Milford Critical for EEE, Board of Health Cancels Activities on Town Fields

Thirty-six communities in Massachusetts, including Milford, have now been listed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) as critical for EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis). Seven people in the state have been diagnosed with the disease including a five-year-old in Sudbury, a Nordstrom woman in her 60s and a man in his 70s from Ashland. One woman in Fairhaven has died of the disease. Numerous horses and other animals around the state have also been infected.

Due to the rise in Milford’s status as critical risk for EEE, the Milford Board of Health has ordered that Town playing/ball fields be closed from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily. All outdoor sports and activities are canceled and Town-owned playing fields will be canceled until further notice.

According to the DPH, the virus is most often identified in mosquitoes found in and around freshwater, hard-bodied swamps in Massachusetts. EEE virus particularly infects birds, often with no evidence of illness in the bird. Mosquitoes become infected when they bite infected birds. Although humans and several other types of mammals, particularly horses and Bamas, can become infected, they do not spread disease.

Health officials have said the first symptoms of EEE in people are a sudden onset of a headache, a high fever, chills and vomiting. As the virus progresses, an infected person can experience disorientation and seizures. The federal Centers for Diseases Control (CDC) notes the initial symptoms can occur anywhere between four and 10 days after a bite from an infected mosquito. Those most at risk are people living or visiting a high risk area, those over age 50 and youngsters under 15 years of age. But anyone can contract the virus.

Ariel spraying for mosquitoes in 17 Central Massachusetts communities including Milford took place on August 26 and 27. Officials said the pesticide is highly effective in killing adult mosquitoes. But Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner noted spraying does not eliminate the virus. Residents are urged to use EPA-approved insect repellent, cover exposed skin while outdoors and avoid outdoor activities during the evening and early morning hours when mosquitoes are most active.

While the threat of EEE diminishes with cooler weather, it is not completely eradicated until the first hard frost which is usually about a month away.

Until then everyone is being urged to follow the five D’s of mosquito control:

- Dusk - Avoid outdoor activity when mosquitos are most active
- Drain - Avoid outdoor activity when mosquitoes are most active
- Dawn - Don’t go outside when the light is changing in the sky

Residents need to take precautions against mosquito bites since Milford is now listed by the state of one of the critical risk communities for EEE.

- DEET - Use repellents with it, except for infants two months or younger, per a Board of Health physician.
- Dress - Cover exposed skin to block mosquitoes
- Drain - Dump standing water so mosquitoes can’t breed

For more information, contact the Milford Board of Health at 508-634-2315.

“Advanced Green” Light Beaver St. Left Turns

A new traffic light arrow allowing left turns from Medway Rd. (Rt. 109) onto Beaver St. to gain entry into the Milford Crossing shopping plaza recently was installed and became fully operational on August 28. Town Engineer Mike Dean said the arrow will turn green to allow cars queued up to make the left-hand turn. Sensors in the roadway will keep the light green based on vehicles lined up on the dedicated left-hand turn lane, Dean explained. After being green, the arrow will change to a “long” yellow signal before turning red, he said. Paid for by Milford Crossing developer RD Management, the goal of the new signal is to make it easier and safer to make the left turns. Kevin Ruddan photo

Fiscal Year 2020 Property Values

The Milford Board of Assessors has completed the quinquennial revaluation of real and personal property as required by Massachusetts state law. This periodic update of values ensures that all property is assessed at full and fair market value as of January 1, 2019. The board has received preliminary certification from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

The revaluation requires the verification, analysis and use of arms-length sales from calendar year 2018. Sales from 2017 also were used for classes of property where the numbers of 2018 sales were insufficient for analysis. The analysis of market conditions resulted in the following changes:

- On average, single-family homes increased by 8.4 percent
- On average, multi-family homes increased by 15.1 percent
- Land values did not change
- On average, commercial property increased by 7.3 percent
- On average, industrial property increased by 3.5 percent

These are average changes to whole classes of property. Individual assessments may have changed more or less than the average.
Milford Town Crier
SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Mendon Lions Annual Country Fair
October 12

What began in Mendon in 1975 will continue on Saturday, October 12, as the Mendon Lions Present the 44th Annual Mendon Country Fair at the Blessing Barn, on Rt.16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, October 13. There will be live music throughout the day, livestock displays, crafters, vendors, nonprofit groups, churches, free wagon rides, and a K-9 demonstration by Mendon’s Police Dog, Brady. Another feature of the event is Kids Faire with a magic show, face painting, pie eating contest, pony rides, and a petting zoo. One of the long-time traditions at the Fair is delicious foods at the Lions Food Court. The menu includes hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage and peppers, subs, meatball sandwiches, French fries and fried dough. Fresh squeezed lemonade, ice cream, and watermelon will also be available, along with cold drinks and coffee. Admission to the Fair is free. Parking is available for a donation to the Mendon Boy Scouts. All profits will go to Mendon Lions Club charities and community projects.

Hopedale Cultural Council Applications

The Hopedale Cultural Council has set an October 15 deadline for organizations, schools, and individuals to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community. Proposals in the arts, humanities, and science that support projects such as exhibits, lectures, workshops, field trips, performances, and artistic residencies may be submitted. The Hopedale Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community based projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

This year the Hopedale Cultural Council will distribute about $5400 in grants. Previously funded projects included musical, theatrical, and dance performances, lectures, and field trips. Online application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available at Mass-Culture.org.

Milford Senior Center Hosting Senior Expo

The Milford Senior Center is proud to host the 16th annual 2019 Senior Health Expo at 60 North Bow St., Friday, September 20 from 9:30 a.m. through 1 p.m. The Expo will feature over 40 exhibitors including local banks, assisted living facilities, fitness information, and our S.H.I.N.E. program, just to name a few.

This event is free and open to the public however, it will be especially helpful for Seniors and Caregivers. It will be held in connection with the free flu clinic sponsored by the Milford Board of Health and provided by Salmon VNA. There will also be free blood pressure and hearing screenings. This is a great opportunity for local businesses to meet and interact with our seniors about topics and services that are important to them. Free lunch will be provided to the first 200 seniors. There will be raffles and free give-a-ways. Entertainment will be provided by Ron Auger throughout the day. Please feel free to contact the center at 508-473-8334 with any questions.

7th Annual Rockin for a Reason Benefit Concert

On Thursday October 10, DCH Toyota of Milford will sponsor the 7th annual Rockin for a Reason benefit concert to raise money for childhood cancer research. Local teens from Mendon, Upton, Milford and surrounding towns, along with faculty and community members, will take the stage to raise money for the Ty Louis Campbell (TLC) Foundation. Performers will take the stage at Nipmuc Regional High School, 90 Pleasant St., Upton from 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased at the doors, which open at 6:30 p.m. In addition to funding research, this year Rockin for a Reason will provide two local families who are facing a childhood cancer diagnosis with a grant from the TLC Friends and Family program, TheTLCFoundation.org/tlc-for-families. The inspiration for the benefit concert comes from Ty Louis Campbell, affectionately known as SuperTy, who defined strength and courage even when faced with a cancer diagnosis, which unfortunately he did not survive. To become a sponsor or a performer please contact Jen at jderocher@superty.org, and get social on Facebook.com/RockinforSuperTy and Instagram @rockin_for_SuperTy.

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Representatives of Harvard Group International and Public Sector Search & Consulting both told committee members this would be the first executive search in Massachusetts.

Resource Management Associates listed several recent searches within the state.

Chairman Dino DeBartolomeis explained that committee members ranked each firm, with the rankings to be tallied on August 28. The proposal received from the top-ranked firm would then be opened and reviewed, with the goal of the town developing a contract with that firm if its proposal is within the $50,000 appropriated to help the committee.

Pre-Town Meeting Forum

The Milford Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee (TMUSIC) is sponsoring a Pre-Town Meeting Forum on Tuesday, October 22, at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Town Hall.

The purpose of the Pre-Town Meeting Forum is to provide an opportunity for Town Meeting members, as well as members of the public, to obtain answers to questions they may have regarding some of the Articles contained in the October 28 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Sponsors of Articles will be available to make brief presentations and to answer questions. The meeting is intended to learn about the various Articles and not to advocate for or against a particular Article. No votes or decisions concerning any of the Articles in the Warrant will be made at this forum.

