Kilcoyne said "the allegations raised by the complainant are based on notes taken by children had on is work as well as possible discipline of the complainant." Heron complainant also alleges that there was discussion about the effect the complainant’s staff had on him. The Attorney General’s office did say that “the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute.”

Heron's attorney, Ernest Horn, filed a complaint with the board on February 23, 2018, that the Board of Selectmen did not violate the state’s Open Meeting Law by discussing Police Chief Thomas O’Loughlin’s contract, responded to that complaint. The Attorney General's office said that the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute. "We find that the Board did not violate the Open Meeting Law," Assistant Attorney General KerryAnne Kilcoyne wrote. The Attorney General's office did say that "the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute." Heron alleged that, during the October 24, 2017 executive session meetings, "we find that the Board did not violate the Open Meeting Law," Assistant Attorney General KerryAnne Kilcoyne wrote. The Attorney General’s office did say that “the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute.”

Kilcoyne's letter stated her office reviewed the original complaint; Brown's letter outlined the dispute: Heron alleged that, during the October 24, 2017 executive session meetings, "we find that the Board did not violate the Open Meeting Law," Assistant Attorney General KerryAnne Kilcoyne wrote. The Attorney General’s office did say that “the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute.” Heron alleged that, during the October 24, 2017 executive session meetings, "we find that the Board did not violate the Open Meeting Law," Assistant Attorney General KerryAnne Kilcoyne wrote. The Attorney General’s office did say that “the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute.” Heron alleged that, during the October 24, 2017 executive session meetings, "we find that the Board did not violate the Open Meeting Law," Assistant Attorney General KerryAnne Kilcoyne wrote. The Attorney General’s office did say that “the discussions that actually occurred during the executive sessions are in dispute.”

"We sell more so you save more!"
Trinity Episcopal Church Celebrates the Sounds of Its Rebuilt Organ

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The original Hook & Hastings organ had filled Trinity Episcopal with music since it first opened its doors in 1877. However, as the Church continued to expand, the instrument did not meet its musical needs and wants. According to Randy Bloom, the Church's Minister of Music, the former organ was nine ranks. Pipes in an organ are grouped together in rows, or ranks, according to the particular sound that the pipe makes. "Back in the day, it was adequate, but ever time we began to realize it didn't suit the needs of our Church," said Bloom.

Logistically, there were difficulties as well. Because of where the organ was located, the organist and the choir couldn't see each other. As a result, the parish realized it was time to move on from their historic organ. However, in order to restore the nearly 145-year instrument it would cost upwards of $40,000. After investigating other options, the Milford Parish turned to organ builder Timothy Smith of Smith & Gilbert out of New York.

Smith, who is a church musician himself, rebuilds organs from pipes and parts he collects from all around the country. He's then able to create custom-made pipe organs to suit the needs of each parish. "Pipes can last centuries," explained Bloom.

"We are so thankful to Domingos Roda and the Prospect Heights mayors for all their work on this beautiful case," Lopes said at the dedication ceremony. Former mayor Joseph Lopes noted that his Class of 1951 donated the athletic trophy cases in the front lobby of Milford High School and it was only fitting that special athletes have their own trophy case, as well. The new one is located in the hallway between the school's cafeteria and auditorium. "Special Olympics is near and dear to the heart of Milford," Lopes said.

Take a vacation from stressful checking accounts

Troy K. MacDonald Murray enjoy the sounds of the Parish's newly rebuilt organ.

"We are so thankful to Domingos Roda and the Prospect Heights mayors for all their work on this beautiful case," Lopes said. "Special Olympics is near and dear to the heart of Milford," Lopes said.

Prospect Heights Mayors Donate Special Athletes’ Trophy Case

By Kevin Ruddin
Staff Reporter/Columnist

One of the duties of the person chosen to be Prospect Heights "mayor" each year is to select and carry out a project that will benefit either the Prospect Heights section of town or the entire Milford community. The 2017-2018 mayor, Domingos “Mingo” Roda, chose the latter, and a new trophy case for the town’s special athletes was unveiled at Milford High School this month.

Former Prospect Height Mayor Domingos Roda and Jennifer Walsh, Transition/Vocation Coordinator for Milford Public Schools, stand in front of the new special athletes’ trophy case – a community service project led by Roda.

"I can’t think of a better thing than to build this for you folks," Roda told a crowd of special athletes on June 11. "But, it’s too small," he joked, noting the case already is filled. The hand-made trophy case cost about $4,500 in terms of labor and materials, he said. It’s designed so that a tier of shelves can be added to house more trophies, he explained. 

"We are so thankful to Domingos Roda and the Prospect Heights mayors for all their work on this beautiful case," special athlete Ben Rizoli said at the dedication ceremony.

Former mayor Joseph Lopes noted that his Class of 1951 donated the athletic trophy cases in the front lobby of Milford High School and it was only fitting that special athletes have their own trophy case, as well. The new one is located in the hallway between the school’s cafeteria and auditorium. "Special Olympics is near and dear to the heart of Milford," Lopes said.

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JUNE 28, 2019

Milford Town Crier
BauerFinancial 5-Star Rating for Homefield Credit Union

BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation’s premier bank and credit union rating firm just awarded its 5-Star rating to Homefield Credit Union for its financial excellence. Homefield Credit Union earned Bauer’s highest rating for financial strength and stability, which indicates it excels in areas of capital adequacy, profitability, asset quality and much more. “The People Helping People ideology that engenders credit unions,” said Karen Dorway, president of BauerFinancial, “is alive and well. Credit unions base decisions on relationships, not just on numbers. We seem to be coming to a point where human interaction is regaining importance. Technology is an invaluable tool, but only when it enhances the member experience. Homefield Credit Union has never lost sight of that.” Homefield Credit Union was established in 1966 and today, serves Worcester and Middlesex counties, through two conveniently located offices in Milford and North Grafton. It can also be found online at HomeFieldCU.com.

Blackstone Heritage Corridor 2020 Calendar Photo Contest

Between the stunning, varied landscape of the Blackstone River Valley and the four seasons that come to paint it, there are a myriad of ways to capture photos for Blackstone Heritage Corridor’s (BHC) 2020 Calendar Photo Contest. With the 2020 calendar theme being weather, one could easily find a winning image in their photo archives. From rainbows to sunsets and ice storms to fog, each day the weather paints a different picture.

BHC’s annual calendar photo contest receives hundreds of entries, but only 13 images will be selected for the 2020 calendar to illustrate the cover and each of the 12 months. Submitted images not selected for the calendar are used throughout the year for BHC’s various promotional materials, including its website, annual report, rack cards and much more. To be considered for the 2020 Calendar Contest, photos must focus on weather in the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor and must be original digital photography. Photos must be submitted in high resolution (300 dpi minimum), horizontal JPEG format, 10 inches wide and 8 inches high. No black and white or altered images, please.

The deadline to enter is Wednesday, August 15. Entry forms can be downloaded from BHC’s website at BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org or requested by calling the BHC office at 508-234-4424, or by emailing bcombs@BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org. There is no limit on the number of entries. Each individual photo for the contest must be submitted with a signed entry form. Winners will be notified in early September.

Milford Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, the activities take place at Town Hall. Official meeting notices are posted on Town Clerk’s Bulletin Board. For additional information, contact the appropriate Board or official.

Tuesday, July 2
Milford Finance Committee Capital Planning Subcommittee, Room 14, 6 p.m.
Notice of Sira Naturals Community Outreach Meeting, Room 3, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 4
Town Hall Offices Closed

Wednesday, July 10
Milford Youth Commission, 24 Pearl St., 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, July 11
Board of Library Trustees, Town Library, 7 p.m.

GRADUATE

Melissa Marie Braza
Melissa Marie Braza of Milford received a Bachelor of Science in Commerce & Business Administration from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa during the spring commencement on May 3 through 5.

Christen Nardini
Christen Nardini of Milford graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Design, Graphic Design Concentration from Becker College this spring.

Austin Bernard LaBastie
Austin Bernard LaBastie, the son of Daniel and Kelli LaBastie of Mendon, graduated on May 11 from Worcester Polytechnic Institute earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. He was a member of WPI baseball team and Sigma Phi Epsilon. His grandparents are Bernard and Joan Tessicini of Milford and Daniel and LaBastie of Mendon. LaBastie is working at Mitre Corporation, Bedford as a Network Engineer.

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BOSTON LASER

JUNE 28, 2019 Milford Town Crier
Milford Federal Celebrates National Police Week

In honor of National Police Week, May 12 to 18, Milford Federal Bank employees visited local police departments in Milford, Northbridge and Woonsocket to deliver lunch and express their gratitude. “We wanted to take time during this week of recognition to say thank you to all of our hard-working police officers,” said Milford Federal President & CEO, Paul Gilbody. “Delivering lunch was just a small way of giving back to these officers who give everything to protect us and our community.”

Shawn from left to right in Milford are: Chief of Police Tom O’Laughlin, Johnna O’Laughlin, Milford Federal Underwriter, Sgt. John Sanchioni, Gilbody and, Shane Elder, Milford Federal VP Commercial Lender.

Wayside Launches New Program for Children Impacted by the Opioid Epidemic

Wayside Youth & Family Support Network announced recently it has hired Nanci DaSilva, a bilingual licensed mental health counselor, to run its newest program for children whose families are struggling with addiction. DaSilva was the Risk Management Coordinator at Wayside.

