

Town dept heads present budget requests

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

Budget season is now in full swing, as the Board of Selectmen heard budget requests and increases from the Town's various department heads during a meeting on Jan. 29.

Town Clerk and Accountant Robert Thornton provided an overview of the Town's budgeting process and first pass at the numbers to begin the meeting.

"The whole focus on budget has to be revenue driven ... We focus on our revenue first and those revenues then dictate what our budget can be," Thornton said, referring to budgeting processes in place since the passing of state tax statute Proposition 2.5. "The budgets can be no more than what our revenue projections are."

In total, the Town's projected revenues are around \$170 million that can be spent. While the budget can be no more than that amount, Thornton said \$99 million of that total must be set aside for debt and fixed costs. This leaves the Town with around \$71 million to put towards operating budgets for the general government and school department.

In recent years, that money has been split, with 55 percent going to the schools and 45 percent going to the general government side, or \$39 million for schools and around \$31 million for the general government, Thornton said.

Additionally, Thornton said projected receipts are up around \$7.2 million, while budget requests have also gone up slightly, at around \$10 million. The difference between those two figures - just over \$3 million, is where the budget imbalance lies.

"It's a big number," Thornton said. "But not nearly as big as what we've

seen over the years."

Thornton said it would be possible to make up for that difference by taking money from the Town's accounts - which total just under \$5 million, but this would leave the Town's funds severely depleted, which he said is a red flag to bond agencies and leaves the town vulnerable.

State aid remains up in the air, due



Norwood Fire Chief Anthony Greeley was among several department heads to present their requests for the fiscal year 2016 budget on Jan. 29.

COURTESY PHOTO

to the new governor and a \$750-765 million projected deficit at the state level. Thornton said receipts and offsets were down around \$900,000 due to the Selectmen's decision to take out around \$800,000 for the electric light rate stabilization fund, in order to offset a projected rate increase to customers.

NSTAR receipts were up, Thornton said, with a figure of \$800,000 accounting for a reallocation to fund the Public Works facility construction. Taxation accounted for the only other significant increase in revenue of around \$1.5 million.

Mark Redlich of the Computer De-

Budget

Continued on page 2



Norwood was hit by two winter storms in two weeks, accumulating over three feet of snow in some spots. Here, Public Works clears snow from Washington Street.

COURTESY PHOTO

Norwood's battles with Juno and Linus are successful

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

Massachusetts was blanketed in snow twice in as many weeks, but many feel that the Town of Norwood fared well during both winter storms Juno and Linus.

Winter storm Juno covered Norwood in around two feet of snow, with many of the snowdrifts piling up even higher, while Linus had already added another 10 inches by 3 p.m. on Feb. 2. Juno also brought high

winds to the area, with gusts reaching over 30 miles per hour, and temperatures below freezing.

"We fared quite well through the storm. The Police had no major incidents to report," Norwood Police Department spokesman Officer Kevin Grasso said. "The public did a great job adhering to the Governor's travel ban. This allowed the

Snow Removal

Continued on page 7



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The Norwood Record
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partment was the first department head to present budget requests for Fiscal Year 2016 to the Selectmen. He reported an overall request increase of \$100,000. The increase reflected a longevity bump for departmental salaries, \$25,000 for a consultant to help with systems-level work, funds for scanning paper to electronic storage, \$10,000 for new equipment updates and upgrading the wiring in Town Hall on the ground through second floors.

Redlich said the system maintenance work should be priority number one, but the wiring was the main focus for his department because technology upgrades could not proceed without the new wiring. He anticipated the project taking several weeks to complete.

Recreation Department Director Gerry Miller said his budget increases reflected some money to attend educational conferences, part time and summer wages reflecting the minimum wage increase, and utilities costs, including electricity and an additional \$5,000 for irrigation maintenance, which was previously balanced with the Public Works Department (DPW).

Town Manager John Carroll also spoke about the fallen light pole at the field behind the Balch School, particularly the hiring of engineers to examine the structural integrity of the remaining poles and the cost to find temporary and permanent replacements for the fallen pole.

DPW Superintendent Mark Ryan said that the Public Works budget was largely level-funded, but highlighted the major increases.

