fire Chief Mark DiFrancesco says for a small town to provide fire safety services that long ago speaks very highly of the community. “It just blows my mind,” he said. “I served in Dudley and they didn’t have a fire department until 1961. It’s amazing that for a town of this size, now and more than 180 years ago, public safety has always been a priority.”
I know that, as we age, we become more set in our ways and dislike changes in our routines. And, of course, none of us wants to become one of "those people" who get fixated on certain topics, such as ranting about everything the younger generation(s) do.

But, lately, my "better half" has been branding me as a "grumpyornot" because I’m getting fixated on this one question: Don’t people look in the mirror before they go out?

To me, it seems as if the "people of Walmart" (if you haven’t been to that website, please do!) have invaded the rest of the world!

There’s a trend fashion right now where young women’s shorts are ending as high above the knees as possible can go (I guess that’s OK for many). But, with people weighing more and more these days, certain people just don’t have the figures for wearing these shorts. But, they do. Many people just don’t look in the mirror before they go out.

And then there’s the folks like me who like to wear T-shirts with cutesy sayings on them. But, at least my T-shirt is still wearing a shirt. And, some folks are having to explain to your young children, when they are sure to ask what the man’s shirt emblazoned with "DILLIGAF" means. (Look at up on Google if you don’t know!)

But, alas, all of us can be guilty of needing to be cited by the "look good in public" police.

While getting fitted for a new suit for my oldest son’s upcoming wedding, the tailor was measuring my waist and commented, “Is that where you want it?”

Anyhow, go people watching sometime before it gets too cold. You might find that some of the folks are wearing their pants so low as to make you wonder if they were part of "those people" who get fixated on certain topics.

Enjoy Fall Foliage Right in Your Own Backyard

Want to take in some fall foliage but not too far? Travel almost any local road, slowing down to enjoy the colorful show put on by Mother Nature. Or ditch your car to lace up a pair of sneakers or hop on a bike to view beautiful autumn colors before the chill winds of November. Most leaves are still on the trees. When walking or riding near right clothing since hunting is allowed on most of these properties except for Sunday when it prohibited by Massachusetts state law.

In Mendon take a stroll up North Ave. to view hills of Hopedale and Blackstone in views from the Pequot and the Blackstone River. The adventurous can hike through the Town Forest off Tower Rd. near the Millville-Mendon town line. Or walk the trails through the Meadow Brook Woods Conservation Area & Inman Pond, via the southern entrance off Chapman St. Uxbridge, Inman Hill Wildlife Conservation Area, access via Inman Hill Road, or the Quissett Wildlife Management Access, via Quaker St. For Maps of Upton’s trails are available at UptonMA.gov/land-shed- 

Upton is blessed with many open spaces and forests for exploring. Two are the Stephens Farm, a 116-acre property with access from Mechanic St. near the power lines, and the Upton State Forest, which encompasses over 2,700 acres and can be accessed from Westboro Rd. Heritage Park, off Elm St., offers 7.5 acres with walking trails and a magnificent ancient stone chamber. Upton State Forest, a mixture of about seven miles remaining from town, and from the Peppercorn Hill section of the Whitney Conservation Area with streams, wetlands, scenic vistas and trails on 283 acres and the Snow Family Conservation Area can be accessed via Crockett St. or Taft St. Maps for Upton’s trails are available at UptonMA.gov/land-shed-. Uxbridge has a number of natural areas. The first is Cormier Woods, 217 Chapin St., Uxbridge. Administered by the Trustees of the Reservation, it offers a preserved 18th-century farm house and three miles of trails. West Hill Dam offers wonderful views and a variety of hiking experiences or off-road biking. Access is off of Hartford Ave. East, Uxbridge. The Blackstone Canal Towpath follows the canal for about four miles from Uxbridge. The Northbridge to the Stanley Woolen Mill, Rt. 16, Uxbridge. Park at Plummer’s Landing, Hartford Avenue East, River Bend Farm on Oak St. and Cross St. The trail also offers off-road biking. A side trail leads to Lookout Point with spectacular views of the valley; park off Quaker St. Visit Mass.gov/locations/Blackstone-River-and-Canal-Heritage-State-Park to download the trail map. Further afield, visit Sutton to enjoy the moderate one-mile round trip to Purgatory Chasm. Park off of Purgatory Rd. Or enjoy the views from the Uxbridge to Blackstone portion of the Blackstone River Bikeway. The 3.5-mile segment of the much larger trail from Worcester to Cumberland, R.I. has parking at 1 Adams St., Uxbridge, 44 Hope St., Blackstone, and 55 Blackstone HeritageCorridor.org/exploring-the-blackstone-river-valley/ maps-tours-guides/blackstone-river-bikeway/ for a map.

南沙 offers the popular Upper Charles Trail, an almost seven-mile long paved walking and biking path through town from the Hopkinton to Uxbridge town lines. Access at Rt. 85, Dilla St., Fino Field, East Main St. and Veterans Dr. Visit Milfordrail.org for a map.

RUMINATIONS
By Kevin Rudden

February Second Tuesday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St., Milford, sponsored by Food with Friends. 508-473-2000

Last Wednesday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Congress St., Milford. 508-473-8464 or office@ trinitychurchmilford.org

5:30 p.m. Community Pizza Supper, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 61 Wood St. (Rt. 135), Hopkinton. Sponsored by the Hopkinton Christian Service Connection. 508-435-4336 or StEpiscopal.org.

Every Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Lunch, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St., Milford. Sponsored by St. Vincent DePaul Society. 508-473-2000

Third Thursday 5:30-6:30 p.m. Supper, United Parish, 1 Church St., Uxbridge. Accepted donations. Reservation. Three days ahead by 508-329-3192

Last Thursday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Congress St., Milford, hosted by First Methodist Church of Milford volunteers. 508-473-8464 or office@trinitychurchmilford.org. Friday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, Dorothy Blackstone/HeritageCorridor.org/exploring-the-blackstone-river-valley/maps-tours-guides/blackstone-river-bikeway/ for a map.

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St., Milford, Hopedale, Bellingham, Franklin and Ashland

Notes & NOTATIONS
By Jane Rige

November 15, 2019 • Deadline November 5

November 1, 2019 • Deadline October 22

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE
UPTON-MENDON
November 15, 2019 • Deadline November 5
November 1, 2019 • Deadline October 22
November 15, 2019 • Deadline November 5
November 1, 2019 • Deadline October 22

MILFORD
October 25, 2019 • Deadline November 8
November 8, 2019 • Deadline November 29

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November Deadline: November 5

Thank you from the Fresh Air Fund

To the Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Fresh Air host families and volunteer leaders in Blackstone Valley. Because of their dedication and commitment, thousands of children from New York City and other parts of the Northeast participated in our Fresh Friends Town host family program this summer.

I am inspired by the heartfelt stories shared by hosts who welcome our children into their homes and community, and the joy and growth it brings to everyone. For over 140 years, The Fresh Air Fund has brought people together. Children make new friends and forge relationships that can last a lifetime. We’ve learned that after staying with a host family children are more confident and more comfortable meeting new people and different places.

Children tell me about their excitement to return to visit a host family and all the activities ahead.

Our programs would not be possible without the generosity of our Fresh Air host families, supporters, and volunteers in Blackstone Valley. Our local volunteers, many of whom are also hosts, interview prospective host families, help recruit new families and plan special activities. I would also like to thank the individual and local businesses who give their time and resources to ensure The Fresh Air Fund’s Friendly Towns Program in Blackstone Valley is such a success each year.

The Fresh Air Fund, an independent, not-for-profit agency, has provided free summer experiences to more than 1.8 million New York City children from low-income communities since 1877. Each summer, thousands of children visit volunteer host families all along the East Coast and Southern Canada.

Please contact Leslie Breath at 508-451-3188 or visit FreshAir.org to learn more about hosting a child through The Fresh Air Fund.

Fatima Shama,
Executive Director, The Fresh Air Fund

Read the Town Crier Online

To read the October 18, 2019 Upton Mendon Town Crier online, visit TownCrier.us

In the NE Mass. color cloisonné Newspapers Swing down to Upton/Town Crier PDF Archive And click on link at 19.10.18.pdf
Free Shred Day at Charles River Bank

Charles River Bank (CRB) is providing free shredding services during their Community Shred Day on Saturday, November 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its branch locations – 70 Main St., Medway; 2 South Maple St., Bellingham, and 1 Hastings St., Mendon. Participants can bring sensitive documents to any of the CRB locations listed, and the Bank's own destruction company will professionally shred them onsite. It's a great way to clear the clutter while protecting personal information.

"Security of personal financial information is always the highest priority at Charles River Bank. Offering a Community Shred Day provides secure document destruction service to our customers and neighbors who may not have access to a high volume shredder at home," stated Charles River Bank President & CEO Jack Hamilton.

Everyone who participates will receive a free Charles River Bank pompom hat, while supplies last. Anyone visiting a CRB office on the November 2 Shred Day can enter to win a $500 Wachusett COW Card. The contest winner can then shred the trails of Wachusett Mountain this winter with family or friends. Questions about Community Shred Day can be directed to 508-533-8661 or info@charlesriverbank.com.

OCTOBER 18, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier

Bringing Joy to Local Children this Holiday Season

Every year, Charles River Bank participates in the Adopt-A-Family Program offered through the Salvation Army of Milford. The bank pledges to adopt between 30 and 40 children each holiday season. Bank employees, as well as generous customers and community members, are matched up with various children of local families in need.

Sponsors are then given a wish list that a child has created and purchase items specifically requested by that child. Wish list tags will be available in Charles River Bank's Medway, Bellingham and Mendon offices listing a child's first name, their age, their clothing size and some toy and gift requests. Visit one of Charles River Bank's branches to pick up a child's wish list or contact to have a wish list sent.

All gifts must be returned to Charles River Bank's Medway office by the beginning of December. Gifts must be new, unwrapped and in a large bag with the wish list tag attached to the outside.

Art by Octogenarians

Sixty-four original paintings are on exhibit in Beaumont Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center at Westminster. Three Lyman St., thanks to four resident artists and staff members willing to help bring their wish to life.

The lobby gallery, which features art by four Beaumont octogenarians: Eleanor Scheiner, Norma Carter, Joan Davis and James Demichele, opened with a cocktail reception on Wednesday, October 9. It is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through October 23.

The exhibit is the first event of SALMON Health and Retirement’s Just One Time (JOT) program, which brings to life what Beaumont residents would like to experience “just one time.” While so many Beaumont residents have been lucky enough to live such fulfilling lives, there are others who have dreams they’re still hoping to accomplish. Through the program, Beaumont residents are given the opportunity to make a wish and “just” it down, Beaumont staff will try to make them a reality.

“It has been a thrill to be able to present these residents’ impressive and stunning art to the public and we are so fortunate to have such talented artists within our community,” said Beaumont Executive Director Amy Griffin.

Milford Regional Welcomes New Cancer Center Physicians

Cancer Center Services expand at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center at Milford Regional with the appointment of Daniel Roberts, MD and Luke Peng, MD to Milford Regional’s active medical staff.