The Children Impacted by Substances (CIS) program, funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, is part of Wayside’s Trauma Intervention Services in Milford and is open to children age five and older in 26 surrounding towns that make up portions of Worcester, Norfolk and Middlesex counties. Wayside was one of three Massachusetts organizations and among 41 providers nationally to receive a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime.

CIS clients receive services such as individual and group therapy and support from an advocate who will accompany them to court, the police department, schools and state agencies. Wayside clinicians will provide comprehensive care and address known barriers to receiving services such as language, transportation access and childcare and are trained to work with vulnerable populations such as LGBTQ+ young adults and immigrants.

Indigenous People Poster Display

A different perspective on the indigenous people of the Americas and around the world can be seen at the Milford Town Library during July. Stephen Lewis is displaying 25 posters from his extensive collection of over 8600 items that depict indigenous peoples. Not only do the posters offer interesting graphics, they also impart information about the history and cultures of these native peoples, many of whom were almost obliterated as different groups, primarily Europeans, discovered and conquered their lands. Two posters depicting Native Americans focus on the involvement of the Navajo people during World War II, the famous US Army Code Talkers, who used their language to help defeat the Japanese. The other depicts one of the athletic achievements of Jim Thorpe. Other posters focus on the First Nation peoples of Canada and the aboriginal people of Australia.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Milford Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Lewis has been collecting political posters for 20 years and has been staging exhibits around Massachusetts for the past 15 years. He attributes his love for the posters and creating exhibits, to his background as a political activist and a union leader. For more information, email him at Lewisposters@gmail.com
By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Today, more and more people are experiencing the benefits of chiropractic care like never before. Recent studies have shown that more than 33 million Americans are seeking out the specialty to relieve various types of pain. And while HealthSource of Milford is committed to restoring their patient’s optimal health through their chiropractic services, the doctors on staff proudly take their care a step further.

Chiropractors use hands-on spinal adjustments to gently align the body’s musculoskeletal structure, ultimately helping to relieve back, neck, and other joint pain. “We go beyond those services; we take a whole-body approach,” said chiropractor Dr. Kristin Lewis. The purpose, she explained, is to make certain once the pain goes away—it stays away.

HealthSource of Milford opened its doors in January and its highly qualified and friendly staff consists of Dr. Lewis, who received her bachelor’s degree in exercise science before graduating from New York Chiropractic College. In addition, co-owners (and sisters) Dr. Alpa Daga, a physician from India who at one time ran a diagnostic center in her home country, and Arpita Shah, who takes care of the business aspect of the practice.

What sets HealthSource apart from other chiropractic offices is its exclusive rehab program. New patients will complete a comprehensive assessment that might include x-rays taken conveniently on the premises. From there, an individualized treatment plan is put in motion. Adjustments to the spine and neck are likely an initial treatment toward feeling better, but HealthSource of Milford then takes it a step further if necessary, by utilizing non-invasive laser therapies for such things as swelling, spasms, and muscle tears. In addition, stretching techniques are taught and nutritional counseling is offered as well.

Prior to working at HealthSource, Dr. Lewis “shadowed” at a number of other chiropractic offices but affirms, “The resources we have here are the best in the area, bar none.” One of the biggest benefits of chiropractic care is it helps to stop chronic pain without the use of medication. Although medications can mask various types of pain, it won’t necessarily tackle the cause and therefore will likely return. Chiropractic treatment targets the source of the pain and helps patients experience relief almost immediately with taking medication. The Milford practice has treated everyone from veterans and athletes to expectant moms, seniors, and children.

HealthSource of Milford is located at 138 Main St. To set up an appointment, call 508-282-5249 or view healthsourcesources.com/milford for more information. Most insurances are accepted. Through the end of June, the practice is offering a $30 pain relief exam and x-ray (if necessary) to all first-time patients.

Milford Youth Among 300 Students Attending DA’s Student Wellness Conference

Hundreds of middle and high school students from across Worcester County learned about the dangers of drugs, tobacco and vaping, and received an interactive presentation about the importance of cyber safety and the responsible use of social media at District Attorney Joseph D. Early’s annual Student Wellness Conference on May 23 at Worcester State University.

The 300 students came from 15 different schools and included a group from the Milford Youth Center.

“The conference this year focused on relevant issues our teens are facing every day: drugs and alcohol, cyber safety, vaping and mental health,” Early said. “Prevention is one of my top priorities, and I am proud of how well our presenters did motivating the students who attended to make good decisions and positive choices when faced with these challenges. I hope that these young leaders will bring the messages they learned throughout the conference to their schools and share them with their peers.”

The conference included opening remarks from Worcester State University President Barry Maloney, a keynote presentation by Improbable Players, a group of actors in that these young leaders will bring the messages attended to make good decisions and positive health, “Early said. “Prevention is one of my top priorities, and I am proud of how well our.”

Tara Trappe, President of Improbable Players, explained that the students will remember the conference long after the event. “They will take what they learned and pass it on to their peers and the community,” Trappe said. “The goal is to keep these students safe.”

HealthSource of Milford located at 138 Main St. treated everyone from veterans and athletes to expectant moms, seniors, and children. HealthSource of Milford is located at 138 Main St. To set up an appointment, call 508-282-5249 or view healthsourcesources.com/milford for more information. Most insurances are accepted. Through the end of June, the practice is offering a $30 pain relief exam and x-ray (if necessary) to all first-time patients.

Charles River Bank Sponsors Medway Summer Concerts

Charles River Bank Senior Vice President of Customer Care and Relationship Development Ann Sherry, left, presents a donation check to Medway Parks and Recreation Director Jude Harrington in support of the 2019 Summer Concert Series at Choate Park. Concerts are held on Mondays in July from 6 to 8 p.m. and are also supported by a grant from the Medway Cultural Council. Charles River Bank photo

The Advertiser's Club Directory

The Advertiser’s Club Directory is a listing of those businesses that have contracted to advertising at least 12 times a year in The Milford Town Crier. Features include a listing in this directory, discounts and a feature article about your business (size and frequency requirements apply).

Business Name — Ad on Page
Affordable Junk Removal — 11
American Climbers — 11
Area Glass — next
Barry Marcus Watch Mover — next
Bright Insurance — 4
Boston Eye and Laser Group — 3
Canvas & Cup — 9
Charles River Bank — 15
CPR Inc. — next
Crystal Poels — 8
Delgo Moving & Storage — next
Gentle Dental, Milford — 4
Guerrier & Halton, Inc. — next
Happy Valley Asian Bodywork — next
Health Source Chiropractic — 13
Homestead Credit Union — 13
Indiana Plumbing — 11
Imperial — 3
Isokore Overhead Doors — next
Joyce Plumbing — 10
Koopman Paint & Lambr — 10
Lazarus Properties Group — 12
Mac Med Spis — next
Medway Oil & Propel Company — 10
MetroWest Oral Surgical Associates — next
Milford Dental — next
Milford Federal — 2
Milford Franklin Eye Associates — 12
Mr. St. Charles Academy — next
Nathan’s Jooders — 17
Park Place Dental — 2
PAGS Fed & Bausi — next
Simoneau Electric — next
Sweet Mango — next
Confession Tree Service — 10
Wanaura Japanese Restaurant — next
Washout Youth and Family Services — next
Wolf Dental — next
Women’s Total Body Fitness / Mash Up — 17
Youth Mortgage — 17

West Hill Road Access to West Hill Park is Closed

Historically, West Hill Park has been accessed by visitors through the use of West Hill Road. Officials recently learned that the majority of West Hill Road is privately owned and not a public road. As a result, there is currently no public access to West Hill Park from West Hill Road.

While the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is working towards a resolution of this issue, visitors who are interested in accessing the West Hill Reservoir and Dam Project are encouraged to park at the West Hill Dam Project Office, 518 E. Hartford Ave., Uxbridge. Access to West Hill Park and associated trails and beach may be reached from that parking area.

Additionally, there is a no day use fees for the 2019 season at the park, which is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily now through September.

JUNE 28, 2019
Milford Town Crier

Charles River Bank Sponsors Medway Summer Concerts

Charles River Bank Senior Vice President of Customer Care and Relationship Development Ann Sherry, left, presents a donation check to Medway Parks and Recreation Director Jude Harrington in support of the 2019 Summer Concert Series at Choate Park. Concerts are held on Mondays in July from 6 to 8 p.m. and are also supported by a grant from the Medway Cultural Council. Charles River Bank photo
Encounters of a legal alien
By Chrissie Barnett

Of bad hair and bonding

I have these moods that need to be fulfilled right away.

Last night I needed a haircut at 7:30 p.m. So I was the nearest hairdresser that was still open and would take a walk-in. Doing research and carefully selecting someone who I trust with my hair is not my thing. I am a spur of the moment hair-chopper off. The shop had three ladies working there. Two young and stylish ones, as you expect a good hairdresser to look like. And one older lady with an out-of-date haircut, looking a bit out of place and a bit unloved, standing in a corner. She spoke hardly any English.

As a fellow immigrant my heart leapt and I decided to love her. It was she who would cut my hair, because fellow immigrants are drawn to each other. It doesn’t matter where we are from, we have an understanding of each other that no crazy American could match. The trouble was she did not understand me at all and did the opposite of what I had in mind for my hair.

