Lighting a Tree to Celebrate Hope and Life

The annual Tree of Life ceremony at Milford Regional Medical Center, celebrating life and paying tribute to those who have survived cancer, battled the disease or have been touched by cancer was held on December 9. The ceremony was held entirely indoors due to the weather.

This year, the annual event raised more than $12,500 for the Oliva Fund for Cancer Care at Milford Regional. The fund is named in honor of the Oliva Family of Milford and provides oncology patients with support during their treatment at the Dana-Farber/B Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center at Milford Regional. The tree in the hospital cafeteria was lit in memory of Anthony “Babe” Oliva, who passed away earlier this year. He and his family started the Oliva fund, which helps those with the disease with services beyond medical care.

Acknowledging the help given by the fund and the support given by the family which founded it, Edward J. Kelly, president and CEO of the Milford Regional said, Oliva was “an ultimate gentleman… kind, giving, hardworking with a terrific sense of humor.” The ceremony also included a performance by the Very Merry Dickens Carolers, as well as remarks by Mona Kaddis, MD, who noted those memorialized by the evening, “had touched each and every one of us” and Peter F. Ortiz, III, DO.

Gold and silver tribute angels were displayed as a reminder of loved ones affected by cancer. Each light on the tree symbolizes a loved one affected by the tree, and both the indoor tree and the one on the lawn remain lit during the holiday season to serve as a reminder of hope in the fight against cancer.

To make an online donation to the Oliva Fund please visit Foundation.MilfordRegional.org/waystogive or contact the Milford Regional Healthcare Foundation Office at 508-422-2228.

Holiday Shopping and Fun at Mendon and Upton Fairs

Nine-month-old Grant Ancil enjoys a visit with Santa Claus during the December 7 Hollyberry Fair in Mendon, co-hosted by Mendon Lions Club and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Diane Harper photo

Taylahna Rowland (left) works for “Spheres to you - rare earth trading company” in Whitinsville; and Rachel Maloney (right) owner of “Moonglow jewelry and painting” is a freeform artist creating painting, tabletops, and jewelry with her poured paint and mixed media. Both were part of the Holiday Bazaar at United Parish of Upton. Marilyn Holman photo

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Unibank Adds to Commercial Banking Team

UniBank’s Leadership Team, Michael W. Welch, CEO, Christopher D. Foley, President, and Justine M. DeNorscia, Executive Vice President recently announced that the bank’s commercial lending team is being expanded with the addition of two commercial lenders: Tom McGregor and Todd Mandella.

McGregor joins UniBank as Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Lending Officer. He brings with him 25 years of experience in the commercial lending and financial industries, most recently at United Bank. In his role at UniBank he will lead the bank’s Commercial Banking team in commercial market growth and relationship management. As a member of UniBank’s senior leadership team, he will assist and help lead elements of the bank’s strategic growth initiatives. McGregor holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Boston College’s Wallace E. Carroll School of Management in Finance.

He is committed to serving the community as a Board Member and Philanthropy Chair for the Red Cross of Central Massachusetts, Board Member/Treasurer for the Worcester Art Museum, Board Member for the Worcester Regional Research Bureau, and Board Member/Treasurer of Mechanics Hall. McGregor lives in Shrewsbury.

Mandella joins UniBank as Senior Vice President and Senior Commercial Loan Officer. He is a seasoned banker with over 18 years of experience and also most recently at United Bank. In his role at UniBank he will be responsible for commercial market growth and relationship management. Mandella holds both a Bachelor of Arts degree and Master of Arts degree in Economics from Trinity College in Connecticut. He was named to the Worcester Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 list for the Class of 2012.

Active in the community, Mandella is a Board Member and Finance Committee member for the Boys and Girls Club of Worcester and You, Inc. He lives in Worcester.

Wishing you a happy & healthy holiday season & a prosperous new year!

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MILFORD, UPTON & MENDON
After Loss, Chris Lanoue Helps Those Affected by Cancer

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

When people see ADC Septic’s big blue truck traveling the roads, it’s easy to assume it’s heading toward a job. Yet, what they may not realize is that each time the cobalt blue truck pulls up to a customer’s home, it’s also helping someone affected by cancer; something owner Chris Lanoue understands all too well.

In 2010, Chris’ wife, Laura, was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. He was working as the Director of Engineering for the Department of Corrections and decided in the interest of his family to retire after 20 years, eventually starting his own business, ADC Septic, a full-service septic and excavation company out of Blackstone.

As time went by, Laura would need a wheelchair to help her get into the Lanoue’s home, so someone was hired to construct a ramp.

Throughout Laura’s cancer battle, the couple would hear of patients who also had various needs but didn’t always have the resources to afford them. “I realized how lucky we were but others didn’t always have that luxury,” Chris explained.

In September, a softball tournament was held that raised $9,000 and a scratch ticket raffle also helped raise funding. Online donations can be made at adcinitiative.com.

Each time ADC Septic’s blue truck pulls into a job, owner Chris Lanoue puts a percentage of the bill toward the ADC Initiative which helps those affected by cancer.

Laura Lanoue

In 2014, sadly Laura passed away at the age of 42. “I thought, what can I do to honor her,” said Chris. And thus, the ADC Initiative came to fruition.

Through various fundraising efforts, the ADC Initiative is making a difference in the lives of individuals battling cancer and their families. Whether it’s building a wheelchair ramp for someone, home repairs, or assisting with mortgage payments, Chris says if he can help, he will. “It’s what pulls at my heartstrings the most,” he said.

He raises funding for the Initiative in various ways, including donating a portion of the profit he makes from his own business. “Every time our blue truck goes on a job, a percentage of that job goes directly to the ADC Initiative,” Chris explained. “The truck was intentionally painted blue; the color associated with colon cancer and has Laura’s name on the front.

In September, a softball tournament was held that raised $9,000 and a scratch ticket raffle also helped raise funding. Online donations can be made at adcinitiative.com.

These days, Chris is busier than ever raising he and Laura’s two daughters, Ava and Tess, and working as the Director of Engineering for the Department of Corrections and Assisted Living & Compass Memory Support. He is also helping raise funding. Online donations can be made at adcinitiative.com.

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Each time ADC Septic’s blue truck pulls into a job, owner Chris Lanoue puts a percentage of the bill toward the ADC Initiative which helps those affected by cancer.
Milford Federal Sponsors Claflin Hill Holiday Pops Concert

Milford Federal Bank is proud to provide a $5,000 sponsorship toward The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra’s Holiday Pops Concert at The Grand Ballroom of Milford Town Hall, on December 7. The Holiday Pops continues to be Claflin Hill’s most popular concert, and has become a holiday tradition for many families in the community. Pictured are (from left) Paul Gilbody- President/CEO of Milford Federal Bank and Paul Surapine, Executive & Artistic Director of The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra. Milford Federal Bank photo

MyFM 101.3 Station of the Year

The Massachusetts Broadcasters Association presented their most prestigious award for excellence in broadcasting to MyFM 101.3 for a record 9th time. “The Station of the Year Award is the one award that every station strives to win. It’s the most cherished station award the Massachusetts Broadcasters Association presents,” explained Jordan Walton, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Broadcasters Association. “My FM 101.3 truly epitomizes what local radio, and service to the community is all about, and we’re proud to salute them with this honor for a record 9th time.”

The Station of the Year award is presented annually by the Massachusetts Broadcasters Association to the most outstanding radio station in the Commonwealth, and is open to all of the more than 180 radio stations. It is given to the top station in Massachusetts that exemplifies overall excellence in all phases of operation. The judges, members of the Iowa Broadcasters Association, cited MyFM 101.3 had experienced extraordinary growth of audience, client base, but most importantly, MyFM was providing exceptional service to their listeners, community officials, and local organizations.

“I was absolutely stunned. This is the equivalent of winning the Super Bowl or the World Series, so I was in complete shock when they announced we had won the Station of the Year Award for a record 9th time. I can’t say enough about my staff, our listeners, fans and followers, and all the local partners we’ve developed over the years” said Tom McAuliffe, owner of MyFM Media, as he accepted the 2019 Massachusetts Broadcasters Association’s Station of the Year Award. “And to think we also won awards for Outstanding Public Service Campaign for our work with Ben Speaks, and our Summer School promotion with Dean College was also recognized.”

Shown l-r are Ray Auger Operations Manager at My FM Media, Jordan Walton Executive Director of the Massachusetts Broadcasters Association, Tom McAuliffe President of My FM Media.

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Finding Joy in His Artwork

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

It’s easy to see that Richard Erickson finds joy in being creative. With a smile on his face and his 3D printing pen in hand, Erickson can be found spending time at the Salmon Adult Day Health program at a table quietly creating his latest works of art.

Erickson said growing up and into his adulthood being creative has always helped him through a learning disability he’s had to contend with. “Being creative and making art has always been a way for me to pacify my time,” he said. “Otherwise, I’d be bored.”

For the last several months, he’s been making model sculptures, both large and small, made of multi-colored pieces of plastic that he melts with his 3D printing pen. First, he draws a picture of what he wants to create and then utilizing his 3D pen he traces it while plastic flows through the pen, melting and hardening the plastic into what eventually becomes a solid three-dimensional shape of his choosing.

Most recently, Erickson has created a large castle, a Christmas village, and a Halloween themed model. “The Halloween one is my favorite. It has a haunted house, a witch flying by the moon and a cemetery. I took me two weeks to make that one and it’s still up in my house;” he said.

He said figuring out how his creations will come to fruition makes it both challenging and fun and keeps him busy. “It’s like putting pieces of a puzzle together and then finally seeing the full picture.”

It seems Erickson’s art not only brings him happiness but others too. Not long ago he donated one of his creations, a toy-themed model, to an ill young boy in Ohio who he heard about. “I was more than happy to do it,” he said.

Erickson added he’s not only a creative person but a curious person as well and that the two go hand in hand. “I’m curious about art and how to make things. I’m curious about solar panels and how they work and I’m even curious about Elon Musk and his cars. It’s all about learning and I still like learning about things.”

Erickson says he enjoys spending time at the Salmon Adult Day program in Northbridge. “I like it here. I have a lot of fun with the staff. I enjoy being around the people here.”

Richard Erickson proudly shows off his Christmas Village model that he created.

MASS Association for the Blind Vehicle Donations

Donations of any vehicle including buses and motorcycles along with lawn mowers, trailers, campers, snowmobiles and boats maybe worth more than a trade in. The Massachusetts Association for the Blind is now accepting these donations to help blind and vision impaired persons in the Commonwealth. Call 1-888-613-2777 for details. The items will be towed away for free and the donation may be tax deductible. For more information, visit MAIBLI.org or email Barbara Sciannameo at barbaras@mabcommunity.org.

Homefield Credit Union Employees Go the Extra Mile

Homefield Credit Union recently held its quarterly All Employee Meeting. Three employees were recognized for Going the Extra Mile (GEM), part of Homefield Credit Union’s Employee Recognition Program, which honors those who go beyond their job responsibilities in serving members. In recognition of their GEM status, shown l-r, Maureen Wojnar, VP Operations; Deb Reilly, VP Consumer Credit; and Andrew Domings, Sr. Universal Banker were awarded paid time off, as well as a gift card of their choosing. Domings was also awarded “preferred parking” for the next three months. Also shown in the photo is Karl Maisan, CEO and President. Homefield Credit photo

Wishing you every happiness this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year!

Please note our special holiday hours
Christmas Eve • Tuesday, December 24th • Open 8-30 am – 12-00 pm
Christmas Day • Wednesday, December 25th • Closed
New Year’s Eve • Tuesday, December 31st • Open 8-30 am – 3:00 pm
New Year’s Day • Wednesday, January 1st • Closed

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

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

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

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

**Third Thursday**
5:30 p.m. Supper, United Parish, 1 Church St., Milford. 

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In lieu of bouquets, donations in her memory can be sent to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place, W 6th floor, Brookline, MA 02445 or by visiting www.Dana-Farber.org www.danafarber.org

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**Obituary**

UPTON-MENDON: Angela S. (Forsyth) Adcock, 63, of Upton, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 4, 2019, at the Milford Regional Medical Center after a 14-year battle with metastatic breast cancer which she fought with courage and grace. She was the wife of Anthony C. Adcock who was with her when she passed.

Born in Windlesham, England, on November 9, 1956, she was the daughter of the late Donald Peter and Ethel (Cordwell) Forsyth. She was raised and educated in Fleet Hampshire, England.

Angela started at Abil & Irauzy patent lawyers in London as a secretary while obtaining an associate degree from Queen's Secretarial College. She then worked at County Commercial tractors in Fleet. Angela also trained briefly as a nurse, and then worked as director's personal assistant for Thomson Yellow Pages before becoming a marketing analyst.

