

To the Honorable Select Board:

The Board of Health herewith submits their Annual Report for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

**REPORT OF THE HEALTH DIRECTOR/PUBLIC
HEALTH NURSE**

The mission of the Milton Health Department is to achieve the highest level of wellness for all Milton residents by adopting reasonable health regulations, providing preventative health programming, and preparing and planning for public health emergencies and pandemics. Under the guidance of the elected Board of Health, the Board's professional staff assesses the public health needs of the Milton community. The staff addresses those needs by enforcing state and local public health and environmental health regulations and by providing public health nursing services, health promotion activities, emergency preparedness and response planning, community health education and reducing environmental health hazards. The Board of Health consists of three members elected by the residents of Milton, and a volunteer Medical Advisor, Dr. Anthony Compagnone. Dr. Compagnone retired from Hyde Park Pediatrics this year and later resigned as Medical Advisor to the Milton Board of Health. Dr. Compagnone was a great asset to the Board during numerous health discussions over his seven-year tenure. Dr. Compagnone brought a wealth of knowledge to assist the Board of Health members in making decisions regarding the health of the community.

The Milton Health Department staff is comprised of a full time Director/ Public Health Nurse Caroline Kinsella, a full-time Assistant Health Director Laura DelleChiaie, a full time Health Agent position which is

currently vacant, a part-time 16 hr. Public Health Nurse Susan Poirier, and a part-time 21.5 hr. Senior Administrative Clerk Jean Peterson. This year we were delighted to congratulate Mary Stenson on her re-election to the Board of Health for a three-year term. The Drug Free Community grant supports The Milton Coalition staffing, which includes Program Director Laurie Stillman and two part-time Project Coordinators, Margaret Carels and Stormy Leung. Program Director Laurie Stillman retired from the Program Director position on September 21, 2021, and Margaret Carels and Stormy Leung's positions changed to Co-Directors with an increase in weekly hours from 19 hours to 30 hours each. Laurie Stillman worked as a consultant and then became the Milton Coalition Program Director in September of 2017. During that time, she built up the Milton Coalition to the status of an award-winning Coalition. Her expertise, experience and skills led to a solid foundation and growth of the Coalition over the years. She is a true advocate and leader in Public Health.

BIOTERRISM AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Increasing concern for emergency preparedness requires that the Milton Health Department increase its emergency response capabilities. The Health Department staff continued to be an integral part of the Local Emergency Planning Committee. The LEPC meets during the year to develop response plans for emergencies and reviews the Town's Emergency and Infectious Disease Plans.

The Health Department staff also continued its participation in the statewide region 4AB for local response to bioterrorism preparedness. We received a grant for \$

2,880.00 which was used for training and equipment to enhance local public health emergency preparedness. Our region consists of 26 communities surrounding Boston, with a total population of just under one million. The goal of the regional system is to ensure adequate resources are available to prepare and protect residents from terrorist attacks and natural disasters and to develop and implement plans, procedures and protocols to ensure effective and efficient coordination of public health and public safety resources. The Milton Emergency Operations Plan Manual has been updated so that the Health Department team will have a resource readily available to them in case of an emergency. Regional representatives meet monthly to plan and develop a model for effective and efficient delivery of all public health services, not just emergency or bioterrorism response. The Health Department also works closely with Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton.

The Milton Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), along with the Towns of Canton, Dedham, Needham, Norwood, Walpole, Wellesley, and Westwood, participated in emergency preparedness trainings and drills (collectively referred to as Norfolk County-8). The NC-8 MRC is in the process of changing to the MA responds model for recruitment of volunteers.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

“Protect, Promote, Prevent” is the mantra of Public Health, to promote healthy communities, encourage healthy behaviors, and prevent the spread of disease. Due to increased vaccination and CDC recommendations the Health Department was not as busy with case surveillance and contact tracing as the previous year. The pandemic highlighted the lack of infrastructure in local public health departments to manage the magnitude and challenge of COVID-19. The Public Health Nurse was then able to

decrease her hours from full-time to part time towards the beginning of July 2021.

