



Above: Residents joined lawmakers at the State House on April 12 for a hearing on districted driving. Right: Thomas Brannelly of Norwood spoke in favor of three bills that would ban the use of handheld devices while driving.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER ROBERSION

Resident continues efforts to reduce distracted driving

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

In the five years since his daughter Katie was fatally struck by a distracted driver, resident Thomas Brannelly has been petitioning state lawmakers to pass tighter legislation regarding the use of handheld devices behind the wheel.

Brannelly's most recent testimony was at the State House on April 12 in support of three bills that would make Massachusetts the 15th state to prohibit drivers from using handheld devices on the road.

The first bill, S. 1908, sponsored

by State Sen. Cynthia Creem, stated that drivers could only use handheld devices in "a hands-free mode" or to "activate, deactivate, or initiate a feature or function."

The second bill, H.1892, sponsored by State Rep. William Straus, stated that drivers would only be permitted to talk on their cell phones in the event of an emergency. The bill defined an emergency as reporting a disabled vehicle, to request medical attention or to request assistance from the Fire and/or Police Department. The details of the emergency would then need to be forwarded to law enforcement officials.

The third bill, S.1962, sponsored by



State Sen. Mark Montigny, stated that the use of handheld devices would be illegal "except if it is necessary to perform a single tap or swipe to activate, deactivate or initiate a voice command."

Speaking before the Joint Committee on Transportation, Brannelly gave an emotional description of the tragic events that unfolded on March 8, 2012.

A 2006 graduate of Norwood High School, Katie, who was 24 at the time, was a senior at Bridgewater State University majoring in child

Distracted Driving
Continued on page 2



The renovation project for St. Gabriel's Chapel will have to wait following a vote from the Finance Commission recommending indefinite postponement.

COURTESY PHOTO

Chapel project postponed

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

The proposed renovation of St. Gabriel's Chapel will likely be cast into the abyss of indefinite postponement at Town Meeting following a unanimous vote from the Finance Commission (FinCom).

During the FinCom's final review of Capital Outlay requests on April 13, Vice Chairman Alan Slater said the \$1.2 million project falls under the purview of the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

"I would just assume wait a couple of years until we accumulate a large amount of CPA funds," he said.

Chairman Judith Langone said she was undecided for quite some time.

"I've gone back and forth and back and forth on this," she said. "We've had a difficult year, we've had a lot of needs brought forward."

Member Anne Haley was unsure as well, saying interest rates for borrowing will continue to rise and the condi-

FinCom
Continued on page 6

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Distracted Driving *continued from page 1*

psychology.

On the evening of March 8, Katie, her boyfriend Domenic Rossi and their friend Kerri King where were crossing Washington Street when Katie and Rossi where struck head on. Although Rossi was able to push King out of harm's way, both he and Katie sustained massive injuries.

"Katie was wearing a white coat," Brannelly said during the State House hearing.

The driver, a second year law student at Suffolk University, claimed she was not on her phone at the time. However, Brannelly said the police later discovered that she had received eight text messages in the 25 minutes before the crash. He also said there was no indication, including skid marks, that the driver made any attempt to avoid the collision.

Brannelly said that after being rushed to the hospital, Katie underwent a double craniotomy in which two sections of her skull were removed to alleviate brain swelling. He said Katie spent three weeks in Intensive Care before being transferred to the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital.

Then, 15 months after the crash, the phone rang. Katie had passed away.

"I got the phone call no par-

ent wants to receive," he said. "All this because of a lousy text, no parent should have to go through this."

The date was June 11, 2013 – Father's Day was only five days later.

Following the hearing, Brannelly said the three pieces of legislation "look promising."

However, he said it will be no easy task in getting Gov. Charlie Baker to sign the bills into law.

"To get past the governor is tough," he said, adding that Baker only has limited knowledge about the true dangers of distracted driving.

The committee also heard testimony from Emily Stein, president of the Safe Roads Alliance, who lost her father, Howard, to a distracted teenage driver in Acton six years ago.

"In order for these initiatives to be effective, the law



Emily Stein

needs to be effective," said Stein, adding that she is also a proponent of Vision Zero Boston and Boston Complete Streets. "We're still allowed to put in an eight-digit phone number, it just doesn't make sense. These devices are addictive."

All testimony was taken under advisement by the committee for future action.

Police to host biannual DEA Day

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

In concert with Impact Norwood and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Police Department will once again be hosting the biannual DEA Take Back Day on April 29.

The event is free and will be held at the station from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

During that time, residents can bring in any unused or unwanted prescription medications.

Officers will also be on hand to assist residents with bulk items that cannot be easily disposed of otherwise.

"It's a fantastic program," said Officer Kevin Grasso, adding that the police have participated in the event since 2010.

He said that in 2011, the Norfolk County Sheriff's Department and District Attorney's Office donated a drug kiosk to the Norwood Police, which is still used on a regular basis.

"It's constantly being used, it's used quite frequently," said Grasso. "We've had a large quantity of prescription drugs dropped off here."

He said a separate container is also available for the disposal of needles.

Grasso said there is a growing number communities that offer similar services.

"The awareness is there," he said. "I know other communities that have come on board with their receptacles."

However, Grasso said Norwood could be the only town in the area that has a drop off kiosk available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

"I'm not sure of other communities who do that," he said.

Police ask that residents do not put needles or other substances into the kiosk and that those disposals are on the honor system.

"We don't ask and many times we don't know what's in

DEA

Continued on page 4

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Town unveils long-awaited website upgrade

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

After about 18 months stuck in the works, the town's new website went live on April 19.

"When residents see the site, they're going to be very happy with what they see," said Catherine Carney, contracts administrator for Norwood's Purchasing Department, during the April 18 Board of Selectmen meeting.

She also said that residents will have the option to sign up for email notifications.

"This is a new, modern-looking site, said Carney.

However, creating the new site has been no easy task.

"It's been a very long process," said Carney, adding that she and her team spent time on the site during the week after work and on the weekends. "At times, I think some of us would literally dream about it."

With services from the Revise Corporation in Troy, Michigan, Carney said the total cost of launching the new site was \$21,600 with ongoing maintenance costs of \$4,900 per annum.