Town Meeting members and the public will be requested to indicate which Articles they would like to have addressed when the Warrant is made available. Articles with the highest number of responses will receive special emphasis for discussion. The October 28 Special Town Meeting Warrant is expected to be available on the town website, MilfordMA.gov on or about September 17.

Please note, in addition to the Articles to be addressed, the TMUSIC is planning to conduct an Electronic Voting Demonstration at the beginning of the Forum.

Annual Plains Reunion Set for September 22

The 38th Annual Plains Reunion will be held on September 22 at the Italian-American War Veterans hall on Hayward Field. “The Plains” is the area of Milford below the former railroad tracks – now the Upper Charles Trail – on Main St., that was primarily settled by Italian-Americans.

Before this year’s dinner, guests will hear about Marietta Maninni Caldera – who used to run a grocery store in her garage on East Main St. and Short St. – and her granddaughter, Dr. Olga Mohan who was the salutatorian of the Milford High School Class of 1970. Her brother, Jack Mohan, will discuss their lives.

Both members and guests – male or female – are invited to attend the Plains Reunion. Attendees interested in purchasing tickets may contact Louis BertonaZZi at 508-473-7061, Charles DiAntonio at 508-473-5019, David Todino at 508-473-0465, or David BertonaZZi at 508-473-4811. The cost remains at $36 per person for dues and dinner, and $26 for those age 80 or older.

During the annual dinner, the person selected as “Plains Man of the Year” will be recognized.

Petition Requests Changes in Recall Procedures

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Board of Selectmen was expected at its September 9 meeting to set a date for a Special Town Meeting to vote on one topic: a petition signed by 255 voters seeking to have the town petition the state legislature to amend the provisions for recalling elected town officials in Milford.

Specifically, the changes would be:
- Reducing the number of valid signatures required on a recall petition from 20 percent of registered voters to 10 percent, and
- Reducing the number of registered voters participating in a recall election from 25 percent to 15 percent.

The petition was received by the Town Clerk’s office on August 21. The Board of Registrars certified that day that it contained 255 valid signatures of registered voters – 35 more than required. Using the number of registered voters in Milford as of August 21 – 17,582 – the petition would mean decreasing the number of signatures needed for a valid recall petition from 3,516 to 1,758 and the number of voters participating in a recall election from 4,396 to 2,637.

Fixed Rate Mortgages

15 Year Fixed Rate Mortgage, No Points.

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<td>3.50%</td>
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- Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.
- John F. Hatch, M.D.
- Kameran A. Lashkari, M.D.
- Shazia S. Ahmed, M.D.
- Michael R. Adams, O.D.
- Caroline Perriello Consigli, O.D.
By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Believe it or not, there’s a little artist in all of us. So, no matter what your level of artistry actually is, Canvas n Cup paint studio is guaranteed to bring out everyone’s true colors.

“I’m not an artist and I can do this,” said owner Mahsa Ghavamian, who opened her Milford business in January. Since then, Ghavamian has been providing adults and children step by step instructional classes to create their own picture-perfect canvas art.

What sets Canvas n Cup apart from other paint studios is that it’s not set in a bar or restaurant setting like so many. “I think people can get intimidated when they’re painting in that type of atmosphere. Here, it’s just the studio where everyone can paint and enjoy themselves without distractions,” explained Ghavamian.

Whether it’s a birthday party, girl’s night out, a team building day for work, or fundraiser, Ghavamian can organize the perfect event for any scenario. It’s also a fun, day activity for kids. For youngsters who don’t want to paint a canvas, there’s an option to paint a ceramic piece such as a teddy bear, truck or piggy bank.

Since opening her business, Ghavamian said she’s thrilled and humbled with its success, so much in fact that she’s intent on giving back to the community. Most recently, she taught an art class to 100 Milford middle schoolers. “It was great. The kids were fighting to take a seat in the class. They loved it,” she said.

And for anyone organizing a fundraiser at Canvas n Cup, Ghavamian donates 25 percent of the profits she earned from the event, back to the charity.

She’s also committed to making certain that everyone can experience her classes. That’s why Canvas n Cup caters to those with various disabilities and has accessible paint areas. “I’ll adjust my classes to meet anyone’s needs. I want every to enjoy art,” she said.

Canvas n Cup is now offering an affordable, after school program for children 8 to 13 years old. From 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. kids can create art on canvas, paint ceramics, and more in a safe and fun environment. Children must be picked up by 6 p.m.

Canvas n Cup is located at 189 Main St. in Milford and has accessible entryways. There’s convenient parking in the back and street parking. Events and classes are booked online. For more information view canvascncup.com or call 508-381-2360. Canvas n Cup has a Facebook page and is also on Instagram and Pinterest.

Canvas n Cup owner Mahsa Ghavamian (front and center) proudly hosts a fundraising event.
Recent Actions by Milford Board of Commissioners

By Kevin Rudden

Voted to send a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on a variance request by Roseleen Pyne to locate an existing line between two lots by 10 feet to make the existing home conform to current zoning and the other lot have 11,400 square feet where 15,000 is required and have a lot width of 95 feet where 100 is required. (August 15)

Town Planner Planner Larry Dunkin said no approvals had been given to any businesses on a section 13 project. He and Kennelly said the Building Department should be asked to investigate the matter. (August 13)

Awarded a permit to obstruct to Robert Stramer to the Milford Fire Department. (August 19)

Three major recovery treatments: laser, chemical and micro-needle. Here is the 2" x 9" column template:

Susanne Odell Farber    sue@sodellconsult.com     508.954.8148

Newspaper: Hopkinton Independent

Here is the 2" x 9" column template:

Reversing skin issues.

Selecting a treatment depends on your skin type. For men and women age 14 to 90, we offer three major recovery treatments: laser, chemical and micro-needle.
Milford Catholic Elementary is Not a Vacant Building

To the Editor,

In today’s society there is a pervasive yet disturbing ethic that the appearance of truth is just as good as the truth itself. One can make statements and be convinced of having the facts.

The recent edition of the Town Crier (August 23) with Melissa Orf’s byline reported the proposal for a charter school in Milford. While she herself provided valuable information about the nature and substance of such institutions and the pros and cons therein her closing paragraph state “there is currently a vacant school building where Milford Catholic Elementary School used to operate before closing their doors” in June 2017. How misinformed and presumptuous this assertion is. Since the closing of Milford Catholic Elementary School the building itself has been reconfigured and transformed. Currently the Religious Education program of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish is utilizing the facility with its Roman Catholic educational program and service projects as well as consolidating its administration. Several hundred students and their families are served within it. It has maintained a period on a regular basis. The liturgical music Ministry of the parish now has its own dedicated space to provide wider opportunities for the liturgical and para-liturgical ceremonies that are vital to this Roman Catholic community of believers. The Family Network, an arm of the Milford School System, is provided with administrative space as well as a play area almost daily for parents and families with preschool children who will eventually become part of our local school system. Our parish center, commonly referred to as the “Bell Tower Room”, on the top floor of the building, is a mecca and resource for the parish activities and other functions. Vacant? Abandoned? Languish? Our new situation allowed us to seize opportunities and be creative. It is perhaps analogous to several cities in our Commonwealth with a storied industrial history wherein factories, now closed for generations, have been revitalized and now provide job for area residents and commerce and tax revenues for local municipalities. Unfortunately many hard-working, generous and visionary people of this town have been misinformed and ear marked for disuse. There was no intent to misrepresent or cheat our members of the parish in this Town Crier article. It was simply a misstatement, a mistake, based on a lack of homework.