The evolving guidelines were presented to the Health Department via two webinars and two State conference calls weekly from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The Health Department informed residents of these ever-changing guidelines, and best practices which added to our workflow and caused much uncertainty and anxiety for the residents of Milton. We continued to field many phone calls and emails from concerned residents asking to clarify regulations. The Health Director and Public Health Nurse worked collaboratively with the Milton schools, both public and private, Milton daycares, Curry College and Milton Academy to review guidelines and answer questions. The Health Director provided the Select Board with numerous updates and presentations specific to COVID-19 and how it affected our community.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental health activities are determined by legal mandate, complaints, licensure, permit requirements, inquiries, and regulatory enforcement of local and state regulations. Activities include the licensing and inspections of food establishments, housing code inspections and enforcement actions, public and semi-public swimming pools, ponds, solid waste handling practices, animal, insect and rodent control, and the abatement of general nuisances. Additional concerns include asbestos removal, lead in the environment, hazardous waste and indoor air quality. The Health Director and Health Agent virtually attended public health organization, state, and national trainings this year on numerous environmental health topics.

The Health Department is now working with the Town Treasurer James McAuliffe and the Attorney General's Office on a program called the "Neighborhood Renewal Division". Blighted and neglected properties, abandoned by their owners in residential areas, create safety and health hazards. This program works to identify abandoned residential properties in Milton, appoint a receiver, and bring the property into compliance with the State Sanitary Code.

The Health Department would like to thank our Septic and Title 5 consultant Paul A. Brogna, P.E. of Seacoast Engineering for his invaluable assistance, knowledge, and proficiency. Paul works tirelessly to review submitted subsurface sewage disposal plans and ensures their compliance with the State Environmental Code Title 5 regulations. He is always patient, knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with.

WEBSITE

The Health Department's web page contains useful health information as well as meeting schedules and minutes, annual reports, regulations, application forms and lists, fee schedules, important web links and emergency preparedness information for residents and the Medical Reserve Corps. Please visit us at www.townofmilton.org, click on 'Departments', then 'Health Department'. We also have also created a Facebook page (Milton Board of Health) and Twitter account (@miltonboh) to keep residents up to date on local public health information. This serves as a means of communication during emergencies including the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the pandemic the Health Director has updated the Town website daily to include COVID-19 case counts and valuable data for the

Milton community.

NORFOLK COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

The threat of West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) continued this year. The Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project (NCMCP) continued to focus on source reduction, water management, larvicide, salt marsh management, mosquito trapping and testing, and ground-based nuisance spraying for mosquitoes based on residents' requests and mosquito activity monitoring. Please visit, <https://norfolkcountymosquito.org> to request service.

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (MEHA)

This organization is devoted to improving local public health practice and increasing educational and funding opportunities for local boards of health.

TOBACCO CONTROL

The Health Department continued its enforcement of the Tobacco Control Regulations aimed at preventing the sale of tobacco to persons under 21 and the sale of flavored tobacco products. Beginning June 1, 2020, the sale of flavored combustible cigarettes and other tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored chewing tobacco, was restricted to licensed smoking bars where they may be sold only for on-site consumption. Also in effect on June 1st, 2020 is the addition of a 75 percent excise tax on the wholesale price of nicotine vaping products, in addition to the state's 6.25 percent sales tax.

PUBLIC HEALTH OUTREACH

Our efforts in this area included distribution of educational materials, press releases and cable television productions in collaboration with Milton Access Television (MATV) on pertinent public health issues, including emergency preparedness and COVID-19. We also assisted in numerous requests for information on radon, lead paint, asbestos, Title 5, septic systems, safe food handling practices, mosquito control, West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and Rabies. A quarterly health article is written and submitted to the local newspaper, the Milton Times. The public health nurse also administered numerous COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters as recommended by the State and CDC to homebound residents.

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

The Health Department offers a mercury collection program to prevent mercury from entering the waste stream. Items accepted at the Health Department include thermostats, thermometers, button cell batteries, and elemental mercury.

MEDICATION AND NEEDLE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

The police station provides a 24/7 oral medication disposal kiosk in the front lobby for residents. The Health Department also provides a Needle Disposal Program in our office. For a small fee, you can purchase Needle containers to dispose of them properly.

