Voters to Determine Future of New Upton Municipal Community Center

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Article 4 on Upton’s Special Town Meeting warrant is seeking $700,000 from free cash to fund the remaining phases of the design and bidding costs for a new Municipal Community Center that would house the Library and the Upton Center under the same roof.

More than a year ago, the Municipal Community Center Feasibility Committee was formed and since then its members have been investigating various options and locations for the new Community Center.

One option was to construct a new building at 8 Grove St. However, after presenting conceptual designs to various boards, including the Selectmen, it was determined the footprint of the lot was not large enough and parking would be an issue.

As a result, the Committee and town officials are now looking at the town-owned parking lot located on Milford St. to build the new single story structure should it receive approval from voters.

“A single story building is more efficient,” explained Committee member and Library Director Matthew Bachtold. “We don’t have to install an elevator and less staff is needed because we don’t need people on two floors.”

The latest site plan design shows a 13,800 square foot building that would provide a shared facility for both Library patrons and the elder and social services community and would also be ADA compliant. Both the Library and Upton Center buildings are 40 years old and are not adequate for the growing needs of the community.

According to Bachtold, the new building would affect the size of the playground on the lot, slightly diminishing its size and parking spaces will also decrease. The VFW’s structure and land would not be affected. However, the new construction would add access to restrooms and other amenities for playground users and those utilizing the fields nearby.

Bachtold said since 1999, the Library Board of Trustees have been trying to bring a new Library to the community. “This vote will determine the future of the Library,” he said.

Should residents support Article 4, then final costs of the new Municipal Community Center will be determined. However, a rough estimate is $8.6 million which would likely need to be funded through an approved debt exclusion.

Bachtold stated there is some debt coming off the town’s books, so there is a possibility taxes may not increase should the Community Center move forward.

The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for November 5 and will begin at 7 p.m. at Nipmuc Regional High School. The final warrant is posted on the town’s Web site at UptonMA.gov

Hay Rides, Farm Animals, Food and Fun

Hundreds of area residents enjoyed free entertainment, a variety of contests and at lot of fun at the 2019 Mendon Lions Country Fair. Delayed by bad weather until October 19, the fair also featured booths by non-profits and vendors, wagon rides and displays of farm animals along with a Kids Faire that included magic shows, pony rides, face painting, petting zoo and pie eating contest for all ages. Proceeds from the daylong fair help the Mendon Lions support community projects and eye research.

Jim Calarese, Town Crier photographer, snapped pictures of the family event.

To view more photos of the 2019 Mendon Country Fair by Jim Calarese visit Town Crier Publications on Facebook.
**THINK GLOBALLY ACT LOCALLY**

By Anne Mazar

The personal care product industry is woefully unregulated, including children’s personal care products. Your good hygiene and beauty do not have to come at the expense of your health, the environment or cruelty to animals. Your good hygiene and beauty do not have to come at the expense of your health, the environment or cruelty to animals. Your good hygiene and beauty do not have to come at the expense of your health, the environment or cruelty to animals. 

Most people want to look their best. Yet, the media plays on people’s insecurities with a barrage of models displaying the “perfect” skin and bodies encouraging us to buy cosmetics. Beyond nail polish and hair dye, everyone uses personal care products (under the law a category of cosmetics), such as soap, shaving cream, toothpaste, shampoo, moisturizers or sunscreen. Unfortunately, these products are woefully unregulated, including children’s personal care products. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) website reads, “Cosmetic products and ingredients are not subject to FDA premarket approval authority, with the exception of color additives… Cosmetic firms are responsible for substantiating the safety of their products and ingredients before marketing.” 

Basically, the industry is self-policing its products and in some cases to the detriment of our health. Most of these products are not ingested, but they can be absorbed into the body through skin and scalp or are sprayed and can be inhaled. According to the non-profit Environmental Working Group, on average, daily, women are exposed to 168 chemical ingredients in personal care products and men, 85. Many of the ingredients do not pose harm, however there are widely used ingredients that are known endocrine disruptors, carcinogens, neurotoxins or have not been tested for safety. Some of the most toxic chemicals are hidden under the seemingly harmless listing of “fragrance” because they are considered trade secrets. Terms such as “natural” do not have a legal definition. Regulations in this industry need major updates, but with billions of dollars made through the sale of these products, industry pressure against changing the laws is fierce. It is buyer beware. The good news is that there are many products that are safe, but the trick is figuring out which ones, since the labeling of these products is confusing. It can be daunting to decipher the long list of unfamiliar chemicals on ingredient listings. To the rescue is the Think Dirty free app. It has over one million products it can evaluate through scanning a product bar code with your phone. It evaluates the product’s safety by ingredient and gives it a score. If it is a “dirty” product, it will suggest alternative products. It will also let you know if the product has been tested on animals, a cruel and archaic practice. If a product is not in the databank, people can submit the product for evaluation. The database is continually growing. I have found the app extremely helpful.

Another good source for information on toxic chemical in products is the Environmental Working Group website, EWG.org. Your good hygiene and beauty do not have to come at the expense of your health, the environment or cruelty to animals.

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**Keep those Safe and Secure that kept us Safe and Secure**

Our bank is proud to be a part of the nationwide banking initiative to ensure a safe environment in Veterans Homes across America. Supporting the Senior Crimestoppers program is one of the many ways we give back to the brave men and women who have sacrificed so much. Join us this Veterans Day as we honor them for their service.
The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra’s
2019-20 Season
Our Twentieth Season

Celestial Aspirations
Sat., November 9 at 7:30 p.m.

Holst: The Planets
Ravel: Daphnis & Chloe

New World Chorale joins the CHSO revisiting two powerhouse hits from our first decade!

Reserved: $42
Student/Senior/Veteran: $27

Venue:
The Grand Ballroom at Milford Town Hall
52 Main St., Milford

Celestial Aspirations is sponsored in part by The White Family Charitable Foundation and

The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra
Citizen’s Petitions Aim to Ban Single Use Styrofoam Food Containers and Plastic Bags

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

Several members of the group Sustainable Upton are spearheading two citizens petitions on the Special Town Meeting warrant that would add two new bylaws if passed. One would ban single use polystyrene, or Styrofoam, food containers in town and the other would ban single use plastic bags.

Sustainable Upton’s mission is to keep local residents informed of issues that impact the town, including environmental issues, and work towards a sustainable future for the community.

Members and Upton residents Chris Lazar, Marcella Stasa, Kuldeep Singh and Laurie Wodin, put together the petitions with some assistance from Town Manager Laurie Wodin. They received the required 150 signatures to bring the petitions forward for a vote on November 5. “We did it in six days; the support is out there, “ said Lazar. High school students Brynna Seligman, Paige Alcott, James Dhesi and Abigail Paul have been helping in the Sustainable Upton’s efforts.

Wodin said they’re aware that passage of the bylaw could affect small business owners as Styrofoam alternatives can be more costly. “We care about these people. We know them,” said Wodin. “We don’t feel the business owners should have to pay for the increased costs and encouraged them to change their prices if need be.”

Wodin also said if the petition passes, they would look into signs for businesses explaining the new ban that was passed and the reason for the higher prices. “We all need to pay for a better environment.”

The second petition would ban thin film, single use plastic bags typically used at grocery stores, which are not part of the town’s recycling program either explained Stasa.

Plastic bags have negative effects on the environment, wildlife, and the ocean. According to a statistic on the Sierra Club’s web site, the nation’s largest grassroots environmental organization with a Massachusetts chapter, in Massachusetts alone, two billion single use plastic bags are used by citizens each year.

As of July 2019, 122 Massachusetts cities and towns have such a ban in place. “The thicker plastic bags, trash bags, dry cleaning bags, straws, and other plastic items are not included in the petition,” said Stasa.

The Board of Health would have oversight of the bylaws. The two new bylaws will need a 2/3 majority vote to pass at the November 5 Special Town Meeting.