Carney also said a survey will be available for residents to provide feedback.

"We really want to make this the residents' page," she said.

In terms of content, Carney said the majority of the files from the former site were transferred to the new site.

"Over 3,000 documents migrated to our new site," she said.

In addition, Carney said that each department head was able to have direct input on how their department's page would be presented.

"They got to control

their own pages," she said.

Selectman Paul Bishop said outdated material was one of the blunders of the prior site and must be avoided going forward.

"We've asked all department heads to keep this up to date, to keep it fresh," he said.

In other news, the Preliminary Screening Committee, tasked with finding finalist candidates for the position of town treasurer, submitted the names of the top three applicants from an original group of 32.

The finalists are Gary Carreiro, Mark Good and Zoe Pierce.

Carreiro is currently the treasurer/tax collector in Marion and has held that position for the past 10 years. Prior to Marion, Carreiro was the assistant treasurer in Fall River for eight years. He holds an Associate's Degree in business from Bristol Community College and a Bachelor's Degree in finance from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

Good has been Malden's treasurer/tax collector since March 2013. Before going to work in Malden, Good was the treasurer in Walpole for 11 years and had also been Weston's treasurer for 12 years before making the switch to Walpole. He is a graduate of Indiana University at Bloomington.

Pierce is currently the treasurer/tax collector in Wayland and has been in that position since 2015. Prior to her current position, Pierce was the assistant treasurer and collector in Randolph for one-and-a-half years. Before taking that position, she worked for six-and-a-half years as the senior account clerk and collections assistant in Concord. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in busi-

ness administration from Furman University.

The selectmen will hold 30-minute interviews for each finalist on April 24 starting at 6 p.m.

Until a new treasurer is chosen, Assistant Treasurer Eileen Hickey will serve as the acting treasurer and will be assisted by two retired treasurers.

Although Fire Chief Anthony Greeley was unable to attend the meeting due to illness, his report for the month of March indicated that the department responded to 454 incidents last month.

The department's Fire Investigation Unit reported four cooking fires, two bomb scares, one vehicle fire, one trash fire, two mulch fires and two false alarms which are believed to be of a malicious nature.

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OPINION

UNCOMMON COMMON SENSE

It amazes us how foolhardy and block-headed folks can be. It is one thing to have two sides to an argument, but completely another to live in a reality-free bubble.

Norwood residents have been placed in a ridiculous position relative to the school calendar, and all because one school committee member a couple of years ago decided on his own, without anyone even implying that the current mention of Christmas offended them, to lead the PC brigade and remove its mention so as to be “more inclusive”, a perfect example of those thinking they are smarter than the rest of us providing a solution in search of a problem.

Norwood also has one selectman who becomes irate when anyone questions the (his) decisions made over the last few years relative to the town’s battles with 40B developers, and utilizes executive sessions, sometimes unnecessarily in our opinion, whenever possible so as to keep everything under wraps under the auspices of “litigation”.

An example on the national level is White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer. The media, in our opinion, has been far too quick to attack Spicer for even the slightest bit of awkward sentence structure. For his part, a combative relationship with the press is not helping matters.

There is no defending the stupidity of trying to downgrade the atrocities of Adolph Hitler in order to talk up the President’s foe in Syria. The amazing part of all this is that, given the opportunity to restate the odd claim that Hitler never used chemical weapons on his people, Spicer only stammered away with similar talking points and dug his rhetorical hole even deeper.

A good example of private industry stupidity is United Airlines. In a letter to CEO Oscar Munoz, Senate Democrats ask some important questions for any of us who fly including standard operating procedures when removing passengers, etc...

The stupidity on display here is that the airline chose employee accommodations over respect for paying customers. It is jaw-dropping that it took the CEO three separate press releases to finally admit something was amiss.

Our observation from all of these examples is this: never assume people in power are smarter than you.

The lesson, we hope, is that there is no caste system in America. We may speak of the political and corporate elite, but in reality there is no such thing. The deck may be stacked against working men and women, but it is unfairly-rigged. Never be bullied into silence. Never be ignored. Never be intimidated by those “more powerful.”

At the end of the day they are no smarter, no more filled with common sense than you are. It is a crazy world, and average Joes and Janes need to reclaim their authority. Vote. Speak out. Fight back.

CORRECTION

In the article, Potential for conflicts of interest occurring more often, which was published on page 3 of the April 13 issue of The Norwood Record, it was incorrectly reported that School Committee Vice Chairman Michele Eysie-Mullen’s brother was married to Mary Savage-Brown. This is corrected to say that Eysie-Mullen has no familial relationship to Savage-Brown.

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Letters to the Editor

NORWOOD’S FAKE NEWS

It was very disheartening to read the sensationalized front page story regarding a 40B decision in a Waltham case with its misrepresentation of the facts as to how it relates to Norwood, and the Norwood Record’s willingness to give them validity in its Opinion Column.

At the end of the front page story the Record provided a link to the full court decision on its website. Unfortunately it appears the editor and the critics did not read it themselves, or understand it if they did.

Mr. Pentowski declares, “This is a big win” for our community. This is just wrong. This decision does not affect Norwood’s 40B cases; it only affects the City of Waltham, at least at this time. This was a Superior Court case, not Appeals Court decision.

He then proclaims “This means that ALL (emphasis added) group home data – as well as the bonus data given by the Department of Mental Health and Department of Developmental Services – now has to be included in all communities...” He claims these non DMH & DDS group homes Norwood will pick up approximately five acres that will satisfy our 40B requirement.

Wrong again, nothing could be further from the truth. If you read the court decision it is clear the case is only about getting the information from DMH & DDS period. It has nothing to do with getting “all group home data.” It does nothing to get us those five acres.

The City of Newton tried to get credit for locations similar to the ones Mr. Pentowski wants us to use. Their attempts

were smacked down by the Housing Appeals Committee because they did not meet the requirements to be added to the SHI. These units just do not count in the 40B process.

The Record writes that Waltham was astute in pursuing this matter of locating group homes by following the groundwork laid by former Norwood resident Brian Hardiman. This seems inaccurate as well. Mr. Hardiman’s case was a request for release of Public Records, which the court determined they were not. The Waltham case was to get the court to enforce a subpoena they had served for this information. There is a different legal standard at play here.