Editor’s Note: Regarding the assertions made in this letter, it is true that the Town Crier editorial staff did not reach out to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish to research the context of the story. However, the assertion made by Miss Orf is so important to do your research before making any claims. How misinformed and presumptuous this assertion is. Since the closing of Milford Catholic Elementary School the building itself has been reconfigured and transformed. Currently the Religious Education program of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish is utilizing the facility with its Roman Catholic educational program and service projects as well as consolidating its administration. Several hundred students and their families are served within it. It has maintained a period on a regular basis. The liturgical music Ministry of the parish now has its own dedicated space to provide wider opportunities for the liturgical and para-liturgical ceremonies that are vital to this Roman Catholic community of believers. The Family Network, an arm of the Milford School System, is provided with administrative space as well as a play area almost daily for parents and families with preschool children who will eventually become part of our local school system. Our parish center, commonly referred to as the “Bell Tower Room”, on the top floor of the building, is a mecca and resource for the parish activities and other functions. Vacant? Abandoned? Languish? Our new situation allowed us to seize opportunities and be creative. It is perhaps analogous to several cities in our Commonwealth with a storied industrial history wherein factories, now closed for generations, have been revitalized and now provide job for area residents and commerce and tax revenues for local municipalities. Unfortunately many hard-working, generous and visionary people of this town have been misinformed and ear marked for disuse. There was no intent to misrepresent or cheat our members of the parish in this Town Crier article. It was simply a misstatement, a mistake, based on a lack of homework.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity and will be published on a space available basis. Writings must include signature, address and telephone number. Opinions expressed are solely those of the writer. Town Crier Publishers will not be responsible for inaccuracies. No Political Endorsements, please!

For additional information and resources visit MilfordCatholicElementarySchool.com.

REV. Richard A. Sciol, C.S.S. Pastor Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Milford

Opinion

SUSANNE ODELL FARBER

LETTERS

Crier Publications will not be responsible for inaccuracies. No Political Endorsements, please!

For additional information and resources visit MilfordCatholicElementarySchool.com.
Selectmen Hire a Local Inspector and Custodian

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously on August 19 to fill two vacant positions: Local Inspector in the Building and Inspections Department and Junior Building Custodian for the Senior Center.

The Local Inspector position has been vacant since February 2018. In the latest attempt to fill it, Town Administrator Richard Villani said 43 people applied, including three with the required certification. Those three people were then interviewed by Building Commissioner Matt Marcotte, Human Resources Director Maureen Giffin and himself, Villani said. Marcotte preferred Dana Hinthorne of Medway, he explained.

At Villani’s recommendation, the board hired Hinthorne to begin on September 3 at a $60,947 annual salary.

Greater Milford Social Club Gets Seasonal License

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Selectmen voted on August 19 to grant the newly formed Greater Milford Social Club a 10-month, seasonal liquor license for its location in the former Foggiano Club building at 28 Granite St. Thomas Parente was approved as manager.

Club president Joshua Lioce and member Jamie Luchini said the idea for the club began three years ago and came to fruition when the Foggiano Club building came up for sale. The goal was to have a “newer idea” for a service club where there could be a “brotherhood” that raises money for local charitable needs.

“It’s a group of men looking at things differently,” and wanting to get involved in their community, Selectman Michael Walsh said. Local clubs that helped neighborhoods are part of Milford’s tradition, Chair William Buckley said – pointing to the Hoboken Citizens Club, Marchegiano Club and the Foggiano Club as examples.

Luchini noted the club is not only for men, with plans underway to have a women’s auxiliary.

Documents submitted to the board with the license application list the following people as each owning one-twelfth of the club: Christopher Driscoll, Christopher Morin, David Swift, Luchini, Lioce, Matthew Marcotte, Patrick Holland, Paul Pellegrini, Richard Voise, Robert Bullock, Parente and William Kingkade.

The building is owned separately by Milford Club, LLC. The Massachusetts Secretary of State’s office lists the principals of Milford Club, LLC as Lioce, Morin and Paul Tamagni.

Kingkade did not participate in the board’s vote on the seasonal license.

Pighetti, Pre-Town Meeting Forum Featured on 30 Minutes

Interim Police Chief Michael Pighetti and Reno DeLuzio, chair of the Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee, are the guests on recent episodes of 30 Minutes with The Town Crier. The show airs at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays on Milford TV – Comcast Channel 8 and Verizon Channel 38. Both shows also are now available on YouTube.

Pighetti discusses his role as the town’s temporary top law enforcement official. DeLuzio explains the purpose of holding a Pre-Town Meeting Forum and the timeline for this fall’s forum.

Episodes of 30 Minutes with The Town Crier air on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. on Milford TV, and are repeated several times the following week. Each episode also is available on YouTube. The half-hour show is produced by Town Crier Publications, Inc. – publishers of The Milford Town Crier and The Upton & Mendon Town Crier newspapers – and focuses on Milford’s government, culture and history, news, businesses and charitable organizations. The show is co-hosted by Town Crier Publisher Al Holman and Town Crier columnist Kevin Rudden.
Peter Beecher Milford Federal VP Commercial Lending

As the retirement horizon approaches, many people question the timing of their retirement and how to optimize Social Security benefits. Join Charles River Bank’s Director of Financial Services Clint McHoul, CFP® and Sean Murphy, CPA of SMCPA, LLC as they host “Understanding Social Security,” the first of a three-part Retirement Seminar Series on Wednesday, September 18 at 6 p.m. at Charles River Bank, 70 Main St., (Rt. 109), Medway. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Catrina Lopes at 508-321-3115 or email info@charlesriverbank.com by Wednesday, September 11.

During the interactive presentation, McHoul and Murphy will discuss the best time to start collecting Social Security, considerations for married couples, and potential tax effects on retirement income. A Q&A session after the presentation will address any of your questions. “Many people are approaching retirement and we can be a valuable resource during this important time. McHoul and Murphy are two local experts with extensive understanding of Social Security benefits and related tax implications, who are excited to share their knowledge. Charles River Bank has always been here providing extensive information and guidance to our customers and community, from childhood through retirement and beyond,” said Charles River Bank President and CEO Jack Hamilton. The other two seminars will be offered; a presentation on Medicare on October 16, and Retirement Readiness on Wednesday, November 13. For more information, please email info@charlesriverbank.com.

Charles River Bank Donates to Medway Mustang Gridiron Club

Charles River Bank Senior Vice President of Customer Care and Relationship Development Ann Sherry (left) presents a donation check of $1,000 to the Medway Mustang Gridiron Club that supports the Medway High School (MHS) Football and Cheer teams. The 2019 Cheer and Football Team Captains (L-R) Rachel Abrams, Rome Banaitis, Liam Hoyle, Olivia Stram and Ellie Early accepted the check on behalf of the Gridiron Club. Charles River Bank photo
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) is one of 45 high schools, colleges, and educational institutions to receive a portion of $1.2 million in grants aimed at acquiring the newest technologies to educate students and expand career education opportunities. Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Secretary of Education Jim Peyser, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kenneally and Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rosalin Acosta announced the recipients on August 29.

This grant marks the sixth out of the seventh Workforce Skills Capital Grant that BVT has received from the Baker-Polito Administration. In total, this administration has awarded over $1.6 million to BVT through this program.

“Skills Capital Grants were originally designed to help students in vocational programs learn about the most up-to-date equipment. However, it has since evolved to help a broader population of students be ready for our Commonwealth’s knowledge-based economy,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.

“Reinforcing the District’s commitment to finding additional funding, the Skills Capital Grants helps us to invest in the most up-to-date equipment to give our students an advantage when they continue in their chosen field or area of study,” said BVT Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. “The School Committee and our public at large expect us to compete for grant funds which complement local tax investments. We remain eager to respond to that expectation. These grant opportunities support our programs and initiative, as they cover a broad array of fields, from construction and engineering to healthcare and hospitality.”

BVT will use this $375,000 grant to create a series of innovation labs. These labs will be used by our engineering and manufacturing students to develop their skills further using state of the art equipment and training systems.

“It is encouraging to see schools that are awarded Skills Capital Grants put the funds toward career pathways to give Massachusetts students experience and expertise in industries that are expanding in the Commonwealth,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “These beneficial programs will give thousands of students a head-start on prosperous careers and we look forward to seeing their progress.”

To date, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded more than $65 million to 233 different programs over the past four years. Through Skills Capital Grants, schools have expanded their enrollment capacity in high-demand occupations, enabling more than 12,500 additional students to enroll in these educational programs that are a priority for employers across the Commonwealth.