Dr. Roberts earned his medical degree from Loyola University, Stritch School of Medicine, Chicago, in 2012. He performed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, Boston. Dr. Roberts continued his training at Beth Israel Deaconess and Harvard Medical School with a clinical fellowship in hematology/oncology. He will be seeing patients at The Cancer Center as a medical oncologist with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Dr. Peng received his degree in medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College, New York City in 2014. He completed an internal medicine internship at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, and a residency in radiation oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, where he was chief resident. Dr. Peng will be seeing patients at The Cancer Center as a Women’s Physician Organization.

“We are pleased to welcome Drs. Daniel Roberts and Luke Peng to Milford Regional’s medical staff," stated Edward J. Kelly, President & CEO, Milford Regional Medical Center. "Our community will benefit greatly from the expansion of cancer care with the addition of such highly trained oncologists.”

Medical Oncologist Daniel Roberts, MD, can be reached at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center at Milford Regional by calling 508-488-3700. Radiation Oncologist Luke Peng, MD, can be reached by calling 508-488-3800 BUS MRMC Oncologists Roberts

Troop Fan Mail Campaign

The Sgt. John W. Powers Post American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 59, Milford, has begun its holiday letter and card writing campaign. This program is to support members of U.S. troops who will be away from their families during the upcoming holiday season. The local unit has sponsored this campaign for over 30 years, brightening the lives of many of those in the armed services.

Each year, members and friends of the Auxiliary write cards and letters which are sent to Troop Fan Mail in mid-November. Once the cards arrive, they are sorted for distribution to 500 plus military bases and locations listed, and the Bank's own destruction company will professionally shred them onsite. It's a great way to clear the clutter while protecting personal information.

"Security of personal financial information is always the highest priority at Charles River Bank. Offering a Community Shred Day provides secure document destruction service to our customers and neighbors who may not have access to a high volume shredder at home," stated Charles River Bank President & CEO Jack Hamilton.

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OCTOBER 18, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier

The Advertiser's Club Directory

These are the businesses that contract to advertise in The Upton and Mendon Town Crier at least 12 times over a year. If you would like to insert a feature article about your business (minimum 1/16 page ad), and listing in this directory

Business Name..........................Ad on Page

Amazing Cleaners..........................next
American Climbers..........................next
Bright Insurance Agency..................15
Brose & Laser.............................next
C.J. Cilley Construction..................next
Cancerius Mexican Restaurant........next
Cancerius Image and Video..............next
Campeon Driving Academy.............20
Cook Company..........................next
CRP Inc........................................next
Create Images Hair Studio..............next
Crystal Room..............................next
Frank's Appliance.........................10
Galiford's Restaurant......................21
Gibson Natural Pet Resort..............12
Jabosky Plumbing & Heating...........11
Imperial Cars..............................1, 24
J.C. Parmenter...........................next
Jolesrek Overhead Door...................next
Joy Plumbing..............................10
Just A-Wee Day............................next
Kroon Poert & Lumber...................next
Loque Plass...............................16
Little Coffee Bean.........................21
Maple Farm Dairy.........................22
Massachusetts Electric...............next
Medway Oil & PROP Company........next
McCormick Properties..................next
Mendon Montessori........................next
Merrimot orchard Oral Associates.......next
Milford Federal..........................15
Muffin House Cafe.........................21
Nathan's Jukebox.........................next
New England Steak & Seafood.........17
Park Place Dental........................26
PA W.S. Bow & Bractt...................17
Phipps Insurance Agency...............9
Relax Pet Sitting..........................12
Riteway Power Equipment..............next
Robyn Nauta, Real Estate Group......next
Rose Garden Restaurant & Lounge.....next
Simoncor Elec.............................next
Templton Tree Service...................next
UPS Inc Milford & Franklin.............next
Upton Foreign Motors...................next
Watskeca Japanese Restaurant.........next
Wayne Center Electric...................10
Williams-Jameson Funeral Home.....next
Will, DDS.................................next
Women's Total Body Wellness / Mash Up next
Wynn's Door Farm.........................next
WPI Post Control.........................next

New Ad Club Member

Rutfield Insurance..................next

Charles River Bank Annual Holiday Food Drive

A long-standing holiday tradition at Charles River Bank is the annual Food Drive. Every year during November and December, Charles River Bank branch offices set up donation tables in their lobbies for customers, community members, and bank staff to make food donations to the Medway, Bellingham and Mendon Food Pantries. The donations are brought to the food pantries just before the New Year to help restock after the holidays.

Items most needed by the Food Pantries include: canned meats; soups; stews; dry foods such as cereal and pasta; other non-perishable food items; paper goods, diapers and personal hygiene items. Bring donations to the local Charles River Bank branch November 1 through December 27. Branch locations can be found at CharlesRiverBank.com.
New Council on Aging Members Appointed

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

During an October 1 meeting, the Mendon Board of Selectmen unanimously appointed Diane Howell and Jennifer Talamini to the Council on Aging with terms to expire June, 2022. Pictured left to right are COA co-chairs Peg Nogueira and Earl Pearlman, new COA members Jennifer Talamini and Diane Howell and Senior Center Director Amy Wilson Kent. Michelle Sanford photo

Mendon Land Use Committee Vacancy

The Mendon Land Use Committee has a vacancy. Any resident interested in being considered for this committee should please submit a letter of interest to the Mendon Select Board by email to ldpuis@mendonma.gov or mail to Laura St. John-Dupuis, 20 Main St., Mendon, MA 01756

For more information about the Land Use Committee contact Anne Mazar, amazar@mendonma.gov or visit MendonMA.gov/home/land-use-committee.

Mendon Selectmen Take First Pass at Draft Warrant

By Michelle Sanford

During an October 1 meeting, the Mendon Board of Selectmen took a first pass at the draft warrant for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for November 20. Town Administrator Kim Newman went through a number of prospective articles with the Board including joining the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Program, purchasing turnout gear for the Fire Department, and a bylaw to ban the display of exotic animals traveling through town for entertainment purposes.

Members of the Board of Health discussed a possible article that would fund the town’s participation in the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project. The article comes after Mendon was put on the critical list as the EEE virus was found in the community in August.

“The program has a greater emphasis on larvae control, public education, ditch maintenance, and source reduction said Board of Health Chair Andy fiske. “It’s not all about spraying. It’s about capturing and killing the larvae before they hatch and before they become airborne.” The draft warrant has a $52,000 price tag to take part in the program.

The Selectmen stated they wanted to investigate the pros and cons of the program before deciding whether or not it will go on the final warrant. The Fire Department put forth several articles on the draft warrant, one to purchase turnout gear for $30,000. The other articles concern establishing a revolving fund for the repair and maintenance of fire protection cisterns. Fire Chief Bill Kessler would be authorized to expend from the fund. Another article would set the revolving fund’s limit at $10,000.

Another possible article is a bylaw amendment that would prohibit the display of wild or exotic animals traveling shows are subjected to long and exhaustive transports, in some cases beaten to perform, chained for long periods of time, can be a danger to the public, and can carry disease.

She said ten communities in Massachusetts have passed such a bylaw, and currently the state legislature is considering similar changes. “Until then, towns have to step up,” she said to the Selectmen. She added the Zerbini Family Circus, which has come to Mendon over the last years, has been cited numerous times for animal neglect.

Other articles discussed that evening involved changes to the Animal Control bylaw fees, a tobacco bylaw regulation, and transferring funds into stabilization and capital expenditures accounts.

The Board of Selectmen were expected to meet on October 15 to again review the draft warrant.

Mendon Selectmen Take First Pass at Draft Warrant

Shred Your Docs. Then Shred the Trails.

Have a pile of confidential papers that need shredding? Come to Charles River Bank and we will shred it at no charge! It’s a great way to clear the clutter while protecting your personal information.

Saturday, November 2nd
10 am to 1 pm
All Charles River Bank locations
Once you’ve gotten rid of your pile of papers, you can win a chance to have some fun in a pile of snow!

Shred Your Docs.
Then Shred the Trails.

Stop by during our Shred Day event and enter to win a $500 Wachusett COW card, as well as other great prizes. Plus, everyone who visits will receive a free Charles River Bank pompom hat (while supplies last).

Mendon Senior Center

The Mendon Senior Center serves Mendon residents 60 years of age or older, people with disabilities, and care givers. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, or call 508-478-6175.

Tuesday, October 22
Live Music/Hot Dog Bar, 11 a.m.

Thursday, October 24
Ancestry Program, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, October 29
BVT Health Students, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 31
Open Enrollment Meeting, 10 a.m.

Halloween Lunch and Hal Party, 11 a.m.

Monday
Walking Club, Various Locations, 8:30 a.m.
Weather Permitting
Food Pantry (First Monday of the Month), 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Whole Foods, 9 a.m.
Cribbage and Bridge, 9 a.m.
Bocce, 9 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Chair Exercise, 10:15 a.m.
Lunch Club, 12 p.m.
Hand and Foot (Canasta), 1 p.m.
Evening Yoga, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday
Walking Club, Various Locations, 8:30 a.m., Weather Permitting
Panera Bread, 9 a.m.
Tai Chi, 9 a.m.
All Class, 1 p.m.

Thursday
Cribbage, 9 a.m.
Wellness Group, 10:30 a.m. (1st and 3rd Thursdays of Month)
Lunch Club, 12 p.m.
Yarn Works, 1 p.m.
Mah Jongg, 1 p.m.
Pitch, 7 p.m.

Friday
Walking Club, Various Locations, 8:30 a.m.
Weather Permitting

70 Main Street - Medway - 508.533.8651
2 South Maple Street - Bellingham - 508.966.2857
1 Hastings Street - Mendon - 508.422.9792

*No purchase necessary. You do not need to be a customer of Charles River Bank to win, but you do need to be 18 years of age or older. Subject to change without notice.

Mendon News

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Weather Permitting

Mendon Town Calendar

Thursday, October 24
Citizen’s Police Academy, Upper Town Hall, 6 p.m.
Conservation Commission, 18 Main St., 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 7
Citizen’s Police Academy, Upper Town Hall, 6 p.m.
Capital Planning Committee, Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room, 7:15 p.m.

All meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change. For the most up to date information on Mendon meetings, including agendas or cancellations, view MendonMA.org/town-calendar.

Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Aid Application

The Mendon Tax Aid Fund was established to provide tax assistance for elderly and/or disabled Mendon residents who are homeowners with limited income and assets. The Fiscal Year 2020 submission deadline is October 28. Forms are available at the Mendon Senior Center and online, MendonMA.gov/sites/mendonma/files/file/file/mendon-tax-aid-fy2020-application-and-guidelines_0.pdf

Upton-Mendon Town Crier

OCTOBER 18, 2019

8
Time Change for Mendon Halloween Festival

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Construction of Mendon’s new police station continues to progress with the hopes the town will be celebrating its completion by the end of March 2020.

More than six months ago, a formal groundbreaking for the building took place and since then, considerable work has been completed on the new headquarters including its foundation, interior framing of the existing structure and the new addition, and the concrete construction of the detention and sally port areas are done. Work on the roof, windows, and siding is ongoing.

