A very Happy 100th Birthday, Angie!

Angelina Iannetti Foley, a lifelong Milfordian, celebrated her 100th birthday on Sunday, August 18, with close to 90 family members and friends, from the local area and from as far away as the Midwest.

Born on August 20, 1919 to Antoinette (Mellea) and Antonio Iannetti, the centenarian still enjoys an independent life and keeps up with family, local and national events. She had four sisters and a brother – Rose Biello, Catherine Lucier, Mary Clarke, Eleanor Guenther and Frank Iannetti – all who have passed away.

A graduate of Milford High School, Class of 1938, she married William “Bill” Foley in November 1938. They were married for 57 years until 1996 when Bill passed away.

The couple had three children—Carol Demanche, John “Bobby” Foley and Richard “Bobby” Foley—all of whom are deceased; seven grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Angelina worked at various jobs locally and was busy raising her family. She enjoys cooking, especially Italian dishes, and likes getting out with others. One of her favorite outings has been the Senior Prom sponsored annually by the Milford High School National Honor Society for local senior citizens. Angelina liked dancing with the students. She also enjoys identifying the Mystery Photos depicting scenes and citizens from Milford’s past that are run in The Town Crier.

She loved every minute of her birthday party and was delighted with the citations she received from the Town of Milford presented by Selectman Michael Walsh and from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts presented by State Representative Brian Murray, D. Milford.

Angelina Foley celebrated her 100th birthday at a party on Sunday August 18 with close to 90 family members and friends. The lifelong Milford resident was born August 20, 1919. Contributed photo

School Bells Ring on August 28 in Milford

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter

Students in Milford will be packing their backpacks and boarding the bus next week to begin a new year in the Milford Public Schools.

Wednesday, August 28 will be the first day of school for Grade 1 through 12 students in Milford. Teachers will be reporting back on Monday, August 26. Preschool will have an Open House on Thursday, August 29 and start their first day on Tuesday, September 3. For students in Kindergarten, there will be an Open House on Wednesday, September 4 and their first day of school will be Thursday, September 5. There will be no school for any grades on Friday, August 30 and Monday, September 2 for the Labor Day holiday.

The new school year brings a number of changes to the Milford Public Schools, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kevin McIntyre in an interview with The Crier last week, starting with changes in Administration.

A new Principal at Stacy Middle School will be greeting the students on their first day.

Tahon Ross has come to Milford from Washington D.C. where he was an Assistant Principal for a public school district. Ross started with Milford Public Schools in July, and has already “hit the ground running,” according to McIntyre.

Lee Waingortin has been hired as the new Director of Nursing/Shining Star Early Childhood Center School Nurse for the Milford Public Schools. Waingortin comes to Milford from the Hudson Public Schools, where she was a school nurse for the past 14 years.

The district added a new Director of Math position this year and had hired Kerry Taylor for the role. Taylor will be helping to put more focus on math learning and growth across all grade levels and will be working with administrators, team leaders, and teachers on curriculum alignment and further developing math programming.

A third Assistant Principal has been hired for Stacy Middle School. New hire Veeko Lucas will be working with the other Administrators to support teachers, address any issues, and promote a positive school culture at Stacy.

Along with changes in staff, McIntyre said that there will be a few changes in programming when the new school year begins.

At the high school, a new schedule will be rolled out that will allow students opportunities for internships and apprenticeships for career and college exploration.

The new schedule will have “flex-blocks” built in during the day that will be used for everything from full-class presentations to small group sessions.

“The goal is to provide students will robust programming around college and career readiness,” said McIntyre.

At the elementary level, the administrators at Brooks and Memorial have made adjustments to the schedule to increase recess time and allow for opportunities for enrichment and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programming. The new schedule will allow an additional 15 minutes of recess for the young students and an additional 20-minute block during the day for enrichment programming.

A new Math Program – ST Math – at the K through 2 grade level and continuing focus on Social Emotional Learning will round out the new year in the district.

“We are all incredibly excited about this school year and the fantastic offerings we have for students in Pre-K through high school,” said McIntyre.

Back to School Schedule

Milford Public Schools open for the 2019/20 year the last week of August. Here are some dates to remember:

Monday, August 26 – Teachers report to school
Wednesday, August 28 – Opening day for students in grades 1-12; lunches will be served and busses will run.
Thursday, August 29 – Preschool open house.
Friday, August 30 and Monday, September 2 – Labor Day holiday
Tuesday, September 3 – Preschool students report to school
Wednesday, September 4 – Kindergarten open house
Thursday, September 5 – Kindergarten students report to school

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**IMPERIAL CARS.com**
Police Chief Search Committee to Begin Interviewing Recruitment Firms for a New Chief

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter

The Police Chief Search Committee will be interviewing three prospective executive search firms to recruit Milford's next police chief. During an August 13 meeting, the Selection Committee discussed the bids they had received from professional recruitment firms and the next steps in the hiring process.

“We received three bids,” said Search Committee Chairperson Dino DeBartolomeis, who asked the Committee to vote to move forward in interviewing all of the candidate firms. With interviews tentatively scheduled for August 27 beginning at 6:30 p.m., the Committee discussed the logistics of the interviews. Firms will be asked to make a 20-minute presentation and leave up to 40 minutes for questions from the Committee. Several Committee Members developed a list of questions that were vetted by Town Counsel for the firms as well as a rating sheet for each member to fill out during the open session.

Although each bidder sent in a price to do the work, pricing sheets were sent in a separate sealed envelope and will only be opened if the firm is chosen by the Committee. The town has allotted $50,000 for the hiring of a recruitment firm for the next Chief of Police.

“Everything has to be done according to the bidding process, so everything is done fairly and transparently,” said DeBartolomeis.

Once the interviews are conducted and negotiations have concluded with the chosen recruitment firm, the Committee will check references before proceeding. The Milford Police Chief Search Committee is a 12-member committee tasked with finding a replacement Chief since former Chief Tom O’Loughlin’s contract was not renewed. The committee members were appointed by the Board of Selectman, Town Moderator or by virtue of their position in Town Government per a bylaw created 20-years ago.

“This committee has worked very hard,” said DeBartolomeis. “Twenty years ago we didn’t have this situation.”

The Chairman of the Selection Committee said that he would recommend that the 20-year-old bylaw be changed during the Town Meeting in October to be more in-line with current town policies.

“There are things in the present bylaw that should be amended and hopefully the Selectmen will sponsor an article at town meeting in October to do that,” DeBartolomeis said.

Duties of the Recruitment Firm

Following are the duties the chosen recruitment firm will be expected to assist the Search Committee with:

- Providing marketing and recruitment services on a local, regional and national basis;
- Determining the knowledge, abilities, experience, credentials, training, and personal and professional attributes necessary and or desirable in a successful candidate for the position of Milford Police Chief; through identifying information about the job’s duties, responsibilities, necessary skills, outcomes, and work environment; garner input from stakeholders (police officers and employees, selectmen, department heads, community representatives);
- Reviewing relevant department documents including: the Police Chief job description, state and local job requirements, training prerequisites, department policies, procedures, rules and regulations, police statistics, organizational and staffing arrangements, budget, local community demographics, community and department needs and priorities;
- Developing a position profile and job application;
- Advertising the opening;
- Performing initial candidate screening;
- Developing candidate evaluation and assessment tools, interview criteria, and assessment methods and protocols to evaluate a candidate’s qualifications and expectations of success in the position;
- Developing a series of written screening questions to elicit further information about a candidate’s history, experience, philosophy of management, and values;
- Developing a series of exercises to evaluate leadership and administrative skills, professional knowledge and personal characteristics, planning abilities, judgment and decision-making skills, teamwork and cooperation and interpersonal relations;
- Administering assessment tools, written screening questions, and leadership exercises, and overseeing psychological, physical, and agility testing and screening for no more than 6 candidates, pursuant to Milford By-Law 32, Section 3 (B)(1)(a);
- Administering assessment, background checks, for between four and six candidates, pursuant to Milford By-Law 32, Section 3 (B) (4-5). The executive search firm’s goal, according to the RFP, is to reduce the number of applicants and semi-finalists to a “manageable pool ready for final interviews and selection by the Police Chief Search Committee.” The town committee will then submit three to five qualified candidates to the Board of Selectmen for its consideration.

Blood Drive

MILFORD-Thanks To Yanks, Rockland Trust and DCH Toyota of Milford will hold a Blood Drive on Wednesday, September 11 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The blood drive for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital will be held at DCH Toyota, 300 Fortune Blvd, Milford. Held in conjunction with the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center, each participant will receive lantern. Appointments are recommended by logging into tinyurl/DCHSEP2019. Walk-ins will be taken as time allows. For information about eligibility contact BloodDonor@partners.org or 617-632-3206. Donors must present a photo ID, and should eat and drink fluids before giving blood.

