

Rumors abound around Steward



Steward is in financial trouble and Congressman Stephen Lynch put out this weekend that he believes Norwood Hospital's rebuild project is now for sale.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Rumors are running amok concerning the Norwood Hospital and what its future holds given the current national headlines of Steward Healthcare's financial problems, the most prevalent being that Steward will be placing Norwood Hospital, along with three others, up for sale.

Congressperson Stephen Lynch has joined in the search for details. According to Lynch, St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Brighton, the Holy Family Hospital in Methuen and Nashoba Valley Medical Center in Ayer, will soon be hitting the market.

Steward's financial difficulties have been well documented, with residents observing last fall that workers had walked off the job site at the Norwood Hospital for

almost a month, employment companies are suing Steward for lack of payment, and now Steward's landlord, Medical Trust Properties (MPT), announced recently that the hospital chain had not been paying its rent and is about \$50 million in debt to the real estate investment trust (REIT).

At the same time, Steward has been petitioning the state to allow the new Norwood Hospital to provide fewer services, sending patients to other Steward hospitals, like St. Elizabeth's in Brighton for obstetrician's services and to Brockton's Good Samaritan Hospital for psych beds and behavioral health services. However, given the current circumstances, Steward has recently pulled out of its agreement to transfer beds to Brockton. At St. E's, one new mother died during childbirth and, according to The Boston Globe, she could have been

saved by equipment that had been repossessed because Steward wasn't paying its bills (<http://tinyurl.com/y4em62s9>).

Steward does have a history of over-promising, both here in the U.S. and abroad. According to Maureen Tkacik's piece in The American Prospect last week (<http://tinyurl.com/vk62r3un>), Steward promised to turn Malta's three aging hospitals into a medical tourism destination for \$400 million that never materialized (<http://tinyurl.com/4n3fd2v4>).

More recently, in 2019, Steward promised the community of West Monroe, Louisiana, that the Glenwood Regional Medical Center would get a completely new form of cardiac

Norwood Hospital
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School Committee announces three superintendent finalists

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee announced at its Wednesday meeting last week that the district is closing in on choosing a new superintendent.

The search started earlier this past fall when current Norwood Public Schools District (NPS) Superintendent David Thomson announced he would not be renewing his contract this coming spring. The School Committee then formed a Superintendent Search Committee, which has now whittled down the applicants to three.

Those are, in alphabetical order, Sharon Public Schools Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Engagement Meg Dussault, Timothy Luff, Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Natick, and Priya Tahiliani, Superintendent of Everett Public Schools. The School Committee originally included John Buckey, former Superintendent of Marblehead Public Schools, but as of Jan. 30 his name had been replaced with Dussault.

Tahiliani's name has been in the news recently. The Everett Superintendent is currently in a state of limbo, as the Everett School Committee has placed her on a "non-disciplinary" leave since November following an outside investigation into her instituting a hostile work environment, as alleged by 10 individuals who apparently filed complaints against her.

Those complaints, her leave from the committee and protests for her to remain from teachers and students all came after she filed complaints, first with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination in 2022 alleging discrimination and retaliation from Everett Mayor Carlos DeMaria, then followed a lawsuit filed by Tahiliani and Everett Deputy Superintendent Kim Tsai after the school committee announced it would not be renewing her contract. Among other things, the lawsuit alleges discrimination and the installation of cameras being placed in Tahiliani's office, which the FBI apparently removed.

DeMaria denied Tahiliani's and Tsai's allegations.

Dussault is a Sharon Public Schools graduate and was acting as the district's Superintendent from 2020-2021 when former Superintendent Victoria Greer was placed on leave. Greer eventually won a \$750,000 settlement after accusing the Sharon School Committee of "racial discrimination" (<http://tinyurl.com/uh2evux9>). She was also a teacher at the Brockton High School until 2006 and earned a Masters Degree in Education at Rhode Island College and a Doctorate in

Supt. Candidates
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Upland Road flooding cause for concern

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Conservation Commission (ConCom) met last week and discussed the recent flooding on Route 1A/Upland Road that left one motorist stranded in floodwaters and necessitated the use of divers to rescue him.

Conservation Agent Carly Rocklen said the department has been in discussions with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and have concluded that the excess flooding was caused by a clogged

storm drain. "It had gotten clogged with brush and leaves and so forth and so Ryan (DPW Director Mark Ryan) had DPW staff go in there and remove the stuff, which got the water flowing," she said.

ConCom members said the area has always been prone to flooding, but ConCom Chair Stephen Washburn said this was extraordinary compared to prior floods.

"I've never seen it like

ConCom
Continued on page 7



The flooding at Upland Road/Route 1A in January was found to potentially have been caused by a clogged storm drain.

PHOTO BY NORWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

School Com discusses 13 "new arrivals"

Not expected to impact district significantly

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee met on Jan. 24 and discussed many items throughout the two-plus-hour meeting, including Norwood's "new arrivals" coming to the Town and school district.

These "new arrivals," as Norwood Superintendent of Schools David Thomson referred to them, are the students the Norwood Public School District (NPS) will be inheriting from the transfer of migrant families seeking asylum from other municipalities to Norwood. The relocation effort is designed to make administration services more readily available to said families and allow the state to consolidate its efforts in taking in these migrant families.

It was first thought Norwood would be inheriting more than 40 students, but Thomson said most of those students had decided to stay in the districts they were in originally.

"Our new arriving families will be moving to Norwood this week," he said. "Most school-age children have cho-

sen to remain in their previous district, so we will have 13 students attending schools in Norwood starting next week. People could change their minds and move here, but that is the initial estimate and I will remind people that we do get \$104.85 a day for educational costs from the state."

Thomson said the state will provide those funds directly to the schools. He said there will be one preschool student, two kindergarten students, three grade 1 students, one grade 4 student, five middle school students and one high school student.

"We will transport them with NPS Transportation and not have to hire out or do anything else at this point in time," he said. "We do not need to add any new staff to meet these needs. They have been strategically placed so they can be with existing multi-lingual programming and levels based on their access scores - which, because they were in a previous district, we were able to get."

Also at the meeting, the committee voted 4-1 with member Teresa Stewart op-



Superintendent of Schools
David Thomson

posed to place the superintendent's evaluation process on "abeyance." This was ostensibly done because of Thomson leaving the district. Thomson said originally that he wanted to try to get the process started for an evaluation, but on his end he said he has been engrossed with the Elementary School study, which is aiming to reorganize the elementary schools after the new Coakley Middle School is built and takes the fifth grade from the elementary schools. This decision

School Committee
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Bidders must be qualified to perform the work described in these specifications in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 30, Section 39M.

The complete bid package may be obtained digitally on Projectdog.com using the project code **859596**. The bid must be filled out and signed as directed herein, endorsed with the name and address of the bidder, and marked, "Ellis Pond Dam Repair NCD-24-01".

Bid documents can be located on Projectdog.com using the project code **859596**. Bid submissions are to occur digitally on Projectdog.com. No physical copies will be accepted.

A certified check or bid bond, with acceptable surety in favor of the Town of Norwood and equal to at least five percent (5%) of the bid, must be submitted with the bid. The successful bidder shall, within ten (10) days of notification of award, furnish the Town a payment bond and labor and materials bond in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of the bid.

Bids shall be prepared, considered, and the contract awarded in accordance with all statutes governing such contracts (Chapter 30 as amended). Every General Bid shall be on forms furnished by the Town. Bids submitted on other forms may be rejected. The award of the contract shall be made within 30 working days after the opening of General Bids, Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays excluded.

An award will not be made to a Contractor who is not properly equipped to undertake and complete the work. The right is reserved to waive any informality and to reject any or all bids in accordance with the provisions of MGL as amended.

The Town of Norwood notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder shall be required to submit documentation that all employees to be employed in the work subject to this bid have successfully completed a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration. Any employee found on a worksite subject to this section without documentation of successful completion of a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration shall be subject to immediate removal.

Wages are subject to minimum wage rates under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D inclusive, as most recently amended. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to accept any part of a bid or the one deemed best for the Town.

BY: Tony Mazzucco, General Manager

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

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Norwood Hospital

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surgery to revolutionize the hospital, but this past December the state started a monitoring process due to concerns of shortages of staff and supplies (<http://tinyurl.com/36cp3xet>).

Steward is already closing the New England Sinai Hospital in Stoughton and recently announced it is shutting down the Medical Center of Southeast Texas this month.

