Celebrating Our Graduates

Members of the Valley Tech Class of 2020 received their senior t-shirts and had a rolling parade on May 15. Shown here, l-r are BVT Senior Class Advisors Jessica MacKenzie and Jennifer Garrison plus Assistant Principal Matthew Unquhart passing out the senior t-shirts. Turn to page 27 for more photos. BVT photo

Driving under the arched ladder raised by the Fire Department bearing the U.S. flag held aloft in the breeze, members of the Milford High School Class of 2020 began their festive rolling parade on the afternoon of Sunday, May 31. The parade started at the school campus on West Fountain St. and made its way through town past family, friends, former teachers and staff members. Turn to page 28 for more photos. Jim Calarese photo

The Town Crier will be celebrating our local graduates in the next two issues. In this paper, we are celebrating local students who graduated from college and the Milford students that graduated from Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School. We are also highlighting some senior events that took place in May for members of the Class of 2020 who graduated from Milford High School. We hope you will enjoy our extended graduation coverage and join us in wishing congratulations to all the 2020 graduates.

Annual Town Election on Tuesday

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Milford’s delayed Annual Town Election will take place from 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, with all precincts voting at the Milford High School gymnasium. There are four contested races and a ballot question being decided.

The delay from the April 7 election date, change in voting hours and having one central voting location are all due to the COVID-19 coronavirus public health emergency.

The four contested are:

- Selectmen: Joshua Lioce and Thomas O’Loughlin are running for the open three-year seat.
- School Committee: Incumbent Jennifer Parson, Michael Aghajanian, Brendan Rickert and Frederick Steinmann are competing for the two available three-year seats.
- Highway Surveyor: Incumbent Scott Cristofulli and Jamie Luchini are running for the three-year seat.
- Board of Library Trustees: Incumbent Edward Bertorelli, David Probert, Ann Ragosta, Alfred Spittler and Scott Vecchiolla are running for the two available three-year seats.

The ballot question is:

Not Understanding, But Standing Against Inequality

Hundreds of marchers took to the streets of Milford, the afternoon of Sunday, June 7, to protest the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25 while in police custody, to take a stand against inequality and to state that Black Lives Matter. The peaceful gathering was monitored by police and followed a proscribed route from Fino Field to the Town Park. Town Crier reporter, Scott Calzoliao was there to document the Milford event with photos.

Event organizer and activist, Kevin Wheeler, holding the megaphone, leads protesters through Milford.

Protesters lay on the ground for eight-minutes and 46-seconds in memory of George Floyd, who died Minneapolis when Police Officer Derek Chauvin knelt on the neck of the handcuffed man for that amount of time.

Town Election p 7

NO POLITICS, JUST LEADERSHIP!

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND CONSIDER VOTING EARLY BY MAIL. OTHERWISE I’LL SEE YOU AT THE VOTING POLLS ON JUNE 16TH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

TO CONTACT ME OR OUR CAMPAIGN: Facebook: Tom O’Loughlin Selectman 2020. Call (508) 773-6331 or E-Mail at tjo@hornlaw.org. Paid for by the Committee to Elect Tom O’Loughlin.
RMV Implementing Further Extensions

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) announced further extensions to the renewal timelines for expiring motor vehicle inspection stickers, passenger plate registrations, professional credentials, and driver’s licenses and learner’s permits, including Commercial Driver’s Licenses and Commercial Learner’s Permits (CDLs / CLPs), specifically, to those expiring in June, July and August. These extensions help to reduce the need for customers to physically visit an RMV Service Center or one of its business partners’ facilities, allowing for ‘social-distancing’ by decreasing non-essential travel and customer volume. Additionally, this allows the RMV to ensure ‘social-distancing’ guidelines are met as demand for in-person service and renewals resume during the Commonwealth’s reopening phases.

For the most up-to-date information on RMV extensions and other service and COVID-19 response measures, visit Mass.gov/info-details/rmv-covid-19-information.

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Steps we have taken due to Covid-19

1. Contactless surveys – download our app, schedule a virtual survey or call our office for options.
2. All trucks & equipment are disinfected before & after each move.
3. All crews follow CDC personal hygiene recommendations.

The Gallo Difference

- Uniformed and Professionally Trained Movers
- Background Checks on All Crews
- Free No Obligation Estimates
- Guaranteed, Flat Rate & Stress Free Pricing

Move with Confidence. Move with Trust. Move with Gallo.

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Milford COVID-19 Cases Tick Up Slightly in June 3 Report

By Chry Villani
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Milford stood at 617 in the first town-by-town report released by the Department of Public Health for the month of June. The new number, reported on June 3, marks an increase of only eight new cases relative to the previous week but still puts the town ahead of its neighbors both in the raw number of cases and the relative frequency of infection.

Eversince, April 15, Massachusetts has published the number of cases per town in the Commonwealth each Wednesday afternoon. The data is cumulative from January 2020 onward.

Milford has shown a cumulative infection rate of 2106 cases per 100,000 residents over the course of the pandemic. The rate of new cases reported in the area has flattened significantly as the crisis has shown signs of slowing throughout the state, and businesses have begun to reopen.

In the June 3 report, Hopedale, Mendon, Upton and Holliston reported no new cases over the previous week. Hopkinton and Medway reported four new cases each and Bellingham reported five new COVID-19 cases.

Through Monday, Massachusetts had reported just over 103,000 cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus. The death toll stood at 7,553.

Despite the grim numbers, including 38 deaths reported statewide on Monday, June 8, several key indicators being closely monitored by public health officials continued to trend in a positive direction. The COVID-19 positive test rate dipped below 5 percent and the state’s testing capacity and the smaller number of patients hospitalized due to the virus were all showing signs of moving in the right direction, according to Massachusetts’ data.

The seven-day weighted average of the percentage of COVID-19 tests to come back positive has decreased 83 percent since April 15. The three-day average of COVID-19 deaths, the number of hospitals in the state using surge capacity and the three-day average of COVID-19 patients being hospitalized have also shown steep declines from their mid-April peaks.

Christin’s Gallery
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SUMMER ART CAMPS FOR KIDS

grades 1-4
$250 per kid
Mon-Fri
9am-2pm
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKING GO ONLINE

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Milford Town Crier
JUNE 12, 2020
Updates on Milford Regional Urgent Care and Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine Locations

As Milford Regional Medical Center begins the slow transition under the state’s reopening guidelines, adjustments have been made to services provided at the Milford Regional in the Blackstone Valley urgent care location and limited services have resumed at all Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine sites. Effective June 1, Milford Regional in The Blackstone Valley, 100 Commerce Way – Northbridge, is again an urgent care site, seeing patients for all health issues not related to COVID-19. The center is open Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The respiratory clinic at 200 Commerce Way – the building in the back previously used as a pediatric office – has closed. All patients exhibiting respiratory symptoms – as fever, cough, mild shortness of breath, wheezing, sore throat, muscle aches, or loss of taste or smell – will be directed to the Hopkinton Urgent Care Center.

For reference, below is a list of our other urgent care sites and services offered at those locations. All are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Milford Regional Urgent Care, 127-129 South Main St., Milford - This location is an urgent care facility seeing patients for all health issues not related to COVID-19.
- Milford Regional Urgent Care, 1280 West Central St. (Rte. 140), Franklin - This location is an urgent care facility seeing patients for all health issues not related to COVID-19.

Also effective June 1, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine sites in Franklin, Northbridge and Milford are open for limited hours under Phase 1 guidelines, which includes emergency or urgent visits that would lead to high risk or significant worsening of a patient's condition if deferred. Please contact the site directly to determine if you may meet the criteria or if a Tealehealth visit may be possible.

For more detailed information on current Milford Regional services, visit MilfordRegional.org.
Join a winning team and work for a company that didn’t lay off any staff during the recent health crisis, paid all of their employees, plus paid their benefits whether they worked or not. We are committed to our employees and customers’ safety throughout this difficult time. Imperial Cars has been dedicated to our communities for over 30 years and our business continues to grow.

CONTACT US TODAY FOR A CHALLENGING AND MEANINGFUL CAREER

WE ARE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- **AUTO SALES AND LEASING ASSOCIATES**
  For all of our brands.

- **AUTO SERVICE TECHNICIANS**
  Certified flat rate techs, hourly techs, and lube techs.

- **SERVICE WRITERS**
  For all of our brands.

- **FINANCE MANAGERS**

- **SALES MANAGERS**

- **AUTO RECONDITIONERS/DETAILERS**
  For all of our brands.

- **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER**
  Join our internet team and book customer sales appointments using our proven phone, email, and texting tools.

- **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST**
  Assist executive in all aspects of new opportunities by data gathering and analysis, report generation, office management, as well as marketing and digital materials.

- **LOT ATTENDANTS**
  Keep our lots and showrooms pristine. Take photos/videos of our cars to display on our websites and marketing outlets.

- **OFFICE STAFF**
  Office manager, title clerks, cashier/receptionist, registration clerks.

- **RESTAURANT/DINER MANAGER**

- **CDL CERTIFIED TRUCK DRIVERS**

- **LICENSED HYDRAULICS OPERATORS**

- **MAINTENANCE FACILITIES DIRECTOR**

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Full and part-time positions available. Great pay with tremendous growth potential. Outstanding benefits with 401k, medical, dental and paid vacations.

CALL OUR H.R. TEAM AT 508-473-2800 TO APPLY OR SEND EMAIL TO: ELAINEB@IMPERIALCARS.COM
Lions Make a Difference

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." These simple words spoken by Helen Keller exemplify Lions across Massachusetts. This saying was evident just recently when four Lions Clubs, from across two Districts and their District Governors got together to make a difference at Milford Regional Medical Center (MRMC). The group addressed a need which no single club could have handled on their own.

In late April, several Lions Clubs in the MetroWest area were contacted by a nurse at MRMC. There was a need for the facility to provide opportunities for those who were hospitalized during this challenging time. Patients have been unable to see their loved ones due to the current restrictions placed on visitors and the facility had a shortage of tablets to aid in communicating via technology. Rather than wait for individual clubs to fund units on their own, four club Presidents from the Milford, Mendon, Medway, and Holliston Lions Clubs banded together and conducted a conference call to see what they could do. Thanks to their efforts, and the additional donations of the District Governors from their respective Districts, the clubs were able to purchase the fund of eight Samsung tablets. Lion Steve Apesos from the Holliston Lions Club picked up the tablets over the course of a few days at Best Buy in Milford. The store was extremely helpful in providing creative ways to overcome the “two tablet maximum” restrictions in their ordering system. Thanks to Apesos, each tablet was set up so that users could easily access Zoom and Facebook Messenger to communicate with their loved ones and family members. He also designed a great welcoming screen featuring the Lions logo.

The real heroes of this story are the dedicated healthcare workers who helped make this possible and will be using these tablets to assist patients keep in contact with their loved ones. They are MRMC staff members and RNs: Chris Lague, Cheryl Hamel, Rosemary Cerqueira and John Beaton. The Lions of Districts 33K and District 33A, as well as the Lions of Massachusetts wish to extend their thanks to the Lions who helped.

Amid the difficulties of the economic shutdown and the social distancing strategies designed to decrease the infection rate of COVID-19, the Milford Lions are still doing their best to serve. “We Serve” is the Lions motto and The Milford Lion’s Club has continued to make donations even though their fundraising efforts have been placed on hold. Recently the club donated over $600 worth of groceries to the Daily Bread Food Pantry in Milford.

In May, the Milford Lions coordinated with the Stop and Shop store in Milford to provide 4,000 bags to the Tri-Valley Meals on Wheels program. The Milford Lions and Meals on Wheels thank the Milford Stop and Shop store for their generosity, and extend heartfelt gratitude to the store’s management and employees.