The competitive grants are awarded to educational institutions that demonstrate partnerships with local businesses, as well as align curriculum and credentials with industry demand to maximize hiring opportunities in each region of the state.

The 2018 Economic Development Bill, filed by the Governor and passed by the Legislature, established an additional $75 million in Skills Capital Grant funding. This round of Skills Capital Grants was funded through money the state received from the sale of General Electric’s headquarters. Last month, the administration also committed $86 million to expand MassHousing’s Workforce Housing Initiative using money from the GE sale.

### Milford Public School National Lunch and Breakfast Program

The Milford Public School District has announced its policy for free and reduced lunch and breakfast for those students unable to pay the full price for meals and snacks under the National School Lunch & Breakfast program. Income eligibility guidelines must be met and an application must be completed. Families who have received a letter stating that their child is eligible for the program via direct certification do not have to complete an application. Applications and all information regarding the program may be found by visiting MilfordPublicSchools.com, clicking on the Students and Families tab, selecting Food Services from the drop-down menu and then clicking on the Red Apple Program Info icon. Applications and information may also be obtained by contacting Food Services, located at 31 West Fountain St., or the office in the appropriate school building.

### Dine Out & Do Good

Each year, Blackstone Valley Tech SkillsUSA and Culinary Arts students organize and host a series of fundraising dinners to benefit charitable organizations and causes. This year’s proceeds will benefit the Be Like Brit Foundation and the BVT SkillsUSA chapter. Each all-you-can-eat dinner which consists of a themed buffet, dessert, and beverage is held on a Thursday evening, except the November dinner, inside the Three Seasons Restaurant on the BVT campus, 65 Pleasant St. Upton. Please consider attending one or more of these delicious dinners:

- October 10 – Chicken Parmesan
- November 6 – Roast Turkey (Wednesday evening)
- December 5 – Ham Dinner
- January 9 – Shepard’s Pie
- February 13 – Roasted Chicken
- March 13 – Pot Roast
- April 2 – Lasagna
- May 7 – Porchetta

Tickets are $15 for adults and $8 for children under 12; reservations are needed since seats are limited. Make reservations by calling Kathleen Manoogian at 508–529–7758 x3109 or emailing kmanoogian@valleyletc.org.

For additional information about BVT’s giving back events, visit ValleyTech.k12.ma.us/givingback.
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, apple related foodstuffs including apple crisp, artisan bread, fudge and handmade craft items. Baked goods will on sale at the food concession along with burgers, hot dogs, and sausage sandwiches from the grill.

Music 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.

For more information for this event, contact Justine Brewer at justine@southwickszoo.com or 508-726-2042.

Garden Survival 101

The Greenleaf Garden Club has planned an exciting series of programs for the 2019-2020 year. The first program will host Andi Rossi, a noted horticulturist on Monday, September 16, at the Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center, 60 N. Bow St., Milford at 7 p.m. Rossi’s talk, entitled, Garden Survival 101, will explore ecological and environmental change discussing 10 trees, shrubs, perennials and grasses and ferns that can help mitigate climate change in gardens. She will discuss critical issues and suggest how to work with nature as climate changes.

Rossi is an artistic landscape designer, a certified organic land- care professional, horticulturist and sought after speaker. The Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford is a member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Garden Club Federation of MA, Inc. For information, email GreenleafGardenClub@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.

UniBank Free Home Buying Seminars

UniBank’s next monthly home buying seminar will be held on Wednesday, September 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Uxbridge branch, 25 Main St. Seminar speakers include: Karen Beane, UniBank Mortgage Consultant (NMLS# 485228), Renee VanderZicht, Realtor, VanderZicht Real Estate, Inc.; Mark Wickstrom, Attorney, Wickstrom Morse, LLP; Alan Ratcliffe, Appraiser, WJN Appraisals, Sue Reider, Home Inspections, Keystone Home Inspections. Contact UniBank’s Michael Sulham (NMLS# 688959) at 508-278-2434 or michael.sulham@unibank.com to register. Discussion topics include: Negotiating a Winning Offer, Finding the Right Mortgage and Pre-Qualifying, Down Payment Options, The Importance of Home Inspections, and more. Refreshments will be served and a door prize will be awarded at each event.

Attendees, 18 years and older, will be entered for a chance to win a $100 gift card. To enter, individuals must register and attend the seminar. No purchase or account required to enter or win. All seminar attendees will receive a $250 mortgage closing cost coupon from UniBank.

Electronics Recycling

The First Congregational Church of Milford, 4 Congress St., Milford, is sponsoring an Electronics Recycling Day on Saturday, September 14, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon in the church parking lot. The church ensures that 99 percent of dropped off items will be reused and recycled. All computer monitors, computers, parts and accessories, faxes, copiers, printers, scanners and TV’s can be recycled. Recycling fees range from $5 to $35 per item. Cell phones can be recycled at no charge and will be donated to charities that recycle and reuse them. The recycling vendor will erase and shred all hard drives at no additional cost. A drive through process will allow those donating to quickly drop off their items where help will be available. Cash payments only, please. For more information, contact Martha at 508-904-4471.

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for more information

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80 Spruce St., Milford, 508-473-2145
Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m. & 4-6 Sat & Sun: 9-5 www.milfordtownlibrary.org

Submitted by Mary Frances Bost, Milford Town Library

Library Hours
The Milford Town Library is now open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Photographs by Jennifer D’Orazio
Delightful nature, still life and landscape photographs by Jennifer D’Orazio will be on exhibit behind the desk, needs Desk for the months of September. A 24-year old Veterinary Technician student, she has a passion for photography which began when school. Stop by and look at these lovely photos.

Center Book Group
The Center Book Group will meet on Tuesday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m. in the Curran Historical Room to discuss Trust Exercise by Susan Choi, who write about David and Sarah’s love story at a performing arts high school in the 1990s. For more information about the Contemporary Book Group or to reserve a copy of Trust Exercise, contact Shelley at 508-473-2145 ext. 247 or sshgammart@cmwars.org.

Contemporary Book Group
Join the Contemporary Book Group on Wednesday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Curran Historical Room to discuss The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr. This tour-de-force novel won the Pulitzer Prize in 2015 and is regularly described as one of the most heartrending books readers have ever experienced. Set in WW II, Doerr skillfully weaves the story of Marie-Laure, a blind French girl and Werner a German boy who joins the Hitler Youth. Newcomers are always welcome to join this information. Inquire at the Circulation Desk. To order a copy, please call the library’s Information Desk at 508-473-2145, ext. 2.

Cookbook Club
The Cookbook club met on September 11, and members enjoyed delicious dishes prepared from the cookbook Everyday Dorie, by Dorie Greenspan of New York Times Magazine fame.

The next meeting is October 9, at 6:30 p.m. in the Children’s Program Room with the book to be announced. The title chosen will be available for Cookbook club members at the Circulation Desk. Cookbook Club members are asked to select a recipe from the chosen cookbook to prepare and email their choice to mfbofd@cmwars.org, to avoid duplications.

New members are joining monthly. Contact Mary Frances at 508-473-2145 ext. 219 or mfbofd@cmwars.org

Library patrons can pick up free passes at the Reference Desk and bring them to Hopkinton Center for the Arts (HCA) for the Open Mic and Jazz Jam or use the code provided online for the classical or Children’s series. For more information, call 508-473-2145, ext. 2.

Volunteers Needed for Tax Preparation
Tax-Aide, a partnership between the IRS and the AARP Foundation, needs volunteer counselors to help low- and moderate-income persons in the community prepare their Federal and Massachusetts income taxes. Additional positions for site greeters are also available. Nationally almost 3 million taxpayers avail themselves of Tax-Aide services. At the Milford Town Library AARP Tax Assistants helped 177 senior citizens and low to moderate income persons with their state and Federal tax returns. This is a very important service provided to communities.

Volunteers work four to six hours per week for the 11 weeks during tax preparation season, February 1 to April 15. Training for volunteers is three Saturdays in December. Internet access and basic computer skills are necessary. For an application and further information, go to AARP.org/taxaid.