Steward's money problems go back to when it was a non-profit, nun-founded Caritas Christi Health Care system started in 1985. The organization was sold to Cereberus Capital Management in 2010, and Steward was founded. From there, Cereberus and Steward managed to sell Steward's existing real estate for \$1.2 billion in 2017 to MPT, which also paid \$50 million for a 5 percent equity stake in the company, and started renting the land from MPT. From there, Steward merged with Iasis Healthcare in Tennessee in a \$2 billion deal, moved its headquarters from Boston to Dallas, Texas, in 2018, acquired five South Florida hospitals from Tenet Healthcare for \$1.1 billion in 2021, acquired the Miami Medical Center Property in

2022, and sold five Utah hospitals to CommonSpirit Health.

Cereberus, for its part, sold Steward for a profit of about \$800 million to a group of Steward physicians (<http://tinyurl.com/mr499syj>), which notably included Steward's founder Ralph de la Torre, after purchasing the company from Caritas in 2010 for \$246 million. MPT has invested more than \$5.5 billion in the company since it bought the hospitals' land in 2017.

Now, Massachusetts legislators Elizabeth Warren, Ayanna Pressley, Edward Markey, Stephen Lynch, James McGovern, William Keating, Seth Moulton, Katherine Clark, Lori Trahan, and Jake Auchincloss have all signed a letter demanding Steward account for itself (<http://tinyurl.com/39ut7dc4>).

"We request a briefing on Steward's financial position, the status of your Massachusetts facilities, and your plans to ensure the communities Steward's hospitals serve are not abandoned," the statement read.

No comment from Steward has been received as of press time.

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The Planning Board discussed the issues around the open lot car storage area at the Vanderbilt Business Park off of Route 1.

COURTESY PHOTO

Car storage raises other issues at Planning Board

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The owner of the 218-space open car storage lot within the Vanderbilt Business Park applied for a two-year extension of the special permit allowing that use last week.

The Norwood Planning Board voted unanimously to give them six more months and then review again.

Attorney Brian Almeida rep-

resented property owner David Spiegel at the meeting, and said the original intent of the permit was for a temporary use, so that something more productive could be done with the property later. But that original permit, which has been renewed four times now, was issued 12 years ago. Planning Board members brought up the fact that they could just make the special permit permanent.

“We’re certainly open to

having this be made a permanent special permit as would be customary with respect to the bylaws now, as opposed to their status in 2012. However, I spoke with Mr. Spiegel and his intention is still for this to be a temporary use of the property; he doesn’t intend this to be the final use,” Almeida said. “In his view, the economic conditions with respect to using the lot for

Planning Board
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**TOWN OF NORWOOD
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on February 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM** on the request of Bruno Colantuoni (Case #24-01) with respect to property located at **Shaw Street (Map 6 Block 4C Lot 44), Norwood, MA 02062**, in the **General Residence (G) Zoning District**. The hearing will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062 and will also be available for remote participation via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xsu-pnjz-wua>
Or dial: (US) +1 941-254-1160 PIN: 402 158 920#

Pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.1.1 [Table of Dimensional Requirements], this Application requests retroactive relief in the form of a **Variance** with respect to the height of the dwelling under construction on the subject premises, which has been constructed at 33.58 ft. where 30 ft. is the required maximum building height.

Additionally, the Application requests an **Appeal** pursuant to Bylaw Section 10.2.3 [Board of Appeals Powers – Other Appeals] relative to the decision of the Building Commissioner that the subject dwelling violates the front setback requirement, constructed at 18.04 ft. from the front lot line where 20 ft. are required by the Bylaw Section 4.1.1 [Table of Dimensional Requirements].

Any zoning relief that may be required in adherence to the Norwood Zoning Bylaw shall be considered by the Board. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearing and make their views known to the Board.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeals and may be requested by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Norwood Record: 01/25/24, 02/01/24

School Committee

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was made to free up space in the elementary schools, which have been at least approaching capacity for some time now.

He said with his work there and the School Committee’s current main project of selecting and on-boarding a new Superintendent, hopefully very soon, he suggested at least pausing the process.

Member Teresa Stewart said she was against stopping the evaluation entirely, and pointed out they did one even when a former superintendent retired.

“I guess I’m just struggling with the idea of not doing the evaluation and the possible message that sends to the rest of the district about the work,” she said. “I do not believe in Norwood we have had teachers or principals resign, retire, or move on and not have an evaluation done. I know for certain the last superintendent, even though he was retiring, he still had his evaluation done. So I just want to put that process in Norwood out there.”

Stewart said she felt the transition will take up a lot of time, both from the committee’s standpoint and his, but she said she still felt an evaluation was necessary.

“It’s one of the three main responsibilities that I’ve been elected to do and, for me personally, it’s just not something that I’m okay with,” she said. “But if a majority of the Committee votes in that manner, than I will obviously support the School Committee. But I do have some questions as to what that means in practice and as an evaluation tool to align superintendent goals, school committee goals, the strategic improvement plan, principal goals and teacher goals. We work very hard to make sure they are all aligned.”

Stewart said she had no problems with Thomson’s work overall, but she said that the superintendent evaluation is inherently linked with the district’s strategic plan.

Thomson said he will continue the goals previously set in his evaluation in September.

“As I said back in September, I was not putting my feet up and eating bon bons,” he said.

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Planning Board

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something else just currently aren't there."

Historical Commission and Community Preservation Committee member Cheryl Doyle spoke against the two-year extension. She said there were numerous issues causing problems for other tenants of the park, including several she works for. She said she's a property manager at the site and manages six buildings. She said she sees a lot of unsafe behavior coming from car dealership employees moving the vehicles around (though she did say it was from other lots as well as the one in the proposal).

"When they pick up the Beamers (BMW's) when they're going to take them somewhere else, Vanderbilt Avenue turns into a drag strip," she said. "They race up and down, up and down, up and down. We have Carmax doing it, we have Herb Chambers doing it, we have the Volkswagon (Nucar) doing it and we have the Beamers doing it. It serves absolutely no purpose to have that lot being used like that. Everybody else in that park is paying a lot of taxes and here we have that sitting, almost to the forefront of the park."

Business owner Joe McDonald said he was also concerned that the car carriers are unloading right on the road. He said that interferes with employees walking and increases danger in the area.

"It's become incredibly challenging over at Carnegie Row, it's almost like a perfect storm," he said, pointing out that the car carriers make a lot of turns and maneuvers as they line up to unload the cars. "We have a lot of children in a dance school in my building and there's a gymnastic school next door. I'm really worried about the safety. There's a martial arts school next door too, and I don't want to get into the horror stories of what some of the drivers have done, but it's been really challenging. I'm pro business, pro Norwood, and we've been on the Automile since the 60s. It's been fantastic, but it's unbelievable right now. I've been having to call the police."

Doyle also said the lot has no drainage and she feels the runoff from the site poses a real danger to the nearby wetlands adjacent to Home Market Foods.

Doyle also brought up the use issue and what this lot is contributing to Norwood. She said the Town has seen its property taxes go up for residents and businesses alike, and she feels the lot – which lately has been utilizing nowhere near its 218-car capacity – doesn't contribute a lot to the Town, and she would like to know what Spiegel envisions there for the parcel's "final use."

"I know they keep saying, 'Oh the economy is not good,' but this same developer built the Enterprise down by Saver's, built another building behind the trampoline park, and built the Taco Bell building, all during this timeframe," she said.

Doyle said the current taxes coming in from the two parcels that make up the storage lots isn't much compared to what it could bring in if it was a more active use.

Doyle also discussed an issue with the Board regarding trucks parking around the park from Home Market Foods. This has been a recurring problem, and she said after they put up no parking signs on Astor Avenue, the trucks are now all parking along Vanderbilt Avenue.

"They will just line up for miles and now they're blocking other businesses," she said. "And this is what happens, just everybody parking on the road... If you would have gone in around 10:30 a.m. in the park, there were eight of them on Carnegie and five on Vanderbilt waiting to get into Home Foods Market."

Town Planner Sarah Dixon said the Home Market Foods company has business coming up before the Planning Board and that any approvals the Planning Board might give could be hinged on making sure the trucks park where they're supposed to. The original plan was to have them park all the way down in Foxboro and be called in when the business is ready for them, but apparently that hasn't been happening.

Dixon also encouraged residents to reach out to Building Inspector Gary Pelletier whenever they suspect a zoning violation is happening, as he is the enforcement officer for zoning and building code issues in the Town.

For more information on the Planning Board and to see upcoming meetings, go to <http://tinyurl.com/2xn72d4e>

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Letters to the Editor

IN SUPPORT OF MBTA COMMUNITIES BYLAW

To the Editor:

I write in strong support of the new MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District bylaw up for a vote at the March 21 special town meeting.