The need for these bags is paramount to the Meals on Wheels program’s mission to deliver healthy meals to at-risk individuals, especially during this difficult time.

The Milford Lions Club thank the Milford Stop and Shop employees and management, plus the Tri-Valley Meals on Wheels and Daily Bread Food Pantry volunteers for all that they are doing to support the Milford community during the harsh realities of dealing with a pandemic. Thanks for being good neighbors.

Small Businesses
Part of the Community

Small businesses are here to help. They know what is happening in our neighborhoods and our towns. Smaller and more flexible they can respond more quickly to your needs.

Support your local, small businesses, they are ready to help you.
Believing in Tomorrow

My husband and I just finished putting in our vegetable garden last week. The task, which can be trying because we have to clear the beds, prepare the soil and make repairs, is always a very satisfying accomplishment. Not only is it a job done, it is an act of hope.

As I plant each seed, I think, optimistically of the beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and more that we will harvest this summer. I relish the thoughts of the meals we will prepare and the produce we will have for the winter.

Realistically, as a seasoned gardener, I know that weather, insects, weeds and vermin will all have a say in the abundance of our harvest. But for now all good. The soil is enriched and free of weeds. The seeds are safely in their beds. The rows are straight and beginning to grow with new growth. The garden is a picture of pastoral beauty.

Like so many spring events – graduations, weddings, new babies, both human and animal, blossoming plants – it promised a benevolent future filled with abundance, achievement and blessings.

Those feelings of hope are even more important this year as we face over 107,000 deaths from COVID-19 in the United States and over 6,900 in Massachusetts. And for those who have not been devastated by death, life has changed. Jobs have been lost, businesses endangered, wages reduced, events delayed, isolation endured and the country torn apart through inequities and violence.

So while we must acknowledge all that is happening around us, it is also good to have hope. To delight in the potential of delayed or different weddings and graduations, to rejoice in the arrival of babies and the beauty of spring day, and, yes, to have hope. It would not be a pleasant experience and – depending on whatever medical conditions you have – could lead to your death.

No, this is not an anti-police diatribe. Quite, frankly there’s been enough of that lately. Just as all Catholic priests are not pedophiles, all police officers are not bigots.

I’ve known quite a few police officers in my career as a reporter. Almost every one of them is a decent human being doing a job that I wouldn’t want to do. All of them did or their jobs to help people.

Unfortunately, there are some –usually in larger cities – who spoilt that image. That is not all police officers. All police officers are not bigots.

I’d like to think we have. I’d like to think we are judging people by the content of their character, not their skin color, ethnicity, religion, etc. It’s that simple. If all lives didn’t matter, why would we be going through such extremes such as closing businesses and wearing masks to prevent the COVID-19 coronavirus from spreading?

It’s fairly clear that all the efforts Milford officials made this spring – especially a strong multi-lingual education program – helped to not just “flatten the curve” here but drive it down. There were only eight new cases in the first week of June, down from 202 in the last week in April.

Despite all those efforts, 47 Milford residents passed away this year from the COVID-19 virus. To their families and friends, their lives mattered.

I grew up in turbulent times in America. My childhood included the assassination of a president, a civil rights leader and the president-elect. I went to high school in Newark, just a few short blocks away from where rioting took place only a year earlier. I watched impeachment trials and the resignation of a president while in COVID-19 virus. To their families and friends, their lives mattered.

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Question: Benefits for Surviving Spouses of Town Employees?

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The single ballot question Milford voters will consider on Tuesday asks: "Shall the Town accept the provisions of Section 9D ½ of Chapter 32B of the General Laws by which the Town would, in addition to the payment of fifty percent of premium costs payable by the surviving spouse of an employee or retired employee for group general or blanket hospital, surgical, medical and other health insurance, pay an additional or subsidiary rate to a surviving spouse?"

When a current or retired town employee passes away, their spouse is eligible to continue to stay on the employee’s medical insurance plan, explained Peter Filosa, chairman of the town’s Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC). However, the surviving spouse would have to pay 100 percent of the plan costs; not the partial share that their deceased spouse was paying, he said.

Over the past few decades, Filosa said, there have been only two town employees who passed away after retiring, so most of the people affected by the ballot questions are spouses of retired town employees.

The IAC voted in the fall of 2018 to request that the Board of Selectmen put the question on the ballot, according to Benefits Coordinator Kelly Capece. She surveyed 26 area towns and found that 85 percent of them paid at least 50 percent of the surviving spouses’ health insurance costs, with Milford paying nothing.

Milford’s annual cost to fund the insurance for the surviving spouses will be about $30,000, Capece told selectmen in February 2020. The board then voted to place the question on the 2020 Annual Town Election ballot.

A “Yes” vote on the ballot question means the town will contribute the same percentage toward a surviving spouse’s health insurance as was paid prior to the death of the town employee or retiree. A “No” means there will be no changes to the current policy in which the surviving spouse of a town employee or retiree pays 100 percent of health insurance premiums.

Rockland Trust Offers “Reading Makes Cent$” For Summer Readers

Join Rockland Trust for a summer of saving and reading with “Reading Makes Cent$” savings program. Rockland Trust believes in strengthening the communities in which they work and live – in fact, this is one of their corporate promises. They know that our homes have become classrooms, libraries, and clubs for our children and they realize that reading plays a major role in the education of children.

Reading Makes Cent$ is a bank-wide summer program that encourages children to read during the summer and teaches the value of saving money in a savings account. In this time of COVID-19 when libraries cannot have their usual summer reading programs, this will encourage students to read this summer.

The program is for students entering grades 1 through 8 throughout eastern Massachusetts, Worcester County, Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket. Students can earn $2.50 for a Rockland Trust savings account for each book they read and track in the Rockland Trust Summer Reading Journal; up to 10 books. The program runs from June 1 to August 31, 2020. Accounts will not be credited until July 20, 2020. If you do not already have a Rockland Trust Savings Makes Cent$ account, you will need to open an account. Please visit your local branch starting July 20, 2020 to open a Savings Makes Cent$ account.

For official rules, visit Rockland Trust Reading Makes Cent$ program.

Stop by your local branch drive-up or Rockland Trust Reading Makes Cent$ to download a copy of the Reading Makes Cent$ Summer Reading Journal!

Bean Stacks

The Milford Town Library Children’s Department will soon begin an online reading program called Bean Stacks. Look for more information about this program in the library columns in the Milford Town Crier and the Milford Daily News along with the Milford Town Library Facebook page and MilfordTownLibrary.org.

Happy Summer

The staff of the Milford Town Library urges everyone to stay safe and be well, and have a Happy Summer.

Love your local shops!

Support them through this crisis. Phone and online orders, and buying gift cards are some ideas to keep them going.

MILFORD TOWN LIBRARY
80 Spruce St., Milford, 508-473-2145
Main thru Fri 9 a.m-9 p.m Sat 9-5
www.milftownlibrary.org

Submitted by Mary Frances Best
Milford Town Library

Curbside Pickup

The Milford Town Library is still closed to the public but Curbside Pickup of library materials began June 1. System-wide holds (or Inter-library loan) is still suspended. Availability is limited to items in our collection.

How Curbside Pickup works:

• Patron library card must be current and in good standing to use Curbside Pickup.

• Visit MilfordTownLibrary.org and click on the Library Account Login icon to search our online catalog, limiting the search to Milford, to find items you want.

• A limit of 20 holds may be picked up at a time, with only one pickup per day allowed.

• Patron may call the library to have items placed on hold; limit five per day. Librarians are available to assist you Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• We are happy to select books, DVDs, etc., for you based on interest and availability.

• Feel free to inquire about items that are in our collection but currently unavailable. If the item is in Milford, we can try to retrieve it.

• Library staff will collect your items, bag them up and call to schedule an appointment for pickup.

• Curbside Pickup times are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

• Patrons must have received a call with an appointment time to pick up their items before coming to the library.

• When you arrive at the library, please call 508-473-2145, ext. 0 to let staff know you are here and the make and color of your car.

• Please have your trunk or hatch open before staff approach your car or you may have your bag of items left near your car.

• If you have items to return, please put them in the outside book drop. All fines are suspended until further notice.

The Milford Town Library is happy to be able to serve patrons again, if only in a limited capacity.

Pearls by MacMed Spa, Salon & Medical

Thanks, Dad! Take Some Time for Relief and Relaxation

Massage therapy is a lot more than one might imagine. It’s a form of meditation. The 90-minute massage offers warm relaxation in a calm environment where knotted muscles get total attention. Mac Med offers you the choice of a full 60, 90 or 120 minute “on the table” massage session. Guests may request, a quiet massage (no talking please!), use of heat or no heat and your choice of a female or male therapist.

Would you be a different person without pain? The CureWave Diode Laser offers beneficial treatment to relieve and repair inflammation; alleviate acute and long-standing pain, including sciatica, plantar fasciitis, sinus congestion and more. This procedure also speeds tissue repair. Patients find this therapy comfortable and soothing and report an increased range of motion and better sleep. Immediate relief is typically felt in the first procedure. You don’t even think about taking pharmaceuticals, because you feel so much better.

Love your local shops! Support them through this crisis. Phone and online orders, and buying gift cards are some ideas to keep them going.

Rockland Trust Offers “Reading Makes Cent$” For Summer Readers

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Happy Summer

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**Latest Updates from Monday Night COVID-19 Briefings**

**By Kevin Rudden  
Staff Reporter/Columnist**

The web-conference briefings are available on Milford TV’s channels (Comcast Channel 8 and Verizon Channel 38) and its website (milfordrivnet).

Following are updates from the May 18 and June 1 briefings. Due to the Memorial Day holiday, no meeting was held on May 22.

- The Fire Department ordered 4,000 N95 masks, with delivery due in late summer. “We’re going to plan for the future,” Nelson said. With that size order, the price was less than $1 per mask; he said. (May 18)
- Milford Regional Medical Center is still making its own gowns, but also received 2,000 ponchos for use as gowns. (May 18)
- The Fire Department applied for a $3,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to purchase gowns. (May 18)
- Amazon donated a “somewhat sizeable” amount of personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Police Department. (May 18)

**Town Hall May Re-open on June 22**

**By Kevin Rudden  
Staff Reporter/Columnist**

“Town officials are working toward having Town Hall re-open to the public on June 22,” Town Administrator Richard Villani told selectmen on June 1. However, things will be different, he added.

To follow Governor Charlie Baker’s guidelines, only 25 percent of the Town Hall can be occupied – which is less than the number of employees who usually work in the building. “We will have, unfortunately, capacity limitations,” Villani said.

The public entrance will be on the Court St. side of the building, where visitors and employees alike will have to sign in for their appointments. Once inside, social distancing will be maintained by Plexiglas barriers and limited one-on-one contact with people, Villani explained. A strict cleaning policy for the building will be in force, he added.

People should continue using the “drop box” on the Court St. side of the building to deliver forms or payments and they should schedule appointments with town employees if meetings are necessary, Villani added.

The current schedule is to spend the week of June 15 giving employees required training before opening back up the following week, he said.

**Annual Town Meeting to be Different This Year**

**By Kevin Rudden  
Staff Reporter/Columnist**

This year’s Annual Town Meeting on Monday, June 29, will be different than any other year.

To start off with, it will not be held in Upper Town Hall. And, the warrant may be as short as 11 articles, but no longer than 14 articles.

At the June 1 Board of Selectmen meeting, Town Administrator Richard Villani said final plans for the meeting and a final version of the warrant would be given to the board for approval on June 8. The Finance Committee would then review the articles on June 10, he said.

As of June 1, the meeting was to be held in the Milford High School auditorium and other parts of the building. With proper social distancing, the auditorium – which can seat 700 people – could only hold 111, which is less than the quorum for a town meeting. Television monitors and remote microphones would be set up in other parts of the building being used by Town Meeting Members, Villani explained.