A back up generator for the Vanderbilt Avenue sewer pump station accounted for a \$42,000 increase to the sewers portion of the budget. Ryan also requested another \$15,750 for more diligent under-drain testing, per EPA requirements, to monitor contamination of the Town's brooks, which had previously been a problem. Ryan also highlighted some Capital Outlay projects, such as lining the sewers, a project which had already begun, and would go until at least 2020, when South Norwood would be the final area targeted. This project, Ryan said, was to be funded with a \$2.7 million low interest loan.

Ryan also highlighted increases related to refuse removal - \$38,000 due to a 2.5 percent yearly increase on the contract - and fueling, which resulted in a \$10,000 jump. Money for sidewalk resurfacing and cemetery maintenance was also mentioned.

Also in the department's capital outlay requests were five pieces of equipment, including several trucks - among them a one-ton dump truck - a snow blower and a mechanical soil screener.

Ryan also reported that the Engineering Department budget request was up \$3,000, due mostly to salary and personnel.

Norwood Light superintendent James Collins also reported a mostly level-funded budget, with a total increase of \$3.3 million. Around \$3.1 million of that total was reflected in an increase of the cost at which Norwood Light buys its power, and the rest was chalked up to personnel. The Broadband budget was up slightly as well, as new channels had been added and there were plans to add a third party support desk for phone and back up service.

Selectman Bill Plasko said there had been several complaints about poor phone support - despite excellent on-site service - and the Light Department acknowledged it was time to "step up to this."

Chief of Police William Brooks said that his department's salary increase was "more appearance than genuine," as it reflected a change in how education incentives were paid. These incentives are now paid weekly and

had been moved into salaries as a result. The salary increase also reflected the settlement of contracts with the patrolman's union and the senior officers.

Most of the police department's budget increase reflected a request for three positions to be restored in the department. Brooks said the department had seen an 8 percent decrease in sworn-in personnel and had not been "this small since the 1970s."

Brooks highlighted the increase in overtime costs and the cost of living, but also the department's work with narcotics and drug enforcement and treatment and his discovery that dispatchers were stacking calls to account for personnel shortages.

Plasko wondered how much of what Brooks mentioned could realistically be addressed by adding only three additional personnel, particularly when there could be manpower requests for the Fire department or other departments. He said that while he understood the work that needed to be done and that it was a big issue, three additional officers might simply be a "band aid" and not an appropriate expenditure.

Selectman Helen Abdallah Donohue said it would at least be a start to restore the positions, and felt there were other budget requests that were not as important as that that had been presented.

Selectman Paul Bishop agreed, saying the Norwood Police were doing the equivalent of working with one hand tied behind their back.

Norwood Fire Department Chief Anthony Greeley presented a mostly level-funded budget as well, noting the recent ratification of the contract with the union.

Many of the increases in his budget were contractual increases related to salary, though around \$150,000 would be needed to replace some structural fire fighting equipment. Greeley said that the gear firefighters wear, aside from the helmet, is recommended to be replaced every seven years, a program which the department has followed. The equipment they currently have is in its sixth year, and between the request, measuring all of the firefighters and making the order, Greeley said the gear could be delivered in a year from now.

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Taxis still a problem in Norwood

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

The Board of Selectmen voted to revoke "any and all" licenses allowing American Executive Taxi to operate in Norwood during a hearing on February 3.

"This board has a responsibility to the population of Norwood to provide a good taxi service and watch out for the welfare for the individual passengers," said Selectman Paul Bishop, who made the motion.

The Selectmen brought Mohamad Halwani of American Executive Taxi before the Board in order to discuss several violations of the Town of Norwood's Hackney Rules and Regulations.

Hackney officer Paul Murphy said that Norwood Police found out that driver Steven Delmonaco had been driving one of American Executive Taxi's two vehicles, despite not having a hackney license.

Delmonaco had applied for a hackney license in December 2014, but was denied based on certain background ascertained through police reports of other towns, Murphy said.

Delmonaco then reached out to the Norwood Police on January 12 to make a sexual harassment complaint regarding other drivers at one of the commuter rail stations in the area.

Murphy said Delmonaco had considered grabbing a screwdriver from the car for defense. Delmonaco later said he was distraught over a back injury and having to find work to keep up with expenses. He admitted to trying to acquire a gun for protection.

Murphy discussed these, among other issues and reports, with Chief of Police William Brooks, who agreed that Delmonaco's request for a license should be denied. Murphy did say Delmonaco did not have many fares in Norwood.