Having served as a community at-large member of the MBTA Zoning Task Force, I was very impressed by the robust public engagement process that helped shape the new zoning around our commuter rail

stations. Residents and businesses were heard — and the new zoning incorporates their feedback while complying with the state's MBTA Communities law, also known as 3A.

At special town meeting we'll be presented with a common-sense zoning opportunity for Norwood, one that's consistent with other town efforts to spur revitalization, such as the new zoning along the Boston Providence Highway (Route 1).

The new MBTA zoning

would help enliven the underutilized and blighted properties around our transit stations, providing smart growth that benefits our residents, businesses, and environment.

Housing affordability is one of our most pressing issues, as supply continues to fall woefully short of demand. Norwood can be part of the solution with a 'yes' vote on March 21.

Patrick Ronan
District 7

THE LUSTER OF DIAMONDS

We arose to a charmed, changed world. We were four, escaping for a winter weekend to a Vermont cabin, tucked in a wood on the banks of the Waits River. What greeted us upon emerging that glistening, long-ago Sunday morning was nothing less than mesmerizing in unique brilliance.

I will write about trees. I have attempted to capture the grandeur of sequoias, those magnificent sentinels to timelessness, themselves strewn like tossed gems across California highlands. I would like to write about "Umnak National Forest," a single tree on the desolate Aleutian Island of Umnak, site of a WWII airstrip, "flown in for the enjoyment of a colonel's dog named Skooch." I would like to write about trees outside Gulfport, Mississippi shortly after hurricane Katrina. The southern forest was a traumatic aberration, swaths of woodland denuded, its leaves replaced with plastic. Plastic sheets, plastic six-pack holders, bits of clear and green plastic debris blown hard and caught fast by nooks and crevices in the arms and elbows of trees, creating a loathsome coalition of man and nature, cobbled together in a torrent of natural fury. A forest festooned with shredded, plastic leaves.

I struggled to write of the Vermont aberration. Travelogues can be reduced to a general formula, that of combining experienced travel with a correlating thought, incident, or emotion. Words adequate to describe the miraculous sight eluded, and this travelogue lay long dormant, unable to form or discover any viable bond. While

Katrina's memory receded with its own waters, so did the Vermont vision melt with rising suns. What enabled its emergence occurred not through literary epiphany, but a chance encounter during a journey of another kind.

Literary license allows "travel" to include all manner of movement, whether physical, emotional, or intellectual. One can lie in bed and wander memory lanes of personal surprise, hurt, or conquest. One can travel to Italy and visit Roman antiquities, or read three volumes of Edward Gibbon, and be equally fascinated. And while researching colonial America for a long-considered novel, I came upon words written by president and patriot John Adams. What captivated was that the Braintree boy had observed the exact same aberration as the Norwood boy, and was more than capable of describing. Experienced centuries apart, both Massachusans were so moved they felt the need to recount, John Adams in his journal, and I in this travelogue.

John Adams' journal is fascinating, encompassing a breadth of historic as well as domestic colonial experience, from assisting Thomas Jefferson in writing the Declaration of Independence and terms as President and Vice President, to building stone walls and dealing with drunken workers on his Quincy farm. But of four volumes of entries, none resonated more than his casual recounting of one magical morning.

"A rain had fallen from some warmer region in the skies when the cold here below was intense to an extreme," our Founding Father wrote. "Every drop was fro-



zen wherever it fell in the trees and clung to the limbs and sprigs as if it had been fastened by hooks of steel. The earth was never more universally covered with snow, and the rain had frozen upon a crust on the surface which shone with the brightness of burnished silver. The icicles on every sprig glowed in all the luster of diamonds. Every tree was a chandelier of cut glass. I have seen a Queen of France with eighteen millions of livres of diamonds upon her person and I declare that all the charms of her face and figure added to all the glitter of her jewels did not make an impression on me equal to that presented by every shrub. The whole world was glittering with precious stones. It was the most splendid winter scene ever beheld."

I have lived in New England my entire life and experienced this wonder but twice, first on a crystal-clear Sunday morning emerging from a central Vermont cabin, and now during an armchair journey, my book laid down across my lap and eyes closed, arm-in-arm with John Adams, strolling wintertide woods together.

"Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.
He can be reached at donreddick534@gmail.com



The current superintendent candidates for Norwood Public Schools will be meeting with the schools and students in the next couple of weeks. From left to right: Meg Dussault, Tim Luff and Priya Tahiliani.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Supt. Candidates *continued from page 1*

the same from Northeastern University in 2020.

According to an article in the Sharon Talon in 2020 (<http://tinyurl.com/57dfp8d2>), Dussault worked as the Director of Arts for two years and the Director of Community Education for seven years before that.

Natick Public Schools Deputy Superintendent Timothy Luff was promoted to his position in 2022 after serving as assistant superintendent for student services. He currently oversees safety, security, student services, social-emotional learning and equity and works with aiding in human resources. He also works on legal issues within the department. Luff started in Natick in 2012 after moving from his Assistant Director for student service position in the Oxford Hills School District in Maine, and worked as a special education teacher in three different schools in that state. He has a Bachelor

of Science in Special Education/ Psychology from the University of Maine and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership/ Special Education Administration from the University of Southern Maine, and is currently enrolled in an Executive Juris Doctorate from Purdue Law School.

Buckey's name has also been in the news recently, as according to The Boston Globe, Buckey was on paid leave from August, 2023, to Dec. 31, 2023, and got a \$94,350 lump sum payment on Jan. 2 of this year. According to Buckey's interview with The Boston Globe, "I have never been given any explanation, reason or motivation." The Globe qualified this with the fact that Buckey is still bound by a non-disparagement clause in his settlement clause with the district (<http://tinyurl.com/66cny8b5>).

The timeline for the finalists

has been scheduled as follows. On Thursday, Feb. 1, NPS will host each candidate as they visit three schools in the morning, where staff and students will have an opportunity to engage with them. In the afternoon, there will be three meet-the-candidates events from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. when each candidate will cycle through three locations within Norwood High School. They will be at Room 106 for student interactions, in the GSU Lecture Hall for staff questions and community members will be meeting with the candidates in the library.

On Saturday, Feb. 3, the committee will have one-hour interviews at the Savage Center from 10:30 a.m. to 1:50 p.m.

The final vote to accept a candidate, pending the onboarding process, will take place at the Feb. 7 School Committee meeting at the Savage Center.



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Chamber recognizes local businesses

The Neponset River Regional Chamber held its 130th annual meeting last week at the Four Points Sheraton in Norwood. Awards were presented to four local businesses for their contributions to the region and the Chamber.

The Small Business of the Year Award was presented to Brookmeadow Country Club of Canton. Many area non-profits (including the Chamber) choose Brookmeadow for golf outings and charity galas, where they are offered preferential rates and support services to help ensure that their fundraisers are successful. They also provide special discounts for members of the military and first responders. The club frequently donates free golf rounds to local charities so that they can auction them off for fundraisers, and host other fundraising initiatives like collection drives for local food banks.

The Large Business of the Year Award went to Chestnut Hill Realty which operates Norwood Gardens and Norwest Woods in Norwood.

CHR has a long history supporting the communities in which they operate and donated nearly a million dollars to local non-profits last year. CHR has a longstanding commitment to environmental sustainability

and preserving natural resources. They launched the Nature Positive initiative in 2022. This initiative includes four primary areas of focus: Ecosystem Conservation, Natural Resource Conservation, Sustainable Purchasing, and Healthy and Mindful Outdoor Living. Among the many impressive actions they have taken is the installation of honeybee hives, birdhouses, and pollinator gardens at several of their apartment communities, CHR's Pollinator Program encourages and nurtures local biodiversity.

Additionally, Chestnut Hill Realty invests heavily in their employees offering numerous professional development and continuing education opportunities. They offer wellness programs and mental health support as well. They were recently recognized as a Top Place to Work and a Top Place to Work for Women by Multifamily.

The Paul Smith Volunteer of the Year Award winner is Sheryl with HESSCO Elder Services. As chair of the Chamber's Elder Care Alliance, she coordinated the production of our "Aging with Dignity" video series, a 7-episode production highlighting real life examples of families dealing with aging parents.

She also helped launch an "Age Friendly" initiative in the town of Norwood, which we are now expanding to other communities. Her efforts helped the Chamber become the first and perhaps only Chamber in the country to receive AARP's Age Friendly designation. And most recently she has been instrumental in the development and production of the Elder Care Alliance's podcast series, "What to Expect as You Age".

The Business-person of the Year Award went to David DePree, owner of the Norwood Space Center. Dave's work

has brought over 100 businesses to South Norwood who now call Norwood Space Center their homebase for business operations.