In 1983, Angela married Tony Adcock and then moved to Holland in 1987 where she volunteered at Framingham Union Hospital while working for a work visa after which Angela had several positions with a temp agency before the birth of Charlotte in 1991 when she became a full-time mother. A second daughter, Catherine, was born in 1995. Angela moved back to Holland in 1997 on a temporary assignment with her family, where she improved her Dutch and became proficient at cycling with two small children. On return to the US and as the children grew older Angela became a self-employed consultant and also found time to volunteer as an English language tutor through the Milford Town Library and as an Emergency room guide for the Milford Regional Hospitals.

Angela was an avid netball player and skier when younger but as time progressed and medical issues increased, she took up knitting, cross-stitch, reading and Sudoku.

She is survived by loving husband of 36 years Tony, her children, Charlotte of Tufts, Okla and Catherine of Rumoi, Japan, her brothers, Christopher and his wife Fiona, of Chesterfield, England, Nicholas and his wife Gill, of Allot, England, Jeremy and his wife Lynne, of Southampton, England, and her cousins, Tony Beedle of Rochester, England and Carol Caruana of Malta.

Calling hours and a brief celebration of life were held on Thursday, December 12, in the Williams-Pedersen Funeral Home, Inc. of Upton.

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**Opinion**

**RUMINATIONS**

By Kevin Rudden

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**Give a little**

I spent several weeks in the hospital a few months ago, and came to both learn and marvel that the human body consists of hundreds of interdependent functions that must be kept in the right balance.

One little thing that’s amiss — such as the level of something in your bloodstream — can cause whole organs to malfunction. A stressed heart can cause others to become stressed, as well. Too much of this or too little of that can wreak havoc from head to toe.

So, while we’re coming off our national day of “thanksgiving,” I realize I have a lot to be thankful for. For one thing, I’m not dead. I came really close this time, but I’m still here.

Now, I did not see any bright lights or any friends or relatives who had left me. But, I do remember hearing someone say, “He’s back,” as I opened my eyes. I honestly don’t remember going anywhere.

However, as we turn from Thanksgiving to whatever politically correct term you want to use for the end-of-December holidays, I am looking at the season where “It is better to give than receive” in a whole new light.

For one thing, I am more reflective this season than in past years. I’m pausing to take the time and enjoy nature, books, my family and my friends more than in past years. I am hurrying less and staying more. I am also taking on new endeavors and trying new things.

Life is short. We’re all dying; most of us just don’t know when. Enjoy life, but don’t abuse it.

And, give a little. It is that season. If you have a little extra, think of giving it to someone who has a little less. Think of it as a “hand up,” not a “handout.”

And, most of all, have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, joyous Festivus, enlightened Winter Solstice or whatever you celebrate.

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**Read this Town Crier Online**

To read the December 13, 2019 Milford Town Crier and Upton-Menden Town Crier online, go to TownCrier.us. In the left-hand column, click Online Newspapers and scroll down to Milford Town Crier PDF Archive; click on MTC 19.12.13.pdf. Or scroll down to Mendon/Upton Town Crier PDF Archive; click on UTC 19.12.13.pdf.

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**Consider This**

By Melissa Orff

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**A Few of My Favorite Things**

Every year I have the honor of being invited to speak at a local elementary school about my job as a reporter. It is honestly one of the highlights of my year. I spend a few minutes talking about the news and how important it is to bring the readers factual information about what is happening in their community. Although the 9- and 10-year-olds always attentively, I know what they most are excited about is the Q&A time.

Invariably, I get questions that make me chuckle every time – ‘Have you ever interviewed anyone famous? (Define famous…does a Lt. Governor count?) Have you ever been to a crime scene? (Not an active one) Do you ever make a mistake when writing? (Yes, everyone makes mistakes, but I try very hard not to!) How much do you make? (That’s usually when the teachers wrap up their articles before I always answer the same thing.

“I love the articles that I write about people helping other people,” I tell them.

One of the best parts of my job is the people I have met. Whether it be politician or advocate, they are all trying to make a difference for others through their service. But as a writer for community newspapers, I get to write features on individuals who are helping their friends, neighbors, or the world at large in a specific way.

So I answer my fourth-grade friends’ question with stories of a young girl in Milford who organizes a lemonade stand every year in honor of her sister who passed away, giving money to different charities that help children with special needs; of the Upton man who rode his bike over 100 miles; or the guy who helps families pay for respite care for their loved ones, of the Mendon teen, who used her voice to advocate for stricter gun regulations in order to help keep our schools safe.

I have countless stories of people raising funds for those in need, giving comfort to those in pain, and raising awareness about a cause near and dear to their hearts. They are all very special to me as with each one I became more in awe of people’s capacity for giving.

As the year 2020 approaches, I look forward to being able to write more stories about people helping others. These stories help remind me that the most important news of all is that there is a lot of good in this world, especially in my own community. I hope that these will become the new stories I will tell when I am next asked the question “what’s your favorite thing you have ever written?”

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**Town Crier Publications**

Publishers of Upton-Mendon Town Crier

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We are in the midst of holiday festivities and approaching the end of the 2019 tax year. It is an opportune time to make a tax-deductible donation to a local non-profit. There are dozens of worthy local groups, including food banks and community groups. There are also several environmentally focused groups that quietly go about their way protecting our land, water and wildlife, doing much of their work with committed volunteers and minimal funding. In the spirit of the season, consider a donation to the Earth.

If you are interested in hiking trails, biking, horseback riding, snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing or wildlife observation, there are several organizations that preserve and maintain land for these activities that could use monetary assistance. The Metacomet Land Trust is the only land trust devoted specifically to our geographic area with a mission to protect open space and natural areas. It has been instrumental in the preservation of 100s of acres of open space in Mendon and Upton and monitors many conservation areas (MetacometLandTrust.org). A Land Trust that has helped preserve land in Upton is the Sudbury Valley Trustees (SYTweb.org). The 186-acre Cormier Woods property, is a beautiful historic farmstead with rolling pastures and trails that straddles the towns of Mendon and Uxbridge. They support land and historic preservation efforts on and around Cormier Woods (Dedicated Stewardship Fund for Cormier Woods Reservation TheTrustees.org). The Friends of the Upton State Forest protect the natural and historic resources of the 2830-acre Upton State Forest (FriendsOfUptonStateForest.org). An organization that works on trail development is the Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA.org). Other organizations are committed to the protection of our local waterways and aquifers. Mendon and Upton are in the Blackstone River Watershed Association, which is dedicated to enhancing and preserving this watershed through water testing, identifying areas of concern and engaging local citizens in the protection and enjoyment of the river and surrounding land (TheBRWA.org). The Lake Nipmuc Association works to preserve and protect the aesthetic, recreational and economic value of Lake Nipmuc and its watershed to make it a destination for swimming and richer for wildlife (NipmucPoint.com). Those focused on the interests of animals could donate to the non-profit Earth Limited located at Southwick’s Zoo. Its mission is to provide environmental and conservation education with an emphasis on animal ecology, endangered species and threatened habitats (EarthLtd.org).

In the spirit of the season, consider a donation to one of these organizations.

Cheers to the local groups protecting the open space and natural resources that preserve the rustic beauty, wildlife and ecological vigor of our towns.

**Upton Attorney a Super Lawyer**

Paul W. Carey of Upton, a partner in the Creditors’ Rights, Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group at Merck O’Connell, has been selected to the Top 100: 2019 Massachusetts Super Lawyers List. Carey concentrates his practice on creditors’ rights, bankruptcy and business reorganization matters. He has extensive experience with bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings and litigation, representing creditors, debtors, creditors’ committees, trustees and receivers. Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The Super Lawyers lists are published nationwide in Super Lawyers Magazines and in leading city and regional magazines and newspapers across the country. For more information about Super Lawyers, visit SuperLawyers.com.

**Charles River Bank Sponsors Medway Christmas Parade**

Charles River Bank’s President and CEO Jack Hamilton (center) presents a donation check of $1,000 to the Medway Christmas Parade Committee, represented by (L-R) Town of Medway Treasurer/Collector Joanne Rasin, Vice President of EPCO Inc. Richard Parrella, Town of Medway Assistant Town Clerk Charlene Tingley and Tim Rice, professional photographer and owner of Tim Rice Photo. This parade is Saturday, November 30 at 5:30 p.m. The route goes from Medway Middle School to Choate Park for snacks, Santa Claus and fireworks. Charles River Bank photo

**Charles River Bank Donates to Franklin Food Pantry**

Charles River Bank Senior Vice President of Customer Care & Relationship Development Ann Sherry (L) and Vice President of Commercial Lending Sean Coyne (C) present a $500 donation check to Franklin Food Pantry Information & Resource Coordinator Molly Kilburn (C) and Executive Director Lynn Culling (R). Charles River Bank photo

**2019 Winter Wonderland at Southwick’s Zoo**

Southwick’s Zoo in Mendon announces their Winter Wonderland event and community outreach program. Southwicks is eager to give back to local communities by offering Winter Wonderland visitors event a $5 discount on admission for bringing canned goods or other non-perishable food items to donate to local food pantries or new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. One admission will be discounted by $5 per item donated, and each admission may be discounted once.

Winter Wonderland, the zoo’s holiday themed event, is open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. until December 29. Visitors can journey through the Enchanted Forest on Santa’s Christmas train to see dazzling holiday lights. Festivities also include the petting zoo, live entertainment, holiday characters, personalized ornaments and other unique gifts, and so much more. One of the biggest additions to this year’s event is the Cirque de Holiday performances featuring acrobats and jugglers.

Brighten your holidays with a new family tradition to Winter Wonderland at Southwick’s Zoo. For more details, visit SouthwicksZoo.com/winter-wonderland.

**Snowman Contest**

Our Snowman Contest is now going on.

Make a snowman, snap a photo and send it along with the snow person’s dimensions (height and circumference), the names anyone in the picture, and your hometown, to TownCrierEditor@gmail.com.

**The Town Crier is closed for Vacation from December 13 till January 8, 2020.**
High Honor Roll
Andrew B., Andromon, Benjamin Lawrence
Austin, Zachary Tyler
Bragdon, Caitlin Rose
Brenholt, Chlwe Raine
Bennett, Sam Patrick
Borges, Jordan Daniel
Bouds, Jacob Shawer
Bridge, Matthew Grace
Brickley, Sean William
Caio, Yupei
Cameron, Jillian Grace
Campos-Castellanos, Angel Enrique
Carreira, Kacie Gomes
Casam, Julia Rose
Casam, Lathie Anne
Cegiels, Clare Fiona
Cerrella, Christopher John-Joseph
Chiarilli, Kristen Nicole
Colliaccioni, Irene
Coplan, David Louis
Custine, Allain Grace
Corsi, Lauren Catherine
Costa, Bruna Raphaela Quintana
Costa, Zachary Joseph
Daguer, Matthew Christopher
Davonelle, Raulin Nicholas
Davila, Arthur Andoni
DeFrattas, Alexia Ramos
DeFreitas, Bruna
DeOliveira, Felipe Padilha
DeOliveira, Laruno Silva
Desouza, Isabella Victoria Senga
Dutcher, Reese Elizabeth
Eakin, Jordan Kyle
Hanagan, Anne Elizabeth
Garab, B巡ine Damesse
Guilarducci, Maria Eduarda
Hill, Brooke Jaqueline
Hobart, Gillieon Gerald
Jenk, Matthew Charles
Karamean, nike Alexandra
Kay, Jade Grace
Lacquet, Kristo Thomas
Le, Kruon
Liu, Vivian
Little, Sumita
Luchins, Jason Patrick
Mackie, Bonnie Eyrone
Madden, Edward George
Maddick, Emily Rose
Manter, Mavro Rey
Marcolini, Alexis Suzanne
Mathew, Nheia
Maurin, Violet
Mendota, Kathleen Denise
Mesto, Nuno Miguel
Michelson, Miyuki Lee
Monica, Victoria Lindsey
Moran, Anna Maria
Moura, Amanda Aranju
Mussberger, Hannah Rose
Murphy, Jack Thomas
Nosta, Allson Lindsey
Orte Ramirez, lena Rose Gilmarie
Passoa, Jillian Mary
Park, Emie
Paterson, Giovanni Hughes
Patterson, Nicholas James
Pena, Celia Elizabeth
Pillaralla, Angela Meredns
Portos, Isabella Barbosa
Privilege, Grace Ellen
Ramos, Lerrohan Kelsey Martins
Rane, Emily Ciare
Riachert, Abigail Dorothy
Reisman, Griffin Patrick
Ray, Jonathan Lach
Richardson, Leah Marie
Riordan, julia Christine
Ross, Jaxson John
Ryan, Katerina Marie
Scorer, Jeremy Alexander
Scroggour, Elizabeth Jane
Selander, Jack Patrick
Sepulveda, Dominick Joseph
Silva, Amanda Dias
Siew, tedd Michael
Soina, April Elizabeth
Swinfen, Kathryn Anne
Tempo, carina Elizabeth
Thomas, Joseph
Walsh, Ryan Alston
Watson, Kathleen Ann
Wenckus, Amanda Luciunce
Wheeler, William Watt
Wheler, Erinn Rylee
Janney
Alvarez-Romero, Andres
Bandera, Misha Araujo
Bogart, Sophie Rose
Bor, Gabriella Hadasah
Briceo Garcia, Yeatball Katherine