Instead of an edged kind of bob hairstyle, you know the kind, front longer than back; I now have a front shorter than the back and the kind of layers that women 20 years my senior wear. In fact, she gave me her exact haircut.

She was smiling and happy and proud, feeling utterly bonded.

I did not have the heart to tell her how much I hated my hair, so instead of falling into my blunted German-mode telling her “What in the world did you just do - I hate you!” I fell into my British-mode, perhaps because it was the last place I lived before the U.S., and I said ‘This is great – thank you very much’.

I since washed and styled my hair three times in the faint hope it will somehow change into a great cut. No such luck.

Well, my list for my forthcoming midlife crisis next year is one item shorter. With this haircut I have somewhat redeemed and have to at least say you liked the cookie before you respond to whatever the person said.

This strategy makes Girl Scouts the unrecognised peace-makers of the world. After all, who can refuse or dislike a Thin Mint or a Samoa?

And so, I am envisioning a Board of Selectmen meeting or a Town Meeting with a giant cookie jar. The new rule would be that if you disagree with something said, first you have to eat a cookie before voicing your opinion.

After all, it's hard to be sneaky when there's food in your mouth.

The downside of this is that normally rectitent Town Meeting Members might decide to just get to a cookie. But, at least the moderator would be able to recognize all who wish to speak – because they be reaching into the cookie jar.

Of course, I'm poking fun here.

As someone who comes into daily contact with a lot of people, it's always good to learn more about dealing with compliant, confrontational, avoidant and passive aggressive types who are either direct or indirect and like to win or make peace in all sorts of daily encounters.

The danger in focusing on who is what type is becoming the medical student who immediately diagnose everyone with whom she comes into contact with as having the last disease she studied.

Nonetheless, if there is one thing I took away from the afternoon tutorial, it's that it is worth passing a bit and looking at whatever biases and assumptions we carry within us and try to assess those in the other person.

Maybe a few seconds' pause now and then will make life less stressful.

Excuse me while I reach for a Thin Mint!

MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEALS

Euphrosyne Catholic Church, 61 Wood St. (Rt 135),
Hopedon. Sponsored by the Hopedon. Catholic Service Connection. 508-435-4356 or
508Alhopedon.org.

Every Thursday: 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Lunch, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St.,

5:30 p.m. Supper, United Parish, 1 Church St.,
Upton. Donations accepted. Reservation, three days ahead by calling 508-529-3192.

Last Thursday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Congress St., Milford, sponsored by First
t Methodist Church of Milford volunteers. 508-
473-8446 or office@trinitychurchmilford.org

Last Friday 4:30-6 p.m. Dinner, Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Congress St., Milford,
Sponsored by the Hopedon Churches (Unitarian, Sacred Heart and Union
Evangelical). 508-473-8446 or office@
trinitychurchmilford.org.

Last Saturday 6 to 7 p.m. Brown bag lunch/
diner, Universalist Unitarian Church, 23 Pine St,
Milford. 508-473-3589, or umchurch@verizon.net.

Summer Vacation

WE DO NOT PUBLISH THE LAST 2 WEEKS IN JULY.
This year July 23, 2019 to August 5, 2019.

The papers return August 2 in Upton/Mendon (DEADLINE July 23)...
August 9 in Milford Town Crier (DEADLINE
August 31).

HAPPY SUMMER VACATION TO US ALL!!!
Free Fun Fridays - 100 Venues, 10 Fridays!

The Highland Street Foundation's Free Fun Fridays offers visitors no-cost admission to many of the most treasured cultural venues in Massachusetts. This program was created to increase access and enrichment opportunities for children and families throughout Massachusetts during the summer months. Every Friday, from the end of June through the end of August, multiple sites are open for free. For more information, visit HighlandStreet.org/programs/free-fun-fridays-2019

June 28
Lyric Stage Company of Boston
Cape Ann Museum, Gloucester
Clark Art Institute, Williamstown
MIT Museum
Nichols House Museum, Boston
Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge
Plimoth Plantation
The Mount: Edith Wharton’s Home, Lenox
Wenham Museum
Worcester Art Museum

July 5
Amelia Park Children’s Museum, Westfield
Cape Cod Maritime Museum, Hyannis
Children’s Museum in Easton
Edward Gorey House, Yarmouth Port
Falmouth Museums on the Green
Gloucester Stage Company

July 12
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Charles River Watershed Association, Boston
Chesterwood, Stockbridge
Children’s Museum of Greater Fall River
Gloucester Stage Company
Maiawie Performing Arts Center, Great Barrington
New England Quilt Museum, Lowell
The Patriots Hall of Fame, Foxborough
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton
Springfield Museums

July 15
Boston Children’s Museum
The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
 Battleship Cove, Fall River
Cape Cod Children’s Museum, Mashpee
Nantucket Martin Mitchell Association
New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston
Peabody Essex Museum
Sandwich Glass Museum
Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History, Weston
The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst

Free Summer Concerts
UnBank and Lampin Corporation have once again signed on as sponsors of ValleyCAST’s 10th Annual Free Summer Concert Series, featuring local musicians at the Whitin Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville. The concert series kicks off this year with the Blackstone Valley Community Concert Band on Wednesday, July 3 and continues every Thursday evening until August 29, rain or shine, with the music moving indoors in case of inclement weather. The concerts begin at 6 p.m. In addition to UnBank and Lampin Corporation, the series also receives support from Northbridge Cultural Council, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Open Sky Community Services and ValleyCAST.

July 26
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate
Cape Cod Museum of Art, Dennis
Commonwealth Museum, Boston
Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Boston
Fitchburg Art Museum
Historic Deerfield
Larz Anderson Auto Museum, Brookline
The Gardens at Elm Bank (Mass Hort), Wellesley
Ventfort Hall Mansion & Gilded Age Museum, Lenox

August 2
Franklin Park Zoo, Boston
Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, Lenox
Chatham Shark Center
Children’s Museum at Holyoke
Concord Museum
International Volleyball Hall of Fame, Holyoke
Lynn Museum
Museum of Russian Icons, Clinton
Naumkeag, The Trustees, Stockbridge
Old State House, Boston

August 9
Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park
Davis Museum at Wellesley College
Gore Place, Waltham
Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield
JFK Hyannis Museum
Museum of the National Center of Afro-American Artists, Boston
New Bedford Whaling Museum
Old Colony History Museum, Taunton
Worcester Historical Museum
The Greenway Carousel, Boston

August 16
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum
Berkshire Theatre Group, Stockbridge
Cahoon Museum of American Art, Cotuit
Discovery Museum, Acton
Fruitlands Museum, The Trustees, Harvard
Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton
Harvard Museums of Science & Culture, Cambridge
Paragon Carousel, Hull
Poncipients Art Association and Museum
USS Constitution Museum, Boston

August 23
The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston
Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield
Boston Athenaeum
Buttonwood Park Zoo, New Bedford
Emily Dickinson Museum, Amherst
Fort Devens Museum, Devens
Freedom Trail® Foundation, Boston
Heritage Museums & Gardens, Sandwich
Museum of African American History, Boston & Nantucket
The Mary Baker Eddy Library & Mapparium, Boston

August 30
Old Sturbridge Village
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, Brewster
Capron Park Zoo, Attleboro
EcoTarium, Worcester
Griffin Museum of Photography, Winchester
Hull Lifesaving Museum, Hull
Mass Audubon’s Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, Topsfield
MASS MaCA, North Adams
Museum of the First Corps of Cadets, Boston
Osterville Historical Museum, Osterville

When it comes to Senior Care...

WE MAKE THE GRADE
where others fall short.

Lydia Taft – 3 STAR
Milford Center (Genesis) – 2 STAR
Countryside Healthcare – 2 STAR
Medway Country Manor – 1 STAR
Franklin Health – 1 STAR

WHY SETTLE FOR LESS
WHEN YOU CAN HAVE
BLAIRE HOUSE – 5 STAR

“Highest” rating from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES:
Free admission to 100+ cultural venues in Massachusetts.

WHEN IT COMES TO SENIOR CARE...
WE MAKE THE GRADE
where others fall short.

FULL RATING:
5 STARS
Lydia Taft
Milford Center (Genesis)
Countryside Healthcare
Medway Country Manor
Franklin Health

WHY SETTLE FOR LESS
WHEN YOU CAN HAVE
BLAIRE HOUSE – 5 STAR

“Highest” rating from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

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

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Explore the Blackstone River Valley Waterways

Explore the waterways of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor this summer with volunteers of the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. Group paddles are hosted on Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Participants must bring their own canoe or kayak, paddles and life jackets. Arrange to leave for any paddle, check the Paddle Club’s message board for changes or ricka-flatwater.org/bvcal. For complete details on each paddle, visit BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org/

To participate in the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club's events, a Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA) membership fee of $15 is required, as is a $10 membership fee for the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. These fees provide a family membership and are good for the entire season. For information about the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club and membership, contact Cheryl at StonoFoxFarm@juno.com or 401-497-5887. Group paddles are:
- July 2, enjoy a flatwater section of the Slatersville Reservoir, meet at 2890 Broncos River from the Lackey Dam, Oakhurst Rd., Sutton.
- July 3, travel to Bold Point Park, Highway, Slatersville, R.I.
- July 9, meet at the Blackstone Gorge parking area, County St., Blackstone, for a paddle to the Millville rapids.
- July 16, enjoy a paddle at the scenic Valley Falls Marsh including a trip up the Blackstone River to Pratt Dam, meet at the Central Falls Landing, 30 Madeira Ave., Central Falls, R.I.
- July 23, explore the tranquil Bowdush Lake at the George Washington State Campground and Management Area, 2185 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, R.I.
- July 30, travel to Bold Point Park, Waterfront Dr., East Providence, for an urban paddle along the Providence River passing the Waterfire braziers into Water Place Park to the confluence of the Blackstone River to Pratt Dam, meet at the Waterfront Dr., East Providence, for an urban paddle along the Providence River passing the Waterfire braziers into Water Place Park to the confluence of the Woonasquatucket and Mohansuck Rivers.
- August 6, explore Manchaug Pond in Sutton, meet at the State Boat Ramp on Torrey Rd. This paddle is suitable for all and a great place for a swim.
- August 20, paddle at Spring Lake in Burrillville, R.I., meet at the Black Hutt boat access on Black Hutt Rd., Burrillville.
- August 27, a paddle at Stump Pond, 307 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, R.I.
- Saturday, September 7, a paddle of the Blackstone Gorge within site of the Millville Rapids, meet at the end of County St. Blackstone at 12:30 p.m.