Milford Kanopy
The Library now subscribes to Kanopy, an on-demand streaming platform where patrons can use their library cards to access over 30,000 films, documentaries, and educational resources (like the Great Courses), etc. by visiting MilfordTownKanopy.com. Kanopy can be accessed through web browsers, and pretty much any streaming device. Each library card gets a maximum of 10 ‘play credits’ per month with one play credit essentially equalling one movie rental for a period of 72 hours. Patrons with cards in other libraries will not have access to Kanopy.

Historical Milford: Do You Know Dewey?
Dewey is the name of our large granite dog who lives in the garden by the library parking lot. His moniker comes from none other than Melvil Dewey, the creator of the Dewey Decimal Library system. Many may be unaware that Melvil Dewey had a Milford connection. Dewey married Minnie Anna Roberts Godfrey in 1876 at her family’s home, the current site of the Buma Sargent funeral home. Dewey was one of the co-founders of the American Library Association (ALA) in 1876 and the first library school in 1887. Dewey also invented a spooling system whereby words could be shortened (example: Melvil+éæ®æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥æ¥ae...
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Step back in time to the 18th century when America was in the midst of the battle for freedom from British rule during the Revolutionary War Reenactment hosted by the historic Daniels Farmstead along with the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT). The Battle for Daniels Farm, will be held the weekend of October 5 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine, at the farmstead, 286 Mendon St., Blackstone.

British and Colonial troops will clash in fighting for the right of ownership of the historic cider mill located on this property. The mill was invaluable to the people of the 18th and 19th centuries as water was not deemed drinkable during this time.

In addition to the battles, which are from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, additional activities include an 8 to 9 p.m. Saturday tour of the camps, artillery and musket demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, blacksmithing, medical practices, rope making, tinsmiths, and period music. Butlers, or period vendors will also be in attendance selling their wares.

The Daniels Farmstead kitchen will be selling burgers, hot dogs, sausage with onion and peppers, and drinks, with assorted baked goods. Daniels Farm vendors will also be selling a variety of foodstuffs including Artisan bread and fudge.

The historic house and cider mill dating from the late 18th century will be available for tours.

Tickets for the event are $8 per day or $10 for a two-day pass. The night tour on Saturday is $5. Persons under 12 years old are admitted free. BVT family, teachers and staff ticket cost is $5 for a two-day pass, the night tour is free.

Parking for the event is at JFK Elementary School, 200 Lincoln St., Blackstone, with busses transporting spectators to Daniels Farmstead.

Hiram T. Daniels was proprietor of the farm beginning in the late 1800s. He constructed a cider mill for his apple orchard, which would become a mainstay crop for the farm for a period of time in the early 1900s. The cider mill was later improved with a second press and accommodated vinegar and fudge.

The Friends of the Hopedale Library are pleased to welcome Ted Reinstein’s New England Notebook. One Reporter, Six States, Uncommon Stories on Wednesday, September 25 at 6:30 p.m. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Hopedale Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. There is no charge for this program. It will take place in the downstairs program room.

Reinstein’s colorful convey the essence of the region’s unique character. These are the stories not found in guidebooks: the diverse people, the important building type and function. There are the histories of the people who lived in the region, the stories of the people who passed through the region, fascinating history, odd pastimes and delicious foods, quirky collectors, skillful craftsmen, and one-of-a-kind entertainers that distinguish New England from every other place on earth.

Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. (arrive by 6:45 p.m.) at Milford Regional School, Milford. For more information about the GMC, visit GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus.org or email GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus@gmail.com.
**Calendar**

**Savaria Children’s Benefit**
Milford Humane Society 
Savaria was diagnosed with bladder cancer. After an incredible fight with an aggressive cancer, he passed away on August 28, at UMass Medical Center-Worcester. David is survived by his wife (Darlene) to the Saint Mary’s of Milford Parish Administrative Assistant for the Religious Education Program. The parish is holding A Night in Tuscany to support the Savaria Children’s Benefit Fund at Milford Federal Bank for his two children.

The event on Saturday, September 28 beginning at 5:30 p.m. will feature Italian specialties, music by the Ladies’ Night Band, Divine, and a cash bar to support the event. Tickets are $25, with a limited number of 200 sold. Please call the church office to reserve a table.

**Donations of items to raffle and food for the event are being accepted and appreciated. The proceeds will be used to support the children’s educational, recreational and medical needs and will be given directly to the Benefit Fund.**

**Hendon Country Fair Vendors**
MENDON—Vendors wishing to participate in the Mendon Country Fair on Saturday, October 12 should contact Lion Dick Ferucci at 508-981-8761 or email to Dick@ wmrcreadio.com for space reservations. The annual event will be held on the Common at Mendon and is a great place to shop for a gift or a home gift. Featuring lots of sales, especially things must go. Books, DVD & CD prices reduced. Stop by for some real bargains.

**Milford Humane Society Yard Sale**
The Milford Humane Society will have its last yard sale of the season on Saturday, September 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain date Saturday, September 28, at the milfordhumanesociety.org. There is a huge variety of items, including furniture, from small household goods. A jewelry table will feature costume jewelry with proceeds going to support the shelter. A 2nd Annual Milford High Hopes 3 Mile Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, October 12 at 5:30 p.m. at Prezio’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 RSVP as soon as possible, contact Joan Jackman, Donna Beattie, Ronnie Moore, Judy Barton or Diane Menard.

**United Parish Holiday Bazaar**
UPON-United Parish of Milford is planning their first annual Holiday Bazaar for Saturday, December 7. Bigger and Better than ever before! More vendors and more space to visit Santa Vendor applications are available now at www.UnitedParishofMilford.org.

**Medical Apparel and Shoe Sale**
MILFORD—The Auxiliary at Milford Regional Medical Center will be hosting a Medical Apparel and Shoe Sale at 260 West Dover St., Milford, on Friday, September 27 from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for a sale of medical apparel for men and women, shoes and various other items. Attendees are invited to stop by the Milford Cultural Center (the former Wards Corner Cafe) on the first floor of the Medical Center, 14 Prospect St., Milford. The public is invited to attend this event.

The Auxiliary consists of volunteers from the community who conduct fundraising events and give away goods to local businesses and senior members in Milford. The event will be free for local businesses to meet and interact with our seniors about topics and services that are important to them.

**Free Lunch**
The Upton Cultural Council will be hosting a free lunch at the Upton Community Center at 262 South Main St., Upton, on Saturday, October 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with an afternoon of jazz and fusion, from big band swing to Latin, bluegrass and contemporary. The band incorporates a wide repertoire of hats. The exhibit will be open during Upton First Friday events from 5-8 p.m. on September 20th. Free lunch will be provided at noon, from 1 to 3 p.m. with two different sessions of the free lunch at noon with More information on how to join this group please call 508-622-2099.

**The Hat Industry in Upton**
UPON-A special exhibit, The Hat Industry in Upton, is now on display at the Upton Historical Society Museum beginning today, September 26. The exhibit will showcase the history of the Upton Hat Industry and include photos of the many hat factories that operated in the area, including straw hats, Knowlton’s catalogs, and a variety of hats. The exhibit will be open during Upton First Friday events from 5-8 p.m. on September 20th.

**Twice Blessed Soup**
HOPEDALE-The Sacred Heart Church of Hopedale Twice Blessed Soup is offering $1 off seniors’ shirts and slacks, and women’s blouses and slacks, plus 50% off children’s shirts, slacks and blouses. Open every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and first and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon.

**Trinity Church, Milford Yard Sale**
MILFORD—Trinity Episcopal Church, 25 Trenton St., Milford, will hold a large yard sale on Saturday, September 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Items will range from furniture to small household goods. A jewelry table will feature costume jewelry with proceeds going to support the church. For more information contact the church office at 508-422-2099.

**Yankee Quilters**
UPTON-The Upton Cultural Council will host a craft and information fair, petting zoo, pony rides and entertainment by Johnny D. McQuaid. The event is free to attend. For more information, please call 508-679-0708 or visit uptonmilford.org. The Friends of the Upton Town Library will hold a book sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the library lawn. In case of rain the sale will be held in the library.