Halwani said he knew Delmonaco since 2008 as a friend and a previous coworker, but had no idea Delmonaco would have trouble getting the license until recently. Halwani said Delmonaco did not drive a taxi for him without a license.

Murphy presented a copy of Delmonaco's logbook, which detailed fares picked up as an American Executive Taxi driver, and showed that he primarily

worked the 4-11 p.m. shift since at least January of last year.

Murphy said that Delmonaco told him he had driven for American Executive Taxi in 2007 and 2008. Westwood Police records indicated that Delmonaco had also driven for American Executive Taxi in 2010.

Delmonaco believed that Halwani was going to be taking care of the hackney license issue. Halwani reiterated that Delmonaco had not been driving a cab for American Executive Taxi several times during the meeting.

Halwani said Delmonaco drove the Dedham Hilton Hotel shuttle bus and was one of their "number one employees," though the general manager of

Taxis

Continued on page 6

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DEATHS

BURKETT

Elizabeth K (Keohane), 78, of Norwood, on Jan. 12. Beloved wife of the late Mark A. Burkett; Mother of Mark and his wife Joyce; James (Bud) and his wife Lori; Lynne Burkett-Perez and her husband Robert; Kevin and his wife Brenda; Scott and his wife Patricia; Grandmother to Nicole, James, Jason; Alexandra, Zachary; Jessica; Kristine; Kevin and Scott Joseph and three great-grandchildren. Loving companion of the late John P. Burkett. Daughter of the late Eleanore and Timothy Keohane and sister to Mary Ellen Thompson, Timothy Keohane, Helen Davis, Marion Shanahan, and the late Katherine Maguire, Eleanor Cissy Reynolds, Elaine Keohane, James Keohane and Phillip Keohane. There will be a Memorial Mass Saturday Jan. 31, 2015 at 10 a.m. in St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St., Norwood. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy in her memory may be donated to the American Lung Association, 480 Totten Pond Road, Waltham, MA 02451.

DOHERTY

Dr. Eugene A., 86, a longtime resident and physician of Norwood on Jan. 30. Born on Christmas Day, 1928 in Boston, he was the son of the late Gerald and Doris (Taylor) Doherty. He graduated from Hopkinton High School. After graduating from

Harvard College with the Class of '52, Gene married the love of his life, his wife of 62+ years, Joan (Savage) Doherty. He served as an officer in the US Navy and saw action in Korea aboard the destroyer USS Stephen Potter (DD-538). He graduated New York Medical College in 1959, and practiced in Norwood for 30 years until his retirement in 1992. He was a member of St. Catherine of Siena Parish and of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was the kindest and gentlest man to all who met him. He enjoyed woodworking, skiing, tennis, golf, and, most of all, spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He was the beloved husband of Joan (Savage) Doherty of Norwood, the loving father of Paul Doherty of Boston, Christine and her husband, Stephen Oakley of Cambridge, Dr. Jayne Doherty and her husband, Dr. Christopher Molgaard of Lexington, Peter "PJ" Doherty and his wife Lynne, Marion and her husband Paul Bussiere, Amy and her husband, Lawrence Nee, all of Norwood and Elizabeth and her husband, Mark Baron of Centerport, N.Y.; the cherished grandfather of Henrietta, Isaac, Kathleen, Andrew, Hannah, Seamus, Joseph, James, Jacqueline, Henry, Owen, Maeve and Gavin; the dear brother of Bernard Doherty of Harwich and the late John, Paul, and Gerald

Doherty; and the uncle of many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, Feb. 5, at 9 a.m. from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St., (Rt. 1A) Norwood, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St., Norwood. Interment will follow at Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline. Visiting hours will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Dr. Eugene Doherty's memory to Kindred at Home - Boston (Hospice Care), made payable to: Kindred Foundation, 680 South Fourth St., Louisville, KY 40202.