Coffee with Upton Democrats

Join the Upton Democratic Town Committee on Saturday, November 9 at 9 a.m. for breakfast and coffee at Breakfast at Stephanie’s, 3 Farm St. Come for informal chats, to make connections and to have fun with members of the community. To learn more about activities and events, connect on Facebook or at Uptondems@gmail.com.
Upton News

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.

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.

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 includes turkey with 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 $6 for those age 11 and under.

VETERANS DAY AT THE UPTON CENTER

Upton Center will honor those who served in the military for Veterans Day. The Center is offering free van rides for a group outing to Memorial School in Upton for the Veterans Day program on Wednesday, November 13. The van will leave the Center at 9:40 a.m. The concert is at 10 a.m. and will feature students performing patriotic music. Call the Center, 508-529-4558, to reserve a spot in the van.

There will be a Veterans Day Breakfast with Town Manager Derek Brindisi at the Upton Center on Thursday, November 14 at 9 a.m. The breakfast is free for all veterans and their spouses, a donation of $3 is suggested for others. Call the Center by November 12 to reserve a place.

UPTON GRANGE AGRICULTURAL FAIR

The first Agricultural Fair held by the Upton Grange for 40 years, since the 74th in the 1970s, was a success. This year’s event, held in conjunction with Upton Heritage Day on September 28, was enjoyed by many local residents and featured a variety of competitions with 100 first place ribbons awarded, games, pumpkin decorating and a chance to pet farm animals. The Upton Grange received an award from John Lebeaux, Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture (MDCAR). The Upton Grange will have a Fair next year. Keep up-to-date on Grange activities at UptonGrange.org or on Facebook.

AMPUTATION CLINIC
by

Mac Med Spa, Salon & Medical

Full Body Laser Hair Removal

Mac Med proudly introduces Spleendor X, the most advanced laser technology that totally reinvents hair removal. It features a unique square-shaped laser spot that safely covers every inch of skin being treated. Worrying about missed spots is yesterday’s concern. There’s never been a multi-wave laser before. It takes less time than previous laser technology and is quite comfortable. Typically, six treatments, once a month, are required.

Special Holiday pricing available.

• Full Legs, inner Bikini: $450 per month (previously $995)
• Full Back or Beard, including Neck Area (front or back): $400 per month (previously $625)

BYE BYE MASCARA, EYE-LASH EXTENSIONS: Different lengths, thicknesses and colors (including sparkles for the holidays) provide a dramatic or subtle, flattering effect that gives your eyes more definition. Lash extensions brighten up your whole face; you’ll feel like a different person.

• Full Set of Lash Extensions or Permanent Eyeliner or Eyebrows: $50 off each service

My eyes look gorgeous now. I don’t even have to wear makeup. Lash extensions are totally life-changing!

-Donna B. of Ashland, age 51

Please call Debbie at ext. 106 for customized services and pricing.

Mac Med Spa, Salon & Medical
127 East Main St., Milford
508-478-9888
www.macmedspa.com

Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
UPON CLASSIFICATION
TAX HEARING 11/12/19

The Upton Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Property Tax Classification with the Upton Board of Assessors on November 12, 2019 at 7:05 p.m. the location of the hearing is the Upton Town Hall, 1 Main Street Room 203 for the FY 2020 Tax Classification Hearing.

The public hearing is intended as a way for taxpayers to express their views and ask questions about whether the town should adopt different rates for the different classes of property. Taxpayers are welcome to attend and present their views orally or in writing. Written requests must be received prior to the meeting no later than November 12, 2019 by 4:00 p.m.

Upton has four classes of property in the town and one tax rate. The classes are residential, commercial, industrial and personal. Assessors are planning to recommend a single rate for all four classes of property. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Assessor’s Office at 508-529-1002.

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLICATION TOWN OF UPTON

Notice is hereby given, under Chapter 338, Section 15A, of the MGLs that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 19, at 7:05PM at the Town Hall 1 Main Street, Upton, MA on the application of Silence Cellar, 23 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA for an Off Premises $15 Package Store Wines and Malt Beverages License. The description of the premises is as follows: Ground floor space of 650 square feet, in a mixed-use building at 62 Main Street, Upton, MA that houses a shop but will be remodeled to have two rooms connected by an opening.

SPORTS INJURIES
WOMEN’S HEALTH
POST-SURGICAL REHAB
ANTI-GRAVITY TREADMILL
1-ON-1 Physical

15 West Upton St.
1Lumber St.
(with Suite 201)
Ashland
Sutton
www.platinumuptma.com

Platinum Physical Therapy
508-544-1540
196 E. Main St.
150 Goblis Gym
Milford
www.platinumuptma.com

Upton Bloomer Girls Fall Fair

UPTON: The Bloomer Girls Fall Fair is on Saturday, November 2, at Blackstone Valley Technical High School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. 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. A bake sale, raffles, a door prize, and Grandma’s Attic will feature students performing patriotic music. Call the Center, 508-529-4558, to reserve a spot in the van.

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! Vendors applications are available now at www.UnitedParishofUpton.org

Platinum Physical Therapy

15 West Upton St.
196 E. Main St.
150 Goblis Gym
Ashland
Milford
www.platinumuptma.com

Deborah Freeman
Mac Med
counterfeitmedspa.com

American Hair Design

Hair Removal

Laser

• Full Body Laser
• Anti-Gravity Treadmill

Upton Center

127 East Main St., Milford
508-478-9888
www.macmedspa.com

Mac Med Gift Cards
Available Online and In-Spa

508-478-9888

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier
To the Editor,

The Upton Economic Development Committee (EDC) together with the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and other town committees have been working hard to realize the newly approved vision for downtown Upton. A new zoning by-law needs to be created to support a revitalized downtown, the Upton Center Business District (UCBD). Many town committees have been involved, crafting the required policies, regulations and zoning to help the revitalization project forward. The new UCBD will retain the charm of Upton’s community and in historic character, while enabling the mixed-use of both new and old downtown buildings.

In addition to supporting mixed-use buildings combining residential and commercial, the UCBD will provide property owners with more options. For example, a property owner could open an antique shop, which is not currently permitted under existing zoning. A new law by-law is now being proposed to encourage shared parking in the UCBD. A special information

Next Step for Upton Downtown Revitalization

meeting was held on October 17 for property owners within the proposed UCBD zone and on October 22, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the proposed by-law changes. To bring Upton’s new downtown vision to life, Upton voters are urged to attend the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, November 5 at 7 p.m. at Nipmuc Regional High School where they can vote for the proposed newly zoning by-law in Article 16. Changing zoning by-laws requires a 2/3 vote at the Town Meeting, so it is important for Upton voters to attend and cast their vote.

Until the proposed UCBD zoning by-laws are implemented, the approved vision for Upton’s downtown revitalization project cannot be achieved. For more information on this project, visit ImagineUpton.com. Questions or concerns should be sent to economicdevelopment@uptonma.gov.

