



# Milford Rotary



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Community Commitment

2018

## Rotary Awards \$6000 In Scholarships to High School Seniors



(l:r) Elina Barrows, Nipmuc Regional High School; Scholarship Chairman Steve Ellis; Silvana Reid, Blackstone Valley Tech; Milford Rotary Club President Stephen Chaplin; Benjamin Tahmoush, Hopedale High School; and Dan Pacella, Milford High School.

Rotarian and Scholarship Chairman Steve Ellis addressed Rotarians, scholarship recipients, and their parents at the Club’s Annual Scholarship Luncheon at Restaurant 45 in Medway in June and commended recipients for their outstanding achievements. Ellis also thanked their parents for their commitment and investment in their children’s futures. Ellis noted, “Receiving the award is no easy task.” It starts with a written application, a resume, and an educational history file and then ends with each finalist being interviewed by a group of 3-4 Rotarians. He praised each for how they “handled the process” and noted, “It never fails to impress me, beyond all expectations, to see what you all have achieved in the past four years. You make our job daunting, to say the least,” he said.

Ellis encouraged all recipients to follow their dreams and to let opportunity lead them down whatever road of success and excellence fulfills their life goals.

Ellis noted, “As our scholarship process was underway, I checked with some of our prior recipients. I am always interested in the stories they share, how things worked out for them, and what unknown opportunities came their way. It’s always refreshing to hear their stories, and I am sure you all will tell me similar stories four years from now,” he said. Ellis joked with the recipients, “I will be checking with each of you in four years and I hope you will return my call and share your stories about how it all worked out.”

Barrows will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a major in chemistry. Reid will also attend WPI, majoring in Biomed & Mechanical Engineering. Tahmoush plans to attend the University of Michigan and major in business. Pacella will head to Boston College and major in Chemistry and Pre-Med.

Ellis closed his address by informing the students that he was excited to present



Scholarship Chairman and Past President Steve Ellis encourages recipient’s to “Follow their Dreams.”

each recipient with a \$1500 check on behalf of the Club and thanked the Club for its continued support of education and for maintaining one of the oldest and best programs that Rotary offers.

Ellis also thanked Club members for helping with the interviews as well as the administrative teams at the four high schools for supporting Rotary’s scholarship program.

Ellis wished each recipient well and said, “I hope this award not only serves to highlight the excellence you

achieved in the classroom, but also what you have achieved outside the classrooms, on the athletic fields, in the many clubs that you participated in, and for your many hours of community service.” I hope that today’s luncheon marks the beginning of what will be an amazing journey for you and your parents,” he concluded.

### “Father Mac” Receives Honorary “Paul Harris Fellow Community Service Award”



Story on page 13



### There’s A New Flower Garden in Town

(l:r) Rotary President Steve Chaplin, Rotarian Donna Wolf and Ron Pagnini, Chairman Milford’s Downtown Revitalization Committee. Story page 6 and 20.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



2017-2018 Milford Rotary President Stephen Chaplin and District Governor Karen Gaffney.

I am not an avid reader by any stretch of the imagination. But in the summer of 2012, I felt compelled to seek out and read a book entitled *Bowling Alone* authored by Harvard University Professor Robert D. Putnam. I will not endeavor to summarize the publication but will say I was struck by its commentary on the decline of so-called “Bowling Leagues” a metaphor for community and fraternal institutions, the societal impact of the same as of the book’s publication date (2000), and what the author perceived as likely unintended consequences of emerging computer technology. For me and for others, the single greatest take-away from Putnam’s work is to recognize the importance of fraternal organizations and institutions as vehicles for relationship-building and civic attentiveness within one’s community. In other words, it is important to belong to at least one “bowling league.”

The Milford Rotary Club is a “bowling league” of the highest degree. For starters, it is part of Rotary International, that is, a local, regional and international network of more than 33,000 service clubs across more than 200 countries. I cannot personally verify these statistics, but I did encounter a Rotary Wheel prominently displayed as I entered town when I was last in the mountains of Brazil. I still have the picture, taken half a world away, capturing a symbol of cross-cultural commitment to serving one’s community and the world at large, even if service to one’s self must be made a lesser priority.

The above statistics and commentary aside, to categorize Rotary as simply a network of service clubs would be to tell only half the story. Rotary International’s sister organization, the Rotary Foundation, is a global charitable foundation responsible for humanitarian initiatives too numerous and impactful to recount in this publication, but which include efforts to eradicate polio worldwide and to bring clean drinking water to the third world. Here in Milford, Rotary District Grant dollars have been used to purchase bicycle helmets for children, to help provide youth swimming lessons, and to help pay the cost of summer lunches for children who would otherwise not eat lunch during the summer months. Such community assistance would not be possible without the institutional infrastructure of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation, Nor would it be possible without your support of our Rotary Tabloid Publication or our members’ consistent annual donations to the Rotary Foundation.

The Milford Rotary Club’s newest District Grant project is a collaboration with the Town of Milford, among others, to improve the look and feel of the flower bed at the intersection of Main Street and E. Main Street (across the street from Sacred Heart Church). Practically speaking, the project will improve the aesthetic of a prominent part of Downtown Milford. The collaborative nature of the project and common vision truly epitomize the values of Rotary. Notably, the project received twice the support from our Rotary District 7910 Grant Fund as compared to any prior grant this Club has received. The Milford Rotary Club is grateful for the generosity of the District Grant Committee and is excited to implement the project beginning in the fall of 2018.

Beyond our current District Grant Project, the Milford Rotary Club improves our community through numerous self-funded efforts. For example, each year, we send four rising high school sophomores to a leadership conference and awards four scholarships to graduating high school seniors from Milford, Hopedale, Mendon-Upton Regional, and Blackstone Valley Technical Vocational High Schools. When planting the seeds of leadership and civic attentiveness in the next generation, we do not simply hand students a check – we stay in touch and seek to be kept apprised as young leaders develop. In 2018, the seeds of youth leadership training sprouted into a Rotary Interact Club at Milford High School, an effort organically led and developed by a 2018 Rotary Youth Leadership Award recipient. Other Club efforts include our decades-old swimming lessons program at Fino Field, this very publication (no small undertaking for a group of volunteers) as well as our annual Get Outdoors Day event and our annual Lobster Raffle (raffling a bushel of live Maine Lobsters). In the future, we also hope to be known for charitable playing card tournaments, which we intend to launch this year – stay tuned!

In closing, it was my honor to serve as President of the Milford Rotary Club for 2017-18. I joined this Club because a book left me convinced it was important to join a so-called “bowling league.” While my bowling acumen is no better than it was nearly a half-decade ago, I consider the “Bowling Alone” theory to be a proven theory. If you, the reader, think you may wish to become more involved in a community organization such as Rotary either as a member or as a volunteer, please do not hesitate to contact one of our members. Thank you for taking the time to read our annual Tabloid Publication, and thank you for your support of the Milford Rotary Club and the worthy causes we champion.