As a result, the Norwood Space Center and its collection of innovative businesses continue to garner media attention, including coverage in Boston Magazine, the Boston Globe and Chronicle on WCVB TV-Channel 5. This type of positive attention has served to elevate the profile of South Norwood, making it an attractive place to work, play, and live.

One of Dave's standout qualities is his support for the Norwood Space Center members and the broader community. Through the many collaborative efforts that happen organically at the Space Center, Dave consistently demonstrates a commitment to the success and well-being of its members. One notable example of this is his efforts to promote and support "Sono Arts," a community dedicated to nurturing artistic and cultural experiences. The Space Center's social media pages and website regularly promote South Norwood community members, local artists, and other local businesses, which in turn helps to increase visibility for those businesses.

Established in 1894, the Neponset River Regional Chamber serves the needs of businesses in a 12-town region stretching from Route 128 to Route 495 southwest of Boston. The NRRC supports the business community and economic development efforts by providing leadership, advocacy and opportunities for expanded and enhanced relationships among business, government and the community. For information on membership or doing business in the region, please contact the Chamber at 781-769-1126, www.nrrchamber.com or tom@nrrchamber.com



Lally celebrates 100th birthday!

Mary Lally of Norwood (and Co. Clare, Ireland) recently celebrated her 100th birthday at the Hampton Inn with 55 family members and friends. Daughters are pictured with her: Maureen Nolan of Philadelphia, and Catherine Erickson and Anne Lally of Norwood.

COURTESY PHOTO

To advertise, call The Norwood Record at (781) 769-1725

SECTION A - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID TOWN OF NORWOOD, MA

Sealed bids will be received up until 11:00 A.M., Thursday, February 22, 2024, on Projectdog.com project code: **859915**:

"The Swimming Pool contractor shall furnish and install the swimming pool structures, finishes, cantilever forming, swimming pool mechanical and electrical systems, and all accessories necessary for a complete, functional swimming pool system."

Bidders must be qualified to perform the work described in these specifications in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 30, Section 39M.

The complete bid package may be obtained digitally on Projectdog.com using the project code **859915**. The bid must be filled out and signed as directed herein, endorsed with the name and address of the bidder, and marked, "**Hawes Pool Construction NRD-24-01**".

Bid documents can be located on Projectdog.com using the project code **859915**. Bid submissions are to occur digitally on Projectdog.com. No physical copies will be accepted.

A certified check or bid bond, with acceptable surety in favor of the Town of Norwood and equal to at least five percent (5%) of the bid, must be submitted with the bid. The successful bidder shall, within ten (10) days of notification of award, furnish the Town a payment bond and labor and materials bond in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of the bid.

Bids shall be prepared, considered, and the contract awarded in accordance with all statutes governing such contracts (Chapter 30 as amended). Every General Bid shall be on forms furnished by the Town. Bids submitted on other forms may be rejected. The award of the contract shall be made within 30 working days after the opening of General Bids, Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays excluded.

An award will not be made to a Contractor who is not properly equipped to undertake and complete the work. The right is reserved to waive any informality and to reject any or all bids in accordance with the provisions of MGL as amended.

The Town of Norwood notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder shall be required to submit documentation that all employees to be employed in the work subject to this bid have successfully completed a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration. Any employee found on a worksite subject to this section without documentation of successful completion of a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration shall be subject to immediate removal.

Wages are subject to minimum wage rates under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D inclusive, as most recently amended.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to accept any part of a bid or the one deemed best for the Town.

BY: Tony Mazzucco, General Manager

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

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. —V.C.

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Daly Foot Care Promoting Foot Health for Over 2 Decades



Albert Daly, D.P.M. & Jack Daly, D.P.M.

Daly Foot Care is a thriving podiatric practice located in Westwood, Malden and Fall River. Dr. Albert Daly and Dr. Jack Daly bring top skill and care to their patients, promoting foot health for over 2 decades. In addition to treatment, they educate patients on foot health and how to best prevent future ailments and problems.

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ALSO PROVIDING CUSTOM ORTHOTICS

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www.DalyFootCare.com

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Cataract & Refractive Surgery,
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P: (781) 501-5652

91B Central St.
Norwood MA 02062

2020 Centre Street Suite 1
West Roxbury MA 02132

Free Parking

ConCom *continued from page 1*

that,” he said. “It has been pretty deep, but I felt like this time was exceptional. I drive that way every single day to my office and that photo of the car, obviously that was an incredible moment, but that was concerning and when I saw that, I thought to myself, ‘Please Lord let there be a reason like a blocked culvert or something.’ I was thinking there’s got to be a reason for it.”

Washburn added he hasn’t seen an issue since. Member Peter Bamber noted that the intersection is state-owned, but he suggested the Town could get proactive when heavy rains are predicted.

“I guess we need to monitor that area ourselves before big storms just to be sure,” he said.

“If it becomes a recurring issue there might be further collaboration between us and the state,” Washburn said. “We’ve been hearing from a number of neighbors in the area who have significant concerns about all of this.”

Rocklen added that there is continuing work proposed for that intersection as the years go on. The project, about \$17 million worth of improvements, is designed to update and signalize the intersection for safety improve-

ments, and Rocklen said there will be a detention basin placed in the area as well.

“Mark (Ryan) pointed out that where the basin is going to be put in there are dead trees now, which he said will be removed and give less potential for the basin to be clogged in the future,” she said.

Also discussed was an incident in which it was reported that runoff from the carwash at Rojo’s, on 83 Boston-Providence Tnpk. was going into Purgatory Brook. Rocklen said she found no evidence of this herself when she inspected the area, but in following up and interviewing employees and the manager there it was found that several incidents could have caused this complaint. She said it looked like there was an area in between the parking lot and the Brook that had little or no vegetation and it was very likely runoff could get into the Brook from there due to its close proximity to the stream.

She said the owner had agreed to plant small vegetation there, but Washburn pointed out that there might have been vegetation there before and it was either eroded away by contaminants or intentionally taken out. He

suggested that small trees be planted there, as they might be more resilient.

Rocklen pointed out this was not an enforcement action and therefore the Conservation Department was not taking those kinds of steps at this time, and the ConCom agreed that if the proposed vegetation does melt away they would revisit the issue.

In other news, the ConCom discussed a proposal from Norwood students to plant a pollinator garden at the Endean Orchard or plant white pines along the proposed Tiot Trail. Washburn echoed the sentiment of the whole group and said he would be in favor of them doing both.

Lastly, Rocklen said they have worked out a small alteration to the plan for the Bernie Cooper Memorial Waterfront Park that would allow the DPW access to the sewer lines adjacent to the park. Readers may remember the ConCom found disturbing fill in the area and at first thought it was dumped illegally, only to find it was the Sewer Department leveling the area so trucks could access the manhole there. Rocklen said the alteration to the plan will ensure no such confusion arises in the future, at least for this specific location.

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**Public Hearing Notice
Norwood Planning Board**

In accordance with the requirements of Mass. General Law Chapter 40A Section 5, notice is hereby given that the Town of Norwood Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street or via remote participation on Google Meet. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to accept public comments on the draft Zoning Bylaw amendments to Section 2 Districts, Section 3 Table of Use Regulations, Section 4.1.1 Table of Dimensional Requirements, and insert a new Section 9.5 MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District. The proposed amendments will create a new MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District (MCMOD), designed to comply with the requirements of M.G.L. Ch. 40A Section 3A, known as the MBTA Communities Act. This new regulation would create districts allowing multifamily housing to be permitted by-right subject to a series of proposed dimensional and environmental regulations. The draft Zoning Bylaw amendments are on file in the Planning Department at Town Hall and may be reviewed during normal business hours, by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov, or viewed on the Planning Board’s webpage located at: <http://www.norwoodma.gov/>

https://meet.google.com/mhu-ifvs-njz
You can also dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 401-646-2388
PIN: 517 092 088#
7:00 P.M.

Norwood Record: 1/25/24, 2/1/24

YOUR PROPERTY PARTNERS SINCE 1990

 Margie Vogt, Broker 617-212-7660	 Erin Vogt 617-212-7662	 Joe Donnelly 617-256-3978	 Lianne Rich 617-470-1937	 Nancy Killion 617-716-9040	 Maureen Hayes Rossi 617-417-1000	 Patsy Brennan 857-472-2982	 Diana Bradley 617-312-2432	
 Nancy Knight-Shah 617-678-1969	 Alex Macrides 617-571-8746	 Jena Verrocchi 781-801-5500	 Dave Maguire 617-763-5752	 Joe Regan 617-771-3366	 Emily Letendre, 508-942-4154	 Mina Papoulidis 617-319-6363	 Marina Gorodnicheva 617-301-8344	 Katerina Bitados 617-281-3043

NEW LISTING!