GIORGIO

Gerald A on Jan. 27, Gerald A Giorgio Jr. of Norwood after long battle with dementia. Son of the late Gerald A Giorgio Sr. of Boston and Kathleen (Doris) Bentley of Gloucester, Mass. Brother of the late Donald Giorgio of Minnesota. Survived by sister Carol Ness of Medfield, daughters Donna Wilson of Hanover and Judith Dwelley of Rockland, and sons Stephan Giorgio of Dedham and Gerald A. Giorgio III of Marshfield. Also survived by 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Past member of the Massachusetts Pharmacy Association and Lion's Club. Memorial Service to be held Saturday,

Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church 209 Ashmont St., Dorchester. In lieu of flowers, donations made be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

MARINILLI

John, Jr., 71, died in the Norwood Hospital in Norwood, on Jan. 28. Born in Norwood. He was involved in the construction field for many years, most recently working as a finish carpenter. Devoted son of the late John and Preziosa (Risio) Marinilli. Loving brother of Nicholas Marinilli of Walpole, Mary Marinilli of Walpole, and Dalia Marinilli of Attleboro. Loving companion of Kathleen Joyce of Norwood and her daughter Stephanie Joyce of Norwood. Also survived by many cousins. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend John's visiting hours on Sunday, Feb. 8, from 2-6p.m. in the James H. Delaney & Son Funeral Home, 48 Common St., Walpole. Funeral service and interment will be private at the request of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

SILLETTI

James A. "Jerry," 89, a lifetime resident of Norwood, Friday, on Jan. 30. Born in Norwood. Beloved son of the late Gaetano and Mary (Perniola) Silletti. Jerry served

in the Army during World War II in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. After the war, Jerry worked as barber in a Barber Shop on Washington Street in Norwood. He purchased it in 1971, making it "Jerry's Barber Shop" which he owned and operated until his retirement in 1997. Jerry was a member of the Norwood Knights of Columbus since 1953 and was its Man of the Year in 1984. He was also a member of the Norwood American Legion, Post 90, and a life member of VFW 2452 and DAV, Chapter 90. He served as an usher at the 11 o'clock Mass at St. Catherine of Siena Church for many years. Jerry was the beloved husband of Margaret (Ardolino) Silletti of Norwood; the loving father of Stephen R. Silletti of Bradford, Michael A. Silletti and Richard F. Silletti, both of Marshfield; the cherished grandfather of Rachael Silletti of Bradford; the dear brother of Josephine Treadwell of Georgia and Stella Yauger of Virginia and the late Sabine, Joseph and Ralph Puopolo; and the uncle of several nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements by the Gillooly Funeral Home, Norwood. Interment will follow at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. Contributions may be made in Jerry's memory to Disabled American Veterans, State House, Room 546, Boston, MA 02133 (for MA residents) or to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 or via www.woundedwarriorproject.org.



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SENIOR NEWS

AFTERNOON DANCE: This month's dance with John Rampino will be held on Friday, Feb. 13 at 1 p.m. Cost is \$5.

***NEW Class Arts & Crafts:** First Thursday of every month starting Thursday, Feb. 5 at 11 a.m. No Cost.

BASIC COMPUTER COURSE: A four-part basic computer course is frequently offered to those who wish to learn how to use a computer. Sign-up at the front desk. New class will be announced soon.

BINGO: Every Wednesday, from 12:45 p.m. to 3 p.m. \$5 to get started. We have begun a new game, for \$1 with a winner take all prize! You must be here by 12:45 p.m. to play the new game!

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC: Hellenic Health Care will be available for blood pressure screening on the first Wednesday of each month. Ellis Nursing Home will offer blood pressure screening on the second Wednesday of each month. The Walpole VNA will provide blood pressure screening on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

BOOK CLUB: Our next Book Club will be meeting on Feb. 23 at 10 a.m.

BRIDGE: Our Bridge Club meets on Thursdays at 9:15 a.m. in the Library. The Tuesday group has been cancelled.

COMPUTER CLUB: The Computer Club meets each Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the Library/Computer Room. Computer users at all skill levels are welcome to attend.

COUNCIL ON AGING: No COA Meeting will be held in February, will resume in March.

CRIBBAGE: Our seniors meet every Monday at 12:45 p.m. to play cribbage.

DIABETES WORKSHOP: The Diabetes Workshop will meet Feb. 26 at 11 a.m.

EXCEL CLASSES: Excel classes has resumed. Please sign up.

FOOT DOCTOR: Dr. Cormier is scheduled for Feb. 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$25. Please call for appointment.

GLEE CLUB: Glee Club meets every Tuesday at 11:15 am.

HANDCRAFTERS: Handcrafters meet every Monday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

HISTORY TALK: Classes will be held on Thursday, Feb. 5 & 19 at 1 p.m. The topic will be First Settlement of Western Hemisphere.

MASSAGE THERAPIST: Karen Tracy is here on the first Monday of each month. Please sign up at front desk. Massages are \$30 for half an hour.