Briceno Prato, Frank Alejandro
Buckley, Corynn Lamar
Cagnana, Edital Celinos
Calarese, James William
Carce BL, William Howard
Champagne, Olivia Kathryn
D’Habert, Lauren
Delfomn, Isabella Mary
DePaula, Deborah Rodrigues
Dowed, Eira John
Feurbech, Elise Caroline
Ferree, Carly Giana
Galicia, Kevin Alexander
Gerdard, Michaela Jean
Guerre, Felipe Souza
Hialtih, Jordan Alexandria
Johnson, Jack Christopher
Johnson, Benjamin Marshall
Johnson, Brendan Randall
Kadra, Madeljne Paige
Kingsale, Emily Dakota
Koch, Corin Anna
Kraets, Joshua Gregory
LaPrad, Thomas James
LeBlanc Jr, John Joseph
Lee, Mario Connor
Lofftholm, Zoey
Loranzo, Alivia Jewel
Lucas, Raphael Emery
Macoll, Cody Grant Barnard
Macleod, Oliver Franco Barnard
Marin, jade Emily
Martin, marcus William
Matodi, Emilia Edith
Matos, Isabella Lindsey
Michalodos, creidoso Sandra
Migliaccio, Alexia Elizabeth
Migliaccio, Kali Marie Souza
Miguel, Jackson Brad
Morgan, tilly, Helen
Mori, Jillian Grace
Naif, Emily Rose
Najarian, Megan Elizabeth
Pacolla, David Joseph
Panerano, Lindsuchy Beth
Parson, Eva Grace Goldstein
Poonter, Sarah Hope
Price, Conall Christopher
Ryan, Daniel Owen
Silver, Maddie
Silverman, bailey Elizabeth
Syed, Lasha Haasia
Teostmnt, Emily Soeurs
Tessarotto, Michael
Tolmen, Meghan Rachel
Tomasso, Amanda Rose
Torres Aranjuez, Alexandra Daniela
Uminia, Joseoine Rose
Valente, ademia Anna
Vinnia, Vinccia Martins
Viera, Thais Agnus
Waen, Dominick Christopher
Wibya, Olyvia Justine
Wilson, Sofia Rose
Yan, Nicholas Vincent
Zag捍o, esperanza Mary
Zammeo, Giovanna Isabella
Sophomore
Alvos, Daniel Dubquerico
Antecio, Isabella
Arany, Jillian Katherine
Betli, Ashton Paul
Blackwell, Kate Ellen
BonTempos, Carmelina Noel
Brogoli, Sarah Lorraine
Cascavola, Giana Lynn
Cardy, Seth Thomas
Carmoena, Emma Anne
Cruz, Ahlen Aley
Cruz, Jack Abraham
De Sousa, Cyria Braga Pimenta
DeCarvalho, Mota, Maria Eduarda
DeFonseca, Ana Julyia
Duas, Harrison Davo
Dua, Jordian Red
Dunaway, Andrew Dominic
Dunbat, Randal Jared
Feorreva, kaunu Silva
Fitgerald, Carda Teresa
Hangan, Sarah Kathleen
Ferre, Cole Steven
Garlick, Paige Rose
Girard, Matthew James
Grosart, Gregory Michael
Gronvald, Chris
Halvorsen, Mary Elizabeth
Huzacco Gausso, Elvia Patricia
Jervis Angamarka, Tannya Beatrice
Justin, Troy
Korpi, Aubrey Leigh
Lagansu Poncz, Nicole Elaine
Lan, Lexi Marie
Laur, Isabella Aeleen Grace
Lin, Garris

Luchini, Justin Michael
Magharous, Marian Emael
Marino, Agabio Rafael
Marroso, Joanna Nicole McCall, Alana Young
McKee, Isabelle Veronika
Mendes, Victoria Deioux
Mitchell, Ella Ann
Mitchell, Mya Suzanne
Montouri, Steven Daniel
Nickereson, Madison Hailey
Neney, Nicholas David
Nydalm, Meghan Claire
Omanovich, Selcja
Paquettte, Erica Anne
Pereira, Laury Leite
Poter, Madison Rose
Roy, Diego Alexander
Sayagh, David Alexander
Sils, Leah Michelle
Smith, Emma Rose
Staro, jord Joseph
Vicente, Lucie Isabel
Wein, jack Vincent
Wong, Jason
Wong, Stephanie Ying
Zaki, Alanya Marry
Freshten
Aguilas Gualpa, Dora Paulina
Anderson, Joshua Duan
Balick, Mason Jeffrey
Balladore Mayr, Daniela Estefania
Bangerter, Caity Riley
Brage, Hadley Anne
Berg, Sean Christopher
Butter, Mark Andrew
Curtain, Stephanie Marie
Calarese, Jessica Angelina
Campis, Camilla Marie
Cassil, Noel Marie
Champagne, Emily Elizabeth
Chaves, Rebecca
Coplan, Joseph Nathaniel
Coronelius, Evan Patrick
Darling, jason Lee
De Souza, Isabella Silva
De Souza, Letsete Lago
Delaney, Luan Christopher
DelPrite, Cameron Michael
Dias, Jordan John
Duggan, Jordan Amber
Ferreiro, Brooke Afiono
Fontes, Antonio Maria
Glover, Cassidy Jacqueline
Guerrero, Bruni Sofia
Guzman, Daniel Alexander
Haley, Cory Mary
Handley-Buscemi, Lauren Patricia
Hough, Paul Andrew
Jansma, Hailey Kay
Lorum, lala Rose
Luo Laa, Jennifer Jessica
Lopes, Tiago Tomas
Marie, Aixed Christopher
Madden, Jeffrey Edward
Mahan, Emily Erin
Mahanta, anchitua
Manhoy, Matthew Joseph
Marichio, Yviom Rinaldi
Marques, Rebecca dePaula
McFaul, Michael Alexander
Mendes, Anna Clara De Souza
Montgomery, julia Elizabeth
Moore, Brendan Alexander
Morgamanni, Peter Carl
Nevens, Kevon
Njule, Justine
O’Connor, Olivia Elizabeth
Oliveira, Ana
Pate1, Ruby himanual
Puyton, Jordan Amanda
Perena, karianne Erika
Perera, Paulo Sergio Almudra
Phillips, Calum Alexander
Pinguin Gausman, Frank Alan
Portes, Stella Barbosa
Pugh, Matthew David
Puri, Keira Rose
Quopsib Sambaia, so Pach
Rondads, James Michael
Sampaio, Eduardo Teixeira
Schmidt, Logan Beth
Schrugm, Tesssa Aileen
Silva, guilherme Gaviano mar so
Sodhi, Rebecca
Stochac, Maddyn Elizabeth
Switzenberg, Hannah Marie
Testa, Ashley Elizabeth
Thersois, Louis Marion
Thomas, Joshua
Wadley, riley Marie
Wheelock, Kay Louise
Zagami, Weiing
Zago, Melissa Joan

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• Will Administer Medications
• No Overnights
• Will Take pet to Vet apt. If needed

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dehumidifiers
deep fryers
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Upton, Mendon, and Milford Town Crier DECEMBER 13, 2019
Belinette, Aurelie Sylvie Ann Pascale
Barros, Kathleen Stephany
Andino-Maldonado, Jose Antonio
Alves, Ana Cristina Carvalho
Juniors
Yancey, Miyoko Taila
Wimette, Nicholas Matthew
Williamson, Alyssa Marie
Waldrup, Taylor Marie
Viana, Nathalia Araujo
Shang, Xiaorui Allen
Reisman, Paige Fleming
Reis, Rafael Gennaro
Raleigh, Margaret Reid
Pires, Colby James
Pardo Cota, Gabriel Ramon
Orozco, Jada Leigh
Mobilia, Kaitlyn Marie
Marshall, Olivia Jane
Mahoney, Paul Xavier
Lee, Alexander William
Kimball, Caroline Ann
Hart, Megan Marie
Giroux, Tyler James
Desmond, Jacob Eric
DeOliveira, Walisson Tavares
Coutinho, Kiara Coelho
Cheschi, Samantha Elizabeth
Contiino, Kaara Cadish
DeOliveira, Wolsson Tavares
Doxmund, Jacob Eric
Donelan, Ryan James
France, Juliana Marie
Gonzalez, Rose Lynnette
Gomes, Lavynya Braulinda De Oliveira
Gomes, Kevin Faria
Fleming, Ronan James
E Silva, Joao Victor De Lima
Dutra, Ana Luisa Martins
Duncan, Jacob Michael
Douglas, Jessica Sheehan
Donnelly, Leo Joseph
Donelli, Matteo Enrico Ramos
Douglas, Jessica Shochan
Drum, Jacob Michael
Dutra, Ana Laura Martins
E Silva, Joao Victor de Lima
Fleming, Roman James
Gomes, Kevin Farias
Gomes, Larvyno Bradel De Oliveira
Gonzalez, Rose Lynnette
Griska, Adriana Josephine
Guama Santos, Alex Edison
Guaman Simbana, Transito Beatriz
Harris, Ashleigh Jawadon
Haughy, Dylan Joseph
Hunt, Madison Lee
Lema, Jhony Baccinato
Lisoc, Anthony Joseph
Manuel, Ana Carolina
Martinei, Carmela Billie
Mesquita, Sarah Moura
Mihos, Jana Rose
Newman, John Michael
Olivier, Paige Darius
Orellana, Oscar Daniel
Papaga, Mox Liam
Praxe, Kathryn Hannah
Ramos, Brian Amad
Roberts, Paul Michael
Romero, Angel
Schuler, Nicholas Joseph
Schrader, Kon Cristian Edward
Seri, Abraham
Sherar, Victoria Paige
Silen, Yvda Amour
Smith, Jason Michael
Stephen Smith, McKenna Gabriella
Sousmoudis, Zachary Paul
Sparks, Julia Marie
Spazos, Ronald
James
Stockwell, Eric
Damian
Tocci, Christopher
Richard
Tulfo-Russ, Andon
Nicolas
Walshier, Jennifer
Rose
Weller, Andrew
Joseph
Wilson, Ryan
Christopher
Zorzi, Olivia Marie
Freshman
Amir, Usman Ali
Antunes, Laura
Alves Pereira
Armatozuro
Makarios Amgad
Berg, Travis Xavier
Bennetman
Glota Estefania
Bogert, Mackenna
Grace
Boz, Dylan Jacob
Butler, Brady Daniel
Cagnamo, Bryan
Luis
Calden, Tyler John
Cameron, Nathan John
Castillo, Nicholas Anthony
Cario Pupo, Shondra Yolanda
Cheuchi, Nicholas Louis
Croston, Emily Christina
Cummings, Mason Tj
da Camina, Natalie Alexis
De Lima, Batia Darwie
DeBarros, Nerioh Sophia
DeLima, Ted Emmanuelle
Dennismore, Lucas Richard
Dorr, Benjamin Matthew
Emerick, Adhulerto Lima
Estrada De Paz, Hector Enrique
Ferreira, Isabella Grace
Fulginiti, Saverio Anthony
Gaffin, Madelyn Grace
Georg, William Peter
Gonzalez, Julia Digna
Grave, Jacob David
Guaman Tacuri, Paul
Kab, Sydney Jean
Kaye-Katter, Hampton Robert
Lima, Yvnette
Malek, Agathon Elamir Fahmy Malak
Marinho, Joao Victor Peixoto Formasari
Matosroani, Michael Anthony
McGuire, Alexander Charles
Oliveira, Andrew
Oliveira, Gustavo Souza
Paccione, Calathy Rose
Pagan, Jordon James
Patten, Jonathan Walter
Pizar, Evalyn
Pingal Gissaman, Segundo Andres
Poplawski, Nikolai James
Pettie, Tyler James
Ribeiro, Camila De Sousa
Ribeiro, Nicholas Miranda
Rodrigues Neves, Saulo Romulo
Rusotti, Matthew James
Sagan, Wiktoria Magdalena
Shabi, Isabella Amalia
Silva, Inadora Marquesz
Summerville, Kendra Aracyn
Swed, Alina Husain
Tamagni, Lea Carole
Whitney, Kaylor Brnn
Zagame, Andrew Robert