It appears Waltham likely followed the lead of the HAC hearing officer in the Stoneham case. In that case the hearing officer suggested that town should have sought a subpoena to compel DDS & DMH to provide the information when Stoneham complained they could not locate these units.

In Norwood we felt we found the 60 group homes on our SHI. We had found three, or four different public documents to show each location was a qualifying group home. So we decided to use the information we had assembled after it was reviewed by counsel who felt the documentation could be defended before the HAC. As it turns out we received 100 percent credit for the locations and the area associated with them.

The Record continues its assault on the town’s position, suggesting that maybe the developer did not challenge them because they knew our findings were flawed. Not likely. They would have to go through a

similar process to try and find records themselves. We know that they have not been to our town offices looking for this information.

More likely the case, is we caught them by surprise. In the first round of the process we had not found all the locations. We claimed what we had found and tried to make a case for how we should be given credit for the rest. DHCD rejected this. The developer probably thought we would come to the second round at the Housing Appeals Committee with the same claim, but we had now finished our work and found the rest of the group homes; OR they simply did not care because they were confident they could win on other issues to keep us from reaching the 1.5 percent goal. Which they did.

The Record once again says that the Selectmen have isolated themselves and own this completely because we have not been open to residents input. I disagree. We have tried to point out on several occasions that this is not the case. We have received much help from a few resident’s, mostly from former resident Mr. Hardiman. Help we are thankful for. However a number of things people like Mr. Pentowski want us to use, just do not count in this 40B process.

In a complicated legal case there are a number of times when strategy decisions need to be made, and that falls upon the Selectmen by virtue of their position. We have always made them in a responsible manner considering statements and input from all, and with advice from counsel.

Selectman William Plasko

DEA *continued from page 2*

there,” said Grasso.

Grasso said the presence of prescription medications in the home, even after they are no longer needed, could mean that they are being used for illegal purposes.

“If these drugs are not being used, they wouldn’t be there,” said Grasso, adding that there is also the ever-present risk of such medications falling

into the hands of children.

In a February 2016 interview, Chief William Brooks said that in 2014, more than 1,000 people lost their lives to opiate overdoses, a 3.3 percent increase from the prior year.

“It’s a challenging public health challenge, which requires a three-prong approach involving prevention, enforcement and treatment,” said

Brooks.

He said that prescriptions can also be used as gateway drugs.

“According to data compiled by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, nearly half of those people who later went on to shoot heroin reported that they first abused prescription opiates. One of the most common sources for those opiates was unused prescription drugs left in the home medicine cabinet,” said Brooks. “When medicines are taken in ways that are not prescribed, or by someone for which they were not prescribed, they can cause an array of adverse health effects, including overdose and even death.”

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A team of volunteers recently gathered at Cleveland Elementary School to construct a new playground.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW MACDONALD

Community raises roof on playground

Matthew MacDonald
Staff Reporter

This past Saturday, a new playground went up behind the Cleveland Elementary School located at 33 George Willett Parkway.

Notwithstanding all of the sights and sounds typically associated with landscape construction of this sort, this project, upon closer inspection, was atypical.

If the dozen workers crawl-

ing over, under, and around the main play apparatus and following basic assembly instructions from the same few people weren't a clue, then the three puzzled looking folks staring down with Christmas morning determination at a small, partially assembled blue pyramid roof laying next to an unassembled slide were a sure giveaway.

This was a community build, with the grunt work being done by well-intentioned

volunteers.

Standing near the pyramid and perusing the action, Principal Nancy Coppola described her idea, brainstormed a couple of years ago and brought to fruition by a recent fundraising effort and the goodwill of a Cleveland graduate now in the construction business, who provided subcontractors from Consider It Dunn Landscaping to excavate and oversee the work.

Playground

Continued on page 6

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TOWN OF NORWOOD ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **ROOM 12 of the Municipal Office Building** on **May 2, 2017 at 7:15 PM** on the request of 38 Sumner Street Realty Trust (Case # 17-08) with respect to property located on **38 Sumner Street**, in a **G-Residential District**.

This Application requests a **VARIANCE** under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to allow: The division of the existing property into two lots, each lot having less frontage and less lot width than required but in compliance with all other dimensional requirements of the Zoning Bylaws, so as to permit the maintenance of an existing two-family dwelling on one lot and the construction of a new two-family dwelling on the other lot, together with such other or further relief as the Zoning Board of Appeal may determine to be appropriate.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeal and may be viewed Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

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Norwood Record, 04/13/2017, 04/20/2017

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Playground continued from page 5

There were also four directors covering different playground sections and volunteer groups were assigned to one of the four.

One group was positioning and fastening a green slide into place. Coppola, however, had more in mind than just slides and swings. Taking into consideration the 22 autistic students (out of 340) currently enrolled in the school, she consulted

with Autism Speaks and, consequently, added in some sensory stimulating apparatus to go with the more conventional equipment.

"I learned a lot about playgrounds and the things they offer," Coppola said. "And also how expensive they are: really expensive."

Which is how this community build happened. Costing just under \$40,000 and funded

The Norwood Record

solely by donations, any other way would have cost too much.

A bobcat earth mover started up, scooping up mulch from a large pile dumped in the parking lot and dropping it into the muddy, excavated footprints as workers waited with shovels and rakes to spread it out. Another volunteer sprayed water into a bucket to mix concrete. Former students – now in high school – stood atop a pile of earth, halfheartedly picking

at it with shovels and heeling it with sneakers and boots. One of the three pyramid builders was holding a drill.

Joe McMahon, sales representative for Ultiplay Parks & Playgrounds, is an active participant in the construction as well as design. He handles 35-40 of these community projects a year and enjoys working with the people.

"They just want to get their hands dirty and do it,"

McMahon said. "You have to be a little more patient sometimes but, most times, we get volunteers that are awesome."

Some of these volunteers are teachers, others are parents. A number of them are neither: resident Joe Greeley just thought it was the right thing to do.

"This is going to last a long time," he said.

By the end of the day, the school had its new playground.