NORWOOD RETIRED MEN'S CLUB: The Board of Directors meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center (Except July and August). The Club Membership meets

Seniors

Continued on page 6

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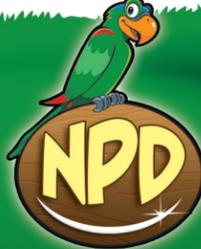


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ConComm grants unprecedented extension

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Conservation Commission discussed the status of several projects in town, as well as a vacancy on the board during a meeting on Jan. 26.

The Commission first voted to extend an Order of Resource Area Delineation for Bruce Comenitz and Brick Mill LLC, formerly known as Northwood Pioneer LLC.

Brick Mill LLC received the extension for a project located at 63 Morse St.

Conservation Agent Al Goetz said that there had not been a specific form for an extension of an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD), which allows applicants to confirm resource boundaries, particularly when projects border vegetated wetlands. As such, the state had to make up an entirely new

form.

ANRADs are generally optional, but work on projects subject to Wetlands Protection Act law are not allowed to proceed unless a “negative determination of applicability” or a final order of conditions is issued by the Conservation Commission.

According to Goetz, the order usually expires in three years, which he said is usually enough time to begin the project after approval.

“In this case, because of the economy, they haven’t designed a project and the three years is up, therefore they are looking for an extension,” Goetz said. “You know, it’s unusual, but I’m pretty confident that it’s legal. It doesn’t say anywhere that it cannot be extended, I’m recommending that we extend it.”

Goetz said he was willing “to go for that” based on the fact that the site - an old mill site on Morse Street - was not a very good ex-

ample of environmental protection and there had been a previous delineation of wetlands.

Goetz said there was stone and cement walls on each side, and a project that would demolish the old industrial buildings - which he admitted were “are an important part of our past history” - would allow a new project that would give the Town “some improvement to the river” area.

Goetz said that, under the Rivers Act law, a key part of the development of riverfront land is that the “applicant must improve environmental conditions of the river.”

“It is so bad (at this site), that almost anything would be considered an improvement,” Goetz said.

Goetz said that the new designed use of the property would be “a big improvement over what’s there and give us probably

ConComm

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Taxis continued from page 3

the hotel told Murphy that Delmonaco was only an occasional driver and not an employee of the Hilton.

Beyond the issue of having an unlicensed driver, American Executive Taxi also had issues with the vehicles themselves.

Sealer of Weights & Measures, Matt Walsh, submitted notice that one of American Executive Taxi’s had failed inspection, largely due to problems with the meter. Halwani said it was a minor issue that he hadn’t had time to take care of, though he

said the vehicle was still operational.

Delmonaco said that they had only been operating one cab, as he was putting his own money into having the other repaired. Halwani indicated that both cabs were on the road.

Plasko said Halwani’s apologies did not seem heartfelt and he failed to live up to any management responsibilities.

Plasko said the company was “totally and absolutely negligent in their operations” and were “not suitable or fit to be running

a cab business in the Town of Norwood.”

The Selectmen voted to remove American Executive Taxi’s licenses and uphold the denial of Delmonaco’s hackney license by a count of 3-2. Selectmen Helen Abdallah Donohue and chairman Michael Lyons voted against the motion, and discussed the possibility of a suspension for these first infractions.

The Board also expressed interest in having London Taxi Company in for similar complaints of unlicensed hackney drivers.

Seniors continued from page 4

the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Norwood Elks Lodge, at 10:00 am.

OIL PAINTING: No Oil Painting class is offered in January.

PROPOPE: Is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m.

SCRABBLE: Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m. Come and join us for a game.

SHINE: Our SHINE Counselor, Carol, is here to help you with your medical insurance needs on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call 781-762-1201 for an appointment.

SQUARE DANCE: Please join our Square Dance Class every Tuesday at 9 a.m.

Taxes: By appointment only on Fridays. Starting Feb. 6. Contact front desk to schedule appointment.

TRIAD: Please join us on Monday, Feb. 23. Our speaker will be John Carroll.

WATER COLOR: The next session is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 12 at 9 a.m. Payment of \$20 must be made at time of signup.

WAXING Cancelled until further notice.

WHIST: Whist players meet on Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m. in the library.