SUMMARY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION

SERVICES

**(*Numbers may be lower due to the COVID-19
Pandemic)**

Food Establishments (routine inspections, re-inspections & consultations.....	220*
Housing Code Enforcement.....	26*
Restaurant/Food Complaints.....	12*
Public Health/Environment/Nuisance Complaints.....	16
Rodent/Animal Complaints.....	19
Misc. Inspections (tanning).....	1
Recreational Camps for Children (plan reviews, consultations, and inspections).....	11*
Septic System Installation Inspections.....	5
Septic System Percolation Tests/Soil Evaluations.....	2
Septic System Plan Reviews and Consultations.....	11
Trench Permits.....	2
Swimming Pools (public and semi-public).....	5*
Beach/Pond.....	2
Demolition Policy Reviews.....	8
Tobacco Inspections.....	9
Stable Inspections.....	9*

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH PERMITS ISSUED

Burial Permits.....	620
Disposal/Septic System Construction Permits.....	2
Disposal/Septic System Installers.....	7
Food Establishments.....	75
Farmers Market Food Permits.....	8
Food – Catered Events.....	30*
Food - Temporary Events.....	11
Ice Cream Trucks.....	3
Food – Kitchen Plan Reviews.....	2
Residential Kitchens.....	6

Funeral Directors.....	8
Indoor Skating Rinks.....	0
Recreational Camps for Children.....	12*
Rubbish Contractors.....	5
Septage Haulers.....	11
Stables – Commercial.....	0
Swimming Pools - Public and Semi-Public.....	5*
Beaches and Ponds.....	1
Tanning Facilities.....	1

Tobacco Retailers.....	9
Mobile Food Trucks.....	3
Septic Plan Reviews.....	11

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

In the 2021-2022 seasonal flu season 67 lab confirmed cases of seasonal flu in the Town of Milton were reported compared to one case the previous year. We scheduled six seasonal flu clinics, which included senior housing sites, Milton High School, Council on Aging (for all town residents) and an Employee Health Clinic. Other responsibilities include communicable disease surveillance, Direct Observation Therapy for active Tuberculosis residents, emergency planning and preparedness, town employee/resident blood pressure screening, community health outreach, and summer camp inspections to ensure that the Massachusetts minimum standards for recreational camps for children are being enforced. The Health Director/Public Health Nurse attended monthly Zoom Board of Health, NC-8, LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee), and MAPHN (Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurse) meetings and submitted quarterly reports to the BOH.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

A total of 4,059 COVID-19 confirmed and probable cases, of Milton residents were reported by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The Milton Health Department and the Community Tracing Collaborative sponsored by Partners in Health reached out by phone and mail for contact tracing follow-up. Milton residents were informed of Massachusetts Department of Public Health information and guidance pertaining to

isolation and quarantine time periods. A complete listing of the confirmed, probable and suspect cases according to case definitions from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health are on file.

There were less than 5 active cases of Tuberculosis this year. Nurse Susan Poirier conducted direct observation therapy via Facetime daily for over a year. The Tuberculosis status of 47 latent tuberculosis residents were monitored by their primary care doctors.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

A total of 900 doses of seasonal flu vaccine were administered at numerous clinics and schools. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health provides flu vaccines for children, Mass Health patients, and uninsured residents only. This year, the Health Department had to increase the number of privately purchased vaccines that we would need to supply for our flu clinics. All the flu vaccines administered had to be documented in the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) State tracking system and processed for reimbursement through Commonwealth Medicine.

Less than five residents received monthly Vitamin B-12 vaccines at their residence.

Twelve recreational summer camps were inspected, and health records for children and counselors were reviewed for current immunization status. Camp policies and procedures were reviewed as well as medications administered at the camps.

EDUCATION/PLANNING

During the year, the Health Department obtained continuing education credits for seminars and attended the annual conferences of Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses (MAPHN), Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA), and Massachusetts Health Officer's Association (MHOA). In addition, the Local Public Health Institute provided online CEU's. Also, Health Agent Laura DelleChiaie secured a \$3,000 grant from the Association of Food and Drug Officials for Milton Training Funds as part of the Retail Standards, grant program. Two staff members were able to attend a National Association of County and City Health Officials, (NACCHO) conference in Atlanta Georgia with Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Health Department Director/Public Health Nurse serves as the Chair of the Milton Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and is a Member of the following organizations: Region 4AB Emergency Planning Committee, Region NC-8 Local Emergency Planning Committee, Massachusetts Health Officers Association, Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses, Health and Wellness Committee at Milton High School, BID Hospital- Milton Community Benefits Committee, Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and Town Meeting member. She is also a Board member on the Council on Aging and serves as Treasurer.

Caroline Kinsella served as past president of MAPHN and served a two-year term. In addition, she has previously served on the MAPHN Board, and elected as MAPHN Treasurer. She is the Executive Director of MAPHN, and she currently serves as Treasurer for the

Southeast Nursing Chapter. Caroline Kinsella was honored at the Commonwealth Heroine Celebration by the Commonwealth of MA Commission on the Status of Women. Senator Timilty nominated Caroline for this prestigious award in recognition of her work throughout the pandemic.