Police and Fire department personnel were on hand to move people in and out of the building quickly – foregoing the usual before and after meeting chats – as well as being available if someone isstricken ill, according to Police Chief Michael Pighetti and Fire Chief Mark Nelson.

While the auditorium has the benefit of being air conditioned, the right mixture of fresh air must be pumped in to ensure that the COVID-19 coronavirus is not spread by a “closed” air handling system, Health Officer Jacquelyn Murphy explained.

Selectmen voted to pare down the warrant from a previously approved 23 articles to just 11 needed to have a budget in place by the July 1 start of the new fiscal year. There also are three articles placed by citizens’ petitions, and the board asked Villani to contact their sponsors to find out if they are amenable to placing those articles on the fall Special Town Meeting warrant.

Chairman William Kingkade urged Town Meeting Members to attend the meeting.

Town Counsel Charles Boddy said that – without a quorum – the meeting would have to be continued until July. That means the town would be operating without a budget in place, he said. “Obviously, we’re going to encourage people to attend,” Boddy said.

“The biggest goal is to make sure we have a budget going into next [fiscal] year,” Selectman William Buckley said. The alternative is being allowed to spend only one-twelfth of the Fiscal Year 2020 budget each month in Fiscal Year 2021, he said.

**47 Milford Residents Died from COVID-19 Coronavirus**

**By Kevin Rudden  
Staff Reporter/Columnist**

As of June 1, 47 Milford residents died from the COVID-19 coronavirus, Health Officer Jacquelyn Murphy told Board of Health members at their June 3 meeting. That number has increased since her last report to Selectmen on May 19, when 41 residents had died.

“That’s a really sad side of this pandemic,” she said. “We are definitely, thankfully, seeing a slowdown in our number of [COVID-19] cases,” Murphy said on June 3. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health that day reported only eight new cases in Milford during the previous week.

**New COVID-19 Cases in Milford Each Week**

*Source: MA Department of Public Health*

Each week, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has been reporting the number of cases of the COVID-19 coronavirus in each community. Milford’s numbers have been on a steady decline since peaking in late April. Kevin Rudden chart

JUNE 12, 2020
Recent Actions by Milford Town Boards

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Planning Board
- Granted a special permit allowing MassAmerican Energy LLC of Chelmsford to install a large-scale, roof-mounted solar system on the existing commercial building at 161 East Main St. (Rt. 16). The building now houses Dollar General, AutoZone and the Tran Redemption Can & Bottle Return. Construction hours to install the 37.16 kiloWatt (kW) panel are limited to between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. (June 19)
- Released the remaining $10,000 held in a bond from the owners of the Milford Crossing shopping center at 120-128 Main St. Route 119 to Manning Food, LLC doing business as Freeds, for a five-year grant to re-establish a K-9 unit in the Police Department. If received, the funding would be selected from existing personnel and a current vehicle retrofitted, he said. (June 1)
- Received a memo from Fire Chief Mark Nelson regarding Lieutenant Michael DeTore was appointed the new Fire Chief effective immediately. (June 4)
- Continued to transfer the chair’s responsibilities to the board's next meeting (scheduled for June 1) is time to show a dumpster pad and handicapped parking spaces and handicap access to the building. (May 19)
- Approved an amended six-month plan request to release the $9,000 bond held to ensure completion of the retaining walls at the Sanilah Crossing subdivision, which extended Fire Pond Rd. Civil engineer Elizabeth Mainini-Sanchioni of Guerriere & Halnon, Inc. said two of the walls are partially in the roadway right of way, and required the board waive the requirement to place atop those retaining walls. Both walls will be repaved to tie into the handicapped ramp, he said. (June 2)
- Voted to release the remaining $165,000 held in a bond for the grubbing and site improvements for the Milford Y food court at 40 Medway Rd. (Rte.109) into a self-service store. Town Engineer Mike Dean said the plan review for the food court at 40 Medway Rd. entry closest to Beaver St. (May 19)
- Continued until June 23 an amended site plan review for 100 Central St. Building Commissioner spending time to tell car dealers that the multi-colored plastic balloons on sticks they place near the building is temporary, I think it would be very good,” he said. The board continued the review until its June 23 meeting to allow Town Engineer Mike Dean to look at the revised plans. (June 2)
- Reviewed revised engineering plans for the proposal to use an unpaved lot at 3 Industrial Rd. as a temporary “holding lot” for delivery vans before they go to the adjacent Amazon warehouse to pick up packages for delivery. These are vans coming from the other lots and queuing into the building, civil engineer Jon Neturi of The-Mehan Group said. Mainini said the queuing lot could ease the lines of delivery vans coming from parking lots to the warehouse. (June 19)
- Released the remaining $10,000 held in a bond from the owners of the Milford Crossing shopping center at 120-128 Main St. Route 119 to Manning Food, LLC doing business as Freeds, for a five-year grant to re-establish a K-9 unit in the Police Department. If received, the funding would be selected from existing personnel and a current vehicle retrofitted, he said. (June 1)
- Received a memo from Fire Chief Mark Nelson indicating that Lieutenant Michael DeTore was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief on May 17. (June 1)

Zoning Board of Appeals
- Granted Grason, LLC of Milford a variance to divide an 11-acre lot at 399 Central St. into a 2.1-acre lot and an 8.97-acre with less than the required 20 feet of frontage. Attorney Ernest Pettinari said Grason has an approved subdivision plan to build four houses on the site, but could not obtain water service due to the Milford Water Company's current connection ban. Grason will ask the Planning Board to rescind that subdivision approval if the variance were granted, he said. The ZBA approval carried during the first week of June. (June 1)
- Reviewed the board's current connection ban. Grason will ask the Planning Board to rescind that subdivision approval if the variance were granted, he said. The ZBA approval carried during the first week of June. (June 1)
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NOTICE

The Milford Water Company will be continuing its annual hydrant flushing program in the Town of Milford starting on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Flushing is scheduled at NIGHT between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. and will continue throughout the months of May/June until the entire systems have been flushed. Hydrant flushing is used to remove any accumulated sediment from the water pipes that may impair water quality. The program also provides the opportunity to inspect hydrants to ensure they will operate properly in the event of a fire. During the flushing program you may notice a temporary loss in water pressure and water discoloration. Please run the water at a low flow after flushing. This will clear any temporary discoloration. Should you have any questions regarding areas being flushed or problems caused by the flushing program, please contact our office on Dilla Street at (508) 473-5110 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. or check our web site at www.milfordwater.com.

Milford Water Company

Recent Actions by the Milford Board of Selectmen

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Chairman William Kingkade – noting his term was supposed to expire on April 7 – said the board’s next meeting (scheduled for June 1) is time to show a dumpster pad and handicapped parking spaces and handicap access to the building. (May 18)
- Received a memo from Fire Chief Mark Nelson indicating that Lieutenant Michael DeTore was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief on May 17. (June 1)

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Selectman William Kingkade will be the board’s next chair. (May 18)
- Continued to transfer the chair’s responsibilities to the board's next meeting (scheduled for June 1) is time to show a dumpster pad and handicapped parking spaces and handicap access to the building. (May 19)
- Voted to grant a special permit allowing Calagione’s Tap & Table on Cross Street to install a large-scale, roof-mounted solar system on the existing building. If approved, the funding would be generated. The board voted 3-1-1 to grant the waiver for a year. Calagione said he would not vote for the proposal to use an unpaved lot at 3 Route 495 are to be for full service; all self-service pumps will be marked with three-foot-by-four-foot signs attached to bollards next to them, there must be two full-time attendants (on for the self- service pump and one for the store); and, site plan approval must be obtained from the Planning Board. (May 21)

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By Kevin Rudden
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- Released the remaining $10,000 held in a bond from the owners of the Milford Crossing shopping center at 120-128 Main St. Route 119 to Manning Food, LLC doing business as Freeds, for a five-year grant to re-establish a K-9 unit in the Police Department. If received, the funding would be selected from existing personnel and a current vehicle retrofitted, he said. (June 1)
- Voted to support the War Memorial Revitalization program, please contact our office on Dilla Street at (508) 473-5110 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. or check our web site at www.milfordwater.com.

Milford Water Company

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Recent Actions Milford Board of Health

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

- Representatives of E.L. Harvey & Sons, Inc. – the town’s trash removal company – said they hoped to resume pick-up of “bulk items” in June. Nationwide, all trash haulers stopped picking them up to protect the health and safety of drivers during the COVID-19 coronavirus public health emergency, they said. Company officials noted that, with many people working from home, the amount of trash has risen dramatically during the pandemic. (May 17)
- Town Clerk Amy Hennessy Neves discussed precautions being planned for the June 16 Annual Town Election, including: one way in and one way out of the Milford High School gym; hand sanitizing stations; each voter being given their own pen; availability of masks and gloves; antimicrobial mats at voting stations; and, a separate voting system for people who cannot wear masks. To reduce extra numbers of people going to the single polling place, every registered voter was mailed an application to vote by mail, she said. More than 3,000 people applied within the first week of receiving them, Neves said, adding “That’s going to help keep everyone safe and healthy.” (May 17)
- Approved getting a free inspector from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) to assist in monitoring whether businesses with tobacco permits are complying with the requirement to stop selling any menthol tobacco products as of June 1. Health Officer Jacquelyn Murphy said letters were sent to all permit-holders reminding them to remove menthol products from their shelves by June 1. (May 17)
- The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMCCP) sprayed wetlands areas in Milford with a bacterial-based mosquito larval control product aimed at two species associated with transmitting the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in either birds or humans. (May 17 and June 3)
- There may be a COVID-19 coronavirus testing facility opening in the former Rite Aid building at 5 Medway Rd. (Rt. 109). Murphy said there is no projected timeline for opening the site because Walgreens – which acquired Rite Aid – has had difficulty in getting the needed testing supplies. Board member Paul Mazzuchelli said Murphy contacted the DPH to request a testing site be set up in Milford. (May 17 and June 3)
- The town is establishing "closed pod" agreements with long-term care facilities to enable them to get and administer the vaccine for the COVID-19 coronavirus, when available, to their patients and staff members, Murphy reported. (June 3)
- Mazzuchelli and Chairman Leonard Izzo recommended reviewing the town’s Emergency Dispensary Plan and updating it for when a vaccine for the COVID-19 coronavirus becomes available. The town vaccinated about 3,000 people for the H1N1 flu at eight to nine flu clinics in 2009. Mazzuchelli said. Once a COVID-19 vaccine is available, "We’re going to have an onslaught of individuals wanting it," Mazzuchelli said. (June 3)

Construction, Paving, Operations on Routes 16 and 140 Underway

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) announced resurfacing and intersection improvement operations have begun on Rt. 16 and Rt. 140 in Milford and Hopedale. On June 2, Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack and Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver joined members of the Massachusetts Legislature, officials from the Towns of Hopedale and Milford, members of the project team and other stakeholders to celebrate this ground-breaking for this construction project. “This project is improving a well-traveled corridor between Milford and Hopedale, and most importantly making changes which will make it safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and people of all abilities,” said Secretary Pollack. “We have appreciated the support of local leaders and the public during the planning and design process and we look forward to when the work will be completed.”

This $3.3 million project includes pavement rehabilitation, sidewalk reconstruction, and facilitating ADA accommodations on Rt. 16. The project also includes improvements to the intersection of Routes 16 and 140, including upgraded signal equipment and widening, drainage improvements, and utility pole relocations for ADA compliance on sidewalks. As a result of COVID-19, MassDOT worked closely with Milford Regional Medical Center to determine a work start date. The project is anticipated to be completed in September 2021.