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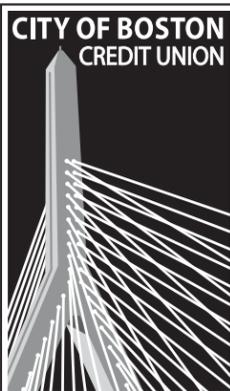
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Snow Removal *continued from page 1*

Public Works (Department) to clear the streets without any obstacles.”

The Public Works Department (DPW), along with hired contractors, began plowing as soon as snow began to collect.

“Our crews have been through this before and are very capable,” DPW Superintendent Mark Ryan said.

Ryan said his staff and the contractors who worked through winter storm Juno had worked for over 42 hours straight. They worked until 3:30 p.m. on Jan. 28, when the next set took over.

During both storms, the DPW also worked with the Norwood Fire Department to strategically clear snow from fire hydrants around town, said fire chief Anthony Greeley.

“There are 900 hydrants in town and we wouldn’t have been able to get to them all,” Greeley said. “We also encouraged neighborhood people to try to dig out any hydrants on their street so that we could reach them if needed.”

Chief Greeley said that his storm coverage groups worked for over 37 hours straight on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. During this time, they received calls regarding motor vehicles involved in accidents or with battery trouble - particularly during rush hour - broken sprinkler pipes in commercial buildings due to the extreme cold and many medical calls.

“We had a ton of EMS calls, from cardiac problems due to shoveling snow to folks overworking themselves as they started to come out of their houses on Wednesday,” Greeley said. “And on Tuesday morning, Jan. 27, we were in Dedham, providing assistance to Dedham Fire during a two-alarm fire there, which was taken care of.”

Greeley said the primary challenge during these storms was just navigating the streets, especially those off of the town’s main roads. Greeley said in addition to the

ambulances, the department also sent out a squad truck with a plow on calls to make sure the way was clear.

“I’m happy with the performance of my department,” Greeley said. “Mark Ryan’s gang has done a yeoman’s work. Hats off to them ... The weather is always challenging, whether it’s these snow storms or a heat wave in summer. It’s always part of the equation for public safety, and we can’t do it alone, we can only do it together.”

Officer Grasso also spoke highly of the coordination between the Town’s various departments during the storms.

“The Police Department was well staffed throughout the storms. Plain clothes and administrative officers arrived for duty in uniform ready to be deployed if needed,” Grasso said. “Once again, (there was) great cooperation from all Town Departments.”

The Police logs showed many calls regarding improperly parked vehicles and minor accidents, but it appeared as though any disastrous situations had been avoided. After the storms, however, many residents called in to report improper removal of snow into neighbors’ property or into the sidewalks and roadways, which are violations of town bylaws.

Ryan said that storms such as Juno typically cost between \$130,000 and \$150,000 to manage. Ryan encouraged residents to stay at home and enjoy some family time during these storms in order to avoid danger and allow DPW crews and public safety personnel to operate.

“We’re very fortunate to have a great crew ... right down to the entry-level employee,” Ryan said. After Juno, the DPW began removing snow along Washington Street on Thursday night. The process of widening streets and intersections would continue in the days after Linus as well.

Many of those in Norwood were very pleased with the way

the Town handled the storms, particularly winter storm Juno.

“They did a great job,” said Jim, a South Norwood resident, outside of Town Hall. “They kept the kids home (from school) and got the roads clear by Wednesday night.”

Catherine, a Dedham resident who is frequently in Norwood, was also pleased with the quality of the roads.

“They really kept them clear. I drove around a lot after Wednesday and some towns were still dangerous at night to drive (in),” Catherine said. “You could see places were clear, like the hospital and nursing homes.”

One Norwood resident was pleased with the assistance she received from the Town, but was unhappy with the way her landlord handled the storm.

Martina, who lives on Weld Avenue, said she and her first floor neighbor both have medical issues and were unable to clear the snow from the property on their own. She said while the cars were the tenant’s responsibility, she understood the snow around the driveways and walkways to be the landlord’s responsibility.

Selectman Bill Plasko said that the responsibilities for a residential property generally stem from the state sanitary code, and there is no Town bylaw regarding snow removal outside of the Central Business District.

That said, Plasko believed court cases had set a precedent that it was generally up to landlords to clear the snow within a reasonable period of time from walking and parking areas after the storm had stopped, but urged patience after the magnitude of the snowfall so far this year. He also said that much of the liability issues for landlords dealt with whether a tenant had been hurt.