745-747 VFW Parkway, West Roxbury

Solid, brick 2 family in a great location. 2 car garage, separate utilities, 2 beds plus bonus room in each unit. Ready for condo conversion.

\$1,040,000 / Patsy Brennan 857-472-2982 and Maureen Hayes Rossi 617-417-1000

PRICE IMPROVEMENT!

17A Rainbow Pond Drive, Unit A2, Walpole

3 bedroom, 2 full bath end unit in pristine original condition with fabulous natural light and beautiful views. It has approximately 1500 sq. ft., which does not include the bonus room over the garage—this room is heated and has a big window, could be used as a home office, etc. It is a golfing community and the condo fee includes all the golf, swimming pool, exercise gym, tennis/pickleball courts.

\$485,000 / Margie Vogt 617-212-7660 and Erin Vogt 617-212-7662

 11 S. Fairview St. Unit 3L, Roslindale OFFER ACCEPTED	 18 Sawyer Drive, Dedham UNDER AGREEMENT	 10 Thurlow Street, West Roxbury UNDER AGREEMENT	 10 Roanoke Street, Quincy UNDER AGREEMENT	 59 Austin Street, Hyde Park UNDER AGREEMENT	 205 Bellevue St., West Roxbury SOLD
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NOTICE OF HEARING ON TREE REMOVAL

In accordance with Section 3 of Chapter 87 of the Massachusetts General Laws, notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on Friday, February 9th at 8:30AM in the DPW Conference Room at 1 Lyman Place, on the cutting and removal of 2 trees situated at the Old Parish Cemetery located between #480 and #486 Washington Street.

All persons interested in the foregoing are hereby notified that they may be present and heard at said meeting, if they so desire.

Norwood Tree Warden

Norwood Record: 02/01/24, 02/08/24

SECTION A – ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID TOWN OF NORWOOD, MA

The Town of Norwood, MA, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Building Contractors for the construction of Accessory Pool Structures located at 1305 Washington St, Norwood, MA 02062

Sealed sub-bids for Plumbing, HVAC, Roofing and Flashing, and Electrical will be received up until 11:00 A.M., Thursday, February 15, 2024, on Projectdog.com project code: 859916

General bids will be received up until 11:00 A.M., Thursday, February 22, 2024, on Projectdog.com project code: 859916

The contractor shall furnish labor and materials to install an accessory building to the Hawes Pool. The building serves as a pumping system to supply adequate water for pool usage. The project cost is estimated at \$750,000.

Bidders must be qualified to perform the work described in these specifications in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 149.

The complete bid package may be obtained digitally on Projectdog.com using the project code 859916. The bid must be filled out and signed as directed herein, endorsed with the name and address of the bidder, and marked, "Hawes Pool Accessory Building NRD-24-02". Bid submissions are to occur digitally on Projectdog.com. No physical copies will be accepted.

A certified check or bid bond, with acceptable surety in favor of the Town of Norwood and equal to at least five percent (5%) of the bid, must be submitted with the bid. The successful bidder shall, within ten (10) days of notification of award, furnish the Town a payment bond and performance bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the bid.

Bids shall be prepared, considered, and the contract awarded in accordance with all statutes governing such contracts (Chapter 149 as amended). Every General Bid shall be on forms furnished by the Town. Bids submitted on other forms may be rejected. The award of the contract shall be made within 30 working days after the opening of General Bids, Saturdays, Sundays, and Legal Holidays excluded.

An award will not be made to a Contractor who is not properly equipped to undertake and complete the work. The right is reserved to waive any informality and to reject any or all bids in accordance with the provisions of MGL as amended.

The Town of Norwood notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder shall be required to submit documentation that all employees to be employed in the work subject to this bid have successfully completed a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration. Any employee found on a worksite subject to this section without documentation of successful completion of a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least 10 hours in duration shall be subject to immediate removal.

Wages are subject to minimum wage rates under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D inclusive, as most recently amended.

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to accept any part of a bid or the one deemed best for the Town.

BY: Tony Mazzucco, General Manager

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

Morrill Library Events

Registration is required and free for all events below unless otherwise indicated. Sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar, or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TAXES

In partnership with CFA Society Boston, the Morrill Memorial Library is pleased to offer "Understanding Your Taxes" on Thursday, February 15 at 7:00pm in the Simoni Room.

Do you understand the basics of tax forms? How is your tax bill calculated? Kevin Callahan, CFA, and Yuri Dagan, CFA, will share information on tax filing—both preparation and forms. Learn the answers to some common questions about investing and become a more informed consumer of financial services.

SENSORY FRIENDLY ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Classes are held from 10 am to 11:45 am at the Morrill Memorial Library, Simoni Room on the following dates: 2/2, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 4/12, 4/19, 4/26, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31, 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 6/28

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to partner with Norwood-based Lifeworks Inc to bring a series of art classes called Sensory-friendly Art Classes for Adults to the library. The classes will be held weekly on Fridays from 10:30 am to 11:45 am in the Simoni Room.

Join the art instructor Stephanie Enloe for sensory-friendly art classes for adults, a program specially designed for adults with all levels of cognitive abilities. The attendees will get a chance to create an art piece in a sensory-friendly and inclusive environment.

ART THERAPY WITH ELISANDRA LOPES

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host a 4-part series called Art Therapy with Elisandra Lopes starting in February. The event is in-person on 1st and 3rd Saturday in February and March. The program dates are February 3rd and

11th and March 2nd and 16th. All times between 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Please join Elisandra Lopes, a mental health clinician, as she guides the attendees through understanding how art is used in dealing with challenges like low self-esteem, anxiety, and self-care. There are four workshops. Each deals with different aspects of self-care. The schedule for each workshop is Feb 3rd: Self-care/Well-Being through art therapy (exploring the 8 senses of wellbeing) Part 1. Feb 17th: Self-care/Well-Being through art therapy (exploring the 8 senses of wellbeing) Part 2: March 2nd: Self-esteem vs Self-Confidence and March 16th: Managing anxiety in a healthy way through art therapy.

MONDAY MATINEE SERIES

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to launch Monday Movie Matinee, a film series starting in January. The series will run from January - May. The films will be shown on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. All showtimes at 1PM. Movie dates are: 2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/22, 5/13. February movies are: Judas and the Black Messiah (126 mins) and A Haunting in Venice (104 mins).

We thank the Norwood Senior Center for being our partner in promoting the film series.

DISCOVER NEW ENGLAND UFOs

Come to the Morrill Memorial Library on Thursday, February 8 at 6:30 pm for a close encounter of the curious kind. Join Ronny LeBlanc, television star and author of "Monsterland: Encounters with UFOs, Bigfoot and Orange Orbs," as he outlines some amazing UFO sightings that have occurred in the New England area, latest revelations from the US Government as

well as what these craft just might be. 2024 is stacking up to be a year to remember for UFOs, and theories abound: Are they interdimensional? Are they our craft from the future?

Ronny LeBlanc stars in two shows for Discovery+ & the Travel Channel, EXPEDITION BIGFOOT and PARANORMAL CAUGHT ON CAMERA, and is a globally recognized figure in the world of paranormal, Bigfoot and UFOs.

BEYOND DYSTOPIA: WEAVING HOPE & JUSTICE THROUGH CLIMATE FICTION

As part of the Norwood Sustainability Series, Morrill Memorial Library is pleased to welcome back climate storyteller Tory Stephens for a virtual program, "Beyond Dystopia: Weaving Hope and Justice through Climate Fiction" on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:00pm on Zoom.

Dive into a future built on hope and justice! Join Tory Stephens, the Creative Manager at Grist's Imagine 2200 climate fiction initiative, for a captivating talk that will explore climate fiction and climate storytelling as a climate solution. Uncover the power of hope and community embedded in the genres of climate fiction, solarpunk, and thrutopia. Leave with a belief that story is an important missing link for society to muster the collective strength to overcome our climate crisis.

This program is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

BOSTON'S CHOCOLATE HISTORY

As part of their Local Food Program, the Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts is partnering with the Morrill Memorial

Library Events Continued on page 9

NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and the Norwood Bylaw XXV, including any amendments thereto on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be conducted in person at the Senior Center at 275 Prospect St and digitally using Google Meet. Public participation may be accessed through your computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link: https://meet.google.com/qxr-awkv-kuj or dial: (US) +1 402-627-0114 PIN: 610 701 599#

The Commission will hear a Request for Determination of Applicability from Mr. John Feeney concerning construction of a second-story addition to a single-family home in the Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area of Meadow Brook.