**Velky Receives President’s Award**

Following his “State of the Club Address,” President Chaplin presented Rotarian Leanne Velky with a special Gift Basket from Oliva’s as his President’s Award. Chaplin thanked Velky for always being available to assist him and for her willingness to share her thoughts about Club activities and her vision for the future of the Club. Chaplin also thanked Velky for assisting with Social Media, the Outdoor Day Program, the Milford Food Pantry Project, and numerous other activities conducted by the Club. Chaplin commented, “ Sometimes I felt like she should have been President.”



Chaplin Names Donna Wolf “Rotarian of the Year”



During his final meeting of the year, President Chaplin named Donna Wolf the 2017-2018 Rotarian of the Year.

Chaplin noted that while the criteria for the Rotarian of the Year Award is not defined by Club by-laws, he focused on an individual who is active in the Club, participates in service projects, makes important contributions towards the Club’s largest needs and goals including leading the club in the future, is involved in the Rotary planning/visioning process, and increases Club visibility.

He noted, “The individual I have selected, Donna Wolf, more than exceeds those criteria with her active participation in our Club visioning process, attendance at club meetings, involvement in pre-planning and setting up community events, and volunteering her time during the events. Donna will be serving as an officer of the Club for next year and will serve as President in 2019-2020.”

Chaplin praised Donna for being instrumental in securing a design for the Downtown Flowerbed/Sign Project that will be enjoyed by many while increasing the visibility and profile of the Club in a number of different ways.



Chaplin Trades Rotary Bell for a Clock

In keeping with past traditions, the Milford Rotary Club President hands the “Club Bell” to a new President in June as the Club and Rotary International end another year of community and worldwide service projects. It was a little different this year as in-coming President Al Holman accepted the office for the third time in seven years. As Chaplin ended his year, he reflected on a number of things that the Club, as a group, accomplished. Chaplin also shared what it meant to him personally to have the opportunity to lead and stressed that he could not have done it without the amazing support he received from his management team and other club members.

Following Steve’s pumped-up review, incoming President Al Holman, presented Chaplin with a beautiful engraved clock in appreciation of his outstanding leadership over the past year. Holman noted, “I know it’s a tradition to give the past president a gavel, but I like thinking out of the box so I thought in this “case” a clock was more appropriate, and I also know being president takes a lot of time.”





**Ready to Serve:** Every Rotary year, members of Rotary step up and sacrifice time to serve and lead. This year was no different as President Chaplin surrounded himself with an enthusiastic, dedicated, talented team. From left: Mike Kaplan, Immediate Past-President; Donna Wolf, Secretary; Tony Gallo, Treasurer; Al Holman, President-Elect; and Leanne Velky, Sgt. At Arms. Michael DiCicco, Executive Secretary, had to leave before the photo was taken.



## Important Rotary Educational Award Dates

**Scholarships:** Seniors in Hopedale High School, Milford High School, Blackstone Valley Tech and Nipmuc Regional High School should check with the Guidance Department in March or April of their senior year.

**RYLA:** Sophomores should check with the Guidance department in January/February of their sophomore year.



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(l-r): Kiera Seaver, Hopedale High School; President Al Homan; Elizabeth Scrimgeour, Milford High School; and Gretta Boone, Blackstone Valley Tech. Camille Gallagher, Nipmuc Regional High School, also attended RYLA but was unable to attend the luncheon.

**RYLA Leadership Conference “Excites” Attendees**

In keeping with past traditions, the Milford Rotary Club sponsored four high school sophomores to this year’s three-day overnight Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) conference at Fitchburg State University from June 22-24. In order to be selected, students submitted an application requiring an essay about “What Attending RYLA Means to Me.” Applicants were interviewed, in person, by panels of three-four Rotarians. During the conference, students engage in both small and large group activities designed to help students discover, stretch, grow and develop leadership skills.

The three-day program includes a variety of team building challenges and enrichment sessions aimed at helping attendees learn about themselves and others while making new friends and building lifetime relationships with 175 students representing the 50 Clubs in Rotary District 7910. Milford Rotary has been sponsoring four students to RYLA every year since RYLA was founded in 1994. A number of RYLA students sponsored by the Milford Club have returned the following year to serve as counselors and peer leaders. Rotarian and Past-President Dennis LaPlante serves as Milford Rotary’s RYLA Chairman. In July, RYLANs and their families were invited to a Rotary Luncheon to share their RYLA experiences.

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on another successful year!

**Milford Rotarian and Salvation Army Leader Moves to New Assignment**



**Bright Idea:** Rotarian Steve Ellis popped into the “going away” meeting at Lowell’s in Mendon to present the couple with a few mementos including a tote bag for Jessica and a dozen golf balls for David - most likely to replace those lost at Hopedale Country Club where they both played in a league.

Rotarians joined with Salvation Army Advisory Board members, community leaders, and friends of Majors David and Jessica Irwin in late June to thank them for their years of service and to wish them well on their new assignment in Pennsylvania. David has been a member of the Milford Rotary Club since December of 2011. Both David and Jessica are past recipients of Rotary’s Paul Harris Fellowship recognition award.

During the luncheon at Lowell’s in Mendon, the couple received a number of recognition awards for achievements during their Milford assignment.

Following the presentations, the Irwin’s shared memories of their past seven years in Milford and noted, “We will miss Milford. This is where our kids grew up, and we all made a lot of friends that we will miss. But, we look forward to the opportunity that has been placed before us.”

Marilyn Holman, Chairperson of the Milford Salvation Army Advisory Board and this year’s Milford Rotary Club’s First Lady thanked the couple for their dedication to the Salvation Army’s mission in Milford, their intense commitment during the annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing campaigns, and their display of enthusiastic patriotism as witnessed by the very successful Fly the Flag Program that they created. Holman noted, “We all beam with pride and joy as we drive past Draper Park when the flags are on display. It just brings us together as a community to see our veterans and country being glorified and honored at Draper Park and throughout the greater Milford area where more flags are on display to support the Salvation Army Community Flag Program.” Holman concluded, “It’s a wonderful legacy that you leave us. It will remind us of your time with us while you serve others in Norristown.”

In addition to being a Club Member, David served on several committees and coordinated the Club’s Annual Christmas Bell Ringing effort. A number of Rotarians also helped David put up or take down the flags. Rotarians also volunteer to help pack Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Boxes under a community volunteer project organized by David and Jessica.

We will miss the Irwins’ at the Salvation Army and at Rotary where he also served as our prayer leader and song master.



**Mark Reid, District Director for Senator Ryan Fattman,** presented awards from the Massachusetts State Senate to both Jessica and David

**Michael Walsh Sr.** presented an award on behalf of State Representative Brian Murray and the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Walsh, Chairman of the Milford Board of Selectmen, also presented a recognition award from the Town of Milford as Salvation Army Board member Louis Guerriere listens intently.



The Flag Program will always be seen as one of the Irwins' major fund-raising projects, but for all of us who drive by the flags blowing in the breeze – the flags mean so much more.



Working Together To Serve The Community



(l:r) Leanne Velky and President Steve Chaplin deliver the goods.