The priority now is winterizing the building so construction can carry on throughout the upcoming colder months. “We want it weather tight so progress can continue,” said Site Rep. Lee Figgins.

Another agenda item discussed at length that evening concerned an unforeseen glitch involving ledge that was discovered at the site of the cistern. The cistern is a 40,000-gallon tank that holds water to support the fire suppression system in the new police station. The 10-foot high and 70-foot long cistern is located underground. “Given the fact the Town Hall campus is supplied by a single well, it’s not sufficient to support the amount of water needed,” explained Committee member Don Morin.

When excavation began for the cistern, it was discovered large amounts of ledge were at the site. The cistern is a 40,000-gallon tank that holds water to support the fire suppression system in the new police station. The 10-foot high and 70-foot long cistern is located underground. “Given the fact the Town Hall campus is supplied by a single well, it’s not sufficient to support the amount of water needed,” explained Committee member Don Morin.

When excavating began for the cistern, it was discovered large amounts of ledge were at the site. The number of options to address the situation were investigated such as relocating or repositioning the cistern, utilizing two small cisterns instead, installing a new well with a holding tank or removing the ledge. After reviewing each option, it was recommended to remove 470 cubic yards of ledge, which is expected to cost nearly $114,000 and will be taken out of the Police Station’s contingency budget which contained $250,000.

Removal of the ledge was recently completed and the new station’s completion timeline is still on target. A web site was created to keep residents updated on the progress of the police station, which also includes photos. The web site is MendonPolice.com/StationProject and can also be found on the Police Station Building Committee’s page at MendonMa.Gov.

The Mendon Historical Society will host its first Halloween Festival at Memorial Ball Field on Saturday, October 26 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Due to concerns over EEE the times of the event have been changed and the public is advised to follow the states recommendations which can be found at the following Mass.gov/guides/eee-in-massachusetts.

Along with a Kids Trail, there will be games and activities taking place around the park including corn hole, skilled booth games and for those seeking a bit more excitement - an egg launch. There will be activities in the pavilion and refreshments will be available for purchase.

The costume parade will begin at 4 p.m. and the carved pumpkin display and award ceremony will follow. Ribbons will be presented for costumes and superior carving skills. Details for the contests will be available on MendonHistoricalSociety.org and on Facebook: Mendon Historical Society @ Mendon History.

Mark the calendar and be sure not to miss this afternoon of fun and fright. The Rain date is Sunday October 27 from 2 to 5 p.m. This fundraiser supports the Mendon Historical Society. For further information, contact the Historical Society by email Mendonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or by phone 508-488-9620.

May the 4th be with you.

Early Spring Tentative Completion Date for New Mendon Police Station

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Construction of Mendon’s new police station continues with a hoped for completion date of March 2020.

During an October 8 meeting, the Committee discussed a number of agenda items including the Station’s security system plans and elevator lift.

The Police Station Building Committee continues to meet and tour the site regularly. During an October 8 meeting, the Committee discussed a number of agenda items including the Station’s security system plans and elevator lift.

Another agenda item discussed at length that evening concerned an unforeseen glitch involving ledge that was discovered at the site of the cistern. The cistern is a 40,000-gallon tank that holds water to support the fire suppression system in the new police station. The cistern is a 40,000-gallon tank that holds water to support the fire suppression system in the new police station.

Construction of Mendon’s new police station continues and includes the installation of the 40,000-gallon cistern.

Construction of the new Mendon Police Station continues with a hoped for completion date of March 2020.

Senator Fattman Office Hour

State Senator Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) will host an office hour on Tuesday, November 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Bancroft Memorial Library, 50 Hopedale St, Hopedale.

Constituents are encouraged to stop by at any point during the hour or may reserve a specific time if they wish by emailing Bill Fredericks at William.Fredericks@masenate.gov. Those who cannot make the office hour may call 617-722-1420 to have issues addressed by the Senator.

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Greenleaf Garden Club Presents Creative Ways to Entertain

The theme of the Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford’s October meeting will be Everyday Centerpieces and Easy Ways to Entertain with speaker Michele Schucker on Monday, October 21 at the Milford Senior Center, 60 North Bow St. It will start with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. Schucker’s demo/lecture will discuss everyday centerpieces and the art of easy entertaining. She will show quick to construct centerpieces and tablescapes and how to make guests feel special. Weaving native plant material into her flower arrangements and creative tablescapes, she is known for expertise in garden design and indigenous plants. Founder and chief designer of Natural Selections Schucker is a certified master gardener and is passionate about the art and science of horticulture.

The Greenleaf Garden Club is a member of the National Garden clubs, Inc. and the Garden club Federation of MA, Inc. For information, email greenleafgardenclub@gmail.com.
Deck the Halls,
a November Gala Fundraiser

Once again, the Greenleaf Garden Club (GGC) is inviting the community to its annual November Gala fundraiser—an evening of floral designs, drawings, fun and refreshments. This year’s Gala will highlight designer Maureen Christmas and will be held at the Milford Senior Center, 60 N. Bow St., Milford on Monday, November 18 beginning at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments. Tickets are $12 and may be obtained from any GGC member or from Nancy Wojick, 617-680-2477, email nancywojick@gmail.com.

Christmas will create five to seven delightful holiday designs, one of which will be given as a door prize and there will be a drawing for the others. She is one of New England’s top designers and her creativity and novel ideas will be expressed as she designs for the Gala. Christmas is a National Garden Club Flower Show judge and has a European Master’s Certification. She has won many top awards at the New England and Newport Flower Shows. Following the presentation, a drawing will be held for Maureen’s designs and for the 50+ themed baskets prepared by GGC members. The proceeds from the evening will be used to fund the Club’s projects including the downtown civic plantings, the Garden Therapy and Junior Garden programs and the annual scholarship offered to a high school senior residing in Milford.

The Greenleaf Garden Club is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Garden Club Federation of MA, Inc. For information, email greenleafgardenclub@gmail.com.

Recycle Electronics, Textiles & More

A regional drive-through recycling and reuse event will be held Saturday, November 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 200 Westboro Rd., Grafton. Items being collected include electronics, Styrofoam (white #6 only), textiles, books and more. All towns are welcome to participate. Fees (cash only) are as follows: small electronics (visit WeCan-MA.org for list of items) $10 each, monitors and televisions $20 each.

Styrofoam is being collected at no charge (only #6 white – no food containers or packaging peanuts and free of stickers and tape) and assorted clothing and textiles (clean, dry and odor-free) to benefit non-profit organizations. This includes used clothing and textiles, shoes, purses, wallets, belts, sheets, curtains, pillows, tablecloths (holes and rips okay). Funds raised from clothing and textiles will be donated to Fresh Start (who will also be collecting small household and kitchen items). For the Cummings Veterinary Center at Tufts University and local animal shelters- (label Animal on the bag), bring, clean, old, worn towels and blankets. New or like-new craft and office supplies are being donated to The Great Exchange. For more information and map, visit wecan-MA.org or contact Irene Congdon at 413-348-9333.

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Local Artist Donates Prize for BSTRA’s Pet Portrait Raffle

North Grafton artist, Janet Aleid, has a track record of supporting local causes, and this year she has donated a Gift Certificate for a framed 12” x 16” acrylic painting to local nonprofit organization Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc. (BSTRA) to be used for a raffle prize. With a value of $350, this prize will be desirable for any pet lover who would like to have a portrait of their favorite pet. BSTRA’s Pet Portrait Raffle is open to the general public with tickets and order forms available online at BSTRA.org/support/raffle. The deadline for ticket purchase is 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, and the drawing will take place later that evening. Tickets will be entered into the raffle and stubs will be mailed to participants upon purchase. Winner will be notified and the Gift Certificate will be mailed. The pet portrait can be completed in time for holiday giving.

Quantity discounts apply to ticket prices with 30 tickets costing $20, 12 tickets are $10, and five tickets are $5.

BSTRA’s raffle raises funding for local trail improvement projects in area State Forests and Parks making them more accessible to all or continuing their maintenance. All of the money raised is used for projects like last year’s work in the Upton State Forest. It was funded by a Partnership Grant awarded to BSTRA from the Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation with BSTRA picking up the funding match for a total of close to $80,000. BSTRA has put about $100,000 into this forest to date.

Meet Your Match: Pet Adoption Event

Milford Federal Bank, 246 Main Street, Milford is hosting a match-making adoption event on Saturday, October 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Pawfect Life Rescue of Uxbridge, will be on hand with loveable dogs available for adoption, and in need of fur-ever homes. Milford Federal will donate a free doggie adoption kit that includes a wire crate; a leash & martingale collar; a toy and box of treats; one food and one water dish, and a 16.5lb bag of either puppy or adult dog food to each new adopting family during the event. Nothing says welcome home like a wagging tail and a pair of warm brown eyes. Save a life and expand your family - just in time for the holidays!
There will be "something for everyone" as the Nipmuc Drama Guild takes to the stage to present their production of Our Town on the weekend of October 25, 26 and 27.

The classic play written by Thornton Wilder tells the story of the fictional American small town of Grover’s Corners between 1901 and 1913 through the everyday lives of its citizens. The main character is the stage manager of the theatre, who directly addresses the audience, a feature of performances that was uncharacteristic at the turn of the century.

"It was a very innovative play for its time," said Tamosin Johnson-Hellegers, Nipmuc Drama Guild’s director. "It breaks down that 4th wall and the characters talk to and interact with the audience."

Johnson-Hellegers said that the play is one that people of all ages will be able to relate to. "It shows the very simple life, but the characters are all ones that you will recognize. There are all kinds of scenes that we still have today, but this is through the eyes of people over 100 years ago," she said. "There is laughter, there is sadness, there is poignancy."

Set on a simple backdrop and with simple props, the classic Our Town will show the strengths of the actors on stage, said the director. "You will be able to see the talent we have here at Nipmuc," she said. "This isn’t easy material. The students had to dig down deep in order to understand their characters."

The cast and crew of over 50 students have been working since the first day of school to get ready for the fall performance. "They have done an excellent job," said Johnson-Hellegers.

The performance will be presented on Friday, October 25 at 7 p.m., on Saturday, October 26 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sunday, October 27 at 2 p.m. at the Nipmuc Auditorium. Tickets are $7 for seniors and students and $10 for adults. For more information or to purchase tickets visit NipmucDramaGuild.weebly.com.

The Drama Guild’s director. "It breaks down that 4th wall and the characters talk to and interact with the audience."

Sarah Orff

Staff Reporter/Columnist

By Melissa Orff

National Defense University Visits BVT

Blackstone Valley Tech students and staff welcomed veterans and active-duty military officials from 55 countries and the United States, on Friday, September 20, when the International Fellows Class of 2020 from the National Defense University visited the school.

The National Defense University (NDU), based in Washington, D.C., provides graduate learning opportunities for international military leaders and their U.S. counterparts from all Military Services and the Interagency. The International Fellows are involved in a one-year intensive program focused on educating, inspiring, and developing national security leaders. As part of their studies, the group of 63 International Fellows visited Massachusetts to learn about education in the United States. "Our visit to BVT is one of the highest-rated visits and continues to be a cornerstone of our Boston practicum," said an NDU staff representative.