Project Location: 119 Sixth St.

Carly Rocklen Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

Public Hearing Notice Norwood Planning Board

In accordance with the requirements of Mass. General Law Chapter 40A Section 5, notice is hereby given that the Town of Norwood Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street or via remote participation on Google Meet. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to accept public comments on the draft Zoning Bylaw amendments to Section 1.5.2. The proposed amendments will establish procedures for public notice of zoning amendments by the Planning Board to affected parties. The draft Zoning Bylaw amendment sare on file in the Planning Department at Town Hall and may be reviewed during normal business hours, by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov, or viewed on the Planning Board's webpage located at: http://www.norwoodma.gov/

https://meet.google.com/mhu-ivfs-njz You can also dial in using your phone: United States: +1 401-646-2388 PIN: 517 092 088# 7:00 P.M.

Norwood Record: 1/25/24, 2/1/24



Thank You Novenas For Favors or Prayers Answered

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. —K.B.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 9th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. My Prayers were answered. In gratitude for helping me. —J.H.

Miracle Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked You for many favours. This time, I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within Your own broken heart where Your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes, it will become Your favour, not mine. Amen. Say for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted. —D.J.

All Prayers: \$22 (1 column x 3 inches)

Call 781-769-1725 to place your prayer in the Norwood Record or order online at www.norwoodrecord.com

MANY PRAYER CHOICES AVAILABLE

For the Record

FEBRUARY MONTHLY BALLROOM DANCE

The Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging will be sponsoring their monthly Ballroom Dance, on Friday, February 16th from 7-10 p.m. at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St., Norwood. Music will be provided by Dave Valerio and the cost is \$12.00 per person for your Ballroom Dancing pleasure. Coffee, tea, desserts & water are served & there are also door prizes. We look forward to welcoming newcomers of all ages.

There is a Facebook page so you can check the status of events offered by the Friends: Friends Of The Norwood Council On Aging | Facebook

IMPACT NORWOOD CREATING MAGAZINE

Calling all Norwood residents! How has physical and mental wellness impacted your life? Impact Norwood is a substance use prevention and mental health awareness coalition seeking to improve health in Norwood youth. We are creating a wellness magazine, Mindful Mustangs, focusing on stories of resilience, mental health, physical activity, community, and prioritizing overall wellbeing, but we need submissions! We are looking for articles and artwork from Norwood residents of all ages sharing any story about their own wellness journey or using one of our prompts. You can find the application and submit your response online at <http://tinyurl.com/Mindful-Mustangs24> or at one of our physical locations: the Civic Center, Morrill Memorial Library, Senior Center, and Town Hall. To find out more, please visit impactnorwood.org/mindful-mustangs or email mindfulmustangs@gmail.com with any questions.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SERIES

Superintendent David Thomson is pleased to announce that Norwood Public Schools has partnered with McLean Hospital for a series of online events focusing on youth mental health.

Implemented during the 2022-2023 school year,

NHS Leaders in Youth Mental Health Parent Series is an ongoing series in partnership with McLean Hospital meant to provide caregivers with information and strategies to navigate raising children and providing mental health support for them.

The series will feature a guest appearance by various McLean practitioners. Events include:

Understanding Transgender and Non-Binary Youth: March 8, from 9-10 a.m. Understanding Pediatric Anxiety Disorders and OCD: March 22, from 12-1 p.m. Partnering with Schools for Services and Supports: April 5, from 9-10 a.m.

In addition to this series, Norwood High School partners with McLean Hospital for clinical consultations to best support student mental health needs, staff professional development, and a private parent mental health series on topics of interest to Norwood families.

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CAN IMPROVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The Norwood Toastmasters Club, a not-for-profit educational organization is well into its 25th year! We develop communication and leadership skills for our members and the community at every level of ability. Guests are always welcome to come and see just how we do it! Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. We meet from 6:45 until 8:30 p.m. at the Lydon Suite in the Norwood Civic Center, 165 Nahatan St. in Norwood, Massachusetts. Please visit our website: <https://norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/> for additional information."

VFW MEAT RAFFLE

The Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452 hosts a Meat Raffle every Saturday from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The Meat Raffle is open to the Public and everyone is welcome. The price for each Drawing is only \$2.00. Ten Drawings are conducted each Saturday. A Pre-Buy for \$20.00 is available during

Calendar

Continued on page 10

Library Events *continued from page 8*

rial Library to talk about Boston's chocolate history with Local Food Program Manager Kerry Kokkinogenis on Thursday, February 22 at 6:30pm in the Simoni Room.

February is National Chocolate Month, and holds one of our most chocolate-dependent holidays. From a colonial-era health tonic to an aphrodisiac, from a drink of the gods to everyone's favorite treat, chocolate has had many faces. Its roots are thousands of years deep in South and Central America, and chocolate has been held as spiritually, ceremonially, emotionally, physically, and economically important for many empires and their cultures, across continents.

Boston, as a significant port city and place of trade has had its part in this history. You've probably heard of the Boston Tea Party, but did you know that hot chocolate's role in the pre-Revolutionary Boston and protest was just as crucial? And Boston played an important role in chocolate's history, at least here in the U.S. This fun talk will look at how chocolate was prepared by the Aztecs and colonial Bostonians, how it has journeyed from everyone's every meal, everyday beverage, to a treat of the most elite, and back to being accessible to everyone. Plus, we'll get a glimpse at some of the trends in local chocolate making.

ONE VOTE FEATURED

League of Women Voters, in partnership with Morrill Memorial

Library, is excited to host the film screening of the documentary One Vote on Thursday February 29, at 6:30 PM in the Simoni Room at the library. The film will be followed by a discussion.

Movie description: ONE VOTE is a small film about a big topic: American democracy. At a moment of unprecedented cynicism about the political process, ONE VOTE bears hopeful witness to the humanity and rich diversity of American voters, and to the unsung stories that comprise our exercise of democracy. It is an inspiring film that follows five diverse Americans on election day. At times funny, surprising and heart-wrenching, the film eschews partisan politics in favor of an honest portrayal of voters' Election Day experiences. It will move you to conquer their own obstacles and objections and to inspire one and all to participate in the democratic process. Run time: 1hr. 18 mins.

SENSORY FRIENDLY LEGO CLUB FOR ADULTS

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to partner with the L.E.A.D. program affiliated with Norwood High School to host a Sensory-friendly Lego Club for Adults. Our February Lego club meeting will be held in-person at the library on Thursday February 29, from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

Please join the L.E.A.D. students in this creative adventure. Just bring your imagination - we will provide the Legos. The Club is free, inclusive, and open to any-

one ages 18+. It is specially designed for adults with different levels of abilities.

THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF BLACK BOSTON

Celebrate Black History Month with the Morrill Memorial Library as we welcome award-winning educator, Joel Mackall, on Monday, February 26 at 6:30pm in the Simoni Room.

Joel will customize his guided tours of the City of Boston for our armchair traveling audience in an interactive presentation: The Hidden History of Black Boston.

Join us to learn Boston's 400-year African-American history! We will delve into the rich narratives of neighborhoods and pivotal sites, events, and figures from the eras of Faneuil Hall and Long Wharf, which marked Boston's connection to the Atlantic world, all the way to the vibrant Black communities that flourished in Beacon Hill in the early republic, and the South End and Roxbury in the early 20th century. Joel's presentation is built on engagement and responsiveness - moving at a pace that allows for in-depth exploration and encourages participant interaction. We cover themes of Black organization and community formation across activism, religion, civil rights, and economics, connecting historical events to contemporary challenges.

The big idea? It's a conversation, and we definitely welcome and encourage questions.

Public Hearing Notice Norwood Planning Board

In accordance with the requirements of Mass. General Law Chapter 40A Section 5, notice is hereby given that the Town of Norwood Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street or via remote participation on Google Meet. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to accept public comments on the draft Zoning Bylaw amendments to Section 3 Table of Use Regulations, subsection F. Service Establishments and Section 11 Definitions. The proposed amendments will prohibit commercial kennels in the residential Zoning Districts and provide new defined terms related to kennels. The draft Zoning Bylaw amendments are on file in the Planning Department at Town Hall and may be reviewed during normal business hours, by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov, or viewed on the Planning Board's webpage located at: <http://www.norwoodma.gov/>

<https://meet.google.com/mhu-ifvs-njz>
You can also dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 401-646-2388
PIN: 517 092 088#
7:00 P.M.

