

A Christmas miracle?

Baby Jesus disappears and then returns

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Norwood's holiday prayers have been answered as the baby Jesus has returned to its rightful place in the Crèche outside the Morse House on Washington St.

Norwood police noticed early Friday morning that the baby Jesus was missing from the Crèche at the Morse House in South Norwood.

Last Monday, the calf statue was completely destroyed, and the remaining figures were found face down in the hay.

However, on Sunday morning the missing centerpiece appeared on the doorstep of Selectwoman Helen Donohue's South Norwood home.

"It really is a Christmas miracle," Donohue said. "I went to my front porch at about 7 a.m. and there he was, unscratched and unharmed."

South Norwood Committee President Patty Bailey who, with other volunteers put the scene up just over two weeks ago, called the latest attack on the Crèche frustrating.

"It's a real shock and it's really upsetting," she said. "This is twice now. The scene was lit and everything."

After the last vandalism, Norwood Police agreed to make more frequent checks on the Morse House site and the South Norwood Committee and Norwood Municipal Light Department arranged to have the scene lit at night to prevent further destruction to the 80 year old statues.

Bailey said the lights were installed midweek, but clearly did not prevent thieves from taking the symbol of the Christmas season from the Crèche.

Dale Day, Executive Director of the Morse House, said she was at the house on Washington Street hosting a Historical Society meeting until about 10 p.m. Thursday night. Police officers reported the figure missing around 1 a.m.

"We were there and the police had been in and out of the driveway a few times, parked there keeping an eye on things," she said. "I don't know what happened. Maybe they staked out and

Crèche

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"He used to wake up at night screaming and shaking."

- Leila Bunai



USS Indianapolis survivor recounts his tragic tale

Scott Wachtler
Staff Reporter

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article, written originally for our Boston newspapers, is provided to our Norwood readers simply because it is a compelling story, one that should be read by as many as possible.

On July 30, 1945, only one week before U.S. President Harry S. Truman gave the orders to drop the atomic bomb, known as "Little Boy," on Hiroshima, the USS Indianapolis was torpedoed by a Japanese I-58 submarine.

The USS Indianapolis, the flagship of the 5th fleet, sank into the Philippine Sea in only 12 minutes.

Of the 1,196 men aboard, approximately 300 went down with the ship. About 900 men were left floating in oily, shark infested waters with no lifeboats, little food and no drinkable water. When they were rescued almost five days later, only 316 men remained.

Boston's Robert Bunai was one of them.

At 96, Bunai is believed to be the only survivor in New England of what has been called the worst maritime disaster in U.S. Naval History.

From the dining room table of his West Roxbury home, Bunai tells his story. He proudly wears his USS Indianapolis cap and is surrounded by pictures and mementos of his place in U.S. History.

Bunai's wife of 41 years, Leila, has heard the story many times before. She encourages the aging Bunai to recall key events leading up to the tragedy.

"Talk about what your mission was, Bob," Leila says from the kitchen of their home.

Bunai uses his walker to stand and take a look at one of the pictures just out of his reach. He finds a picture of himself as a smiling young Navy man, just before he was assigned to the USS Indianapolis as a Signalman First Class. Some of the memories come back to him, but they come out of order.

From the kitchen, while cooking for an upcoming Christmas party, Leila helps him put the pieces of his story back in order.

"We delivered the atomic bomb that

ended the war," Bunai said referring to the USS Indianapolis's top secret mission just prior to its tragic end.

After sustaining damage from Kamikaze pilots during the March battle of Okinawa, the USS Indianapolis went in for repairs and the crew was sent home on leave. When repairs were made sooner than expected, the crew was ordered back to the ship immediately.

At the time, none of the crew, including Captain Charles Butler McVay III, knew what they were carrying — parts for an atomic bomb.

"By this time, scuttlebutt spread throughout the ship that we were to carry a crate of cargo which was of a 'hush-hush' nature," Bunai wrote in an account of the events. "After a few trial runs, we headed for Hunter's naval base. The crate was... hoisted aboard. It was placed in one of our hanger decks and under a 24-hour Marine guard with orders to shoot to kill anyone who even got near the hanger deck."

Bunai

Continued on page 4

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Fire Department hiring policies under fire

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Selectmen have been trying to wrap their hands around a recent hiring at the fire department, but have yet to figure out why the top man on the list was passed over for the job.

According to Selectmen, part of the problem is that Chief Michael Howard is considered a "strong chief," meaning he is solely responsible for personnel decisions within the department. While he must report to the board, they have no power to recommend, reverse or change the appointments he has made.

"We have no effect on his overall decisions," said Selectman Bill Plasko. "He has full authority."

But the fact that one candidate, who has been at the top

of the list for two years in a row and has been passed over twice, has caused members of the board to wonder why. "There are red flags all over the place," said board member Jerry Kelleher.

According to selectmen, this particular candidate, who has not been named, was also offered paramedic training at the town's expense after being denied a position the first time around. Now that he has been passed over again, Selectmen are worried about the costs associated with the Chief's decision.

"It seems to me this person was number one on the list for the past two years and was passed over for lack of training," said Selectman Tom McQuaid. "He got the training and was passed over again."

McQuaid suggested the board send a "strong letter" to

Chief Howard suggesting he hire the first candidate, but Chairman Mike Lyons said that due to the chief's status, he would not support such a motion. "I would not feel comfortable voting for that," he said. "It's not our place to tell the chief who he can or cannot hire."

Plasko said that five total candidates were considered for the position. He said four were Norwood residents and four were veterans, including the top choice on the list.

Norwood Veterans Agent Ted Mulvehill said that he had been speaking with some of the candidates in question, but could not speak for or against the Chief's decision due to confidentiality issues and a potential conflict of interest. "I wish I could tell him to hire the top two," he said, "but I really can't say anything at all."

Board member Helen Donohue said she was concerned with the selection process in the Fire Department. "The method of selection is an issue here," she said. "There is clearly a fairness issue here."

According to Town Manager John Carroll, interviews were conducted by a committee established by Chief Howard. Carroll also said interviews by committee were common practice in the Fire Department.

Multiple requests have been made from the board for more information and detailed accounts of the hiring policies at the Fire Department, but the board has not taken any action yet, although the issue has been on their agenda for three consecutive weeks.

secutive weeks.

"I'm not disagreeing that there are some issues here," said Kelleher, "but there are other boards to deal with this."

Lyons said that while he agreed there were some inconsistencies in the hiring policies, his main concern was what the town is losing by waiting to fill a public safety position. "One of the biggest problems I have is that we're losing quality officers, time and training," he said.

Chief Howard was not available to comment, and did not return calls from the Norwood Record on this issue.

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgrow@norwoodrecord.com or by calling (781) 769-1725.

Crèche *continued from page 1*

waited for the cruisers to change shifts."

"I don't know what we're going to do," Bailey said. "We've talked about maybe anchoring them some way, but the figures are so old and fragile that they may not take to bolts and screws very well."

The Crèche has been under attack in the past for its philosophical and religious connotations, but never before has the scene suffered this much physical abuse.

"This might have happened once before, but we let it go because the baby Jesus was back in the manger by Christmas," Day said, "but Christmas

is only a week away. Just leave it alone and let everyone get through the holidays and enjoy it."

Bailey said prior to the figure's return that she and the committee just wanted the figure back, safe and sound in the Crèche where it belongs. "It's disheartening, but if anyone knows anything about it, tell us. We don't want any more trouble. We just want it back." "I really don't know what else to do," Day said. "I could wait in my car up at the Morse House until 3 a.m. By 3:30, they'd be in there. But this does make me very uncomfortable with three weeks left before we

take it down. This has everyone all stirred up."

But the return of the baby Jesus Sunday morning has brought hope to South Norwood and reinforcement of what the holiday season stands for.

"It makes me feel like there is hope for the future," Donohue said. "It gives me hope that people still want to do the right thing."



Let's Talk Real Estate

with Jerry Armstrong, Broker, REALTOR, CBR, ASR

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Editorial

'Tis the season...

As this is the last edition before Christmas, we at the Norwood Record, have made our list, checked it twice and picked out the perfect gift for a few folks. Our last-minute shopping list includes:

FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORWOOD: A YEAR WITHOUT A CRÈCHE CONTROVERSY

It may be too late for this Christmas, but maybe for next year we could have a holiday season free of a Crèche controversy. For as many years as we can recall, the town's holiday manger scene has been protested by civil liberty groups, vandalized and, most recently, had the Baby Jesus kidnapped. Please, please, please everyone. Can we just leave the Three Wise Men alone?

TO THE NORWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE: "ACCOUNTING FOR DUMMIES"

For months, Norwood Town officials, notably its Finance Commission and Town Accountant, have been banging their heads against a wall when it comes to ledger sheets offered by school officials. Described by more than one insider as a "jigsaw puzzle," and one where all of the pieces do not fit, they have struggled to make the accounting of transfers make sense. To simplify the process, if the School Department had a giant checkbook, the withdrawals don't match up with the balance. No one is implying any wrongdoing, just sloppy bookkeeping and an inability to clarify what money was shifted from which accounts to what accounts. We hope the book comes in handy heading into 2009.

FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE: A MORATORIUM ON THE WORDS "BAILOUT" AND "STIMULUS"

We understand that the economy needs a helping hand. But every time we hear either of those two words it means more money out of our collective pockets and a debt our great-great-great-grandchildren will still be paying off.

FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MASSACHUSETTS: ELIMINATING TURNPIKE TOLLS

It is high time that commuters stop being taxed on the basis of where they live or work. We'll leave the broader argument of whether we should even have MassPike tolls to others, but a recent proposal to raise these tolls is ridiculous and a Scrooge-like Bah Humbug to residents who rely on the roadway. For Christmas, if we can't get toll relief, then at least could Santa bring us a few rolls of quarters and a second mortgage so we can afford to get around?