Fiber Enthusiasts

BLACKSTONE-Fiber enthusiasts who like to spin, card, knit, crochet or weave are invited to show off their work at the Daniels Farmstead, Mendon St., Blackstone on Sunday, September 1 beginning at 11 a.m. The day will be filled with fun, friendship and a chance to share the enthusiasm for fiber. Bring a favorite project, a comfortable chair and anything else needed for a day outside. For more information, contact Ellen Gould at 508-478-5194 or ellsen@erufarm@gmail.com.

Performers Wanted! - Auditions: Sept. 21

www.salvationarmyma.org/milford or contact Cpt. Marsha Barter at (508) 473-0786

Save The Date!

Milford’s Got Talent
Friday, October 4
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Performing for a Purpose
Proceeds benefit The Salvation Army of Greater Milford

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Present

Performers Wanted! - Auditions: Sept. 21

www.salvationarmyma.org/milford or contact Cpt. Marsha Barter at (508) 473-0786

$10 Audition Fee
An Artful Look at Science & Technology

New Century/New Materials, a truly NEW exhibit featuring current art trends in science and technology will open with a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 6 and runs through October 24, at the Spaulding Heritage Gallery, Whitman Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville. Regular gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weekends and evenings by special appointment.

This exhibit, presented by visiting curator Sabato Visconti, will feature artwork from New England and around the world that examines innovative artistic practices centered on emerging trends in science and technology. New Century / New Materials will feature a diverse range of practices: from Neural Network-based AI (Artificial Intelligence) Art to Glitch Art; from code to works in Augmented Reality formats; from BioArt created with bacterial cultures to a video art voyage through a stream’s ecosystem. There will also be a special screening of short film works in the GB & Lexi Singh Performance Center adjacent to the Gallery immediately following the reception at 7:30 p.m.

“This exhibit is unlike any we’ve presented in the past,” says Cristi Collari, Director of Community Outreach for Open Sky. “Layered in science and/or technology; each work of art in the exhibit is very different, compellingly fascinating and uniquely beautiful. Sabato has done a great job pulling this together.”

For more information, please visit openskycs.org/news-events or visit Facebook/ValleyCAST.

Homefield Credit Union Raises Organ Donation Awareness

The issue of organ donation has hit home at Homefield Credit Union. Samantha Cleveland, a Grafton resident and the daughter of Homefield Credit Union employee, Alyssa Cleveland, is need of a kidney.

Samantha had one kidney removed at four when a non-cancerous tumor was discovered. By age 10, she was diagnosed with a Pax 2 multi-symptom gene mutation which began to impact her remaining kidney. Her kidney function is now about 12 percent and a transplant is urgent.

Samantha has opted for a living donor transplant and is on the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) waiting for an appropriate match. So, while the Cleveland family is patiently waiting, they are also taking the opportunity to raise the issue of organ donation. “It is our hope to call attention to this critically important matter, not only to help Samantha, but also to help the thousands of others facing a similar situation,” said Alyssa Cleveland. “The Cleveland family is beyond humbled and forever grateful for our Homefield Credit Union family. Without all of Homefield CU’s generosity, we would not have all this positive attention and momentum. Even if a potential donor is not a direct match for Samantha, you may be able to donate to someone else who is desperately waiting.”

Homefield Credit Union President & CEO Karl Moisan said, “The Cleveland’s are a wonderful family and we’ll do everything we can to get the word out with the hopes of helping Samantha find a kidney match. There are currently over 74,000 active candidates currently suitable for transplantation and eligible to receive organ offers. Knowing there are so many individuals in need of and waiting for an organ donation, public awareness is key.”

Anyone interested in learning more about organ donations and helping Samantha can call the UMass Memorial Transplant Team at 508-334-1269 option 4, or visit UMassMemorialHealthCare.org. When contacting UMass make sure to state the contact is about Directed Living Kidney Donor for Samantha Cleveland.

UniBank Donates to Community Harvest Project

UniBank recently announced that a $10,000 donation was provided to the Community Harvest Project (CHP) located in Grafton. UniBank’s donation will help the Community Harvest Project in their efforts to ease hunger and provide fresh fruits and vegetables to residents in need. Shown, l-r: MaryHope Gardner, Development Coordinator, CHP; Wayne McAuliffe, Manager of Volunteer Programs, CHP; Scott Ransitter, Volunteer Board Member, CHP; Michael W. Welch, UniBank CEO; Robert E. Paulson, Jr. SVP; Senior Lending Officer, UniBank and Treasurer of the CHP Board of Directors, Tom Buenchesper, Education and Marketing Manager, CHP. UniBank photo

Welcome

MEHDI NAJAFI, MD, PHD
Retina Specialist - Milford, MA

We are excited to announce our new retina surgeon, Mehdi Najafi, MD, PhD. Dr. Najafi specializes in all diseases of the retina, including diabetes and macular degeneration. He is now accepting patients in our Milford, MA location.
Selectmen Updated on Gas Pipeline, ADA Grants and Water Company Purchase

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter

Milford’s Town Administrator Rick Villani updated the Board of Selectmen on several items during their August 5 meeting.

Villani informed the Selectmen that they have contacted their representative from Algonquin Gas Systems and have been informed that they are monitoring their pipelines for segments which may require attention.

“They are addressing those in a timely fashion to protect the public from safety issues,” he said.

Villani said that the internal inspections using tools that measure and record anomalies along the pipe structure should be complete by August 12.

An ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) grant opportunity may provide the town of Milford with up to $250,000 in funds to “remove barriers create and improve accessible features and access for persons with disabilities.”

Villani updated the Selectmen on the grant opportunity that is through the Massachusetts Office of Americans with Disabilities ADA Improvement Grant is for any Massachusetts city or town to support capital improvements specifically dedicated for programmatic access and removing barriers encountered by people with disabilities.

After meeting with the Parks Department and the Milford Public Schools, Villani said that they plan to submit three grant applications for capital needs in the town to improve ADA accessibility.

Board of Selectmen Chairperson William Buckley requested that Villani also inform the ADA Chair of the Disability Commission on the grant process.

In a final update, Villani told the board that he has been informed that for the Water Company acquisition, the case has been fully briefed and all testimony has concluded.

“The case is now pending before the Department of Public Utilities (DPU),” he said. It is anticipated that it could take anywhere from three to four months before a decision is rendered.

Lawyers for the Town of Milford and the privately held Milford Water Company had previously filed written arguments with the DPU about what the value of the utility’s assets should be. The initial briefs were filed on July 12, with responses due on August 2.

In its 67-page legal argument, the Milford Water Company argues the fair market value of its assets is $149 million. The town, in its 74-page brief, argues the utility is worth $40 million. The two sides used different appraisal and accounting methodologies to arrive at their respective conclusions.
**Selectmen Continue to Push for Left Turn Signal for Beaver St.**

By Melissa Orff

Staff Reporter

The Milford Board of Selectmen continue to push for a schedule of starting work on a dedicated left turn arrow from Medway Rd. (Rt. 106) onto Beaver St.

Based on the history of issues at the intersection for drivers turning into the Milford Crossing shopping plaza, the town has been researching solutions to the dangerous situation.

"Left turns are nearly impossible to do safely there," said Board of Selectmen (BOS) Chairman William Buckley. "It is not a safe intersection."

Town Engineer Mike Dean gave a presentation to the Board of Selectmen during their July 8 meeting, where he was urged to try to get the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to "fast track" the signal upgrade. "People have a right to be able to go to those businesses and do it safely," Chairman William Buckley had said. "We want to escalate, fast track.

R.D. Management, owner of the shopping plaza, has contracted for engineering designs to upgrade the intersection which will include a redesign of the current traffic light and will require reprogramming existing traffic signal controller, one new traffic signal pole and base, new signal lights, new conduit (under the pavement and in the intersection) and other accessories associated with the new system.

Until that work can be done, the Milford Police Department has been investigating alternatives such as changing the current traffic light’s phasing to a nine or 10-second long advanced green light will ease the situation.

Dean told the BOS that it could take the state two to three years to rebuild the intersection’s signal lights, but R.D. Management can have its portion done by winter.

Until the situation changes, Buckley recommended that people going to Milford Crossing use East Main St. (Rt. 16) and turn right at Hickey’s Liquors onto Beaver St. to get into the shopping plaza more safely and easily.

During the August 5 meeting, Buckley said that they received a follow-up memo from the Dean stating that he is working with the developers and the Department of Transportation to get a schedule of when the work will begin. Dean informed the Board of Selectmen in his memo that the developer had not selected their project management development team as of yet, but will have more information for the town shortly.

"We understand that the work will be done "this construction season" but have asked for greater detail and insight into that schedule," said Buckley. "We don't have any better update for the community at this time."

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**Selectmen Discuss Possible Expansion and Evening Business Hours for Milford Town Hall**

By Melissa Orff

Staff Reporter

The Board of Selectmen discussed space limitations and hours of operation at the Milford Town Hall during their August 5 meeting.

Board of Selectmen (BOS) Chairman William Buckley asked that discussions be opened with the Finance Committee on how to address space issues with the parking and office space at Town Hall.

"We are running short on parking space...during the day employees are double parked and customers can't find parking," he said. "It's not going to get any better, it's getting progressively worse."