The Milford Rotary Club and the Milford Lions Club are both well-known for their service to our community, so maybe it was no big surprise when Rotary President Stephen Chaplin and Lions Club President Jim Sanchioni announced in mid-May that the clubs were joining together to buy a carload of grocery and paper goods for the Milford Daily Bread Food Pantry as a joint service project. Each club contributed financially and Rotary Club President Stephen Chaplin organized a team of fellow Rotarians for a Tuesday evening shopping spree at Aldi's.

Within about 35 minutes, President Steve and his friend Alex Tuttle, along with fellow Rotarians Leanne Velky, Tony Gallo, Donna Wolf, and Dennis LaPlante, had filled two carts to overflowing with needed non-perishable items. After working their way through the checkout, the items were packed into Steve's car for delivery to the Daily Bread Food Pantry on Exchange Street.

In addition to the Rotary and Lions contributions, additional monetary donations for the special community project were made by Rotarian Dennis LaPlante/Partners By Design and Rotarian Steve Ellis/Bright Insurance Agency. Needless to say, the Pantry was excited to get an unexpected carload of much-needed items from the combined efforts of Rotary and Lions.



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District Governor Sager Says, “Be The Inspiration” And Delivers a \$3000 Check For Milford’s Downtown Beautification Project

July 31st was a great day for the Milford Rotary! Rotary District 7910 Governor Steven Sager visited the Club to present his emotional message wrapped around Rotary International’s 2018-2019 theme challenging Rotarians to “Be Part of The Inspiration.” Governor Steve explained in detail some of the areas that he plans to focus on over the next 12 months, including an international project where Rotarians from District 7910 will travel to Southwestern Guatemala to install 150 OLIN stoves in homes in the rural village of Panajachel to help reduce family respiratory problems.

Governor Sager was witness to an update from Milford Rotarians Stephen Chaplin and Donna Wolf on the status of the Downtown Beautification project to improve the flowerbed across from the Sacred Heart Church at the intersection of Main Street and East Main Street in Downtown Milford. The update was timely since Rotary District 7910 had recently awarded a grant to the Milford Club for this project.

The project started with an inquiry in the fall of 2017 by some town officials asking if Rotary would be willing and able to participate in the Downtown Beautification Plan. Rotary President Chaplin pledged the Club’s support. Wolf then began the tedious process of meeting with a landscape specialist to see what could be done, what plants and shrubs would survive in that area, and what the cost might be. After reviewing the fruits of Wolf’s efforts, the Club agreed to move forward. Based on the estimated cost of the project, it was clear Rotary would need some financial help to purchase 52 mature plants/shrubs including roses, rhododendrons, hydrangeas, holly trees and 50 clusters of yellow lilies.

During the winter months and into spring, Chaplin undertook the task of requesting a special grant from Rotary District 7910 understanding that funds are tough to get, but also knowing that Milford Rotarians have been strong supporters of the Rotary Foundation since the early 1980’s and have a history of success within the District Foundation Grant process. Chaplin also knew that the Club had received grants in the past to help fund a “kids helmet day”, the 2016 Rotary swim program, and a portion of the Milford Area Humanitarian Coalition’s Summer Meals Program in 2017.

Within 45 days of applying, Chaplin received a pledge that the District would be willing to donate \$3,000 to the Downtown Beautification Project – that is double any prior grant our Club has ever received. Notably, the District’s interest in the Project was due not only to Rotarians raising the necessary funds, but also also required that Club Members provide the volunteer labor to prepare and plant the garden. The Club will also seek partners and non-Rotarian volunteers to maintain and ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.



(l-r) Rotary District Governor Steven Sager, Milford Rotary Downtown Beautification Committee Co-Chairs President Stephen Chaplin and Donna Wolf, and Rotary District 7910 Area 7A Assistant DG Lindsey Morris.



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**Trading Members:** In June, we were sad to see our good friend and fellow Rotarian, Mel McKee, retire from the Club. Mel joined Rotary in March of 2005 and for many years chaired the Annual Wine/Micro Beer & Food Gala and served on the Scholarship Committee where he was dedicated to holding applicants to high standards of service and academic success in his evaluations. Derek Plourde, SVP/Sr. Commercial Loan Officer at Charles River Bank, replaced Mel and was installed as a new member by Membership Chairman John Peters III. Welcome aboard, Derek, and enjoy your retirement Mel! Remember, you are always welcome at our Rotary meetings and events.



**Milford Rotary Cares About Kids:** President Stephen Chaplin (left) and Paul Tamagni, the Club's Youth Program Chair, popped into the Milford Youth Center in June and presented Katie Covell, the Center's Assistant Director, with a \$1000 check to help support the MYC Summer Camp Scholarship Program.



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**Rotary Rolls Out Hole-In-One Putting Contest at Celebrate Milford Day**

Torrential spring rains caused Celebrate Milford Day planners to move the event from Saturday to Sunday, but the date change didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirits as a big crowd showed up on Sunday morning. Milford Rotary pitched its tent, sold Lobster Raffle tickets to help fund its many community programs, and collected sign-ups for its July Red Cross Swim Program at Fino Field. Rotarian Ben Demeo had spent some time preplanning and quickly rolled out Rotary's first portable putting green. Ben welcomed passersby to PUTT FOR A HOLE-IN-ONE and get the prize- a free Lobster Raffle entry for a bushel of Maine lobsters. Congratulations to all our Hole-In-One winners! We hope you enjoyed putting around. It was a great day for everyone, and Rotary enjoyed being part of this successful downtown community event.

*Left top: Is President Chaplin cheering for Donna Wolf to score a Hole-In-One or is he looking for a "Birdie"?*

**Congratulations to Mary Slaney of Northbridge, the winner of Rotary's 2018 BUSHEL OF LOBSTERS RAFFLE.** Rotarian Laura O'Callaghan sold the winning ticket and Rotarian Steve Ellis delivered the lobsters on a September morn at 6 AM. Looks like all 20 guests had a great time-except maybe the " Red Lobsters" served fresh from the pot.

*Thanks for supporting this important fundraiser and a special "Thank You" to Albert Carver, owner of A.C. Inc. in Beals Island, Maine, for donating the fresh caught Maine Lobsters.*



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**The Milford Rotary Tab**  
is a Milford Rotary Club  
fundraising publication that  
is direct mailed to 13,000  
businesses and homes in  
Milford.  
**Publisher/Photographer:**  
Tom Sawyer  
**Editor:** Jane Schroeder  
**Production:** Al Holman  
**Sales Coordinator:**  
John Peters III  
*Thank you for supporting  
this unique fundraiser for  
the past 29 years*



**Life Guards On Duty** (l;r) Morgan Smith, Gianni Panno, Brianna Croteau, Garry Sampson, Pietro Bon Tempo, Ashbee Hobart, Serafina Bon Tempo, and Nick Monica.

**Milford Rotary Swim Program:** Our thanks to pool directors Peter Filosa and Ron Santacroce, and the Town of Milford, for letting Rotary use Fino Pool for this year's Summer Swim Program. And of course, we want to thank our great team of lifeguards and instructors led by staff directors Morgan Smith and Nick Monica. Since the program began in the fifties at White's Beach in Mendon, over 13,000 kids have enjoyed the opportunity to learn or enhance their water skills through Rotary's Summer Swim Program. Rotarian Tom Sawyer serves as the Club's current Swim Program chairman.