FOR CONGRESSMAN BARNEY FRANK: A DOSE OF HUMILITY

We always found Frank to be a refreshingly caustic voice on Capital Hill. Now his ego-fueled sharp tongue is just an insult to us all. It takes moxie to oversee the finance and mortgage industries as a high-ranking member of Congress, do nothing to prevent a crisis that was telegraphed years ago, then blame it all on other people — ranging from republicans to the media. Frank was in his post to oversee these sectors and he failed to do so with any distinction. Making it even harder to forgive the error of his ways, is his extreme arrogance and assumption that anyone who disagrees with him is just an uneducated idiot who doesn't understand a fraction of his brilliance. We'll throw in an extra lump of coal too, Congressman.

Norwood Record

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Bunai *continued from page 1*

The USS Indianapolis first proceeded to Pearl Harbor at top speed to take on provisions and then on to the island of Tinian, also at full speed.

Bunai said he remembered watching all the commotion when the crate was unloaded.

"It seemed the whole Navy was waiting for us," he said. "Once we unloaded our cargo, many of us said, 'now we can breath easier.' Little did we know what was in store for us."

Although Captain McVay requested an escort vessel to take the Indianapolis to Leyte in the Philippines to participate in the invasion of Japan, he was told there were none available.

Midway between Guam and Leyte, the USS Indianapolis was hit.

Bunai said he remembered that it was a little after midnight when he heard and felt three "large, terrifying and devastating" explosions.

"All hell broke loose, our power was knocked out and we couldn't send out a distress signal," he said.

Other accounts from the disaster differ. At a 1999 Senate hearing, a radioman testified that he watched the "needle jump" on the ship's transmitter, indicating that an SOS signal was transmitted minutes before the ship sank.

According to website www.ussindianapolis.org, it is very likely that the distress signal was ignored, dismissed as a Japanese trick to lure rescue vessels to the area.

Bunai said the PA system aboard the ship was also out and word to abandon ship was passed along by word of mouth.

"Officers and enlisted men went down below to find out what happened. They never came back," he said.

At 32, Bunai was one of the oldest Navy men on the ship. He had served on the USS Indianapolis for four years and knew Captain McVay well, having worked with him on the bridge.

"McVay trusted me with the all the secret documents," he said thinking back to the night.

Old age and years of trying to forget certain details have dimmed some of Bunai's memories, but when he does remember he gets excited and his words flow like an experienced storyteller.

"He stuffed the documents into a steel bag because we didn't want the enemy to get their hands on our secret coded messages," he said.

With the steel bag in his hands, Bunai sat on the edge of the port side of the ship and slid down into the "black, greasy, oily, dirty and stinking water."

Bunai said he had always



Robert Bunai is believed to be the only New England man still alive who went down on the USS Indianapolis. He is pictured at a memorial to the infamous ship.

been a good swimmer, but he realized he would have to drop the steel bag if he wanted to survive. He let it go and it sank, lost to the same watery tomb that claimed the USS Indianapolis.

About 900 men were left floating in the water. Most of them would not survive the nearly five day ordeal that was waiting for them.

"We looked like a bunch of zombies," he said. "We were afraid that if the ship sank on its side it would create suction to pull us down with it, but instead of going down on its side, the ship up-righted itself and went down vertically, preventing the suction effect. The last I saw of my ship was its screw propellers turning as it went silently beneath the water. Ten thousand tons of steel disappeared from the face of the earth in 12 minutes time. I asked myself if this was for real, or a dream. The nightmare was to follow."

Aboard the USS Indianapolis were two whale boats, a variety of rafts and flotation devices and plenty of provisions. They all went down with the ship.

Only a few of the 900 survivors who made it into the water were able to get a hold of the life rafts. Bunai said the surviving swimmers were covered in oil and gasoline. The salt water burned their eyes for days.

Bunai noticed the sharks the first day he was in the water.

"They were everywhere and people were getting eaten... We could hear the swimmers scream. The ocean was bloodied with mutilated bodies floating all around us," he said.

Bunai said the scene in the movie Jaws that told of the USS Indianapolis was no exaggeration.

"As the presence of the man-eating sharks grew in numbers, we heard the excruciating bloody screams of swimmers nearby. This became

a daily routine. I had already seen too many mutilated bodies floating around us," he said.

According to Bunai, during the first two days he witnessed many acts of heroism.

"Some of the survivors who wouldn't part with a cigarette aboard the ship were now giving up their own life jackets to those who didn't have one, or to people who couldn't hold their heads above water."

However, as the days went on and life jackets began to stick to their bodies, becoming soggy and useless, Bunai said they faced another enemy more dangerous than the sharks — men driven insane from lack of food and water.

"Mass hysteria set in. Those who carried knives were obsessed with the thought that people were hoarding food and water," he said.

Men began drinking sea water which caused even more delirium and hallucinations. Some said they saw land and died trying to reach the imaginary destination. Others saw things underwater.

"Some of the swimmers would dive under and then come up all excited. They'd tell you there was a party going on down there. That's when I knew people were going insane. More and more swimmers went down to see the party and eventually they wouldn't come back up," Bunai said.

Bunai spent almost five day floating, treading water and surviving.

"We were all waiting for the rescue ships to come. We would see planes over head and splash and scream for them. We'd wait to see if they dipped their wing to acknowledge us, but for days they didn't. We prayed. We figured we'd be missed since we were overdue getting to Leyte. We were wrong," he said.

On Tuesday Aug 2, 1945, late in the afternoon, Bunai said

Bunai

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Letters to the Editor

FRIENDS COME THROUGH FOR CIRCLE

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation, I would like to thank all of our wonderful friends and neighbors who came out to support our two fundraisers. The first fundraiser on Nov. 15 was a huge success. We raised over \$6,000.00 to help those here in Norwood who are battling serious illnesses and financial difficulties. This year has seen the most need to date for assistance.

The second fundraiser, Luminary Night was a beautiful sight to see. We were able to light over 900 luminaries and turn the town common into something wonderful. The messages written on the bags were inspirational and loving. What a beautiful night!

We would like to give special thanks to the Norwood Elks, the Norwood Police Department and the Norwood Fire Department for their continued support. They have been behind the scenes for the last ten years; The Norwood Circle of Hope could not have assisted so many in our town if not for these wonderful people.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Board Members who made it possible to turn a promise into a reality. They volunteer their time, effort and hard work to make sure that our friends and neighbors will have some place to turn in an emergency. They are the true "angels" of the Circle of Hope. Thank you to Tim McDonough, Dave Tuttle, Bob Doucette, Olga Abdallah, Jerry Miller, Brendan Gearty, Kathy St. Cyr, Beth Vincent, Donna Arthur, Rosemary West, Paul Ronco, Rosemary Riley, Carol Cappuccio, Peggy Thorne and Steve Grenham for ten years of dedication to the Town of Norwood.

Lee Kennedy

BALCH PTO SAYS THANKS

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Balch School 's PTO, we would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous contributions. Whether donating food, raffle prizes, or partnering with us for fundraising, they all helped us to put on fun-filled events for the school this fall. Thanks to: Hannaford Supermarkets; The Doucette Family; Roche Brothers Supermarkets; Conrad's Restaurant; McDonald's; Burger King; Lambert's Rainbow Deli; David Hutchens; Brookside Café; Boston Symphony Orchestra; Boston Red Sox; Mohegan Sun; Norwood Youth Football & Cheer; Sterling Golf Management; New England Revolution; Caritas Health & Athletic Club; Norwood Youth Soccer; Edaville USA; Plaster Fun Time; American Girl Company; Providence Bruins; Boston College; Hilton Boston/Dedham; Acapulco's Restaurant; Keegan's Jewelers; Water Country; New England Aquarium; National Amusements; Café Venice; Hill's Jewelers; SKY Restaurant; Keldara Salon & Day Spa; Susan Paradise; Barnes and Noble Booksellers and Papa Ginos.

Charlene Geary and Christine Shaughnessy
Balch PTO Co-Presidents

Athletic suspensions raise concerns by parents, administrators

Board considers rewrite after recent student violations

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Norwood school leaders are taking a closer look at their athletic policies after multiple infractions have raised concerns that certain standards are not being met and upheld.

Two high school seniors on the basketball team were recently suspended for alleged infractions of the school's Chemical Health policy, and the School Committee, along with administration, parents and athletic staff are in the process of addressing a growing problem that many see as a town wide issue.

"The magnitude of this is very important," said committee Chairman Paul Samargedlis. "To say that I'm disappointed would be an un-

derstatement. We have issues every weekend and it's becoming a black eye on the community."

Norwood resident Paul Clifford, who's son Matt was one of the two senior basketball players suspended, approached the committee during last Wednesday's public forum to request a revision of the athletic suspension policy, a request the committee took to heart.

Samargedlis said that Clifford's concern is with the policies themselves, problems that have been echoed by other

parents in Norwood. "He is addressing what he thinks are inconsistencies in the athletic policies for kids when they misbehave," he said. "He's not singling anyone out, and neither are we, but there have been too many instances with drugs and alcohol and we need a strong policy to address it."

Committee member Bill Plasko, who is also a member of the Policy Subcommittee, said Clifford examined the athletic policy after his son's suspension, which prompted him

Suspensions
Continued on page 11

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Major donation puts Morse House repairs on track

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

After years of plastering, painting, cleaning and construction, a completion to renovations of the Morse House may finally be in sight.

The house, which was built in the 1850's and was home to one of Norwood's first Selectmen, was in severe disrepair for years until, in true Norwood fashion, a group of volunteers began picking up the pieces and putting in some serious elbow grease to bring the Victorian splendor back to life.

But a recent donation from Dedham Savings Bank and a grant from the Simoni Fund may put the last of the major repairs on the fast track to completion.

Morse House Executive Director Dale Day said the \$8,500 donation was the "final leg of the journey," one she has led for over 10 years. "I must have listened to the message about five times to make sure I heard it right," she said. "I really couldn't be happier."