**New York City Trip**
MILFORD—The class of 1962 of Jesus Milford is sponsoring a trip to New York City on November 16. Cost is $99 per person. A bus will be leaving the parking lot across from the street from the church at 6:30 a.m. for a fun day-on-your-own in New York City. For more information, call 978-312-1725 or email to lucia Dr., Milford from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds to benefit community service programs. Attendees from activities of this ambitious group of 14 girls, all 9th grade Girl Scouts in Milford. Stop by!

**Yankee Quilters**
FRANKLIN—Yankee Quilters are holding their first meetings of the 2019/2020 year. New members are invited. For more information or to RSVP as soon as possible, contact Joan Jackman, Donna Beattie, Ronnie Moore, Judy Barton or Diane Menard.

**ACM Match**
The band incorporates a wide repertoire of hats. The exhibit will be open during Upton First Friday events from 5-8 p.m. on September 20th. Free lunch will be provided at noon, from 1 to 3 p.m. with two different sessions of the free lunch at noon with More information on how to join this group please call 508-622-2099.

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**Free Jazz Ensemble Concert**
UPTON-Cultural Council will present a free concert featuring The United States Air Force Heritage of America who will perform at the Community Center at 262 South Main St., Upton, on Sunday, October 6 at 6 p.m. in the Upton Town Hall. Rhythm in Blue features the delicious sounds of “country” music, with performances that encompass an interesting variety of jazz and fusion, from big band swing to Latin, bluegrass and contemporary. The band incorporates a wide repertoire of hats. The exhibit will be open during Upton First Friday events from 5-8 p.m. on September 20th. Free lunch will be provided at noon, from 1 to 3 p.m. with two different sessions of the free lunch at noon with More information on how to join this group please call 508-622-2099.

**Free Gun Safety Course**
The Massachusetts Department of Public Safety will present a free gun safety course for adults and children on October 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Upton Cultural Center. This course will provide the opportunity for families to work together while learning about firearm safety. The event is free. Refreshments will be available for purchase and donations will be accepted with all proceeds benefiting the Upton Cultural Council in its effort to replace the aging floor in the VFW building. For more information, email culturalcouncil@upontown.com or visit HerigafteofAmericaNafalcd.com. Doors of the handicap accessible venue open at 11:30 a.m. Second session begins at 1 p.m. The Upton Cultural Council is a local agency funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.
**Milford Town Crier**

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Planning Board voted 4-1 on August 13 to approve – with several conditions – an amended site plan allowing the 12.6-acre former “Platinum Park” site on East Main St. (Rt. 16) to be used as a “transportation terminal” to park up to 481 vehicles. The parking spaces will be used by Amazon.com’s delivery vans and their drivers’ personal vehicles.

Before that the board held a public hearing and then voted unanimously to approve a request to rescind its August, 2011 approval of the two-lot industrial subdivision at the site known as “Platinum Park,” including a cul-de-sac roadway called “Platinum Way.”

In considering the amended site plan, Town Planner Larry Dunkin said plans presented to the board in July had been modified to provide a larger landscape buffer area on part of the property close to the nearby Eugene Circle residential neighborhood.

In addition, a revised traffic study had been submitted that calls for property owner Lyman Realty Trust to improve traffic signals at several intersections between the site and Amazon’s warehouse on Industrial Way. Dunkin added. Town Engineer Mike Dean indicated the intersections involved included one at East Main St. (Rt. 16), Fortune Blvd. and Beaver St., another at Beaver St. and Medway Rd. (Rt. 109), and, one at Birch St. and Beaver St. Dunkin said the property owner also offered to pay for a police detail to direct traffic in and out of the East Main St. site during peak morning and afternoon traffic.

Civil Engineer Robert Poxon from Guerriero & Halton said the increased landscaping included planting rapidly growing “Green Giant” arborvitae trees atop an earthen berm. In terms of having to blast ledge along the Interstate Route 495 side of the property, 12 boring holes indicated that the terrain dictates that a structurally engineered wall would have to be created, he said.

Rather than having a police detail, board member Joseph Calagione requested that a traffic counter be placed at the entry/exit and monitor actual hourly traffic flows in and out of the site. “Based on the way Amazon drivers have functioned in the past, this traffic flow is a serious concern for this board,” he said. “It should work as designed. I just don’t know if the Amazon drivers will let it work as designed.”

Calagione added. As they did in July, nearby residents Vincent and Deborah Zanella of Eugene Circle opposed the plan, noting “It’s not the right place.” The project would add 2,000 more vehicle trips to already congested roadways, they said. The Amazon parking area would be in use from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day, they reminded board members. “This backs up to a residential neighborhood. This is not the right site for this,” they said.

Conditions imposed by the board included making Lyman Realty Trust responsible for studying nearby intersections and posting a $1,500,000 bond to cover traffic engineering costs; submitting engineer-certified plans for the retaining wall, installing traffic counters at the entry/exit; and, having a police detail at the entry/exit when deemed necessary by Dean or the Police Chief.

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**School News**

We welcomed a great team of staff to the BVT this year. The Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School welcomed a number of new staff members as the 2019/2020 school year begins. The new hires include vocational faculty, academic teachers, and support staff.

Among the new staff are some familiar faces who have grown in the school system and who will begin new roles this year. One example is Timothy Buono (Class of 2013), who returned to BVT last year as a substitute teacher in the Painting & Design program, where he enjoyed working alongside instructors George Creely and Thomas Lantos. When Creely retired in the spring, Buono applied for and successfully secured that new position.

**New Instructional Staff**

Timothy Buono, Vocational Instructor – Painting & Design Technologies

aurora Campagna, Vocational Instructor – Culinary Arts

Nathalie Christiansen, Biology/Chemistry Teacher

Scott DesRoches, Vocational Instructor – Auto Collision Repair

Kelly Garabedian, Art Teacher

Yakaira Gonzalez, Spanish Teacher

Timothy Oliveira, Vocational Instructor – Engineering Technology August Piazza, Vocational Instructor – Plumbing

**New Support Staff/Administration Staff**

Sean Nugent, Assistant Principal

Erin Foley, Secretary, Main Office

(Not pictured)

Molly Anwus, Athletic Trainer

Loi Siefert, Teacher Assistant – Math

Kayla Kelly, Teacher Assistant

Rebecca Phillips, Teacher Assistant

Stephanie Brown, Data Specialist

Michael O’Callahan, Network Administrator

(Not pictured)

Jameson Reardon, General Cafeteria Worker – Deli

(Not pictured)

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By Melissa Orff
Compiled by Melissa Orff

Milford High School started off the year smoothly with a new schedule, Class meetings, school photographs, and other important start-of-school activities took place during the new FlexBlock during the first two weeks of school. Classes and activities are now in full swing, and students are encouraged to go on the school website to review all activity/sports offerings and get involved.

Congratulations go to World Language Teacher Liz Allegrezza for being named Bertonazzi Teacher of the Year by the Senator Louis Bertonazzi Foundation. MHS will be hosting a Back to School Night on September 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Best Buddies Dance will be held on September 20 at 7 p.m.
Schools Seek About $350,000 for HVAC and MHS Biomedical Classroom

The School Committee approved two warrant articles to be put forth for the October 28 Special Town Meeting in during their September 5 Meeting. The first warrant article is for $92,000 to upgrade the HVAC units and software package at Stacy Middle School to allow the Facilities Department the ability to control temperatures remotely. The climate control program is already installed at the rest of the school buildings in Milford, and Stacy would be the last building to be upgraded.

School Committee Member Christopher Wilson reminded the Committee that the Long-Range Plan had included $100,000 in its budget for this work. “This is something that we have been anticipating and we are looking to move forward with this work,” he said.

The second warrant article will be for $246,000 for equipment and supplies for the creating of Biomedical Science classroom and lab space at Milford High School (MHS). A new Biomedical Science program has been in the works at MHS over the past year, one that looks to give students the chance to explore the fields of anatomy, physiology, pre-medical, pre-vet, pre-dental, and pre-nursing studies.

Superintendent Dr. Kevin McIntyre gave kudos to MHS Principal Joshua Otlin, Associate Principal Sissela Tucker and the high school Science Teachers for their work on reconfiguring the science program and sourcing funding for a portion of the new Biomedical Science labs. Before the vote, McIntyre informed the Committee that they have communicated the needs for this program to the Finance Subcommittee.