Planners Continue Reviewing 1 National St. Proposal

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

The Planning Board on May 19 resumed its ongoing review of plans to convert the former glass bottle manufacturing plant at 1 National St. into a warehouse, with building owners proposing to have no more than 59 loading docks at the facility. Amazon has expressed interest in using the site as a "sort center." Civil engineers working for building owners Milford National, LLC updated board members on construction, paving, removal of equipment, upgrade of existing signal equipment and widening, drainage improvements, rehabilitation, sidewalk reconstruction, and stormwater management systems. There would be 79 loading docks, with 16 blocked off for future use, and no refrigerated trucks or storage of refrigerated goods on site.

Board member Patrick Kenneally wanted signs posted on the facility's property to clearly state that no trucks should be parked on National St. He also questioned the number of parking spaces for tractor trailers on the site. "I'm not looking to turn this into a truck rest stop," he said. With several board members questioning why the 16 loading docks would be blocked off rather than being eliminated, Milford National representatives said those docks could be sealed up with the same kind of insulated metal panels being used on the rest of the building.

Board member Lena McCarthy commended Milford National for its work on the former manufacturing plant. "This project is improving a well-traveled corridor for commercial vehicles from Route 140 to 140 in Milford and Hopedale. On June 2, Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack and Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver joined members of the Massachusetts Legislature, officials from the Towns of Hopedale and Milford, members of the project team and other stakeholders to celebrate this ground-breaking for this construction project. “This project is improving a well-traveled corridor between Milford and Hopedale, and most importantly making changes which will make it safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and people of all abilities,” said Secretary Pollack. “We have appreciated the support of local leaders and the public during the planning and design process and we look forward to when the work will be completed.”

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Another COVID-19 Casualty: Interactions not Coming to Milford

By Kevin Rudden
Staff Reporter/Columnist

Interactions LLC of Franklin notified state and town officials last month that – as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic’s effect on the economy – it will no longer be relocating to 31 Maple St. Milford.

In January, Town Meeting Members approved a 10-year tax increment financing (TIF) agreement with Interactions for its planned $7.2 million renovation of the vacant Maple Street building into its planned operations. “We’re going to have an onslaught of individuals wanting it,” Mazzuchelli said. (June 3)

Milford National, LLC is converting the former glass bottle manufacturing plant at 1 National St. into a warehouse facility.

JUNE 12, 2020
MILFORD TOWN CRIER
UNILINK FREE VIRTUAL HOME BUYING SEMINAR

UniBank is sponsoring free home buying seminars throughout 2020. These educational opportunities will provide homebuyers with valuable information about finding and buying the home of their dreams. Important discussion topics include: Negotiating a Winning Offer, Finding the Right Mortgage and Pre-Qualifying, Down Payment Options, The Importance of Home Inspections, and more.

The first is Tuesday, June 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. Register at UniBank.com. Seminar speakers include UniBank’s Mortgage Representative, Dave Sampson (NMLS #688948), and Michelle Granger, RE/MAX, Paul Baker, Baker Appraisals; Steve Ducharme, Building Inspector of America; and Mark Wickstrom, Wickstrom Morse LLP.

Attendees will be entered for a chance to win a $100 gift card. Sweepstakes to win gift card is subject to complete official rules which are available at www.unibank.com. To enter, individuals must register and attend the seminar. No purchase or account required to enter or win. All seminar attendees will receive a $250 mortgage closing cost coupon from UniBank.

Raising Babies on Louisa Lake

A family of swans has been making Louisa Lake their home this spring. Here the family with two adult swans and several signets is seen swimming by. Jim Calareso

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“Your Total Home Comfort Company”
Changes to UniBank Commercial Banking Team

Unibank’s CEO, Michael Welch, recently announced two expanded roles and a promotion for key members of the commercial banking team: Todd Mandella, John Kelley and Shannen Gray. Mandella expands his role being named Director of C&I Lending for the Bank. In this role he will play an integral part in driving the bank’s strategy and growth initiatives for commercial and industrial companies across the region. Mandella has over 18 years of experience and will continue to focus on commercial market growth and relationship management. He 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.

A resident of Worcester, Mandella serves the community as a Board Member Boys and Girls Club of Worcester and Seven Hills. Kelley was named Director of Commercial Real Estate Banking expanding his role to develop and implement the bank’s real estate strategy. His years of real estate experience will help position the bank in a position to deliver for its client and customers throughout New England. Kelley, who spent his banking career focused on real estate transaction and is considered an expert, holds both a BBA in Finance and Banking from New England Banking College. Welch, together with Tom McGregor, SVP, Chief Commercial Banking Officer, said of the team, “At UniBank, we remain committed to offering personal and expert assistance in the area of small business and commercial lending and cash management services. With the promotion and expanded roles of Todd, John, and Shannen – we believe we go from strength to an even greater strength.”

Bertonazzi Foundation 2020 Awards

The Board of the Senator Louis P. Bertonazzi Foundation is continuing the Foundation’s awards this year, with revisions to accommodate the COVID-19 pandemic. In past years, a “Teach of the Year” was named and presented a cash award. This year that award had been modified because of pandemic school restrictions and a donation was made to Milford Regional Hospital’s front-line workers and a donation was made to Milford Association. in the name of the Milford Teachers’

Board chairman Dr. Carl J. DiGregorio, has announced last of the three annual initiatives of the Foundation – the multiple-part Citizenship Award– will continue.

The annual Citizenship Award, given to the best voting community of towns once represented by former State Senator Louis Bertonazzi, has three parts. The award is based on official voting results gathered by the Town Clerks of each of the towns. Five voting events are included, two local elections, a state primary, presidential primary and presidential election. The results of these five elections will determine the winning town which receives a Town Hall plaque to be publicly displayed for one year; a large permanent banner presented to Selectmen, suitable for year-round display in a public place, noting the town as having the highest voting percentage in the district; and a cash award of $1000, allotted to the Town Clerk and Board of Registrars to encourage and promote town voting initiatives. Members of DiGregorio, chairman; Gail Crimaldi; Janice Guerriere; Julie Rizoli-Richards, Joseph Negro, Andrew Diorio, Treasurer; and Attorney David Bertonazzi, Clerk. Sen. Louis P. Bertonazzi is ex office member. The Sons of Italy Board members are President Andrew Diorio, Vice President Louis Bertonnazi, Secretary Rizoli-Richards, Secretary, Treasurer DiGregorio and Mary Dybka.

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Another of the Foundation’s initiatives, a trip to Italy for a Milford High School student has also been modified. A student will be awarded a cash prize to obtain further education instead of the trip. The month-long trip, which the Bertonazzi Foundation created, was done in partnership with the Sons of Italy Milford Lodge and with Fitchburg State University’s Italian Studies Abroad program, which provides college credits for the courses given at the University of Verona. The student, selected from applicants by the Foreign Language Department at Milford High School, experienced a month’s immersion in Italian studies, culture, food and university life paid for by the Foundation and its partners.

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This town cannot move forward if it clings to the past. Help me move Milford forward. I recognize the challenges facing our town and want to put my professional experience to work for us.

I ask for your vote on June 16th.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Joshua Lioce
Keeping Safe During Your Eye Examination

Submitted by Roger M. Kaldawy, M.D.

Milford Franklin Eye Center

Eye health and examinations are important, since conditions and diseases like glaucoma and macular degeneration, do not stop for an epidemic. Eye practices are adhering to the recommended coronavirus safety measures, established by the CDC, to protect patients, staff and physicians.

Milford Franklin Eye Center is meeting the CDC guidelines. Special attention is paid to:

• Personal hygiene for patients and healthcare personnel (HCP).
• Everyone wears masks.
• Strict screening protocols.
• Monitoring HCP and patients for symptoms.
• Isolating symptomatic patients in the clinic.
• HCP use of PPE and proper training.
• Cleaning and sanitation protocols.
• Limiting patients in the clinic.
• Social distancing in clinics’ newly designed waiting rooms.
• Encouraging staff and patients to share concerns.
• Showing adherence to current, appropriate guidelines.
• Adhering to very strict internal practice protocols in addition to CDC guidelines.
• Being committed to our mission and your health.
• Using CDC and the American Academy of Ophthalmology safety resources

Following Massachusetts guidelines

• Advertising protocol changes on social media, our Facebook page and in this paper.

If you’re due for an eye exam, you may be nervous about going to the doctor’s office. Ophthalmologists, like all medical professionals, follow strict hygiene and disinfection guidelines. Eye doctors use a special plastic barrier called a slit-lamp breath shield. This helps block the exchange of breath between patient and doctor. The ophthalmologist will also wear a mask.

Precautions for patients:

• If you have a cough or a fever call your doctor’s office ahead of time. If your visit is not an emergency, you may have to stay home.
• If you arrive sick, your doctor will ask you to wear a protective covering or mask, and to wait in a special room away from other patients.
• Your physician may want until after your slit-lamp eye exam to talk with you or answer questions.
• If you anticipate a cough or sneeze during your exam, move back from the microscope and cover your face with a tissue. Wash your hands with soap.

Milford-Franklin Eye Center uses state-of-the-art laser technology to treat a variety of eye problems and continues supporting our communities. Equipment is sterilized between patients, who are screened before entering the building and before registering. With Franklin and Milford offices and a dedicated surgery center in Milford, no need to travel hours for eye care or surgery. A leading area eye care practice with seven providers and a team of 50 staff, we bring you world-class care close to home.

For more information, call Milford Franklin Eye Center at 508-473-7939.

Your Safety Is My Priority

• As your Highway Surveyor, maintenance and improvement of our roads, sidewalks, bridges, and dams will continue to be my top priority.

• Effective snow and ice removal operations are imperative in severe weather to ensure safe travel for our first responders and you. There is no margin for error.

• I have implemented the only Municipal Bridge Maintenance Program in Massachusetts, which has substantially improved our Mass DOT bridge inspection safety ratings, while also saving millions of dollars in replacement costs.

• This level of safety requires a thorough understanding of our community, proactive planning, and forward thinking, which I have demonstrated, as your Highway Surveyor.

• These results are achieved with the efforts of the highly qualified employees of the Milford Highway Department and their dedication to our daily operations, who are committed to an exceptional level when severe circumstances arise.

Together we will continue to ensure your safety and improvements.

Thanks for your meaningful vote for Crisafulli for Highway Surveyor on Tuesday, June 16th

Committee to re-elect Scott Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor
We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Please check our website for updates.

We wish to thank all of our loyal customers for your support and patronage during this difficult time. We take every precaution to ensure that our product is of the highest quality and safety standards. We know how important it is to keep your families and our staff safe, while providing the same comfort you have grown to love here at Lowell’s Restaurant.

We would also like to thank Kevin Meehan for his generosity with advertising for local businesses that had been hindered by the forced closures. Although we have been here to provide take out, we wanted to reassure everyone that we are preparing for dine-in service.

Lowells Restaurant
Route 140 on the Mendon/Bellingham Line
75 Cape Road, Mendon, MA 01756
www.lowellsrestaurant.com

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BETTY FERRUCCI
PROPRIETOR

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We are open.
Thank you for your support!

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The Deluxe House Of Pizza
Open every day! Mon-Sat 11am - 10pm, Sun 12pm - 10pm
A family-owned business that has been serving the community for over 30 years...
We’re still here serving you during this difficult time for pick up orders.
We are taking the necessary precautions to keep our loyal, wonderful customers and our family staff healthy during this crisis. We are looking forward to see when we are able to re open the dining area to have our customers enjoy there food on site.

Thank you all for your support!
The Deluxe Pizza Family

(508) 478-4501, (508) 478-4502
32 HASTINGS STREET, MENDON, MA 01756
WWW.DELUXEHOUSEPIZZA.COM

MENDON WINE AND SPIRITS
WINE, BEER & SPIRITS

We are open.
Thank you for your support!