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The Milton Health Department was graciously awarded a \$30,000 earmark secured by Massachusetts Senator Walter Timilty, utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Milton Health Department has never before conducted a formal Town-wide assessment to ascertain what types of health challenges, service gaps and health disparities exist, and this new funding will allow us to do so. Information will be collected through stakeholder interviews, focus groups, surveys, and by collecting statistical data from existing reports that will help us understand and address our greatest health needs, and identify who may be at greatest risk. After epidemiologists analyze the findings, they will be used to inform the development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), or a strategic action plan, that will focus on addressing preventable illnesses and injuries, as well as the mental and behavioral health needs of residents. This process is a best practice for local health departments to engage in. Laura Richards, Milton Board of Health Chair said, “This funding will afford the Health Department the process and data we need to hopefully bring new policies, procedures, and resources that will promote a Healthier Milton. We hope that our town agencies, partners and residents will help to make this a successful effort.”

The Health Department hired long-time Milton resident and Public Health Consultant, Laurie R. Stillman, to serve as the Project Manager for the Community Health Assessment. The Operations Team consists of the following members:

Caroline Kinsella, Health Director/PHN
Laura DelleChiaie, Assistant Health Director
Laurie Stillman, CHA Project Manager
Stormy Leung, Milton Coalition Co-Director
Rachel Brase, NC-8 Coalition Regional Epidemiologist
Amber Mullen., NC-8 Coalition Regional Epidemiologist

Additionally, the non-profit organization, Partnership for a Healthy Milton (PHM), dedicated to promoting a healthier Milton, will serve as the project's core Community Health Assessment Working Group. With other invited community members, they will lead the charge to help shape and interpret the data we collect. They will then contact local community and grass roots organizations, leaders, and residents to assist us with a comprehensive, thoughtful, and respectful plan of action.

The Milton Health Department hopes to have the Community Health Assessment completed by the end of summer 2023. Next steps will be the creation of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Please visit our webpage at <https://www.townofmilton.org/health-department/miltons-community-health-assessment-cha> for more information.

PARTNERSHP FOR A HEALTHY MILTON INC.

Partnership for a Healthy Milton was officially recognized as a tax-exempt organization on February 15, 2018. The purpose of the Partnership for a Healthy Milton, Inc. was to establish a non-profit organization which promotes and protects the health and wellbeing of Milton residents and Town of Milton workforce. Through collaborations with community leaders, residents, and partnering organizations, Partnership for a Healthy Milton will support a variety of public health and behavioral health activities in the Town of Milton Massachusetts. These programs and initiatives will work to promote healthy people in a healthy community environment, including the social determinants of health and health equity. Partnership for a Healthy Milton will emphasize the prevention of illness, premature death, and disability. Partnership for a Healthy Milton, Inc, was created with the intent of qualifying as a non-profit organization which is entitled to receive charitable gifts, donations, grants and property from all sources, and to fundraise for programs and practices that endeavor to support a healthier Milton population.

The Board members include President Dr. Marian Hannan, Clerk Pricilla Neves, Treasurer Casey Corcoran, Directors: Dr. Linda Hudson, Denise Carbone, Deborah Greene Muse, Jonathan Pincus M.D., and Health Director Caroline Kinsella. This past year we had a number of virtual community presentations and speakers who discussed what services the organization was providing to Milton residents. We are currently working on action steps and working groups concerning areas we would like to concentrate on.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Milton Coalition, formerly known as the Milton Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (MSAPC) is one of the most exciting initiatives within the Milton Public Health Department. There are 25 members representing different sectors in our community, including residents and town leaders charged with making policy and programmatic decisions within their own departments. The Milton Coalition has achieved a great deal over the past year to prevent and address youth substance use as well as promote positive mental health, thanks to the strong partnerships and volunteers that the Coalition has fostered across Town. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has continued to award the Milton Health Department \$125,000 in grant money to address youth substance use. Another \$125,000 in financial and in-kind support was raised to match the grant, for a total of \$250,000 of public health resources for Milton. A legislative earmark was secured by Senator Walter Timilty, donations from the Mike's 5K to Crush Substance Abuse, grant donation from the BID-Hospital Milton, as well as multiple donations from private citizens, civic organizations, and faith communities were also received to help support the work of the Coalition. These dollars contributed to various initiatives including bringing youth coalition members to a national leadership conference on substance use and health equity in the summer, supporting the youth's work around racism and mental health, hosting a Youth Mental Health First Aid Training for community members who serve, work, and live with youth, and launching an anti-vaping campaign targeting youth and adults in partnership with the Braintree Partnership on Substance Use.