The group received a first-hand look at BVT’s best practices in vocational and academic education during the visit. Student representatives were on hand to demonstrate and discuss their school projects with them. The International Fellows participated in a question and answer session with students and administrators. The group was interested in the technical skills students were developing in their vocational classrooms. Students spoke about their experiences with career enrichment, co-op, and the importance of exploring career pathways. National Defense University Health and Fitness Director, Anthony Spinosa, said, "I was very impressed with the BVT Health Services students CPR demonstrations and the hands-on learning that occurs at BVT!"

The International Fellows viewed a variety of vocational programs and school resources such as the school-based health center and the school’s transition room. The Nurse’s Suite and the concept of providing medical attention on-site to alleviate time out of school was a point of interest to this group. The comprehensive tour showcased the opportunities, challenges, and successes that students who choose to pursue a vocational-technical education and schools in the United States face.

The fellows were particularly interested in learning the ways students decide which vocational program to study during their high school years and their plans to continue pursuing their chosen fields. The fellows were amazed to see the numerous opportunities and amount of options that students have available to them. Several commented that they were impressed by the technical skills BVT students had learned now in high school, would allow them to work anywhere in the world. It also allowed students to expand their horizons. "Speaking with the fellows from the National Defense University was a unique experience. They were an interesting and diverse group. I heard many accents that I hadn’t heard before," said Leah Cook of Blackstone, a sophomore in Engineering & Robotics.

The recent visit marked the fourth consecutive year the National Defense University has toured Blackstone Valley Tech to showcase different styles of education in the United States.

"Our visit to BVT is one of the highest-rated visits and continues to be a cornerstone of our Boston practicum," said an NDU staff representative.
By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

School News

New Teachers at Miscoe and Nipmuc

Nicole Williams - new Chemistry teacher at Nipmuc Regional High School

Lauren Carrier - new Special Education Teacher at Miscoe Hill School

Heather Forman - new Chorus Director at Miscoe Hill School

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Nipmuc Regional High and Miscoe Hill Schools have welcomed a number of new teachers to their staff this school year.

Nicole Williams has joined the district as a new Chemistry teacher at Nipmuc. She will be teaching sophomore and junior general Chemistry classes this year.

Williams attended Northeastern and Western Governors Universities, earning her bachelor's degree in science education. After considering a career in chemical engineering, Williams said that the pull towards education made her switch paths early on. "I had an awesome high school Chemistry teacher," she said. "She inspired me to pursue teaching because I wanted to be like her."

While finishing up her degree, Williams was a long-term substitute teacher in Sutton, and did her student teaching at Bay Path Regional High School where she taught Chemistry and Biology.

When the position at Nipmuc became available, Williams said she knew immediately that this was the place she wanted to further her teaching career.

"I could tell that this district was very innovative; that was something I was excited to be a part of," she said. Along with teaching, Williams will be the co-advisor for the freshman class and was just appointed Secretary for the Mendon Upton Regional Teachers Association (MURTA).

Heather Forman has been hired as the new Chorus Director at Miscoe.

Forman has a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Berkley College of Music, a degree she pursued after having a positive experience with her own music teachers.

"Throughout my whole high school career, I had teachers who fostered my talents," said Forman. "I love to perform but they inspired me to do the same things for other kids that they did for me."

Forman has spent the past three years teaching Chorus for students in grades K-6 in Pembroke. When she heard that there was an opening at Miscoe, Forman said that she jumped at the chance to join the district that she said had great support for their music department.

"The size of the band and chorus here is very impressive; who wouldn't want to be a part of that?" she said. So far, said Forman, the new position has hit all of the high notes. "The students are such a pleasure to work with," she said. "It's evident that the students in chorus really want to be here."

Along with teaching, Forman will be acting as the Musical Director for Miscoe's spring performance of Annie Jr. She is also currently pursuing her master's degree in Music Education.

Also joining the Miscoe staff this year is Lauren Carrier, the new Special Education Teacher for grades 6 and 7.

Carrier comes to Miscoe from the Milford Public Schools, where she was a Special Education Teacher for 7th grade. Prior to that, Carrier was a long-term substitute teacher in the North Smithfield, R.I. and Grafton school districts. Carrier earned her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Framingham State College and her master's degree in Special Education/PreK-8 with Moderate Disabilities from Bridgewater State University.

For Carrier, her inspiration to become a teacher came from closer to home – her own mom.

"She taught me that teachers make learning fun," she said. "From her, I knew I wanted to make a difference in kids' lives, both academically and as a person."

Carrier said that she was called to special education because of her firm belief that all students should get the education that they deserve.

"I want students to be challenged but to not shut down because they are frustrated," she said.

In the two months since joining the district, Carrier said that she has been impressed with the atmosphere of the Mendon Upton District and the Miscoe Hill School specifically.

"Morale here is so positive, and the students are so wonderful," she said.

Also joining the Special Education Department at Miscoe this year is Cathy Papayanniopoulos, who will be teaching 7th grade as a special-ed inclusion teacher.

GRADUATE

Lydia DiGiovanni

Lydia DiGiovanni of Upton graduated with an online AS Computer Science from Grantham University, Lenexa, Kan.
Elementary Principals Review Yearly Goals

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Janice Gallagher, Principal of Clough Elementary School, and Debra Swain, Principal of Memorial Elementary School, updated the School Committee members during the October 7 meeting on their four goals for this year, goals, they said, which align to the district’s strategic plan. The first goal is to “promote student success and reduce behavior referrals through the development and implementation of tiered SEL (Social Emotional Learning) supports.” “Last year we began our R.I.S.E and S.O.A.R. programs, and they went better than expected,” said Gallagher. “The parents have been great about using these programs at home too.” S.O.A.R. and R.I.S.E. are two positive behavior programs that the schools have implemented to focus on and reward good behavior for S.O.A.R. (being safe, on task, doing kind, caring and respectful, and being responsible) and R.I.S.E. (Respect, Inclusion, Safety and Empathy) actions. During the summer, Gallagher said they evaluated feedback from teachers and 4th and 5th grade students on the first year of the program in order to tweak it as needed and get ready for the next phase of implementation.

“We will be working to provide continual training, not just for our teachers but for all staff,” said Gallagher. The elementary schools’ second goal is working to “increase our capacity regarding believes, cultures and context of modern project-based learning.”

Swain said they have developed several goals for the teachers for this year in order, asking them to develop at least two project-based learning units in their classrooms.

“We want our teachers to think of project-based learning differently then projects,” said Swain. “Teachers have been working to become more confident and comfortable with these skills.” The third goal is to “incorporate a Portrait of a Learner into the instructional practices at the elementary level.” The Portrait of a Learner is the district’s focus on identifying the skills necessary for success for all students in this rapidly changing, increasingly diverse, and interconnected world.

“We want our teachers to be able to share the Portrait of a Learner (POL) language with the students such as what it means to be a mindful learner of a global citizen,” said Gallagher. “We are also brainstorming ways to implement the POL competencies into daily practice.” The elementary schools plan to host two “Inspired Learning” days so students can learn what inspires them outside of traditional coursework.

“We are excited because this is something that every child and every staff member will be involved in,” said Gallagher. The elementary schools’ fourth goal is to “meet the needs of all students with the use of data and co-teaching.” Swain said the schools will be looking at their inclusion classrooms (where a traditional and special educator work together in the same classroom) in order to identify best practices. Swain added they will be encouraging teachers to visit other classrooms to observe co-teaching models and become familiar with all the district resources.

“We want to make sure that everyone has access to the resources we have in the building and the familiarity with the programs so they can use them seamlessly,” said Swain. The School Committee unanimously approved the 2019/2020 Clough and Memorial School Improvement Plans.
Updated Curb Appeal at Miscoe Hill School

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Miscoe Hill School will be going into the fall with some curb appeal...all thanks to the “caring” Miscoe community.

The “We Care Miscoe” group, a subcommittee under the Miscoe Hill PTO, completed an extensive landscaping project at the school earlier this month, bringing together over 85 volunteers to rake, weed, and plant to beautify the school grounds.

“It was awesome,” said Diane Duncan, head of the We Care Miscoe committee of the landscaping project. “It was such a great community event...there were so many smiles.”

The landscaping had been one of five major projects on the We Care Miscoe’s radar to complete in an effort to “increase pride and ownership” in the school. This summer, with the help of numerous volunteers and donations, the Committee was able to complete three projects inside the school – a locker room refresh with new custom shelving, the painting of all classroom doors, and a refreshing of the teachers’ workspaces. The Committee was able to complete the remaining two projects outside the school – a “come on in” sign in the school grounds and the landscaping project – with the help of numerous volunteers and donations.

“This was a great, all-around effort to “increase pride and ownership” in the school,” said Duncan.

When it was time to turn to the outdoors, Duncan said that the team first put out a call for donations of materials and manpower. The response, she said, was “amazing.” Lowe’s Home Improvement store in Milford donated $1,000 in shrubs, plants, and mulch, and Labor, and on the morning of October 5, the volunteers showed up to get their hands dirty and beautify the landscape around the school.

“People came with gardening tools and even plants from their own gardens, “ said Duncan. “They were ones that could really make a difference in the aesthetics and feel of the school. When it was time to turn to the outdoors, Duncan said that the team first put out a call for donations of materials and manpower. The response, she said, was “amazing.” Lowe’s Home Improvement store in Milford donated $1,000 in shrubs, plants, and mulch, and Weston Nurseries in Hopkinton offered deep discounts for plantings. Collins Landscaping and Lewis Landscaping and Masonry, both who also happen to be owned by Mendon Upton Regional School District families, also made donations of loam, mulch, and labor. On the morning of October 5, the volunteers showed up to get their hands dirty and beautify the landscape around the school.

“We Care Miscoe committee volunteer and 8th grade Science Teacher Laurie Holloway coordinated the landscaping project, even planning out where the plants and trees should be planted on the campus beforehand by using an app.

“It was a lot of fun trying out different plants and trees and seeing how it would look in the space,” said Holloway.

A nature lover herself, Holloway said that she chose the layout of the different plants and trees based on a number of factors including if the plant flowered, how high it grew, and if it would cover an area that was an eyesore.

“A lot of the planning was done at home over the summer and we made a lot of decisions together,” said Holloway.

And although it took all of those volunteers just under two hours to do the plantings, a great deal of time was spent preparing for the project.

We Care Miscoe committee volunteer and 8th grade Science Teacher Laurie Holloway coordinated the landscaping project, even planning out where the plants and trees should be planted on the campus beforehand by using an app.

“It was a lot of fun trying out different plants and trees and seeing how it would look in the space,” said Holloway.

A nature lover herself, Holloway said that she chose the layout of the different plants and trees based on a number of factors including if the plant flowered, how high it would grow, and if it would cover an area that was an eyesore.

“I’m really proud of the final product,” she said. “I think that everything was laid out really well, and that over time it will only get better.”

Both Duncan and Holloway said that although the day of planting is over, the work on beautifying the grounds at Miscoe is just beginning.