32 Hastings Street, Hood Plaza, Mendon 01756
508-478-2244

We would like to thank everyone for their devotion and understanding.

Each Red Cross blood drive and each 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.

In recent weeks, hospital demand for blood products has grown by 30 percent after sharply declining in early April amid this rapidly changing and complex public health crisis. At the same time, blood drives continue to be canceled as many businesses and community organizations remain closed. Donors are needed to make and keep scheduled appointments to help meet the current need.

Thanks to Amazon, all those who come to give June 1-30 will receive a $5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email. Each Red Cross blood drive and donation of platelets and plasma that are critically needed at this time.

Thank you all for your support!

www.alicantema.com

BLOOD DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED

The American Red Cross has an urgent need for blood donations to prevent another blood shortage as hospitals resume surgical procedures and patient treatments that were temporarily paused earlier this spring in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Healthy individuals who are feeling well are asked to make an appointment to donate in the weeks and months ahead 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.

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MENDON WINE AND SPIRITS
WINE, BEER & SPIRITS

We are open.
Thank you for your support!

32 Hastings Street, Hood Plaza, Mendon 01756
508-478-2244

We would like to thank everyone for their devotion and understanding.

Each Red Cross blood drive and
WE ARE OPEN for limited classes and hope to get back to full speed soon. Sign up online, no walk-ins at this point. Please check out MindBody for our current schedule. See you soon!
28 Hastings Street, Mendon, MA 01756
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Offering classes in keeping with the social distancing guidelines. All participants have their own manikin, so no sharing is involved. Classes are provided on site.
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Owner/Stylist
508-282-5907
508-369-3387

Thank you to everyone who supported us through this time.
Thank you to all essential workers!

152 Uxbridge Road, Mendon, MA
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
WE ARE OPEN
Opening On June 8th
Check our Facebook for questions and updates.
All of our nail technicians have completed the Barbicide COVID-19 Certification training in part of our ongoing effort to keep our employees and customers healthy.
Contact us via Facebook Messenger or call:
508-478-4360
32 Hastings St., Mendon, MA 01756
appointments only - no walk-ins
Thank you to our amazing customers for your support!
Stay healthy
We hope to see you (and your cuticles) soon!
Contact us via Facebook Messenger or call:
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See more on the next page

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GASCO
From All of Us Here at Gasco, we would like to thank Mr. Kevin Meehan for his generosity and help. God Bless him and his family.

Body Image Spa
Electrolysis • Laser Hair Removal • and more
Bikini and Underarm Laser Hair Removal Special $75.00
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Thank you to all our loyal customers!
We are continuing to advertise through Facebook and Instagram.

Blood Donations Urgently Needed
donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to ensure the health of all in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control Prevention public guidance.
Locally, blood may be donated at the Worcester Blood Donation Center, 381 Plantation St. every day at various times. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/homepage/location/worcester-american-red.html#Worcester County. Blood Drives at Milford Regional Medical Center are planned to resume in July.

From All of Us Here at Gasco,
we would like to thank
Mr. Kevin Meehan
for his generosity and help.
God Bless him and his family.
We are looking forward to seeing you all for your beautification needs.

A big thank you to Kevin Meehan for all his generosity.

Located in the Willow Brook Plaza at 14 Hastings St (Rt 16) is Mendon.

We are open for business as usual, by appointment.

We are happy to take a look at any of your kitchen or bath remodels as well as new construction.

Fontana Kitchens

Ballet • Tap • Jazz • Lyrical • All Boys Tap

We are hoping to open for our Summer Program with Master Classes and look forward to seeing you all in the Fall.

Call for updates and information.

Call 508-473-2105
508-473-3354
28 Bellingham St, Mendon

Deaneschoolofdanceandtheater.com

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Local Beekeepers Work to Protect Vital Species

By Chris Villani
Staff Reporter/Columnist

While beekeepers extol the personal benefits they receive through their hobby, they are also quick to point out how important bees are to our daily way of life.

“It’s scientifically proven that, if it weren’t for honeybees, you’d have a third less food on your plate,” said Upton resident Ewan McCulloch. “Without honeybees, the world has a massive problem from an agricultural perspective.”

Honeybees have been around for millions of years, McCulloch said, and their role has pollinators aid the plants that produce the majority of the world’s food. McCulloch has three hives. Northbridge resident Ken Warchol, a sixth generation beekeeper, has more than 100 hives located throughout central Massachusetts.

“Without bees, there would be a food crisis,” Warchol said. “For millions of years it was a love affair with the honeybee and the grower. They just needed each other. Now, they need beekeepers more than ever.”

A wide array of factors have decreased the honeybee population, making beekeepers’ roles as protectors of the insects even more vital. “In the last 20 years, the bees are under immense challenges with new viruses, bacterial disease, pesticides, and the bees are trying to overcome it,” Warchol said. “We need to intervene as beekeepers more than ever.”

When Warchol started keeping bees, back in the 1950s, very few of these challenges existed. Today, even with beekeepers working with their hives more closely than ever, more than 30 percent of a hive’s bees may perish. The honey that bees produce is also very valuable to people. On average, one hive can produce about 50lbs of honey. Last year Warchol said it was a particularly busy year and his hives averaged between 60 and 75lbs. “It was what my dad used to call a banner year,” he said. But even the banner years have dipped from hives that used to produce more than 100lbs per year. The honey that is produced helps people build immunity to allergies, has valuable antioxidants and, of course, is a tasty natural sweetener.

“Honey bees are incredibly important to the health of our planet and our own wellbeing as humans,” McCulloch said.

VOTE FOR PROVEN LEADERSHIP

Dear Voters,

Let me thank you for your support and encouragement during the last few months. Over the course of this unusual and extended campaign, I have shared my accomplishments, talked about the important issues, and offered my ideas to solve them. I have been open, accessible, and transparent.

I have listened and answered all questions posed to me. That’s what you deserve from a candidate for public office.

That’s what you deserve when deciding who will earn your vote.

I look forward to being an independent and strong voice for the issues that you care about. I respectfully ask for your vote in support of me as your next Selectman.

Please vote this Tuesday, June 16th. 12pm (Noon) to 8pm at the Milford High School

Thank You,
Tom

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Tom O’Loughlin
Memorial Day Weekend has always been a centerpiece of the Girl Scout year with Milford’s parade and all the ceremonies and activities around town to honor service men and women. Despite the need for social distancing this year, the Milford Girl Scouts refused to let such an important holiday go unrecognized. With troop leader, Karen Raleigh, leading the way Girl Scouts in grades K-12 to read poems, sang songs, created drawings, and showed how Milford Girl Scouts honored Memorial Day.

In addition, families volunteered to mark the town graves of all the veterans with an American flag with help from organizers Brian and Amy Donahue. This has been a collaboration between the Town of Milford Veteran’s Services and the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts for decades. It was important to keep this tradition going and Girl Scouts families were thrilled to be able to participate. The virtual program can be viewed at Milford (MA) Girl Scouts Facebook.

Deans’ List
The following local students was named to the Deane’s List for the spring 2020 semester:

- Assumption College, Worcester: Hannah Cairney Class of 2021, Elena Dell’Olio-Basso Class of 2021, Deidre Fleming Class of 2022, Nathan May Class of 2021, Natalie Mazzini Class of 2023, Gabriela O’Neil Class of 2020, Amanda Cardoso, Raven Clarico, Jose Fraticelli and Sean Walsh, Merit List for a 3.5 GPA or higher for six credits;
- College of the Holy Cross, Worcester: Madeline Richard, who also was named to the fall 2019 deans’ list.
- Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester: Amanda Cardoso, Raven Clarico, Jose Fraticelli and Sean Walsh, Merit List for a 3.5 GPA or higher for six credits, and Keith Anderson and Xianglin Zou for a 3.5 GPA or higher for 12 credits;
- Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Penn.: John Montanti, Class of 2020.

Milford Girl Scouts Lend a Helping Hand to Australia

Several months ago after hearing the Australian bushfires had killed more than one billion animals, especially koalas which are facing extinction, Milford Girl Scout Cadette Troop 30570 called the scouting community to action.

Looking for a way to help, the local troop learned a special patch had been designed for purchase, so that Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world could show they supported those impacted by the bushfires. Proceeds from the sales benefit the Australian Bushfire Emergency Relief Fund, set up by Girl Guides Australia. Troop 30570 members spread the word throughout town and collected orders from 157 Milford Girl Scouts who will now be wearing the special patch on the back of their uniform vests.

Using proceeds from the patch sale, Girl Guides Australia opened their camp for the treatment of millions of badly burned and injured animals. After several months of hard work, countless volunteer hours and aid from the patch sales, injured animals are recovering and released into the wild have begun.

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Uncertain Times Require Experienced Leadership
Our schools are facing unprecedented complexities that will have a far reaching impact on health & safety, emotional wellness, teaching & learning, and on our town and district finances. I am highly motivated to represent our community as we address newly developing circumstances, and as we identify responsible solutions to existing challenges, including space constraints, aging facilities, increasingly diverse student needs, and rapidly growing enrollment.

As I seek re-election to the Milford School Committee, I continue to offer our community:

- Six years of school committee experience, having held positions of chair and vice chair
- A strong understanding of how schools operate, with 26 years as a public school administrator and teacher
- An unwavering commitment to working collaboratively with all stakeholders
- The additional perspective that comes with being the parent of two MPS students

I would be honored to continue serving on the Milford School Committee, and I respectfully ask for your vote on June 16th.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Jennifer Parson.
Diaries from a Pandemic
Stacy Students Share Their Thoughts

When Milford schools closed their doors and switched to remote learning, it felt important to come up with an assignment that asked the students to write thoughtfully about what was going on in their lives and the world around them. By keeping diaries, the students felt they were able to document their experiences during an important moment in history. Matt Zaccarino is their teacher.

Cee-Cee Deshauter-Tate:
I have both read and heard from several sources that the amount of people currently without jobs is similar to the number of those who were not working during the Great Depression. It seems kind of strange that at this point in time, my family is watching a marathon of the TV series The Waltons. I know that it is not exactly the same situation, but there are a lot of similarities between their lives back then, and ours right now, as they were living in the middle of the Depression. It is comforting to watch the show, especially at this time, as it sort of feels as if we are not alone. People went through back then something similar as what is going on now, yet we were still able to go on with life and have a family. I think about the challenging times. I can relate most to John-Boy, the eldest boy in the Walton family, as I am writing my own journal entries. He was always writing in his journal about what was happening at home, and his family and friends. He also mentioned how the show was created, based off of the real John-Boy’s diaries. Now that summer is approaching, it is difficult not to consider all of the fun things in which we would take part, as school would be coming to a close. I am trying not to think about our annual traditions and vacations, which might now be canceled. Instead, I just know that we are lucky that our family is safe, and we are fortunate that my father still has his job, when many others have lost theirs.

I am hoping that, if this virus ends at some point this summer, we can take the long drive down to Virginia, to visit the museum dedicated to the Waltons, and to see where Earl Hamner, (the real John-Boy, grew up in the countryside) I have always wanted to go there! It would be nice to be there in the peaceful mountains, hearing the birds chirp happily each day and the coyotes howling at night!

Caleigh Wilson:
Monday - I had a lot of zoom calls today. Two-hours’ worth! I have been feeling stressed this week, because I have more live zoom calls, but also I have a lot of required work on top of that. I have been working really hard. I took my dog for a walk and baked banana muffins, because my math zoom and was happy to see my friends. High school algebra can be challenging, so I am hoping that, if this virus ends at some point this summer, we can take the long drive down to Virginia, to visit the museum dedicated to the Waltons, and to see where Earl Hamner, (the real John-Boy, grew up in the countryside) I have always wanted to go there! It would be nice to be there in the peaceful mountains, hearing the birds chirp happily each day and the coyotes howling at night!