Milford High School Term 1 Honor Roll

Honor Society
Seniors
Amit, Sahabia
Antunes, Elvis Alves Pereira
Balda, Bianca Mary
Ballan, Christine Brianna
Brashears, Bianca Marie
Briceno Garcia, Rosshell Terradith
Canaud Vassquez, Jocelyn Viviana
Carro, Mariana Figueredo Moreira
Castellano, Ryan David
Cerda, Blue Akaituki
Choschi, Samantia Elizabet
Contiino, Kaara Cadish
DeOliveira, Wolsson Tavares
Doxmund, Jacob Eric
Donelan, Ryan James
France, Juliana Marie
Gonzalez, Troy
Gonzalez, Ashley Carvalho
Gray, Patrick John
Hart, Megan Marie
Izau, Leonardo Alves
Kiddman, Julia Rose
Kimbali, Caroline Ann
Lee, Alexander William
Lema, Omar Felipe
Lin, Con Leo
Lynch, Michael Francis
Mahoney, Paul Xavier
Marshall, Olivia Jane
Mobilia, Kariel Marie
Mungo, Jorven Joel
Onesto, Jada Leigh
Paedo Costa, Gabriel Ramon
Peresita, Luis Fernando Leite
Pires, Cathy James
R sailing, Margaret Reid
Rounsavan, Paige Fleming
Raleigh, Katherine Denise
Sanchez, Daniel Rolo
Schumz, Abigail Josephine
Shang, Xiaorui Allen
Vinga, Nathalia Araujo
Waldrop, Taylor Marie
Williams, Alyssa Marie
Wimmet, Nicholas Matthew
Wimbish, Hannah Katherine
Yancey, Miyoko Taila
Juniors
Alice, Ana Cristina Carvalho
Andino-Maldonado, Jose Antonio
Barros, Kathleen Stephany
Belinette, Aurelie Sylvie Ann Pascale
Blankard, Benjamin Andre
Callahan, Kevin Arthur
Casilli, Natalie Elizabeth
Ciccone, Daniel Eldridge
Dettling, Jordan Morris
DeSilva, Alexandra Pereira
DeSilvestro, Thago Farnes Pratai
Dexter, Amelia Elizabeth
Duet, Devon Daniel
Einstein, Joseph Matthew
Fayad, Mira Elizabeth
Ferreira, Aila Santana
Gaffin, Rebecca Elizabeth Brackett
Joyce, Brendan Sean
Lanci, Karolina Rae
LaVerge, Ashley Elizabeth
Lawrence, Emma Elizabeth
Madden, Catherine Jane
Martari, Katlyn Lynn
McKernan, Emily Elaine
Miranza, Miranda Michael
Mohn, Alexandra Cerezuela
Morgan, Austin Jacob
Morris, Samnah Marie
O’Connor, Kevin Joseph
Oliva, Anthony Nicola
Phillips, Emily Elizabeth
Proops, Madison Sage
Quinn, Brandon Lee
Rawling, Jodanna Andrew
Rocha, Lucas DeSouza
Saa, Yousef Saged
Sutton, Kathryn Adair
Terrill, Alexander Davis
Vieira Neudart, Nicole Camilly
Sousmoudis, Zachary Paul
Sprea, Julia Marie
Spazos, Ronald
James
Stockwell, Eric
Damin
Tocci, Christopher
Richard
Tufts-Russ, Andon
Nicolas
Walshier, Jennifer
Rose
Weller, Andrew
Joseph
Wilson, Ryan
Christopher
Zorzi, Olivia Marie
Freshman
Amir, Usman Ali
Antunes, Laura
Alves Pereira
Armatozuro
Makarios Amgad
Berg, Travis Xavier
Bennetman
Glota Estefania
Bogert, Mackenna
Grace
Boz, Dylan Jacob
Butler, Brady Daniel
Cagnamo, Bryan
Luis
Calden, Tyler John
Cameron, Nathan John
Castillo, Nicholas Anthony
Cario Pupo, Shondra Yolanda
Cheuchi, Nicholas Louis
Croston, Emily Christina
Cummings, Mason Tj
da Camina, Natalie Alexis
De Lima, Batia Darwie
DeBarros, Nerioh Sophia
DeLima, Ted Emmanuelle
Dennismore, Lucas Richard
Dorr, Benjamin Matthew
Emerick, Adhulerto Lima
Estrada De Paz, Hector Enrique
Ferreira, Isabella Grace
Fulginiti, Saverio Anthony
Gaffin, Madelyn Grace
Georg, William Peter
Gonzalez, Julia Digna
Grave, Jacob David
Guaman Tacuri, Paul
Kab, Sydney Jean
Kaye-Katter, Hampton Robert
Lima, Yvnette
Malek, Agathon Elamir Fahmy Malak
Marinho, Joao Victor Peixoto Formasari
Matosroani, Michael Anthony
McGuire, Alexander Charles
Oliveira, Andrew
Oliveira, Gustavo Souza
Paccione, Calathy Rose
Pagan, Jordon James
Patten, Jonathan Walter
Pizar, Evalyn
Pingal Gissaman, Segundo Andres
Poplawski, Nikolai James
Pettie, Tyler James
Ribeiro, Camila De Sousa
Ribeiro, Nicholas Miranda
Rodrigues Neves, Saulo Romulo
Rusotti, Matthew James
Sagan, Wiktoria Magdalena
Shabi, Isabella Amalia
Silva, Inadora Marquesz
Summerville, Kendra Aracyn
Swed, Alina Husain
Tamagni, Lea Carole
Whitney, Kaylor Brnn
Zagame, Andrew Robert

Malek, Agathon Elamir Fahmy Malak

DECEMBER 13, 2019
The Upton News

Selectmen Looking for Building Committee Volunteers

By Michelle Sanford  
Staff Reporter

During a December 3 meeting, the Upton Board of Selectmen agreed to form a new Building Committee and are currently looking for experienced volunteers to serve on it to bring the new Municipal Community Center to town.

In November, residents voted to support a $700,000 article that will fund the remaining phases of the design and bidding costs for a new Municipal Community Center. As a result, Town Manager Derek Brindisi explained per the town’s General Bylaws, a Building Committee must be formed on major construction projects.

Bylaws, a Building Committee must be formed on major construction projects. The seven-member Committee will be charged with interviewing and selecting designers, expend funding approved at town meetings, recommend schematic designs to the Board of Selectmen, and oversee the design and construction bid process. Therefore, the Selectmen are looking for members with expertise in architecture, construction, accounting, engineering, and other related fields.

The new Municipal Community Center will house both the Library and Council on Aging. The latest site plan designs show a 13,800 square foot, single story building located on a portion of the municipal parking lot on Route 140. The new structure would be ADA compliant and would provide access to restrooms and other amenities for those utilizing the adjacent playground and fields.

The Selectmen will eventually be bringing the funding needed for the building to a town meeting for a debt exclusion vote. The total project cost is currently estimated at $9.3 million.

Residents interested in volunteering for the Building Committee should complete a volunteer application form online at UptonMA.gov. Related to the Municipal Center was a discussion concerning the Municipal Community Center Feasibility Committee which was formed more than a year ago to investigate various options and locations for the new Community Center. With that charge now complete, several of its members, including Matthew Bachfeld and Bill Taylor, explained they are still interested in assisting with the project and suggested forming a Community Center Steering Committee to do so.

This Committee would be responsible for gathering feedback from boards, committees, and other groups, recommend operational plans for the new Municipal Center, the Selectmen, Library Trustees, and Council on Aging, advise the Building Committee on design considerations, and keep the public up to date on the project prior to the debt exclusion vote.

Considering the size of the Municipal Center project, the Board agreed a Steering Committee would be a good idea. “I’d rather have more engaged than less,” said Selectman Brett Simas. There are two seats open on the Steering Committee.

Upton’s First Marijuana Growing Host Agreement Approved

By Michelle Sanford  
Staff Reporter

The Upton Board of Selectmen approved the town’s first host agreement for a marijuana growing facility. A brief discussion and the approval took place during a December 3 meeting.

In September, representatives from Grow Right LLC came before the Board to discuss their possible future growing facility to be located at 162 Milford St. Town Manager Derek Brindisi also confirmed a community meeting did take place in order to answer any questions residents may have on the facility.

Grow Right plans to focus on hydroponic technology to grow the marijuana plants and will sell the flowers to manufacturers, dispensers, and cannabis cafes. Since the establishment is not involved in any retail, minimal parking spaces will be needed that will include a small number of staff at the facility. In addition, steps will be taken to prevent any odor from disturbing neighbors and security measures will be in place which have been reviewed by public safety.

Part of the agreement states Grow Right will provide three percent of its gross sales to Upton, as well as other annual donations including $1,000 to the Police Department and Fire Department, $2,000 in scholarships, and another $1,000 donation to a local charity.

In addition, the company will provide equipment to an Upton school interested in learning about hydroponics.

The Selectmen have been vetting through the agreement for some time and stated at their November meeting they found it to be “very thorough,” said Chair Stephen Matellian and approved it unanimously. It will likely be several months before the owners receive final approval and a license for the facility from the Cannabis Control Commission.

Other Approvals

In other Selectmen news, the Board approved an application for a new specialty wine store to be located at 62 Main St. The applicant, Richard Schnitzlein, stated he has 20 years of experience in wine tasting and that his new establishment will sell “higher end” wine.

In addition to the wine store, the Selectmen approved an application from Grow Right LLC who plan to grow marijuana for the new store and scheduled a town meeting to bring the new Municipal Community Center to town.

The Upton Center

The Upton Center is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Staff is available by phone from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities are subject to change. Please call 508-529-4550 for any questions.

Monday, December 16
Miscoe Hill School Christmas Carolers Visit, 9:30 a.m.
Shopping Trip to Salvation Army, Shaw’s, Job Lots, Walmart Loop, Northbridge, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17
Gift to You Program, 12:30 p.m.
Holiday Craft & Carols with Girl Scouts, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18
Blood Pressure Checks, 12:30 p.m.
Shopping Trip to Christmas Tree Shop, Shrewsbury, 12:30 p.m.
Holiday Lights Ride, 5:45 p.m.

Thursday, December 19
Podiatrist Appointments, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Please call for Appt.)
Memorial School Christmas Carolers Visit, 4:45 p.m.

Friday, December 20
Holiday Social with Piano Music, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, December 23
Shopping Trip to Market Basket, Hudson, 9:15 a.m.
Mindfulness & Meditation with Robin, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 24
Lunch Trip to Grillz 122, Northbridge, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 25
Center is Closed for Christmas

Friday, December 27
Shopping Trip to Hannaford’s, Uxbridge, 9:15 a.m.
Birthday Bash, 12:45 p.m.
Birthday Bash, 12:45 p.m.

Monday, December 30
Shopping Trip to Salvation Army, Shaw’s, Job Lots, Walmart Loop, Northbridge, 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday, December 31
New Year’s Eve Social, 11 a.m.

Monday
Tai Chi, 1 p.m.

Tuesday
Card Players Group, 10 a.m.

Wednesday
Concert Class, 9 a.m. (Call to Schedule)  Strengthen and Stretch, 10 a.m.
Library Table, 11 a.m.
Canasta, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday
Knit and Crochet Group, 10 a.m.
Bingo, 1:00 p.m.

Friday
Strengthen and Stretch, 10 a.m.
Local Dancers in Fitchburg Nutcracker

Lillian and Daphne Sweeney of Upton will be in the Paula Meola Dance and Sterling Youth Ballet production of The Nutcracker. The four performances will be staged at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical in Fitchburg.

Flu Shots

Flu shots for Upton residents are available free of charge at the Board of Health office at the Upton Town Hall, Mondays through Thursdays. Please call ahead to schedule an appointment at 508-529-3110. Remember to wear a short sleeve shirt and bring any insurance card.

Blaire House of Milford

ADULT DAY HEALTH PROGRAM

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

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

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

Take a Tour Today!

Our Adult Day Health Program Services Include:

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

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

Blaire House
Milford
Adult Day Health Program Services Include:

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- Family & caregiver support, and discharge planning.