The money will be used to replace the wooden gutters around a large portion of the

house, a fix Day said would help prevent further water damage to the house and preserve the historic look of the house.

"The major effort will be complete once we get this done," she said. "Our main priorities were to make the first floor handicap accessible and to do repairs that will prevent any more damage. The wooden gutters are more expensive, but that's the historic look of it. If we're going to do this, we're going to do it right."

The Morse House is edging closer to its bicentennial in Norwood, and while the restoration effort has wielded significant improvements, it has also been marred by setbacks along the way, including frozen pipes, flooded basements and collapsed ceilings. Day said the money would go a long way in improving and preserving the Morse legacy. "This will take care of the major problem areas," she said. "We're always having to go back to the drawing board because we can never afford to do everything at once, but I can definitely see the light at the end of the tunnel."

While she knew she was going out on a limb asking for

money in such economic times, Day said she went for the gusto and asked Dedham Savings for \$7,000, expecting a much less enthusiastic response. "With the economy the way it is and so many other civic groups looking for money, I honestly didn't think we'd get more than \$2,000 or \$3,000. I never expected to get the full amount," she said. "We've really been operating on a shoestring budget, but this allows us to continue."

Day said she has already received a bid for a portion of the gutter work, which at about \$5,000 may mean the remaining work will have to be put off, but is still a significant improvement and a milestone for the efforts of the Morse House Committee and volunteers.

"It cost \$1,500 just for the gutters over the porch, and at \$5,000 we may be a little short to get the rest of the work done, but we're still a lot further ahead," she said. "I couldn't be happier. This is huge for us. I never thought I'd see it get this far."

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Bunai continued from page 4

he heard the roar of a plane flying lower than expected. By now, he and the other survivors were too weak to scream or splash or even pray.

The pilot, Lieutenant Wilbur Gwinn, was on a routine flight searching for submarines when he saw oil slicks in the water and decided to fly lower for a closer look. That is when Gwinn, who eventually came to be known to the survivors as Angel, spotted the swimmers still alive.

"As we watched, too weak to even pray, the plane dipped its wings and to us that was a good sign," Bunai said. "Miraculously, it made a u-turn and started to fly toward us. Some of the swimmers saw the crew waving at us from the distance and then we saw the plane drop something in the water. This was the beginning of the res-

cue."

That night, rescue ships arrived and Bunai said that, even though it was wartime, the ships lit up the ocean as if it was Times Square.

After having been in the water for over 96 hours, 316 members of the USS Indianapolis 1,196 person crew were now aboard rescue ships and on their way home.

Bunai said after the ordeal and he made it home, he kissed the ground.

"It felt so good to be home. Home at last!" he said. "I actually went swimming in my parent's pool during the party they threw for me when I got home."

He has only been back on a ship once since his time on the USS Indianapolis. That was for a two-hour dinner cruise with the Masons. The anguish caused by Bunai's experiences followed him throughout his life.

"He used to wake up at night screaming and shaking," Leila said. "It was hardest on him when he first came home."

Until recently, when his age started to make traveling too difficult, he would meet with

other USS Indianapolis survivors every two years in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Among those rescued was Captain McVay. He was later court-martialed and convicted of failing to follow a zig-zag pattern to their destination. After years of guilt over the accident, McVay committed suicide in 1968.

Many survivors and historians believed that the Navy unfairly convicted Captain McVay. In 2000, U.S. Congress passed a resolution exonerating Captain McVay of any wrongdoing. Bunai still wonders why it took the Navy so long to find them and thinks that McVay was unfairly vilified.

"The Navy screwed up," he said. "They didn't rescue us, even though we were overdue. McVay was a good man."

In a three-page written account of the tragedy, Bunai wrote:

"It's true that the atomic bomb was responsible for ending the hostilities in the Pacific theater of World War II, but we paid a high price for its delivery, and even time refuses to heal the mental scars of that tragic event."

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Key curriculum changes at Coakley reviewed

Moretti recommends increase in class time for core subjects

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Norwood Superintendent of Schools John Moretti unveiled a plan he hopes will boost test scores and improve academic performance for students at the Coakley Middle School. "This is an intensive plan," Moretti said, "but it goes to the heart of the most critical issue the school committee and the school system has right now."

In a proposed change to the daily schedule for middle school students, Moretti and Coakley staff and administration agreed upon an increase of 100 hours per year in math and English, and an additional 33 hours per year in science and social studies. The changes were prompted by the school's consistently slumping MCAS scores, which have placed the school on warning by the state.

Moretti said increased class time in core subjects would not only help boost test scores, but would also provided continuity and better time-on-task learning for students at the crucial middle school level.

However, where increases are made, decreases are sure to follow. Moretti's proposal also includes cuts in art and foreign language, as well as the complete elimination of the middle school reading program, suggestions that did not go over well with some school committee members.

The proposal, which has already been presented to Coakley staff and administration, would retain foreign language in 5th through 8th grade, but would have students choose one language to study in 5th grade, as opposed to re-

maining in an exploratory program until 7th grade.

"At that age, kids don't fully understand English yet," said member Courtney Rau, "I can't imagine asking them to choose a second language at that level."

Committee member Mitch Pentowski said he was disappointed that foreign language may take a hit in the new schedule. "We're not spending enough time in foreign language," he said. "I think we need to spend more time preparing our students for international communications. We need to motivate them, and I'm disappointed to see this being cut in this proposal."

Moretti said that while 7th grade students will lose 22 total hours of foreign language each year, they would gain the time back in 8th grade if they choose to study one language exclusively. "I admit that not everything is perfect here, but is it a significant upgrade, absolutely," Moretti said.

Rau said the ultimate goal was on proficiency in core subjects, and that she supported the increase in class time in those key areas. "The reality is that we need 100 percent proficiency in English and math," she said. "That's what we need to focus on, especially given the test scores we are seeing."

Member Mark Joseph said the new schedule would have far reaching effects and should be carefully considered. "I don't think we realize the implications here," he said. "We need to prepare our kids to get jobs. We have to prepare them to be more efficient learners."

The schedule would also allow for a mandated common planning time for teachers.

Moretti said the costs asso-

ciated with the potential schedule shift were already included in the school budget, which the school committee has reviewed and approved. "I honestly think there could be some cost savings here if the committee is really committed to implementing these changes," he said, "but the additional

Coakley

Continued on page 8

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The Coakley Middle School named its October Citizens of the Month. Front row (from left to right), Melissa Amorim grade 8 Gold, Jack Higgins grade 7 Green, Jessica Murphy, grade 7 Gold, Sydney Macquillen, grade 6 Gold. Back (from left to right) Chris Little, grade 8 Green, Joshua Boyle, grade 8 Blue, Joseph Burt, grade 8 Blue, Ryan Begley, grade 8 Computers, Leah Cayer, grade 6 Blue, Alanna Keady, grade 7 Blue and Principal Marjorie Tessier.

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Coakley

from page 7

staff is already covered in the budget.”

While the proposal is still in its preliminary stages, Moretti said the work done by Coakley teachers proved their dedication and obligation to serve Norwood students as best as they possibly could.

“I have never, in 16 years worked with a more receptive, visionary group of teachers than the ones I worked with on this agenda,” he said. “This is a huge amount of work.”

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgrow@norwoodrecord.com, or by calling (781) 769-1725.

Sports

Wrestlers hope to double the fun



Sophomore wrestling talent Julio Mendes goes through a practice drill last week.



Norwood second-year head mentor Jim Asam, with senior grappler Evan Zablocki looking on, is eyeing big things for the Mustangs this winter.

PHOTO BY MIKE STOLLER

Mike Stoller Staff Reporter

It may still be a young squad, but thanks to an abundance of experience gained last season, the Norwood High wrestling team is in good shape to improve on last year's 6-14 record.

"I'd like to see us double our number of wins, and it doesn't have to be wins from our league," said Mustangs' second-year head mentor Jim Asam, referring to the incredibly strong Bay State Conference. "I'd like to see us qualify for the [Division 2 Metro] dual meet tournament."

For Norwood to earn a spot in the prestigious postseason meet, it would need to post at least a .500 ledger. The Mustangs got off to a good start with 54-18 and 48-30 non-confer-

ence wins over Winthrop/Saugus and host Holliston, respectively, in the season opening tri-match tourney on Dec. 13. They then dropped a BSC Herget Division match to Natick by a score of 60-18.

"They're good, they got a lot of guys back," said Asam of the Natick group.

So do the Mustangs, who lost only two wrestlers to graduation last year. But many of their returnees still are in the learning phase, albeit on the higher end.

"We have a lot of guys returning, but I wouldn't call us a veteran team," said Asam, who helmed at Milford High for years before arriving in Norwood. "We have one four-year wrestler, but many broke in last year as sophomores and freshmen. We're still young, but it's a good group of kids

returning with experience from last year."

Senior captain and star Tom Julian, at 119 pounds, is the only returning four-year wrestler, and is surrounded by a strong core that includes junior fellow standouts Matt Hennigan, at 112 pounds, and heavyweight John Zabrowski. The trio fueled the Mustangs last season. Julian led the pack with an outstanding 18-8 ledger, while Zabrowski followed at 18-11 and Hennigan closed at 16-14. All three also qualified for the individual Metro Division 2 sectional tourney. Julian and Hennigan finished third in their weight classes, which were 112 and 103 pounds, respectively, at the time, while Zabrowski, already a heavyweight, placed fourth in

Wrestling

Continued on page 10

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Wrestling *continued from page 9*

his circuit.

This winter, Asam foresees perhaps several more of his squad members joining the trio in the postseason.

"I'd like to see the team improve overall, but there are individuals who could improve also and possibly qualify for the sectionals," said Asam. "I'd like to see us improve that way, too. I think we have the potential."