FinCom continued from page 1

tion of the Chapel will only get worse.

In his April 3 letter to the FinCom, Mark Ryan, director of the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that since November 2009, the cost of renovating the Chapel has climbed by 12.5 percent per annum.

"While the concept of waiting to use Community Preservation Act funds seems logical, the delay will actually cost the town significantly," he said, adding that 10 percent of available CPA money could be used for the Chapel. "There is absolutely no way of knowing if the future CPA Committee would even consider the Chapel more worthy over other 'sexier' projects."

Following the meeting, Langone said that although the

FinCom recognized the importance of the project, this is not the right time to make that kind of an investment.

"We believe there may be another funding source in the near future to assist the town with the renovations," she said. "Therefore, we felt we should wait given other priorities on the agenda. We are not saying no; it's a timing issue."

Slater said the Chapel renovation was presented to residents as a primary example of what the CPA can do. "This was the poster child as to why we should vote for the Community Preservation Act," he said.

Although rising costs are always a concern, Slater said a "considerable amount of money" would be saved on interest expenses with CPA assistance.

The \$900,000 Town Hall renovation barely got the nod from the FinCom in a 3-2 vote.

"I'm concerned that there will be cost overruns here," said Haley, who voted in opposition.

Slater asked Town Manager John Carroll if \$900,000 would be sufficient to get the job done.

"The question is going to come from Town Meeting, as long as you're able to defend it," he said.

However, there was no

doubt in Carroll's mind that the project would be completed at that cost.

"I'm absolutely, 100 percent confident," he said.

The FinCom also voted unanimously to support the \$332,000 request from the DPW for seven pieces of equipment, \$295,000 for an ambulance for the fire department and \$138,000 for repairs at the Civic Center.

Regarding the Civic Center, Assistant Town Manager Bernie Cooper said the current shower stalls have been there since the mid-1980s and need to be replaced, as they are no longer compliant with the building code.

He said other items include replacing the ceiling fans in the weight room as well as the windows and ceiling tiles.

"It needs to be freshened up, no question," said Cooper.

Board of Selectmen Chairman William Plasko asked about plans for repairing the tennis courts at Coakley Middle School.

Langone said the project would go forward if the State Department of Conservation and Recreation bypasses Norwood for an ice skating rink.

"If the rink is not going to be built, we'll do it," she said.

Slater also said \$50,000 is more than what the project would require.

"Bill, for \$50 grand you're going to do a lot more than fill in cracks," he said.

However, Carroll said the Skating Club of Boston has shown a serious interest in opening three rinks in town.

"There is a distinct possibility that the Skating Club of Boston would be coming to Norwood," he said.

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**TOWN OF NORWOOD
ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **ROOM 12** of the **Municipal Office Building** on **May 2, 2017, at 7:45 pm** on the request of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cases #17-10) with respect to property located on **434 Boston-Providence Turnpike, in a HB-Highway Business District.**

This Application requests a SPECIAL PERMIT under Sections 9.3.6 & 10.4 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow a building mounted wireless communications link consisting of antennas and equipment on the roof of the existing building as further described on the plans, narrative and other supporting materials submitted with this application. This application is also an eligible facilities request under Section 6409 of the Federal Spectrum Act.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeal and may be viewed during normal working hours, Monday – Thursday between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m.

BOARD OF APPEAL
Philip W. Riley, Chairman; Patrick J. Mulvehill, Barbara A. Kinter, John R. Perry, Thomas Brady

Norwood Record, 04/13/2017, 04/20/2017

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin
(Never known to fail!)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.

Grateful thanks. —P.M.

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**TOWN OF NORWOOD
ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **ROOM 12** of the **Municipal Office Building** on **May 16, 2017 at 7:45 PM** on the request of Viewpoint Sign & Awning (Case # 17-13) with respect to property located on **825 Washington Street, in a O-Office Research District.**

This application request a SPECIAL PERMIT under Section 6.2.16 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow a secondary monument sign to replace existing post and panel sign, that identifies main entrance for visitors and patients. This sign would be additional to main standing sign located on Washington St. The second sign would be located on Bond St. in place of the pre-existing post + panel sign.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeal and may be viewed during normal working hours Monday – Thursday between 8:00 am to 4 pm.

BOARD OF APPEAL
Philip W. Riley, Chairman; Patrick J. Mulvehill, Barbara A. Kinter, John R. Perry, Thomas Brady

Norwood Record, 04/20/2017, 04/27/2017

Novena to St. Claire
Ask St. Claire for three favors, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say nine Hail Marys for nine days, with lighted candle. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on the ninth day. Powerful novena. Say "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified, now and forever, throughout the whole world. Amen." *Your request will be granted, no matter how impossible it may seem.*

—B.T.F.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES UNVEILED

Thirty-three Norwood teachers will be honored for their work in the classroom at the annual Norwood Teacher of the Year Award Reception on Friday, May 5, at 5:30 p.m.

Hosted annually by the Orient Lodge of Masons, the Norwood Teacher of the Year awards recognize teachers for their dedication and commitment to the education of Norwood students. Tickets for the Norwood Teacher of the Year Award Reception are limited and available for purchase for \$20. Visit <http://norwoodtoy.eventbrite.com> to purchase tickets. The reception will be held at the Norwood Masons Building at 76 Day St.

The nominees, representing St. Catherine of Siena and every school in the Norwood Public Schools system, are: Balch Elementary: Darlene Follett, Elisabeth Kelly, Janice Garrity, Julie Cayer, Kathleen Duseau, Nicole Smith, Patricia Wheeler Callahan Elementary: Jill Wood, Katie Lambrenos, Michael Downs, Sara Ryan Cleveland Elementary: Jane Catalano, Lawrence Smith, Nancy Landfield Coakley Middle School: John Roussos, Joseph Oliver, Sara Seals Norwood High School: Cynthia Derrane, Jennifer Orlinski, Jeb Brunt, John Quinn Oldham Elementary: Kaitlyn Lang, Stephanie Andrews Prescott Elementary: Maura Belanger, Janice El Bach, Sadie Bishop St. Catherine of Siena: Marisa Ferrara, Rosanne Dulong Willett Early Childhood Center: Daisha Sullivan, Jennifer Hanley, Julie Lampron, Karen Wilson, Tish Donovan.