Be a West Hill Dam Junior Ranger
This Summer

Youths, ages 6 through 12, who would like to experience working in the out-of-doors with animals, plants and people should have their parents contact the staff at West Hill Dam about the Junior Ranger Program. The program will have two sessions, July 15 to 19 and July 22 to 26. The group will meet daily from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Hill Dam, 518 East Hartford Ave., Uxbridge, and must attend all five days in the session to graduate. A parent, guardian, other adult or teen family member is required to stay nearby on the grounds during the program. Participants will lead hikes, age trees, collect animal tracks and learn to lead others outdoors plus will experience the duties of a Park Ranger, explore various habitats, band birds and collect other wildlife samples and learn water safety skills and practice environmental ethics. Former graduates are eligible to complete their Level 2 sessions.

For more information or to register call Ranger Violia, 978-318-8417.

Milford Community School Summer Programs for Children

The Milford Community School Use Program is now accepting registrations for its Summer Day Camps & Specialty Camps, which run through August 2. Day camp is for students who have completed grades K-7. Camps are open to both residents and non-residents and participants have a choice of weeks. Summer camp includes many indoor/outdoor activities matched to grade level, indoor swimming, field trips and special activities. There is a Counselor in Training for teens who have completed 8th and 9th grade.

Participants, who have a choice of weeks, will be working with experienced counselors and under the supervision of the CIT Coordinator. Various specialty programs are also available such as Tennis, Spanish, Creative Legos, Girls Lacrosse, Space Wars Robotics, PreK Art Party and Track Exploration.

Online registrations as well as paper registration, accompanied by a payment made payable to Town of Milford - MGSUD, are being accepted. Forms and more information are available at MilfordCommunity.com.

Christin’s Gallery
Fun Art Classes by Professional Artist
facebook.com/christinsgallery

OPEN SUMMER CLASSES

For more information and booking go online www.ChristinsGallery.com

July 6
VanGogh inspired Sunflowers for Adults

July 12
Paint Pouring Experiments for Adults

July 27
Christin’s Culture Club for Kids

July 27
Fill the Gallery Painting for Adults

Daycare options for children ages 3-5 are available. Call today! (508) 966-1322

www.crystalpoolstore.com
Explore the Blackstone River Valley Bike Paths

Explore the bike paths of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor this summer with volunteers of the Blackstone Heritage Bikeway Ambassadors. Group rides on Wednesday evenings, departing at 6:30 p.m. Participants must wear their own helmets and bring their own bicycles. All rides are weather dependent. Check BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org and BHC’s Facebook page for updates and details. For more info on BHC's Bikeway Ambassadors, contact Suzanne Buchanan, volunteer at BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org or 508-234-4242.

Group bike rides are: June 26 – Ride from Woonsocket to Manville, R.I., with a tour of the newly expanded Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone Environmental Center, meet at Rivers Edge parking, 20 Davison Ave., Woonsocket.
July 17 – Full Moon Bike ride from the 1-295 N Visitor Center, Lincoln, to the Lesonde Marsh, Lincoln.
July 24 – Bike from the Lesonde Marsh, John St. Parking, 121 John St., Lincoln, to the Slater Mill Historic Site, Pawtucket.
July 31 – Gather at Loffel Carousel, Slater Park, 825 Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket, to meet up with the Ten Mile River Watershed Council for a guided ride along the Ten Mile River Greenway. Blackstone Heritage Corridor is also hosting a Corridor Chats networking event there starting at 4:30 p.m. and the public is invited to attend. RSVP for Corridor Chats, by emailing BCorrChats@BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org.
August 7 – Ride along the Blackstone River Greenway from Blackstone River Greenway parking, 93 Canal St., Blackstone to Uxbridge.
August 14 – Bike from the Slater Mill Historic Site, 67 Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket to Blackstone Boulevard in Providence and tour the Swan Point Cemetery.
Saturday, August 17 – Bike the East Bay Bike Path along the Narragansett Bay coast from the Max Read Athletic Field, Pleasant St., Pawtucket, at 9:30 a.m.
August 21 – Ride along the Woonasquatucket River Greenway from Riverside Park, 50 Aleppo St., Providence to Johnston.

MYC Summer Camp

The Milford Youth Center Summer Camp registration is filling up. The camp runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, with an extended day option until 5 p.m. Camp begins July 8 and runs through August 16 for youths ages 8 through 14. Weeklong, single day and extended day options are available. Field trips include Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park, Water Wize, Canobie Lake Park, Pino, Skating, Hopkinton State Park, Paw Sox Game. For the calendar of activities, more information and for registration form, visit MilfordYouthCenter.org.

Each year local businesses and organizations help sponsor campers for the summer. For more information about sponsorship visit the website, email milfordyouthcenter@comcast.net or call 508-473-1756.

The Circus in Mendon
MENDON – On Monday, July 15, the Zerbini Family Circus will present two shows under the Big Top at 1 and 7:30 p.m. for the enjoyment of all in Mendon in the Fino Lot, at corner of North Ave. and Rt. 16. The show is a one ring presentation under the Big Top tent featuring performing camels, a liberty horse act, and amazing trained dogs. The program is rounded out with clowns, acrobats, aerialists, and jugglers. Advanced discount tickets of $10 each will be sold at Charles River Bank (Mendon Branch), Dean Bank, and Willowbrook Restaurant, Mendon. Tickets on the day of the show are $15 with younger age three and under free. The Circus is sponsored by the Mendon Lions Club. Free parking will be available at Clough School and the town field off of North Ave.

Family Circus will present two shows under the Big Top at 5 and 7:30 p.m. for the enjoyment of all in Mendon in the Fino Lot, at corner of North Ave. and Rt. 16. The show is a one ring presentation under the Big Top tent featuring performing camels, a liberty horse act, and amazing trained dogs. The program is rounded out with clowns, acrobats, aerialists, and jugglers. Advanced discount tickets of $10 each will be sold at Charles River Bank (Mendon Branch), Dean Bank, and Willowbrook Restaurant, Mendon. Tickets on the day of the show are $15 with younger age three and under free. The Circus is sponsored by the Mendon Lions Club. Free parking will be available at Clough School and the town field off of North Ave.

Ruth Anne Bleaney Senior Center

The Ruth Anne Bleaney Senior Center, located at 60 North Bow St., is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. Contact the center by calling 508-473-8334 or emailing scarl@milfordma.net. Sue Trotta Clark is the director.

Friday, June 28
12:30 p.m. Free Movie Friday, Chappoquiddick

Wednesday, July 3
9 a.m. Breakfast Presentation by Tri-Valley. Topic is Anti-inflammatory Foods, Tickets $3
Thursday, July 11
8:30 a.m. Adult Low Vision Support Group, No Cost
Festos Lobster Bake, Depart Center at 8:30 a.m., $89 Per Person

Tuesday, July 16
6 a.m. Book Club, "I’ll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman’s Obsessive Quest to Find the Golden State Killer," by Michelle McNamara, Call the Milford Town Library’s Information Desk to Reserve a Copy at 508-473-2145

Thursday, July 18
12:30 p.m. Healthy Living Luncheon, Sponsored by Liberty Adult Day Healthcare, Topic is Adult Health Day vs. Social Day, Cost $5 Refundable

Monday
8 a.m. Walking Club
8 a.m. Fitness Equipment & Internet
8:30 a.m. Outreach Services
8:30 a.m. Express Muscle & Mat, $5 for Seniors, $7 Under 60
9:30 a.m. Cribbage
9:30 a.m. Barrie Above*, $3 for Seniors, $7 Under 60
10 a.m. Gift Shop
10 a.m. Zumba Gold
1:15 p.m. Safe Exercise

Tuesday
8 a.m. Walking Club
8 a.m. Fitness Equipment & Internet
6:30 a.m. SHINE by Appointment
10 a.m. Gift Shop
10 a.m. Zumba Gold
11 a.m. Whist
11:45 a.m. Pound® $3 for Seniors, $7 Under 60
12:30 p.m. Turkey Foot Dominoes
1 p.m. Mah Jongg