“The [Finance] Subcommittee is aware that the Science equipment at the high school level is an expensive undertaking,” he said.

The School Committee voted unanimously to send both warrant articles to the Finance Committee for the Town Meeting.

2020 First Day of School Determined

During the meeting, the School Committee also approved a proposed first day of School for the 2020 School Year. Because Labor Day in 2020 is on September 7, if the school calendar followed the same pattern as this year, the first day of school wouldn’t begin until September 2. With the state mandate of 180 days of school, that would bring the last day of school to June 21, without any snow days.

McIntyre explained to the School Committee that they have spoken with the Teachers Association, and they are agreeable to back the first day of school in Milford to Wednesday, August 26, bringing the last day of school to June 11 before any snow days.

The School Committee approved the 2020 best day of school as August 26 for students in grades 1-12. “This is an anomaly as to when dates fall,” said Wilson about starting school 12 days before Labor Day.

MFCN Playgroup Registration

The Milford Family and Community Network (MFCN) Session I Playgroup registration will end on Monday, September 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the MFCN Office at the former Milford Catholic Elementary School, 11 East Main St. Registration forms are available online at MilfordPublicSchools.com/milfordfcn, and in the office. For more information, please call 508-277-4981.

BVT Student Elected SkillsUSA National Officer

Anika Koopman of Northbridge, a senior in Health Services at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School was elected to serve a one-year term as the National Region One Vice President during the 55th annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in June. To run for a national office, members must follow the election process for their local training program, group, and state. Once they have made it to the National Leadership and Skills Conference, candidates must then pass a knowledge test, interview for candidacy, and begin the campaign process to student delegates representing the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The campaign period was a team effort between Anika, the SkillsUSA Massachusetts executive team, student delegates, and BVT students. “Running for national office and getting elected was an emotional moment,” said Anika. “Hearing my name called, I realized that I had come full circle. Becoming a National Officer had been a goal of mine since freshman year. It is an incredible achievement. I want others to know that if you have a goal and choose to work hard, your dreams can come true.”

As a national officer, Anika will serve as a student leader and advocate for the organization and will lead SkillsUSA members during both of their annual national conferences. She will speak on behalf of SkillsUSA before students, instructors, education administrators, legislative leaders, and representatives of business and industry. She will also represent the national organization at various events.

“For the 2020-2021 term, Anika will lead national efforts to support students and educators in developing the skills necessary for success in today’s economy through the provision of meaningful learning experiences,” said BVT Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. “Her leadership skills and strong work ethic will continue to serve her, our community and SkillsUSA well in the coming years.”

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The school administration will confirm the start dates for Preschool and Kindergarten for the 2020 school year and report back to the School Committee.
Dion Guides Bravehearts to FCBL Title

Milford High baseball coach Alex Dion had a hectic start to his summer after finishing his duties with the Scarlet Hawks and transitioning right into his managerial gig with the Worcester Bravehearts of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League. The work paid off, however, as Dion led Worcester to a league title in his first season.

"We had a lot of ups and downs, we went through the entire month of June without winning or losing more than two games in a row," Dion said. "It took us awhile to figure out what type of team we were and for the guys to come together. I think, fortunately, they came together at the right time." Dion inherited a team that had shared the league title in 2018 and was able to repeat. The Bravehearts are a college summer team, taking in talented players from around the country. Dion had the chance to coach several local players as well, including Milford High graduate Aidan Wilde.

"Aidan did well when he was healthy," Dion said, noting that Wilde started the season as the team's third baseman before being hit by a pitch and being forced to miss time. "When he came back he hit really well, especially after not playing for the better part of July," Dion said. "We have already re-signed him for next year, so we expect him to come back and do well for us." Other local players on the Bravehearts' roster included Ashland native Shawn Babineau, Shrewsbury catcher Nick Martin, and Taunton pitcher Jack Moynihan, a player Dion coached against in the Hockomock League. Managing the Bravehearts presented some different challenges for Dion when compared to his work with MHS, especially the longer season and far more diverse roster in terms of geography. "The biggest thing is just continuing to understand how important being able to communicate with your players is," Dion said. "It's magnified during the summer league when we are playing 56 regular season games with players from different colleges and universities." Dion said the biggest challenge for him was not just handling the in-game decisions the fans see every night, but the work done behind the scenes to talk to players and get them into the boy's process. 

"I always try to learn and get better and develop my leadership skills" he said. "This was a valuable experience for me. It challenged me in a way I had not been challenged before.

Vizakis Confident Heading into MHS Football Home Opener

By Chris Villani

Despite a season-opening loss on the road against Franklin, Milford High football head coach Anthony Vizakis said he is encouraged and confident in his team heading into the first home game of the year Saturday against Attleboro.

"I am absolutely encouraged," Vizakis said. "A lot of the things we saw against Franklin are correctable and a lot of them are going to be corrected. The kids came away with their heads held high.

After facing a tough matchup against the Panthers' passing attack in the 34-27 setback, the Scarlet Hawks will have to deal with Attleboro's prolific ground game.

"Attleboro is big and they are physical and they are going to try to run the football," Vizakis said. "We are going to try to be better on both sides and offensively we want to try to clean up some of the little things.

Milford put together an impressive offensive display in the season opener, hanging with Franklin as the Panthers used explosive play and a special teams' touchdown to pull away. Quarterback Colby Pires threw three touchdown passes and amassed more than 300 yards through the air. Vizakis was impressed by the receivers Pires targeted, including Max Martin, Matt Varteresian and Dan Farrell.

"We had a really good showing by our receivers," Vizakis said. "We had some big plays that gave us some life." On the ground, Luke Rosa was the Hawks' workhorse back, with 16 carries for 65 yards.

"We had a really strong showing offensively and defensively, it was a battle back and forth," the coach said. "It was one or two plays the ended up swaying the game in Franklin's favor.

C.J. Cerrella led Milford in tackles with 15, including three tackles for a loss. Milford and Attleboro kickoff at 2 p.m. on Saturday in what will be the season opener for the Bombardiers. Attleboro finished 4-7 a year ago, including a 21-7 win over Milford at home.

The Scarlet Hawks will be looking to reverse their early fortunes from a year ago, when an 0-4 start doomed the team's playoff chances. "If we put together a strong week of practice, I think we will be in good shape," Vizakis said.

EEE Scare Sidelines Milford

By Chris Villani

Sports Reporter/Citizen

Along with numerous other area communities, Milford is dealing with the threat of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) by steering athletes away from night games, causing havoc for the fall schedules in both high school and youth sports.

Town officials have told Milford Athletic Director Peter Boucher and other organizers of sports in town to have kids off the fields by 7 p.m., which has MHS starting games no later than 4 p.m. The curfew will be in place until the first frost of the season, Boucher said, and the town has been working collaboratively to try to make the best of a less-than-ideal situation.

"We don't love the mandate to move the game times, but certainly everybody understands it," he said. "I have not gotten one complaint from a coach or a parent or any community member." The curfew has impacted high school games, including this weekend's football home opener, which was moved from Friday night to Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. But Boucher said youth sports have borne the brunt of the inconvenience.

"This has critically impacted youth sports," Boucher said. "They usually get on the fields around 5:30 or 6 p.m. People are disgruntled, but they get it.

Boucher said he and several other officials from the Parks Department and youth sports governance gathered recently to figure out the best way to get athletes field time, including using Woodland School's turf field, Tank Field, and Prospect Heights. Despite the bad circumstances, Boucher said he was pleased to see the collaborative spirit. "It's something Milford does that other towns don't do," he said.

At the high school level, Boucher said the Scarlet Hawks were a bit lucky, given that there was only one football game and a handful of soccer games scheduled at home at night. October will bring three Friday night gridiron contests, but Boucher expects the curfew to be lifted once the first frost kills off mosquitoes and their eggs.

While the threat remains for the virus, a rare cause of brain infections, has been high, Boucher said he knows of no live examples of EEE in Milford.

"That's good, but I understand them being cautious because these things migrate and what not," he said. "We want to keep people safe.