Dave Grober
Upton
TheAdvertiser's  
Club Directory

These are the businesses that can advertise in The Upton and Mendon Town Crier at least 12 times a year at a considerable discount, feature article about their business (minimum 1/16 page ad) and listing in this directory:

Business Name ........................................ Ad per Page

Amazing Cleaners .................................... 11
American Climbers .................................... next
Bright Insurance Agency ............................ 13
Brower & Ryan, P.C. .................................... 4
C.J. Cilley Construction ............................... next
Cancioli Mexican Restaurant ........................ next
Carmen's Italian and William's ........................ next
Centralpoint Driving Academy .................... 18
Cook Company ......................................... 11
CPK Bistro .............................................. 19
Creasey Images Hair Studio ....................... next
Crystal Room .......................................... next
Frank's Appliance ..................................... 11
Galferdos Restaurant ................................. 2
Gibson Natural Pet Resort ........................... next
Iasikola Plumbing & Heating ...................... 11
Imperial Cars ......................................... 1, 20
J.P. Parnasco ............................................ next
Julesker Overhead Door .............................. 10
Joy Plumbing .......................................... 11
Just A-Wee Day ........................................ next
Koopman Paint & Lumber ........................... next
Liquor Plus ............................................. next
Little Coffee Bean ...................................... next
Maple Farm Dairy ................................ ...... next
Maylene's House ........................................ next
Medbury Oil & Propylene Company ............ 10
McCormick Properties .............................. next
Mendon Movers ....................................... next
Mendon Oral Surgical Associates ............... 7
Mifflin House Cafe ...................................... next
Nathaneel Jeweler ...................................... next
New England Steak & Seafood .................. 15
Park Place Dental ....................................... 5
PA W.S. Bad & Buscat ................................ next
Phipps Insurance Agency ............................ 8
Reliable Pet Sitting ..................................... next
Riteway Power Equipment ......................... next
Robyn Nauss, Realistic Realty Group .......... next
Rose Garden Restaurant & Lounge ........... next
Sagamore Electric ...................................... 2
Templeman Tree Service ............................ 10
UPS Store Milford & Franklin ..................... next
Upton Foreign Movers ............................... next
Wassanaka Japanese Restaurant ................ 10
Westbrook General Contractors ............... next
Williams-Pedersen Funeral Home .............. 7
Whole Foods ........................................... 19
Women's Total Body Make Up .................... 1
Wright's Dairy Farm ................................... 9
WPI Post Control ....................................... next

The Greater Milford community is invited to a regional holiday concert presented by seven local choral groups. The event will feature a variety of music ranging from beloved traditional holiday songs to contemporary works.


event details:

- **Date:** December 15
- **Time:** 1:30 p.m.
- **Venue:** Upton High School, auditorium
- **Ticket Prices:** $10; tickets will be sold at the door for $12.

The event is sponsored by the Greater Milford Community Chorus. For more information, please visit www.greatermilfordcommunitychorus.com.
Mindfulness & Meditation

Robin Natanel offers a free, Mindfulness and Meditation class at the Upton Center, Farm St. on Mondays, November 4, 18 and 25 at 9:30 a.m. Join her for a casual discussion and enjoy the experience of being present in the now while learning about the benefits of living a mindful life. Learn how to let go of anxiety, struggle, feelings of depression and constant worry and see things in a new light. Please call the Center, 508-529-4558, by the Thursday before to register.

Live Owls

The Friends of Upton State Forest are sponsoring a Live Owls program by Kathleen Regan, a Teacher-Naturalist with Mass Audubon, on Saturday, November 2, at 1 p.m. at the Upton VFW, 15 Milford St.

Regan will bring live native owls and natural owl artifacts to the VFW from Mass Audubon’s Blue Hills Trailside Museum. Find out how owls look, sound and feel by handling the natural artifacts and meeting the owls. Learn where the Mass Audubon owls come from, why owls do not make good pets, what they eat, and how important it is to protect wildlife and its habitats.

All are welcome. This program may be particularly appealing to children.

Pre-registration is not required but appreciated. Please email friends@friendsofuptonstateforest.org with "Owls" and the number attending the program in the subject line.

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 Claytime 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.

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.

**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.**

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70 Main Street - Medway - 508.533.8661  
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1 Hastings Street - Mendon - 508.422.9792

**Folder**  
**Upton Bloomer Girls**  
**Fall Fair**  
**Saturday, November 2**  
Blackstone Valley Tech 9-3 pm

**United Parish Bazaar**  
1 Main Street, Upton Common  
Sat., Dec 7, 10-3pm

**Butterfly Shop**  
264 N. Main St., Uxbridge  
TUES-SUN 12-7

**Or MESSAGE me on FB**  
FACEBOOK: ShellsCapes by Marilyn  

**Unique Jewelry / Geodes**  
**ShellsCapes / Angels / Paintings**

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**Saturday, November 2nd**  
10 am to 1pm  
**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!**

Stop by during our Shred Day event and enter to win a $500 Wachusett CO2 card, as well as other great prizes. Plus, everyone who visits will receive a free Charles River Bank pom-pom hat (while supplies last).

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**ShellsCapes / Angels / Paintings**
St. Gabriel’s Christmas Fair

UPTON-ST. Gabriel's Church, 151 Mendon St., Upton, will hold its Christmas Fair on Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fair offers a wide variety of fresh balsam wreaths, cemetery baskets and table top arrangements. Raffles on Themed Baskets, Gift Certificates, Home Heating Oil and over $400 of Lottery Scratch Tickets on one drawing are available. A lunch of soup, sandwiches, hot dogs, and traditional Grapefruit pudding will be served. A New Gift Boutique featuring new and “like new” items, Attic Treasures, Olde Tyme Christmas decorations and a Christmas Craft and Holiday decor section will have something to interest everyone. Gems and Jewels has a collection of jewelry to suit every style. The Bake Table offers delectable pastries, baskets and table top arrangements. Raffles on Themed Baskets, Gift Certificates, Home Heating Oil and over $400 of Lottery Scratch Tickets on one drawing are available. 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BSTRA, Inc., Participates in #Giving Tuesday

#Giving Tuesday has been gaining in participation across the nation, and Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc. (BSTRA) is looking forward to being part of this movement again this year. #Giving Tuesday is a global movement taking place Tuesday, December 3, during which everyone can give to nonprofit organizations in order to help them do good in the communities they serve. Although December 3 is #Giving Tuesday, the majority of #Giving Tuesday donations actually take place during October through December 3.

“BSTRA couldn’t take on all of its trail improvement projects – like our 2019 $80,000 project in the Upton State Forest – without the support of the community; and #Giving Tuesday encourages local businesses and individuals to help us with funding projects which have a positive impact on user groups who enjoy the State forests and parks for outdoor recreation and fitness. We also raise money from several events that take place in the forests and parks during the year, with our largest event for National Trails Day. Since our Officers and Board of Directors are all unpaid volunteers, we are able to put 100 percent of the donations we receive into trails. Since 1989, BSTRA has put more than $617,775 into trails within State Forests and Parks within 34 towns in Massachusetts. To make a donation go to BSTRA.org/donate. Since BSTRA is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, donations are tax-deductible.”

The 2019 Annual Giving Tuesday campaign is from November 26 through December 3. #GivingTuesday is a global movement taking place Tuesday, November 26, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. between 12 states across the United States.

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### Upton-Mendon Town Crier

**NOVEMBER 1, 2019**

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Brian McEligott   216 North Street, Upton, MA 01568

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**Circle of Giving**

The Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail will hold the Annual Fall Trail Cleanup Saturday, November 2, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, across the nation, and Bay State Trail Riders Association, Inc. (BSTRA) is looking forward to being part of this movement again this year. #Giving Tuesday is a global movement taking place Tuesday, December 3, during which everyone can give to nonprofit organizations in order to help them do good in the communities they serve. Although December 3 is #Giving Tuesday, the majority of #Giving Tuesday donations actually take place during October through December 3.

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Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail will hold the Annual Fall Trail Cleanup Saturday, November 2, from 9 a.m. to noon. Meet at a new location, in the Main St. parking lot 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, 7 p.m. in the Milford Senior Center, 60 North Bow St., Milford.

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 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its branch locations – 70 Main St., Medway; 2 South Maple St., Bellingham; and 1 Hastings St., Mendon.

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Mendon Selectmen Do Not Place Mosquito Program on Warrant

By Michelle Sanford  
Staff Reporter

Members of Mendon’s Board of Health came before the Board of Selectmen during an October meeting to discuss the possibility of joining the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP). Joining the program would take a town vote during Mendon’s November Special Town Meeting.

On August 23, the Mendon Board of Health received notice that a horse had tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), which was then euthanized. As a result, Mendon was placed on the critical list by the state and aerial spraying was completed over several nights.