“Miscoe has big campus and there are a lot of other areas around the school that could use some love,” said Holloway.

Volunteers install a variety of plants next to the Miscoe Hill School Building as part of the We Care Miscoe campaign.
Brews for Cameron’s Crew

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

A local family is inviting the community to have a beer with them as they host their first “Brews for Cameron's Crew” fundraiser event this Sunday, October 20 from 6 to 9 p.m. at CraftRoots Brewing in Milford.

The fundraiser is to benefit the Marfan Foundation, an organization that the Allen Family of Mendon is intimately involved with. Cameron Allen, an 8th grader at Miscon Hill School, was diagnosed with Marfan Syndrome when he was only five years old.

Marfan Syndrome is a rare degenerative genetic disorder that affects the body’s connective tissue - the “glue” that keeps the body together. It can impact the heart, blood vessels, bones and eyes. People with Marfan Syndrome may have certain physical characteristics such as being unusually tall and have long limbs and flexible joints, but they can also have underlying issues with their heart or eyes, issues where health professionals say it is extremely important to receive an early diagnosis in order to receive proper treatment.

With only 200,000 people worldwide with Marfan’s, and very few doctors that specialize in the necessary treatment, the Marfan Foundation works to support individuals with Marfan’s and educate doctors about the signs and symptoms of disorder.

In support of the Marfan Foundation, the Allens have taken part in a fundraising walk during the spring and have raised close to $10,000 for the foundation over the past five years. Last year, Cameron organized his own event at school where he produced a video about Marfan’s and its effects, and put collection jars in classrooms for a “Coins for Cameron” fundraiser. With the help of his schoolmates, Cameron was able to collect $3,000 in coins for the Marfan Foundation.

Hoping to step up their fundraising efforts, the Allens set out to bring the community together and raise a glass in honor of Marfan’s awareness.

“We wanted to do something fun for people who want to get together and have a great time and not just donate money to a charity,” said Cameron’s mother Sue Allen about deciding to host the Brews for Cameron’s Crew this fall.

The event will include live music, Octoberfest themed food, and of course, beer. The $30 ticket will cover the food, entertainment, and one CraftRoots beer. The evening will also include raffles for high-ticket items including a soccer ball signed by the New England Revolution players, an autograph by Kyle Van Noy of the New England Patriots, and a gift basket of kitchen tools donated by The Pioneer Woman.

Cameron, who was just appointed the national Teen Ambassador for the Marfan Foundation for 2020, said that getting the word out about Marfan’s is important, because so few people know about it.

“We are not all the same,” he said about people effected with Marfan’s. “There are tons of different symptoms and it is hard for doctors to diagnose.”

Cameron will be at the event with his buddies, acting as servers and selling raffle tickets, so that the adults can sit back, relax, and “have a brew with Cameron’s Crew.”

For more information, or to purchase tickets before the event, visit EventBrite.com and look for Brews for Cameron’s Crew.

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Help Wanted

Mendon Lions Youth Speech Competition

On Wednesday, November 13, local students in grades 9-12 had an opportunity to compete with their best five to eight-minute speech on: “What is heroism?” The contest begins with dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Mendon Senior Center, Providence St. To compete:

• Visit LionsOut35a.org. Click on Youth Speech Committee

• Read the rules. Print them out if desired.

• Write a speech!

• Submit through the school guidance office. (BVT, Nipmuc, Bethany, WCS)

• Home schooled or out of local district student apply directly by texting to 508-615-2737. Someone will call back.

• Bring a coach and a guest to the completion if desired. Contestants will be judged in a number of areas including the quality delivery of their message.

OCTOBER 18, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier

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17
Discounted Donations
Southboro: The Southboro Regional Medical Center Auxiliary will be conducting a Discounted Donations Sale on Friday, October 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Atrium Cafe on the first floor of the hospital.

This sale will include costume jewelry, Pier1 and Avon products, summer items and some surprises. All items will be sold at a discounted price.

Michael Tougas
MILFORD-Michael Tougas, bestselling author, will be featured by the Milford Historical Commission for the Annual Open House on Sunday, October 20, at 2 p.m. The King Philip Indian War, which he co-wrote will be discussed.

Tougas gives a gripping slide presentation that puts the assurance that the land is protected as historical as the King Philip War was fought in Mendon as well as Doverfield. The talk, and a book signing, will be available to purchase after the event. The presentation will be held at the Milford Historical Museum in Memorial Hall, School St., Milford.

Annual Owl Prowl
UXBRIDGE–Join the Annual Owl Prowl at West Hill Dam Park on Saturday, October 19 from 7 to 9 p.m. Park Ranger Viola Bremel will meet participants at West Hill Dam, 518 E. Hartford Ave., Uxbridge, at the picnic shelter at the top of the hill. Bring a flashlight, chair or blanket; dress for the weather; and be ready to walk about a quarter mile. Children 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult, not recommended for children eight and under. Canceled for heavy rain.

Capturing the Night Sky
WHITINSVILLE: The exhibit, Our Cosmic Canvas, will open with a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 1, at the Sprinkling Rd. Aldrich History Gallery, Whittier Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, MA.

This exhibit, presented by the Astronoming Group from the Aldrich Astronomical Society, will feature photos of astronomical objects in the night sky. The Group will also share how they capture these images with modest, obtainable equipment in a free presentation next door at the Singh Performance Center immediately following the reception at 7:30 p.m.

The Astronoming Group will be on hand for questions at the reception and at the end of the program. They will also have a telescope set-up in the Dennis E. Rice Community Plaza opposite the gallery (weather permitting) during the reception for people to look through.

Exhibit ends on Sunday, January 5, 2020. Gallery hours are Thursday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and evenings by special appointment. The presentation in the Singh Performance Center will be presented on the night of the reception only. For more information, visit OpenSkyCh.org/news/events-facebook ValleyCAST.

Southwick’s Zoo 2nd Annual Harvest Fest
MENDON: The 2nd Annual Southwick’s Zoo Harvest Fest is Sunday, October 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event takes place during Zoo’s annual Halloween event, so up to two children ages 3-12 dressed in costume will receive free admission to the zoo when accompanied by a paid adult. This event, which is included with zoo admission, features live music, a Craft Vendor Market spread throughout the park, food trucks, free wagon rides, mascots, live pumpkin carving, performances throughout the park and a Caff Ré Beer Garden. Gay Perkoski, Timmy Brown, and Country Wild Band are the musical performers taking the main stage at Harvest Fest.

Listening Hearing Presentation
NORTHBOROUGH: On Saturday, November 2, the Hearing Loss Association-Central Massachusetts Chapter is sponsoring a presentation for hard of hearing people interested in issues affecting them and their loved ones. Uh Oh, I Think I Need a New Hearing Aid will be presented by Beth Wilson at the Northborough Library located at 34 Main St. in Northborough.

Beth Wilson just completed a transition to a new hearing aid and tried to capture all the steps and decisions she went through along the way. Dr. Wilson has a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Speech Processing so she actually understands how things work.

Please come and bring your questions and thoughts. CART (Given the current Time Captions will be provided) is in this truly local historical as the King Philip War was fought in Mendon as well as Doverfield. The talk, and a book signing, will be available to purchase after the event. The presentation will be held at the Milford Historical Museum in Memorial Hall, School St., Milford.

Wildcat Pond Site Complete
MILFORD: The Milford Historical Commission has two intriguing events coming soon. The Milford Historical Commission will present the (PAL), Public Archaeology Lab Inc. on Saturday, October 19 from 2 to 3 p.m. in Memorial Hall, School St., Milford. The Wildcat Pond Site Complete: 250 Years in the Life of the Family and the Pond in Milford will be featured. Listen to archaeologist Kristen Heitner present an illustrated talk on a multi-year archaeological investigation which uncovered information about the site, its history, and its use over different periods of time.

As a thank-you, those who come to the reception only.

New items offered for sale include gift sets of Arom products with a twist, Yankee candle, Pier 1, and Bath and Beauty gift sets for all ages. These practical, useful quality gift sets are a great value. They will be sold from $3 to $12 and are packaged for gift giving. It is not too early to start holiday shopping! The public is invited to attend both adults and children, textbooks for home schooling, possibly a favorite out-of-print title you’ve been searching for or a copy of the classic storybook that was lost in a move; all while helping the Friends fund programs, museum passes and materials for the Library.

To donate items please bring them to the Friends of the Library office, 300 Main Street, Suite 306, Milford.

The exhibit, Our Cosmic Canvas, will open with a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, November 1, at the Sprinkling Rd. Aldrich History Gallery, Whittier Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, MA.

This exhibit, presented by the Astronoming Group from the Aldrich Astronomical Society, will feature photos of astronomical objects in the night sky. The Group will also share how they capture these images with modest, obtainable equipment in a free presentation next door at the Singh Performance Center immediately following the reception at 7:30 p.m.

The Astronoming Group will be on hand for questions at the reception and at the end of the program. They will also have a telescope set-up in the Dennis E. Rice Community Plaza opposite the gallery (weather permitting) during the reception for people to look through.

Exhibit ends on Sunday, January 5, 2020. Gallery hours are Thursday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and evenings by special appointment. The presentation in the Singh Performance Center will be presented on the night of the reception only. For more information, visit OpenSkyCh.org/news/events-facebook ValleyCAST.

I Love My Cogs
MILFORD-The Milford Regional Medical Center Auxiliary will sponsor I Love My Cogs 2019 on Saturday, November 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Atrium Cafe on the first floor of the Medical Center, 14 Prospect St., Milford.

Comfort dogs from Danvas, OOFOS, L’Artiste, Santos, Klogs, and Alegria, in a wide variety of colors and styles will be offered. Cash, Mastercard, Discover and American Express are accepted.

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October, the American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give blood or platelets to provide hope and healing to patients fighting cancer. Breast cancer is the second most common cancer in women with more than 268,000 women expected to be diagnosed with it this year. Cancer patients undergoing surgery and chemotherapy may require red blood cell or platelet transfusions. In fact, more than half of all platelets and red blood cell units collected by the Red Cross are used by patients with cancer.

Donate Blood to Help Those Fighting Cancer
No. Fax: 857-476-0700 or stop by the offices, 258 Main Street, Suite 306, Milford.

Uxbridge Open House
CWL Open House, Wednesday, October 23, at 5 p.m., Canvas’ Cup, 189 South Main St., Milford.

Business After Hours, Thursday, October 24, at 5 p.m., Urban Air, 189 Mechanic St., Milford.

Business After Hours, Tuesday, November 12, at 5 p.m., Marshall’s Jewellers, 191 Mechanic St. Bellingham.

Annual 30th Annual Viva Las Vegas, Saturday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m., the Milford Portuguese Club, 119 Prospect Heights, Milford.

Jewl’s Sympathy Fundraiser
MILFORD: The MEAF, Auxiliary is sponsoring Jewl’s Jewelry on Friday, November 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Atrium Cafe on the first floor of the Medical Center, 14 Prospect St., Milford.