Sara Wangen:
My birthday was awesome! My parents totally overboarded (I don’t know why). When I went downstairs there was a big banner in front of the sliding doors leading out to the backyard. They said “Happy Birthday!” There was also another banner by the mantel. My friends made a giant zoom call to see me and wish me a happy birthday. It was great.

There was also a plan to have a small socially distanced get together. My parents were careful to arrange things so that everyone was as safe as possible. We got word that my Uncle Steve, who is my cousin’s cousin, Henry, weren’t going to make it. Steven has dealt with a lot of problems over the years and because of that, he has a weakened immune system. In the end, they decided that it would be safest for him if he didn’t come. They did call to wish me a happy birthday though. At one point, my mom told me to go stand in the front of the yard close to the sidewalk and she took her camera out. I had a feeling that some sort of driving birthday parade was coming so I had no idea how big it was going to be. I didn’t recognize the first car that came around the corner. They were honking their horn and were being followed by a line of cars. Friends from school, teammates from my neighborhood, everyone was honking and wishing me happy birthday. It really was a great day!
BVT Softball Seniors Understood Program Building

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

The four seniors on this year’s Blackstone Valley Tech softball team all played at the junior varsity level before making an impact on the varsity team. Peter Cardoza, their head coach, said that experience helped them understand the importance of bringing along younger players to ensure the health of the program for both the present and the future.

“They got so much done this year, even though we didn’t have a season,” Cardoza said. “They set up for this team. And, for the team next year, they had a fundraiser, they had 147 people on 147 of the 150 that were sold. They had done a lot of work. They’ve done a lot of volunteering. They’ve had to wear masks in dugouts or whether dugouts could be used at all. Whatever restrictions are put in place, we want to be able to play. But the safety of our players is our main concern.”

Cardoza added, “They got that it isn’t just the varsity. Our programs includes everyone, they understood that and they bought into that.”

Abby Clark, Bella DeFrancisco, Hallie Arpen and Ashley Minior were set to lead what looked like a loaded Beavers team this year before the pandemic led to the cancelation of the spring sports season. With four talented seniors and a strong junior class, Cardoza feels this year’s squad would have seen a great deal of success.

Clark has been a starter since her sophomore year and Cardoza said she was poised to be one of the best players in Central Mass. this year. She is the third of three Clark sisters who have been program standouts.

“Finally it was her turn in the spotlight and she didn’t get that,” Cardoza said, “which is a darn shame.”

Arpen also came into the spring off of a strong 2019 season. She worked hard to improve her speed and base running. Cardoza said, and recorded numerous big hits last year as she batted .500 with runners in scoring position.

DeFrancisco and Minior are two more players whose time to shine had arrived in 2020. Cardoza said DeFrancisco did everything the coaching staff asked of her over the past few years and Minior, like many other BVT players, gave up an opportunity to be a starter much sooner if she had stayed at her hometown school instead of playing for the powerhouse program.

Cardoza said Minior’s presence against Minior when she was younger and she always stood out as “the kid on third base who was smiling all the time.”

The BVT players, especially the seniors, held out hope that they might be able to have a season despite the pandemic. Cardoza said they handled the cancellation as well as can be expected and the hope, as it is in other sports, is to put together a game over the summer if possible so they can play again.

“We just want to get them on the field one last time,” he said.

BVT’s Brabham to Play Soccer in Spain

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Blackstone Valley Tech soccer standout Zach Brabham thought it was too good to be true when he learned of an opportunity to live in Spain for a year and play soccer. But it turned out not to be and Brabham is set to travel to Europe this summer. “It kind of came out of nowhere,” he said. “I was in touch with the coaches and they explained the program to me,” Brabham said. “I got on a call with a coach and they explained the program to me. It was one of those things where you it was the right place and the right time.”

Brabham will be playing with ETURE Academy, a gap year program that allows talented young soccer players to have the chance to live abroad and help them gain exposure that can lead to opportunities to be recruited by top collegiate programs. Recent ETURE players have committed to Clemson, West Virginia, NJIT and Franklin Pierce, among other schools. “After a year there, I would like to come back to the U.S. and play college soccer,” Brabham said. “It’s also an educational experience focused on learning Spanish.”

Brabham said he wants to study criminal justice and having some fluency in Spanish can be a useful tool to help communicate with different people. He is hoping to leave for Spain in July, but there is a chance the pandemic could delay the program’s start date. He will be playing for a team in Valencia, Spain, a port city located on the country’s southeastern coast on the Mediterranean Sea. This will be Brabham’s first trip outside the country and he said his parents, Craig and Michelle, are a little nervous for him but excited that he will be pursuing this opportunity. “In a way it’s a dream come true to play at that level,” he said. “When I was a freshman, if you told me that I’d have even been able to play D3 soccer I would have laughed at you.”

The more success Brabham had at the high school level, the more he started to get attention from colleges, first at the Division III level and then from DII and DIII programs. Franklin Pierce, the school that led to the connection to the ETURE program, is a possible landing spot, he said. “They had eight players from last year that were on the starting roster for Franklin Pierce,” Brabham said. “They have a good connection with them.”

Fitness Classes at Home

The Ruth Anne Bleakney Senior Center staff has put together exercise classes that everyone can do right at home. Milford TV will be broadcasting the classes Monday through Friday at 10:30 am on Channel 8 for Comcast Xfinity or Channel 38 for Verizon Fios.

The classes include yoga, Zumba with Rebecca Todies, Yoga with Joanna O’Loughlin, Safe Exercise with Stan Parker, Express Muscle & Mat with Robin Thompson, and Line Dancing with Alice Kinahan. Several exercise classes and challenges are also broadcast on the Milford MA Senior Center YouTube channel, available online or on a TV. Additionally, the videos can be accessed by visiting MilfordMADeSignorCenter.com.

Clark to Tackle 2 Sports at College Level

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Abby Clark knew she wanted to play softball in college since she first took up the sport as a little girl. But even though the Blackstone Valley Tech senior picked up a field hockey stick in middle school, she also had an urge to take on that sport in college as well.

Her father Gregory loves softball while her mother Jennifer prefers field hockey. Clark said, but everyone will end up happy as she has decided to pursue both sports at Framingham.

“So I got on to high school, I knew I wanted to play both sports in college.”

Clark will take on that challenge with the Rams while also working her way towards a degree in psychology with an eye toward working in early childhood developmental psychology someday. She knows she will be busy when she gets to campus.

“I am definitely going to have a tight schedule, especially in the fall when I am doing field hockey and starting my courses,” she said. “I really like Framingham, the coaches are nice, the girls are nice and the college is really nice. It’s felt like home.”

Clark has been working through the college recruiting process for a couple of seasons now, in part because her older sister Alyssa was also recruited to play softball in college and is currently at Westfield State.

“Her being older than me was an advantage,” Clark said. “Coaches would come to look at her and they would look at me too.”

One of the coaches whose eye the Clark girls caught was the head softball coach at Framingham. A stellar junior year for Abby Clark helped seal the deal as she hit nine home runs and helped anchor the BVT offense. It is unclear where she will fit in with the Framingham softball team, since she will miss out on fall workouts while she plays field hockey. “I know I am going to have to work extra hard and find time to get into the cages over the winter,” she said.

And Clark knows she will have the backing of her entire family, including her oldest sister Hannah, who is in the military. “They have all been very supportive,” she said. “I know my parents would do anything for us.”

Local Summer Baseball League Taking Shape

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

There may be baseball coming to Fino Field this summer after all. Despite American Legion pulling the plug on sponsoring a season amid the COVID-19 pandemic, eight teams that play in the Central Mass. Zone 4 are planning to put together an independent season that would begin in July.

“All of the coaches want to do whatever we can to find a way for these kids to play in the safest way possible,” said Milford Manager Steve DiVittao. “We have decided to move forward with an independent league. It will not be sponsored by legion but it’s going to have the same feeling, the same rules, and the same ages, it just won’t be under the American Legion umbrella.”

The league will be called the Worcester County Baseball League and include teams from Milford, Leominster, Shrewsbury, Northboro, Sturbridge, Cherry Valley and two Worcester teams representing Grafton Hill and Main South.

DiVittao said 35 players have signed up for a chance to play for Milford. Under the Phase II guidance for reopening the state, teams could hold tryouts in small groups this month. Phase III, which allows for youth sports competition to take place, would need to begin in order for the league to get off the ground.

Some modifications will be made. Instead of the traditional 18-player legion rosters, teams will carry up to 25 players to account for the fact that spring seasons were canceled and players, especially pitchers, have not had the chance to get their bodies in shape. While Post 59 has typically traveled to games via bus, DiVittao said parents and players would drive the team in smaller groups when playing on the road. The teams will have insurance for players but there would also be a COVID-19 release that players would have to sign before taking the field.

If all goes well, DiVittao said the hope is to begin the season in July and play three times per week, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. “We will have two NPCs and those will be open to minor league players,” he said, noting that there are tentative plans to play on Cape Cod sometime in late July.

Some issues are still to be determined. While players will have to use their own equipment without the benefit of team helmets or bats, it is unclear whether they will have to wear masks in dugouts or whether dugouts could be used at all. Whatever decisions are made will follow guidance from health officials, DiVittao said.

“It’s all coming together quickly,” he said. “We want to play but we also have to protect everyone involved.”
Summer Hoops League Plans
Return to Town Park

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

As the number of COVID-19 infections in Massachusetts continues to decline, plans are in place for the annual summer high school basketball league to return to Milford’s Town Park. “The plan — and I can’t stress enough, it’s only a plan — is to run things as close to normal as possible,” said Paul Seaver, the head varsity coach at MHS and the summer league’s director. “We know things are not going to be as they would in any other year, we have guidelines and regulations for health and safety that we need to follow,” Seaver said.

Massachusetts began Phase II of its reopening plan on Monday with youth sports returning in a limited fashion. The earliest Phase III, which would allow for the summer basketball league to take place, can begin in June 29. Seaver said the schedule calls for a start at the end of June with 10-15 games, built in a little more time in case the state does not move to the next phase exactly on schedule.

Seaver said that if the league does come to fruition, there would be no indoor backup in the event of rain. All games will be played outdoors at the Town Park. Seaver said there would be no sharing of water bottles and one game ball would be used for each game and disinfect between games. When it’s time for a player to check in, there will be hand sanitizer waiting for him or her at the scorer’s table. The post-game handshake line will not take place and after a game, teams will have to vacate expeditiously to allow for the next set of teams to come through. “I think by this time next year, practices themselves will be as normal as possible,” Seaver said. “Basketball is a little bit more of a contact sport but it fits within the guidelines for Phase III.” Spectators will need to spread out a bit, but Seaver did not see that as an issue at Town Park. He stressed that the league would closely follow any guidance set forth by health officials. Seaver also puts on an annual summer tournament to raise money for ALS research and said that he has close to 130 schools already signed up for the late July event. “I think people want to get back out there and play,” he said.

The group which Mainini said is a trademark of how they conducted themselves on the court. “The way they behave on the court was going to be a model for young athletes who are going to be some of the younger athletes on the team. They were missing out on, “Mainini said. “I have a lot of volleyball seasons in front of my but was lost was how talented these four athletes really are. “Every time I talked to them they seemed to put it in perspective and say things like ‘at least our families are healthy,’ “he said. “I was impressed by their maturity. As disapponted as they were, they never made it about them.”

That maturity was going to be a huge resource for Milford, not only this year but also to serve as a model for some of the younger athletes on the team.

The way they behave on the court was going to be a model for young athletes who are sophomores and juniors and look to the senior class to know how to behave when it is their turn to take over and lead,” Mainini said. “The loss of their leadership in games and practices is going to be felt for years to come.”