The Mustangs already have reaped the fruits of their labor in their opening meet. Juniors Vincent Serino and Fady Beshay, at 160 and 189 pounds, respectively, joined Julian and Zabrowski in winning both of their matches by pin to finish at 2-0 on the day. Hennigan, junior newcomer A.J. Silletti (145), and junior Paul DeRosa (215) also pinned their opponents to close at 1-0.

Junior Colby Davis, meanwhile, wrestled in the most exciting match of the event. Tied at 12-12 with 30 seconds left against his Holliston opponent, Davis recorded an escape and takedown to win, 15-12.

Norwood also figures to get contributions this winter from

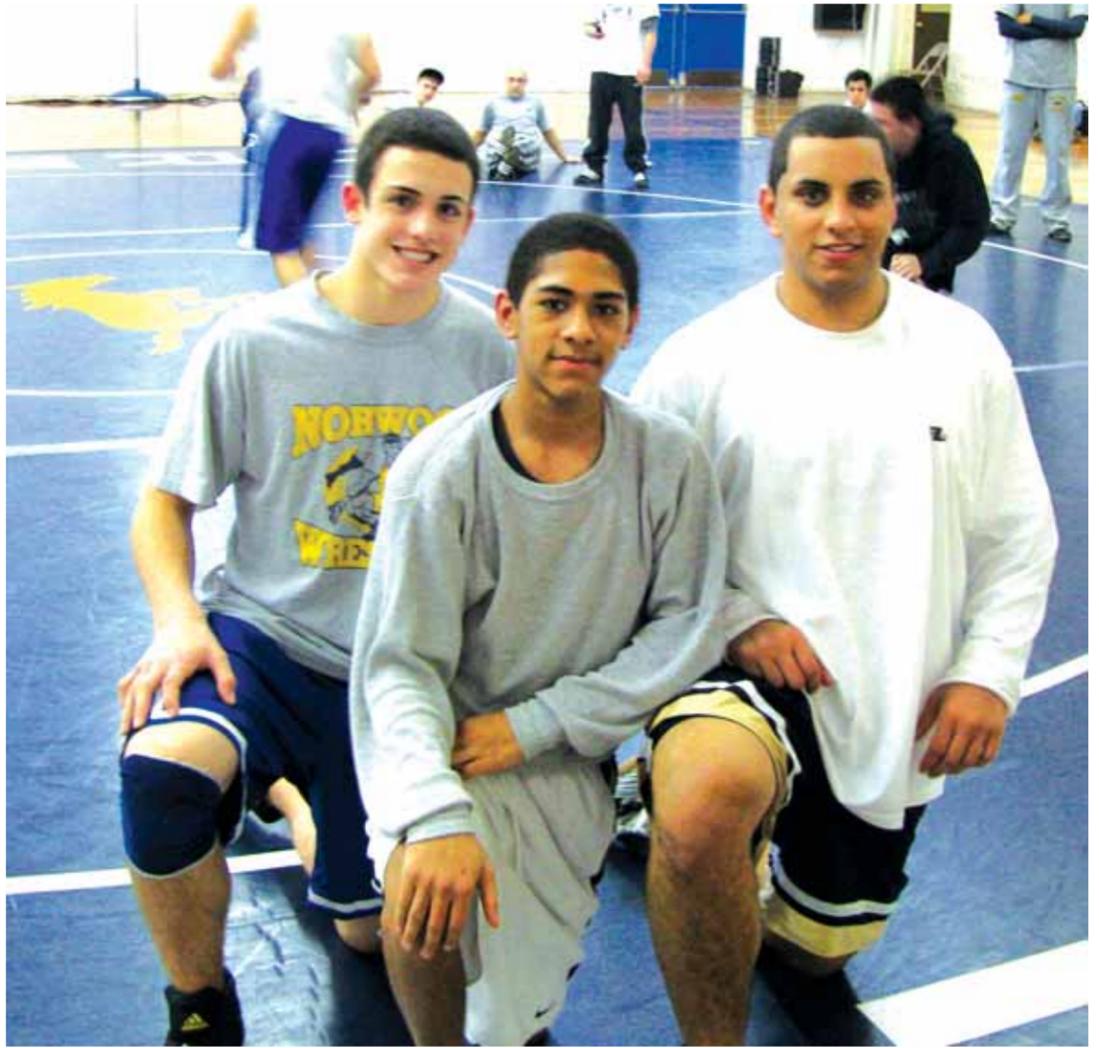
junior Tim Hennigan (125), junior Chris Hutchins (140), senior Evan Zablocki (152), junior Jesse MacDonald (152), sophomore heavyweight Aquie Moxam, and newcomers, senior Mike Regan (130) and sophomore Julio Mendes (103), a transfer from Natick.

"We're still a young team," said Asam. "We have wrestlers who got a lot of experience last year, but we're still a young team."

"Some of these guys got experience last year who weren't able to get too many wins," added the coach. "I'd like to see [our] individuals get more wins than last year, and that would be nice... I'd like to see [us] double or even possibly triple the number of guys who could do well in the sectional tournament."

Meanwhile, the Mustangs had four wrestlers place at the Milford Tourney last Saturday. Julian finished first in his weight class, while Moxam, Matt Hennigan, and Tim Hennigan ranked fourth in their circuits.

"Overall, we wrestled pretty well," said Asam.



Norwood returning wrestlers Vincent Serino (left) and Fady Beshay (right) welcome new teammate Julio Mendes, as the trio strike a pose for the Record during practice last week.

PHOTO BY MIKE STOLLER

It's a split for boys' hockey

Mike Stoller

Staff Reporter

Steve Mahon scored two goals and Mike Verrochi, Andrew Alty, and Brendan Cathcart all tallied as the Norwood boys' hockey team defeated host Newton North, 5-1, last week, in Bay State Conference action. Verrochi and Alty each had an assist, as did Sean Keady, Mike Davis, Pat Coskren and Peter Kelly.

The Mustangs, who led, 2-1, after two periods, registered three power play goals in the

third on strikes by Mahon, Alty, and Cathcart.

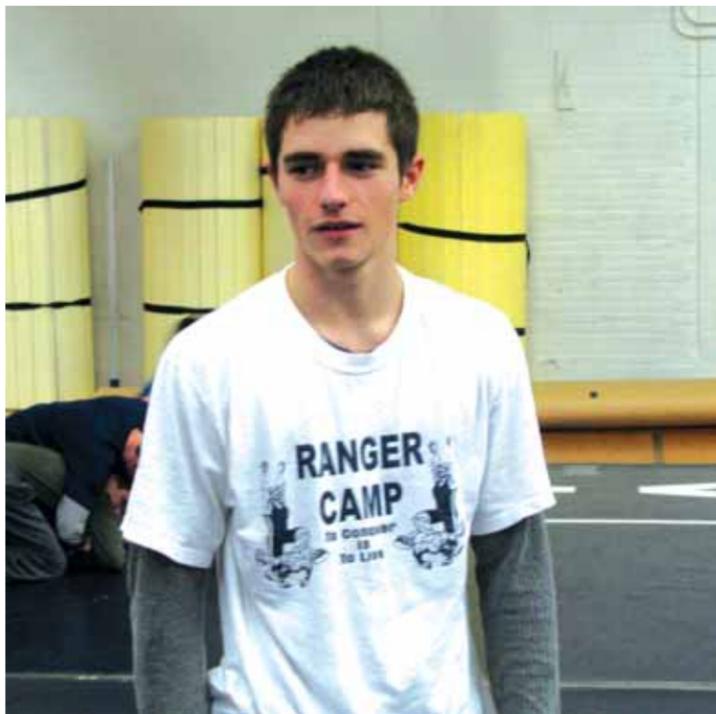
Cory Sennott earned his second victory of the campaign in goal.

Norwood (2-1) didn't fare as well on Saturday as the visiting Mustangs dropped a 5-2 decision to Milton in a BSC Herget Division match-up.

The Mustangs rallied after trailing 3-0 in the opening stanza, cutting the deficit to one on goals by Adam Kewriga in the first period and Kelly in the second frame. Keady assisted on Kewriga's

strike, while Verrochi fed Kelly to make it 3-2. But that's as close as Norwood would get.

"We had a couple of breakdowns, [but] we picked it up after the first period," said Norwood head coach Bill Clifford. "It's hard to dig yourself out of a hole after being down three goals and then come back against such a good team like Milton. We got off to a slow start. That's been our problem. We have to shoot out like a cannon in the first period."



Norwood senior captain and standout Tom Julian is the only returning four-year varsity wrestler for the Mustangs this winter.

PHOTO BY MIKE STOLLER



Norwood's Mike Verrochi figured heavily in the scoring last week as the Mustangs (2-1) defeated Newton North, 5-1, but fell to Milton, 5-2 in Bay State Conference action.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Little League Scholarships forms are now available

In 2003, Norwood Little League established two Scholarship Awards, one for a male high school senior - Norwood Little League Scholarship - and one for a female high school senior - Jean A. Brown Memorial Scholarship. Mrs. Brown was one of the founders of Girls Softball in Norwood, was a member of the Board of Directors, and worked to promote female athletics in Norwood for over 25 years.

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St. Catherine's looks to rebound after 1-3 start

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

After going 1-2 in a week-end tournament at B.C. High to start the season, the St. Catherine of Siena senior boys' travel team opened their South Shore Parochial School League slate with a 1-3 record.

The campaign began with a heartbreaking 44-43 loss to Trinity Catholic of Brockton. Neither team led by more than five points throughout the tight contest. The remarkable jump shooting of St. Catherine's Brian Gearty, who scored 12 points on the night, kept the Hawks even with the much bigger T.C. squad. Steve Lynch, meanwhile, had seven points, as did James Coughlin, whose two free throws with 30 ticks remaining gave St. Catherine's a one point lead until a put-back shot at the buzzer won it for T.C. Aaron Drummey and Tim Sullivan also contributed six points apiece for the Hawks.

St. Catherine's rebounded in a big way against St. Paul of Hingham with a 60-34 win, its best performance to this point, according to Hawk's head mentor Tom Maloney.