Wednesday
8 a.m. Walking Club
8 a.m. Fitness Equipment & Internet
8:30 a.m. SHINE by Appointment
8:30 a.m. Outreach Services
9 a.m. Zumba Gold Toning
9 a.m. Wellness Nurse
10 a.m. Watercolor Class
10 a.m. Gift Shop
10:15 a.m. Fall Prevention Exercise Class
1 p.m. Bingo
1 p.m. Chess

Thursday
8 a.m. Walking Club
8 a.m. Fitness Equipment & Internet
6:30 a.m. SHINE by Appointment
9 a.m. Knitting and Sewing Class
9 a.m. Wellness Nurse
9 a.m. Yoga
10 a.m. Gift Shop
10:30 a.m. Line Dancing
1 p.m. Cribbage
1:15 p.m. Safe Exercise

Friday
8 a.m. Walking Club
8:15 a.m. Advanced Tap Dance (Alternative Fridays)
8 a.m. Fitness Equipment & Internet
8:30 a.m. SHINE by Appointment
8:30 a.m. Outreach Services
8:15 a.m. Beginner Tap Dance (Alternative Fridays)
9:15 a.m. Tap Dance
9 a.m. Hairdresser/Barber (by Appointment)
10 a.m. Gift Shop
10:30 a.m. Zumba Gold
11:45 a.m. Strength and Stretch
11:45 a.m. Pound® $3 for Seniors, $7 Under 60
Greenleaf Garden Club Annual Dinner

The Greenleaf Garden Club ended its 51st year with its annual dinner meeting in June at which the 2019-2020 officers were installed by former President Candy Skorupa. The 2019-2020 Board members are President Teddi Weber, Vice-President Gail Reichert, Corresponding Secretary Elaine McNanna, Co-Recording Secretaries Phyllis Foley and Fran Stone, Treasurer Patsy Timmons and Directors Barbara Brashier, Nancy Courtney and Judy Thomas. Weber presented the club’s accomplishments of the year by summarizing the many programs and activities of the past year. The club sponsored Junior Gardener workshops for 3rd and 4th graders, Garden Therapy floral design sessions with residents of the Countryside Health Care Facility, and maintained the library sidewalk garden and the downtown civic plantings. She declared the 51st year a successful one and commended the club’s membership for their efforts in making it all work.

The program included the presentation of the 2019 Unsung Hero Award to longtime member Carol Burke for her many contributions to the club. Burke has served as President, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and always is the first to volunteer her time for the club’s many projects.

The club looks forward to a new year with plans for exciting programs in horticulture, gardening, environmental preservation and floral design.

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

Walkabouts Among Upton’s Native American Ceremonial Places

Members of the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Trust will be offering walkabouts to see the Upton Chamber at Heritage Park and related ceremonial stone landscape features on top of Pratt Hill through the summer and fall. Both locations are in Upton. Anyone interested in joining one of the tours, which are held on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m., should send an email to nithpt.csl@gmail.com. The dates are July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12 and November 9.

Milford Dog License Deadline is Today, June 28

All dogs living in Milford need to be registered by 5 p.m. today at the Town Clerk’s office or through the town’s website – MilfordMA.gov/town-clerk/pages/online-payments – by Sunday, June 30.

Any dog registered after Sunday will incur a $10 late fee. Licensing male/female dogs with the late fee will be $35. Licensing spayed/neutered dogs with the late fee will be $16.

The Town Clerk’s office takes either cash or credit card (with a convenience fee).
**Where to Buy Local, Fresh Food**

By Kevin Budden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Monday, July 1, is not just the start of a new municipal fiscal year. It’s also the date that E.L. Harvey & Sons Inc., of Westborough, will replace long-time vendor Republic Services as the company conducting curbside pick-up of trash and recyclables. The Board of Health inked a three-year contract with Harvey at its June 17 meeting, paying the company $1,323,000 in the first year, $1,389,190 in the second year and $1,463,813 in the third year. Additional costs will be paid to pick-up recyclables. “It was in the best interests of the Town of Milford and the residents that we went this way,” board member Paul Mazzuchelli said. B.J. Harvey told the board of the Town of Milford and the residents of the Town of Milford and the residents of the Town on its website – ELHarvey.com – two hours. In addition, the company will service calls to its 1-800-321-3002 line within and has a policy of returning any customer service representative dedicated to Milford members the company will have a customer representative dedicated to Milford – as its municipal manager, Harvey said. Chairman Leonard Izzo noted the company is local, adding “Their family name is on the trucks.” Harvey will provide the town savings on processing recyclables, Mazzuchelli said, adding that Harvey’s 1-800 phone line “will take a lot of weight off our shoulders.” The Health Department’s staff received the bulk of calls whenever Republic had delays or missed pick-ups, he said. Harvey will provide “single-stream” recyclable collection, in which everything being recycled can go into one container, board members explained. “It makes it so much easier,” Izzo said.

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By Anne Mazar

There is a revival for the appreciation of homegrown foods. Many people want to buy local produce, farm-raised animals, free-range chicken eggs or grow their own vegetables and herbs for more flavorful and healthy food. Homeowners or farms offer the ability to ask your farmer directly about the products you will be consuming and see where they are grown. Discover scenic farms hidden in corners of your town. By supporting the local economy, you are also sustaining the countryside as an agrarian working landscape and preserving open space. With our fast-paced society, the pendulum swung to the convenience of processed foods. Study after study has shown processed foods are often unhealthy for people and the planet. They trend to be high in salt, saturated fats, artificial ingredients, refined carbohydrates and sugars. Many processed food contains palm oil. The clearing for palm plantations is causing incredible devastation to the rainforests in Indonesia and Malaysia and accelerating climate change. It is also pushing the orangutan, Borneo elephant and Sumatran tiger towards extinction. Human rights violations and child labor are daily occurrences on palm farms. Instead, eat your ingredients, refined carbohydrates and plastics, does not add additional pollution from transport and can be a healthy fast-food. Fresh vegetables roasted, sautéed or grilled with a little olive, salt and pepper are easy to cook and scrumptious. Tender fresh asparagus and juicy tomatoes are not something like their store-bought cousins. Below is a list of local farms, where you can get started. If there are other local farm stands, please email amaratzemendonna@gmail.com

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**New Trash Pick-up Company Starts on Monday**

His company has hired the same drivers who worked for Republic Services, and they will be driving the same routes in new trucks, Harvey said. The company also hired Michael Szczepan – who formerly worked for Republic Services – as its municipal manager, Harvey said. Chairman Leonard Izzo noted the company is local, adding “Their family name is on the trucks.” Harvey will provide the town savings on processing recyclables, Mazzuchelli said, adding that Harvey’s 1-800 phone line “will take a lot of weight off our shoulders.” The Health Department’s staff received the bulk of calls whenever Republic had delays or missed pick-ups, he said. Harvey will provide “single-stream” recyclable collection, in which everything being recycled can go into one container, board members explained. “It makes it so much easier,” Izzo said.

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**JUNE 28, 2019**

**Milford Town Crier**

**Where to Buy Local, Fresh Food**

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**JUNE 28, 2019**

**Milford Town Crier**
Police Chief brought up the complainant. Moreover, the Board contends that any discussion of the complainant's conduct actually arose during an individual conversation between Mr. Buckley and the Police Chief outside of a meeting.

Kilcoyne continued, "Following our review, we find insufficient evidence to formally conclude that any improper discussions took place during the executive session meetings. The versions of events provided by both the complainant and the Board are contradictory, and we cannot arrive at a final reading of the actual discussions that occurred during either executive session meeting."

Kilcoyne's letter reminded the Board of Selectmen that "we take seriously the allegations raised by the complainant" and advised it to make sure all executive sessions are entered into properly and "must remain focused only on those matters for which the executive sessions were lawfully called. Here, the Board convened in executive session under Purpose 2 to discuss the Police Chief's contract, and therefore any discussions should have remained focused on that topic."

Hereon has the right ask Superior Court to review the Attorney General's determination by filing notice within 21 days of receiving it, Kilcoyne's letter said.

The "notes taken by the Police Chief" — referenced in Kilcoyne's letter were mentioned in the March 26, 2018 letter sent by the Board of Selectmen to O'Loughlin that led to the selectmen's decision not to renew O'Loughlin's contract when it expires at the end of this month. "These documents purport to be your notes of our executive session meetings with you on October 24, 2017 and January 8, 2018. Without addressing each specific point or discussion that occurred during either executive session meetings with you on October 24, 2017 and January 8, 2018. Without addressing each specific point or discussion that occurred during either executive session meetings, the versions of events provided by both the complainant and the Board are contradictory, and we cannot arrive at a final reading of the actual discussions that occurred during either executive session meeting."