All nominees will be honored at the reception, and receive a certificate and a gift card for Sky Restaurant of Norwood. One teacher selected by a blind jury will be named Norwood Teacher of the Year and receive a cash award as well as a charitable school donation in their name. Hor d'oeuvres will be served.

Originally conceived by the Exchange Club of Norwood, Orient Lodge now proudly organizes the annual event. In 2016 Laura Tolman, a preschool teacher at the Willett Early Childhood Center, was honored as Teacher of the Year among 24 teachers.

About the Orient Lodge of Masons Founded in 1861, Orient Lodge F. & A.M. is a lodge of Freemasons based in Norwood, Mass. and active in many community endeavors. Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity, comprised of adult men of good character.

BOSWELL

Krystal R., 29, of Fall River and formerly of Norwood, tragically on Saturday, April 1. Beloved daughter of Judy Boswell of Easton and Mark Briggs of Norwood. Loving Granddaughter of Tom Boswell, and Lawrence and Barbara Briggs. Also survived by many other relatives and friends. Visiting hours was held in the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St. (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD, with a closing prayer service. Interment private. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Krystal's memory to the MSPCA-Angell Memorial, 350 So. Huntington Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. Arrangements are under the direction of the Gillooly Funeral Home, Norwood, MA. www.gilloolyfuneralhome.com

MARSH

William W. "Bill" Of Norwood, April 7, 2017. Formerly of Mission Hill and Brighton. Beloved son of the late Harold & Agnes (Cunningham) Marsh. Devoted brother of the

DEATHS

late Patricia (Marsh) Murphy. Dear friend of Miguel Cintron Marques of Puerto Rico, Joe & Mary Clifford of Co. Clare, Ireland, Margaret & Ronan Monagle of Canton, Mary B & Michael Lang of Sharon, Patricia & Patrick Lynch of Canton, Pedro Suarez of Dorchester, and Ralph Bailey of Norwood. Funeral was from the Lehman, Reen, & McNamara Funeral Home, 63 Chestnut Hill Ave. (near Brighton Courthouse) BRIGHTON. A Funeral Blessing was in the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help "Mission Church," 1545 Tremont St. Interment was at Gethsemane Cemetery, West Roxbury. For directions and guest book please visit www.lehmanreen.com Lehman Reen & McNamara 617-782-1000 Brighton.

PINKHAM

Eleanor M. (Vogel) of Norwood, former longtime resi-

dent of Randolph, passed away peacefully on April 15, 2017. Born in Boston, she was the daughter of the late Francis and Margaret (Noonan) Vogel and the beloved wife of Richard A. Pinkham. Loving mother of Deborah A. Gallant and her husband Rick of Fitchburg and Cheryl A. Caliri and her husband Bruce of Pawtucket, R.I. Cherished grandmother of Jake and Cody Gallant and Jesse, Jordan, Hannah, Hope and Joshua Caliri. Devoted sister of Ann Smith of Avon and Patricia Foti of Framingham. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. A visitation will be held on Friday, April 21 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., followed by a service at 1 p.m. in the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street (Rte. 1A), Norwood. Interment will follow in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Eleanor may be made to the COPD Foundation, 3300 Ponce De Leon Blvd, Miami, FL 33134 or visit:



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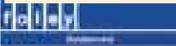
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SOUTH NORWOOD FISHING DERBY 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Please join us on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Hawes Pool Park Pond South Norwood. Registration begins at 2 p.m. and the Fishing Derby is from 3 to 5 p.m. There is a \$3.00 Registration Charge (Includes Hotdogs & Soda). There will be awards and prizes!!! (Ages 14 and under, any youth under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult.) All participants must provide their own bait and equipment. No Fly Fishing Allowed!

There will then be a rubber duck race on the river. The Ducks enter the water at 4 p.m.; finish line is at the bridge. Entrance fee is \$5.00 per duck. Buy your duck at the Derby. For more information please call 781-769-8241.

ST. CATHERINE'S TO PERFORM BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

When Linda Wolverton wrote the screenplay for Beauty and the Beast, based on an old French fairy tale, little did she know it would be the first animated film nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture. This popular story and musical went on to find fame on Broadway, in books, plus a remake of the film that came out this year.

This spring, Saint Catherine of Siena School (SCS) brings this story to life at the beautiful Norwood Theater. The talented cast has been rehearsing their lines and the beautiful music written by Alan Menkin, and lyrics written by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice.

Last year, the SCS middle school performed Fiddler on the Roof, led by directors Marisa Ferrara and Erin Costello. This year's musical, under the same directors, will be just as entertaining. SCS's performance of Beauty and the Beast is sure to please everyone from ages 3 to 103.

The two performances are on Wednesday, April 26, and Thursday, April 27 starting at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at the door. \$10 for adults, and \$5 for seniors and children under 10.

FREE BABYSITTING COURSE

The Women's Community Committee (WCC) is sponsoring a FREE babysitting course for 6th, 7th and 8th grade Norwood students. The one-week course will be held from 2:45 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, May 1 through Friday, May 5 at the Coakley Middle School.

The Record Book

Registration forms are available at the Middle School, the Morrill Memorial Library and the WCC Thrift Shop, 1091 Washington St., Norwood. (Thrift Shop retail hours are Wednesdays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Thursdays 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

According to WCC Educational Committee Chairperson Ruth Martowska, presenters at the 64rd annual babysitting course will include the Norwood Police Department's safety officer, a fire fighter, a registered nurse, a professional babysitter, a nursery school teacher, and a librarian. Certificates from the WCC (an all-volunteer, non-profit community service organization) and from the Massachusetts Extension 4H will be given to students who complete the course.

TEACHING SELF-REGULATION TO YOUNG CHILDREN

Self-regulation is a complete set of skills that exert influence over internal sensations and states. These skills are necessary for consistent performance, behavior and school readiness. Without them, a child may experience a life of chaos characterized by explosiveness, violence, anxiety, substance abuse, impulsivity, hyperactivity, distractibility or mood disorders. This skill development begins at the point of conception and continues into the late twenties. This session examines self-regulatory functions through a developmental lens and offers proven strategies to develop and strengthen them. Please join us on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Located at Savage Educational Center, Room 219, 275 Prospect St. in Norwood.