The first quarter was keyed by forward Joe

McKinnon, who got the Hawks off to fast start with six first quarter points. Overall, St. Catherine's was led by center Tim Sullivan and seventh grade standout forward Nick Terrell, who each had 10 points.

Maloney said James Payne enjoyed his best game of the year with six points and three steals, and Colin Gearty "turned in a gem of a game on defense." The coach also credited point guard Tim Bosse for establishing the fast break, and Nick Cmaylo for his outstanding play under the glass, garnering five rebounds.

But the Hawks fell on hard times again against host St. Ann's of Quincy, suffering a 53-29 defeat. Sullivan was a workhorse on the boards with nine rebounds, Drummey hauled in five, Terrell continued his hot shooting for seven points, and Bryan Gearty added six, but it wasn't nearly enough to slow down St. Ann's.

St. Catherine's also fell to Monsignor Haddad last week to fall to 1-3.

The Hawks resume league play after the holiday break, visiting St. Joseph in Holbrook on Tuesday, Jan. 5. The Hawks return home against St. John of Canton on Saturday, Jan. 10.

Gymnastics team floors Brookline in opening meet

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

The Norwood gymnastics team won every event in cruising to a 113.25-105.1 win over Brookline in the season opener for both teams last week.

Junior sensation Manar Zaki won the all-around, placing first on the bars and second on the beam and floor, while freshman Kelly McClure took

second in the all-around, slotting first on the floor and beam and second on the bars.

Freshman Kellianne Symes ranked first on the vault with a score of 8.2. Looking strong on the balance beam were Kesleigh Eysie and tri-captain Casey McDaniel. Also scoring well were sophomore Nicole Greene and freshmen Tricia Hansen, Julia Wolfson, and

Victoria Driscoll, all of whom were performing in their first ever varsity meet.

Jayne Igoe and Kathleen Maroun join McDaniel as captains this winter, as head mentor Karen Broderick and assistant coach Nora Glynn team up to guide a 30-member squad, and [everyone] is "looking forward to a great year," said Glynn.

Girls' hockey shows its strength, despite losses

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Considering its small squad of 13 players, the Norwood girls' hockey team played well this past week, despite dropping 5-1 and 6-4 home decisions to Bay State Conference powerhouses Newton North and Milton at Canton Ice Rink.

Against Newton North, "We played very well against a team that made the tournament last year," said O'Donnell, whose troops played the Tigers to a scoreless first period.

In the second frame, Norwood opened the scoring at the 7:13 mark as sophomore Taylor Donners cut in on a breakaway and connected on a nice backhanded shot, with

Jackie Walsh assisting.

Newton, though, registered three late goals, two by Katie Caruso, as the Tigers started to take advantage of Norwood's lack of depth. Caruso also had three assists on the day. Newton wrapped it up with two more goals in the third stanza.

"There was a lack of depth, but you have to give credit to Newton North," said Norwood head coach Bill O'Donnell. "We were battling them, and they didn't quit. They got it going. Hopefully, we'll build on the fact that in a tough Bay State Conference, you have to play three 15 minute periods. Except for six minutes, the game was pretty even. It really came down to four minutes in the second period and the first couple of minutes in the third."

Against Milton, which made it to the state finals the past two years, Norwood looked particularly impressive when it took a 2-1 lead in the second frame. Star forward Ali Maloof, who had a hat trick, cut through the slot, before beating the goalie to the left post, with Lisa Coskren assisting.

But the Wildcats proved too strong as Bri Kelly matched Norwood's Maloof with a hat trick to lead Milton the victory.

"[We] battled and played a team that went to the state finals the last two years," said O'Donnell. "[We] didn't quit, and we were matching them in intensity. The effort and the intensity were there, and hopefully it's something [we] can build on to compete with some very good teams."

Suspensions *continued from page 5*

to approach the school committee. He found it to be different from sport to sport and season to season," he said. "He sees it as more than a school problem or more than a single student. It affects all of us."

"This is very near and dear to me," said member Mark Joseph. "This is a huge problem, but it's only the tip of the iceberg. This needs to be brought out into the open. The MIAA just created an ethics commission because there is no regulation among schools in the state. You can read the Globe on any given day and see high schools taking different action, but I don't care about that. I care about our kids."

The high school athletic policy on Chemical Health is largely based on the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association rules and regulations. But their policies, though they represent state standards, are only base penalties that towns and cities can build upon

with the option to enforce harsher punishment as they see fit.

According to the MIAA policy, the rules "represent only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements."

The policy subcommittee will begin reviewing Norwood's standards on athletic suspensions after the holiday break, but in the meantime Superintendent John Moretti said he is already working with athletic faculty to create what he called an "athletic doctrine" to properly address the recurring issues with high school athletes.

"I have been very disappointed with the behavior of our athletes," he said, "and I believe this doctrine will set a new standard for Norwood. Mr. Clifford's concern is shared by a lot of other people, and after the first of the year we will be bringing this back to the school committee."

"This will be an internal, Norwood school policy," said Samargedlis. "We have to make it crystal clear that this will not be tolerated."

Plasko, Jr. said that while the issue was specific to Norwood schools, it was indicative of a larger problem across the community that required town wide attention and support.

"This is a very large issue that needs to be tackled," he said. "Looking at recent events, there is obviously something wrong with the message kids are getting about what's tolerable."

A community panel on teen drug and alcohol use has already been scheduled for Jan. 28 at the high school. "It's not just an athletic issue," Plasko, Jr. continued. "When we address this, we need to address it beyond that, because it goes across the entire community."

Boys' hoops succumbs to Newton North HS

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Well, it wasn't exactly the way the Norwood boys' basketball team wanted to follow up its 16 point opening night win over Natick. The visiting Mustangs struggled in their second game of the campaign, falling to Bay State Conference Carey Division powerhouse Newton North, 73-45.

"We struggled from the outset," said Norwood head coach Rich Cormier. "We came out a little flat, and they took it right to us."

The Tigers roared to 39-15 halftime advantage, hurting Norwood "from the inside as well as the outside," said

Cormier. "They are an excellent team, but we didn't do ourselves any favors."

The Mustangs got an outstanding outing from junior guard Jeremiah Ephraim, who led the team with 16 points and four rebounds. Freshman phenom Sean O'Neil chipped in with seven points, and A.J. Foti "provided valuable minutes of the bench with his energetic play," said the coach.

"The game wasn't all bad, as I think we learned some valuable lessons about ourselves and the mistakes that we made both offensively and defensively," said Cormier. "Now we have to fix these mistakes as quickly as possible..."

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Brissette Shirley, Bretti Annie, Brown Callie, Casey Nicole, Cayer Robert, Cedrone Bryan, Chubet Sarah, Costa Steve, Dreeik Talal, Flaherty Joseph, Garzon Julian, Gibson Jamar, Gillis G r e - gory, Gjata Isilda, Greeley Christopher, Gustafson Phillip, Hayes Andrew, Higgins William, Holton Patrick, Jones Gerald, Kerrigan Owen, Lyons Kiean, Monzer Abdallah, Moynihan Amy, Munro Thomas, Norton Mary Pat, O'Brien Stephen, O'Rourke Hayley, Ranalli Jake, Robinson Albert, Seijido Lauren, Sheehan Bailey, Silletti Michael, Williams Megan, Wong Matthew,

GRADE 9 HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Collins Timothy, De Meo Christopher, El Massih Makarem, Eysie Kesleigh, Gao Chengqi, Giambanco Alyssa, Gundlach Hayley, Hess Samantha, Higgins Megan, Johnston Kelsey, Kelly Peter, L a m - bert Bailey, Lane Maxwell, Leanos Rebecca, Martin Nickolas, McGowan Kelly, Mueller Katharine, Murray Michael, O'Connor Meghan, O'Day C a r o l i n e , Pasholli Tea, Patel Hinal, Prescott Nicole, Ravi Anu, Ryan Stephanie, Stameris William, Sterritt Mabel, Tatar Katherine,

GRADE 9 SECOND HONORS

Durant B r a n d o n , Stanton Stephen, Torres Daniel, Alfieri Christina, Alty Andrew, Arbo Cameron, Bartucca Tommaso, Bonollo Taylor, Boulos Paul, Buckley Stephen, Cathcart Brendan, Caulfield Caitlin, Chisholm Melissa, Chloe Jean, Cortese Elisabeth, De Castro Racquel, Dolan Kyle, Driscoll Victoria, Dyckes Rebecca,

Epstein Michael, Galvin Marykate, Glaser Austin, Hansen Patricia, Harris Sean, Ivatts Michael, Jennings Sean, Kaganowicz Aleksander, Lewis Liana, Maggio Mark, Marinucci Jennie, McDonough Robert, Murphy Leah, Neves Brian, O'Neill Sean, Patel Shrinial, Porazzo Kathleen, Quintana Douglas, Quintiliani Nicole, Richwine Benjamin, Ringler Danielle, Roy Matthew, Rubenstein Jessica, Shorter Dana, Sicklick Adam, Smith Molly, Sobchuk Jacqueline, Symes Kellianne, Way Meghan, Wilson Quincy, Wolfson Julia, Wright Gabrielle,

GRADE 10 FIRST HONORS

Clements Jordan, Roy Cherele, Wheeler Matthew, Agayby Ibraam, Anderson Nicolette, Bonaccorso Amanda, Canniff Jonathan, Casey Brittany, Cavanaugh Jillian, Clarke Michael, Colbert Tate, Cubelli Daniel, Eckhardt Sarah, Elias George, Farah Richard, Fogg Stephanie, Fraone Antonio, Garcia-Pletsch Alejandra, Gover Colleen, Gross Samantha, Hatchett James, Heil Andre, Jensen Douglas, Jimenez Rincon Javier, Joseph Murielle, Keefe Kathleen, Malcolm Kate, Maloof Ali, McCarthy Christopher, McCarthy Kristen, McCarthy Megan, McMorrow Jennifer, McNamara Delia, Medina Max, Miller Addie, Murray Megan, Pena Mejia Bill, Price Jennifer, Rossman Brian, Ryan Justine, Saba Marianna, Schick Courtney, Serratore Mason, Sobol Jennifer, Sullivan Patrick, Travers Michael, Visconti Andrew,