By Kevin Ruddin

Staff Reporter/Columnist

Board of Sewer Commissioners

• Voted to send a letter to the

Planning Board stating that a proposed building sign at 80

Sumner St. would have no effect on the town's sewer system. (June 18)

• Voted to send a letter to the

Planning Board stating that conversion of the former glass bottle manufacturing plant at

National St. into warehouse space would have no effect on the town's sewer system, provided there was no industrial waste discharge. (June 17)

• Opened annual bids for chemicals

– hydrated lime, polymerized aluminum coagulant and liquid polymer – used at the wastewater treatment plant. Bid awards are expected to be made at the board's July 16 meeting. (June 18)

• Met with Finance committee member Robert DeVita to review the close of the Fiscal Year 2019 budget, projections for Fiscal Year 2020, the status of the sludge dewatering facility's construction, and when would the town need to borrow $2 million to pay the final bills for the construction. (June 18)

Finance Committee

• Approved four so-called "Chapter 44 Section 33B" transfers between departmental line items to balance accounts in the Fiscal Year 2019 operating budget. The transfers were: $5,121 within the Assessors department, $4,500 within the School Technology department, $400 within the Town Accountant's department, and $4 from the Short-term Interest account to the Long-term Interest account. (June 12)

• Voted to elect Christopher

Morin as chairman and Alberto Correia as vice chairman for Fiscal Year 2020. (June 12)

• Elected John F. Hatch, M.D.

and Keller Williams Realty have merged in Milford. (June 18)

• Approved an amended site plan for a bottle manufacturing plant at 1 Purchase St. into a new, buildable lot. The board approved the plan on May 7, but changes were made to it – necessitating the second approval. (June 18)

• Approved an amended site plan for demolition and reconstruction to convert the former glass bottle manufacturing plant at 1 National St. into warehouse space. (June 18)

• Voted to send a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals on request of West St. Auto Body, Inc. for a variance to erect a 28 square-foot sign at the entrance to its 69 West

St. location. The recommendation is contingent upon the existing sign being removed if permission for the new one is granted. (June 18)

Police Chief Selection Committee

• Approved a Request for Proposals (RFP) for police/executive search forms to assist the committee in finding candidates. The RFP will be posted by late June, with responses due 30 days later and the committee to then select a firm. Police Chief Thomas O'Loughlin said he expected that between three and four firms would respond.

Chairman Dino DeBartolomeis thanked the subcommittee consisting of O'Loughlin, Edward Bertorelli and Richard Heller for developing the RFP. O'Loughlin added that Town Administrator Richard Villani and Town Counsel Charles Boddy assisted them. (June 11)

Zoning Board of Appeals

• Granted Frederick and Susan Elliott of 5 Elm St. a continuation until July 16 of their special permit request to return their single-family home back to a two-family residence. Board members said they needed better detailed plans in order to determine where a one-bedroom apartment would be located on the first floor. (June 13)
Selectmen Make Annual Appointments

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Board of Selectmen voted on June 17 to make its annual reappointments to town boards and committees:

• Rochelle Thomson as Animal Control Officer and Keith Haynes as Assistant Animal Control Officer until April 30, 2020.
• Leonard Oliveri as Fair Housing Director until June 30, 2020.
• William Touhey as Emergency Management Director and George Cleveland as Deputy Director until June 30, 2020.
• Rachel Haser, Dino Deiabartolomeis and Julie Gonzalez as members of the Commission on Disability until June 30, 2022.
• Joseph Zacchilli and Paul Braza as members of the Conservation Commission until June 30, 2022.
• Francis Small, Thomas O'Loughlin and Edwin Roth as members of the Council on Aging until June 30, 2022.
• Leonard Oliveri, John Morte, Brian Falk and Justin Dulak as members of the Fair Housing Committee until June 30, 2020.
• Aldo Cecchi, Michael Soares, Charles Mildosovich and Alberto Correia as members of the Finance Committee until June 30, 2022.
• Joseph Lopes and George Holland as members of the Geriatric Authority of Milford until June 30, 2022.

New members appointed to fill committee vacancies were:

• Brant Hornberger as a member of the Finance Committee until June 30, 2022.
• Jennifer Lyons as a member of the Milford Cultural Council until June 30, 2022.
• Teresa Persico as a member of the Personnel Board until June 30, 2022.
• Geraldine Kingkade as a member of the Registrars of Voters until June 30, 2022.
• David Consigli as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals until June 30, 2023 and Christopher Burns as an associate member until June 30, 2022.
• Susan Salamone, Lisa White and Ronald Taylor as members of the Milford Youth Commission until June 30, 2022.
Recent Actions by Milford Selectmen
By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist
Board of Selectmen

Transferred the All Alcoholic Beverages license and Common Victualer license for Lucky 9 Billiard & Bar at 199 East Main St. (Rt. 16) held by Ty Tran to Viana Bar, Inc. doing business as Traduzo Da Roca with Cassia Viana as manager. The new restaurant will be open from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday through Thursday and from 5 a.m. to 2 a.m. on Fridays (June 17).

• Granted a Class II used car dealer’s license to Master Board of Selectmen.

Staff Reporter/Columnist
By Kevin Rudden

JUNE 28, 2019

• Granted a Class II used car dealer’s license to Master Board of Selectmen

• Accepted donations of $750 for the July 4th Parade. (June 17)

• Authorized Town Treasurer Christopher Pilla to take out a $3,143,415 bond for three months while the town waits for the final Massachusetts School Building Authority payment of about $1.5 million for the new Woodland Elementary School. Pilla said that, without the bond, state educational reform funding would result in available “free cash” funds by $1.3 million. The short-term bond will cost the own $5,667.81 in interest costs, for a total of $8,046.81 (June 17).

• Approved four so-called “Chapter 44 Section 33B” transfers between departmental line items to balance accounts in the Fiscal Year 2019 operating budget. The transfers were: $5,121 within the Assessors department, $4,500 within the School Technology department, $800 within the Town Accountant’s department, and $1 from the Short-term Interest Account to the Long-term Interest Account. (June 17).

• BUCKLEY said the cost of keeping the town-owned parking lot across the street from Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, and the sidewalk area on East Main St. and Main St. (Rt. 16) from the Quarry Square Plaza to Water St. would free each year should be built into the towns operating budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2021. (June 17). Kingkade requested that Water Buckley talk to the managers of the Dunkin Donuts store on Main St. about their employees’ failure to call 9-1-1 as requested by the victim of a recent assault that started in the coffee shop’s parking lot and ended up with an arrest in the Sacred Heart Church parking lot. The victim is a retired town firefighter, Kingkade said. (June 17).

• BUCKLEY noted that Fire Chief William Toulouse had written the board a letter praising Human Resources Director Maureen Gill’s help in updating an employment application form and with interviewing candidates for firefighter positions. Selectmen approved a copy of the letter should be placed in Gill’s personnel file. (June 17).

• Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Michael Diiorio as a member of the Milford Retirement Board, effective June 30. (June 17)

• At Finance Director Zachary Taylor’s request, appointed Town Treasurer Christopher Pilla to replace Diiorio on the Milford Retirement Board. (June 17)

• Approved the 7th 4th Parade Committee’s request for up to $5,000 in funds. The money will be taken from the Biomeasure TIF account. Selectman Michael Walsh suggested -- now that the parade is becoming an annual event -- putting funding for it into the town’s annual operating budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2021. (June 17).

• Buckley noted that Fire Chief William Toulouse had written the board a letter praising Human Resources Director Maureen Gill’s help in updating an employment application form and with interviewing candidates for firefighter positions. Selectmen approved a copy of the letter should be placed in Gill’s personnel file. (June 17).

• Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Michael Diiorio as a member of the Milford Retirement Board, effective June 30. (June 17)

• At Finance Director Zachary Taylor’s request, appointed Town Treasurer Christopher Pilla to replace Diiorio on the Milford Retirement Board. (June 17)
Planning Board Satisfied with Amazon’s Progress

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Planning Board members expressed satisfaction at their June 18 meeting with the steps Internet giant Amazon.com has taken to alleviate traffic problems about the 6-12 Industrial Rd. location. The company previously met with the board on May 7 to respond to complaints about how delivery van drivers were using nearby Commercial Way as a parking lot.

Chairman Marble Mainini said he personally visited the area several times to check on the situation and found few problems: “There’s at least been some attempt,” to change things, board member Joseph Calagione said, adding that the board now knows who it can contact to discuss any issues. Amazon’s regional manager, Mariush Annamaredy, said his company educated delivery van drivers and will continue to maintain “flaggers” at the Bear Hill site and across town in the Quarry Square shopping plaza, where vans are parked overnight.

Speaking about Commercial Way, “That has been resolved, from what I’m hearing,” he added. Board member Lena McCarthy noted the flaggers at Quarry Square are effective. “They seem to be doing a fairly decent job on making sure everyone stays in line,” she said.

Town Planner Larry Dunkin noted there have been some complaints about delivery vans speeding on Birch Street. “That’s something that’s hard to judge,” Mainini said. McCarthy said she has observed vans parked along the one-way stretch of Beaver St. between Birch St. and Medway Rd. (Rt. 109). “They should not be doing that,” Annamaredy said, promising that issue will be corrected.

“They also have to applaud their efforts,” Patrick Kennedy – speaking not as a board member but as owner of a neighboring business – said. Speed bumps installed in the Amazon parking lot are slowing down the vans, he said.

“We hope to not have to see you again,” Mainini told Annamaredy, noting the board now knows who to contact at Amazon to resolve any future issues.

School News

Each Donations Counts

Submitted by Julia Montgomery
Stacy Middle School Student

On March 16, 8 Red Cluster at Stacy Middle School started a class-wide competition to see who could collect the most canned goods for the Daily Bread Pantry. Matt Zaccarino, the 8 Red ELA teacher who has been volunteering at the Daily Bread Pantry since late 2016. “Speaking to the people who work there on a regular basis,” Zaccarino said. “They mentioned that sometimes it’s tough to get donations after the holidays. During Christmas and Thanksgiving, they get flooded, but then afterwards, it’s less on the minds of people.” So, with that in mind, he came up with the idea of a food drive that focused mainly on Christmas and Thanksgiving, they get flooded, but then afterwards, it’s less on the minds of people.