At the October meeting, CMMCP Executive Director Tim Deschamps came before the Selectmen to give an overview of the program. Currently there are 42 communities participating in the program, including Blackstone, Milford, Hopedale, and Northbridge.

The year-round program begins with larval control. Deschamps explained technicians are trained to identify mosquito larvae in area wetlands and apply applications to prevent their emergence. Request only truck spraying is also available for residents and town officials can also request spraying for larger community gatherings.

The program also provides for ditch maintenance with the CMMCP’s wetlands scientist and a mosquito surveillance program sets out traps to collect mosquitoes to deliver information on certain populations and provide testing on a weekly basis. Public education is also part of the program.

The CMMCP has a newly established source reduction program which picks up tires to be recycled, thus reducing a mosquito habitat descendant. Also, a beaver mitigation program helps determine if beavers are contributing to the mosquito problem in town.

The cost for Mendon to join the CMMCP would be $535,000 annually, which would come directly from Mendon’s state aid.

Still, Board of Health Chair Andy Fiske said it should be up to residents to determine. “At least let this go to town meeting and let the people decide,” he said.

Selectman Lawney Tinio stated the state was going to be more proactive and involved given this year’s increase in EEE cases. Tinio added one thought may be to bring the program to residents during the May Annual Town Meeting instead for the next budget year.

Learning About the Mendon Fire Department

By Kristin Hannah

Future Firemen Marco Gamma, left and friend John Anderson try on some fire gear at the Mendon Fire Department Open House. Besides trying out fire equipment, participants obtained safety and emergency preparedness information and enjoyed pizza and refreshments.

The Mendon Upton Town Crier was established over 25 years ago. We are the good news newspaper. We know our readers and advertisers. Advertising with us means supporting the community and recognizing the strength of smalltown USA.

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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.

Monday, November 4
Food Pantry, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Friends Meeting, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, November 5
Craft Class, 10:30 a.m.
Blood Pressure Clinic, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Friday, November 8
Veterans’ Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, November 9
Scouting for Food, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monday, November 11
Senior Center Closed for Veteran’s Day

Tuesday, November 12
Fire Safety, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, November 13
BVT Aging Well Day, 8:15 a.m.
COA Meeting, 10 a.m.

Thursday, November 14
Reflections on My Life, 11 a.m.

Monday, November 18
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.
ASL of Selectmen, 10 a.m.

Thursday
Cribbage, 9 a.m.
Chair Exercise, 9:15 a.m.
Wellness Group, 10:30 a.m. (1st and 3rd Thursdays of Month)
Lunch Club, 12 p.m.
Yarn Works, 1 p.m.
Pitch, 7 p.m.

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

Charles River Bank

Charles River Bank has created a donation fund for Malcolm and Ellie Clifton of Mendon, whose house was severely damaged on October 22 when a wood chipper detached from its truck, struck a telephone pole and crashed into the side of their home. No one was hurt in the accident. The fund will be used to help the couple with any expenses they may have while their house is being repaired. Donations can be made out to the ‘Malcolm and Ellie Clifton Relief Fund’ and either dropped off to the Mendon branch at 1 Hastings St. or mailed to Charles River Bank, PO Box 740, Medway, MA 02053.

"We have been one of Mendon’s community banks for the past 10 years, and I have been a resident for 17 years, so when one of our community members needs help, we don’t hesitate to step up to the plate. We hope the funds raised will help the Cliftons get back on their feet and recover from this unfortunate accident," said Charles River Bank President and CEO Jack Hamilton.

Troop 44 Can and Bottle Drive November 2

Mendon’s Troop 44 Boy Scouts will be holding their next can and bottle drive from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday, November 2, at the Mendon Town Hall parking lot. Anyone with cans and bottles that they would like to donate, but is unable to drop them off, can contact the Troop via e-mail at fundraising@trop44mendon.org or phone at 508-478-3124 to arrange a pick-up. Proceeds from both the can and bottle drive will be used to help fund Troop 44’s activities throughout the year. Troop 44 would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of Scouting in Mendon.

Mendon Veterans Breakfast

The Mendon Senior Center will hold a Veterans Breakfast on Friday, November 8 at 8:30 a.m. All veterans are invited to attend the free delicious breakfast and have a chance to talk to others who have served the country. A special feature is the musical tribute featuring many of the armed services songs as well as other patriotic favorites, performed by the Mendon Minstrels. This year’s breakfast is sponsored by the Mendon Police Association, Mendon Fire Department, Mendon Council on Aging, and the Friends of Mendon Elders. It is open to veterans only. Sign up by stopping by the Senior Center or calling 508-478-6175.

Charles River Bank Annual Holiday Food Drive

A long-standing holiday tradition at Charles River Bank is the annual Food Drive. Charles River Bank branch offices set up donation tables in their lobbies for food donations to the Medway, Bellingham and Mendon Food Pantries. Donations are brought to the food pantries just before the New Year to help restock after the holidays. Bring donations to the local Charles River Bank branch November 1 through December 27. Branch locations can be found at CharlesRiverBank.com.

Fire Safety

On Tuesday, November 12 at 11a.m. members of the Mendon Fire Department, Chief William Kessler and Charlie Phipps will be at the Mendon Senior Center to discuss fire safety as well as their new emergency key access program, which allows emergency response personnel immediate access to a home in the event of a fire or medical emergency. A key box is attached to a home’s door and a house key is locked inside. The Fire Department supplies the equipment and the homeowner supplies the key. Applications are available at the Mendon Fire Department as well as the Mendon Senior Center.

Charles River Bank Establishes Clifton Donation Fund

Charles River Bank.

Mendon News

NOVEMBER 1, 2019
Upton-Mendon Town Crier

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Blackstone Valley Garden Club Meeting
WHITINSVILLE—The Blackstone Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, November 14, at 7 p.m. for Plant This with That by Laura Bibler. Bibler has created landscape designs at private homes and historic estates since 1997. Her suggestions for coordinated plant combinations will unlock the gate to harmony in the garden. A slide show of effective pairings includes perennials, shrubs and bulbs. The meeting will be held at the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church, 61 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. Parking and entrance are at the rear off Church St. by United Methodist Church, 61 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. 

MRMC Auxiliary Meeting
MILFORD—The Milford Regional Medical Center Auxiliary meets on Tuesday, November 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Conference Room A on the first floor of the hospital, 14 Prospect St. The Auxiliary members conduct monthly fundraising events with all funds raised directly supporting building funds, departments throughout the hospital, and scholarships. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month from September to June. Both men and women are encouraged to consider joining this successful organization. For more information, please call 508-422-2099, or visit Foundation.MilfordRegional.org/aboutus/auxiliary/.

12th Annual Christmas Open House
MILFORD—The 12th Annual Christmas Open House will be hosted by the Milford First Congregational Church and Iglesia Manantial de Vida at 4 Congreg St., Milford on Sunday, December 1 from 3:30 to 7 p.m. after Milford’s Welcome Santa Parade. Chili, hot dogs, and hot/cold beverages that will be sold at the food court at a nominal charge. Also available are holiday cookies sold by the pound and a free sugar cookie. Christmas Carols for all to join in and sing will add to the festivities. For children of all ages, Santa's Corner includes photos with Santa and a candy cane. Cookie decorating and Face Painting are also offered. Raffles to win Gingerbread Houses and themed Gift Baskets will be held. For more information, contact Martha Ellis, 508-429-3303, or martha.ellis3@gmail.com.

Brainstorming: An Act of Mentalism!
MILFORD—Rory Raven will present Brainstorming: An Act of Mentalism! on Wednesday, November 20 at 7 p.m. in the Milford Town Library, Spruce St. Brainstorming is an interactive mind-reading show most suitable for adults in which minds are read, spoons are bent and volunteers test their own “powers.” If appropriate, the evening concludes with a re-creation of the kind of manifestation witnessed in a séance chamber over a century ago.