New items offered for sale include gift sets of Arom products with a twist, Yankee candle, Pier 1, and Bath and Beauty gift sets for all ages. These practical, useful quality gift sets are a great value. They will be sold from $3 to $12 and are packaged for gift giving. It is not too early to start holiday shopping! The public is invited to attend both adults and children, textbooks for home schooling, possibly a favorite out-of-print title you’ve been searching for or a copy of the classic storybook that was lost in a move; all while helping the Friends fund programs, museum passes and materials for the Library.

To donate items please bring them to the Friends of the Library office, 300 Main Street, Suite 306, Milford.

Textbooks more than five years old and Readers Digest condensed books are not accepted.

Wishful Butterflies
MILFORD-The Milford Regional Medical Center Auxiliary will hold the popular Butterfly Wish Gala on Friday, November 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Atrium Cafe on the first floor of the Medical Center, 14 Prospect St., Milford.

New items offered for sale include gift sets of Arom products with a twist, Yankee candle, Pier 1, and Bath and Beauty gift sets for all ages. These practical, useful quality gift sets are a great value. They will be sold from $3 to $12 and are packaged for gift giving. It is not too early to start holiday shopping! The public is invited to attend both adults and children, textbooks for home schooling, possibly a favorite out-of-print title you’ve been searching for or a copy of the classic storybook that was lost in a move; all while helping the Friends fund programs, museum passes and materials for the Library.

To donate items please bring them to the Friends of the Library office, 300 Main Street, Suite 306, Milford.

Textbooks more than five years old and Readers Digest condensed books are not accepted.
Recital and Coffee House
MILFORD - A Recital and Coffee House featuring performances by students and instructors from Music and Arts of Milford will be held at the First Congregational Church, Milford, 4 Congregational St., on Saturday, October 26. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free to friends and family. Fair Trade and tea as well as desserts will be offered at a nominal fee.

Homespun Holiday Fair
WHITINSVILLE-The Katheryn M Huston Mission Circle of the Whitinsville Presbyterian Church, 51 Cottage St., will hold its annual fair on Saturday, November 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will feature unique crafts, a bake sale with the famous Cookie Walk, silent auction, themed baskets, attic treasures, a kid’s corner and luncheon served from 11 a.m. The luncheon, which is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., will feature country chicken, vegetables, apple crisp and beverages. The cost is $1 for adults and $3 for children 10 and under. Everyone is invited to attend.

2019 Milford Pumpkin Stroll
MILFORD-The 2019 Milford Pumpkin Stroll, featuring a pumpkin-carving contest and trick-or-treating, is Saturday, October 26, at the DHG Toyota of Milford, 300 Fortune Blvd. Pumpkin carvers are asked to drop off entries between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to those who are present at 6 p.m. for the scariest, funnest and most creative pumpkins. Children are invited to trick-or-treat from 6 to 7:30 p.m. All pumpkin entries will be illuminated and on display during this time.

All events are free, but donations of non-perishable food items for the Daily Bread Food Pantry are welcome. The Pumpkin Stroll is sponsored by Mike Shaw of Bay Equity Home Loans, DCH Toyota of Milford, Medway Oil and Propane, Goldfish Swim School, My Fit 101.3 and Affordable Junk Removal. For more information, call 508-330-8487 or email mshain@bayeq.com.

Twice Blessed Thrift Shop
HOPEDALE-The Sacred Heart Church of Hopedale Twice Blessed Thrift Shop offers the following specials in October; half off all women’s and children’s clothing plus Halloween items. During the first week of the month, a bag of clothing is $7. Open every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the first and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Rummage Sale
MILFORD-The Women’s Club of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Milford will hold a Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church. The Women’s Club is sponsoring a Rummage Sale to help fund their charitable efforts. Items up for sale include gently used clothing, furniture, craft items, books, toys and games. The sale will be held on the church grounds and adjacent property. There is free parking and handicap accessible. The sale will be held rain or shine. For more information, call 508-454-2245.

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce
AREA-The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce will host the following events. For more information or to register visit BlackstoneValley.org, email administrator@blackstonevalley.org, call 508-234-9090 or stop by the chamber offices, 670 Linwood Ave. Bldg A, Suite 5, Whitinsville.

Connecting Your Business to the Commonwealth free workshop, Tuesday, October 22 from 9 to 11 a.m., Chamber offices.
Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) Pre-Certification free workshop, Tuesday, October 29 from 9 to 11 a.m., Chamber offices.

New York City Trip
MILFORD - The Sacred Heart of Jesus Milford is sponsoring a trip to New York City on Saturday, November 16. Cost is $69 per person. A bus will be leaving the parking lot across the street from the church at 6:30 a.m. for a fun day on-your-own in New York City. Please contact the rectory, 508-634-3435, for more information. Seats are limited and payment is due at time of reservation.

Friends of Mendon Elders Oktoberfest
MENDON - Friends of Mendon Elders Annual Oktoberfest will be Friday, October 25, from 3 to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, October 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This traditional event, which is open to the public, features a traditional white elephant table, beautiful hand knit items and crafts, jewelry, and holiday decorations. Proceeds will help to support the Senior Center programs and services.

Marine Toys for Tots 2019
AREA-The 2019 Marine Toys for Tots program is now going on through December. U.S. Marines and volunteers will be conducting 812 local toy collection and distribution campaigns in all 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and U.S. territories. There are an estimated 15 million children living in poverty in the U.S. The mission of Marine Toys for Tots is to bring the joy of Christmas to less fortunate children with the goal to deliver a message of hope that will inspire youngsters to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens. The objectives include having a positive impact on the development of children, creating or restoring self-esteem, and bringing all elements of communities together in a common cause for three months each year.

Non-profit agencies and organizations along with drop-off sites for taking donations from the public are now being sought. To register with Worcester-MA, toyfortots.org.

Knights of Columbus Foxwoods Trip
MILFORD-The Knights of Columbus Valencia Council 80 is sponsoring a Foxwoods trip on Friday, October 25. The bus will leave the municipal parking lot across from Sacred Heart Church, Milford, at 4 p.m. and leave Foxwoods at 11 p.m. The cost is $20 per person and includes transportation, a $10 food voucher or free buffet and $10 in slot. Anyone interested in attending must reserve a spot by Friday, October 18, by calling Janine Barke at 508-478-9815. The trip is open to anyone age 21 and above. Proceeds will benefit the Milford Daily Bread Food Pantry.

Lyn Dillies and Your Voting is Magic
GRANTING-Marketing the Centennial of the 19th Amendment allowing women voting rights, the Millbury Women’s Club will be hosting Lyn Dillies and her public service campaign, Your Vote is Magic. It will be held on Sunday, November 3 at Apple Tree Arts, Grafton at 2:30 p.m. This annual fundraiser has a simple vision - to enlighten and educate people about the power of their vote and participating citizenship. Dillies, an illusionist and lecturer, offers an empowering, educational and entertaining show that provides a powerful, visual statement that says “Your Vote is Magic.”

Tickets for the local show are $35 each and include light refreshments and raffle prizes. Purchase by calling Nancie Prior at 508-865-4818. Please leave a message with phone number if there is no answer.

St. Camillus Craft Fair
WHITINSVILLE - Camillus Health Centers, 447 Hill St, Whitinsville, will be holding its 2nd annual Craft Fair in the Mansion and Chapel located adjacent to the skilled nursing building on Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.-Vendors who are interested in selling their goods on October 31. Proceeds will go to the purchase of a new 14-passenger handicap accessible van for the residents. For more information or to register call Shelley at 508-234-7306.

Christin’s Gallery
www.christinsgallery.com
www.facebook.com/christinsgallery

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Paint your heart out!
FUN ART CLASSES
BY PROFESSIONAL ARTIST
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You can book private parties in my beautiful Studio in Mendon too!!
Did you know that?
Celebrate your birthday, your kids birthday, an anniversary, a bachelorette party, your holiday celebration, or just come for fun with friends!
Call me on 508 381 0017 or email: christinsgallery@gmail.com

Annual Turkey Supper
Upton-United Parish of Upton will hold its Annual Turkey Supper on Saturday, November 2 at 5:30 p.m. at One Church St. The menu will include turkey, all the fixings plus the famous and endless offering of a variety of pies for dessert. Tickets, which can be purchased at the church after Sunday services or by calling 508-529-3192, are $12 for adults and $8 for those age 11 and under.

Evening of Creativity
HOPEDALE-Enjoy an evening of creativity with artist Greg Maichack on Tuesday, October 22, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hopedale Community House. The workshop, which is $10 per person and includes all materials, will create a “Money World Filler.” The experience or artistic talent is needed. Register by calling the Community House 508-478-3055 or email: communityhouse@hopedalecommunityhouse.org. Sponsored by the Hopedale Cultural Council.

United Parish Holiday Bazaar
UPTON-United Parish of Upton is planning their festive annual Holiday Bazaar for Saturday, December 7. Bigger and Better than ever with more vendors and more space to visit Santa. Vendor applications are available now at www.UnitedParishUptontn.org.

Living with the Ribbon
MENDON-Living with the Ribbon is a Mendon based non-profit which aims to offer scholarships to students pursuing higher education in healthcare; provide research grants to assist cancer research; support families facing cancer challenges; and support donations to hospitals and cancer centers.
The group is holding a golf tournament on September 28 at 204 Grafton Street, the Country Club. There is a $120 registration fee, and $275 for dinners. This includes a deli lunch and BBQ dinner. The cost is $200 each with registration at https://events.204golf.com/ribbon/ribbon. For more information or questions email livingwiththeribbon2015@gmail.com and follow on Facebook: Living with the Ribbon Instagram living_with_the_ribbon_2015.

Alzheimer’s/Dementia Friendly Worship Service
MILFORD-First Congregational Church in Milford invites those with Alzheimer’s/ Dementia and their caregivers to a special Worship Service on Saturday, October 19 at 10 a.m. The 20 minutes Service will include familiar hymns, scripture passages and beloved prayers. Following worship, all are invited for tea, coffee, light refreshments and fellowship. The church located at 4 Congress St., next to the Milford Post Office and is handicap accessible. Parking is available in the church lot beside the post office and on the street. Please call 508-473-5259 with any questions and to RSVP.
DISTRICT: The Mendon Upton Education Foundation (MUEF) will be hosting its 4th annual Spooky Run on October 27. The 5k race will start and end at Nipmuc Regional High School beginning at 9:30 a.m. with the Jr. Goblin Run (for children 10 and under). The 5k will begin at 10 a.m. Walkers also welcome. For more information and to register for the race visit MUEF.org.

CLOUGH: Clough students have been busy picking vegetables from their school garden with Caféteria Manager Janet Dixon, and Clough’s School Counselor Tara Bellefontaine. They have picked over 100 lbs of vegetables that went right into the cafeteria to be used in the salad bar or in recipes.

During the week of October 8, Firemen from the Mendon Fire Department along with fire dog Oliver visited Clough students to discuss Fire Prevention Week. Clough Principal Jared Gallagher thanks Chief William Kessler and Fire Fighters Wayne Taft and Charlie Phppns for an incredible presentation.

Clough Pre-K students spent the month learning all about apples. They sampled red, green and yellow apples and made a graph of their favorites. They also made apple sauce and apple pies.