Buckley said a feasibility study should be done to investigate adding additional parking and office space to the Town Hall.

"The solution is not imminent, it's not next year, it's not the next after," he said. "But I think it's time we put this on the five-year plan and look for funding for a study."

Adding to the parking lot would most likely mean land acquisition and adding office space to the existing structure would also pose a challenge as Town Hall is officially a historical building. The Town Hall was built in 1853-1854 and an addition was added in 1900. The building has been renovated a number of times over its 155-year history.

Buckley said that he would hope that a new expansion plan for office space would not include using satellite offices. "When customers need the service of two departments and they have to go to different buildings, it's very inconvenient," he said.

The Board of Selectmen also requested that Town Administrator Rick Villani put on a future agenda item the possibility of keeping Town Hall open later one night a week and in exchange closing early one day.

"I think it's time we put this on the five-year plan and look for funding for a study."

Kingkade went on to say that the additional evening hours would allow townpeople who work and cannot get there during the day the opportunity to take advantage of Town Hall services. Town Hall offices are primarily open Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., though each department sets its own hours, with some not opening until 9 a.m. and others closing at 4 p.m.

"I think a lot of people are not getting home until well after Town Hall is closed, and I think [Milford Town Hall] is in the minority by not offering evening hours," he said.

Kingkade asked for the Board's approval in requesting Villani survey the different Town Hall Boards to see if they would be amenable to the change in hours. He also called for a revival of an all-boards meeting to discuss changing the hours of town hall.

Buckley agreed that an all-boards meeting should be held to discuss the issue, and asked Villani to survey department heads for additional topics to discuss during the all-boards meeting.

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**Milford Cultural Council**

The Milford Cultural Council will be accepting applications for funding requests from September 1 to October 1. Applicants are sought who will provide a diverse range of activities and events in the community that will reach out to all residents.

The required application is online at: MassCulture.org/loc_public_applicant_process.aspx. Applications. Between November 1 and December 30, the Milford Council will meet to make decisions on applications, send denial letters and handle reconsideration requests. By January 15, 2020 the Council will begin to notify applicants of their funding.

Culture Council meetings, which are held every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in Milford Town Hall, 52 Main St, Room 14, are open to the public. Contact the Council by emailing CulturalCouncil@TownofMilford.com.

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**Building on their big plans.**

This is Loretta and Henry. Together they run 4PA Design, an award-winning architectural firm, with big plans to purchase and renovate a building for their business.

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Visit CharlesRiverBank.com to read Loretta and Henry's story.
As August draws to a close thoughts turn to a change of seasons – crisp fall weather, leaves turning colors and going back to school. I was talking to my grandchildren the other day about their return to the classroom and somehow the topic of school safety, how drills work and what seems to be effective, came up. My grandchildren talked about the drills much like they would a fire drill, something that just happens at school. And while I know students all over the country participate in exactly the same drills, it still deeply bothered me that these innocent youngsters, aged seven and 10, spoke of the drills as a routine part of the school year.

Active shooters drill our schools, people afraid to go to malls, moviegoers making sure they know where to hide or escape if guns are drawn, concert and club goers ready to flee at any unexpected sound. What has happened to us? What has America become?

This list and the 140 victims does not include those who were shot in school shootings done outside school buildings during the last two decades. This list is also limited to shootings done inside school buildings during the school year. The largest number of victims were the 32 who died at Virginia Tech in April 2007, the most emotionally devastating were the 26 killed at Sandy Hook Elementary in December 2012 followed by the 17 who were massacred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in February 2018 and 10 murdered at Santa Fe High School in Texas in May 2018. The list goes on to the nine killed at Umpqua Community College in Oregon in October 2015, the seven at Red Lake Senior High School in Minnesota in March 2005, seven more at Oleks University in Oklahoma in April 2012, the five Amish victims at West Nickel Mines School in Pennsylvania in October 2006, five at Northern Illinois University in February 2008, five at Santa Monica College in June 2013 and the four at Marysville-Pilchuck High School in Washington state in October 2014. Including Columbine, the mass school shootings killed 140 victims.

As August draws to a close thoughts turn to a change of seasons – crisp fall weather, leaves turning colors and going back to school. I was talking to my grandchildren the other day about their return to the classroom and somehow the topic of school safety, how drills work and what seems to be effective, came up. My grandchildren talked about the drills much like they would a fire drill, something that just happens at school. And while I know students all over the country participate in exactly the same drills, it still deeply bothered me that these innocent youngsters, aged seven and 10, spoke of the drills as a routine part of the school year.

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MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEALS

Free, nourishing meals offered monthly to all in the local community.

Second Tuesday 6:30-7:45 p.m. Dinner: St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St., Milford. Sponsored by Food with Friends. 508-473-5973 ext. 222.

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

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Third Thursday 5:30-7 p.m. Supper, United Parish, 1 Church St., Ashland.

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Uptown: 508-473-8464 or office@trinitychurchmilford.org.

Milford: 508-473-5973 ext. 222.

Every Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch, St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Small Hall, 27 Pearl St., Milford. Sponsored by St. Vincent DePaul Society. 508-473-2000.

Third Thursday 5:30-7 p.m. Supper, United Parish, 1 Church St., Ashland.
Female Boy Scout Troop 219

A group of female Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 219, attended a spent the last week of July at Camp Resolute. Scouts in Troop 219 currently come from four towns–Franklin, Hopedale, Milford and Hopkinton–creating one diverse group for young ladies. Collectively they completed the requirements for the Art, Shotgun, First Aid, Painting, Leatherwork, Swimming, Cooking, Rifle, Archery and Indian Lore Merit Badges. They participated in rock climbing, and competed in the whole camp relay and aquatic race. Troop 219 served in the Color Guard one night retiring the colors at sunset. The week ended with a Dutch oven cook off, fire building race, scout trivia, knot tie competition and team building activities with their brother Troop, Milford Troop 2. Registrations to join Troop 219 now being accepted for females aged 11 through 17 interested in Scouts BSA programing. Come see what the troop is about–community service, personal development and travel. For information about joining, email Advancement@Troop2Milford.org

Boy Scout Troop 1 Hopedale at Summer Camp

The members of Hopedale Boy Scout Troop 1 have completed another successful week of Summer Camp at Camp Resolute in Bolton. Boy Scouts spent the week tenting at camp and earning numerous Merit Badges such as archery, canoeing, personal fitness, chess and some had the opportunity to use a muzzle loaded rifle. Some Scouts worked to earn their Wilderness Survival Merit badge by sleeping outside overnight with nothing but what they had in their pockets.

The day began at 6 a.m., when most Scouts would do the polar bear swim. After breakfast and morning colors, the boys would be on to their classes and activities. After evening colors, the Scouts would gather for a formal dinner and participate in evening activities before turning in for the night. This year, Troop 1 shared a campsite with Troop 44 Mendon, and were led by Troop 44’s Senior Patrol Leader.

At the end of the week, each Troop selects an honor Scout who has most demonstrated the spirit of Scouting by living up to the Scout law. This year Alexander Fumia of Troop 1 Hopedale and Sophie Cyr of Troop 219 Milford received the Honor Camper award of Taunkacoo. This may be the first time that two Scouts from Hopedale have earned this honor in the same year, during the same week.

All current parents of Scouts BSA Troop 1 Hopedale, as well as any other youths and parents interested in joining Troop 1 Hopedale are encouraged to attend the Parent Information Meeting, held during the regular Troop 1 weekly meeting Tuesday, September 24, at 7 p.m. at Hopedale Union Evangelical Church, Troop 1 Hopedale’s Charter Organization, 25 Dutcher St., Hopedale, MA.

For more information about Boy Scouts in Hopedale, visit HopedaleScouts.org or email hopedalescouts@gmail.com.
Bay Equity Offers Free Educational Mortgage Seminars

Bay Equity Loan Officer Michael Shain, who has more than 25 years of banking and mortgage lending experience in the local area, will host two free home loan education seminars in September in conjunction with the Milford Community Use Program. Both events will be at 6:30 p.m. at Milford High School, Room A-1. Pre-registration is required for both events at MilfordCommunity.com. Click “Register for Activities,” then select “Adult Fall one-night workshops.” Space is limited. Free pizza will be served!

The seminars are:

- **Wednesday, September 18 – VA Loans - Available exclusively to active duty personnel, reservists and National Guard, as well as surviving spouses of veterans. VA loans can be used for purchases or refinances. Down payments are as low as 0 percent.**
- **Wednesday, September 25 - Homebuyer Boot Camp - A panel of housing experts join Mike to discuss the entire home buying process including mortgage programs and the importance of credit.**

For more information, call Shain at 508-330-8487 or email mshain@bayeq.com.

**Bay Equity**

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**Cormier Woods History and Nature Walk**

Visit Cormier Woods, a preserved 17th century farmstead, 217 Chapin St., Uxbridge on Thursday, September 12 for a guided tour of the buildings and a nature walk from 4 to 6 p.m. The group will meet at the parking lot next to the barn and kiosk. The tour of the house, barn and shed, well preserved examples from more than 300 years of agriculture and the labor of generations of several families, will outline the history of the farm and the natural landscape.