GRADE 10 HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Cronan Joanna, Jones Faye, Kelley Robert, Bartucca Lisa, Boyle Rachael, Carey Alexandra, Ceku Dalina, Colamaria John, Creag

Stephanie, Daniels Mikayla, Donnelly Kristin, Dyckes Joshua, Dziuba Casey, Fadrigalan Reynaldo, Ferrini Kaitlyn, Fiske Peter, Higgins Lauren, Jones Heather, Kearns Michael, Kelley Shannen, Kiwanuka Harriet, Lester K i m - berly, Maroun Patrick, Mastinggal Sandra, McDonough Natalie, Murali Rasika, Nicholson Barry, O'Brien Jamie, O'Connor James, O'Day Kathleen, Rydzewski William, Shah Shivangi, Shilo David, Stanton Courtney, Tran Brianna,

GRADE 10 SECOND HONORS

Pokala M o u n i k a , Wahba Emeel, Allen Daniel, Baturin Anna, Belanger Brian, Blais Carly, Breen Nicole, Bui Julie, Coskren Lisa, DeVingo Victoria, Eid Sandy, Gaita Anthony, Gassoway Teresa, Giusti Adam, Gonzalez Elizabeth, Ippolito Shannon, Jreij Carel, Karanouh Hanin, Kelley Erin, Kelly Sarah, Kewriga Adam, Lee Katherine, Maloney Cianne, McCracken Brian, Melhem Stephanie, Mezin Noura, Morrison Shawn, Moulton Kimberly, Odachowski Hannah, Perez Ruben, Pitaro Anthony, Plasko Ryan, Ramirez Rebecca, Ring Brittany, Weeks Hayley, Wigandt Christine, Wood Samantha,

GRADE 11 FIRST HONORS

Correa-Ruiz Karen, Hrabowski Robert, Lorenzetti Kristy, Adams Nichole, Becker Hannah, Boakye Jessica, Borrell Austin, Boufaissal Rabeeh, Buckley Brendan, Christenson Danielle, Conroy Patrick, Cronan Kelly, Curley Stephen, Davis Brandon, Davis Colby, DeRosa Paul, Dixon Emily, Fata Brian, Flaherty Heather, French Linzy, Gibson T a h i r a h , Goodwin Michael, Goss Jillian, Haigh Chelsea, Harrington Meghan, Henry John, Hersey Tara, Keady Sean, Kindstrand Greta, Levitsky Kevin, Marinucci Chelsie, McGinnes Ashley, McGowan John, McGuire James, Mulligan Brian, Nixon DiAndre, O'Neil Danielle, Perez Zaida, Perry Stephanie, Porter Sean, Pugliano Christina, Quintiliani Brianna, Rached Joyce, Serino Vincent, Serratore Connie, Slater Alexandra, Smith Robert, Stogryn Jamison, Stokes Amanda, Valle Natalie, Watt William, Welter Katherine, Zaki Manar,

GRADE 11 HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Baturin Rebecca, Callahan Stephanie, Cooper Joshua, Dave Aditi, DiTomasso Laura, Domaney Kristina, Gearty William, Gonzalez Elisa, Joseph C l a u d i n e , LaVoye Justine, McDonough Lauren, McGinnes Meagan, Meehan Joseph, O'Connor Kathleen, Okoye Annuli, Oliveira Christopher, Rabinovich Sarah, Sheehan Robert, Sobchuk Catherine, Wigmore Melanie, Wood Amanda,

GRADE 11 SECOND HONORS

Decosta Alexandra, Santor Emily, Bernazzani Gerard, Boulos Peter, Cignarella Nikki, Curran Megan, Damaa Heather, Day Bailey, Delmonaco Alyssa, Dobbels Joseph, El Bach Jessica, Farulla Marisa, Finney Jessica, Fogarty Jason, Folan Lauren, Folan Megan, Fruci, Vincent, Galvin Jayne, Giammarco Nicole, Gillis Rebecca, Kelly Catherine, Kipouropoulos Argiro , Kiwanuka Amelia, Loyd Elizabeth, Lynch Amanda, Lyons Connor, Martin Laura, M c C o n n a u g h y Kathleen, McDonough Shannon, Metta Emily, Metta Natalie, Michel Deborah, Michel Sarah, Morales Isabel, O'Brien Christopher, Orlando Susan, O'Sullivan Kevin, Palmateer Brianna, Perry Christopher, Prescott Danielle, Raymond Dean, Riley Paul, Ring Kayla, Ryan Christopher, Ryan Haley, Short Kelly, Sinclair Evan, Smith Joice, Stover Matthew, Thompson Caitlyn, Underhill Meghan, Wahba Youssef, Walsh Jillian, White Megan, White Gilroy Conor, Wyche Eric,

GRADE 12 FIRST HONORS

Bloomfield Meshaguy, Costigan Andrew, Dib Issam, Hurley Stephen, Petrucci Jenna, Santos Demetrius, Shea Lauren, Spencer Audrey, Atwood Amelia, Batra Rashi, Buonasaro Michelle, Burns Michael, Campbell Alix , Carroll Colleen, Cirillo Juliana, Clapp Lauren, Clougher Kimberly, Coen Caitlin, Cole Cara, Colton Nicolette, Conway Amy, Coskren Patrick, Dimitriou Katherine, Dupere Lindsay, Foley Heather, Foley Katherine, Frasca Michael, Gatto Kaitlyn, Gearty Michael, Gibson Amirah, Girvan David,

Gundel Amanda, Igoe Jayme, Jennings Kate, Jones Olivia, Juckett Allison, Julian Thomas, Keefe Nancy, Koktsidis Alexandra, Lambert Bridget, Lang Kaitlyn, Lawless Catherine, Liriano Roosevelt, Maggio Melissa, Mahon John, Mansfield Kimberlee, McCabe Kelly, McDaniel Casey, McDonough Kerry, McHugh Michelle, McMorrow Matthew, Meyers Sydney, Millin Kelly, Muller John, Murray Amandars, Nakhoul Shady, Nolan Michelle, O'Rourke Heather, Patel Nigam, Pena Mejia Digna, Rachunok Amanda, Roberson Kelsey, Rodriguez Nicholas, Rose Terence, Shaughnessy Jesse, Stameris Katerina, Stanton Robert, Toti Melissa, Tran Theodore, Troiano Meaghan, Vargas Crespo Laura, Vilaboa Samantha, Weaver Daniel, Wong Michaela, Wood Katherine, Zakee Aayonna

GRADE 12 HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Adams Andrew, Altieri Marisa, Bernazzani Kathryn, Burtman Michaela, Calarese Brittany, Chubet Carly, Cordero Tanya, Cronin Jacquelyn, Cucinotta Jaclyn, Davenport Matthew, Devaney Pamela, Garcia-Pletsch Magali, Hourihan Lisa, Jocus Sidra, Jones Isabelle, Kelley Matthew, Little Katherine, Rivard Emily, Shilo Meghan, Skuncik Michael, Walsh Matthew, Williams Brian, Yasmine Michelle, Zabrowski Larissa,

GRADE 12 SECOND HONORS

Canniff Jennifer, Doliner Janine, Joseph Sandra, Stanley Sarah, Akl Anthony, Arthur Christopher, Babirye Joanita, Bartucca Gionfranco, Bigos Jonathan, Black Francis, Breen Michael, Brockmeyer Alistair, Carmine Rachel, Cathcart Kelsey, Colamaria Anne, Conroy Michelle, Costa Matthew, Cote Alexander, Curran Stephanie, Doyle Alison, Fata Robert, Ferzoco Lisa Marie, Gallo Lauren, Greeley Elizabeth, Jones Kristen, Joseph Priscille, King Katelyn, MacDonald Timothy, Maroun Kathleen, Mazzotta Lisa, Murphy Brian, Nicolas Kayshia, Powers Dana, Riorda Maureen, Roy Sabrina, Ryan Carly, Smith Kelsy, Turner Tamara, Viano Robert, Zablocki Evan,

Legals

TOWN OF NORWOOD PERMANENT PUBLIC BUILDING COMMITTEE

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS SUB-CONTRACTORS

For construction of a
**NEW NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
PROJECT # PBC-09-01**

Pursuant to Chapter 193 of the Acts of 2004, the Town of Norwood, through its Purchasing Department, request qualifications from sub-contractors for the construction of a new Norwood High School. The Awarding Authority invites pre-qualifications, pursuant to M. G. L. Chapter 149, Sections 44D ½ of General Contractors and pursuant to M. G. L. Chapter 149, Sections 44D ¾ of Sub-contractors.

This is a re-solicitation as required due to an insufficient number of responses for the selected trades indicated below.

The following are the sub-trades for which qualification packages are being requested:

Resilient Floors	\$965,742
Compact Traction Elevators	\$75,000

Sub-trade contractors that have previously submitted qualifications in response to the initial solicitation are not required to submit again. Their qualifications are being reviewed with the expectation that there will be additional responses.

This request for qualifications (RFQ) will be used to pre-qualify subcontractors and general contractors who will be invited to submit bids pursuant to section 44E of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 149 as amended by Chapter 193 of the Acts of 2004. After the pre-qualification process, a list of pre-qualified subcontractors and general contractors will be provided to all pre-qualified bidders.