Norwood Record: 1/25/24, 2/1/24

Public Hearing Notice Norwood Planning Board

In accordance with the requirements of Mass. General Law Chapter 40A Section 5, notice is hereby given that the Town of Norwood Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street or via remote participation on Google Meet. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to accept public comments on the draft Zoning Bylaw amendments to Section 3 Table of Use Regulations, subsection J. Accessory Uses and a new Section 8.2 Accessory Dwelling Units. The proposed amendments will provide dimensional and use regulations for accessory dwelling units, which are independent housing units incorporated into a primary single or two family structure. The draft Zoning Bylaw amendments are on file in the Planning Department at Town Hall and may be reviewed during normal business hours, by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov, or viewed on the Planning Board's webpage located at: <http://www.norwoodma.gov/>

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<https://meet.google.com/mhu-ifvs-njz>
You can also dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 401-646-2388
PIN: 517 092 088#
7:00 P.M.

Norwood Record: 1/25/24, 2/1/24

NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and the Norwood Bylaw XXV, including any amendments thereto on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be conducted in person at the Senior Center at 275 Prospect St and digitally using Google Meet. Public participation may be accessed through your computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link: <https://meet.google.com/qxr-awkv-kuj> or dial: (US) +1 402-627-0114 PIN: 610 701 599#

The Commission will hear a Request for Determination of Applicability from the Norwood Trails Advisory Committee concerning installation of a permanent boardwalk over a floodplain, parallel to Purgatory Brook.

Project Location: Open space adjacent to University Ave.

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

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The Commission will hear a Request for Determination of Applicability from the Norwood Trails Advisory Committee concerning temporary water-crossings and a walking path in Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area.

Project Location: Open space adjacent to Meadow St., University Ave., and Vanderbilt Ave.

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 02/01/24

Monday, January 22

0227 911 - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Norwood Country Club - Bos-Prov Hwy 911 caller reports she is currently doing construction and there is a car in the parking lot blasting music and believes they may be tampering with the equipment. Checked the area, no vehicle located.

1055 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Services Rendered Vicinity of: - Carnegie Row Caller on business line reporting there are illegally parked tractor trailers in front of his business. This is an ongoing issue. Caller requesting to speak with PD. Spoke with the caller. The tractor trailer has been moved.

1132 Radio - PD-Parking Violation Services Rendered Vicinity of: Carnegie Row 6 tractor trailer units in the area were moved along and advised of the parking situation.

1240 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Rock St Report of loud music coming from neighboring apartment. Spoke with the resident and has agreed to turn down the music. Calling party satisfied.

1335 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Rock St Neighbor complaint about noise. This is an ongoing issue. No music upon arrival. Ongoing neighbor dispute. Caller will be contacting management.

1638 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Norwood Central Station - Broadway St Caller reporting a male party wearing a red jacket and black pants on the tracks.

MBTA contacted to hold the train and were sending a Transit unit. Updated description 2 juveniles one wearing a dark colored jacket and light colored pants, the other wearing a red jacket and dark colored pants. Units located involved off the tracks by Lenox St. MBTA notified tracks are clear. Juveniles have been advised of the consequences of walking on the tracks. All units will be clear at this time.

Tuesday January 23

0859 Phone - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Jack Madden Ford - Bos-Prov Hwy RP wants to report he had wheels stolen from his property.

0902 Phone - PD-Disturbance Investigated Location/Address: CVS Pharmacy - Nahatan St Asian male in the pharmacy area causing a disturbance. No weapons. Male is in his 40s. Called in on 911 line by employee who just arrived to work. Party left prior to OFC's arrival. OFC spoke with staff. They will be checking with management on a letter of disinvite. OFC spoke to other party involved. He will be taking his business elsewhere.

1001 Phone - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Hertz Rental - Morse St Ext 911 caller reporting a coworker stating he was going to drive back to that address and "Kick your ass". The coworkers name is and is driving a 2000s Lincoln color tan. RP stated they do not know why the coworker was threatening him. Spoke with both parties who had a disagreement, sent both men home.

1215 Phone - PD-Threats Investigated Location/Address:

Police Logs



United Parcel Service (Security) - University Ave RP states he is a UPS driver here. One of the workers who works in the loading area threatened to kill him and put him in the ground. OFC spoke with RP and UPS. OFC clear and returning to the station to try and follow up with other party.

Wednesday, January 24.

0933 Initiated - PD-Assist Other Agency Services Rendered Location/Address: Oolah Ave OFC's enroute attempting to make notification with a male party who owes money to a library. OFC's spoke to male party via phone. They will reach out to library as well.

1115 Initiated - PD-House/ Building Check Location/Address: Morgan Dr Trucks on Vanderbilt Ave. were advised not to park in the area and moved along.

Thursday, January 25

0028 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: - David Terrace Caller on business line stating noise coming from her neighbors, on going for the past couple of hours. Officers spoke to both parties, when arrived on scene all was quiet. Units will be clear.

0330 Initiated - PD-Parking Violation Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Washington St + Sturtevant Ave 27 all night parking violations

0828 911 - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: - Dean St Caller reporting his dad's car is gone. Party was advised that his vehicle was repossessed by Snare, Inc.

0922 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Plantation Cir Party found a small white terrier roaming around the area. Call to the ACO, no answer message left. Dog was reunited with its family

1826 Phone - PD-Parking Violation Spoke With Location/Address: William Shyne Cir Anonymous caller on business line reports a Buick parked blocking entrance to building, requesting an officer. Ongoing issue with Buick owner. Spoke with vehicle owner, she was unloading groceries and will be moving it now, unit clear.

2004 911 - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Brookview Cir 911- female party called, 77yo husband went to Elks last night and did not come home. 661 located that party at the Elks for pool night, checks okay, asked to call his wife. Wife was advised,

2034 Phone - PD-Trespassing Spoke With Location/Address: Bumper To Bumper Auto - Cedar St Business owner reports he can see 2 males trying to prop open garage door to his store, no description 663 off with the parties on Cedar street Spoke with all involved parties, they stated they were using the building to prop their phone up against during a Facetime, parties back filled and building was checked, no damage and is secure. Units clear.

Friday, January 26

1506 Phone - PD-Shoplifting Report Follows Location/Address: Home Depot - Bos-Prov Hwy Loss prevention reports a male and female party shoplifting from the store. Male and Female headed towards silver Sedan. Male is reportedly wearing Carhartt jacket and the female wearing a black puffy jacket and has a black tote bag. As of now 3 in custody, RI REG 410106 NWD 664 and 666 en route with two male parties in custody NWD 667 transporting 1 female in custody starting miles 90626, LT Lydon there to do the search for the female Merchandise returned to store. OFC clear. Arrest: Withrow, Wendi L Address: 485 Plainfield St Providence, Ri Age: 52 Charges: Larceny Over \$1200 c266 §30(1) Conspiracy C4 Default Warrant Default Warrant Ar-

rest: Marold, Thomas J Address: 59 Shore Ave Warwick, Ri Age: 34 Charges: Larceny Over \$1200 c266 §30(1) Conspiracy c4 Default Warrant Straight Warrant Straight Warrant Arrest: Cevoli, Joseph Leo Address: 485 Plainfield St Providence, Ri Age: 53 Charges: Larceny Over \$1200 Conspiracy c4

Saturday, January 27

0328 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Investigated Location/Address: ROJO - Bos-Prov Hwy Described as a group of cars playing loud music. Party moved along. OFC clear.

1204 Phone - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Union St Party looking to report possible drugs being sold. Party is calling from Florida and has been advised of all options.

1334 Initiated - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Pleasant St Speaking to three juveniles. Those juveniles have been spoken too. They were walking in between traffic.

2138 911 - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/Address: Gay St Female party states that her friend won't give her keys Female party has called an Uber. Waiting for Uber to arrive. Female party is in the uber heading home. Units clear.

Sunday, January 28

0847 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Dance Place - Kerry Pl Business line caller from the dance studio reports trucks parked in front of the building for approximately 2 weeks making it difficult to leave the parking lot. They are moving trucks possibly says "Lion moving company". 3 parking tickets issued. Officer will attempt to make contact with the owner.

1328 Phone - PD Suspicious Activity Investigated Location/Address: Lansdowne Way 3rd party caller reports someone was attempting to get into their apartment. Wife called him stating someone attempted to force their way in. Officer spoke with party, could be a person attempting to get into the wrong apartment, officer is checking with neighbors.

1755 Phone - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Engamore Ln Caller States The Uber Driver Was Very Threatening To Him. Civil matter regarding driver attitude and driving. Has been advised to follow-up with Uber.

Calendar continued from page 9

the week at the Post. This Pre-Buy allows for entrance in all Ten Drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win.