The Softer Side of Celtic
MILFORD—Jeff Snow will present The Softer Side of Celtic on Wednesday, November 20 at 7 p.m. in the Milford Town Library, Spruce St. Snow was featured in the December 2006 issue of Acoustic Guitar Magazine and is a contributing writer for Acoustic Guitar and Autoharp Quarterly magazines. Snow is a talented multi-instrumentalist who shares the music and the stories behind the music of Scotland, Ireland and England. Growing up in a home where old Scottish folk songs were the everyday sounds, he developed an early love for Celtic music, which covers much of the history of these lands. Snow’s music has been described as quiet and relaxing. He is a private guitar teacher and the author of the teaching method Guitar Basics and Beyond. Snow was featured in the December 2006 issue of Acoustic Guitar Magazine and is a contributing writer for Acoustic Guitar and Autoharp Quarterly magazines.

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce
AREA The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce will be holding 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.

Understanding the New Overtime Regulations
Wednesday, November 6 at 6 p.m. at Marty’s Fine Wines, 1 Buxton Rd., Milville.

4th Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony
Tuesday, November 12 at 5 p.m. at Marty’s Fine Wines, 1 Buxton Rd., Milville.

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<th>Income Level</th>
<th>Max. Income/HHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2 Persons</td>
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<td>$8,705.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Persons</td>
<td>$11,105.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALL APPLICANTS MUST BE INCOME ELIGIBLE (ASSET LIMIT OF $275,000 INCLUDING NET PROCESS FROM THE SALE OF A HOUSE)

Public Information Meeting
Wednesday, November 13, 2019 – Open House at the Upton Town Hall, One Main Street, application deadline is December 2, 2019.

Lottery
Wednesday, December 12, 2019 – Draw 203 at the Upton Town Hall, One Main Street, Upton

Applications and Information Available
UPTON TOWN HALL / TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE / PUBLIC LIBRARY

Contact: 508-556-3838 or lotteryinfo@mcohousingservices.com

MCO HOUSING SERVICES AT ABOVE NUMBER WITH QUESTIONS

Developed by Pulte Homes of New England, LLC
MARKETED BY MCO Housing Services

Calendar
Twice Blessed Thrift Shop
HOPEDALE-The Sacred Heart Church of Hopedale Twice Blessed Thrift Shop offers the following specials in November - half off all children's clothing, jewelry, accessories plus shoes and boots. During the first week of the month, a bag of clothing, except for specials, 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.

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

New items offered for sale include gift sets of Avon 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 and ready to give. It is not too early to start holiday shopping! The public is invited to attend. Nancy Plupps is an independent Avon representative.

Interfaith Speaker Series
UPTON-The St. Gabriel Church of Upton Social Justice Ministry is presenting an interfaith speaker series to help build understanding of other faiths through three evenings with special guests speaking on and answering questions about other religions. The first is Judaism with Rabbi Rachel Gurevitz from Congregation Beth Elohim in Westborough on Monday, November 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m. The second and third presentations on Buddhism and Islam are early next year. This is an interactive presentation providing an overview of the religions' basic tenants and origin, questions and answers, plus small group discussion and reflection. Light refreshments will be served. St. Gabriel's Church is located 151 Mendon St. Upton.

For questions, contact Sarah at sbaldiga@gmail.com or 508-320-8676.

Homogen Holiday Fair
WHITINSVILLE-The Earlyh 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. to 1 p.m. Everyone in the holiday spirit.

Vinny, 508-244-8789 or Jimmy, 508-478-8913.

Greenleaf Garden Club
HOLIDAY GALA
MILFORD-The Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford presents, Floral Creations for the Holidays, featuring designer Maureen Christmas at the Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center, 60 North Row St., Milford on Monday November 18 at 6:30 p.m. The holiday fundraiser will start with refreshments and conclude with a drawing for 50+ theme baskets following the design program. Tickets are $82 and can be obtained from any garden club member or from Nancy Wojick, 617-680-2477 or email nancynwojick@gmail.com.

Fundraiser for Nicholas Corapi
MILFORD-A Pasta Dinner fundraiser for Nicholas Corapi will be held on Saturday, November 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Bell Tower Room of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Milford. East Main St. Nicholas is a local 10-year-old boy who needs a kidney transplant and whose parents currently drive him to Boston three times a week for dialysis. Proceeds from the dinner and raffles will help defray his medical expenses. Tickets for the dinner, are $10 per person and $5 for children under 12, are being sold after all Masses at Sacred Heart and St. Mary of the Assumption churches, or by calling Vinny, 508-244-8789 or Jimmy, 508-478-9913.

Christmas Gala
UPTON-Mendon Town Crier
HOLIDAY GALA
MILFORD-The Milford Regional Garden Club of Milford presents, Floral Creations for the Holidays, featuring designer Maureen Christmas at the Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center, 60 North Row St., Milford on Monday November 18 at 6:30 p.m. The holiday fundraiser will start with refreshments and conclude with a drawing for 50+ theme baskets following the design program. Tickets are $82 and can be obtained from any garden club member or from Nancy Wojick, 617-680-2477 or email nancynwojick@gmail.com.

Scouting BSA Troop 219
MILFORD-Girls, age 11 to 17, are invited to join the Boy Scouts by registering for Scouting BSA Troop 219 in Milford. Have outdoor fun, learn skills useful in life and leadership in a girls-led troop, which is linked to Milford Boy Scout Troop 2 with resources and experience. It also has a great group of parents in the committee. Meetings on Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Milford. For more information, visit Sites Google.com/view/Troop219Milford

St. Camillus Craft Fair
WHITINSVILLE-St. Camillus Health Center, 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 wish to participate must register by October 31. All 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.

New York City Trip
MILFORD-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 8:30 a.m. for a fun day on-your-own in New York City. Please contact the rectory. 508-644-5453, for more information. Seats are limited and payment is due at time of reservation.

BHC 2020 Calendar Release Party
WHITINSVILLE-The Blackstone Heritage Corridor (BHC) celebrates the release of its them-wether-themed 2020 calendar featuring the work of local photographers on Thursday, November 7 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the BHC office, 670, Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. BHC is also launching a new gallery space, sponsored by Linwood Mill, LLC, showcasing this year's winning photos from the calendar photo contest. Light refreshments will be served. Tickets are $10, which include a 2020 calendar, available at the door or online. Learn more at BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org or call 508-234-4242.

Joan's Jewelry Fundraiser
MILFORD-The MyCMC Auxiliary is sponsoring Joan's Jewelry on Friday, November 22 in the Atrium Café, 14 Prospect St., Milford from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jewelry for sale will include 14 KT gold and Sterling Silver, and Precious and Semi-Precious Stones. All jewelry carries a lifetime guarantee. Returns are accepted within 30 days for a refund, credit or exchange. Credit Cards, checks, and layaway are accepted.

Hoboken Citizens Club Auxiliary Holiday Fair
MILFORD-Almost time for the holidays and homemade cappelletti soup! Come get some at the Hoboken Citizens Club Auxiliary’s annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the club, 252 Central St. Milford. Besides the cappelletti’s, homemade pies, cookies, cakes, pizza, sauces, breads and more will be available for purchase. The fair features arts, crafts and specialty product exhibitors and a raffle for beautiful gift baskets. Plus members of the Greater Milford Community Chorus will lead all in Christmas Carols to get everyone in the holiday spirit.

Help Wanted
NOW HIRING DRIVERS
Transportation Drivers AND
7D School Van Drivers and Monitors Needed

WANTED:
• Regular transportation drivers - no special licenses required.
• 4D drivers wanted to transport students to and from school in company vehicles. If you are interested but do not have a 4D license we will help you obtain a 4D license. We will provide transportation back to and from the work site and walk you through the process. It’s very easy.
• Must be 21 years old and have a valid driver license for at least three years.
• Hours are early morning and mid afternoon. This is a split shift.
• Great if you are retired! Shifts available from 20-39 hours per week.

Monitors also needed!