This workshop is for families with children from toddler to early elementary years. To register contact Christine Tomasello in the CFCE Office at 781-440-5983 or e-mail to ctomasello@norwood.k12.ma.us.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29. Spring Rummage Sale clothing for all, household items, books, toys, etc. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days located at Emmanuel Lutheran Church Berwick St. (off 1A) Norwood.

JOIN OR DONATE TO THE NORWOOD FOOD PANTRY'S WALK FOR HUNGER TEAM

On Sunday, May 7, Project Bread will host its 49th annual Walk for Hunger. And the Norwood Food Pantry is currently organizing a team to participate in this event, which is dedicated to helping the one out of every 10 Massachusetts families who are struggling to put food on the table.

You can help by calling Team Captain Nick Campagna at 781-762-6866 – or logging on to <http://support.projectbread.org/goto/NorwoodFoodPantry> – and signing up to be part of this local team or making a donation to support those who are participating.

The 20-mile walk begins and ends at the Boston Common. Starting between 7 and 9 a.m., it will wind its way through Boston, Brookline, Newton, Watertown, and Cambridge, with entertainment, water, free snacks, first aid, and toilet facilities along the way. But if you're not a long-distance walker, you don't have to pledge to complete the entire course. You can walk 10 miles, 5 miles – or even just a one or two – and take advantage of the free transportation back to the Common that's available at checkpoints located every 2 to 2-1/2 miles along the route. Or, you can sign up to raise donations as a Virtual Walker. What's more, if you prefer a faster pace, there is also a Walk for Hunger 5K Run you can opt for.

Participants in both the Walk and the Run are encouraged to solicit monetary pledges from friends, family, and co-workers, but there is no registration fee required and no minimum fundraising pledge. Last year the Norwood Food Pantry Walk for Hunger Team raised over \$10,000 – putting it in the top 10 fund-raising teams. With your help, we can raise even more – and help even more hungry people – in 2017.

SENIORS CAN REDUCE PROPERTY TAX

The Town of Norwood provides opportunities for Norwood senior citizens who meet certain criteria to reduce their property tax by working in a Town department. The Norwood Human Resources Department is currently accepting applications from interested seniors for the FY18 tax year. Additional information can be found on the Town's website at www.norwoodma.gov under the links for JOBS. Information is also available by visiting the Town Hall or the Norwood Senior Center.

ANITA PREBLE – FREE PARENT WORKSHOP AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

This workshop is for families with children from toddler to early elementary years. This workshop will focus on: Warning signs, symptoms, age of onset, causes and predispositions, social skills deficits and effects in classroom, behavioral issues and strategies and writing social stories. Please join us on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at the Savage Educational Center – Room 219 at 275 Prospect St., Norwood.

NORWOOD FOOD PANTRY NEEDS MUSCLE POWER

Can you lift 50 pounds? If so, the Norwood Food Pantry could use your help moving and sorting food Monday mornings from 7 to 7:15 a.m. and Thursday mornings from 8 to 10 a.m. To volunteer or find out more, call 781-291-3663.

SOLEMN DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION

Divine Mercy Sunday Solemn Celebration St. Catherine of Siena Church in Norwood invites you to come and join in the Solemn Divine Mercy celebration on Sunday, April 23 from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 1-3 p.m. in the chapel and the school gym. Recitation of the Most Holy Rosary and the Chaplet to Divine Mercy will begin at 2:15 in the Church. At 3 p.m. Holy Mass in honor of the Solemnity will be celebrated and will include veneration of the Image of Divine Mercy. A plenary indulgence can be obtained by means of this celebration through Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, the Pope. Located at St. Catherine of Siena Church 547 Washington St., Norwood.

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Sports

Once again, softball off to scorching start under Savino



Bryn Garczynski takes a pitch during a game last week vs. Natick. The speedy catcher is off to a great start for the Mustangs, doing her damage out of the leadoff spot in Norwood's lineup.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The sample size is small, but it's been a near perfect start to the season for the Norwood High softball team.

The Mustangs are 3-0 out of the gate, with a pair of close wins over Bay State Conference – Herget Division rivals in Wellesley and Natick to go along with a 16-0 nonleague trouncing of Brockton in their most recent game last Thursday.

Every bat up and down Norwood's lineup has been contributing, while the pitching has been more or less pristine for the Mustangs.

Sophomore pitchers Amanda

Olbrys and Katie Welch have alternated starts for the Mustangs, with Olbrys drawing the most recent assignment vs. the Boxers.

She held Brockton hitless over the five-inning game, striking out eight and walking four for an abbreviated no-hitter.

"She hit her spots and she spread out her walks," Norwood head coach Carol Savino said of Olbrys' outing vs. the Boxers.

"[Brockton] isn't a super strong team, and yet she's definitely improved from her first game," Savino added. "She's still a young pitcher – her and Katie [Welch] both. They haven't had many lessons. They're

going to be okay, bottom line."

Olbrys also went 2 for 3 from the plate against the Boxers, driving in two runs. Five other Mustang hitters drove in two runs each in the rout, including Bryn Garczynski, Siobhan Reen, Janelle Kelleher, Emma Maturo and Caitlan Shaugnessey.

The Mustangs racked up nine runs in the first inning and four more in the third to get over the 10-run threshold needed for slaughter. Norwood added three more runs in the fifth, which meant Brockton would need seven to extend the game, but Olbrys wouldn't relent.

Softball

Continued on page 10

Canton lowers boom in lax, 13-3

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Norwood High sank into an early hole from which it couldn't emerge in Tuesday morning's 13-3 home loss to the Canton Bulldogs.

The Mustangs trailed 5-0 after the first quarter and gave up the first goal of the second quarter just 61 seconds in before finding their footing on a Joe Spadorcia tally.

Norwood made it 8-3 before the half, but the offense shut down from that point on.

"We don't have much lax IQ," Mustangs head coach Anthony Roman said after the team's third straight loss. "We don't understand what a good shot is, or what a good time to dodge is, or when it's a good time to pull out. It's something that we're working on, but it's one of those things. You know you're not a good team when you can fix something, and then something else completely falls apart."