The PM Pre-K class had their first Spanish lesson of the school year presented by the Spanish Immersion High School students. In the upcoming months they will be expanding this program to include Italian and French.

Kindergarten students made Columbus Day “STEM” boats using mostly recycled materials. Students worked together to plan their construction and construct their boat. Students tested the boats in water to see if they would float. The Kindergartners are also having a Pumpkin Fun and Pudding Day on October 25. Parent volunteers will be coming in to help with pumpkin math and science.

MEMORIAL: School Banking started on October 1. Students listened thoughtfully to a presentation by Megan Murphy, founder of the Kindness Rocks Project. She spoke about kindness in and out of the classroom, and how to spread kindness in meaningful ways. “The students created kindness rocks as a community project last year, so the assembly was wonderful re-enforcement of our RISE initiative and our KRC (Kindness, Respect, Caring) program,” said Memorial Principal Debra Swain.

Students are looking forward to the Costume Parade on October 31 at 9:30 a.m. Students who choose to participate are encouraged to arrive at school that morning. Please ensure costumes are appropriate for school and safe to walk in. Details were sent home electronically. Please contact the main office if you have questions.

Once again this year, Memorial staff and students will be supporting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation on November 1, with a short assembly and then walk. More details will be sent home soon.

NIPMUC: Nipmuc’s PTO is now selling Yankee Candles. Orders can be placed online to be shipped directly, by visiting YankeeCandleFundraising.com and use group number #99284551. Box tops are being collected as a year-round fundraiser.

Lost and Found is filling up quickly. Please feel free to look for sweatshirts, lunch boxes, or water bottles. Because of the volume, the items will be donated soon if not claimed. School visitors must show their license to be signed in.

The We Care Miscoe Shoe drive continues mid-November. Gently worn shoes are being collected to fund functional and aesthetic improvements at Miscoe.

Nature’s Classroom will take place on December 9-13. Classes will attend on specific dates.

Student Council is trying a new program called Homeroom Helpers. A member of StuCo will join each homeroom two to three days per week for the duration of the school year to greet students in the hallway and/or classroom, help students at their lockers, sit with a student/students during homeroom to establish connections, help a student organize materials for their first few classes and assist the teacher with small tasks.

The Miscoe Hill Youth Theater group will host their first performance of the year Cinderella on November 1 and 2. Be on the lookout for ticket information over the next few weeks.

NIPMUC: Nipmuc officially launched the Inspired Learning Library (ILL). Thanks to a generous grant from the Upton Cultural Council supported by the Mass Cultural Council, Nipmuc has added a collection of forward-thinking books to help bring the conversation about remaking school from the strategic planning committee to the greater communities of Mendon and Upton. The purpose of the library is to create opportunities for the exploration of and conversations about how to create schools that inspire with a collection of thoughtfully crafted stories from parents, teachers and students. The books, encounter ideas about remaking education and reinventing education for the modern world. The library is situated on a “pay it forward” mindset. Read one of the ILL books, encounter ideas about remaking education, and then pay it forward by passing the book to another community member.

Visit InspiredLearningProject.com to learn more or to request a book.

Nipmuc Fall Drama will be presenting the classic play, Our Town, Friday, October 25 at 7 p.m., on Saturday, October 26 at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, October 27 at 2 p.m. in the Nipmuc Auditorium. Tickets are $7 for seniors and students and $10 for adults. For more information or to purchase tickets visit NipmucDramaGuild.weebly.com.

The American Revolution came to life with a boom, as cannon and musket smoke hung over the field at the Battle for Daniels Farm Reenactment, co-hosted by Blackstone Valley Tech through a competitive grant provided by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC), on October 5 and 6.

While spectators watched intently from the sidelines, British and Colonial troops in revolutionary-era uniforms, advanced on each other from opposite sides of the field. Amid musk-musk and cannon fire, shouting commands and waving their flags, reenactors battled for ownership of the historic cider mill located on the property.

This living history event was 18 months in the making with a close collaboration between BVT, Daniels Farmstead and reenactors from the 85ème Régiment de Saintonge. Edward Evans, Academic Curriculum Coordinator along with teachers and instructors at BVT built a curriculum around the reenactment, using the event as an opportunity to integrate the American Revolution into seemingly unrelated subjects.

BVT hosted teacher in-service workshops, where reenactors worked directly with teachers as they developed their curriculum. The curriculum ranged from Revolution-themed Math problems and blackout poetry in English to gesture drawings in Art classes and battlefield first-aid techniques in Health Services.

A platoon of 13 BVT students volunteered to join Evans, otherwise known as “Corporal Evans” as reenactors in the weekend event. Participating as the 1st BVT, under the direct command of Dana Rock and Jess Reardon of the 85ème Régiment de Saintonge, those students set up camp, participated in drills, and learned how much work went into every aspect of daily camp life before marching out for battle.

“It was so much easier getting on the uniform in a warm gym. Securing all of those buttons on a cold field was a battle,” said Lauren Flynn of Upton, a junior in Multimedia Communications. “A lot of work went into getting dressed. I really appreciate a zipper!”

Tyler Moran of Bellingham, a freshman in exploratory said, “I really enjoy acting and I saw the reenactment as great opportunity to take on a new role, learn more about history and make some new friends at BVT!”

BVT’s Art School Prep students took a field trip to Daniels Farm the Friday prior to the weekend event, for a mini reenactment and took in the sights and sounds of the era. Chloe Fallon of Upton, a senior art student in Drafting & Design Technology said, “It was a very insightful and fun way to learn more about observational drawing. I found myself talking to the subjects of my sketches, which was something I hadn’t experienced before. Overall, I think it was a very beneficial stepping stone in improving my drawing abilities.”

Ethan Rheaume of Millbury, a freshman in exploratory, said, “The reenactment was pretty cool. I liked speaking with the reenactors who demonstrated how the cannon works and how to load it. Having an opportunity to handle the swords and bayonets was neat as I find the history of things like that really interesting.”

To find out more, visit ValleyTech.k12.ma.us/alivinghistoryevent.

Students of the 1st BVT in the white uniforms participate in the cannon demonstration during the reenactment. BVT photo.
Valley Tech LPN Program Number 3 in Massachusetts

Blackstone Valley Tech’s (Post-Secondary) Practical Nursing program recently ranked third in the state of Massachusetts by PracticalNursing.org, an organization that promotes the growth of nursing professionals through education. PracticalNursing.org assessed 18 nursing school programs in Massachusetts in its sixth annual Nursing Education. That promotes the growth of nursing professionals through education. PracticalNursing.org assessed 18 nursing school programs in Massachusetts in its sixth annual Nursing Education. The program utilizes a non-traditional schedule: classes meet for six hours per night on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and one weekend per month. The program is completed in three 20-week terms for a total of 60 weeks in the program.

The graduates of the program have maintained stellar success on the NCLEX-PN exam for Practical Nurses, and they have gone on to having rewarding careers in the healthcare industry. A recent graduate said, “I strongly recommend this program for the amazing job they do in preparing you for the real world of nursing.”

“This year marks our programs tenth anniversary. We are proud of our graduates and the continued success of our program in maintaining high standards in practical nursing education and meeting the needs of the health care industry and our community,” said Practical Nursing Coordinator Joann Monks, MBA, MSN, RN-BC, RMA. “This is a tribute to the dedication and hard work from the faculty, staff, and our students.”

The Blackstone Valley Tech Practical Nursing program proudly serves in District, out of District, and out of state learners. For more information, ValleyTech.k12.ma.us/practicalnursing.

Dining Guide

OCTOBER 18, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier
BVT Boys XC Seeks 4th Straight Voke Win

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

A season ago, Nate Gould and Rich Broni combined to account for 87 percent of Nipmuc’s scoring on the gridiron. This year, both are lost for the year after Broni suffered a knee injury following his first carry in a loss two weeks ago against Tyngsboro.

“The most important thing is that he is going to be fine, ” said first year head coach Dave Tupper. “From the coaching staff point of view, the kids have not quit, we could not ask anything more and we have been thrilled with the effort!”

The Warriors enter this Saturday’s 1 p.m. home game against Grafton with a 1-4 record. But Nipmuc still has a chance to qualify for the postseason with wins over Grafton, Assabet and Blackstone-Millville/Hopedale to close the season.

A run to the tournament would likely lean heavily on quarterback Judah Dishington. The signal caller ran a touchdown in against Tyngsboro and last week, in a 21-20 loss to St. Bernard’s, Dishington tossed three touchdown passes. He connected with Joe Cormier on 35 and 55 yard passes in the first quarter and added a 20-yard strike to Lucas Beder in the third quarter.

Joe Schiloski has also been a force for Nipmuc on offense and defense. In addition to anchoring the defense at middle linebacker, he has been shifted over to tackle due to the injuries to Gould and Broni.

“He has been phenomenal on both sides of the ball, ” Tupper said. “We knew he was a great linebacker, but now he is also a tackle and he is doing everything he has to there.”

Logan Gorman, another captain, has stood out on both the offensive and defensive lines. Tupper said only 38 of his 54 players were healthy enough to practice last week, and the road does not get any easier with Grafton on deck. The Indians are having a down year by their standards at 1-4, but are always a dangerous program, he said.

“They have a couple of studs, ” Tupper said. “We have to play their best to compete with them.”

Tupper said he and the coaching staff spoke with the team about their playoff hopes. “If we can put together a little bit of a run, we think we could get into the playoffs, ” he said. “We are not getting anyone back, but this would be a great testament to the kids.”

The coach said his team has not quit despite the missing key cogs. “They show up every day and keep playing, ” Tupper said. “We could not be happier with the effort, it’s just one of those things, one of those years.”

Nipmuc Football Looks to Overcome Injuries

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Nipmuc golf team has already locked up a spot in the district tournament, using depth to grind out wins during the dual meet season. The Warriors are hoping that depth can carry them through to a strong showing in the districts and a spot in the state tournament.

“We would love to make states,” head coach Ryan Cody said. “We are going to play the course where the district tournament is going to be held once, maybe twice ahead of times to have some course knowledge going in.”

The district tournament is slated for Tuesday, October 22 at Maplegate Golf Club in Bellingham. The course, while not overly long, is tight and involves a lot of target golf. How many teams from Division 2 Central Mass. will go from districts to states remains to be seen. If the field is deeper than 10 teams, the top three will advance. Unbeaten Grafton figures to be the team to beat, Cody said, but a second or third spot for Nipmuc is “realistic.”

Nipmuc has been led by a strong group of five players, including Chris Lavoy, Connor LaCross, Matt LaCross, Mark McManus and Bed Rodman. That group has been able to score points, particularly in the middle matches. Cody says he does not have one superstard, but has several players who are able to beat out the third, fourth and fifth best players in an opponent’s lineup.

“The way it works with match play, having some depth in the middle groups has helped us win a couple of matches,” he said. “We have some kids come through in those groups and grab some points where we need it.”

The sixth spot has been like a game of musical chairs, Cody added, but he has been able to mix in some different players and ride the “hot hand” when he can.