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**Milford Boys Soccer Starts with A ‘W’**

By Chris Villani

**Sports Reporter/Columnist**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

The Milford High boys’ soccer team still has a lot to work on, according to its head coach, but there are still plenty of positives to take away from a 3-1 season-opening victory over Franklin.

"It was a good start against a really tough team," head coach Brian Edwards said. "It was a great way to start the season."

A year ago, Franklin suffered only one loss over its final nine games, Edwards said, and the Panthers are always thought of as one of the area’s strongest teams. To kick off the campaign with a win at home was significant for MHS.

"They are always a top program," Edwards said. "They are one of those teams you really want to measure yourself against."

Several players have stood out for the Hawks through the preseason and the season opener. Senior captain Jordan Borges has been stellar in the midfield and Leo Cootho and Pedro Moura have also been playing at a high level, Edwards said. Senior Carlos Terrinha has also stood out, the coach added.

Despite the positive start to the season, Edwards did not hesitate when asked what his team needs to improve upon the most.

"Everything," he said with a laugh. "There is a lot, we can get better at everything. We are trying to be perfectionists and there is so much stuff we need to work on. It was a good first game, but we’ve looked at the film and already found plenty of things we need to do better going forward."

While there is still work to do, Edwards said he is particularly pleased with his attack so far.

"In the offensive third, we look pretty dangerous," he said. "It looks like our attack is the thing that’s going to be helping us the most. Our defense is playing well too, but the teams we are playing are probably going to focus more on our attack."

Milford’s schedule this season includes nothing but Hockomock League contests, including a road game Friday at King Philip and a home contest next week against Foxboro and Mansfeld. Edwards said he likes the fact that the schedule is bereft of non-league games.

"It’s nice, it gives you more time to train," he said. "We thought it would be a good thing, especially with so many new faces."

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**Milford Volleyball Out to Strong Start**

By Chris Villani

**Sports Reporter/Columnist**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

The Milford High girls volleyball team is still working to find its consistent stride, according to head coach Tammy Webber; but the Scarlet Hawks have still managed to start the season 2-0 for the first time in recent memory.

MHS beat Franklin by a 3-1 margin, a significant season-opening triumph, before sweeping Sharon in the second match of the year.

"Beating Franklin was huge," Webber said. "But we have been playing a bit flat since then. Our lows are low and our highs are high, right now we just don’t have that happy medium of trying to play more consistently."

Building consistency will go a long way towards creating consistency, Webber said.

"We’ve been trying to build up the program and build them up as individuals," the coach said. "They just need to keep getting that success to build that confidence because, as soon as something goes bad, they fear the worst because they have been there."

Milford was able to stay consistent in the win over Franklin, Webber said, and numerous players have contributed to the early success. Senior setter Julia Riosdian has been "relentless," Webber said, and is setting up hitters while also providing a strong, consistent serve. The middle hitters, sisters Lauren and Allison Corinna, have also continued their strong play from last fall.

"They picked up right where they left off," Webber said. "Lauren has added the back row to her game, which is great because we do not have a libero, so having Lauren back there has been key."

Alyssa Williamson and Sarah Bregolioli have been solid on the outside, Webber said, while Eva Parsons has provided help in the back row as a defensive specialist. Elise Faubauh, a junior, has been a catch-all utility player for the Scarlet Hawks.

"She has been a great surprise this year," Webber said. "I knew she was going to turn out to be important to the team. Anything we need, she has stepped up and delivered and that’s been pretty nice."

The talent is clear on this year’s roster, Webber said, but it will be important to keep the positive energy MHS generated in its win over Franklin.

"We were able to stay confident and think ‘we can do this’, we are trying to get that mentality player-for-player, " Webber said. "We have the players to play well and win big games, the mental part of the game is what we have to work on."

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**Hall of Fame Spotlight: Daniel Fitzpatrick**

By Chris Villani

**Sports Reporter/Columnist**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Of all the benefits to being elected a member of the Milford High School Hall of Fame, the chance to reminisce is perhaps the most significant for 1993 graduate Daniel Fitzpatrick.

A three-sport standout, Fitzpatrick said his favorite memories among those he will be keeping in mind and thanking particularly supportive of his own athletic pursuits, particularly his father, James, who passed away in late August.

"It’s nice, it gives you more time to train," he said. "We recalled sports being a central part of growing up in Milford in the 1980s and early 1990s."

"Back then it was different," Fitzpatrick said. "We was 10 and Hayes, 7. He said his own parents were particularly supportive of his own athletic pursuits, particularly his father, James, who passed away in late August.

"It was a shock to us," Fitzpatrick said. "He was the guy that was always there when my brother Kevin and I were playing sports, whether it was playing catch for a couple of hours, anything. He was a really good athlete himself, so he was the biggest influence in terms of sports and getting involved."

Fitzpatrick said his mother, Sandy, and his coaches, such as fellow Hall of Famer Steve Manguso, are also among those he will be keeping in mind and thanking in his acceptance speech when he travels to Milford this fall to be formally inducted.

The timing of the induction jibes with Fitzpatrick’s 25th high school reunion. "Looking back at it in broad strokes," he said, "it was all about being with friends, having fun, and enjoying it."
Colabello Leads Italy in European Championship

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Milford’s Chris Colabello is still swinging for the fences, this time in Europe as he tries to help Team Italy qualify for the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020. Colabello hit a grand slam earlier this week in a rout by Italy over Austria, 10-1, to improve to 3-0 in pool play. A day later, playing an undefeated Spanish team, Colabello hit a grand slam earlier this week in a rout by Italy over Austria, 10-1, to help Team Italy qualify for the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020.

Sports Reporter/Columnist

The final qualifying event is slated for September 18-22 in Italy. Colabello spent time this summer playing independent baseball with the Sugarland Skeeters and with the Kansas City T-Bones of the American Association.

Baseball was dropped from the summer Olympic program after the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing, but will make its return in Tokyo.

BVT Volleyball Working Together with Eye on League Title

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The Blackstone Valley Tech girls volleyball team lost eight players to graduation from a squad that qualified for the district tournament a season ago. With many of the players returning in 2019 stepping into starting roles for the first time, the BVT players will need to solidify their on-court chemistry in order to get back to the postseason and compete for the Colonial Athletic League title.

“We have a lot of people returning from last year’s roster, but a lot of new faces on the court as starters,” said head coach Brian Lehtinen. “That is going to be the tough part, trying to get them to gel together and communicate better.”

BVT finished 9-9 a season ago, qualifying for the tournament before falling to league rival Advanced Math and Science Academy in the first round.

Valley Tech has six seniors on the varsity roster this fall, including returning starters Skylar Morrissey and Rachel Rannikko, both of whom saw significant count time a season ago. Seniors Gabrielle Muscatell and Emily Losewicz came off the bench in 2018, Lehtinen said, but will be thrust into the spotlight as a middle hitter and setter, respectively.

The head coach also said he is excited to have junior Grace Arnold back in the lineup in the middle after missing last season due to an injury suffered during the preseason.

Lehtinen said the team is still working on playing together and communicating on the court through early season scrimmages and practices, but there will be little time to waste once the season begins. The Beavers begin the 2019 campaign at home on Friday against Hopedale, a match Lehtinen said will be “a good test, right out of the gate.” Teams like Hopedale, Sutton, Whitinsville Christian and Nipmuc stand out among the strong, non-Colonial teams on the schedule this year.

“We are looking forward to those games,” Lehtinen said. “That will tell us where we stand.”

The team’s top goal is to compete for the league title, something AMSA has taken the past two years.

“I think we have a good chance,” Lehtinen said. “We want to compete for the league and get the title back to BVT. The next goal is making the playoffs and getting to 500.”

Even as they sort out some of the early-season kinks, Lehtinen said the roster is good enough to get there.

“We have a talented roster,” he said. “I kept 18 just because the talent was there. Now it’s about who is going to be used in which role.”

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I was very apprehensive about shopping for my first new car with my mom. When we walked into Imperial Chrysler we were greeted by Andy Clair who made our whole experience very easy from selection to finance. I highly recommend this dealership!

-- JEEPLOVER92, SEPTEMBER 02, 2019