The tour includes a section of the three miles of easy hiking trails that encompasses a beaver pond, streams, varied forest landscapes, stone walls, open fields, and a tour of the area around the house, barn, and sheds. The original owner and builder of the house and surrounding buildings was Joseph Chapin and his wife Olive Taft who built the house in 1750. Aside from raising his family and running the farm, Chapin was a committed patriot, an original member of the town’s Committee of Correspondence in 1774, and commander of the Uxbridge minutemen when they responded to the alarm from Concord and Lexington in 1775.

Cormier Woods lies within what is now defined as the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. The designated area extends from Worcester to Providence and celebrates the historical and cultural importance of the river, birthplace of America’s Industrial Revolution. For more information contact Jim Beauchamp at jim.beauchamp2251@gmail.com or 508-498-0270.

**Bay Equity**

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**USDA Declares August Tree Check Month**

August is the height of summer, and it is also the best time to spot the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) as it starts to emerge from trees. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is asking the public to take five minutes to step outside and report any signs of this invasive pest. Checking trees for the beetle will help residents protect their own trees and better direct USDA efforts to eradicate this beetle from the United States.

The Asian longhorned beetle was first detected in Massachusetts in August 2008 and since then, has resulted in the loss of over 36,000 trees. A current infestation is being fought in Worcester County, so residents there should be especially on guard.

“It’s important to look for signs of the beetle now, because it’s slow to spread during the early stages of an infestation,” said Josie Ryan, APHIS’ National Operations Manager for the ALB Eradication Program. “With the public’s help, we can target new areas where it has spread and provide a better chance of quickly containing it.”

The Asian longhorned beetle feeds on a wide variety of popular hardwood trees, including maple, birch, elm, willow, ash and poplar. Nationwide, it has already led to the loss of more than 180,000 trees. In addition to Worcester County, active infestations are being fought in Clermont County, Ohio, and Long Island, N.Y. (Nassau and Suffolk Counties).

“Homeowners need to know that infested trees do not recover and will eventually die, becoming safety hazards,” warned Ryan. “USDA removes infested trees as soon as possible because they can drop branches and even fall, especially during storms, and this keeps the pest from spreading to nearby healthy trees.”

The Asian longhorned beetle has distinctive markings that are easy to recognize:

- Antennae that are longer than the insect’s body with black and white bands.
- A shiny, jet-black body with white spots, about 1” to 1 ½” long.
- Six legs and feet, possibly bluish-colored.
- Signs of infestation include:
  - Round exit holes in tree trunks and branches about the size of a dime or smaller.
  - Shallow oval or round scars in the bark where the adult beetle chewed an egg site.
  - Sawdust-like material called frass, laying on the ground around the tree or in the branches.
- Dead branches or limbs falling from an otherwise healthy-looking tree.

For more information about the Asian longhorned beetle, other ways to keep it from spreading—such as not moving firewood—and eradication program activities, visit AsianLonghornedBeetle.com. For local inquiries or to speak to your State Plant Health Director, call 1-866-702-9938.

**Bay Equity**

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**Home Improvement**

**Asian Longhorned Beetle**

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Daniels Farmstead Apple Festival

Celebrating the arrival of fall in New England, the Daniels Farmstead, 286 Mendon St., Blackstone, will hold its third annual Apple Festival on Sunday, September 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. Daniels Farmstead played a pivotal role in growing apples and producing apple cider and vinegar at the largest surviving cider house in the Blackstone River Valley.

Bakers are invited to participate in the apple pie contest which will be judged at 1 p.m. Enter the two categories, traditional double crust and most creative. Entry forms are available at DanielsFarmstead.org or register the day of the event. Judges will be local celebrities and slices of pie will be sold.

Browse the Farmer's Market for fresh produce, apples and cider from local orchards, and hayed the fields. He also worked the cider mill with two presses powered by a steam engine and a large outside cistern until 1950. Vinegar and cider were processed and sold for farmers as far away as Woonsocket. Throughout the mid-twentieth day.

For more information, contact Martha at 508-904-4471.

Colorful Plantings in Milford

The highlight of the Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford’s summer excursion was a visit to Bonsai West, where an historic collection of bonsai trees some several hundred years old are on display. The ancient art of bonsai was presented showing various styles and plantings of many types of trees all trimmed and shaped to give an aged, weathered landscape. Shown are club members, l-r, Gail Reichert, Patsy Timmons, Gyna Hylander and Teddi Weber at Bonsai West. The group also went to Cataldi’s Nurseries where they looked at lovely summer perennials in full bloom and which give as much color to the garden. The GGC is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Garden Club Federation of MA, Inc. For information, email greenleafgardenclub@gmail.com. GGC photo

Entertainment will be provided by Eli Go, a classic folk, fingerstyle guitarist. Tours of the historic cider house and the Daniels’ home will take place throughout the day.

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A Charter School Proposed for Milford

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

An initial proposal has been put before the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to open a new charter school in the town of Milford.

Dr. Nadine Clifford, Assistant Principal at Stacy Middle School, is listed as developer and founder of the proposed charter school, which would be located in Milford and serve up to 270 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The proposed Leading Edge Charter School would be the first charter school in Milford, and would serve students from Milford, Bellingham, Blackstone-Millville, Hopedale, Medway, Mendon, Upton, and Uxbridge.

A charter school is a tuition-free, independently-operated public school that operates under a contract with a charter school authorizer – usually a nonprofit organization, government agency, or university – that holds them accountable to their "charter," or mission, fiscal guidelines, and accountability requirements.

There are 82 charter schools in Massachusetts serving more than 45,000 students, nearly 5 percent of the state's public school students, according to the education department.

There is a cap, however, on the number of charter schools that can be open in Massachusetts. In 2016, a ballot question was put forth to Massachusetts voters asking them to lift the cap on number of charter schools across the state. The ballot was a hotly contested one, with supporters arguing that lifting the cap would give parents and students, especially those in underperforming school districts, more of a choice; and public school districts and school committees lobbying for voters to reject the proposition in order to leave the cap in place citing concerns about funding and lack of oversight. The ballot was ultimately defeated, and the cap stayed in place.

Three years later, school districts are still opposed to charter schools as they feel it would drain already limited resources from each of the potential sending public school districts.

"I am opposed to the new charter school application moving forward in the process," said Superintendent of the Milford Public Schools Dr. Kevin McIntyre in an interview with The Town Crier this week. "Charter school performance has been very mixed nationally and according to a 2013 study from the Center for Research on Education Outcomes more than 70 percent of charter schools perform at the same or worse levels as their local public schools."

McIntyre went on to say that there is research to indicate that some charter schools create "barriers to entry" that result in selective admission processes, have higher suspension and expulsion rates, educate fewer students with disabilities and English learners, and can push non-performing or struggling students out over time.

"This proposal was developed by an unproven provider and these types of proposals in particular often lead to lower performing charter schools which would not serve Milford families well," he said.

Clifford has declined to comment to the media at this time.

There is no indication of where the new charter school would be located, however, there is currently a vacant school building where Milford Catholic Elementary School used to operate before closing their doors in June 2017.

Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) is offering its last "Super Saturday" registration event before the fall semester begins. Students who have been unable to register during the week have another chance to register for classes on Saturday, August 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at QCC Welcome Center, on the college’s main campus, 670 West Boylston St., Worcester. Fall classes at QCC begin on September 4. For more information, visit QCC.edu/Saturday.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508.854.7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

Dean’s List

The following Milford resident was named to the Spring 2019 Dean’s List at his respective school. UMass Lowell: Michael Parke
Knights of Columbus Present Annual Scholarships

The Valencia Council 80 Knights of Columbus of Milford announces that it has awarded four $1000 scholarships to local students who plan to further their education at accredited institutions. The students are Dianna DeRusso, a Milford High School graduate and member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, who plans to attend Regis College. Katerina Donahue, also a Milford High graduate and member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, who plans to attend Boston College. Margaret Bogner, a Mount Saint Charles Academy graduate and St. Mary of the Assumption Church parishioner, plans to attend the University of Maine, Unity College. And Bridget Crevier, a graduate of the Montrose School, Medfield, a St. Mary of the Assumption Church parishioner who plans to attend Salve Regina University.

All scholarship applicants were evaluated on their academic achievement, good citizenship, respect of others, and group involvement.

The Valencia Council 80 Knights of Columbus, part of one of the world’s largest fraternal service organizations dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, was established at St Mary of the Assumption Church on September 3, 1893 and has been serving the Catholic churches and the Milford community for over 125 years. The Knights of Columbus is the world’s largest Catholic fraternal service organization, dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism.

Fall Adult Education Courses

Leonardo L. Moricone, Director of the Milford Community School Use Program, has released the schedule for the Fall Adult Education courses, which are to begin the week of September 9, 2019.

There are many classes and workshops offered in the areas of Arts and Crafts, Hobbies, Boating, Business, Cooking, Dance, Financial, Fitness, Language and other areas. The complete list of classes may be found on the Milford Community School Use Program website, MilfordCommunity.com under Adult Fall. The website also lists many free one night workshops.