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

Make the Holidays Green, Recycle

By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Once the ribbons are untied and the gifts are unwrapped, where should all that trash that is left behind during the holidays go? This time of year, the amount of waste generated in a household can go up 25 percent nationally between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day according to local trash haulers. A lot of that waste comes from wrapping paper and boxes that come with gifts.

Following is a refresher about what can be recycled and what needs to be thrown away in the trash according to the waste hauler E.L. Harvey:

Trash:
- Ribbons and bows
- Packing materials, including Styrofoam, bubble wrap, packing peanuts and shredded cardboard

Wrapping paper:
- Only if the paper says recyclable on the inside of the paper; if it is shiny or has sparkles or sequins, it is trash

Artificial trees:
- Can be flattened but in a bag or still in their box

Recycling:
- Flattened 2x2 cardboard boxes
- Wrapping paper (ONLY if it says recyclable on the inside of the paper; if it is shiny or has sparkles or sequins, it is trash)

Recycling rules are very important this time of year, said local officials from the Boards of Health in Milford, Mendon, and Upton, due to the risk of contaminating a recycling stream with non-recyclable items. Following the rules about recycling is also important to help the trash hauler be able to pick up trash and recycling in a timely manner.

Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park Party

Celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the Blackstone River National Historical Park at a Holiday Open House on Thursday, December 19 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the BHC Office, Linwood Mill, 670 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. There will be a speaking program and awards at 6 p.m. and holiday cheer for all. The 2020 Blackstone Heritage Corridor calendar will be for sale for $10 each. This is the last date to place a silent auction bid for one or more of the winning images from that calendar printed on 16 x 20-inch canvases.

NATHANS’ Jewelers
508-473-7375
157 Main Street
MILFORD

Christmas Cookies
Dairy Farm & Bakery
200 Woonsocket Hill Road, North Smithfield, RI 02896
401-767-3014 • www.wrightsdaifarm.com
Mon-Sat 8am-7pm and Sunday 8am-5pm

LIQUOR PLUS
25 MAIN ST., UPTON • 508-529-6196
Mon-Thur: 8:30 am - 9:30 pm • Fri & Sat: 8:30 am - 10:30 pm • Sun: 12pm - 6pm

Habitation for Humanity. For more information, visit ComCovHop.org or call 508-435-3725.

Liquor Plus
New Item!

New Item!

SKREWBALL
Peanut Butter Whiskey
$29.99 750ml

Korbel Sparkling Wine
All Flavors

$14.99 750ml

McManis Cabernet Sauvignon
Pinot Noir
$8.99 750ml

Cavaliere D’Oro Gabbiano Chianti
$11.99 750ml

Mad Elf Special Winter Beer from Troegs
$15.99 6pk 12oz bottle

Christmas Tree Ornaments & Gifts Gala!
Geode Ornaments
Resin Windows

Shellscapes by Marilyn
Butterfly Shop
264 N. Main St., Uxbridge
TUES-SUN 12-7

Find Me At
Facebook:
Shellscapes by Marilyn

New Year’s Eve 8:30am - 9pm
Christmas Day closed
Christmas Eve 8:30am - 8pm
Hours:
Christmas Tree
Ornaments & Gifts

LIQUOR PLUS
New Item!

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Mad Elf Special Winter Beer from Troegs
$15.99 6pk 12oz bottle
This holiday season, the 39th annual The Nutcracker will be presented by the Greater Milford Ballet Company on December 21 at 2 p.m. and December 22 at 1 p.m. Bellingham High School.

This state-of-the-art ballet production includes dancers from Milford, Mendon, Upton, Blackstone, Bellingham, Hopedale, Medway, Northbridge, Uxbridge, and Wentham, plus Cumberland, North Smithfield, and Pascoag, R.I.

Although the production is traditional, every year something new is introduced such as costumes set feature or a character to add to the element of surprise. The production is complete with falling snow, special effects, lively duel between Nutcracker Prince and the Mouse King, dolls that magically grow to adult size, magical dancing bear, and guest appearances by Eugenia Zinoviera as the Sugar Plum and Alan Alberto as the Cavalier from Festival Ballet Providence.

Dancers in the production from the area are:

- From Milford High School is junior, Emily Naff as Clara’s Dancing Cousin, Snow Queen, Marzipan Lead and Flowers Group Corps a Junior at Milford High.
- Nipmuc Regional High School students are junior, Grace Stewart as a Dancing Maid, Harlequin, Angel Princess and Snow and Flowers Group Corps; sophomore, Julia Bretheron as Housekeeper; sophomore, Joseph Denaro as Drosselmeyer Assistant and Soldier General; and freshman, Katherine Stewart as a Dancing Maid, Soldier Doll, Spanish Chocolate and Group Corps.
- An eighth grader at Hopedale High School, Sara Auger is a Party Child, Chinese and Marzipan Group Corps.
- Stacy Middle School sixth graders, Lexie Annunziato is a Party Child, Soldier and Chinese and Marzipan Group Corps.
- Woodland Elementary School students are fifth grade: Catherine Delaney as a Party Child, Soldier and Reindeer; and Abigail Murphy as a Party Child, Soldier, and Chinese Group Corps.
- An eighth grader at Milford High, Elizabeth Hodge as a Soldier, Mouse and Reindeer; plus fourth grader, Kailyn Croeber a Mouse, and a Small Angel; plus, first graders, Emma Santomenna and Avery Taddeo as Small Angels.
- Milford students, Ryan Croeber, a kindergartner from Brookside Elementary is a Mouse and Bright Beginnings Pre-K student, Reagan Pasilakos is a Small Angel.
- Tickets, which are $25, $20 and $15, are available, at Charles River Bank, 16 Hastings St., Mendon, and South Maple St., Bellingham or by calling the Deane Dance studio at 508-473-3354. Tickets will be sold at the auditorium if still available. Discount sales for non-profit groups and senior centers of 10 or more can be arranged by calling Colleen O’Brien at 508-854-3760.

For more information or tickets, send email to deanestudio@yahoo.com or call 508-473-3354.

Let Your Car SPARKLE This Christmas!

GMCC Holiday Concerts
MILFORD - The Greater Milford Community Chorus (GMCC) holiday concerts are Saturday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 15 at 1:30 p.m., both at the Grand Ballroom, Milford Town Hall. The building is handicap accessible and parking is free.

Under the musical direction of Mark Schiappucci, this year’s program is entitled, Cool Yule, will include beloved traditional holiday songs along with select poetic and classic pieces. The GMCC is a nonprofit organization sponsored by the Milford Community Use Program and the Milford, Bellingham, Hopedale, Uxbridge, and Mendon Cultural Councils, thru the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more information, visit GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus.com. Tickets are now on sale at Music & Arts (formerly The Music Nook), 164 Main St., Milford, or from any chorus member for $10; tickets will be sold at the door for $12. Children under 8 are free.

The Nutcracker by the Greater Milford Ballet

This Christmas!

December 14
Saturday,
Chorus (GMCC) holiday concerts are
MILFORD - The Greater Milford Community
GMCC Holiday Concerts
door for $12. Children under 8 are free.
chorus member for $10; tickets will be sold at the
Music Nook), 164 Main St., Milford, or from any
GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus.com. Tickets

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Hopedale, Uxbridge, and Mendon Cultural Councils, thru the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more information, visit GreaterMilfordCommunityChorus.com. Tickets are now on sale at Music & Arts (formerly The Music Nook), 164 Main St., Milford, or from any chorus member for $10; tickets will be sold at the door for $12. Children under 8 are free.
Hanukkah Services

United Bethel Tabernacle
55 West Pine St., Milford
508-473-1500
Sunday, December 22:
Menorah Lighting at Draper Park in Milford, 5 p.m.
Rabbi Sol Goodman will be leading the ceremony.
Dreidels (tops) and Hannukah (chocolate coins) will be handed out to all attending.

Chabad House Jewish Community Center
34 Cedar St., Milford. 508-473-1299. info@gotchabad.com
For more information, including tickets and reservations, visit JewishMA.com
Sunday, December 22:
Public Menorah Lighting:
Holliston Town Hall, 3:30 p.m.
Franklin Town Common, 4:30 p.m.
Monday, December 23:
Public Menorah Lighting at Gilly’s House, Wrentham, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, December 27:
Public Menorah Lighting at Chabad Center, 3:30 p.m.

Milford Holiday Services

First Congregational Church of Milford
4 Congress St., 508-473-5299
Pastor Jane Wilson
MilfordCongregational.org
Christmas Eve:
Service for families and those young at heart.
Traditional candlelight service of Lessons and Carols, 11 p.m.
No services Christmas morning

First United Methodist Church
39 Exchange St., 508-473-4522
Pastor Daniel Stone
Sunday, December 22:
Children’s Christmas Pageant & Special Music
Worship of Carols and Candles, 5 p.m.

The Way Church
41 Pine St., 508-341-2842
Pastor Eric Rodrigues
Sunday, December 22:
Christmas Service, 10:30 a.m.
December 31:
End of Year Service, 9 p.m.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church
5 East Main St., 508-634-5445
SacredHeartMilford.org
Christmas Eve:
4 p.m. & 12 Midnight
Christmas Day:
8 & 10 a.m.
Regular Saturday Masses, 4 p.m.
Sunday Masses, 8 and 10 a.m.
Other Masses, Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 7 a.m.

St. Mary of the Assumption Church
27 Pearl St., 508-473-2000
StMaryMa.com
Christmas Eve:
Mass in the main upper church Mass, English with Children’s Pageant, 4 p.m.
Mass, English, 5:30 p.m.
Mass, Brazilian Portuguese, 8 p.m.
Solemn Mass at Midnight, English, 12 a.m.
Christmas Day:
Mass in the main upper church Mass at Dawn, Portuguese, 9 a.m.
Mass, English, 10:30 a.m.
Mass del Divino Niño, Spanish, 12 p.m.
Sunday, December 29:
Feast of the Holy Family
New Year’s Eve:
Mass in the main upper church Mass, English, Upper Church 4 p.m.
New Year’s Day:
Mass in the main upper church Mass, Portuguese, 9 a.m.
Mass, English, 10:30 a.m.
Mass, Spanish, 5 p.m.
Procession for Our Lady of the Cloud begins at 4:30 p.m.

Salvation Army
29 Congress Street, 508-473-0786
Captain Justin Barter
Captain Marsha Barter
Trinity Episcopal Church
17 Congress St., 508-473-8646
Father Mac Murray
TrinityChurchMilford.org
Sunday, December 22:
Children’s Pageant Rehearsal at 9:45 a.m. All children are invited.
4th Advent, Holy Eucharist, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Greening of the Church for Christmas, 11 a.m. to Noon
Christmas Eve:
Festival Eucharist with Children’s Pageant and Children’s Choir, 4 p.m.
Festival Eucharist with Trinity Choir, 7 p.m.
Carol Singing, 10:30 p.m.
Festival Eucharist with Trinity Choir, 7 p.m.
Christmas Day:
Holy Eucharist with Carols and Violin, 9 a.m.
Sunday, December 29:
Christmas Lessons and Carols and a Celebration of the Ending of a Pastoral Relationship and the Leaves-Taking from a Congregation of the Rev. William Macdonald Murray, 9 a.m.
Regular Weekly Worship:
Saturday, 5 a.m., Sundays, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. & Wednesday, 9 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Upton/Mendon Holiday Services

Bethany Community Church
15 Cape Road, Mendon
Pastor Phil McCutchen
bcchurch.org
508-478-0482
Regular Sunday Morning Services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
9 a.m.

 Faith Baptist Church
7 Main St., Mendon
Pastor Varnum Shults
FBCMendon.com
Christmas Service will part of Sunday, December 22 Worship,
10:30 a.m.

Immanuel Chapel OCP
38 Hopkinton Road, Upton
Pastor Mark Marquis
508-529-4468
Immanuel-Chapel.org
Sunday Worship:
11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Mendon Community Church
4 Harrington St., Mendon
Pastor Harold Deligiannides
Conservative Reformed Evangelical
508-473-9030
Christmas Eve:
Candlelight Service, 5:30 p.m.

Mendon Mennonite Church
70 Cape Road, Mendon
Pastor Glenn Auker
708-473-7478
Sunday School, 8 a.m., all ages.
Regular Sunday Service, 11 a.m.
Monthly services, second and fourth Wednesday, 7 p.m.