Nipmuc tied with Sutton for the top spot in the Dual Valley Conference with a 4-1 league record. The two teams were set to square off on Thursday with Douglas and Hopedale in the league tournament. Ahead of the Thursday competition, Cody said it would be nice to be able to finish in front of Sutton and take home the league crown there as well.

The tough field will cap a challenging final couple of weeks for the Warriors.

“We saved our hardest opponents for the end of the season, it was the way the schedule worked out, ” Cody said. “We are being tested to see how good we really are. It’s a good little primer for the tournaments.”

The Upton & Mendon Town Crier

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Phone: 508-529-7791  Fax: 508-529-NEWS (6397)

The Upton & Mendon Town Crier

The Milford Town Crier

Publications, Inc.

runners are all slated to return in 2020. Forgit isn’t looking past this year’s state vocational
tournament, but she did take note of the fact that a win this year and next would mean five
in a row.

“That would be fun,” she said.

Nipmuc Golf Hopes Depth Is Enough for State Berth

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The Upton & Mendon Town Crier

16 Years Experience

November 18, 2019

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Homefield Credit Union in UMass Cancer Walk & Run

A number of Homefield Credit Union employees participated in the 21st Annual UMass Cancer Walk & Run in September. The Homefield Allstars team joined thousands of others who either walked or ran along the 5-mile route in Worcester.

Jim Archibald, following a 46-12 win over Monty and quarterback Josh Mateo, can’t throw the ball that much, “said head coach. He has gotten a lot better a lot. But the post-dual meet season awaits. Forgit said the girls have a chance to win the state vocational cross country programs in the area. While the boys ran six dual meets heading into this week, the girls only had three on their ledger.

Forgit is hoping the depth can help Valley Tech make up for the absence of Lauren Flynn, who was expected to be a top runner but has been battling an injury throughout the fall. BVT is also running into the same problem it experienced over the past couple of years; there is a relative dearth of depth in cross country programs in the area. While the boys and girls runners have come right in and trained with the rest of the team and it’s been really good.”

The depth has lifted a lineup that already includes juniors Madison Gannon and Eva Larocque. “Madison has become our top runner who returned to the lineup, added another 101 yards against Monty and quarterback Josh Mateo, “said head coach Jim Archibald. “If you are behind the chains, you are at a disadvantage,” Archibald said. “We were in some third down and long situations last week and could not convert and had to play the field position game.”

But Valley Tech has been able to convert the majority of the time, running for a total of 470 yards over the past two victories over Monty Tech and Worcester Tech. J.D. Antaya ran for 122 yards against Monty and quarterback Josh Mateo, who returned to the lineup, added another 101 yards on the ground. Ethan Lynch bolstered the rushing attack as well before having to leave the game with a shoulder injury. Archibald said Lynch was pulled from the lineup, added another 101 yards on the ground.

Y outh Driving BVT Girls XC

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columunist

The Blackstone Valley Tech girls’ cross-country teams have better numbers than most of the other programs in the area, in part due to the success of younger runners who are bringing both numbers and talent to the Beavers.

A trio of freshmen, Amanda Pajak, Mia Boucher and Abby Kelley, have been among BVT’s top five runners this year, head coach Caitlin Forgit said. “They have some really good experience with their eighth grade teams, which helped a lot.”

Forgit said “Some of our freshmen came from places like Northbridge and Millbury and they have come right in and trained with the rest of the team and it’s been really good!”

The depth has lifted a lineup that already includes juniors Madison Gannon and Eva Larocque. “Madison has become our top runner and she is doing really well,” Forgit said. “She ran the fastest she has ever run on our home course and we are hoping she can run well at districts and qualify for the all-state meet!”

On Larocque, Forgit added, “she is an experienced runner who has been with us now for a couple of years and she’s been a very strong runner all season.”

The Homefield Allstars helped raise funds for cancer research in the 21st Annual UMass Cancer Walk & Run.

For further information, visit UMassMed.edu/cancerwalk.

4th Annual Spooky 5K Run

Prepare to be spooked on Sunday, October 27 when runners hit the streets for the 4th Annual Spooky 5K Run, presented by MUEF (the Mendon-Upton Education Foundation). Registration for the race, which starts at 10 a.m. at Nipmuc Regional High School, Pleasant St., Upton, is now open at MUEF.org. Early registration is $25 or $20 for students 18 and under; race day registration is $30. The junior Goblin race for children 10 and under will kick off at 9:30 a.m. and registration is $10 per child. All runners for both races who register by October 9 will receive a free race t-shirt. Prizes will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers in each age division, as well as for the best individual and group costumes. All proceeds from both races will benefit MUEF and its mission of expanding educational opportunities for teachers and children through the funding of innovative initiatives, community involvement and workplace partnerships. For more information, MUEF.org

BVT Football Thrives with Ground Based Attack

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

With injuries to multiple quarterbacks this fall, the Blackstone Valley Tech football team has had to run the football almost exclusively. But the Beavers have been able to churn out yards on the ground and put together three straight lopsided wins.

“it’s a lot of pressure when everyone knows we can’t throw the ball that much,” said head coach Jim Archibald following a 46-12 win over Monty Tech that featured three turnovers and a safety forced by the BVT defense.

“If you are behind the chains, you are at a disadvantage,” Archibald said. “We were in some third down and long situations last week and could not convert and had to play the field position game.”

But Valley Tech has been able to convert the majority of the time, running for a total of 470 yards over the past two victories against Monty Tech and Worcester Tech. J.D. Antaya ran for 122 yards against Monty and quarterback Josh Mateo, who returned to the lineup, added another 101 yards on the ground.

Ethan Lynch bolstered the rushing attack as well before having to leave the game with a shoulder injury. Archibald said Lynch was pulled from the game as a precaution and he should be able to return this week.

Having success with a run-heavy attack has required strong play from a number of different position groups, including the offensive line, fullbacks, tight ends and wide receivers. Archibald praised the wide-outs for their unselfishness.

“Sam DiCollea, Luke Malkasian, those guys have been extremely unselfish for us and done a great job blocking on the edge,” Archibald said. “We want to reward them by throwing them some balls.”

The offensive line has been led at the tackles by senior Jack Nasuti and sophomore John Furno. “John is a good size kid who has worked extremely hard in the offseason. He has gotten a lot better and he is probably our strongest player. If he gets his hands on you, he can do some damage,” Archibald said.

BVT will visit Abby Kelley this Friday at 7 p.m. Archibald said the team’s opponent this week is having a tough year, but noted “anything can happen,” so he wants his team to start fast. It will also be an opportunity to work on the passing game a bit.

“We are going to see how it looks this week and we may do some things we have not been doing,” he said. “But the main thing is staying healthy.”

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Homefield Credit Union in UMass Cancer Walk & Run.

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

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But the post-dual meet season awaits. Forgit said the girls have a chance to win the state vocational meet if the freshman can provide some strong times. BVT claimed that meet two years ago. The Beavers will also compete in the district meet and the league meet in Marlboro.

On Friday, both the boys and girls venture down the Cape to Falmouth, where they will compete with the Twilight Meet.

“It’s a big invitational meet and I have heard really good things about it, this is the first year we are going to go,” Forgit said. “It’s a fast course and they run under the lights, so they should have a good time.”

For further information, visit UMassMed.edu/cancerwalk.
State Voke Title Highlights
BVT Golf Season

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist
Blackstone Valley Tech golf coach Craig Allen was parked at the 18th hole at Acushnet golf course when, one by one, his players made their way through and told him they were playing well in the state vocational tournament. Allen did not realize how well until he saw co-captain Braden Levasseur. “He told me ‘we’ve got this’,” Allen said. “He said ‘and the other kids were so confident’.”

Levasseur’s faith proved well-founded as BVT captured the state title. He shot 78 to finish fifth in the 70-player field, while teammate Nolan Ballard fired a 77 to finish third. Junior Abby Kelly checked in at 82, good enough for a ninth place finish and Cam Bern’s 83 placed him 10th overall. Cam Raymond, a sophomore, shot 86 his first time out on that golf course when, parked at the 16th tee box. “I am beyond impressed, I am beyond proud,” Allen said, admitting he was a little emotional seeing his team perform well enough to claim the championship. The golfers kept their good natured jobs about their coach’s prouder tears to a minimum, he said. “The kids were cool about it,” Allen said with a laugh. The championship is perhaps the biggest highlight in what has been a stellar campaign for BVT. The Beavers posted a 12-2 dual meet record heading into their season finale this week. At 11-1, they captured the biggest highlight in what has been a stellar campaign for BVT. The Beavers posted a 12-2 dual meet record heading into their season finale this week. At 11-1, they captured the state vocational championship. In addition to the five top finishers at the state vocational meet, Allen did not realize how well until he saw co-captain Braden Levasseur. “He told me ‘we’ve got this’,” Allen said. “He said ‘and the other kids were so confident.’”

Levasseur, another southpaw, in matches. “It’s been fun seeing the transition of this team,” Allen said, given the size of the field. “We told him they were the best part of our day.”

The Unified Nipmuc Basketball Team.

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist
 inherit the coach of the Nipmuc Unified basketball team. “It was a new experience, I didn’t know what to expect,” Kahler said. “Even going into the first game, it was nerve wracking. But now I really look forward to it when we have practice, it’s the best part of my day.”

Kahler, who coaches the team along with Casey Rhodes, said being part of the program has been extremely rewarding. The idea of bringing unified sports to Nipmuc was debuted last winter, when then-senior Gabe Puchovksy and Lacy Hawkins organized a scrimmage during halftime of a boys varsity basketball game. Unified sports bring together students in special education programs with their peers in general education, all competing in Nipmuc colors. After the soft launch, Kahler said Nipmuc Athletic Director Chris Schmidt reached out to her and she contacted Rhodes about building the program. “We wanted to get it going because it’s such a great opportunity,” Kahler said. “It’s just a lot of fun.” This year’s team has three athletes from the social education program and 11 partners from Nipmuc’s general education program. Kahler is Flynn, one of the athletes, is an uplifting influence on the coaches and her teammates. “She is happy every day,” Kahler said. “We walk into the gym and she cheers everybody up, it’s the best part of our day.”

Sam Pismenny is similarly upbeat and a positive influence on the rest of the team. Whether he is playing offense, defense, shooting, he always has the biggest smile on his face,” Kahler said. “It’s just a positive, happy, really encouraging environment.”

The third athlete on the roster, Josie Abongwa, is a tough competitor, Kahler said. “She really gets into it, she is telling her teammates where they should be on defense and where they should be on offense.”

The coach said. “She is very enthusiastic.” Kahler taught many of the partners when they were in middle school. “Seeing them grow up and the way they care themselves and encourage and support all of their teammates, it’s been so tremendous to see,” she said. Nipmuc held a home game on Tuesday and will play at least two more games at Holliston and Hopkinton following the first game of the year, a road contest at Bellingham. The program has been meeting three times per week, either for practice or a game. Kahler wants to see the program continue to grow in the coming seasons. “I know a lot of high graders who are going to Nipmuc and love to play basketball,” she said. “We are hoping they are able to join the team.”

BVT Golf Season

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Upton-Mendon Town Crier