Registration forms may be printed from the website and will be accepted immediately by mail to Milford Community School Use Program, 31 West Fountain St., Milford, MA 01757. Registrations with payment may be dropped off at the security kiosk in the front of Milford High School, West Fountain St., between the 7 a.m. and 2:20 p.m., and directly in the office from 2:20 to 4 p.m. Lastly online registrations are accepted at the website.

A separate registration form and a separate check are required for each course. Fees are included in each course description for residents and nonresidents. Senior Citizens (65 and older) pay 10 percent discount of fee listed except for pool programs. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Milford - MCSUP. Individuals paying in person with cash are asked to have the exact amount.

For further information, please call the office at 508-478-1119.

Homefield Credit Union Hosts Seven Hills Foundation Group

A group of young adults from the Seven Hills Foundation in Milford spent some time at Homefield Credit Union’s Milford Branch recently. The group was invited to the Credit Union to learn basic banking skills, such as opening and balancing a checking account, how to use an ATM, safe keeping of an ATM card as well as other personal information, and how to detect fraud. Alycia Straughn, AVP Branch Manager, also discussed the difference between a credit union and a bank. At the end of their visit, each guest was given a “Swag Bag” filled with Homefield Credit Union logo items.

Homefield Credit Union President and CEO Karl Moisan was pleased to host the group saying, “The work that the Seven Hills Foundation does is exceptional. I recently had the opportunity to visit one of the Seven Hills locations and witnessed first-hand the high quality of service and support offered. Seven Hill has long been committed to helping individuals with significant challenges pursue personal well-being and independence. Homefield Credit Union strongly believes that financial literacy education is necessary to provide individuals with the tools needed to understand and manage important areas of personal finances.”
**Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra Celebrating 20th Season of Performances**

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Just over 20 years ago, Paul Surapine had an idea. To bring together the region's finest professional musicians to deliver a season of amazing performances in Milford. Fast forward to today and the Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra (CHSO), a 60 to 70-musician ensemble is preparing for its 20th season of bringing beautiful music to the masses. And that fact alone is music to Surapine's ears.

Surapine, who serves as Executive and Music Director and conductor, says it's hard to believe sometimes the CHSO is still performing two decades later. Still, he said, it was a step-by-step process bringing it all to fruition. “There was no business plan. There was no strategic plan. It was always one step at a time,” he said. One of those first steps was forming the Claflin Hill Music Performance Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit charitable foundation, which has been the CHSO's mainstay since its inception.

Surapine has been playing music pretty much his entire life. “I knew by age nine that I wanted to be a professional musician,” said the clarinet player who graduated from the Hartt School, a performing arts conservatory of the University of Hartford. He has played Carnegie Hall as well as with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Hartford Symphony Orchestra and The Connecticut Pops Orchestra, among many others.

While some may be surprised that Milford is home to such a large, professional orchestra, Surapine says don't be. The longtime Milford resident says his hometown has a long history of great music, including Italian opera and jazz. “Milford has been the home of some great music,” said Surapine. And thanks to the CHSO, that history has continued on.

Surapine is also the Music Director of the Claflin Hill Youth Symphony made up of music students from central and eastern Massachusetts. Besides the CHSO's longevity and its quality performances, another thing Surapine and Assistant Director Bernadette Stockwell say they are very proud of is the connection the musicians have with their audience members and each other. Something they feel is not necessarily part of the big-city orchestras.

“When Paul walks through the doors, he knows where everyone is sitting and if someone is sitting in the wrong place, he knows that too,” said Stockwell. Surapine also says audiences enjoy speaking to the musicians and feel comfortable doing so. The orchestra members are also known to go out locally after a performance. “It's really unlike any other orchestra,” said Surapine. “They're an orchestra family.”

Concerts are held in the Milford Town Hall’s Grand Ballroom and have had as many as 600 in attendance. Still, Surapine says many are still unaware there’s a first-class symphony orchestra in their own backyard and encourages anyone who has a love of music to attend a performance. For more information on the CHSO's 20th Anniversary 2019/20 season, which begins this fall, visit ClaflinHill.com. They also can be found on Facebook.

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**Bo Daley Joins Unibank as Whittingville Area Relationship Branch Manager**

Wendy Brown, Vice President Director of Retail Banking, recently welcomed Bo Daley to the UniBank team as Area Relationship Branch Manager of the Whittingville Main and Whittingville Plaza Branches. In this role, he is responsible for operations, and growth and development of consumer and business relations for UniBank’s Whittingville branch locations and representing UniBank in the community through attendance in community events and participation with community groups.

Daley has over 18 years of banking experience. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with a focus in Management from Becker College.

Active in the community, Daley, who lives in Riverside R.I., is President of the Rotary Club of Metro Providence in 2019/2020 and as an active member in the Rotary Club of Blackstone Valley. He enjoys preparing food for those in need, repairing bicycles for the community, picking up litter, and many other local service activities.

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O’Loughlin Opposes Being Removed from Police Chief Selection Committee

By Melissa Orfy
Staff Reporter

Former Milford Police Chief Tom O’Loughlin strongly opposed being removed from the Police Chief Selection Committee, telling the Committee that it is “unlawful and wrong” to have him replaced as a member.

The 12-person Police Chief Selection Committee was created after Selectmen decided in a two to one vote to not renew O’Loughlin’s contract on September 17, 2018. Selectmen William Buckley and William Kingkade supported the action while Selectmen Michael Walsh voted against it.

According to Milford’s by-laws, a 12-member search committee must be created after a Chief is notified that his/her contract would not be renewed. Some of the committee members are appointed by the Town Moderator and Selectmen, while others participate by virtue of their positions in town government. According to the by-law, the current Police Chief is one of those committee members.

O’Loughlin’s contract as Milford Police Chief ended on June 30, 2019 and Michael Pighetti took over the duties as Interim Police Chief on July 1, 2019. According to Town Counsel, the change meant that O’Loughlin was no longer part of the Selection Committee and Pighetti, due to his new position, was a member. O’Loughlin questioned the move.

“Mr. Pighetti’s status is yet to be determined by Superior Court. Whether he is a Chief of Police or not is yet to be determined,” said O’Loughlin, referring to a case that should be heard in mid-August.

O’Loughlin went on to intimate that Selectmen were involved in having him removed from the search committee.

“Certain Selectmen have wrongfully influenced and manipulated control of this committee and its responsibilities to find and present the most qualified candidate to serve this wonderful community as Chief of Police,” said O’Loughlin.

O’Loughlin said that if removed, he planned to bring lawsuits against two members of the Board of Selectmen and Interim Chief Pighetti.

“This is illegal…everyone knows that I am fair and I am honest and I am not going away,” O’Loughlin said.

A similar situation arose in April, when former Selectmen Chair Michael Walsh initially refused to vacate his committee seat, following the election of Selectman William Buckley as board chair who selected Donna Niro as his designee. Walsh said there was no language in the by-law about removing committee members. Back in April O’Loughlin, echoing Walsh’s comments about removing committee members, said he had no intention of leaving the committee when his tenure as police chief ran out on June 30.

Speaking at the August 13 meeting, committee member Donato Niro, not related to Donna Niro, strongly agreed that the Search Committee had no right to remove O’Loughlin.

“We have no Chief of Police, the Chief of Police was removed,” he said. “Until the Board of Selectmen select a new Chief, the Interim shouldn’t be included (on the Search Committee).

Donato Niro, who said he was involved in the creation of the bylaw 20 years ago, said that the bylaw was very specific about who could be on the committee, and was written to create stability on the Search Committee.

“It is the Chief of Police or the next person of rank. You have no authority to remove anyone or to appoint anyone. You cannot instruct the Chief so leave this table,” he said.

Search Committee Chairperson Dino DeBartolomeis disagreed, stating that the Committee had received a response from Town Counsel about O’Loughlin’s removal.

In a heated retort, Donato Niro stated that two of the Selectmen have “attempted to destabilize” the Search Committee.

“I suggest that if we need legal advice, we seek independent legal advice,” he said. “We should not be seeking advice from an attorney who works for these two selectmen.

After committee member Donato Niro moved that the discussion on the matter come to a conclusion, the meeting continued, but not before DeBartolomeis delivered the final decision.

DeBartolomeis said, “I have spoken to Town Counsel at length about this and Mike Walsh has been informed. Walsh said he was going to talk to his lawyer.”

Who Gets to Serve on the Police Selection Committee?

Article 32 of the town’s by-laws – enacted in 1999 – specifies the process for selecting a new police chief, including the formation of a Police Chief Selection Review Committee within 30 days after notification is made of the non-renewal of the incumbent chief’s contract. The 12-member selection committee is to consist of:

- The chairman of the Board of Selectmen or his designee;
- A representative of the Milford Police Association, elected by that association;
- The chairman of the Personnel Board or his designee from the Personnel Board;
- The current Police Chief, if available, or the senior officer of the Police Department by rank and years of service who is not an applicant for the chief’s position;
- The chairman of the Finance Committee or his designee from the Finance Committee;
- Two Town Meeting Members, one appointed by selectmen and one by the Town Moderator;
- Two at-large members appointed by the Town Moderator who are residents of Milford and also active or retired state or federal law enforcement officers, personnel administration professionals, or professors or assistant professors of Police Science or Criminal Justice at a recognized institution of higher learning, and;
- Three residents of Milford who are not town officials or Town Meeting Members, appointed by selectmen.