St. Gabriel’s Parish
151 Mendon St., Upton
Fr. Laurence Braault
Fr. Sagar Gundiga
508-603-1680
Christmas Eve:
Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.
Children’s Pageant Mass, 5:45 p.m.
Midnight Mass, 11 p.m.
Christmas Day:
8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. There is No 5:30 p.m Mass
New Year’s Eve:
Vigil Mass, 5 p.m.
New Year’s Day:
Masses at 8, 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Unitarian Congregation of Mendon and Upton
13 Maple St., Mendon
Reverend Ralph T. Clarke
umc.org
508-473-8861
Candlelight Service, 11 p.m.
No Service Christmas Day

Unitarian Universalist Society
Grafton & Upton
38 Graton Common, Grafton
Reverend Daniel Gregoire, Minister
UUSociety.net
508-835-2927
Christmas Eve:
Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.
Guided by Stars to Bethlehem

United Parish of Upton
1 Church Street, Upton
Pastor Louney Swick
UnitedParishUpton.org
508-529-3192
Sunday, December 22:
Peace Light Service, 7 p.m.
Christmas Eve:
Family Service, 5 p.m.

Featuring Caroling of Christmas, a contemporary cantata
(repeat performance on January 3)
Starlight Service, 11 a.m.

BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY TODAY
Banquet Rooms Available for Any Size Party
Route 16, Mendon • 508-473-5077
www.nesteakandseafood.com

HOLIDAY SHOPPING GUIDE

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Feed approx. 14 people with
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Feed approx. 7 people with
Au Jus, Mashed Potatoes & Dessert
$199.99

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All You Need for Christmas Store!!
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Wreaths
Ornaments
Holiday Gifts
Bows
Houseplants
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Upton, Mendon, and Milford Town Crier DECEMBER 13, 2019
A Holly Jolly Christmastime in Mendon

It was looking a lot like Christmas in Mendon on December 6 as the town held its 4th Annual Santa Parade and its annual Tree Lighting. The perfect winter setting of snow covered ground and a crisp evening drew large crowds for the event. The parade started off from the corner of North Ave and Northbridge Rd at 7 p.m., led by a contingent of about a dozen fire trucks, decorated for the holidays, with sirens blaring and lights flashing. They were followed by about an equal number of festive floats and many marchers. The place of honor at the end of the parade was saved for Santa Claus and his wife. Making its way down to Founders Park, the marcher joined townspeople at the site for the traditional tree lighting and a chance for youngsters to give Santa their Christmas list. Zoey Esquelin had the honor of flipping the switch to light the town Christmas Trees by winning the Color Contest sponsored by the Taft Public Library. The evening was topped off by a spectacular display of fireworks. The events were organized by the Mendham Brothers of the Brush with the Mendon Festival Committee and Freehold Property sponsoring the fireworks.

To see more photos of the 2019 Mendon Tree Lighting and Parade by Town Crier photographer Jim Calarese visit Facebook Town Crier Publications.

Christmas Tree Pick Up
Mendon Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will pick up used Christmas Trees on Sunday, January 5. Pick up starts at 8 a.m. and runs until 1 p.m. Please leave trees Curbside by 7 a.m. with the $8 donation, Mendon only. Please call Greg at 508-496-0138 for more information.

We Can Pack and Ship Your Holiday Gifts
We Can Pack and Ship Your Holiday Gifts

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Storing Guide
Holiday Shopping Guide

Annual Menorah Lighting
The Annual Menorah Lighting by Temple Beth Shalom will be held in Draper Memorial Park, Main St., Milford on Sunday, December 22, at 5 p.m. Rabbi Sol Goodman, will be leading the ceremony. Dreidels (tops) and Hanukkah Gelt (chocolate coins) will be handed out to all attending. For more information, contact Marc Mann at (617) 899-3129.

Holiday Shopping Guide

Ho Ho Ho

Before and After @ Always Hair
196 E. Main St. + Milford, MA 01757 • 508-473-5163 • 508-473-6664
Quarry Square Plaza

Happy Holidays from Dawn Fall Spa on Main
Final week to purchase gift certificates online or onsite...give the gift that keeps on giving!

Looking for stocking stuffers? Office gift? We have all that at the spa! Stop by, there's still time!

169 West Main Street Hopkinton, MA 01748
508-453-0123
www.dawnfallmain.com

Winter Wonderland
November 29th–December 29th
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday

Join us for holiday fun this winter at Southwick’s Zoo! Visitors can ride the train to admire holiday lights, experience a visit with Santa Claus, meet furry friends in the petting zoo, purchase treats from the Gingerbread Bakery, be amazed by Cirque de Holiday performances, and so much more!
Happy Holidays from the Town Crier

Real Estate Taxes to Rise in Mendon

By Michelle Sanford
Staff Reporter

During a November 25 hearing, Mendon's Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessor's met for a tax classification hearing and to discuss the recommended new tax rate. The levy for fiscal year 2020 totaled $15,840,333, add the town’s debt exclusions of $1,065,581 that includes the school, land, library, and public safety buildings and the total levy for the town is $16,905,914. New growth for fiscal year 2020 was reported at $258,707.

For the first time, Mendon's taxable value hit over one billion dollars at $1,008,982,700 for fiscal year 2020 versus last year's taxable value of $967,407,830 for an increased taxable value of $41,574,870. Residential properties make up approximately 88 percent of the town, with commercial property totaling approximately six percent and the remaining personal and industrial property. As a result, the Assessor’s went on to recommended a single tax rate for everyone, which in turn helps bring new businesses in to town as well as keep current business owners happy. The Board of Selectmen approved the single rate.

The Assessor's reported the average value for a single-family home in Mendon is $424,000, which reflects an approximate 4.5 percent increase in valuation from last year. The overall town wide annual revaluation resulted in an approximate 4.5 percent increase in valuation on residential properties and an approximate 2 percent increase for commercial properties.

A single tax rate would result in $16.75 per $1,000 for all properties. Therefore, according to information provided by the Assessors office, a $418,000 home will see a new tax bill of $7,001.50 plus $159.80 for the Community Preservation Act surcharge for a total of $7,161.30, an increase of $314.64 from last year. For a $522,500 home, the new rate would add up to $8,751.88, plus $213.31 for the CPA surcharge for a total of $8,965.19, an increase of $394.31 from last year.

The next step was for the Department of Revenue to approve the new tax rate. Anyone with questions should contact Jean Berthold, Principal Assessor at 508-473-2738 or jberthold@mendonma.gov.

January Activities for Mendon Seniors

The Mendon Senior Center has a number of events scheduled for early January. A Guided Meditation/Hypnosis for Weight Management will be Wednesday, January 8 at 1 p.m. Faith Kennedy will lead this 90-minute program, which will focus on some of the reasons why people crave sweets and other unhealthy foods, and how the cycle can be broken using meditation and hypnosis. Preregister by stopping by the Senior Center or calling 508-478-6175. The fee is $20. Snow date is Wednesday, January 15.

An Elder Law Program will be held on Tuesday, January 14 at 11 a.m. with local Elder Law attorney Paula Nedder. She will discuss the importance of a will, health care proxy, power of attorney and more. Sign up at the Senior Center.

Digital Photography, Intermediate Level, a five-week session, begins on Wednesday, January 22 at 11 a.m. This program for photographers who are comfortable with their cameras explores the use of intermediate camera controls such as metering, exposure/exposure compensation, ISO, aperture and shutter priority. An in-depth look at manual focus and its use, fill flash and flash modes, as well as controlling motion, composition, and many other intermediate and advanced techniques. Registration is required, the fee is $50 and a minimum number of participants is needed to run the program.
Giving Tree to Assist Mendon’s Senior Citizens This Christmas

Thanks to the Mendon Lions, together with community volunteers, Senior Center Director Amy Wilson-Kent, and the support of the community, the needs and wishes of Mendon’s deserving senior citizens will be met this holiday season. As the club notes, “To care for those who cared for us is one of the highest honors.”

The first Mendon Giving Tree is in place at the Rockland Trust at 12 Hastings St. (Rt. 16), through the effort of Branch Manager, Sally Belanger. The tree is decorated with wish tags, gathered from those in need. Tags will also be available to claim on the Mendon Giving Tree Facebook page. Generous givers will take tags and return them, taped to the unwrapped gifts, to the bank by December 18. Volunteers will wrap the gifts and deliver them to the Seniors in need the week before Christmas.

Many of the town’s community elders lack the resources to afford even the most basic household supplies. Some wishes are as simple as paper towels and grocery gift cards, while other may include blankets or a chance to go out to eat. Anyone who would like to help to make a Senior’s Christmas bright by donating funds, items, or volunteering should contact Chairperson Colleen Oncay by emailing mendongivings tree@gmail.com, or by calling 508-266-5298. Donations to Mendon Lions may be directed to PO Box 218, Mendon, to help to make a Senior’s Christmas bright by donating funds, items, or volunteering while other may include blankets or a chance to go out to eat. Anyone who would like to help to make a Senior’s Christmas bright by donating funds, items, or volunteering should contact Chairperson Colleen Oncay by emailing mendongivingtree@gmail.com, or by calling 508-266-5298. Donations to Mendon Lions may be directed to PO Box 218, Mendon, MA 01756. Please note Mendon Giving Tree on the memo line.

A Tradition of Making the Holidays Merry

Mendon Senior Center

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

Monday, December 16
Miscoe Hill Chorus Performance, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17
Van Trip to Cracker Barrel Followed by Lilalette Lights, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 21
Nutcracker Ballet in Bellingham, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, December 31
New Year’s Eve/Live Music, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, January 8
Meditation/Weight, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, January 14
Legal Program, 11 a.m.

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

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

Wednesday
Walking Club, Various Locations, 8:30 a.m., Weather Permitting
Panera Bread, 9 a.m.
Tai Chi, 9 a.m.
ASL Class, 1 p.m.
Recipe Lessons, 2:30 p.m.

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

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

New England Steak & Seafood Restaurant

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LUNCH Wednesday - Friday
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www.nesteakandseafood.com

Blaire House of Milford

HOME CARE SERVICES

If you are looking at starting a rewarding career in senior care, but have little to no experience, we can get you started with our PERSONAL CARE AIDE & HOME HEALTH AIDE TRAINING PROGRAM

We are currently hiring and training homemakers for a career in senior care. Blaire House Home Care’s program will prepare you to take the next step. With our training and assistance, you can climb the ladder in reaching your goals as a Personal Care Aide (PCA) or a Home Health Aide (HHA.)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Erica Hanks, Regional Home Care Director 978.726.0709 or ehanks@egmcare.com
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The area’s #1 Real Estate company and #1 Real Estate team now have the power and backing of a National Real Estate brand behind it. The Lioce Properties Group and Keller Williams Realty have merged in Milford. That means that the areas most knowledgeable and professional Realtors have even more tools and resources to assist their clients.

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Joshua Lioce
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We Take Everything! DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE

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Diabetic Family Fundraiser

MEDWAY—Diabetic Family Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, December 14 at the Medway VFW from 7 to 11 p.m. Come shop, play, enjoy games, eat great food, and support two local families affected by diabetes. Walk ins welcome but prior ticket purchase preferred. To purchase ticket or for information, contact Kristy Lambert at 508-244-8103 or KristyLambert@gmail.com.

Twice Blessed Thrift Shop

HOPEDALE—The Sacred Heart Church of Hopedale Twice Blessed Thrift Shop offers the following specials in December - half off Christmas decor, outerwear, sweaters, jewelry, winter accessories plus shoes and boots. During the first week of the month, a bag of clothing, except for specials, is $7. Open every Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the first and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Holiday Season Blood Drives

MILFORD—The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to be the lifeline for patients in need this holiday season by making an appointment to give blood or platelets. While helping to save lives is likely motivation enough, those who come out to give November 18 to December 18 will also receive a $5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane. Blood may be donated at Milford Regional Medical Center, 14 Prospect St., Milford, on December 12 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and December 18 from 1 to 7:30 p.m. Make an appointment by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Project Warm Blankets

MILFORD—Milford Boy Scout Troop 314 member Roy Benson is collecting twin size blankets and sheets along with towels for Veterans Inc. The 90 bed facility in Worcester works to end the chronic homelessness of veterans, both male and female. Donations of blankets, sheets and towels are being collected in boxes at Milford High School and the Milford Town Library until December 20. Monetary donations are also appreciated and maybe sent to: Project Warm Blankets, 53 Jionzo Rd., Milford, MA 01757. Checks should be made payable to Milford Boy Scout Troop 314.

The Nutcracker Ballet

BELLINGHAM—The Nutcracker will be performed by the Greater Milford Ballet on Saturday, December 21 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, December 22 at 1 p.m. at Bellingham High School for its 39th annual production. Ticket sales for the public begin on December 11 at Charles River Banks in Mendon and Bellingham branches. Tickets are cash only and are $25, $20, and $15 during regular banking hours. To order by phone, please call 508-473-3354.