# Thank you Milford Rotary!

For over 75 years the Milford Rotary has supported dozens of worthwhile causes and activities, including their Annual Red Cross Swim program to help teach swimming and water safety to area youth. Rockland Trust appreciates the Rotary's strong commitment to community relationships.

To learn more about Rockland Trust,  
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PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP 1937-2018

\*Daniel O'Brien is the only Milford Rotarian to ever serve as District Governor  
\*Thomas C. Sawyer, Sr. served as a District Governor Representative 1995-1999  
\*Vera Cassinelli also served as Area 3A Assistant District Governor 2006-2012

|      |                       |      |                      |      |                        |      |                   |
|------|-----------------------|------|----------------------|------|------------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1937 | Dr. Roy Ellsworth     | 1958 | Arthur W. Peterson   | 1979 | Alfred B. Cendella III | 2000 | Vera Cassinelli*  |
| 1938 | Edward Mitchell       | 1959 | Richard Gilfoyle     | 1980 | Dennis M. Sullivan     | 2001 | Paul A. Surapine  |
| 1939 | Robert Curtiss        | 1960 | John L. Carrier      | 1981 | Jim Martare            | 2002 | Paul A. Surapine  |
| 1940 | Ralph Coffin, Jr.     | 1961 | E. Louis Sabatinelli | 1982 | Kevin Coady            | 2003 | Paul M. Yanovitch |
| 1941 | Michael Hachey        | 1962 | Richard Varney       | 1983 | Richard J. Morin       | 2004 | Rev. Edgar Kemp   |
| 1942 | D. Victor Smith       | 1963 | Allen S. Richardson  | 1984 | Leonard R. Boucher     | 2005 | Steven Ellis      |
| 1943 | Shelley D. Vincent II | 1964 | Dr. Donald A. Lukert | 1985 | Henry C. Papuga        | 2006 | Jane Schroeder    |
| 1944 | Herbert Shwabe        | 1965 | Daniel G. Falvey     | 1986 | Gordon A. Lewis III    | 2007 | Michael DiCicco   |
| 1945 | Michael Morganelli    | 1966 | Anthony Allegrezza   | 1987 | Kennith D. Brock       | 2008 | Barry Feingold    |
| 1946 | Everett G. Watson     | 1967 | Dr. Sidney Heller    | 1988 | Mark Wyspianski        | 2009 | Josh Lioce        |
| 1947 | John W. Bickford      | 1968 | Paul D. Bozzini      | 1989 | Joseph LoPiccolo       | 2010 | Paul Tamagni      |
| 1948 | David I. Davoren      | 1969 | John Cozzi           | 1990 | John T. Knierim        | 2011 | Anthony Gallo     |
| 1949 | Daniel O'Brien*       | 1970 | Frank Iadarola       | 1991 | Thomas C. Sawyer, Sr.* | 2012 | Al Holman         |
| 1950 | Clarence Varney       | 1971 | Dr. Harry Helfard    | 1992 | Malcolm M. Smith       | 2013 | Al Holman         |
| 1951 | Charles H. Miller     | 1972 | Barry J. Marcus      | 1993 | Paul M. Yanovitch      | 2014 | Dennis LaPlante   |
| 1952 | Phillip H. Sherman    | 1973 | Benjamin J. Ferigno  | 1994 | Michael D. Peterson    | 2015 | Allan Villatoro   |
| 1953 | Hamilton W. Thayer    | 1974 | Norman Noorjanian    | 1995 | William A. Ellery      | 2016 | Michael Kaplan    |
| 1954 | William L. Power      | 1975 | Leonard J. DeLoia    | 1996 | Peter M. Beecher       | 2017 | Stephen Chaplin   |
| 1955 | John Hutchinson       | 1976 | David A. Ablondi     | 1997 | David T. Pagnini       | 2018 | Al Holman         |
| 1956 | Fred Clarridge        | 1977 | Edward L. Prentiss   | 1998 | John D. Powers         | 2019 | Donna Wolf        |
| 1957 | Charles J. Mongeon    | 1978 | Nicholas D. Valorie  | 1999 | John Peters III        |      |                   |

| Leadership 2018 - 2019    |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| OFFICERS                  |                    |
| President                 | Alfred Holman      |
| President Elect           | Donna Wolf         |
| Secretary                 | Dennis LaPlante    |
| Executive Secretary       | Mike DiCicco       |
| Treasurer                 | Tony Gallo         |
| Immediate Past-President  | Stephen Chaplin    |
| BOARD OF DIRECTORS        |                    |
| Term Ending June 30, 2019 | Steven Ellis       |
| Term Ending June 30, 2019 | Thomas Sawyer      |
| Term Ending June 30, 2020 | Tony Gallo         |
| Term Ending June 30, 2020 | Paul Tamagni       |
| Term Ending June 30, 2021 | Steve Chaplin      |
| Term Ending June 30, 2021 | Claudia Pietrewicz |
| CLUB CHAIRS               |                    |
| E-Bulletin                | Dennis LaPlante    |
| Club Membership           | John Peters III    |
| Foundation Chair          | Tom Sawyer         |
| Humanitarian Services     | Dennis LaPlante    |
| Literacy                  | Jane Schroeder     |
| Outdoor Day Chairs        | Ben Demeo          |
|                           | Leanne Velky       |
|                           | Laura O'Callaghan  |
| Public Relations          | Al Holman          |
| Rotary Foundation         | Tom Sawyer Sr.     |
| Rotary Tab                | Tom Sawyer Sr.     |
| RYLA                      | Dennis LaPlante    |
| Social Media/Facebook     | Tom Sawyer Sr.     |
| Scholarships              | Steve Ellis        |
| Social Events             | Tony Gallo         |
| Speakers/Programs         | Jane Schroeder     |
| Swim Program              | Tom Sawyer Sr.     |
| Youth Exchanges           | Jane Schroeder     |
| Youth Programs            | Paul Tamagni       |
| Website Administrator     | Mike DiCicco       |




Front row (l:r): Tony Gallo, Club Treasurer; Donna Wolf, President-elect; Stephen Chaplin, Immediate Past-President 2017-2018; Al Holman, President; and Dennis LaPlante, Secretary. Michael DiCicco, Executive Secretary, was not able to attend the photo session.

**Rotary Leaders 2018-2019:** We hope you enjoy reading this year’s Rotary publication. In addition to being one of our major fundraisers, the Rotary Tab helps us provide you with you a “glimpse” of Rotary in action over the past 12 months. It was another busy year, as we introduced new ideas, considered new projects, and maintained traditions of years past.


In June, at the annual meeting held at the Restaurant 45 in Medway, we thanked Stephen Chaplin for his leadership and flipped the switch to welcome President Al Holman as our 2018-2019 president. In keeping with past traditions, one of our senior members, Tom Sawyer, conducted the installation ceremony.