Jake Smelstor had the other two Norwood goals in the second quarter, the lone stretch in which the Mustangs found the back of the net. Norwood's three goals came in a 4:46 span in the second quarter, as the team was shutout for the remainder of the contest.

"We're just dodging, we're not passing the ball, we're not moving our feet," Roman said. "We're taking ridiculous shots that have no chance to go in."

Possession was a major is-

sue for the Mustangs, as the Bulldogs won 14 of the 18 draws on the faceoff-X.

Thanks to the continuation of a penalty against Canton, however, Norwood began the second half with the ball in the offensive zone. The Mustangs mustered three shots during the opening 1:11 of the period but came up empty, with the Bulldogs successfully weathering the storm.

"At that point it was 8-3. All we needed was the next couple of goals. You make it 8-5, 8-6 and now they start squeezing their sticks a little more, and they're feeling it, and who knows," Roman said.

"Of course, it didn't happen."

James Piatelli had a strong game in net for Norwood, despite the lopsided score; the junior recorded 11 saves for the Mustangs and has caught the eye of Roman in the early going this season.

"He's been playing real well," Roman said. "He was one of the big question marks I had going into the year of the kids that needed to play well. He's done a very good job – he's one of the bright spots for sure."

Norwood was originally slated to host Tri-County Vo-Tech this morning at Norwood High, but the game has since been rescheduled. Instead, the Mustangs next play on Saturday

LAX

Continued on page 10

Norwood 8th grade travel team takes home title in Metro West Basketball league

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

It was a winter to remember for the eighth graders of Norwood's Metro West Basketball team, a group which captured the Division 2 Championship.

Coached by Mike Bell for nearly 20 seasons, the eighth grade travel team is the last stop in a player's development prior to high school. Coming off of the title in March, Bell believes it's a good group on its way to Norwood High School next fall.

"It was awesome for the boys as eighth graders that are going to be moving on," Bell said. "I wish I had them for two or four years. All I try to do is get them ready for the ninth grade."

The team went 22-2 overall this season – 12-0 in league play – and each of its two losses came by a single point.

The 10-man roster, which won 10 of its 12 league games by double figures, even got bumped up from the Division 3 bracket to the Division 2 installment for the postseason. But it hardly mattered for the group that excelled in both high-scoring affairs and grind-'em-out defensive battles, the group that wanted to practice.

"They liked each other. They got along with each other," Bell said. "They always came in and practiced before it started, and they always wanted to stay after it was over."

Norwood was a running team on the offensive end, capitalizing

on breakout passes from any of its three big men in Robbie Wladkowski, Jaemario "Big J" Corrielus and Jason Denehy.

Cam McDonough was the team's primary point guard, while Jake Dupre also handled the ball a great deal on the offensive end. Andrew Perry was a great spot-up shooter from beyond the arc for Norwood, Bell said, while Jamarri Cope, James Gamel, Eustace Leitch and Karl Schletzbaum were other dependable players on both ends of the floor.

"We had everything that a coach could dream of," Bell said. "The name of the game is trying to get kids to understand what

Metro Bball

Continued on page 10



The players and coaches of Norwood's 8th grade travel basketball team, which won the Metro West Div. 2 title last month.

COURTESY PHOTO



Amanda Olbrys, pictured above, is 2-0 with a save in the early going for Norwood.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

She struck out the first two batters of the frame, followed by two inconsequential walks before striking out the final hitter of the game.

The big week for Olbrys also included a save in the Mustangs' 7-5 win over Natick the day before.

The Redhawks initially led 2-0 after batting in the first inning before Norwood responded with seven unanswered runs.

Methodically, Natick chipped away, scoring single runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings to turn the heat up on the Mustangs.

After retiring the first batter of the seventh, Welch issued a walk followed by back-to-back singles, making it 7-5 with runners on first and second.

Olbrys entered and induced consecutive ground balls to Reen at shortstop, who flawlessly executed each play to first base to preserve the win.

Due to its 18-game schedule this season, the Mustangs have April vacation week off. Norwood will have had an 11-day layoff between the Brockton game and the next game on its slate, Monday at Weymouth High School.

Savino wishes the Mustangs had a game or two this week, but sees some benefits to the break as

well – especially considered Norwood has four games in five days next week.

"I gave them Thursday, Friday and Saturday off because they never have vacation," Savino said. "It was nice not to worry about a game today. We're trying to work a little more on the hitting; those nine runs that we got in the first inning, a lot of that was pass balls and walks. And we're working on outfield."

One thing Savino knows she won't have to worry about during the layoff is her team's grasp of basic math.

After beating Brockton, Savino said the team collectively reminded her they only needed six more – as in six more wins to qualify for the postseason.

"They're counting their numbers," she said. "They always do."

"They count down to the tournament and when they do that, they start counting down to the league."

After road games at Weymouth and Dedham on Monday and Tuesday, Norwood returns home on Wednesday for a game vs. Milton. The Mustangs will also play on Friday next week, when the team will pay a visit to Framingham.

you're trying to do. They took everything I said to them."

Norwood averaged 54.9 points per game on the offensive end in 18 regular season games, 54.2 in league play.

Defensively, Bell mixed things up. Norwood played a base 3-2 zone – meaning three defenders were stationed up top, while the other two would be positioned down low in the post.

Any time Norwood scored a basket on the offensive end, however, Bell would unleash a press.

The varying looks Norwood opponents would get was a major disruption all season, as opponents averaged just 43.2 points per

game against Norwood in the regular season (40.6 in league play).

Norwood's run through the Division 2 tournament included a 54-33 win over Barrington (R.I.) in the South semifinals, with Wladkowski scoring a game-high 18 points and McDonough pouring in 11.

The team won its South final matchup with Randolph, 77-65, with offensive outbursts from Corrielus and Leitch; Big J dropped 24 for Norwood, while Litch chipped in with 20 even.

The 55-50 squeaker over Apponequet in the Division 2 Championship semifinals fea-

tured four Norwood scorers in double figures, led by Wladkowski's 15; Corrielus (14), McDonough (13) and Denehy (10) joined Wladkowski as players with 10 or more points.