Villani-Parker Engagement

Linda and Richard Villani of Milford announce the engagement of their son, Christopher Michael, to Weatherly Ann Parker, the daughter of Virginia and George Parker of Dedham. Chris, a graduate of Milford High, earned bachelor’s degrees in Broadcast Journalism and History from Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y. He is a journalist for the legal newswire Law360, as well as an on-air talent at ESPN Radio and a sports reporter for The Town Crier. Weatherly, a graduate of Dana Hall School, earned a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education and Child Studies from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. and a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from American University in Washington, D.C. Chris is a placement counselor at Carney Sandoe & Associates, a teacher placement firm in Boston. The couple, who live in Watertown, will wed next July on the Cape in Brewster.

Chris Villani and Weatherly Ann Parker
Special TM on TIFs Scheduled for January 13

By Kevin Rudden

Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Milford Board of Selectmen voted unanimously on December 2 to support proposed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreements for Rentschler Biopharma, Inc. to expand its existing 27 Maple St. facility and Interactions, LLC to relocate from Franklin to a 31 Maple St. building it plans to renovate and relocate its business into. Selectmen also scheduled a January 13 Special Town Meeting for Town Meeting Members to vote on the two agreements.

A TIF agreement is a tool used by communities as an economic incentive to get businesses to locate or expand in a particular city or town by reducing the amount of property taxes over a given period. For example, Milford granted a TIF agreement in 2015 to Consigli Construction Co., Inc. a TIF agreement in 2015 given have worked. Selectmen Chair William Buckley – who led a "working group" of town officials that negotiated with both Rentschler Biopharma and Interactions during the past several weeks – termed those negotiations as both "cordial and professional," with both sides negotiating in "good faith."

"We want to build a campus," explained Karen Savage, vice president at Rentschler Biopharma who oversees the company's Milford facility. The TIF, she added, would "assist us in offsetting some of the considerable cost of this project."

In voting to support the two proposed TIF agreements, Selectmen William Kingkade noted that "the ones we have given have worked." Selectmen Michael Walsh termed the proposed agreements as "fair for both sides."

Selectmen to petition the state legislature for special legislation to grant an additional All-Alcoholic Beverages liquor license to Rail Trail Flatbread Company for its property at 221-223 Main St.

What’s in the Proposed TIF Agreements?

TIF = Tax Increment Financing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location/Size</th>
<th>Rentschler Biopharma, Inc.</th>
<th>Interactions, LLC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 Maple St.</td>
<td>Lease and renovate vacant 52,700 sq. ft. building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build a 24,000 sq. ft. addition</td>
<td>Build a 24,000 sq. ft. addition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base Assessed Value of Property Without Project</td>
<td>$7,768,400</td>
<td>$3,964,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Property - Tax Exemption</td>
<td>100% (per state law)</td>
<td>100% (agreed to by &quot;working group&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Tax Savings to Company over life of the TIF Agreement</td>
<td>$1,262,398</td>
<td>$528,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated New Revenue to the Town</td>
<td>$917,082</td>
<td>$384,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistent Based Tax</td>
<td>$230,789/year</td>
<td>$117,508/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full tax (including personal property) at the end of the TIF</td>
<td>+$102,000 = $412,000/year (est.)</td>
<td>+$77,000 = $200,000/year (est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Economic Impact</td>
<td>• Retain 85 jobs</td>
<td>• Relocate 200 jobs from Franklin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Create/retain 75 more jobs over next five years</td>
<td>• Create/retain 100 more jobs over next three years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reasonable effort to use Milford vendors for projects</td>
<td>• Reasonable effort to use Milford vendors for projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reasonable effort to hire Milford residents</td>
<td>• Reasonable effort to hire Milford residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Benefit to local economy with expected spending from company and employees</td>
<td>• Benefit to local economy with expected spending from company and employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vacant building will be renovated and occupied</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Milford Board of Selectmen
Selectman Delay License Revocation until January 13

By Kevin Ruddlen
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Milford Board of Selectmen has continued a public hearing on whether to revoke the All-Alcoholic Beverage liquor license held by the owners of the Milford Crossing shopping plaza on Medway Rd (Rt. 109) until January 13 in order to see if the license can be sold to the Rail Trail Flatbread Company for use at its 221-223 Main St. property.

Over the past few months, the board discussed holding hearings to revoke what are called “pocket licenses,” which are liquor licenses that have been issued by the town, but are not actually being used. One of the main reasons cited by selectmen was the need to get Rail Trail Flatbread a liquor license for the restaurant it plans to open in the former Home National Bank/Rockland Trust building.

On December 2, attorney Joseph Antonellis explained how the owners of Milford Crossing came to have two liquor licenses. It acquired the one in question from the former Truffle’s restaurant so as to have a license ready to transfer to the Red Heat Tavern when it opened in the shopping plaza, he explained.

Then, a bankruptcy judge handling the liquidation of the former Bugaboo Creek restaurant chain – which used to have a restaurant at the same location where Red Heat Tavern now exists – gave its Milford license to the plaza owners to satisfy the debt it owed for not paying them rent, Antonellis continued.

RD Management, the plaza’s owners, has held on to the extra license in hopes of getting another restaurant to locate in Milford Crossing, but – to date – that has not happened, Antonellis said.

Both Selectmen William Kingkade and Michael Walsh said they were unhappy about the idea of taking away the former Truffle’s liquor license after RD Management paid $59,000 for it, but both also noted that Rail Trail Flatbread Company needs a license. “We’re trying to bring economic development to the downtown area,” Walsh said.

Town Counsel Charles Boddy suggested an interim solution which he thought would make everyone happy: the board should take no action on revoking the license until January 13, which would give Antonellis’ clients a chance to sell the license to Rail, Trail Flatbread. In return, RD Management would waive its right to appeal the board’s revocation next month.

Antonellis said he needed time to discuss the proposal with his client, at which time selectman continued the hearing until December 4. At that session, selectmen voted to continue the hearing until January 13 after learning that RD Management and Rail Trail Flatbread Company were negotiating the sale/acquisition of the license.

Technical, the liquor license is held by Milford Restaurant Holdings, LLC in care of RD Management, LLC in New York City. In advance of any agreement between RD Management and Rail Trail Flatbread Company, selectmen included an article on the January 13 Special Town Meeting warrant to petition the state legislature to approve another All-Alcoholic Beverages license, specifically for Rail Trail Flatbread.

Recent Actions by Milford Selectmen

By Kevin Ruddlen
Staff Reporter/Columnist

• Following a public hearing – which no one representing the former Mango Tree, Inc. restaurant at 206 East Main St. attended – voted unanimously to revoke its Wine and Malt Beverages with Cordials liquor license. Town Counsel Charles Boddy told selectmen the restaurant is no longer in business, nor longer at that location, and its owner did not respond to the town’s letter asking about continuing to use the liquor license. December 2

• Gave Boddy permission to ask town departments whether they had any interest in using a 1.5-acre parcel at 142 Purchase St. which the town acquired through tax title foreclosure. The next step would be to sell the property, he said. Chairman William Buckley suggested looking at all 10 properties the town owns through tax title foreclosures and selling them off at once. “We should not be owning property that we can’t maintain,” he said. “It’s time to move on these properties.” Selectman Michael Walsh said.

• Now that he has obtained state certification as a Building Commissioner, unanimously appointed Matt Marzotto to that position. He previously held the position on a provisional basis while completing his certification.

• Voted unanimously to recommend that the Personnel Board increase Marzotto’s salary from Level 4, Step 3 ($81,563) to Level 4, Step 6 ($94,811). “People often forget that the Building Commissioner is a public safety position,” Selectman William Kingkade said. (December 2)

• Town Administrator Richard Villani thanked town officials and other volunteers who planted 40 arborvitae trees to shield the Countryside Health Care facility from the town’s leaf and brush dump. Local builder Dominic Afonso donated the trees, Villani said.

• Villani reported that special legislation to get a liquor license for Canvas n Cup at 189 Main St. was passed by the Massachusetts House of Representatives and will now be taken up by the state Senate. (December 2)

• Villani thanked Fire Chief William Touhey and Maintenance Supervisor Carlos Antonellis for making sure all the Main Street holiday decorations were in place for the annual Welcome Santa parade. (December 2)

• Voted unanimously to renew various licenses for 2020 as follows: Automatic Amusement device licenses at eight locations; Boarding House licenses at four locations; Class 1 New Car Dealer licenses at six locations; Class 2 Used Car Dealer licenses at 31 locations; a Class 3 Junk Car Dealer license at one location; Common Victualler licenses at 50 locations; Common Victualler All-Alcoholic licenses at 34 locations; Common Victualler Wine and Malt Beverages Restaurant licenses at two locations; Common Victualler Wine and Malt Beverages with Cordials licenses at three locations; Entertainment licenses at 15 locations; Farmers Brewers license at one location; a Fortune Teller license at one location, Retail Package All-Alcoholic licenses at seven locations; and, Retail Package Wine and Malt Beverages licenses at 11 locations. The voted stipulated that license for any businesses owing the town real estate and/or personal property taxes will not be issued until the taxes are paid. (December 2)

• Voted unanimously to allow The Tradesman, Marchegiano Club, Double Tree Hotel, Pinz, Portuguese Club and South Side Bar & Grill to extend their serving hours on New Year’s Eve. The voted stipulated that the extended hours license for any businesses owing the town real estate and/or personal property taxes will not be approved until the taxes are paid. (December 2)

• Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Claudia Scandone and Vincent Kiezzo from the War Memorial Revitalization Committee. (December 2)

• Approved CraftRoots Brewing’s request to extend its Live Entertainment license to Sundays. (December 2)

• Approved Temple Beth Shalom’s request to hold the annual Menorah lighting at 5 p.m. on Sunday, December 22 – the second night of Hanukkah – at Draper Memorial Park. Judaic Club will be handed out to those attending. The Menorah will be lit each night through the evening of December 30. (December 2)
Milford Town Clerk Awarded Certification

Milford Town Clerk Amy Hennessy Neves has earned the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, Inc., which grants the CMC designation only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state.

“In light of the speed and drastic nature of change these days, lifelong learning is not only desirable, it is necessary for all in local government to keep pace with growing demands and changing needs of the citizens we serve. Your town can take immense pride in Amy’s educational accomplishments and achievement of this milestone,” IIMC President Stephanie Carouthers Kelly said.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks, founded in 1947, has 14,000 members throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries. The mission of this global non-profit corporation is to enhance the education opportunities and professional development of its diverse membership.
School News

**Mendon Upton Kindergarten Registration**

H.P. Clough School in Mendon and Memorial School in Upton will hold informational evening meetings for parents of students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2020. The kindergarten program will be discussed at the informational meetings, there will be time for questions and answers, and registration packets will be available. Anyone unable to attend the meeting, should stop into the school office to pick up a registration packet and make an appointment to come in and register your child. Packets will be ready in the office on January 2.

In Mendon, the informational evening will be held on Wednesday, January 15, in the Clough cafeteria at 6 p.m. (snow date TBD). In Upton, the informational evening will be on Thursday, January 16 in the Memorial cafeteria at 6 p.m. (snow date TBD). Kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year is by appointment. Registration at Clough can be on February 5 and at Memorial on February 11 and 12. Incoming kindergarten students be five years old on or before August 31, 2020. Registration is for parents only students do not need to attend. Proof of residence, original birth certificate, and immunization records are required at registration.

Mendon-Upton Regional School District also offers a Spanish Immersion (SI) Program that begins in Kindergarten. An SI Information Night will be held on Wednesday, January 22 at 6 p.m. in the Memorial School Cafeteria. Childcare will be available. Please RSVP to ohendricks@mursd.org or ograu@mursd.org for childcare.

For information, contact the appropriate school office: H.P. Clough School, 10 North Ave, Mendon, 508-634-1580 and Memorial School, 69 Main St., 508-529-1020.

**Mendon Upton PreK Open House**

The registration dates for the Mendon – Upton PreK for the 2020-2021 school year start January 24, and end on February 7, at 3 p.m. To register, children must be three or four years old on or before August 31, 2020 and be toilet trained. Parents must have the right to vote. Parents must be able to provide their own transportation and the children must be residents of Mendon or Upton. All classes are staffed with Master Level Teachers and two teaching assistants. Parents and children are invited to the Open House on January 24 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Clough Pre-K (Mendon residents) and from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Memorial Pre-K (Upton residents). All classes are integrated, meaning they include both children with and without disabilities.

In the event that there are more students registered than available slots, a lottery will be drawn on February 7. For more information, email Jackie Wheelock, Early Childhood Coordinator at jwheelock@mursd.org.