*If you would like to join Rotary, just contact any one of our officers. They would be happy to introduce you to Club Membership Chair John Peters III for a sit-down chat and an invite to a Rotary luncheon*



# Rotary

Why Not Join Rotary TODAY! Simply Contact Any Rotarian Pictured On Page 11 or Email Membership Chairman John Peters III at [iiijp@comcast.net](mailto:iiijp@comcast.net)



**The Milford Rotary Club** is dedicated to the ideals of Rotary International - to encourage and foster high standards in business and the professions, to have a strong commitment to the community, and to help Rotary International advance its goal of promoting international goodwill and peace. **Meetings are on Tuesday at 12:10 PM at Restaurant 45 in Medway.** Chicago businessman Paul Harris founded Rotary in 1905. In 1916, Arch Klump, the President of Rotary International, challenged Rotarians to create and support an endowment fund for the purposes of doing good throughout the world. In 1928 the Endowment Fund was renamed The Rotary Foundation. In 1957, twelve years after the death of Rotary’s Founder Paul Harris, the Foundation began honoring donors as Paul Harris Fellows. Eight Rotarians on page 11, who have contributed \$1000 or more, have been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows and have a star \* preceding their names. **Twelve members: Leonard DeLoia, Ralph Mas-troianni, Thomas Sawyer, Sr., John Peters III, Vera Cassinelli, Paul Surapine, Jane Schroeder, Steven Ellis, Josh Lioce, Michael DiCicco, Paul Tamagni, and Alfred Holman have achieved multiple Paul Harris status for their continued support of the Foundation and have a double\*\* star preceding their names.** Members who are working toward their PH recognition award have a # sign preceding their names.

**What would it take to change the world?** Rotary’s 1.2 million members believe it starts with a commitment to Service Above Self – the RI motto. In more than 33,000 clubs worldwide, in more than 200 countries, you’ll find members volunteering in communities at home and abroad to support education, job training, digging wells to provide clean water, implementing programs to combat hunger, working to alleviate poverty, improving health and sanitation, and working with Rotary Partners like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to eradicate polio throughout the world. Worldwide, more than 1,404,583 dedicated Rotarians have achieved Paul Harris status in recognition of their support of the Rotary Foundation’s efforts to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace. In 1979, Rotary recognized Mother Teresa as a Paul Harris Fellow. In 1980, entertainer Pearl Bailey also became a Paul Harris Fellow through a joint effort of the Rotary clubs from Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Other notable figures named Paul Harris Fellows include U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, U.S. astronaut James Lovell, UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and Dr. Jonas Salk.

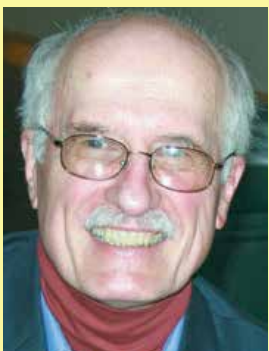
**Locally the Milford Rotary Club has presented Honorary Paul Harris Fellow Awards to Bill and Nancy Gannett (2012), Peter Filosa and Ronald Santacroce (2013), The Honorable Judge Francis J. Larkin (2014), Frank Saba, retired CEO & Chairman of the Board of Milford Regional Medical Center (2015), retired Massachusetts Senator Louis P. Bertozzi (2016) and Trinity Episcopal Church, Reverend William MacDonald Murray (2017). The awards were given in recognition of the recipients' Community Service and Leadership.**



# WHO'S WHO IN MILFORD ROTARY \* SERVING GREATER MILFORD SINCE 1937



★★ **Leonard M. DeLoia**  
Real Estate Broker-Maynard  
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
Joined Rotary 5/1/70  
Honorary Member



★★ **Ralph P. Mastroianni**  
Owner/Retired  
Mastroianni Architects  
Joined Rotary 9/13/83



★★ **Thomas C. Sawyer, Sr.**  
Director  
Milford National Bank  
Joined Rotary 7/1/86



★★ **John Peters III**  
Commercial Real Estate  
Lioce Properties  
Joined Rotary 8/19/95



★★ **Vera Cassinelli**  
President  
Al Cass., Inc.  
Joined Rotary 7/29/97  
Honorary Member



★★ **Paul Surapine**  
Executive Director, Claflin Hill  
Music Performance Foundation  
Joined Rotary 4/24/98



★★ **Jane Schroeder**  
Retired Dir. Community Relations  
Milford Public Schools  
Joined Rotary 11/17/99



★★ **Steven Ellis**  
President  
Bright Insurance  
Joined Rotary 12/10/01



★★ **Joshua Lioce**  
Residential Real Estate  
Owner/Lioce Properties, Inc.  
Joined Rotary 10/28/03



★★ **Michael DiCicco**  
SVP - Retail Banking  
Milford Federal Savings & Loan  
Joined Rotary 6/1/04



★★ **Paul Tamagni**  
Financial Advisor  
Tamagni Wealth Advisors  
Joined Rotary 2/23/05



★ **Mel McKee**  
SVP Commercial Loan Officer  
Charles River Bank  
Joined Rotary 3/15/05



★ **Anthony J. Gallo III**  
President  
Gallo Moving & Storage, LLC  
Joined Rotary 9/11/07



★★ **Alfred Holman**  
Publisher/President/CEO  
Upton/Mendon & Milford Town Crier  
Joined Rotary 11/17/08



★ **Dennis LaPlante**  
Principal  
Partners by Design  
Joined Rotary 10/19/10



★ **Allan Villatoro**  
Vice President  
Market Executive  
UniBank  
Joined Rotary 5/17/11



★ **Dave Irwin**  
Major  
Milford Salvation Army  
Joined Rotary 12/20/11



★ **Ann Gonyea**  
AVP Mendon Branch  
Charles River Bank  
Joined Rotary 1/1/13



★ **Stephen Chaplin**  
Attorney at Law  
Doherty, Ciechanowski, Dugan & Cannon, P.C.  
Joined Rotary 3/25/14



# **Bernard Demeo**  
Arborist  
Bartlett Tree Experts  
Joined Rotary 3/05/15



# **James Travis Romano**  
Executive Director  
Blair House Assisted Living  
Joined Rotary 1/5/16



# **Leanne Velky**  
Owner/CEO  
Leanne Velky, Inc.  
Joined Rotary 6/23/16



# **Donna P. Wolf**  
Esquire  
Law Offices of Donna P. Wolf  
Joined Rotary 9/13/16



# **Laura O'Callaghan**  
President & CEO  
Milford Area Chamber of Commerce  
Joined Rotary 9/27/16



# **Claudia Pietrewicz**  
Relationship Branch Manager  
UniBank, Milford  
Joined Rotary 01/28/2017



# **Albert Crimaldi**  
Financial Advisor  
The Cafaro Group-Merrill Lynch  
Joined Rotary 05/09/2017



# **Derek Ploudre**  
SVP Sr. Commercial Loan Officer  
Charles River Bank  
Joined Rotary 6/24/2018



**Father William "Mac" Murray**  
Trinity Episcopal Church, Milford  
Paul Harris Community Service Award  
December 5, 2017