The estimated cost of construction is: **\$66,500,000**

Request for Qualification Packets may be obtained on/after **(12pm Monday) December 22, 2008**, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from the Town of Norwood - Purchasing Department, 566 Washington St. Norwood, MA. RFQ packages are free of charge. RFQ documents may be picked up and are also available in electronic format for download from: www.commm-pass.com

Statements of Qualifications in response to this RFQ shall be signed under the pains and penalties of perjury. Qualifications must be received on/before **(Thursday) January 14, 2009 on/before 11:00 a.m.** ESST at Norwood Town Hall - Purchasing Department, 566 Washington St., P.O. Box 40, Norwood, MA 02062. All responses submitted after this time will not be accepted.

Please submit one (1) original and five (5) copies of the information in a sealed package marked:

**Qualifications for Subcontracting Services
New Norwood High School
[Filed Sub-Contractor Discipline]**

The Town of Norwood is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

John Carroll - Town Manager
Catherine Carney - Purchasing Officer

Norwood Record, 12/24/08

Deaths

BISHOP

Jacqueline "Jackie" of Norwood, died suddenly and unexpectedly, peacefully in her sleep, on Dec. 20. Jackie was the daughter of Warren and the late Dorothy Frank Bishop of Norwood. Also survived by her brother, Mark and his wife, Katherine of Norton, her sister, Janice (Bishop) Norton and her husband, Gregory also of Norton. She was the loving aunt of Johnathan and Alyssa Norton. She is also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Jackie may be made to Project HIRE, 95 West St., Walpole, MA 02081. Funeral arrangements by Gillooly Funeral Home Norwood.

CARPENTER

Christine Hornsby (Swaim) of Norwood, formerly of Chestnut Hill & Waltham, died Dec. 16, age 56. Beloved wife of Robert Carpenter for 23 years. Devoted mother of Amy Hornsby and her fiancé, Mathew Ward of Spartanburg, SC and Steven Hornsby and Sue Mackey of Pointciana, FL. Daughter of Way Swaim of Cambridge

and the late Thomas G. Swaim. Sister of James F. Swaim of Brookline, Thomas G. Swaim, Jr. of Norfolk and Stephanie S. Lind of Cranberry Township, PA. Also survived by two granddaughters. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 3049, Syracuse, NY 13220-3049. Funeral arrangements by Ginley Funeral Homes, Franklin.

CHAMBERS

Robert B., 80, of Norwood, died Suddenly Dec. 14. Beloved husband of Mary E. (Maguire) Chambers. Devoted Father of Robert M. Chambers of Mansfield, Nancy E. Chambers of Norwood, Stephen J. Chambers of Brighton, and Mary Ellen Chambers of Jamaica Plain. Brother of Barbara Harrison of Wilmington, Karl of Yarmouth, Allan of Weymouth, Ed of NJ., and the late Harold and Donald Chambers. Son of the late Harold and Evelyn (Graham) Chambers. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Interment Highland Cemetery, Norwood. Funeral arrangements by Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home.

GILMORE

Robert C., 78, of Harwichport, formerly of Norwood, died peacefully on Dec. 15 after a long illness. Robert was the son of Frank and Mae Gilmore of North Providence RI and the brother of B. Preston Gilmore of Boca Raton. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Terre Dougherty Gilmore, his four wonderful children: Curt, Beth, John and Kate. Bob was preceded in death by his first grandchild, Sarah Jane. Bob has nine beautiful and loving grandchildren. He was a veteran of the Korean War and a recipient of the Purple Heart. Bob received a degree from U.R.I. and a graduate degree from Columbia. Bob loved his family above all. He greatly enjoyed sailing and Wychmere Harbor, playing tennis, ice skating and writing poetry. He was active as a religious education teacher, Boy Scout leader and youth hockey coach. Interment Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne. In lieu of flowers, please send memorial donations to the St. Jude's Children Hospital, P.O. Box 50 Memphis, TN 38101-9929. Funeral arrangements by Beal & Ames Funeral Home, Harwich.

For the Record

BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Ring in the New Year one night early with a new musical group, The Grossman Family Quartet, on Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Shaare Tefilah, 556 Nichols St. David, Josh and Evan Grossman plus Jonathan Shuster will present an evening of barbershop quartet music and will be joined by a voice and keyboard duo, Felicia and David Kopelman. Join us for music, celebration and light refreshments. The event is free charge, but a donation of \$5 would be appreciated. For more information, call (781) 762-8670.

SILENT WONDER

The First Congregational Church will hold its "Silent Wonder Service," a service of story, song, and silence on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 9 p.m. In the smaller setting of the chapel, we tell the Christmas story through the accounts of Matthew and Luke, and, in the process, assemble the crèche. It is the quiet, contemplative side of Christmas that we seek to find in this service, and, hopefully, the awe of experiencing God incarnate. For more information, please call the church office at 781-762-3320.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

The First Congregational

Church will hold its traditional Christmas Eve service of candles and carols on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 6 PM with a live nativity scene on the corner of Route 1A and Winter St. This hour-long service has been celebrated for over twenty years and includes Christmas songs performed by the choir, and a nativity pageant based on readings from the prophecy of Isaiah and the gospels according to Luke and Matthew. Children and adults in costume help recreate the wonder of those who followed a star over 2000 years ago. Visitors are welcome to join this special holiday celebration, and pause amid the bustle of the season to reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas. For more information, please call the church office at (781) 762-3320.

CABOT ROADSHOW

The Cabot Roadshow is coming to Norwood on Sunday, Jan. 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Shaw's Supermarket, 134 Nahatan St., Norwood. The Cabot crew will promote the benefits of calcium and the goodness of cheese, distribute recipes, prizes, coupons and cheddar samples.

SONGS FOR THE SEASON

Grace Allendorf, a talented mezzo-soprano, will be performing "Songs for the Season" on

Sunday, Dec. 28, at 3 p.m. in the Simoni Room of the Morrill Memorial Library. She will be accompanied by Kevin McGinty. Allendorf was born and raised in Norwood and is currently working toward her Master's degree in Voice at Longy School of Music. She has been singing with Coro Allegro for the past five years and is a soloist for the Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills. Kevin McGinty holds a B.M. from the New England Conservatory and an M.M. from Juilliard. He has taught at All Newton Music School, Milton Academy and MIT Music and Theater Arts. This is the second in the Musical Sundays Concert Series at the Morrill Memorial Library. Funding for this performance and five others is provided by the Norwood Woman's Club and the Library Cushing Fund. The performance is free. Please call the library to register at (781) 769-0200.

FIRESIDE READS

Join librarians Beth Goldman and Margot Sullivan on Thursday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m., and repeated again at 7:30 p.m., at the Morrill Memorial Library for Fireside Reads. This is a popular winter event where Beth and Margot review 8-10 books from fiction, mystery, non-fiction, biography, history, maybe a cookbook or picture book, and what-

ever might be of interest. The session is informative and entertaining and always there are times of laughter. At the closing, suggestions of books to read are welcomed from the audience. Coffee and refreshments are served at this free program. No registration is necessary. If weather is inclement, call the library at (781) 769-0200 to see if the program will take place.

DIVORCE RECOVERY SERIES

The First Congregational Church of Norwood is hosting a Divorce Recovery Series beginning Thursday, Jan. 15, from 7-8:30 p.m. This is an eight-week program that will be led by a professional counselor specializing

in divorce issues. It covers the emotional stages of divorce and offering healing and support to those who are divorced or separated. The cost is \$90 and pre-registration is requested. To register, or for more information on the series, call the church office at (781) 762-3320. Participants are welcome, regardless of religious affiliation. The First Congregational Church is located on the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street in Norwood.

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Santa, Congregation and Its Youth Groups Help City Mission Society

Santa visited the First Congregational Church in Norwood to help some of the 1,500 Boston families that participate in the City Mission Society Criminal Justice and Crisis Intervention Programs. Children from the congrega-

tion gave Santa a variety of gifts, including clothing, toys and gift cards, to bring to these families in need. In appreciation, Santa gave each child a gift.

Afterwards, members of the senior and junior high

youth groups, along with chaperones Jenny Durant and Janet Donovan, brought the gifts to City Mission Society and helped sort and package them along with gifts from others for delivery to needy families.



Left to right with Santa are Pastor John Hamilton, Jenny Durant, Sam McGrath, Faye Durant, Ellie Durant, and Chris MacDonald. They along with other youth group members helped deliver and sort gifts for City Mission Society. The Congregation also presented CMS with a gift of \$1,000.



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Help us help the Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood.

Donations of food and hygiene items will be gratefully accepted in the Norwood Bank lobby through December 31.



Norwood Bank

You count.

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Police Logs

Tuesday, Dec. 16

0830 walk-in. Assist citizen, spoken to. Location/address: Norwood Police Dept. - 137 Nahatan St. Two females in station to report road rage against each other. Both parties spoken to, and advised. Both refused road rage form.

0930 phone. Illegal trash disposal, report filed. Location/address: Salon Moda - 200 Broadway St. Known person to owner, dumped trash into their dumpster. See report.

1021 phone. Larceny Location/address: 64 Plymouth Dr. Larceny of credit card by known individual.

1147 phone. Assist citizen, taken/referred to other. Amelia Beck found a Jack Russell and has been entertained all morning by him. NACO notified.

1430 phone. Threats, spoken to. Location/address: Zoom Wireless - 1401 Bos-Prov. Hwy. Brashanth reports he was threatened by a customer, officer spoke to all parties, no threat, just a disagreement.

1907 phone. Alarm-burglar, accidental alarm. Location/address: Professional Electric - 100 Access Rd. Office motion. Set off by cleaners.

2210 phone. Noise complaint, gone on arrival. Location/address: 4 Tremont St. @ 1203 Washington St. Caller reported road construction.

2359 phone. Hit and run, report filed. Location/address: Ellis Nursing and Rehabilitation Center - 135 Ellis Ave. Caller reported past hit and run.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

0250 phone. Missing person, report filed. Mother stated when she checked on son he was gone from his bedroom and had placed pillows under blankets. N679 sent. Son returned while officer was there. He snuck out to see his girlfriend.