Current committee membership is:

- Donna Niro, designee of current Selectmen Chair William Buckley, replacing Michael Walsh, former chair of the Board of Selectmen
- James Heron, member of the Milford Police Association; replacing earlier choice of Patrick Dailey
- Scott Harrison, chair of the Personnel Board
- Interim Police Chief Michael Pighetti, following Town Counsel advice replaces former Police Chief Thomas O’Loughlin
- Christopher Morn, chair of the Finance Committee
- Richard Heller, a Town Meeting member appointed by Town Moderator Michael Noferi
- Donato “Dan” Niro, appointed by Niro
- Dino DeBartolomeis, appointed by Niro
- Edward Bertorelli, a Town Meeting member appointed by selectmen
- David Brutsch, a Milford resident Dell/EMC employee appointed by selectmen
- Christopher Fritts, a Milford resident and Wellesley police officer appointed by selectmen
- Jodie Nosiglia, a Milford resident and Human Resources professional appointed by selectmen

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Milford Residents Need to Prevent Mosquito Bites in Light of EEE Outbreak

By Melissa Orff  
Staff Reporter

The Milford Board of Health encourages all residents and visitors to take precautions to protect against mosquito-borne illnesses and prevent mosquito bites, particularly during the warm, moist summer months. To date, the following cities and towns had EEE positive samples: Easton, Rehoboth, Westport, Hopkinton, Lowell, Carver and Westborough. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced on August 16 that laboratory testing confirmed the second case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus infection, in a male between the ages of 19-30 from Grafton. This is the second human case of EEE in Massachusetts this year. The risk level in these communities has been raised to critical as a result. A young goat in Bristol County has also tested positive for EEE, raising the risk to critical in three additional communities there.

The ten communities now at critical risk are Hopkinton, Grafton, Northbridge, Shrewsbury, Southborough, Upton, Westborough, Easton, Norton, and Raynham. In addition, Framingham, Marlborough in Middlesex County, and Millbury, Northborough, and Sutton in Worcester County are considered at high risk. DPH is working with the local boards of health and local Mosquito Control Projects and other mosquito control experts to coordinate surveillance and discuss appropriate public health response activities.

All residents are reminded that they should continue to use mosquito repellent and those in high and critical risk communities should consider staying indoors during the dusk to dawn hours to reduce exposure to mosquitoes.

The Milford Board of Health will continue to work with Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMCCP) in their efforts to reduce mosquito exposure and to continue surveillance and prevention programs in our area. The Milford Board of Health also encourages everyone to take basic precautions to help limit exposure.

EEE is a rare but serious and potentially fatal disease that can affect people of all ages. EEE occurs sporadically in Massachusetts with the most recent outbreak years occurring from 2004-2006 and 2010-2012. EEE virus has been found in 288 mosquito samples this year, many of them from species of mosquitoes capable of spreading the virus to people.

Precautions to Help Prevent EEE

People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes. The Milford Board of Health and Massachusetts Department of Health (DPH) provides this information to help residents protect themselves from Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and other mosquito borne diseases by using the Drain and Cover suggestions.

**DRRAIN standing water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying.**
- Drain water from garbage cans, house gutters, buckets, pool covers, coolers, toys, flower pots or any other containers where sprinkler or rain water has collected.
- Discard old tires, drums, bottles, cans, pots and pans, broken appliances and other items that aren’t being used.
- Empty and clean bird baths and pet’s water bowls at least once or twice a week.
- Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don’t accumulate water.
- Maintain swimming pools in good condition and appropriately chlorinated. Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.

**COVER skin with clothing or repellent.**
- Clothing – wear socks, shoes and long pants and long sleeves. This type of protection may be necessary for people who must work in areas where mosquitoes are present.
- Repellent – Apply mosquito repellent to bare skin and clothing.
- Always use repellents according to label. Repellents with DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon, eucalyptus are effective.
- Use mosquito netting to protect children younger than 2 months old.

**Tips on Repellent Use**
- Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before you apply a repellent. Some repellents are not suitable for children.
- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin, or onto clothing, but not under clothing.
- Protecting children, read label instructions to be sure the repellent is age-appropriate.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), mosquito repellents containing oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under the age of three years. DEET is not recommended on children younger than two months old.
- Avoid applying repellents to the hands of children. Adults should apply repellent first to their own hands and then transfer it to the child’s skin and clothing.

**Keep Mosquitoes outside**
- Cover doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house.
- Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.

For more information on what repellent is right for you, consider using the Environmental Protection Agency’s search tool to help you choose skin-applied repellent products: http://cpbda.epa.gov/oppref/insect/ssearchform.

The Milford Board of Health works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people and their guests in the Town of Milford in through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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.

**Monday, September 2**  
Town Offices  
Closed for Labor Day

**Monday, September 9**  
Milford Youth Commission, 24 Pearl St., 6:15 p.m.

**Saturday, September 12**  
Board of Library Trustees, Town Library, 7 p.m.

Special Town Meeting Set for October 28

By Melissa Orff  
Staff Reporter

The Milford Board of Selectmen have set a date of October 28 for the traditional fall, Special Town Meeting. The date was set during the August 5 Board of Selectmen Meeting after a recommendation by Town Administrator Rick Villani. Slated to begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 28 the meeting can be continued to Wednesday, October 30 if needed. The dates were approved, and the Warrant was opened by unanimous vote by the Board of Selectmen.

Following is the timeline leading up to the Special Town Meeting:

- **Monday, August 5, 2019** – Selectmen open warrant, which closes at noon on Thursday, September 12
- **Tuesday, August 20, 2019** – Town Counsel begins preparing the official warrant.
- **Monday, September 9, 2019** – Selectmen approve the final warrant
- **Tuesday, September 17, 2019** through **October 8** – Filing of Town Clerk, Personnel Board and Selectmen schedule and hold meetings to review warrant articles as necessary
- **Tuesday, September 17, 2019** – Town Clerk posts copies of Warrant in all precincts (a minimum of) 14 days prior to Special Town Meeting, per Massachusetts General Laws
- **Friday, October 11, 2019** – Town Clerk posts copies of Warrant in ten (10) public places, Town Clerk posts Warrant to Town Meeting membership
- **Tuesday, October 22, 2019** – Pre Town Meeting Forum at Milford Town Hall at 7 p.m.
- **Monday, October 28, 2019** – Town Meeting convenes in the Milford Town Hall at 7 p.m.

Maintain 5-year Plan

In a related item, Selectmen Chair William Buckley made a statement during the August 5 board meeting, cautioning town departments/individuals from bringing forward capital expenditures that could disrupt the 5-year long range plan.

“This Board, various department heads, the Director of Finance, town administrators and others have worked very hard to make sure we have set a 5-year plan that each department had an opportunity for input,” he said. “Nothing better than something that is of an extreme emergency nature doesn’t allow folks to jump ahead of the entire list and bump people out of the way.”

Buckley said that every year at this time he hears of departments that want to “jump ahead” with large expenditures that are not planned for.

“What they don’t realize is that in order for them to do that, they have to push people out of the way that have been in line for a very long time,” he said.

The five-year capital plan, which Buckley stated he would support when elected as Chair in the spring, was formulated in 2017 and contains about $10 million worth of capital expenditures through FY 2022. The town has allocated about $1.5 million per year since then on those expenditures.

“It’s been a process that has worked, and it’s been an equitable process,” said Buckley.

Buckley has previously stated that his priorities in his final year as a selectman are to continue revitalizing the downtown business area, maintain financial leadership, continue five-year capital spending plans, complete the purchase of the Milford Water Company, and to support public safety by adding new firefighters this year and selecting a new police chief.
**Calendar**

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**The Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center**

The Ruth Anne Bleakney 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 Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Contact the center by calling 508-473-8334 or emailing sclark@milfordma.com. Sue Trotta Clark is the director.

**Milton High School Class of 1962 Birthday Party**

MILFORD: The Milton High School Class of 1962 will hold a Birthday Party on Thursday, October 17, at 4:30 p.m. at Prezo’s Restaurant, 229 East Main St., Milford. A Classic Buffet will be offered for $26 per person. Spouses or guests are invited. For more information or to reserve a table as possible, contact Joanne Jackman, Donna Beatrice, Ronnie Moody, Judy Barton or Diane Menard.

**United Parish Town-Wide Yard Sale**

UPTON-SAVE THE DATE: United Parish is planning a town-wide yard sale in conjunction with Upton’s Heritage Day Celebration on Saturday, September 28. Last year’s event was a success with over 30 locations throughout the town. Interested sellers will be able to register soon at the church and will receive signs and information to help plan for their individual sales. A new feature this year will allow out of town or Upton residents to set up tables at the VFW instead of their yards. More information on registering will be available soon.