**Auriane Veyreinc**  
Essex Exchange Student from France  
Paul Harris Achievement Award  
June 15, 2018



**Steven Sager**  
District Governor  
Rotary District 7910  
July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

DESIGNATIONS ★ PAUL HARRIS FELLOW # SUSTAINING MEMBER PAUL HARRIS FOUNDATION



Rotary Presents Five Paul Harris Awards at December Luncheon



**Front Row** (l:r) President Stephen Chaplin, Paul Harris Award recipient; Rotarian Paul Tamagni, a Multi-Paul Harris Award recipient, and his wife Amy, Paul Harris Award recipient; Reverend William “Mac “ Murray, Honorary Community Service Paul Harris Award recipient, and his wife Merline.  
**Back Row:** Assistant Governor Judy Merriam, Rotary 7910 District Governor Steven Sager, and Club Foundation Chairman Tom Sawyer, a Multi-Paul Harris Award recipient. (Foundation Photos by Leanne Velky)



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Restaurant 45 Is Ready to Serve Up the Annual Paul Harris Awards Luncheon



Senior member and Past-President Steve Ellis presented Paul Tamagni with a Multi-PH Pin. Paul received his first PH Award recognition in October of 2009.



After receiving his Award, Paul surprised his lovely wife Amy with an Honorary PH Award for all she does for the family and the community.



Seems like Assistant DG Judy Merriman is “serving up a lecture” as she presents President Stephen Chaplin his PH Award.



Laurence Veyreinc, from France, was honored to attach a Paul Harris Pin to her daughter Auriane’s jacket.

Reverend William “Mac” Murray Receives Honorary Paul Harris Community Service Award



Father Mac, his lovely wife Merline, and Foundation Chair Tom Sawyer.

Sometimes you meet the “right person” when you least expect it. When Al Holman was serving his second term as President in 2013, he suggested that Rotary shift some of its focus to Feeding People right here in our community. Five Rotarians, Dennis LaPlante, Al Holman, Mike Kaplan, Harold Rhodes and Steve Chaplin, formed a sub-committee and connected with the Milford Area Humanitarian Coalition (MAHC) headed by none other than the Milford Trinity Episcopal Church pastor Reverend William MacDonald Murray - now known to us in Rotary as our friend “Father Mac.”

The Trinity Church is no stranger to “feeding people” as they were one of the six churches who joined together and founded the Daily Bread Food Pantry in 1991. The church also serves hot meals for the needy.

Our team learned that Father Mac had taken a sabbatical in 2013 “to study the needs of Milford” and ended up developing a four-point strategy that focused on Transportation, Caring for the Elderly, Central Access to Resources, and Feeding the Needy. From the first discussion, it was clear that Father Mac’s vision to “feed people” aligned perfectly with Rotary’s vision.

MAHC holds its round table meetings every other month, and it was during one of these meetings that the idea of “Summer Meals For Kids” surfaced.

Rotarian Tom Sawyer, Milford Rotary Foundation Chair, noted, “Thanks to Father Mac’s passion to serve his community through not only spiritual feeding from the pulpit but also actual food on the table, the little seed that he planted was watered by an army of volunteers, resulting in over 10,000 meals being served during the most recent Summer Meals Program.”

Sawyer added, “My friends, I think that is a ‘Rotarian in spirit’ in action, and a person deserving of our prestigious Paul Harris Community Service Award. It is my honor to make this presentation on behalf of the Milford Rotary Club and the Rotary International Paul Harris Foundation.”

Sawyer continued, “Over the years, the Club has presented this award to a very select group of individuals including Bill and Nancy Gannett, Peter Filosa, Ronald Santacroce, the Honorable Judge Francis Larkin, Frank Saba, and Senator Louis Bertone. While none of these outstanding individuals were members of Rotary, their life accomplishments and humanitarian efforts align them with Rotary’s ‘Service Above Self’ motto. The four-point MAHC vision developed by Father Mac during his sabbatical, and what he did with it afterwards, sure looks a lot like Rotary’s 4-way test,” Sawyer concluded.

Rotary Foundation named World’s Outstanding Foundation

The Association of Fundraising Professionals recognized The Rotary Foundation with its annual Award for Outstanding Foundation at its 2017 conference. AFP cited Rotary’s comprehensive campaign to eradicate polio as a major driver of the selection. Since Milford Rotary Club’s first donation in January of 1978 members have personally donated over \$121,000 to the Rotary Foundation with 107 members having been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows.

Rotary Celebrates Vocational Services Month with visit to PbD in Hopedale

To participate in the world-wide celebration Club Members visited a local business with a coast-to-coast and beyond business plan. Rotarian and Past-President Dennis LaPlante, who is also a co-owner of Partners by Design (PbD), hosted members in the boardroom of the manufacturing facility for PbD, which is located in the Hopedale Industrial Park.

Rotary was treated to a PowerPoint presentation featuring many facilities where PbD has provided turnkey food service and retail solutions including design, manufacturing, and installation for the education, healthcare, sports, entertainment, travel, and hospitality industries. As the PowerPoint slides flashed by, we were treated to amazing visuals of installations at facilities such as Benedict College, Columbia University, College of the Holy Cross, Fenway Park, New Orleans Arena, Target Field, and TD Garden.

Following the presentation, Rotarians enjoyed a nice lunch before touring the manufacturing buildings that feature state-of-the-art equipment for both metal and millwork capabilities employing a variety of materials and manufacturing methods.

Bottom photo: Gregg LaPlante explains the operation of a SCM- Pratik S - CNC computer-programmed router machine which cuts pieces of cabinetry for final assembly and is the workhorse of the production department.

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### Rotary's Outdoor Day Ends with a Living Gift to Milford

Fighting off threatening skies and occasional showers, Rotary rolled out its second Outdoor Day with activities that stretched from the parking lots of Fino Field to the shores of Louisa Lake. The successful event held on Saturday, June 23, was under the chairmanship of Rotarian Ben Demeo assisted by Rotarians Laura O'Callaghan, Donna Wolf, Leanne Velky, and Paul Tamagni.

This year, many activities took place at the Fino Field entrance where kids could play policeman in a Milford Police car, or fireman in the cab of a fire engine. Kids were excited to experience hands-on action while cranking up the sirens of the fire truck or the blue lights of the police cruiser.

Milford's Army Recruiting Team was on duty as they set up one booth where kids could shoot hoops and another where kids could check their football passing accuracy. Youngsters and adults could also pick up a putter and enter Rotary's free Hole-In-One putting contest for a chance to win a free ticket in a drawing for a Bushel of Lobsters.

Forty lucky kids received free bicycle helmets compliments of The Friends of The Upper Charles River Trail group thanks to a grant from the Milford Police Department. Kids also enjoyed face painting, craft activities, yoga with Cindy Scrimguer from Strawberry Pache Yoga, and a variety of other activities before riding their bikes on the Charles River Trail to Louisa Lake where all could get a free kayak to ride on the lake or grab a fishing pole to try to win the beautiful fishing derby trophy.