The Drawings also include a 50/50 Money Raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5.00. The Norwood VFW is located at 193 Dean Street in Norwood. The Meat Raffle will continue every Saturday thru May.

The Norwood VFW is looking for new members. Veterans of the Gulf War, and personnel who have served overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan are welcome to visit the post at any time or come to one of the Monthly Meetings which are held on the Fourth Wednesday of each Month from September thru May (Except December).

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Will Withdrawing from 401(k) Affect My Social Security?

Dear Rusty: My full retirement age (FRA) is 66 and 8 months, which I'll reach in September 2024. I'm still working 3 days a week. I want to cash in my 401K and want to know if I have to wait until my FRA for IRS purposes or can cash it in anytime in 2024. I don't want to affect my Social Security or end up paying taxes on my benefits.

**Signed: Seeking to
Avoid Taxes**

Dear Seeking: We're not experts on IRS matters here at the AMAC Foundation so I can't address 401(k) questions, but we can provide information on your Social Security circumstances and how 401(k) withdrawals may affect your SS. I assume from your question that you are now receiving early Social Security and wish to avoid any tax consequences thereto by cashing in your 401(k), as well as from working. Here's what you need to know:

- Since you will reach your full retirement age (FRA) in 2024, your 2024 work earnings limit will be \$59,520 up to the month you reach FRA. If you were born in January 1958, you'll attain FRA in September 2024. After you have reached your FRA there is no longer a Social Security limit to how much you can earn from working, so your work earnings thereafter will not affect your monthly Social Security benefit regardless of how much you earn. If your part time work between January and August 2024 won't put you over the \$59,520 limit, your work earnings will not negatively affect your gross monthly Social Security benefit.

- Assuming you are on Medicare, the premium for which is deducted from your Social Security payment, withdrawals from your 401(k) might affect your net monthly Social Security payment in two years hence. Medicare premiums are based upon your combined income from all sources, including 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. If your 401(k) withdrawal(s) put you over an income threshold for your tax filing status, you may be required to pay an "IRMAA" (Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount) on top of the standard Medicare premium. That IRMAA supplement would be deducted from your Social Security, which would affect the net amount of your Social Security payment. Your Medicare premium for each coming year is determined by your combined income from



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social
Security Advisor

two years prior, so if you "cash in" your 401(K) in 2024, it would affect your net Social Security payments in 2026.

- Whether you will pay income tax on your Social Security benefits is determined by your combined income from everywhere, which the IRS calls your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" or "MAGI." MAGI is your income from all sources (except ROTH IRA withdrawals) and includes half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. If you file your taxes as a single, and your MAGI is over \$25,000 – or if you file your taxes as "married-jointly" and your MAGI is over \$32,000 – then 50% of the Social Security benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS (at your normal IRS tax rate). But if your MAGI as a single filer is more than \$34,000 – or as a married/jointly filer over \$44,000 – then up to 85% of the SS benefits received during the tax year becomes part of your overall income taxed by the IRS.

So, to recap:

1. Your part time work earnings in 2024 won't affect your monthly Social Security benefit, unless your 2024 work earnings prior to September 2024 exceed \$59,520.

2. Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, your 2026 net Social Security payments may be impacted by Medicare's IRMAA provision. But your 401(k) withdrawals will not affect your gross Social Security payments.

3. Depending on the amount of your 401(k) withdrawals, some of the Social Security benefits received during the 2024 tax year will likely be subject to income tax. That is, if your annual total income, including your 401(k) withdrawals, exceeds the MAGI thresholds described above.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.



CAROL A. (Ledbetter) of Braintree, formerly of Hyde Park, passed away peacefully on January 23, 2024 at the age of 83. In loving memory of Carol Connors, a cherished grandmother whose warmth and kindness touched the hearts of all who knew her. Carol embraced life with a gentle spirit, creating countless precious moments with her family. Her legacy of love and laughter will forever resonate in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to be part of her life. Loving mother of Carolyn C. Sullivan and her husband Barry J. Sullivan of Norwood. Daughter of the late Alfred Paul and Martha Ledbetter of Hyde Park. Sister of the late Dorothy Walker and her husband Leonard Walker. Sister of Alfred Paul Ledbetter and his wife Kay. Cherished grandmother of Michael and Alexander Abboud. Aunt of Paula Richard and her husband Bill of Mansfield, Maryellen White and her husband Buzzy of Centerville. Carol survived by many other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St. Norwood, MA. Burial will be private.

MOYNIHAN



James Francis, 75 years of age, of Norwood, MA, died on January 25, 2024 at the West Roxbury VA Hospital after a short illness. Jim is survived by his sister Teresa Hart (Michael); and his brothers, Jack Moynihan (Rose), Tom Moynihan (Kathy), and Dan Moynihan (Nancy). He was a loving uncle to 12 nieces and nephews and 9 great-nieces and nephews. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Teresa Farrell Moynihan and John Moynihan; and by his sister, Judy Sullivan. Jim graduated

Deaths

from Mission High School in 1967 and enlisted in the Army after receiving his degree. After his time in the service, he had numerous jobs, but Jim was passionate about what became his ultimate calling: "Big Jim Taximan," and was known and loved by many for his caring ways in that role. He was very proud of having completed the Boston Marathon multiple times and was a well-known and well-liked figure in Mission Hill, where he grew up. Funeral from the William J. Gormley Funeral Home, 2055 Centre St., WEST ROXBURY. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. For guestbook, please visit www.gormleyfuneral.com William J. Gormley Funeral Home West Roxbury 617-323-8600.

PHALEN

Donna Marie (Dwyer) of Norwood, MA, died peacefully on January 27, 2024 at home surrounded by her family. Donna was born July 21, 1935, in Worcester to Gloria Ragagli Dwyer and Michael Stephen Dwyer. For 57 years, she was the beloved wife of the late Leo F. Phalen. Private Services at the Holden, Dunn and Lawler Funeral Home, with interment at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. Donations may be made in Donna's memory to Old Colony Hospice & Palliative Care (www.oldcolonyhospice.org/donation-overview).

SHERMAN

James M. of Norwood, MA, entered into rest on January 24, 2024, at the age of 77. He was surrounded by family and loved ones at the time of his passing. He is survived by his son, Matthew; daughter-in-law, Lara; and grandson, J.J., his daughter Megan and her fiancé Tony Raymond, Maryanne Gaudet the mother of Matt and Megan, his stepdaughter Lauren, son-in-law John, and grandson Justin, along with the extended Keller, Kassabian, Vitiello, and Gaudet families and many friends he loved as family. James was caring, kind, big hearted, and loved to host. He cared for folks like they were his own while making an impact on every life he touched. Funeral Services were at Stanetsky Memorial Chapel, 475 Washington Street, Canton, MA, with interment at Sharon Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations in James' memory may be made to the <https://www.cancer.org> and <https://casamyrna.org> Stanetsky Memorial Chapel 7 8 1 - 8 2 1 - 4 6 0 0 www.stanetskycanton.com

SOARES



KEVIN, of Norwood, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends after the most courageous fight on January 25, 2024, at the age of 51. Compassionate, supportive, and devoted husband of Samantha E. (Philips) Soares. The most loving, caring, and protective father of Landon Soares, Brody Pacheco, and Bailey Pacheco all of Norwood. Son of Norberto Soares and his partner Alda Fernandes of Swansea and the late Barbara (Moniz) Soares. Brother of Paula Soares of Fall River. Brother-in-Law of Kimberly Cavey of Stoughton, Jonathan Philips of CT, Julie Espinoza of Stoughton, Ashley Seggeline of Bridgewater, Corey Tobias of Seekonk, and Jaclyn Dyreby of FL and their spouses. Also survived by many nieces and nephews and lifelong friends. Kevin lived every day to the fullest. He knew that time was never promised and lived by the motto "I'd rather die with memories than dreams". He loved spending time at their home in Florida and making as many memories as he could in Maine. He spent his lifetime packing in as many adventures, especially when it came to the Patriots, Red Sox, Bruins, and Celtics. The only thing more important to Kevin than making memories were the people he loved. He was fiercely loyal, generous, and protective to those in his circle. A special moment or day in your life was never missed by Kevin and he always knew how to make you feel loved and appreciated. Kevin was known for his infectious smile, and distinct accent. Kevin was determined and fought hard. He gave every ounce of fight that he had for his family and friends. He pushed himself to the limit to make sure we were all left with memories to last a lifetime. The pieces of the puzzle that Kevin carefully chose and placed together, fit perfectly and his journey is complete. His legacy will live on through all of us. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St. Norwood. Burial at Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Kevin's name to Brigham and Women's Hospital, 75 Francis Street, Boston, MA.