The sale will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the church grounds on Main St., Upton. Ten foot spaces are available at $25. Tables and tents are also available for rent. Please contact Brian Gallagher at gallaghb1@gmail.com, or 508-329-6001 for more information or an application.

**United Parish Holiday Bazaar**

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

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**Send your calendar items to Jane Bigda, our editor, at TownCrierEditor@gmail.com**

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**Twice Blessed Thrift Shop**

HOPEDALE: The Sacred Heart Church of Hopedale Twice Blessed Thrift Shop reopens for the season on Thursday, October 9, and during the opening weekend will offer $7 a bag for clothing except specially priced items. Specials all through September will be $1 off men’s shirts and slacks, and women’s blouses and slacks, plus 50 off children’s shirts, Moses and slacks. Open every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the first and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

**United Parish Holiday Bazaar**

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OPENINGS FOR BETWEEN 20 – 39 HOURS

SIGN-ON BONUS

(1) $1,000 bonus if you have a valid 7D License
(2) $1,000 bonus if you do not have a 7D license

WANTED:

• Regular transportation drivers - no special licenses required.
• 7D drivers wanted to transport students to and from school in company vehicles. If you are interested but do not have a 7D license, we will work with you to get your license. 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.
• Sick of dieting? Get fit, healthy, and confident for life! Now enrolling for the September session of Women's Total Body Wellness. Hurry! Only 25 spots available.
• 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.

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

Michael Sulham UniBank
Vice President in Uxbridge

Wendy Brown, Vice President Director of Retail Banking, recently welcomed Michael R. Sulham back as Relationship Branch Manager of UniBank’s Uxbridge Branch, where he will be responsible for daily operations, business development, and community involvement. Sulham joined UniBank in 2010 as Assistant Branch Manager. With a Bachelor of Arts degree from Assumption College, he has over 13 years of banking experience. Sulham is a resident of Holden. UniBank photo

Mendon Cultural Council
Seeks Grant Applications

The Mendon Cultural Council is accepting grant applications for the upcoming year beginning September 1 through midnight October 15. Funds will be distributed for events supporting the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in our community.

Organizations, schools, and individuals may apply for funding. Applications are no longer accepted on paper, and must be completed online. To access the online form for submission, visit MassCulture.org.

The local grants are made available to Mendon from the Massachusetts Council, a state agency which distributes funds to the community. Massachusetts has one of the largest networks of local cultural councils in the nation, supporting over 329 Local Cultural Councils, serving all 350 towns in the Commonwealth.

In the past, the Mendon Council has supported events such as beach concerts, school field trips, events and activities at Taft Public Library, events at the Senior Center, and many local artists providing school and community programs.

For more information or to receive up dated listings of activities and events, visit the Mendon Cultural Council on Facebook.

Thanks To Yanks 9/11 Tribute Dinner
Registration

The 13th Annual Thanks To Yanks Tribute 9/11 Dinner is now open for registration. This free dinner on Wednesday, September 11, held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Milford, from 6 to 8:15 p.m., is only open to military members, veterans, first responders, and families. This non-political event is to simply say “Thank You” for the sacrifices they make to ensure our freedoms and safety while remembering the heroes and victims of 9/11/01.

This special free tribute dinner recognizes all military members, veterans, first responders and their families, including Blue and Gold Star families. Registration is required for the event as seating will be limited and can be done at ThanksToYanks.org. The dinner will also include speakers, a Flag Tower, Missing Man Table Ceremony, Medal of Liberty Presentation and other ceremonies. For more information or to donate, please visit ThanksToYanks.org, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.
Six Things to Know About Vaccinations

Courtesy of StatePoint Media

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) and medical experts remind everyone that vaccinations save lives. “Overwhelming scientific evidence shows that vaccines are among the most effective, safest interventions to prevent illness and protect public health,” says Dr. Patrice A. Harris, president of American Medical Association (AMA).

The AMA is offering answers to six commonly asked questions about vaccinations.

1. Are vaccines safe? Yes, vaccines prevent individual illness and protect the health of the public. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. has the safest vaccine supply in history, though mild side effects can irritate at the injection site.

2. Is it true that if everyone else is vaccinated, my family doesn’t need to be? No. Vaccines not only protect the child or adult who receive them, but also the health of their communities. Some people cannot be vaccinated – very young children, cancer patients and immunosuppressed individuals. When immunization rates are high, people in these categories are protected because they’re less likely to be exposed to the disease.

3. What vaccinations do my children need? Children should be vaccinated according to the recommended schedule of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, designed to protect young children before they’re likely to be exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases and when they’re most vulnerable to serious infections. Visit CDC.gov/vaccines/schedules for the recommended childhood vaccination schedule.

4. What is the earliest age I can have my children vaccinated for preventable diseases? Children can receive their first flu vaccine at six-months. The recommended age for the first dose of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is 12 to 15 months. If you live in a community experiencing an outbreak, or if you travel internationally, your baby may be vaccinated as early as six months. Talk to your pediatrician for additional information.

5. I’m an adult, do I need to get vaccinated? Yes, adults need vaccines too. Some immunities from childhood vaccines can wear off and some adults need vaccinations because of other factors. Talk with your doctor to determine which vaccines you need, and visit CDC.gov/nip/adultimmunizations.

6. Hasn’t the U.S. eradicated the major diseases that require vaccines? One of the country’s greatest public health success stories is the remarkable decrease in infectious diseases as the result of vaccines. Unfortunately, that success has led some parents to stop vaccinating their children against diseases like measles, meningitis, polo and diphtheria. These diseases still exist, and can still be deadly and ubiquitous without vaccinating. Diseases that were once considered eradicated could reemerge – like the U.S. measles outbreaks. Visit CDC.gov/vaccines for information.

BHC Photography Ambassadors First Ever Gallery Show

Volunteer photographers with the Blackstone Heritage Corridor (BHC) Photography Ambassadors will present their first ever gallery show at the Museum of Work & Culture, 42 S. Main St., Woonsocket, through the month of September. A free, opening reception will be held on Thursday, August 29 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. where the public can come and meet the photographers and discuss their work.

The Photography Ambassadors are a volunteer group with the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Volunteers-In-Parks program. For this show, the group traveled to 19 different locations throughout the National Heritage Corridor, capturing images of the many historical sites and mill villages between Worcester and Providence. The gallery show is being led by BHC volunteer and photographer Carol Dandrade who reveals that there will be four photos from each of the 19 sites and a special “Photographer’s Choice” wall will feature a dozen more.

All photos in the gallery show will be available for sale. The photos will be displayed in 11” x 14” mats, ready for framing. A portion of the proceeds will benefit BHC. Additional sizes are available by contacting the individual photographers.

For more information about the Blackstone Heritage Corridor Photography Ambassadors and the gallery show, contact Suzanne Buchanan at 508-234-4242 or sbuchanan@BlackstoneHeritageCorridor.org.
New Faces for MHS Soccer in 2019

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The Milford High soccer program captured its first league title in nearly two decades last fall and the success has head coach Brian Edwards and his players energized for the coming season, even with a number of new faces in the spotlight.

“I think it really validated the work these guys had put into the program for a number of years,” Edwards said. “There are a lot of talented guys who have come through our program who didn’t have a chance to do that.”

Edwards said the teams has “moved on” and is looking ahead to this year, but added, “we have these young guys coming in that want to be a part of something and make their own legacy in the program and I think this season we will see what they can do.”

The Scarlet Hawks finished 13-2-5 a year ago, falling in the district quarterfinals after winning the Hockomock League’s Davenport Division. MHS has a quartet of captains leading the way this fall, including four-year varsity player Jordan Borges coming back in the midfield.

“He scored big goals for us last year,” Edwards said, noting a game-winner against Canton and a playoff goal against Bishop Feehan.

Senior defender Nuno Mestre is another four-year player and is expected to anchor the defense this fall. Dan Santos returns at center back. "He has really impressed," Edwards said. "He is a hell of a player and a good athlete.”

Junior Leo Coelho, a three-year player, is another athletic and versatile player that Edwards said will serve as a utility player and "can play anywhere on the field.”

In his fourth year as the head coach, this will be the first season in which Edwards is coaching an entirely new team. After graduating seven starters from a year ago, he said the first goal is improvement from day to day.

“I know it sounds cliché, but that’s our philosophy since I came here,” he said. "I am excited to see what these young guys can do,” Edwards said.

Where’s George?

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Milford Town Crier

New Cast Leading Milford Golf This Fall

Milford graduated its top four players from last year’s golf team, but this year there is a new group stepping into the top of the Scarlet Hawks’ rotation and head coach Jason Potty said his team is good enough to get to the district tournament.

“Our goal is to make districts,” Potty said. “You need eight wins to make the districts. Is that feasible? Yes, it is, but we have to play well.”

The Hawks have four seniors coming back this fall along with an experienced junior. Senior captain Eddy Madden and fellow senior Nick Wisneta have put in a considerable amount of work over the summer to sharpen their games.