Rotary's anchor event on Outdoor Day was held at the end of the day under dark clouds and light rain when Rotarians, Milford Cadette Girl Scout Troop 11276, and others joined together to grab their wheelbarrows, shovels, mulch, cutters and whatever else was needed to dig a hole deep and wide enough to plant a beautiful 15-foot tall American Redwood Sequoia tree. Prior to the planting, Demeo had walked the Upper Charles River Bike Trail with others to find the "perfect spot" to plant this unique tree donated by Bartlett Tree Experts of Ashland through the efforts of Rotarian Ben Demeo. It is anticipated that over time, if conditions permit, the majestic young tree could grow to a 75-100 feet tall landmark. Perhaps it will spur the creation of a wonderful, peaceful rest area on the Charles River Trail.

Rotary would like to thank Ben Demeo and Bartlett Tree for this wonderful treasure to the Town of Milford as well as all the extra work that Ben put into the planning and planting process.

Fortunately the tree was dropped into the big hole, the wires cut, the roots spread out, and the soft dirt put back in place and covered by fresh mulch just as the heavens opened and the rains came down.

Everyone was a little wet, but the rain only covered the tears of joy for all who participated in this impressive Get Outdoors Day closing event.

It truly was a typical New England weather day and a perfect day to plant a 15-foot American Redwood Sequoia for all future generations to enjoy.



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Tele: 508-473-5110 Fax: 508-478-7997

Email: milfordwater@milfordwater.com



ECHO LAKE RESERVOIR

Milford Water Company wishes to *thank*, the Milford Rotary Club for all of their hard work and effort throughout the year supporting our community. **Happy 81<sup>st</sup> to the Milford Rotary Club!**

*Wishing all of our friends at the Rotary and our customers a fun and safe autumn!*

## Greater Milford's #1 Real Estate Team



### Joshua Lioce and the Lioce Team...

(L:R) Rose Ann Fitzpatrick, Jill McLaughlin, Joshua Lioce, Melissa Pica, Steven Borges, John Peters III. (Not Pictured) Julie Lioce, Mandy Bradeen, Denise Schube.



"Joshua Lioce and the Lioce Properties Group is a proud supporter of the Milford Rotary Club and would like to thank all Rotarians for their continued positive impact and good works in Milford and the surrounding communities!"

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Rotary’s Get Outdoors Day Saturday, June 23, Fino Field & Louisa Lake - Thanks for Coming- We hope you enjoyed the day!



**The Kayak Kids Were Ready To Serve at Louisa Lake:** It looks everyone was ready for a “Dog Gone Good Time” on Louisa Lake as life guards Jake Tamagni (with the family’s prize pal “Cooper”), Briana Maietta, and Zack Tamagni get prepared to launch kayaks for those wanting to enjoy the serenity and calm waters of Louisa Lake. The team was supervised by Rotarian/event committee member Paul Tamagni, hiding in the back. The Milford Community Use Program provided the kayaks and rides were free for all.



Some lucky angler is going home with the big one.



**Hole-In-One and I Don’t Mean My Sock:** Rotarian Ben Demeo no sooner rolled out his putting green and landscape before kids started rolling in putts on an uphill green that was tougher than some of the beautiful greens at the Hopedale Country Club.



**Ready to Serve:** (l:r) Milford’s Army Recruiting Team SFC Bartz, Staff Sgt. Wozny, and SFC Kelly recruit some happy basketball shooters we may see at Milford High School someday based on that Milford Hawks sweater. Or maybe the young man in the NASA shirt will fly over our heads in a manned space ship. Well, no matter what, we were happy to see everyone at Get Outdoors Day and glad the local Army Recruiters always have our back’s no matter what the weather. Thanks guys.



It’s a big step up or a lot of little steps but it was worth the effort as kids worked their way up to put themselves behind the wheel of one of Milford’s awesome fire trucks. The smiles say –it was worth the effort.



**A family of smiles:** (l:r) Susan and Kevin Lewis and daughter Lacey enjoy a laugh as Lacey finds her favorite helmet.



**Heads-up for Safety First:** Mike Morrison, President of “The Friends of The Charles River Trail” gave out 40 free bicycle helmets to some very happy kids and parents. Mike purchased the helmets under a grant from the Milford Police Department. So here’s a big THANK YOU to Milford’s Men and Women In Blue. Pictured with Mike are Rotarian Laura O’Callaghan and a happy nine-year-old Julia Martinez.



**Looks like SFC Lucas Bartz** is looking too happy to be going over the rules, so he must be giving Kailyn (left) and Ashley Gibson a big thumbs up for a job well done.



**Milford Firefighter Kaitlyn Farina** assisted kids wanting to enjoy the view from on-high while toying with the sounds of the fire engines’ powerful sirens and horns.



**Officer Mike Martell’s police car** was a big hit as Mike let kids sit in the imposing back seat before moving up front to crank up the sirens and blue lights. Kaitlyn and Mike were great with the kids who enjoyed checking out Milford’s Safety Vehicles.



**Rotarian and event co-chair Leanne Velky** shares information about the bike parade slated for the Trail.





READY TO SERVE

Rotarians are always expected to say “Yes!” when asked to serve at a specific event or to help on a specific project. But President Al Holman wasn’t expecting Rotary guest Camdon Sawyer to volunteer to help him serve lunch as Rotarians and guests gathered to enjoy an outdoor meal during their annual jaunt to George’s Surf & Turf in Mendon.

Camdon Sawyer  
& Al Holman



**Waiting to be served:** (l-r) Rotarian Tom Sawyer and his grandson Camdon, Leanne Velky and her husband Matthew, Stephen Chaplin, Claudia Pietrewicz, Donna Wolf and her husband Edward, Al Holman, Jane Schroeder, and Tony Gallo. Photo by former Rotarian Mike Peterson, who just happened to stop by. Thanks Mike! Former Rotarians are always welcome at Rotary meetings.

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Hopedale Families Host Exchange Student From France

Once again, the Milford Rotary Club enthusiastically welcomed an Inbound Student through the Rotary Eastern States Student Exchange (ESSEX) program. Sponsored by the Grenoble Rotary Club in France, Auriane Veyreinc arrived in August 2017 from her hometown of Lyon to begin her 2017-28 school year at Hopedale High School.

ESSEX Inbound Students are supported during their stay in the US by a local Rotary Club, who arrange home stays with three families during the year, and attend an area high school as a full-time student. Jane Schroeder, Milford Rotary’s Youth Exchange Officer, met with Hopedale High administrators before Auriane arrived to guarantee her acceptance at the school and then recruited host families in Hopedale. Jane noted that Auriane was very happy with all of her host families – Leo Doran and Monica Cantwell and their family helped Auriane settle into the school and introduced her to American culture. Then Gerald and Elizabeth Maurais and family welcomed her to their family around the winter holidays for the next three months. Paul and Jana Loughlin and their two young daughters opened their home to Auriane for the rest of the school year in the spring and even extended her stay with them through the early summer. “These Hopedale families were fantastic host families who made Auriane’s exchange year a success. Without their generous hospitality and willingness to welcome another teenager into their busy lives, this exchange would not have been possible,” Jane said. “Host families often stay in touch with their students for years,” she added. “And they often visit their exchange students in their home countries a year or so after the exchange has ended. Building a long-term friendship based on mutual understanding of each other’s cultures and lifestyles is what we hope will happen during the exchange year. And maybe...hopefully it will be a step towards making our world a more peaceful place ” At a June meeting the Milford Rotary Club presented Auriane with an Honorary Paul Harris Award for achievements during her year as an exchange student. Auriane had a wonderful year participating in sports at Hopedale High as well as managing her studies well...and making many new friends. “Whenever I asked her how things were going,” Jane said, “Auriane would always say with a big smile, ‘I am SO HAPPY here!’” Jane has stayed in touch with Auriane who recently emailed her and said that though she is happy to be home with her family and friends, she is homesick for America! She hopes to return for a long visit next summer. And we Rotarians would love to see again.