Seniors Showed Commitment to
MHS Girls Track

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

With the health and well-being of participants, volunteers, and sponsors in mind, Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC) has developed a new schedule for its annual, statewide Against the Tide athletic fundraising events for 2020. MBCC is postponing the in-person events originally scheduled for June 20 in Hopkinton and August 16 in Cape Cod to new dates in September, and instead will be offering virtual options for both summer dates. Both of the in-person events in the fall will also offer virtual options.

The new event schedule is as follows:
- Saturday, June 20 and Saturday, August 15 — virtual options
- Saturday, September 19 — 28 Annual Metro-Boston Against the Tide in DCR’s Hopkinton State Park, also includes a virtual option
- Saturday, September 26 — 21st Annual Cape Cod Against the Tide in DCR’s Nickerson State Park, Brewster, also includes a virtual option

All proceeds from Against the Tide benefit MBCC, which is the state’s leading breast cancer organization dedicated to preventing the environmental causes of breast cancer through community education, research advocacy, and changes to public policy.

All Against the Tide virtual participants will receive a Participant Fun Pack. The in-person events will offer participants of all ages the choice of up to four of the following components: competitive and recreational swims, recreational kayak, fitness walk, paddleboard, and USA Track & Field certified 5K/10K runs. The event also offers an Aquathon “Splash and Dash” component, where participants “splash” in the competitive one-mile swim and immediately “dash” in the 5K or 10K run. Additionally, in Hopkinton, there will be a kids’ fun run. New for 2020, MBCC is pleased to announce that both events will also feature a one-mile U.S. Master Swimming (USMS) sanctioned swim. Prizes will be awarded to the podium finishers, top age group finishers, and top fundraisers.

To learn more visit MBCC.org/swim or call 1-800-649-MBCC (6222).
### Youth Sports Return to Mass with Restrictions

**By Chris Villani**  
**Sports Reporter/Columnist**

Under the second phase of Massachusetts' four-phase reopening plan amid the COVID-19 pandemic, youth sports will return, but under heavy restrictions that includes limiting participants to groups of no more than 10 and a ban on any scrimmages or games.

The guidance set forth by Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker's administration allows outdoor facilities and certain indoor facilities, including pools, fields, courts, gyms, tracks, dance facilities and batting cages, among others, to reopen. While locker rooms associated with these places will stay closed during Phase II, bathroom will be allowed to open up.

Much of the guidance connected to the return of youth sports is familiar during the health crisis, including practicing social distancing, frequent sanitization of surfaces, hand washing, and not allowing employees or participants to come in if they are feeling sick.

"Larger playing areas and surfaces, such as athletic fields, tracks, tennis courts, and full size basketball courts, may be used by more than one group of 10 at one time, provided that adequate social distance and group separation can be maintained," the guidance states, noting that separate groups of 10, which includes coaches or other employees, must be spaced at least 20 feet apart if they are sharing the same court or field.

While athletes are allowed to train, they cannot use weight rooms and for most sports, games will not be allowed until Phase III.

"Scrimmages, organized games and tournaments are not allowed for contact sports in Phase II and activities must be limited to no-contact drills and training exercises," the regulations state.

Contact sports, as defined by the state guidance, includes baseball, soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, football, and ice hockey, but notes that the definition is not limited to those sports alone. Non-contact racket sports, such as tennis, may partake in competition under the Phase II guidance.

Facilities and camps are also asked to limit the number of spectators in attendance and those who are observing must observe social distancing protocols and wear face coverings, per the guidance.

Phase III, which can begin as early as June 29, would bring with it the return of games as summer baseball and basketball leagues cautiously hope for the green light to start their seasons in July.

### Milford’s Mazzuchelli Put Together Stellar Wrestling Career

**By Chris Villani**  
**Sports Reporter/Columnist**

Nick Mazzuchelli was introduced to the sport of wrestling at an early age by his father, Jim, a Milford High Hall of Fame inductee in the sport. The younger Mazzuchelli made his own mark on the mat, earning more than 100 victories and 100 pins in a stellar four-year career at St. John’s.

"It’s a very hard sport, you have to be determined but it does create a lot of character," Mazzuchelli said. "You have to have a special kind of drive to be a wrestler."

During the season he practiced six or seven times per week, honing his moves and making sure he stayed in peak condition. Those efforts paid off on the mat. In a home dual meet this past winter, Mazzuchelli pinned a wrestler from Franklin to earn his 100th career pin. A wrestler in the 170-pound weight class, he finished his high school career with 140 victories and 107 pins. Mazzuchelli passed the 100-win mark during his junior season.

"Hitting it my junior year really motivated me for my senior season," he said. "I wanted to do better the next year and achieve bigger accomplishments."

He served as a captain of the team during his junior and senior years and has been a member of the Pioneers' program since he came to the Shrewsbury school his freshman year. He broke the state record for the quickest pin in a tournament and he won the Chelmsford Tournament in incredibly efficient fashion: pinning four opponents in a total of 136 seconds.

Mazzuchelli had hoped to earn a state championship, but finished third at this year's Division I tournament. "Winning a state title didn't happen but I was happy with my career," he said.

A number of accomplishments stood out in Mazzuchelli’s career, including one victory during his junior season in which he overcame an 11-point deficit and knocked off a former state champion via a third period headlock and pin, handing his foe his only loss of the season. Despite wrestling being an individual sport, he said developing a strong bond with his teammates was also a high point of his time with the program.

Mazzuchelli will attend the University of Rhode Island next year and may try to keep wrestling with the club team there.

He credits the tutelage of his father for helping him achieve such success in the sport. "He is the one who pushed me and he is why I am so good," Mazzuchelli said. "It definitely paid off."
Tennaro Trading LAX Goggles for Nurse’s Mask

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Like all of her classmates and her lacrosse teammates, Blackstone Valley Tech senior Samantha Tennaro cannot go to class or play the sport she loves this spring. But she is helping out in a place where the COVID-19 pandemic has been even more devastating by working as a certified nurse’s assistant at St. Camillus Health Center in Whitinsville.

“It’s an amazing experience to help give people who have worked their whole life the best experience possible for their later years,” Tennaro said.

Tennaro has worked as a CNA in the past and was excited to have the time and the opportunity to get back into it, even during a health crisis that has wreaked havoc on long term care facilities like St. Camillus. She is working on a unit that does not have any COVID cases at the moment, but she is still donning a full array of personal protective equipment, including a gown, a mask, and goggles. Her shifts are 12 hours long. “I was a little nervous but I know a ton of people who are working in hospitals right now and this is something I love to do,” she said. “My family was very supportive of it as well.” Describing herself as a “people person,” Tennaro said the pandemic has only strengthened her resolve to go into the healthcare field and do what she can to pitch in. She has been in touch with the coaching staff and is excited to be a part of the team and play lacrosse at the collegiate level.

“The coach said she was excited to have me because I’m a defender,” Tennaro said. “Everyone there has seemed so nice and some of the lacrosse girls have reached out to join the team and play lacrosse at the collegiate level.”

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As she pursues that goal at Anna Maria, Tennaro will not have to give up her lacrosse stick and goggles. She has been in touch with the coaching staff and is excited to join the team and play lacrosse at the collegiate level.

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“The coach said she was excited to have me because I’m a defender,” Tennaro said. “Everyone there has seemed so nice and some of the lacrosse girls have reached out and said they are happy to have me join the team and that it’s going to be a great year.”

Everyone there has seemed so nice and some of the lacrosse girls have reached out and said they are happy to have me join the team and that it’s going to be a great year.”

By Chris Villani
Sports Reporter/Columnist

Seniors typically provide valuable leadership for high school programs, but that leadership can be even more vital in a sport like lacrosse, where many athletes might be picking it up for the first time when they reach the high school ranks.

The four seniors who were slated to lead the Blackstone Valley Tech girls’ lacrosse program this year, Abigail Cook, Skylar Manyak, Skylar Morrissey and Samantha Tennaro, were exceptional stewards for the program and the sport.

“We are definitely going to miss having that mentorship that you often see between seniors and underclassmen,” head coach Sam Coonan said in reference to the season lost to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“They were great at helping the younger kids develop,” Coonan said. “For lacrosse, we really heavily rely in players who have played before because a lot of freshman have never played lacrosse because their schools do not have programs in place for them to learn the sport.”

Tennaro, Manyak and Morrissey have been with the program since they were freshmen and Cook joined last year, picking up the game quickly thanks to her natural athleticism.

Tennaro helped hold down the defensive end of the field while her three classmates were able to play multiple positions defending on where they were needed.

“All four of them are very coachable,” Coonan said. “It’s kind of a lousy situation to put it bluntly. I can only imagine, looking forward to senior season and having it nipped in the bud kind of stinks.”

Coonan said she has had the chance to speak with her seniors, either over the phone or through a video chat. She said they are handling the situation as well as could be expected given that they are not just losing out on their senior lacrosse seasons, but also have to miss numerous other senior events.

BVT is trying to organize different ways to celebrate its seniors during the crisis and Coonan said there are talks about trying to put together some sort of alumni game next year to give this year’s class a chance to take the field one more time.

“We want to do something specific for lacrosse once social distancing measures are less restrictive,” she said. “We really just want to recognize these seniors for everything they’ve done throughout their careers.”

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Congratulations to our Milford College Graduates

Eric Abruzzi
Among the 1,752 undergraduates and graduates receiving degrees during a May 9 virtual commencement ceremony at the University of Tampa, Tampa, Fla., was Milford resident Eric Abruzzi, who graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

Connor Bowers
Connor Bowers, son of Donald and Lisa Bowers of Milford, graduated from Norwich University in Northfield, Vt. with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice. He will be heading to Officer Candidate School for the Marines later this year.

Bucknell University
Among the over 800 graduates who received degrees from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Penn., during Commencement on May 17, was Milford resident John Montani, who was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering.

College of the Holy Cross
Three Milford residents were among the 707 students who received bachelor of arts degrees from College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, during a virtual celebration of the Class of 2020 on May 22. They are Domenic Cozier, Karina Ramos and Noah Richardson.

Ani Dirazonian
Ani Dirazonian of Milford was among the 6,326 students who were awarded degrees at the University of Alabama this spring. Dirazonian received a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Fitchburg State University
Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, recently concluded the 2019-20 academic year, conferring 559 undergraduate degrees and 379 graduate degrees to students. While the in-person commencement ceremony has been postponed, University President Richard S. Lapchak saluted the Class of 2020 in a letter to graduates. Among those receiving undergraduate degrees were Milford residents: Luke A. Freehoff, a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice; Jason G. Pinto, a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology; and Victoria L. Weisenhorn, Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Education.

Jillian Powers
On May 16, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, N.H. celebrated its graduating seniors with live streamed Celebration in Honor of the Completion of Graduation Requirements. Among the 483 graduates was Jillian Powers, Bachelor of Arts in Communication. Powers, who graduated with a GPA of 3.50-3.64, is the recipient of the Andrew and Phebe C. Grant Scholarship.

Quinsigamond Community College
Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester held a May 21 virtual commencement ceremony, which can be viewed at QCC.edu/commencement. Among the graduates were the following Milford residents: Joseph Knight, Associate in Arts; Joseph Condolos, Associate in Business Administration; Alex Knight, Associate in Business Administration; Jordan Knight, Associate in Arts; John Still, Associate in Business Administration; and Michael Veazie, Certificate.

Victoria M. Scozzafava
Victoria M Scozzafava, daughter of John and Maria Scozzafava of Milford; graduated from Syracuse University Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science and Chemistry with a minor in Psychology. She will continue graduate studies this Fall at the Henry Lee School of Forensic Science University of New Haven.