The focus of the Coalition has been to reduce underage drinking, marijuana use, and vaping, three substances used all too frequently by our youth. After looking at the findings of the last community health assessment from 2019, opioids were added as the fourth substance of focus. In addition to substance use, the Coalition expanded its focus to include mental health. Multiple studies have found mental health challenges and disorders to be an underlying factor and co-occurring disorder for substance use disorder.

Monthly articles have been published in the Milton Times entitled, “Mind Matters” to help reduce the stigma and misapprehensions about behavioral health and substance use disorders. The Coalition partnered with various Town departments to assist our residents in accessing help and resources when facing addiction or mental health challenges. “Milton Cares” is a confidential program, organized through the Milton Police Department, whereby residents who have overdosed are visited by a substance use counselor and other support professionals

To learn more about the findings in our community assessment, the proposed strategies in our strategic plan, or to find educational resources for preventing and coping with substance abuse, please visit our website, maintained by exceptional volunteer and Milton resident, Steve Nelson, at www.milton-coalition.org.

REPORT OF THE MILTON COALITION

After many conversations over the past year, the Milton Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition formally

renamed themselves to The Milton Coalition: Addressing Substance Use and Promoting Mental Health. The name change is not only to steer away from the stigmatizing language associated with “abuse”, but also to reflect the expanded efforts and interest of the Coalition to also address youth mental health. Laurie Stillman, the Coalition’s first Director, retired in September 2021 and Margaret Carels and Stormy Leung, who were the previous two part-time Project Coordinators, have undertaken the roles of Co-Director to continue the work.

From September 2021 to February 2022, the Coalition spent a considerable amount of time trying to resolve the question of whether or not the Coalition is a public body. After a lot of research, correspondence with stakeholders and other MA Coalitions, the Town Counsel came to the conclusion that the Coalition is not a public body.

One of the key areas the Coalition continued to work on was supporting our youth Coalition and their work to help make Milton a place that can better support teens, enhance their involvement in town decisions, and improve their prosocial opportunities. The Milton Youth Advocates for Change (MYAC) is a community-based group, open to all Milton teens aged 13-18. The youth have highlighted mental health and racism as the two topics they would like to focus on this year. To address mental health, MYAC created a sub-group called *Milton Minds Matter*, which is a chapter of the national organization *Our Minds Matter*. The group meets once a month during the school year to learn and practice skills that promote positive mental health. To address racism, MYAC has partnered with Quincy Asian Resources, Inc. (QARI) to help share their own stories and experiences around racism and microaggressions.

The Coalition partnered with the Forbes House Museum in their “Opium: The Business of Addiction” year-long exhibit in a two-fold exhibition: the Forbes family’s involvement in the opium trade with China in the early 19th century and what the opioid epidemic and substance use prevention looks like today. To supplement the exhibits, the Coalition has invited community members who have lost loved ones to opioid addiction to do a session with the Opioid Art Project. Their artwork will be displayed in the Wotiz Gallery of the Milton Public Library in December of 2022 along with submissions from an art contest the Coalition held in the summer for teens to share what teen mental health looks like in Milton.

To keep residents informed, Coalition member, Maile Panerio-Langer, wrote a monthly column in the Milton Times called, “Mind Matters”. Additionally, volunteer Steve Nelson continued to update our very popular website, which had over 3,000 new users in the past year. The website, along with our Facebook Page (@MiltonCoalition), is continually updated with information about the Coalition’s activities, information for adults and teens, as well as services to help families cope with a variety of drug, alcohol and other behavioral health issues.

We also produce a newsletter once per month that goes out to over 800 subscribers. It includes upcoming events, news about trends in substance use and mental health, tips and resources for families, as well as news from our youth group, MYAC.

In April, we hosted best-selling author Jessica Lahey who spoke to the 8th grade class at Pierce Middle School about her sobriety, and as a teacher of young people who are struggling with addiction. She also presented to a

hybrid audience of parents in the evening about her book, “The Addiction Inoculation.” She shared strategies parents can use to keep communication open with their children, as well as other prevention tips.