1129 phone. Unwanted party, services rendered. Location/address: Norwood Post Office - 1 Central St. Officers remove a union official at the request of the Postmaster.

1216 phone. Harassment, services rendered. Location/address: The Tile City - 810 Bos-Prov. Hwy. Civil matter, no harassment.

1356 phone. Larceny, report filed. Location/address: 320 Norwood Pks. Subject taken to the location in a cab only paid some of the fare. Off reports the subject is goa.

1539 phone. Motor vehicle accident, report filed. Location/address: Prospect St. Bus struck a stop sign. Students on the bus but a very minor collision and no P.I.

Off. with the help of bus company will have all the names of students on Thursday and will file a report then.

1636 phone. Bad check(s), complaint/summons. Location/address: Advanced Dental - 125 Central St. Caller reported receiving bad checks. Summons: Dutcher, Kelly M. Address: 36 Burnley Rd., Norwood, MA. DOB: 12/23/1962. Charges: larceny by check under \$250.

1823 phone. Disturbance, spoken to. Location/address: 251 Hill St. 3. Caller reported verbal dispute with neighbor. Officers spoke with caller. Parties have separated.

2159 phone. Juvenile offenses, gone on arrival. Location/address: Ajay's Market - 166 Walpole St. Caller reported loud kids in the area.

Thursday, Dec. 18

1044 phone. Complaint of m/v, area search negative. Location/address: Everett St. Westwood p.d. reports cars racing up and down Everett St.

1847 phone. Susp. person, spoken to. Location/address: 2000 Village Rd. W. Caller reported suspicious person. Officer spoke with party who lives in the area. Checked ok.

1941 phone. Breaking and entering, report filed. Location/address: Affordable Tree and Landscape - 1266 Washington St.

2004 phone. Susp. vehicle, report filed. Location/address: 55 David Ter. Caller reported white vehicle with crash damage and interior lights on. Pc MA tcn917 status stolen. Westwood p.d. notified, will cancel NCIC entry. Owner to pick up vehicle at above location.

2221 phone. Lost and found, services rendered. Location/address: Ocean State Job Lot - 1001 Bos-Prov Hwy. Caller reported lost/stolen coat. Item found.

Friday, Dec. 19

0117 initiated. - Community police, report filed. Location/address: Morse House - Washington St. Nativity check.

0256 911. Auto theft, complaint/summons. Location/address: 12 Crestwood Cir. Caller reports her car has been stolen. (MA reg# 56bj46). N679, N661 responded. N679 reports car has been returned and misunderstanding between roommates over use of car. Roommate not wanted at home tonight and N661 transported to 251 Hill St. Summons: Feliciano, Zaida L. Address: 251 Hill St. 3, Norwood, MA. DOB: 11/27/1975. Charges: suspended licence, subsequent offense.

0420 911. Unwanted party, services rendered. Location/address:

12 Crestwood Cir. Caller reports roommate has returned and wants her removed. N679, N661 returned. Party was escorted home again and told she can not return. Officers stoodby.

0859 walk-in. B & E of motor vehicle, report filed. Location/address: Home Depot - 1415 Bos-Prov Hwy. Items missing from van while owner inside Home Depot. Report filed.

1053 phone. Alarm-burglar, services rendered. Location/address: Krayzee Horse Pub and Grill - 1112 Washington St. Protect America reports back door alarm. Off. secures an open door. Owner notified.

1102 911. Breaking and entering, arrest(s) made. Location/address: 85 Prospect St. Neighbor at #84 reports someone entered #85 and he knows no one is home. Sgt and det. Also responded. Forced entry of home, subject jumped out of front window and took off on foot. Subject caught and subsequently placed under arrest. Arrest: Williams, Michael. Address: 70A Garafalo Dr., Weymouth, MA. DOB: 08/24/1978. Charges: B & E daytime for felony or misd., destruction of property +\$250, malicious larceny over \$250.

1231 phone. Mischief (kids), services rendered. Location/address: 91 Garfield Ave. Kids sitting in the road. Off. reports goa and also reports trash in the road. DPW notified.

1524 phone. Complaint of m/v, services rendered. Location/address: 62 Washington St. @ 12 Margaret St. Car slid out of driveway, blocking Washington St. Off. reports no one home, and vehicle is not a hazard yet.

1643 phone. Prisoner, fed. services rendered. N432 feeds one prisoner.

1907 phone. Assist citizen, services rendered. Location/address: 26 Savin Ave. Caller wants officers assistance with cars parked on the street. Truck belongs to All Seasons Rental, owner notified via wife to move truck.

1940 911. Violation of Town bylaw, spoken to. Location/address: 14 Elliot St. 2. Caller reports he just cleared his sidewalk and a private contractor is plowing from across the street and dumping it on where he just cleared it. Plow goa, officer spoke to caller, he will get a plate if plow returns.

Saturday, Dec. 2

0017 phone. Alarm-burglar, building checked/secured. Location/address: Norwood High School - 245 Nichols St. 1st floor - 1925 wing. Gerry Mullin notified. Building hand checked secure.

0043 initiated. Assist citizen, services rendered. Location/ad-

dress: Fairview Rd. N677 reports being flagged by resident who can't get home due to large pile of snow in middle of street. DPW notified and officer standing by.

0632 911. Motor vehicle accident, report filed. Location/address: Mr. Franks Gulf Station - 917 Washington St. Motorist hit an open manhole. N664 sent. Center to tow MA. reg# 63we86

0819 phone. Neighbor, disturbance spoken to. Location/address: A & J Auto and Quik Mart - 1191 Washington St. Caller reported dispute over snow removal. Officer spoke with party, advised.

1550 phone. Trespass, tow services rendered. Location/address: Wickham Way. Pc MA 78mw65 towed from scene.

1724 phone. Assist citizen, spoken to. Location/address: 42 Dean St. F. Caller reports that kids in the complex are running by her door kicking it. Advised to contact management.

1833 phone. Prisoner fed., services rendered. N663 feeds one prisoner.

2003 phone. Shoplifting, complaint/summons. Location/address: Newbury Comics - 859 Bos-Prov. Hwy. Summons: OBrien, Jillian T. Address: 260 Burgess Ave., Westwood, MA. DOB: 05/13/1989. Charges: shoplifting by appropriation.

2043 phone. Dispute, spoken to. Location/address: 152 Dean St. Disagreement over the use of a car. N679, N677 respond. Spoken to all parties, satisfied.

Sunday, Dec. 21

0057 phone. Domestic, arrest(s) made. Location/address: 30 Dean St. Caller reported domestic. Officer reported one under arrest. One placed into protective custody and released to a relative. Arrest: Martinsen, John Christian. Address: 30 Dean St. 2R, Norwood, MA. DOB: 01/29/1959. Charges: A & B, threat to commit crime P/C: Lafrazia, Catherine. Address: 30 Dean St. 11, Norwood, MA. DOB: 07/26/1963. Charges: protective custody.

0131 911. Complaint of m/v, arrest(s) made. Location/address: 1407 Bos-Prov. Hwy. @ 124 Sumner St. Caller reported unconscious party in vehicle. NFD responded. Officer reported one under arrest. Center Auto towed pc MA 965ed0. Arrest: Andrade, Agustin. Address: 348 Stone St., Walpole, MA. DOB: 08/28/1964. Charges: oui liquor, negligent operation of motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle.

0138 phone. Domestic, complaint/summons. Location/address: 39 Monroe St. Caller reported domestic in progress. Officer requested ambulance for evaluation.

Transport to hospital. Summons: Bivins, Russell Arthur. Address: 39 Monroe St., Norwood, MA. DOB: 09/16/1986. Charges: assault & battery on person aged 60+.

0317 phone. Medical emergency, Fire Dept. notified/respo. Location/address: Norwood Police Dept. - 137 Nahatan St. Officer requested ambulance. Prisoner transported to hospital. Prisoner transported back to station.

0733 initiated - Prisoner fed services rendered Lunch at 1450 hrs by Off Begley.

0753 911 - Report of fight Location/address: Getty Gas/Mr. Franks - 917 Washington St Caller reported fight in progress. Verbal dispute only between father and son.

0800 phone - Lost and found Location/address: 1027 Washington St Caller reported Jesus statue reappeared. Supplemental report filed by off shore under 08-2488-of.

1210 phone - Assist citizen services rendered Location/address: Norwood Police Dept. - 137 Nahatan St Set of keys to a 2007 Chevy Tahoe lost in the lot here in The snow on 12/19/08 . Owner (Hogan) requested entry.

1224 phone - Assist citizen services rendered Location/address: St Catherines of Siena Church - 547 Washington St School canceled

Monday 12/22/08.

1253 phone - 209A service other Location/address: 12 Monroe St Attempt to serve a restraining order at 12 Monroe St. No one was home. Off EJ Farioli.

1325 phone - Susp activity sp Location/address: 47 Florence Ave Caller reports that the male at 47 Florence Ave is blowing Snow onto the street. N661 Off N Guarino responded. Warned a second time to stop blowing snow onto road way.

1417 phone - Wires down services rendered Location/address: 57 Richland Rd NFD on scene and handles .

1419 phone - Medical emergency services rendered Location/address: 22 Short St Off Shore assisted NFD.

1533 phone - Report of fight services rendered Location/address: 1000 Bos-Prov Hwy @ 199 Dean St Report of two men fighting in the street in traffic.

1536 phone - Report of fight services rendered Two men out of vehicles and fighting in the street. Officers Reports goa.

1844 phone - Drunk person gone on arrival Location/address: [nod 232] burger king restaurant - 41 bos-prov hwy

2215 phone - Hit and run Location/address: near Conrads - 728 Washington S

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Rama Shopping Center Inc	906 Washington LLC	906 Washington St	\$557,370
Shaffer, Hugh D	Wall Street Dev Corp	9 Langdon Rd	\$849,000

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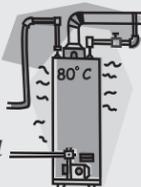
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