University of New Hampshire
The following Milford students graduated from the University of New Hampshire in Durham Saturday, May 16, during a virtual celebration. Students who received the honor of cum laude graduated with a GPA of 3.50-3.64.

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

Tops in their Class:

Valley Tech 2020 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Brandon Kee, BVT Class of 2020 Valedictorian

Donald McDonald, BVT Class of 2020 Salutatorian

Brandon Kee, the son of Dianne and Dwight Kee of Milford, is the Blackstone Valley Tech Class of 2020 Valedictorian.

A member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, he graduated from the Valley Tech Engineering & Robotics Department and received the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence (the M.A.S.S. Certificate of Academic Excellence). Additionally, Kee received the Rensselaer Medal, which is awarded for outstanding achievement in Math and Science, and the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. The recipient of the Lions Young Ambassador of the 21st Century, he was named Leo of the Year by the Massachusetts Lions District 31A. Kee was a bronze medalist in 2018 at the SkillsUSA Nationals in Principles of Engineering.

An Eagle Scout with eight palms, he is active in the community as an acolyte, reader, and Lay Eucharistic Minister at Trinity Episcopal Church in Milford along with volunteering at the Daily Bread Food Pantry.

Kee will attend the University of Massachusetts Lowell majoring in Engineering. He also plans on getting his masters in field.

Daniel McDonald, the son of Katherine and Clayton McDonald of Grafton, is the Valley Tech Class of 2020 Salutatorian.

A member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, he graduated from the BVT Information Technology Department. McDonald received the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence (the M.A.S.S. Certificate of Academic Excellence) and was a Commended Student in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program, both recognizing his academic success. He holds multiple IT certifications, competed in SkillsUSA and is the founder and president of the BVT Game Design and Development Club. Outside of school he has been an active volunteer at the Grafton Public Library. To strengthen his workforce entry opportunities, McDonald is interested in advancing his vocational-technical education by majoring in Computer Science at a four-year college. He is presently deciding between Michigan State and Miami University in Ohio.

Matthew Karl Baier, Multimedia Communications; Michael Charles Boone, Auto Collision Repair & Refinishing; Justin Paul Braza, Construction Technology; Olivia Marie Choeschi, Painting & Design Technology; Minhaz Ahmed Choudhury, Information Technology; Andrew James Constantine, Electrical; Jason Fowung Fowung, Plumbing; Antonio Jose Goncalves, Construction Technology; Joel Francisco Goncalves, Construction Technology; Leah Rose Gorham, Cosmetology; Sarah Elizabeth Gorham, Cosmetology; Willow Anne Harvey, Business & Entrepreneurship; Derek Thomas Jordan, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Brandon Setzo Kee (NHS/NTHS), Engineering & Robotics;

Logan Connor Keeffe, Multimedia Communications; Victoria Vieira Lopes, Cosmetology; Lucas Joseph McFetridge, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Lorenzo Dante Morese (NHS), Information Technology; Tareq el Lewandowsky Maunus (NHS), Health Services; Sydney Khasson Phillips, Culinary Arts; Holly Elizabeth Roberts, Construction Technology; Jacob Samuel Rothberg, Drafting & Design Technology; Victoria Lee Russian, Culinary Arts; Renata Almeida Santiago, Business & Entrepreneurship; Lucas Francisco Saunara, Information Technology; Pedro Samas Soares, Plumbing; Melissa Dias Vieira (NHS/NTHS), Health Services; and Kayleigh Anne Wilcox (NHS/NTHS), Cosmetology.

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Your tax dollars ...

As your elected Highway Surveyor, I have always been committed to spending your tax dollars effectively to ensure the highest level of Public Safety. This budget maintains and repairs our roads, bridges, dams and sidewalks.

But that is only part of my role. In my 13 years as a Highway Surveyor, I have sponsored, submitted, and secured State and Federal Grants totaling over $10 Million to rebuild our roads, bridges, stormwater, Godfrey Brook, and additional infrastructure, in Milford.

I have specified, procured, and purchased equipment totaling over $4 Million to replace outdated practices and obsolete equipment.

I have implemented a pavement preservation program. Simply explained, the life of a road will be greatly extended when minimal money is invested through surface maintenance treatments. Maximizing preservation has saved costly road reconstruction.

I have implemented an organic recycling program at the new Asylum St. facility to recycle leaves and brush, saving ten thousands of taxpayer dollars of removal costs and a plan to further expand our recycling capabilities.

On Tuesday, June 16th vote for proven experience and forward thinking.

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School
CLASS OF 2020

Luckily a photographer was on hand to capture this very spirited photo of the Valley Tech Class of 2020 at a pep rally earlier this year prior to Governor Charlie Baker closing all Massachusetts schools in March. Senior activities and graduation itself have either been cancelled or delayed due to the COVID 19 pandemic this spring. But Valley Tech and its Class of 2020 have rallied to create an alternative schedule of senior events. It begins on Monday, June 15 when the school will hold Senior Checkout Day. BVT seniors report back to campus to receive their caps and gowns, graduation tickets and honor society stoles and cards. The school and students hope graduation activities can continue in August. A Senior Breakfast is planned for Friday, August 7 in the school cafeteria followed by graduation rehearsal. BVT has planned a variety of Graduation Ceremonies for Saturday, August 8 depending on social distancing requirements at the time. The ceremonies are scheduled to be held at 11 a.m. at the school either on the athletic fields or in the Competition Center. BVT photo

Proven Experience,
Forward Thinking,
Accountability

Fiscal Responsibility
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On Tuesday, June 16th vote for proven experience and forward thinking.

Scott has been in the forefront of these new challenges and these issues will continue to be his priority. He is not looking for a new job. He is doing the job!

On June 16th, the Committee to Re-Elect Scott Crisafulli respectfully requests that you support Scott and allow him to continue these efforts.

Committee to Re-elect Scott Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor
This Is How They Roll!

Submitted by Elise Bogdan
Blackstone Valley Tech

While society works to adapt to a new normal, Blackstone Valley Tech pulls out all the stops to celebrate its seniors this spring. As the Class of 2020 gears up for graduation, BVT hosts a senior parade commemorating this milestone, making sure these class moments are fun, unique, and memorable.

It was a bright, beautiful summer-like day, on Friday, May 15, as the Class of 2020 and their families arrived at BVT to pick-up their class t-shirt. The students were not expecting to see what they saw. Over 75 of their teachers, instructors, administrators, and support staff eagerly awaiting their arrival, socially distanced along the driveway, parking lots, wrapping around the building to celebrate them with hoots, hollers, and cheers in what was a rolling rally parade.

Families were assigned an arrival time and asked to stay in their vehicles. To enter the driveway near the digital sign, plan to pull around the building heading towards the t-shirt distribution tent set-up outside of the fitness center. The parents were aware that they were part of a celebratory procession of vehicles that would slowly roll around the building. They arrived in true BVT fashion; with parental pride, on full display, the car décor was on point, and creativity did not disappoint. From bubbles, balloons, and banners to the Upton Police, Fire, and EMS with flashing lights, horns, and sirens to noisemakers, decorated cars, and masked staff, family, and friends wearing BVT colors to celebrate the Class of 2020. It was uplifting to see each other and come together in this way. Even Sporty the Beaver made a brief appearance to wish our seniors well.

Check out the celebration at ValleyTech.k12.ma.us/celebratingourseniors2.

MOTIVATED TO SERVE MILFORD

Let me share a word about my motivation for running.
I am running for a seat on your Board of Selectman because I am looking to use my experience to better the community.
I am running because I believe I can make a difference for every segment of our community.
I am running because we have many pressing and important issues which will affect Milford for generations.
I am running for you, the voters and taxpayers, the people of Milford.

It's that simple!
You deserve clean water, you deserve top notch schools, you deserve great police and fire protection. You deserve someone that can and will protect your tax dollars.

Please vote for me on Tuesday, June 16th.

Sincerely,

Tom

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Tom O’Loughlin

2020 Greenleaf Garden Club Scholarship Winner

Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford is pleased to award its annual scholarship of $1,000 to Milford High School senior, Angela Pillarella.

She has an impressive academic record, was a member of the National Honor Society, was Science Olympiad Captain (2018-2020) and was a member of The Environmental Club. Pillarella was on the Varsity Tennis team and a member of the CARE Club.

She will attend Emmanuel College, majoring in Biology with a Chemistry concentration, preparing for a career in Environmental Sciences.

The Greenleaf Garden Club of Milford is a member of the National Garden Clubs Inc. and the Garden Club Federation of MA, Inc. Each year the Club awards a scholarship to a graduating Milford resident who is entering a field related to Horticulture, Agriculture, or Environmental Science. For more information contact Scholarship Chairperson Margie Campbell O’Brien at 508-479-4289 or GreenLeafGardenClub@gmail.com.
Socially-Distanced MHS Grads Get Photos & Diplomas

Milford graduating senior, Liam Bennett, takes his final bundle of high school paperwork home on June 6. Seniors stopped by the high school, one by one, to return school property, pickup their possessions and diplomas, and have a photo taken in their caps and gowns. Scott Calzolaio photo

New Ways to Celebrate MHS Seniors

Traditional graduation activities have been cancelled or delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. New ways of celebrating have been found by schools everywhere including Milford High School (MHS).

Signs designating Milford High Class of 2020 members were placed on the students’ lawns a few weeks ago. The traditional Senior Night featuring the talents of the class was done online and is available on YouTube.

On Sunday, May 31, the Class of 2020 took part in a rolling celebration, a parade through town. Over 250 decorated cars left the MHS campus, driving under a Milford firetruck ladder raised in an arch and flying the U.S. flag.

Family, friends, former teachers and school staff, wearing Milford red and white, lined the streets on a beautiful afternoon to cheer on the soon-to-be graduates.

A live commencement ceremony has been planned for Saturday, August 8, though that date is tentative.

To view more photos of the 2020 MHS Senior Parade by Town Crier photographer Jim Calarese visit Facebook Town Crier Publications.

Soon-to-be grads showing their school pride, Julia Riordan, left, and Hannah Wieshi, get ready to roll on Sunday May 31 for the Milford High School Class of 2020 rolling celebration. Jim Calarese photo

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES

NOW YOU CAN PURCHASE YOUR VEHICLE WITHOUT EVER LEAVING YOUR HOME!

WHY PAY THE DIFFERENCE IF YOU CAN’T TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

PURCHASE FROM YOUR HOME - WE’LL BRING THE TEST DRIVE TO YOU!

OUR SERVICE DEPARTMENTS ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

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SHOP AND COMPARE OVER 2,500 VEHICLES - IN ONE LOCATION! STARTING AT $7,999 // WHY PAY THE DIFFERENCE IF YOU CAN’T TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

SALE ENDS 06/30/20. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. THIS OFFER IS NOT VALID ON prior sales and is based on the MSRP and not combinable with ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS, PROMOTIONS, OR INCENTIVES. PRICE LISTED INCLUDES ALL APPLICABLE MANUFACTURER REBATES (NOT EVERYONE WILL QUALIFY) AND IMPERIAL DISCOUNTS INCLUDING A $1,000 IMPERIAL TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS FOR A QUALIFYING 2010 OR NEWER TRADE. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION, DOCUMENTATION OR ACQUISITION FEES AND CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS OR PROMOTIONS. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. CALL 508-488-2382 TO SEE WHICH REBATES YOU QUALIFY FOR.

CROWDS LINED THE STREETS IN MILFORD TO CHEER ON THE OVER 250 DECORATED CARS FILLED WITH MEMBERS OF THE MHS CLASS OF 2020. BOTH THE CROWDS AND THEIR STUDENTS WORE THEIR MILFORD RED AND WHITE.

IMPERIALCARS.com

MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9-9, FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 9-6, SUNDAY: 12-6 | 508-488-2382

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JUNE 12, 2020