We partnered with the Police Department on hosting two prescription Drug Take-Back days which resulted in hundreds of pounds of expired or unused drugs to be safely disposed of at the Police Station. In addition, we partnered with a number of local take-out food and alcohol retailers on a “Sticker Shock” program. During the week of Thanksgiving, hundreds of customers were exposed to our messaging thanking them for not supplying youth with alcohol.

The Milton Coalition continued to promote resources related to youth mental health this year. In the past, the William James College’s Interface Referral Service was made available to all Milton residents by a collaboration between the Milton Coalition, the Milton Police Department, and the schools, but the service is no longer available to the community due to a substantial increase in price. To help fill in that gap, the Coalition continued to promote various mental health resources available to Milton residents. The Resource Guide produced last year has been updated to reflect changes and has been disseminated at multiple community events and at all the Milton Public School open houses.

We want to thank our major contributors including the Federal Drug Free Communities Grant, a State earmark sponsored by Senator Walter Timilty, a grant from BID Hospital-Milton, and generous support from Mike’s 5K to Crush Substance Abuse. We are proud of all that we have accomplished, and our prevention work will continue.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Local Board of Health Regulations, Chapter 1, governs the (*The Keeping of Animals in the Town of Milton*) for both commercial and private uses. To ensure compliance with the local regulations and pursuant to the Massachusetts Department of Food & Agriculture, Division of Animal Health, the Milton Health Department annually inspects the one commercial stable in Milton and the nine privately licensed stables. The inspections assessed cleanliness and sanitation, bedding supplies for the animals, food storage practices, and most importantly, monitored the manure storage and handling. The inspections are critical to avoid the creation of nuisance conditions and breeding grounds for rodents and other pests. Inspections of chicken coops occur after complaints, and routine annual inspections of chicken coops are required. The Animal Inspectors retain a record of those residents that raise chickens. Residents are encouraged to notify the Animal Inspector if they keep domestic fowl, but a permit is not required. Please call the Health Department at 1- 617-898-4886. Residents are also encouraged to call the Inspectional Services Department to ensure proper setback requirements of coops and pens per zoning regulations.

All biting and scratching incidents reported to the Health Department were investigated to make sure that the animals involved were current on their rabies inoculations. Current Animal Inspectors include Caroline Kinsella, Laura DelleChiaie, and Nancy Bersani. The investigations included both animal-to-human contact, as well as animal-to-animal contact. Various types of quarantines were issued (isolation, strict confinement or close observation) depending on the circumstances of the contact and the

immunization status of the animals involved. Follow-up was conducted at the end of the quarantine period to authorize the release of the animal. During this fiscal year the following numbers of quarantines were issued:

10 days.....	22
45 days.....	8
4 months.....	1
Total.....	31

Due to the incidence of rabies in our community and throughout the State, animals suffering from wounds of unknown origin receive the strictest quarantine. The period varies from 45 days to 4 months, depending on the vaccine status of the animal and type of exposure. Domestic animals who bite humans or other domestic animals receive a 10-day strict confinement order. Regular contact is required to assess the health status of all animals under quarantine and to make sure that they are quarantined as defined by the State Department of Food & Agriculture, Division of Animal Health.

The Health Department would like to thank Milton Animal Control Officer Nancy Bersani, who is also one of the designated Animal Inspectors. She provides our Department assistance with the responsibilities of the Animal Inspector and contributes her invaluable knowledge, expertise, and dedication.

APPRECIATION

Thank you, to volunteer Maile Panerio-Langer for creating monthly “Mind Matters” article submissions to the Milton Times on numerous mental health and substance

misuse matters on behalf of the Milton Coalition. Thank you very much to Steve Nelson who has volunteered his time and talents managing the Milton Coalition website and for documenting a photographic journey of our growing Coalition over the last five years. The Milton Times has covered so many of the Milton Coalition achievements pro bono over the last five years and has been a champion of Public Health. We would like to extend a special thank you to Pat Desmond Publisher of the Milton Times and wish her well in her retirement.

In closing, the Health Department and Board of Health would like to express its gratitude to each of the other Town departments and agencies, for their professional assistance and support.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Caroline A. Kinsella".

Caroline A. Kinsella, BSN., R.N., R.S.
Health Director/Public Health Nurse

Elected Milton Board of Health

Laura T. Richards, Esq., Chair

Mary F Stenson, R.N., BSN, Secretary

Roxanne Musto, RN-C, MS, ANP, Member