This was the first year that the 8 Red Cluster has tried the food drive, and the goal was to collect 1000 cans by the beginning of June. With the help of students, parents, and faculty, they were able to collect a little less than 300 cans. Although the students didn’t quite reach their goal, the plan is to continue this food drive in the years to follow. Zaccarino hopes to not only start earlier in the year, but to be able to “push it more with the students.”

The Daily Bread Pantry gives out thousands of meals a year, and even though the program established pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, Section 98, 107A, and other applicable statutes, by-laws or rules and regulations,” according to the contract. The board must follow the guidelines in the contract.

Tiamoh, Merit List for six or more credit hours.

Jamie Crivello, Jaylin Grenard, Joseph Knight, Lester Mendoza, Amy Mirenda and Elizabeth or more credit hours. Marissa Batista, Alexis Centeno, Raven Clarico, Alexia Coolidge, Cangiano, President’s List.

So please, if you are able, look into your cabinets and find a few cans, maybe even one, and of these meals go to somebody in need, and each donation counts, no matter how small. Each of these meals go to somebodey in need, and each donation counts, no matter how small. So, if you are able, take a look into your cabinets and find a few cans, maybe even one, and donate it to the Daily Bread Pantry, Exchange St., Milford, because each donation matters.

Dean’s List

The following Milford students were named to the Dean’s List at their respective schools.

Bentley University, Waltham: Brian Spigelman

Dean College, Franklin: Matthew Corri and Joaquim Morais, Dean’s List. Christopher Cangiano, President’s List.

Emmanuel College, Boston: Abigail Berard, Bernardo Ferreira and Sonia Lizotte.

Lasell College, Newton: Cecilia Costa, Hannah Rich and Itzel Torres

Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Conn: Kate Lobesier and Kayla Thongpl

Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester: Brendan Albanese, Dean’s List for 12 or more credit hours. Marissa Battia, Alexis Centeno, Raven Clarico, Alexia Coolidge, James Iwelle, Jaylin Grenard, Joseph Knight, Lester Mendoza, Amy Mirenda and Elizbeth Tiamoh, Merit List for six or more credit hours.

University of New England, Biddeford and Portland, Maine: Scott Roy

University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I: Lindsay Barons, Cullen Burns, Brianna Croteau, Drew DiPinto and Alexander Hastings.

When people ask you where do you bank, I say “I have the best bank in the whole wide world.”

JUNE 28, 2019
Milford Town Crier

Selectmen Sign Contract with Pighetti

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Board of Selectmen signed a contract with Michael Pighetti on June 19 to be the town’s Interim Police Chief at an annual salary of $133,440. “This agreement shall take effect on July 1, 2019, or upon the departure of the current police chief, whichever is sooner, and will have no effect until the new chief is appointed, plus an additional 90-day transition period, whichever is sooner,” the contract states.

While serving an Interim Police Chief, Pighetti “shall have all of the functions and responsibilities of a Chief of Police pursuant to G.L. c. 41, Section 97A, and other applicable statutes, by-laws or rules and regulations,” according to the contract. The contract outlines Pighetti’s role. “The duties of the position shall be governed by and be consistent with G.L. Ch. 41, Sec. 97A and Sec. 98, and Chapter 145 of the Acts of 2002, EXCEPT THAT, the chief shall have no authority to utilize police powers as defined in G.L. Ch. 41, Sec. 98 until he has complied with any prerequisites to the use of same by the Massachusetts Police Training Committee and has received written authorization from the Board of Selectmen to exercise such powers. Operating within the framework of said laws, the chief shall develop policies and procedures for the governance and operation of the police department. The chief will determine the method, means and personnel by which police operations are to be conducted and he may take any action which may be necessary to carry out the work of the police department, particularly in situations of emergency. Subject to applicable law, the chief shall have complete authority to administer the internal workings and day-to-day business and operations of the police department, to include, but not be limited to, the appointment, promotion, assignment, reassignment, supervision, direction and discipline of personnel in the employment of the police department, the administration of the police department budget and finances; the specification, management and direction of police department equipment, uniforms, vehicles and resources; supervision and control of training programs and the assignment of personnel thereto; and those other responsibilities as established by law or within the job description for the position of chief for the town.”

The contract also allows Pighetti:

• To be eligible to participate in the educational incentive program established pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, Section 108L (an incentive pay program for members of police departments as a reward for furthering their education in the field of police work),

• To receive sick leave, personal leave, holiday leave, bereavement leave, and vacation leave in accordance with the provisions of the Personnel By-laws of the Town of Milford;

• To receive a clothing allowance;

• To receive health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, long-term disability insurance, bereavement leave, and other benefits as provided by the personnel by-laws, policies, and practices of the town;

• To receive an additional life insurance policy in the amount of $1 million;

• To maintain membership and hold office in the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Police Executive Research Forum, and other professional police organizations;

• To receive an equipped vehicle from the town, and,

• To be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Town for all claims, actions, awards, compromises, settlements or judgments made against him arising out of any alleged act, failure to act, or other omission occurring in the performance of or related to his duties, whether groundless or otherwise.

The contract was signed by Selectmen Chair William Buckley, Selectman William Kingkade and Pighetti.
From Washington to Milford, a New Stacey Middle School Principal

Central office personnel, and teachers from Washington DC’ said Milford Superintendent Dr. Kevin McIntyre. “He is a hands-on administrator who is focused on student success and growth.” McIntyre said, “I am thrilled that they came back to school this year.”

Milford School Public officials have announced that they have appointed Tahon Ross as the new principal of Stacey. Ross was one of three finalists interviewed by parents, community members, teachers and administrators during the search process.

Ross currently serves as an Assistant Principal for the Students at Stacy Middle School will be greeted by a new Staff Reporter

Tahon Ross has been hired as the new Milford High School Principal. Contributed photo.

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter

Students at Stacey Middle School will be greeted by a new principal this year as Ross comes from Washington D.C. to take the helm at Milford Middle School.

Ross, who has a Master’s Degree focused on Educational Administration from the Ross earned both a Bachelor’s Degree in English Literature and a Washington D.C. Public Schools. Prior to that, he has worked as a Dean, English Teacher, and English Department Head in New York.”

"I am thrilled that Tahon Ross is in residence at the Milford Public Schools community,” he said. “He is adept at building positive school cultures and working with all members of the community.”

Ross will officially join the Milford Public Schools in July, and will schedule opportunities for families and the community to meet, ask questions, and provide feedback for the principal search.

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Ross was one of three finalists interviewed by parents, community members, teachers and administrators during the search process. The district held a public forum on June 10 for the community to meet, ask questions, and provide feedback for the principal search.

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Fourteen Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) seniors participated in Mass STEM Hub’s STEM Signing Day, committing to studying STEM disciplines after graduation. STEM Signing Day and High School Student Showcase were organized by Mass STEM Hub for Project Lead The Way (PLTW) students on May 2 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Borrowing from the athletics tradition that celebrates students-athletes who sign on to play a sport at the collegiate level, STEM Signing Day was an opportunity to celebrate students who are committed to pursuing STEM disciplines after graduating from high school. Mass STEM Hub’s High School Student Showcase featured projects by over 300 high school students in PLTW’s courses across Massachusetts. In these courses, students engage in applied learning, helping students develop 21st century skills including critical thinking, complex problem-solving, communication, and collaboration - all needed to succeed in today’s rapidly changing, tech-infused world.

All of the students received authentic feedback from STEM industry volunteer judges on their projects and presentations. Judges selected winning projects in four categories, including mastery of concept, best capstone project, presentation skills, and innovation. The Excellence in Presentation award was awarded to a team from Blackstone Valley Technical High School who presented a library renovation civil engineering and architecture plan. This team was acknowledged for delivering a clear and concise project overview and showing outstanding knowledge of their topic.

The local seniors who participated in Mass STEM Hub’s STEM Signing Day and Showcase, including their hometown, planned college and major are:
- Christopher Calvuo, Milford, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Biomedical Engineering
- Conner Christensen, Mendon, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Mechanical Engineering
- Zachary Comer, Mendon, Virginia Tech, Computer Science
- Charles Doe, Mendon, Wentworth, Civil Engineering (Minor in ES)
- Alex Gölgölb, Milford, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Computer Science
- Tabor Grose, Milford, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Aerospace Engineering
- Mary Kennedy, Mendon, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Mechanical Engineering
- Cameron Pelletier, Milford, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Electrical and Computer Engineering

School Improvement Plan, Preparing Students for the Future

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter
Milford High School will have some homework to do over the summer after the School Committee approved the annual School Improvement Plan during their June 21 meeting.

Milford High School (MHS) Principal Joshua Otlin presented the 2019/2020 Improvement Plan listing 10 key areas for next year.

One major goal is the launch of the Metrowest Early College Scholars Program. The program combines traditional high school classes with courses from a local college or university giving students knowledge and exposure to an area of study, while earning up to 12 college credits - equivalent to one semester - for free. In partnership with Framingham State University and MassBay Community College, the early college program will engage students as early as middle school instilling a college mentality among students, particularly minorities who tend to be underrepresented in higher education.

Thanks to grants of close to $750,000, Otlin said that the program will allow the district to work with a cohort of underrepresented students and families from the class of 2024 offering college credits at no cost.