Call Mark's Transportation at 508-473-3600
Our office is located at 51 East Main St. (Route 16) Milford, MA. Stop in the office to fill out an application from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Greenleaf Garden Club
Holiday Gala
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Memphis, Tn: With Speech Competition

On Wednesday, November 13, local students in grades 9-12 have an opportunity to compete with their best five to eight-minute speech on “What is heroism?” The contest

begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the Mendon Senior Center, Providence St. To compete visit LorisDisc33a.org. Click on Youth Speech Committee.

Contestants will be judged in a number of areas including the quality delivery of their message.

School News

Upton-Mendon Town Crier

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Mendon-Upton Regional School District (MURSD) has welcomed new staff members to Memorial and Clough Elementary Schools.

Amy Curry is the new Special Education Team Chair for both Memorial and Clough. After earning an undergraduate degree in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology from Northeastern University Curry worked for 15 years at the May Institute and Melmark New England, two private schools serving children and young adults with special needs including autism. She then spent a number of years in the Special Education departments of several public schools, most recently as Team Chair in Sherborn for the past four years. Curry also earned a master’s in Special Education from Fitchburg State University.

Astrid Rae is a 1st grade Spanish Immersion Teacher at Memorial Elementary School. States at 10-years-old, Rae knows first-hand the importance of bilingualism saying, “For children to become global citizens it’s important that they speak a second language.” Rae said the MURSD Spanish Immersion program is unique, offering opportunities to become fluent in a second language at an early age. “Students in the Spanish Immersion program graduate from high school as dual-language students,” she said. “They can hold a conversation in Spanish!”

“Dinnertime Conversation” topics are posted to get discussions started about the exciting work at Nipmuc. Check out the blog for a calendar of events, the bi-weekly newsletter, student features and more. In addition, check out Nipmuc’s social media posts by following NipmucRegional on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

School Highlights

Mendon-Upton Regional
Compiled by Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter

CLOUGH-Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on November 13 and November 14. Both of these days will be Early Release days, dismissal will be at 12:10 p.m. Evening conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 13. Clough picture days with Morin Studio have been rescheduled to December 3 and 4.

Parents and families enjoyed the Annual Halloween Costume Parade on October 31. Children and staff parade around in the gym in their costumes. Many classes continued with Halloween festivities in their classrooms.

The second grade will be collecting food for their annual food drive through November 20. Food will be collected in November in the boxes in the school lobby. Please be sure to look at the expiration dates before submitting.

The Clough PTO is partnering with Music Teacher Molly Walsh to coordinate all efforts in support of the 4th grade chorus’ opportunity to sing the national anthem at the Worcester Warriors hockey game on Saturday, November 2. This annual event is a wonderful experience, for the singers and their families. The PTO provided custom t-shirts to all chorus members and coordinated communication and ticket sales for the event to the entire Clough community.

MEMORIAL-Memorial hosted its annual costume parade on October 31 when parents enjoyed seeing students walk through the gym in costume. Many classrooms held fall celebrations throughout the day and rotated through learning centers and created fall projects. Students also came in costume and participated in games at PTO’s Halloween Spooky Spectacular event on October 25.

The Memorial PTO-sponsored an assembly featuring Megan Murphy who created the Kindness Rock Project. Megan spoke to the students about how one person on the planet can also shared how the Kindness Rock Project came into existence.

At a recent RISE assembly, students from all grade levels shared information addressing what RISE looks like at recess. They shared posters, songs, poems, skits, and a video. This year’s new brag tags were introduced. Students exhibiting Respect, Inclusivity, Safety and Empathy earn tickets to trade in for the new brag tags.

As part of the third grade curriculum, reenactors from Plimouth Plantation explained what life was like in the early 1600’s. Students listened carefully as the visitors spoke in old English and gave students a chance to ask many questions.

All students are practicing patriotic songs and poems for the annual Veteran’s Day Concert which will be held on November 13 and 14 at 10 a.m. Upton Veterans are cordially invited to attend on either day.

MISCOE-Miscoe Art Teacher Alice Gentili was awarded the 2019 Distinguished Media Arts Educator Advocacy Award by the Massachusetts Media Arts Education Organization. She was presented with the award at the Champion of Arts Education Advocacy Awards event on October 16.

Miscoe Students will tour Blackstone Valley Regional Tech School on November 13. Students who reside in the 13-town of Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical School District and who will have completed Grade 9 prior to enrolling, may apply.

Sixth graders will present their second annual Mythbusters Showcase on October 30. Students will clear up the confusion and myths of Astronomy by displaying their scientific models.

On October 25 Miscoe conducted a Pump Out day showing support for those who have or have had breast cancer. Rachel’s Challenge welcomed all students and staff to participate in a photo located on the football field where they presented a $1,000 donation to Milford Regional Medical Center.

Miscoe has started this year’s peer mentoring program. The program has been a proven success for Mentors (grades 7-8) and Mentees (grade 5-6). This cross-age peer program provides growth and a learning opportunity for younger and older students. Mentees can benefit from interacting with other students and often build relationships beyond their circle of friends. For participating Mentors, there has been an improvement in self-esteem, relationships with parents, communication and conflict resolution skills.

World Explorers presented a Halloween Dance Party on Saturday, October 26. Grades 5-8 were encouraged to come in costume but not required. Snacks, Pizza, activities, and movies were provided for entertainment.

Fridays are We CARE Miscoe days at school! Students and teachers are encouraged to wear their ‘We CARE Miscoe’ t-shirts and show their ‘We CARE Pride!’

The Miscoe Hill Youth Theater group will host their first performance of the year 67 Cinderella on November 1 at 7 p.m. and November 2 at 3:30 and 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door the day of the show.

NIPMUC-The Nipmuc ICED Epic Challenge Program is hosting innovators and researchers from around Massachusetts to inform and inspire students and educators from across the Northeast with their groundbreaking work at the Epic Innovation Sessions on November 7 to 9 at the school. As part of the Epic Innovation Sessions, Nipmuc will host several keynote speakers including Robert Rodgers, the developer of the first fully implantable human heart, and Dr. Charles Camarda, a retired NASA astronaut & engineer who will speak about his experiences working for NASA, traveling to space, and spending time on the international space station. The Epic Innovation Sessions are open to high school students, teachers, and interested persons on Saturday, November 9 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is $25 per person which includes lunch.

The October 2019 edition of School Administrator, the monthly publication of AASA, The School Superintendents Association, featured the Mendon-Upton Regional School District’s adoption of the “What if?” mindset as a way to disrupt the status quo in schools. The post highlighted some of the work taking place at Nipmuc including Lead Learner Workshops, Food for Thought Lunches, and the Shadow a Student Challenge. The article comes soon after Nipmuc was featured on a national podcast from Modern Learners, highlighting many of the opportunities for student agency at the school.

Looking for more information about life at Nipmuc? Check out NipmucPrincipals.com for regular posts. Each week “Dinnertime Conversation” topics are posted to get discussions started about the exciting work at Nipmuc. Check out the blog for a calendar of events, the bi-weekly newsletter, student features and more. In addition, check out Nipmuc’s social media posts by following NipmucRegional on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

New Hires at Clough and Memorial Schools

Molly Walsh is the new Chorus Specialist and General Music Teacher at Clough.

Astrid Rae is a 1st grade Spanish Immersion Teacher at Memorial Elementary School.

Amy Curry is the new Special Education Team Chair for Memorial and Clough Elementary Schools.

Astrid Rae is a 1st grade Spanish Immersion Teacher at Memorial Elementary School. States at 10-years-old, Rae knows first-hand the importance of bilingualism saying, “For children to become global citizens it’s important that they speak a second language.” Rae said the MURSD Spanish Immersion program is unique, offering opportunities to become fluent in a second language at an early age. “Students in the Spanish Immersion program graduate from high school as dual-language students,” she said. “They can hold a conversation in Spanish!”