“Eddy has been with me the longest, this will be his third varsity season and I do expect a lot out of him,” Potty said. “I have seen him at the golf course quite a bit this summer, practicing his game.”

Potty said Wisneta has also been out at the Hopedale Country Club “going around and around.”

Playing well at Hopedale will be crucial to MHS’ success this year. “The biggest thing in high school golf is that you need to take care of business at your home course,” Potty said. “That’s your place, you know the ins and outs.”

Seniors Tyler Weatherbee and Jason Luchini are also expected to take a step forward this fall.

“We want them to come in ready to play and be leaders,” his coach said.

Junior Dave Pacella will take on a bigger role this season after playing in about half of the Scarlet Hawks’ matches last season.

“He has seen some of the away courses that we play, certainly the other four seniors have seen the courses we are going to be playing, so they know what to expect,” Potty said. “They have been there and done it, they should be comfortable this year and not put as much pressure on themselves.”

Milford opens up the season Tuesday, September 3, against Foxboro. In addition to the overarching goal of making the playoffs, Potty said he wants to see his team consistently shooting somewhere between 165 and 170.

“It you come in around that score,” he said, “you are going to be in plenty of matches.”

The Valley Bag Toss

The Valley Bag Toss to benefit Open Skies will be held on Saturday, September 14, rain date of Sunday, September 15, at the Dennis H. Rice Community Plaza, Whitten Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Northbridge from noon to 5 p.m. Participants, ages 14 and up, are invited for an afternoon of live music, food, drinks, cornhole boards and flying bags. Teams of two will compete for great prizes. All abilities welcomed as are spectators.

Register at Eventbrite.com/e/valley-bag-toss-2019-tickets-66318356991. Sponsors may contact Karen Goldberg at 508-234-6232 or Karen.goldberg@openskies.org.

Captains Lead BVT Football Following Title Year

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Blackstone Valley Tech’s football team is looking to return to success this fall after losing 17 starters from a team that captured the program’s first state championship a season ago, and head coach Jim Archibald is looking back to his team’s four captains to lead the way.

I.D. Antaya, Jared Loselle, Jack Nasuti and Ethan Lynch are all slated to play big roles on the field, but their head coach said he is looking for them to become more outspoken.

“They are all quiet guys, the challenge for them is for at least one or two of them to transform into the vocal leader every team needs,” Archibald said. “They don’t have to be yelling and screaming, but they have to be the voice of the team.”

That said, Archibald said what his captains can bring as athletes is “off the charts.”

Antaya has been a feature of the Beavers offensive and defensive backfields for three years, including the past two years as a two-way starter. Antaya led Central Mass. in interceptions last year and brought four picks back for touchdowns. On offense, he amassed just under 1,000 yards on the ground and another 300 yards through the air.

“He has been our main guy on offense,” Archibald said. “We want him to be that all-around back who can run both between the tackles and outside.”

Loselle, Archibald said, is as smart a player as there is in the area.

“He just gets it when it comes to football,” the coach said. “He is solid all-around, always in the right place and never out of position. He is going to be one of those guys, area coaches are going to say ‘where did this kid come from?’”

Both Loselle and Lynch will be leaders of the Beavers’ defense this year. BVT will turn to Nasuti to anchor both the offensive and defensive lines. The 6-foot-5, 220-pound senior could have been a starter last year on nearly any other team, Archibald said, but Valley Tech had five senior starters on the line a season ago. Nasuti answered the call on a number of occasions, however, including a pass block up in the state final that was part of that huge defensive stand.

“Any time we put him in, he did the job well,” Archibald said, noting that each of the captains and the team’s 12 seniors will set the tone in 2019.

“These guys all have experience and have played in the big games,” Archibald said. “Everybody is following their lead and it’s been satisfying.”

Send your sports stories to Jane Bigda, our editor, at TownCrierEditor@gmail.com

August 23, 2019
Milford Summer Basketball Champs
The Milford High School Girls Varsity team were the champions of the summer league with games held at Milford Town Park for this summer. Team members are, r-l, front row: Brooke Ferreira, Olivia Morelli, Emma Lawrence and Earl Wilson. Back row: Emily Coutoia, Jillian Aouni, Jese Douglas, Aubrey Korpi, Katie Maietta, Carley Ferreira and Jill Michelson. Not pictured were Elise Fauerbach and Sarah Timmons. Contributed photo

Milford Volleyball Eyes Return to Tounry
By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist
After earning a spot in the district tournament a season ago, the Milford High girls' volleyball team has no intention of taking a step backward in 2019. “If we want to qualify for the tournament again, and I think we would like to really challenge the best teams in our league,” said Scarlet Hawks’ head coach Tammy Webber. “I think we have the experience so that we are going to them every game. We have to go in with the confidence that we can actually compete and win against the teams that had our number the past three years.”
Senior setter Julia Riordan is back after running off the offense a season ago as a junior captain. “She’s smart, consistent, she has worked on her confidence a lot and she is ready to be a leader and control the court,” Webber said. “I am looking forward to that.”
“Twin Lauren and Allison Cerasi will likely hold down the middle of the floor. “I am assuming they are going to be our middles again,” Webber said. “You can't deny they can block and they are running a quicker offense, so I am hoping we have a real balanced middle all around.”
Alyssa Williamson, another captain last year, is a versatile player with a strong serve and good passing skills. Elsa Fauerbach, who also plays softball and basketball, is back on the right side after playing that position as a sophomore. “She is athletic and last year I just kept putting her in pressure situations,” Webber said. “We are just getting her ready, because we are going to need her as a sophomore.”

Experienced Defense Leads MHS Girls Soccer
By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist
On paper, the Milford High girls’ soccer team looks particularly strong this season on defense with the entire midfield and back line, along with both goal keepers, returning from a team that was only a few points away from a playoff berth a year ago. Of course, as head coach Lou Colabello points out, “paper doesn’t mean much.”
Still, the head coach is excited for this year and the strength he has coming back on the defensive end. “For me personally, I think we are going to be a notch or two better than we were last year,” Colabello said. “The kids are excited, they had a great summer league. I don’t think they lost and in terms of confidence, that really has helped out. I see a whole different attitude compared to what I saw last year.”
Co-captains Annie Flanagan and Maddie Boyle return to the Scarlet Hawks defense. Colabello called them the “stalwarts” of the MHS back line. Another co-captain, Jules France, returns to the Milford midfield after a 2018 season that landed her on the Hockomock League’s All-Star team. Ashley Starks also comes back to the team fully healthy after missing half of last year due to a high ankle sprain. Senior Olivia Marshall and junior Carly Ferreira also return to handle the goalkeeping duties.
Scoring was a challenge for Milford last season and Colabello may be turning to some of his newer players to help boost the offense this fall. “If we had a deficiency last year, it was scoring goals and in the Hock, you have to score goals because you can't play defense for 90 minutes,” Colabello said. “The good thing is that our middle school team was undefeated and there are 15 young ladies who have signed up to try out.”
A total of 46 players signed up for the Scarlet Hawks’ soccer program this fall and some of the newer players may be able to make an immediate impact, Colabello said. The combination of an experienced defense and some younger offensive firepower is something that Colabello is hoping will lift the team towards the tournament in 2019.
“With that nucleus, if we can add a few pieces to the puzzle, we will be in a good place," said Colabello. “With the ‘wise and skills wise some of the young players look like they can step in, but the Hock is going to be a major step up. We will see how they handle it.”

Milford Town Crier

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Milford High football coach Anthony Vizakis wants his team to get off to a hot start this season, so much so that the Scarlet Hawks are wasting no time, kicking off their campaign before any other team in the state.

MHS will begin the year September 5 against Franklin, the 2019 season’s first contest and, Vizakis hopes, a better start than the Hawks had a year ago.

“Start fast,” the coach said when asked what his goals are for this season. “We are taking it one game, one practice at a time, but we are looking to start fast and the kids are putting the time in. We have a good grasp of our system, offensively and defensively, and we are in shape.”

Milford closed the 2018 season with a 6-1 run, but missed out on the postseason due to an 0-4 start. Captains Colby Pires, Luke Rosa, and C.J. Cerrella are slated to take a leading role for this year’s team. “We are expecting Colby to be an elite quarterback in our league and the state,” Vizakis said. “He has the arm strength, he has the physique, he has the leadership ability to really command the offense. We are really excited about him.”

Pires will give a new crop of wide receivers to throw to this season after the Scarlet Hawks graduated three wideouts from last year’s team.

“We have a lot of new wide receivers but they are talented,” Vizakis said. “We have some fast kids; we have some kids who are good with the ball in their hands.”

Rosa will be the Scarlet Hawks’ featured running back and Vizakis said the senior has put a considerable amount of work in during the offseason. “He is ready to carry the lead,” the coach said.

Cerrella will start at middle linebacker and serve as the captain of the defense. “He is ready to lead, “ the coach said.

Milford will be fairly young on the offensive and defensive lines, with five juniors starting in. We have a good grasp of our system, offensively and defensively, and we are in shape.”

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