**Mendon Upton Music Boosters Bookfair**

The Mendon Upton Music Boosters will be hosting its 6th annual Barnes and Noble Bookfair fundraiser on Friday, December 13, from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Barnes and Noble, Hollins. The weekend will feature music performances by the Mendon Hill Middle School and Nipmuc Regional High School Jazz and chorale ensembles, showcasing artwork from the elementary and middle school students plus holiday gift wrapping, Santa will be in the store on Friday, December 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. for time and activities. Come out and support the music department and take care of some holiday shopping at the same time. The Bookfair ID is 12560322. Anyone who can't attend the bookfair in person can shop on line at BN.com/bookfairs from December 13 through 19 and use the same bookfair ID at checkout.
Helping Milford High Students Achieve in Math and College

By Melissa Orff

Staff Reporter/Columnist

Milford High School’s Principal Joshua Otlin gives an update to the School Committee on gains in math MCAS scores and the progress of the Early College Program during their December 5 meeting.

Otlin thanked the Committee and the Milford community for approving an Early College Program during their December 5 meeting. The school is currently offering French as an early college course but hopes to expand the program to other offerings soon.

Thanks to a grant received last year, the school is also looking to offer an early college track to an entire cohort of students, starting with the Class of 2024, who will have the opportunity to take early college courses while still in high school as well as career exploration counseling.

“For our students who are economically disadvantaged, the cost of college is an enormous barrier,” said Otlin. “This could cut the cost of an associate degree basically in half.”

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Happy Holidays from the Town Crier

Nipmuc Hall of Fame Class to Be Unveiled in January

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The inaugural class to be inducted into the Nipmuc Regional High School Hall of Fame will be revealed to the public in early January, according to Athletic Director Chris Schmidt. Schmidt, capping off an 18-month process that has engaged the school community and fans of the program.

"It's been fantastic," Schmidt said. "We closed up nominations on Dec. 1 and we had 57 nominees, which far exceeded anything we ever thought," Schmidt said. "My passion is sports and athletics, any way I can contribute to the athletic program as a whole is great," Hayfield said. "For the soccer program, I just make sure the things that are needed are things we get. If that requires additional fundraising or networking or helping out with parents, about as current as are eligible," Schmidt said. "We have a wide swath with regards to that and both genders were well represented." The selection committee is set to meet before the holidays to elect the class. Schmidt will then reach out to those selected to be enshrined and, once they accept, the class will be unveiled.

For Schmidt, the Hall of Fame is five years in the making and was part of his plan when he first took the helm of the department. The project has allowed him to become closely connected to the history of the program he now leads.

"Over the past 18 months, the names I have always heard, sort of the lore of Nipmuc sports, if you will, some of those people have come to committee meetings because they heard about it and are interested," Schmidt said. "I don't know how you can put into words what he has meant to the program," Archibald said. "He came in and started as a role player as a sophomore and expanded into a two-way player. This year, the leadership role he brought to the team was more of a surprise than his physical abilities." Nipmuc, slowed by injuries all season, was able to welcome back Nate Gould on a limited basis. He caught the first two completed passes of the game for the Warriors, but the Beavers quickly adjusted and focused on him heavily, he said. "I've had the luxury of the lone Nipmuc touchdown with a 10-yard run to pay dirt in the first quarter. BVT finished the season 9-2 overall, including an appearance in the Central Mass. title game. The loss dropped Nipmuc to 3-8, but with a number of close calls throughout the season in which the Warriors hung in with strong opponents and in the face of numerous injuries. "We were very happy that the kids never quit, that was a big thing for us once we realized we were probably not going to make the playoffs," Tupper said. "It was a good season overall and I can't say enough about our kids."
Linda Morcone Remembered for Dedication To Post 59

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Linda Morcone was a devoted and loving mother to her three sons Christopher, Stephen, and Michael. But, as State Rep. Brian Murray, D Milford, put it when he spoke at her funeral earlier this month, her boys had some “serious competition.”

“There was something else that she loved almost as much as her family: the Milford Legion Baseball Club,” Murray told those gathered at Sacred Heart.

Morcone, who passed away the day after Thanksgiving, was a fixture at Fino Field. She and her husband Chris lead the board of directors for years and dedicated countless hours throughout the year to making sure Post 59’s players had everything they needed to be successful and represent the community.

“She’s heart,” Murray said, “was with the players.”

“She cared for each of those boys as if they were her own,” he said. “Over the years, there must have been hundreds. Didn’t matter. Each of them was important to Linda.”

That trait is something Murray saw first-hand through his son Jack, a four-year member of the Post 59 team. “It’s something Steve DiVitto experienced as well as a player before he became Milford’s manager.

“She was a fighter, she was courageous,” DiVitto said. “She beat cancer a couple of times and she never gave up and never quit, that’s the type of woman she was.”

Those who knew Linda Morcone also took note of the way she cared for her husband, Chris, as he experienced his own health challenges in recent years.

“She wants what’s best for those around her,” DiVitto said. “It’s a real tough loss, she has been the glue for a long time.”

“In my time, she and Chris were the ones who had all of the institutional knowledge and she was a cornerstone,” added Milford Legion President Steve Gulino. “She was Chris’ right hand, his left hand, she held everything together for him. She is a tough person to replace.”

A graduate of MHS in the class of 1966, Morcone was an avid sports fan. She frequently attended Holy Cross football and basketball games in addition to her time spent at Fino with the legion team. Morcone worked at Keefe Tech, where she taught students in the special education program how to cook and serve food.

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Health Challenges Can’t Stop Milford’s Kidman

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Julia Kidman has more heart than most athletes, even if hers does not function quite like it should. The Milford High School senior was born with a heart defect that required open heart surgery in June; but she was determined to make it back for the Scarlet Hawks’ field hockey season. In less than three months, Kidman was back on the field.

“I think my teammates were a little surprised that I came back so fast,” she said. “I was ready to run, I was trying to make up for the time I lost and they were shocked, but they were happy I was back.”

In addition to her heart defect, Kidman has a rare lung disease that has left her with only one functioning lung. She also has a number of potentially life-threatening food allergies. But the MHS student doesn’t let it keep her from doing what she wants to do, mainly because her parents won’t allow it.

“She has been medically complex her entire life, so there is an ongoing normal concern, but we don’t let her use these things as an excuse,” said her father, Jeff. “She has to try hard and play and give it her all. Sometimes she can’t give as much as everybody else, but that’s OK.”

Kidman returned to the varsity field hockey team in time to play in the first game of the regular season. She scored a couple of goals for the Scarlet Hawks and added some assists as well. The emotional lift she provides for her teammates is even more significant.

“The season would not have felt the same without Julia, she contributes so much more to the team than what her stats show,” said MHS head coach Katie Blackburn. “She is a spark for us and the girls are really inspired by her.”

Kidman is an inspiration for her parents as well. Her father Jeff said “it’s pretty awesome” to see how his daughter has dealt with the hand she’s been dealt.

“She has basically taken on the attitude that (Julia’s mom) Laura and I talked about when she was little,” Jeff said. “This was not going to be something that went away after one surgery, this is going to be our new normal. She has taken that on and not let it stop her.”

“If she is going to do it, he added, “she is going to do it well.”

June’s surgery left Kidman with a new artificial heart valve which will eventually have to be replaced, but hopefully not for another 20 years. The Milford senior is focusing on lacrosse in the spring, excited to see what she can accomplish with a full offseason. She’s also weighing which college to attend, but said she wants to pursue studies in the health sciences field.

“I think it’s because I have been surrounded by it my whole life,” Kidman said. “I have viewed, first hand, how it affects someone’s life, and I want to be able to help somebody else.”

Health challenges have not MHS senior Julia Kidman, who lives her life to the fullest playing field hockey just three months after having open heart surgery. Contributed photo
The 10 Biggest Local Sports Stories of 2019

2019 was a year to remember for numerous local athletes and teams, providing fans and the local communities something to cheer for and rally around. As has been a holiday tradition for the Town Crier in the past, here we present ten of the biggest local sports stories for the past year.

Happy Holidays!

Legion Tourney Back At Fino: For the second time in three years, Milford hosted the American Legion state tournament. The tourney drew rave reviews from fans and the team, which included strong contingents from Blackstone Valley Tech and Nipmuc, finished in the top four.

MHS Cheer to Nationals: A powerhouse in recent years, the Milford High cheerleading team again put together a strong campaign, capturing the South Sectional title and earning a third-place finish at states. The Scarlet Hawks will compete in the national competition next March in Orlando.

MHS Relay Qualifies for Nationals: The quartet of sophomores Kerry O’Connor and Emma Lawrence, freshman Sarah Flanagan and junior Bella Gonzalez competed in the emerging elite division of the New Balance National Track & Field meet in North Carolina last spring.

BVT Boys Soccer Back in District Final: Milford’s Track Star Wins Title: Kerry O’Connor earned a spot at the New England State Track & Field meet, she captured the championship in the 200 and finished third in the long jump with a school record leap of 18-feet, 4.75 inches.

 Calls to he Hall: As Milford inducted a new Hall of Fame class, recognizing several athletes who won individual state titles, Nipmuc announced it will reveal its first Hall of Fame class in early 2020.

BVT Boys Soccer Back in District Final: The Blackstone Valley Tech boys’ soccer team advanced to the state semifinals, an impressive campaign that saw the Beavers capture the Division 2 South title and advance to the second state final in program history.

Milford Native Selected in NHL Draft: The Minnesota Wild landed a player one observed observer called “a steal” when they selected Milford native Matt Boldy with the number 12 overall pick in the National Hockey League draft.

Nipmuc Boys Soccer Back in District Final: Nipmuc returned to the district final for the seventh year year in a row, continuing a run of dominance in Central Mass.

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The Passing of Two Iconic Coaches: Longtime Nipmuc coach and athletic director Bill Leaver and Hall of Fame Milford volleyball coach Linda Zacchilli both passed away in 2019, leaving legacies of success in competition and thousands of lives impacted by their leadership.

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By Melissa Orff
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The memory of a young Milford boy best known for his kindness and generosity will live on at Stacy Middle School thanks to the school community and a local Eagle Scout. A granite bench now sits in front of Stacy engraved with the words “In Memory of Aaron Zenus,” a 12-year-old who passed away in January 2019 from flu-related complications. Aaron was a Stacy student, and on November 22, friends, teachers, classmates and his family gathered for a memorial ceremony to honor the young boy who was a friend to all. “For all of you who didn’t know Aaron, he was short,” said classmate and friend Joey Newman during the memorial. “But in that small body was a big heart.” Joey was one of a number of people who spoke about Aaron during the ceremony, moving many to tears as they remembered the young boy whose life was cut way too short. Administrators, teachers, and classmates shared poems and fond memories of the student who created such a positive impact on the school community. Aaron’s parents Joe and Danielle, and brother Jaxon, were also presented with a memorial book created by the staff. Danielle thanked the community, saying how grateful they have been for the support they have received from the community during the past year. The bench began as an idea from Aaron’s teacher Tricia Ridolfi, who wanted to have a lasting memorial of her student. After working with a group of students at the school and Aaron’s parents on the concept, Ridolfi connected with Milford resident Justin Braza, a senior at Blackstone Valley Regional Technical High School (BVT) who was deciding on an Eagle Scout project. Justin spent two months of weekends coordinating the project which started with preparing the area to support a structure, garnering donations of materials and labor, and coordinating the placement of the bench in its permanent home at Stacy. “It gave me a sense of pride that this would give Aaron’s family a little comfort in the passing of their son,” Justin said in an interview with The Crier after the memorial ceremony. Justin said that although he never had the chance to know Aaron, he felt a special connection with him nonetheless.

“I wasn’t too different then Aaron was in middle school, he reminded me a lot of myself,” he said.

The bench – which is also engraved with the Dr. Seuss quote “Remember me and smile, for it’s better to forget than to remember me and cry” – now sits as a now sits as a reminder of Aaron and the legacy he has left behind.

“We know Aaron is looking down on us smiling,” said Danielle to the students. “When you feel like you need a friend, come sit [on the new bench], Aaron will be here to listen, always.”

A memorial bench was unveiled at Stacy Middle School on November 22 in honor of Aaron Zenus, a Stacy student who passed away in January 2019. Shown are family and close friends sitting and standing by the bench. Melissa Orff photo

Justin Braza (left), a Life Scout in Milford’s Troop 2 Boy Scouts, is finishing his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project by installing a granite bench and patio area in memory of Aaron Zenus at the entrance to Stacy Middle School. Zenus, a 12-year-old student at Stacy, passed away earlier from flu complications. One of Braza’s many Scout and adult helpers on the project is Jake Mandile (right) from Troop 2.

Kevin Ruddin photo

Melissa Orff photo

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