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A Proficient Rating for Maruszczak

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Superintendent of the Mendon Upton Regional School District Dr. Joseph Maruszczak was again rated as “Proficient” in his role for the 2017/2018 school year. The annual review was presented during the October 28 School Committee Meeting. School Committee members praised him as a “skilled Superintendent.”

The Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee, read Maruszczak’s summative evaluation, a compilation of School Committee members’ input and rating of his performance on his goals in various categories and overall performance last school year. A rating of “Significant Progress” was given for Maruszczak’s Student Learning Goal. “The Superintendent stated many goals that are centered around the Portrait of a Learner competencies, which are to serve as a guidepost for district-wide, vertical K-12 learning targets," read Laurence. For Professional Practice Goal, he was given a rating of “Significant Progress” Laurence cited the development and communication of the district’s new strategic plan, its last year’s budget, and the district’s capital needs list as the justification for the rating. “In the coming year, it will be critical to do more work to communicate the district’s capital needs to the towns, finance committees, and Boards of Selectmen,” she read.

Maruszczak earned “Significant Progress” for the Student Learning Goal. Maruszczak was ranked as “Proficient.” “Superintendent Maruszczak holds high expectations for all and promotes continuous improvement across the district, using the strategic plan and data analysis for decision-making and goal setting,” read Laurence. She added there has been significant progress in developing a system of interventions and supports for students who are struggling and not attaining grade level standards. For Management and Operations, Maruszczak was rated “Proficient”, based on his continued work on student safety and development of fiscally responsible budgets. Rated “Proficient” for Family and Community, Laurence read, “Dr. Maruszczak remains visible in the district before, during, and after school hours. He responds to the needs and concerns of district and community members.” Despite the rating, the Committee did cite a “lack of proactive communication to the staff and community about an outside project,” read Laurence, referencing an application submitted for a new Spanish Immersion Charter School in Rhode Island, with Maruszczak as a founding member. “This led to consternation and concern among parents and town officials about the district’s future,” she read.

In its evaluation, the Committee also stated that Maruszczak received an “Exemplary” rating for setting the district’s strategic plan goals and the direction of the district’s work. Laurence noted that Maruszczak’s work on the district’s strategic plan and goals, including the district’s growth, development, and sustainability, would continue to be a focus of the district’s work.

BVT Raising Breast Cancer Awareness & Funds

During the freshman exploratory program at Blackstone Valley Tech, Chloe Persian and Kasey Reeves, both of Milbury had used their design skills in Painting & Design Technology to apply a pink patch decal to the window of an Upton Police Department’s cruiser. “We’ve always proud to see our students work on display and in this case driven through our community. It was an honor to assist our town’s police department with the pink patch decal and bring awareness to their Pink Patch Project Campaign,” said Tom Lamont, Painting & Design instructor. The Pink Patch Project is an innovative public awareness campaign designed to bring attention to the fight against breast cancer and to support cancer research organizations in combating this devastating disease through the sales of collectible uniform patches, public safety agencies worldwide are helping to bring an end to breast cancer. This is just one of the efforts by BVT students. For 11 years, the Volleyball Teams have been helping to raise money for Breast Cancer Research through their Dig Pink fundraiser. The Dig Pink games were held on Tuesday, October 22 and Varsity games were played on Wednesday, October 23. To learn more about how BVT students are giving back or to make a donation, please visit ValleyTech.k12.ma.us/givingback. Thank you for supporting the BVT teams, the community, and these important causes.

Spooky Runners

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Even the pouring rain didn’t scare the runners of the 4th Annual MUEF Spooky Run 5K Road Race on October 27 in Upton. Over 100 runners of all ages ran or walked the 3.1 mile or 5K course that started and ended in front of Nipmuc Regional High School. Prizes were awarded for the fast male and female runners in age categories and for best costumes. A Junior Goblin Race for those age 10 and under was held prior to the 5K. The event raised money to support “creative, innovative and sustainable” educational programs for all four schools in the Mendon Upton Regional School District.


Amanda Pajak (14), who was the overall women’s winner at 23:14.19.

Lola Duffy (1) of Upton ran in the Junior Goblin Race. The race began outside of Painting & Design Technology during exploratory. BVT photo.

Superheroes

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Upton-Mendon Town Crier
Nipmuc Football Fights Through Injury-Plagued Year

How hard have injuries hit the Nipmuc football team this fall?

Heading into the final scheduled regular season game, the Warriors are on their fifth tailback of the season. Three of the team’s four captains are inactive. Of the 54 players on the Nipmuc roster, 28 dressed for last weekend’s loss to Assabet. Last week, Nipmuc started a 120-pound sophomore at safety because there was no other option. Despite all of that, the Warriors have kept their fighting spirit throughout the season, first-year head coach Dave Tupper said. "The kids have hung in there, they have worked hard," Tupper said. "We are asking them to play different positions and that's not easy."

A lot has fallen on the Nipmuc players who remain healthy. Logan Gorman, the lone healthy captain, has been playing well on both sides of the ball. "He is continuing his leadership and picking up the slack with the other three guys not being able to be out there," Tupper said. Quarterback Jada Dushington, in addition to his role as the signal caller, has been asked to play defense, which Tupper said "is not something we ever thought we would have to do."

He also has to be one of our runners because of the depth situation," Tupper said. "He has really stepped up and done a great job."

If there is a silver lining to the array of injuries this season, it's that it has allowed younger players the chance to see additional playing time and earn reps in different spots on the field. Karac Dolber has played linebacker, fullback, and now tailback after injuries forced him into the latter position. Mike Tinio, a sophomore, has also seen significant time. "I think the seniors work too hard not to play, so if there is a senior capable of playing, we will go in that direction," Tupper said. "But there are a lot of spots where there is no senior capable, so a lot of the young guys are getting a lot of playing time."

That will likely continue to be the case this Saturday in the final scheduled regular season game against Blackstone-Millville/Hopedale before Nipmuc plays other teams that missed out on the postseason and caps the campaign on Thanksgiving against Blackstone Valley Tech.

“They are a good team and a tough group of kids,” Tupper said. “They’re well coached and have been for a while. I’ll be a test, but our guys aren’t quitting.”

Nipmuc Volleyball Primed for Tourney Run

By Chris Villani

Sports Reporter/Columnist

A total of 16 victories and a second-place finish in the Dual Valley Conference has Nipmuc volleyball head coach Brian Gerard believing his could be one of the final teams in the tournament and figures to be a threat to make a run one year. "I feel we can play with anybody," Gerard said. "They are among the top seeds in the upcoming district tournament. "We have had some great moments this year," Gerard said. "It's the first time we have beaten Hopedale in the six years I have been here. We had a fantastic five set win over Whitewright Christian, the DVC champs, in the tournament. "Taylor has just been phenomenal this year," Gerard said. "She has got to be the hardest hitting kid I have seen in a few years; she absolutely puts a wall up on the ball."

Johnson is also a six rotation player, leading the league in kills and hitting better from the back row than the front, Gerard said. Faugh Caughey has continued to contribute for the program. A starter since her freshman year, Gerard called Caughey the "epitome of consistency" and one of the team's best defensive players.

Gianna Weed, a junior, has been a "nice surprise" for Nipmuc this fall as the right side hitter. "She has been progressing wonderfully since she came up as a freshman," Gerard said. "She had put in a lot of time playing club volleyball. She doesn't get as many swings, but she is producing."

Nadia Gomolko has been solid in the middle and Ava Advanced Math and Science Academy, 61 of the opponent's points came courtesy of Nipmuc errors. "You can't beat anybody doing that," Gerard said. "If we play a clean game, I feel we can play with anybody."

Wachusett Mountain Ski and Snowboarding Program

The Milford Community Program has opened registration for students in grades 5 through 12 to participate in the Wachusett Mountain Ski and Snowboarding Program. The program will be held on Sundays for six weeks from January 5 through February 9.