Anyone who is interested in the Rotary ESSEX program can contact Jane for more information. She has recently joined the Rotary District 7910 ESSEX Team as the Inbound Student Chair.



Milford Rotary Is helping to put Turkey’s on the Table



Chef Jeff Caruso



(l:r): Senior class member Evan Tillman on the Violin; senior class member Zoe Tillman on the Cello, Director Matt Boday, Sophomore Emily Rose Maddock on the Violin

**Music To Our Ears:** When Rotary held its last meeting of the year, MHS music teacher Matt Boday blessed the Club with the appearance of the Milford High School String Trio who entertained us with a medley of Holiday music.

**Carving it up!** It was a “sweet-smelling and informative “ November luncheon at Restaurant 45 when Chef Jeff Caruso talked to Rotarians about holiday food menus and demonstrated the do’s and don’ts on how to carve a turkey that will tempt your palate and fill your tummy. Following the dinner, Rotary presented Major David Irwin with a \$250 check to help buy holiday turkeys for others. (l:r) Chef Jeff Caruso and Mr. Turkey. *Top photo: Club Treasurer Tony Gallo, Major Irwin, and Salvation Army Board Chairperson, Marilyn Holman.*



(l:r): Karen Gaffney, District Governor Rotary District 7910; Izzy Doran, host sister; Marcia Davis, District 7910 ESSEX Chair; Carrie Maurais, host sister; Laurence Veyreinc, Auriane’s mother from France; Leo Doran, host father; Auriane; Rotary Club President Stephen Chaplin; and Jane Schroeder, Club Youth Exchange Officer

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Top (l:r), Al Holman, Tom Sawyer, Mike DiCicco, Steve Ellis, & John Peters III. Second Row: Ann Gonyea with granddaughter Makenzie (left); Paul Surapine, Happy Donor, Dennis LaPlante & his wife Heather.

Ringing Bells at Christmas has been a long-standing tradition with members of the Milford Club. Each year, on a December Saturday, Rotarians staff the doors of Price Chopper in Hopkinton and Shaw's in Milford. Members are often joined by their spouses, kids, and – yes, sometimes their dog- all decked out for Christmas. It's always a fun day. Unfortunately, our roving photographer can't get to all shifts to take photos of every Rotarian at each store, but we could never have kept this tradition alive without every member's support. For decades, Ringing the Bells has been one of our favorite community service activities.



Albert Crimaldi, Leanne Velky and President Stephen Chaplin bring smiles to a cold day.

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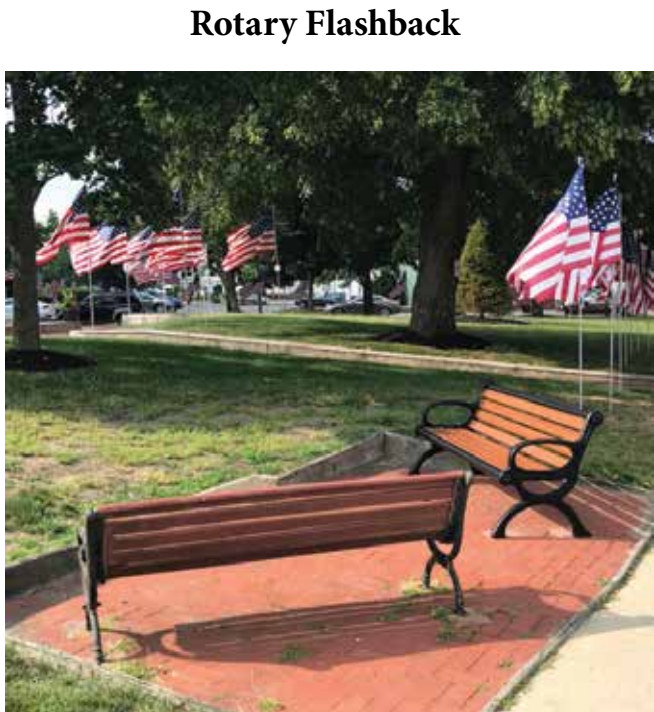
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Did you know that this beautiful park bench in Draper Park was funded by a donation from the Milford Rotary Club many years ago at the request of then Milford Selectman Brian Murray? Years later, the original wrought iron bench was sanded, repainted and the wooden slats replaced with safer composite slats. All of the benches throughout the park were funded by a local business or organization and Rotary was proud to be part of this community effort.

Rotary hopes you take a moment to sit, relax, reflect, and enjoy Draper Park, one of Milford's beautiful memorials to its heroes.



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### There's A New Flower Garden In Downtown Milford

If you are going to plant a community flower garden with over 100 shrubs and plants -you might as well do it on a rainy day as the Milford Rotary Club did on Saturday, October 6th.

After months of planning by Rotarians Stephen Chaplin, Donna Wolf, Ben Demeo, and town officials including Ron Pagnini Chairman of Milford's Downtown Revitalization Committee, Rotarians planted a flower garden anchored by the "Welcome To Milford" sign located across the street from the Sacred Heart Church.

The project started with an inquiry in the fall of 2017 when town officials asked if Rotary would be willing to participate in a Downtown beautification project connected to the revitalization plan.

President Chaplin pledged the Club's support and Donna Wolf began to meet with landscape specialist to see what plants would thrive in that area, and what the overall cost might be. After reviewing the fruits of Wolf's efforts, the Club agreed to move forward.

In order to help fund the project, President Steve Chaplin pursued and received a \$3000 grant from Rotary District 7910 with the stipulation that Rotarians needed to be actively involved in the project, including the actual planting and any additional funding required.

On Friday, October 5th President Chaplin staked out each shrub's spot according to the professionally designed plot plan and Milford's Highway Department dug the holes and dropped off loam and mulch.

On Saturday, October 6th Rotarians and family members gathered at 9:30 AM with rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, and pruning tools ready to finish the task in spite of the falling rain. Rotarians were joined by Ron Pagnini who thanked everyone for supporting Milford's Downtown Revitalizations plans.

By noon, the rains had ceased, the sun was peaking out, the garden was finished, and parishioners heading to Church were commenting about the transformation.

The garden features a wide variety of plants including, roses, rhododendrons, hydrangeas, holly trees and 50 clusters of yellow lilies. You can read more about this community project on FB at Milford MA Rotary Club.

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