Finally, on March 12, Norwood eked out a 39-35 win over Lexington to conquer the Division 2 Championship title, the first championship win of Bell's coaching career. Wladkowski and Corrielus each had 10 in the win for Norwood.

"We had a good team mix," Bell said. "It was a perfect season for a coach. My two assistant coaches [Joe Pietrzak and Ed Lynch], they were great."

Mustangs looking to regroup after string of losses

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Success for the Norwood High baseball program has reached unparalleled heights in the last several seasons.

Which is why the team's 0-3 start to begin the 2017 campaign can be looked at in one of two ways: startling, in that the exodus of talent via graduation may be too large to overcome...or in a strange sense, encouraging.

There's no encouragement from the standpoint that the Mustangs are winless. And Norwood head coach Kevin Igoe is a firm believer that there's no such thing as moral victories.

But after Norwood went toe-to-toe with the back-to-back Super 8 champion Braintree Wamps in a 6-5 loss (8 innings) last Thursday, he believes it proves the poor performances vs. Wellesley and Natick out of the gate were an aberration, not an indication of the sort of ballclub the Mustangs will resemble in '17.

"If we play like we played in Braintree the rest of the way, we'll have no issues," Igoe said. "Not that there's any moral victories, but I liked the hustle and the energy."

Michael James pitched the first 3 2/3 innings for Norwood vs. the Wamps before being replaced by Chris Petraca for the remainder.

The Mustangs held a 4-1 lead in the top of the fourth inning, only to see Braintree break even by the bottom of the fifth.

Connor Flynn doubled to lead off the Norwood half of the sixth inning and was singled home by Pat Forrest, one of his three hits on the day, for a 5-4 Mustang lead.

As an aside, Forrest has



Ryan Johnson, wearing No. 4 in blue, takes a lead off of first base in a game last week.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

been swinging a great bat for Norwood to begin the year, with five total hits in three games. He also drove in a pair of runs vs. Natick.

Braintree tied the game to send it to extras, where Flynn again doubled – again in a lead-off role – to begin the eighth inning.

But after the Mustangs were unable to produce any runs, the Wamps went single-bunt-single in the home half of the eighth to secure a walk-off win.

Igoe is hoping for a more level approach at the plate moving forward, where hitters are looking to string together singles upon singles rather than taking big swings for the fences every at-bat.

Norwood made the short trek to Westwood High School yesterday for a nonleague game, in an event held after the Record's deadline.

Two more nonleague contests are on deck for the Mustangs, each with their own significance.

Tomorrow, the Attleboro Blue Bombardiers return to Balch School Field for a rematch of last season's Division 1 South first round game,

won 1-0 by Attleboro in nine innings. First pitch is at 11 a.m.

And on Saturday, Norwood plays the first of its two games with the Xaverian Hawks. The game is part of the Bay State Conference-Catholic Conference Challenge, a four-game package in its second season.

The Mustangs and Hawks will play at 4:30 p.m. at Boston College High School in Dorchester.

Norwood defeated Xaverian in last year's BSC-CC game, 1-0. Sean Mellen pitched a complete game shut-out after carrying a no-hitter into the seventh inning, while Chris Petraca supplied the Mustangs their only run with a single in the second.

LAX *continued from page 9*



Jake Smelstor scored twice in the second quarter for Norwood in its 13-3 loss vs. Canton on Tuesday morning.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

morning at home vs. Cardinal Spellman (Brockton) at 10 a.m.

"If we play our best, we could give Cardinal Spellman a good game," Roman said. "If we don't, it could be similar to this."

The game on Saturday will be the second on Norwood's seven-game home stand, which runs through May 4. Weymouth is next in line on Monday afternoon at 4 p.m. for the Mustangs.



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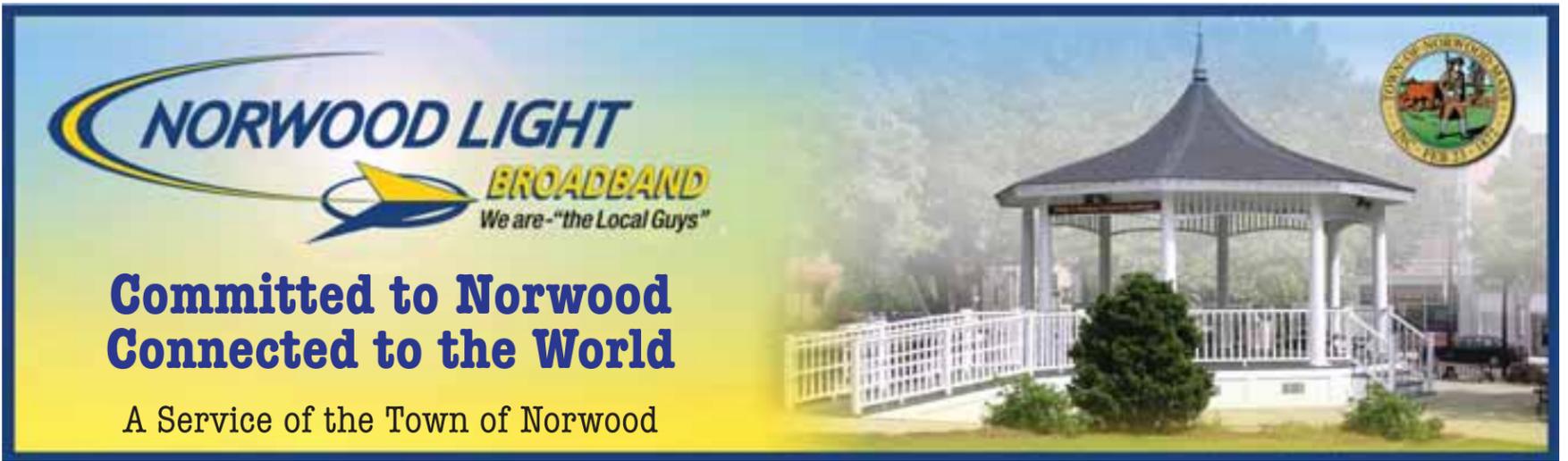
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