Another item is to continue to build the school’s Project Lead the Way program. As part of a state grant
A Dozen Staff with 25 Years of Service Retire

Retiring teachers from the Milford Public Schools were recognized at the June 21 School Committee Meeting. Pictured are (front to r): Patricia McGintan, Judy Dagnew, Michael Molinari, Maryann Hanley-Pereira, Dr. Kevin McIntyre, Jennifer Parson, and Ann Nardi.

The impact you have made will be felt here in Milford for generations to come,” said Parson.

Dr. Kevin McIntyre, Superintendent of the Milford Public Schools, spoke about the some of the memories he had of the retirees before giving them one final piece of advice: “Life is so short. To be able to enjoy your retirement and do the things you want to do is a gift,” he said. “I hope everyone is able to take advantage of that gift and do some things you are passionate about in retirement.”

Several members of the School Committee also gave words of appreciation for the retirees, letting them they may be gone, but will not be forgotten.

Every year, the School Committee honors the retirees during a “bittersweet” recognition.

“When we think about service and the ways you work with children and support children in all aspects, you really represent the best that is out there,” said School Committee Chairperson Jen Parson. “The number of lives you have touched is monumental.”

The following teachers have retired at the end of the school year: Nancy Vallancourt, Second Grade Teacher at Memorial Elementary School (21 years with the Milford school year); Ann Nardi, Occupational Therapist at Brookside Elementary School (21 years), Polixani Vokasis, Science Teacher at Stacy Middle School (20 years).

Dr. McIntyre, Superintendent of the Milford Public Schools, spoke about the some of the memories he had of the retirees before giving them one final piece of advice: “Life is so short. To be able to enjoy your retirement and do the things you want to do is a gift,” he said. “I hope everyone is able to take advantage of that gift and do some things you are passionate about in retirement.”

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At Post 59 Rolling After Slow Start

The Minnesota Wild landed a player one learned observer called “a steal” when they selected Milford native Matt Boldy with the number 12 overall pick in last week’s National Hockey League draft.

“I think Minnesota got a steal,” said John Wrobleswki, the head coach of the USA Hockey National Team Development Program Under-17 team.

In comments reported by The Athletic, Wrobleswki called Boldy, who now lives in Millis, the type of player who could have been drafted with the top overall pick. “The way that he plays the game is different than any other player I’ve ever seen,” the coach said. “The puck is glued to him and then he gets into the offensive zone and then the magic happens.”

Boldy told reporters covering the draft in Vancouver that being drafted was “a dream come true. It’s something that I’ve looked forward to my whole life.”

The 18-year-old spent the past two seasons playing for the developmental program and finished second on the team in both goals and points. He is committed to Boston College for this coming fall and entered the draft ranked ninth on the NHL Central Scouting list of North American skaters.

Over 125 career games with NTDP over two years, Boldy has amassed 157 points. “Matthew is a power forward with scoring ability along with good hockey sense and playmaking skills,” said Paul Fenton, Minnesota Wild General Manager. “He is heavy on pucks down low and has played center in the past.”

Fenton would not tell reporters in Canada exactly how high he had Boldy rated on his draft board, but did say he thought the winger would be selected well before the Wild had a chance to take him at number 12.

After being drafted, Boldy told the media he plans to join the Eagles this fall and has no set timetable for when he might become a pro. “It’s whenever I’m ready as a player,” Boldy said. “It’s kind of crazy that that’s even going through my head right now. I’m looking forward to going to Boston College, and we’ll kind of go from there.”

For BVT sport coverage visit TownCrier.us

Milford Native Picked 12th in NHL Draft

Legion Showcase Canceled After Scheduling Flap

The Legion Showcase, a high school baseball tournament that draws teams from across the country, has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts.

The event, scheduled for West Point, N.Y., was to have been held from July 19 to 21. However, the Legion Pacific Coast Zone, which is responsible for organizing the tournament, announced on July 9 that the event had been canceled due to scheduling conflicts.

The Legion Pacific Coast Zone had previously announced that it would not hold the tournament this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. However, the organization later reversed its decision and announced that it would hold the tournament as scheduled.

The tournament, which is one of the largest high school baseball tournaments in the country, typically draws teams from across the country to compete for the national championship. However, the tournament was canceled due to the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

The Legion Pacific Coast Zone had been working to reschedule the tournament for this year, but was unable to find a new date that would work for all of the participating teams.

The Legion Showcase is one of the most prestigious high school baseball tournaments in the country and is attended by hundreds of college recruiters and scouts. The tournament typically draws teams from across the country and has been held in West Point, N.Y., for over 60 years.

But six straight victories had Milford 6-2 over North County by 8-2 and 14-1 finals lopsided, including a doubleheader sweep and the most. “The expectation is bringing home a championship,” Barney said. “We have not had one in five or six years. I thought last year’s team might have been the one to do it, but we ran into a tough Bellingham team in the playoffs.”

Barney went on to win the 2018 Central Mass Senior Babe Ruth league title and started the season atop the standings with a 4-0 record. Milford posted a 2-1 mark through the first three games, which were a bit more sparse due to the fact that other teams fed the program, including Medway and Hopkinton, advanced to their respective state finals.

One advantage to the sparse early schedule is that the players, including Dan Corsini, Nick Wimette and Matt Shaver, had the opportunity to start and stop the season, posting a 2-1 record and a 2.21 ERA. He and fellow Milford High grad Justin Applebee return for their third years with the Micros after putting together high school campaigns that landed them spots on the Hockomock League All Star Team.

Left hander Nick Wimette, another MHS product, is also expected to see significant time on the mound. “You can’t teach lefties, that’s what the expectation is bringing home a championship,” Barney said. “We have not had one in five or six years. I thought last year’s team might have been the one to do it, but we ran into a tough Bellingham team in the playoffs.”

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Members of the Milford High girl’s 4x400 relay team took part in the New Balance National Track & Field meet in North Carolina. The team members are, l-r: Emma Lawrence, Sara Flanagan, Kerry O’Connor and Bella Gonzalez. Contributed photo

Young Milford 4x400 Team Competes on National Stage

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The first time competing in the emerging elite division of the New Balance National Track & Field meet in North Carolina was a learning experience for the Milford High girls’ 4x400 relay team. Fortunately, with one junior, two sophomores and a freshman on the squad, the group may get another shot to compete on the sport’s biggest stage.

“It’s pretty impressive,” Milford track coach Glenn O’Connor said. “They were a little intimidated when they arrived at the hotel and they saw all of these incredible athletes, but they fight right in.”

O’Connor told the quartet of sophomores Kerry O’Connor and Emma Lawrence, freshman Sarah Flanagan and junior Bella Gonzalez that they were right where they were meant to be. “I kept telling them, ‘you belong here, you deserve to be here, and they started to believe it,’” O’Connor said. “They are starting to see that are that good. This experience is going to give them a lot of confidence.”

Milford ran about two seconds slower than the divisional state time that qualified them for the national meet. The heat of late spring in the south and a learning curve when it came to some of the logistics surrounding the meet presented a challenge, O’Connor said. “I had never been there before and I didn’t know the process of getting there and signing up and getting the number and the baton and getting them where they were supposed to be,” he said. “That part was a little crazy.”

But Milford earned its place at the meet and the backpacks that come with the appearance at nationals. The accessory will remind everyone next spring that this group was a learning experience, and I would not hesitate to recommend it to others.

Milford’s Colabello Eyes International Play After Texas Stop

Submitted by Cole McNanna
Edited by Chris Villani

Playing independent ball is nothing new for Chris Colabello, who played seven seasons before getting the call to join the Minnesota Twins and Toronto Blue Jays from 2009-15.

After subsequent stints in the minors and a suspension for alleged use of a banned substance, Colabello recently talked about his up-and-down career and his return to independent ball. “I went to spring training with Detroit in 2006; really I was just there I didn’t make the camp so, technically it wasn’t my first official signing.”

Colabello said. “(Sketers manager) Pete (Inczkavich) had been the AA coach for the Tigers. He said their Italian background only added to their connection, along with a friendship with soon-to-be Sketers teammate Cody Stanley that enticed him to venture to the Lone Star State.

Colabello, a Milford native, began his trip to the Majors by first playing with the Worcester Tornadoes and Nashua Pride of the Canadian-American Association. The Twins picked him up in 2012, and he went on to play parts of two seasons in the Majors with the Twins and was part of a postseason run with the Blue Jays in 2015. Colabello said in early 2016 and now that he still doesn’t understand how a test came back positive for a metabolite linked to a banned substance, but it resulted in an 80-game suspension.

After time with the Indians and Brews’ organizations, he played in Italy and Mexico before getting Inczolkavich’s call to join the Sketers. “My biggest thing was that I was not going to be ready for the first game of the season so I told him, ‘If you can tolerate me coming May 24 I think I can do it,’” Colabello recalled. “Ended up meeting the team in Long Island and we were off to the races.”

The 35-year-old said he’s fit in well both with those older and those younger than him. “I think one of the things I enjoy the most about the game is being able to pass along messages that really helped me,” said Colabello.

Colabello is currently on pace to meet up with the Italian national team, which he competed with at the World Baseball Classic last year thanks to the childhood connection, along with a friendship with soon-to-be Sketers teammate Cody Stanley that enticed him to venture to the Lone Star State.

“As long as you’ve got a uniform on,” Colabello said, “you’ve got a chance.”