All students must ride the bus for this program and pay for bus transportation prior to registering on the Wachusett Ski Program website. Complete online registration by visiting our website at MilfordCommunity.com under Kids - Winter activities or opt to submit a paper registration with transportation payment of $159 per Milford student or $160 per non-Milford student to Milford Community Program, 31 West Fountain St., Milford, MA 01757. Once 30 students register, the minimum number of students needed for the program to run, an office staff person will email or call participants with the log in information to select lift and rental options directly on the Wachusett website.

Deadline for transportation registration is Wednesday, November 20. For more information, please call the Milford Community Program office at 508-478-1119.
By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The Blackstone Valley Tech football team has only one loss on the season and a showdown with Assabet is set for deck Friday night, and head coach James Archibald said his team “has turned a corner” after an impressive win on the road last week against Littleton.

“I think we took a big step forward,” Archibald said after the 41-20 road triumph. “They are a great program, they’ve been to Gillette for the Super Bowl three times. For us to go up there and win, I think we turned a corner as a team and put together a really good game.”

It wasn’t easy, despite the three touchdown margin. After jumping out to a 14-0 lead, Littleton was able to battle back on multiple occasions during last Friday’s win, which improved Valley Tech’s record to 6-1. After failing to score late in the second quarter, J.D. Antaya helped break the game open with a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. After Cam Gallagher caused a fumble, Josh Matoe recovered and added some of Valley Tech’s key varsity cogs have taken on more responsibility.

Junior Luke Morrison, the team’s center attacking midfielder, has been the quarterback of the team, Al-Haza said.

“He is controlling the middle of the field and helping us get some opportunities on the offensive end,” Al-Haza said.

Outside wing Ian Chanter has been moved up to striker to try to fill the offensive void left by recent injuries. He has found the back of the net and put consistent pressure on opposing defenses. Mike Boone, a senior, is another player who has moved up to outside midfielder to try to patch the hole left by Charter.

Almost needless to say, remaining injury-free is the top priority for the Beavers with the tournament fast approaching. "Being healthy and ready to go come playoff time is the most important thing," Al-Haza said. "I still think we have a shot at a top-four seed, which is a goal we set for ourselves."

A top-four seed should be enough to guarantee the Beavers a home game in the district tournament. Before going on to the districts, Valley Tech was slated to be one of the top two seeds in the State Vocational Tournament. "It would be great to have a home game and hopefully get a better result in the first round than last year," Al-Haza said.

Sports

BVT Football ‘Turns A Corner’ Ahead of CAL Showdown

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

With a couple of injuries that slowed us down offensively, “he said coach Khalid Al-Haza.

In their absence, several players have had to be pulled up from the junior varsity team and some of Valley Tech’s key varsity cogs have taken on more responsibility. Junior Luke Morrison, the team’s center attacking midfielder, has been the quarterback of the team, Al-Haza said.

Porter said the state voxke and the final regular season game, as the team is getting healthy at the right time. Striker Jack Charron, lost about a third of the way through the season with a partial collarbone injury, “he said.

The Beavers will need those plays this weekend against 7-0 Assabet with the number two seed in the upcoming playoff field likely on the line. One of the Aectvs players has guaranteed a win over BVT, Archibald said, providing some bulletin board material.

“I don’t blame them, they are playing well and they feel like they are going to win all of their games,” Archibald said. “It’s great for the rivalry!”

Going into the weekend, the Beavers will need to find more consistency, “Archibald said. “We don’t play to the level of its competition but bring its best game every time. A sense of urgency will also be important, the coach added. “The girls need to come into every game realizing it could be their last game,” Porter said. “We need the same intensity, no matter who is opposite us on the field.”

As the team’s center back. She recovered from an early season injury to solidify the Valley Tech defense in front of goalkeeper Ella Gumienny, a freshman. “She has been a nice surprise, she had a lot of pressure on her coming in after last year’s accomplishments,” Porter said. “She has done well, kept her head about her, and kept us in most games.”

Junior Madison Magri has also stepped up at the outside midfield position, adding a double-digit goal total for BVT. “She fights with a big heart,” Porter said. “When Emma is being marked, she seems to get some wiggle room and it’s been a big help to our offense.”

On the eve of the postseason, BVT will need to find more consistency if there is going to be another deep run into the fall, Porter said, and not play to the level of its competition but bring its best game every time. A sense of urgency will also be important, the coach added. “The girls need to come into every game realizing it could be their last game,” Porter said. “We need the same intensity, no matter who is opposite us on the field.”

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BVT Girls Soccer Checks Off Multiple Goals

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Porter has put together a strong follow up to a stellar freshman campaign a year ago. “She has been our greatest scoring threat,” Porter said. “She has about 26 goals on the season and we expect a few more from her before it’s all said and done.”

Senior Cassidy Waldo has anchored the other side of the field as the team’s center back. She recovered from an early season injury to solidify the Valley Tech defense in front of goalkeeper Ella Gumienny, a freshman. "She has been a nice surprise, she had a lot of pressure on her coming in after last year's accomplishments," Porter said. "She has done well, kept her head about her, and kept us in most games."

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Inquire About
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By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The Nipmuc boys' soccer team finished the regular season with wins in three of its final four games, capping off the campaign with 10- wins total and inspiring confidence from head coach Chris Hadfield.

“I think we are peaking at the right time,” Hadfield said following a win Monday over Hopkinton. “That’s what we have been focusing on, making sure we are ready for the playoffs and ready for the final run.” After capturing the district title, a season ago, this Warriors team is good enough to repeat, Hadfield said. The team has worked through some injuries but everyone is expected to be healthy by the start of the tournament. The key then, Hadfield said, will be finding consistency. “We have demonstrated that we can take on good quality teams, but we have lulls in our game,” he said. “I think it’s about staying focused throughout the entire game, staying positive in our approach, and bouncing back from setbacks as quickly as we can.”

The Warriors finished second in the Dual Valley Conference this fall, posting a 10-1-4 overall record and a 4-2-4 mark in the DVC. Nipmuc also defended its home turf well, notching five wins and three ties, without a loss during the eight game home slate.

“Y ou never know who you are going to get,” he said. “But we are on the right path going into the playoffs.”

Junior middle hitter Grace Arnold has helped spark the BVT attack and has been “dominant” on the court, Lehtinen said, and the kills are piling up.

Equally dominant at her position is the setting tandem of Skylar Morrissey, a co- captain, and Isabelle Shum. “It’s great to have that option of a back-up setter,” Lehtinen said. “They have been working in tandem to get us a lot of really good sets.” Rachael Rannikko, another captain, has been strong on the outside and putting together some great causes, the coach added. Junior Mya Ackerman is tops on the team in digs, helping BVT keep plays alive when the opponent is spiking the ball in their direction.

Lehtinen said the Beavers have been lacking in a large amount of signature wins, but they still began the week with an 8-2 record in the Colonial Athletic League and having won the 10 matches necessary to ensure a spot in the district. Putting together a run in the tournament will require reducing the number of errors and mistakes the team suffers, such as spiking the ball out of bounds or into the net.

In a loss to Nipmuc, Lehtinen said those types of mental mistakes allowed a lead to slip away. “We know we can compete with teams like Nipmuc and Whittier-Hollis Christian who are going to be the top teams to beat,” he said. “But we need to finish and be consistent throughout the sets. If we do so, we know we can compete with anybody.”

Nipmuc Boys Soccer Turns to Tourney Play

The Nipmuc Boys Soccer team is peaking as it heads into the playoffs.

Shown here in an early season game, the Nipmuc Boys Soccer team is peaking as it heads into the playoffs.

BVT Volleyball Ready for Postseason Play

The Valley Tech girls volleyball team is ready for postseason play.

BVT began the postseason earlier this week with the state vocational playoffs and headed into the week still awaiting word on who its first district tournament opponent would be.

Lehtinen figures his team will be around an 11 seed in the field, which likely means a first round tournament game on the road.

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