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The Norwood Record ConComm *continued from page 6*

an area where people can again use the river," for fishing, relaxing, birding, or sitting on a bench that would be a part of a housing project there.

"I don't think it's a bad thing for us to extend this for another three years so that they have time to design a project there," he said.

The Commission asked Goetz whether it was legal to make the extension and whether Town Counsel should be consulted.

"Legal counsel has made this request and legal counsel does environmental things," said Goetz of his understanding of the request's legality.

Commission member Carol Fishman asked whether the encasing would be demolished and whether that would take place at the bridge nearby. Goetz said the project had nothing to do with the bridge, which was more upstream. The bridge had been widened both ways to allow better river flow and it meets all current stan-

dards, he said.

The Commission also discussed having an ad in the paper to fill the vacancy while member Joe DiMaria was in the hospital.

Chairman Cheryl Rogers urged residents who have a love of nature and conservation, and also have a good understanding of the "lay of the land" in Norwood to fill out a résumé and apply. She said the meetings were only part of the job, and members had to walk the land and understand the workings of conservation in town in between meetings.

Fishman suggested that there should be an alternate member appointed for these circumstances, but Rogers said that they were not allowed to change the structure of the board without going through the Selectmen and the state, since the charter calls for seven members and only four needed for a quorum. The Commission mentioned

February 5, 2015

that funds had been allocated to reenlist the help of Aquatic Control Technologies - which had worked on Ellis Pond - to perform work at two more ponds in South Norwood.

Goetz said he had again met with the Upland Woods project staff and checked on the progress of the project.

He said they are continuing to work through the winter with the help of machines that pump hot water through piping in a closed circuit fashion to heat the floor slab of the buildings in much the same fashion as a radiator.

Goetz also said that the retention basins had been working and there was no evidence that the rainstorms that had occurred had resulted in any wash off from the site. Erosion control was holding "very nicely," he said.

Goetz said he reminded Boch Toyota that dumping snow in the wetland was prohibited, as snow was on the horizon at that point, and that designated snow-piling areas should be used.

The Record Book

FOOD PANTRY SEEKS ONCE-A-MONTH DRIVERS

The Norwood Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to pick up bakery goods about once a month at Costco in Dedham. Pickups are to be made Friday mornings after 8 a.m., with goods delivered to the pantry between 9 and 9:30 a.m. the same day. If you can help, please contact Nick Campagna at 781-762-6866 or email ncampagnajr@gmail.com.

JOIN THE FOOD PANTRY WALK FOR HUNGER TEAM

The Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood is once again forming a team to participate in Project Bread's Walk for Hunger. This year's 47th annual Walk will be held Sunday, May 3 - and will provide funding to over 400 emergency food programs in 125 Massachusetts communities. To sign up as a walker or virtual walker or support your neighbors in need with a donation, go to: <http://support.projectbread.org/goto/NorwoodFoodPantry>. Or call team captain Nick Campagna at 781-762-6866.

CLEVELAND PTA FEBRUARY NEWS

Trivia Night Our annual Trivia Night

fundraiser is coming soon. It is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Cleveland School PTA which sponsors wonderful events for our school community as well as supports teachers in their efforts to provide a quality education for our children. Trivia Night will begin at 7 p.m. with team trivia starting at 7:30 p.m. Get a group of friends together and reserve a table for a fun night out that also helps our school. There will be a cash bar, many great raffle prizes, and participants are encouraged to bring snacks for their table. You can reserve a table for 10 for \$175 by contacting Jayne Ford, jayneford@verizon.net. Tables must be paid in full by Wednesday, Feb. 25. Tickets at the door will be \$20. Tables do sell out quickly, so reserve yours today!

Bamboo House Restaurant Fundraiser Any Saturday through the rest of the school year, Dine in at the Bamboo Cafe restaurant at 663 Washington St. in Norwood and 20 percent of the proceeds will go to the Cleveland PTA! You must bring the flyer to receive credit - Flyers are available on the PTA Facebook page.

Facebook Page The Cleveland PTA has a new Facebook page that you can "Like" to stay up to

The Record Book
Continued on page 11

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- Pan Seared Salmon Florentine**..... \$18
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Sports

Mustangs clinch playoff berth Strong play continues as team runs win-streak to five games

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The Mustangs officially qualified for the postseason after another perfect week, dispatching the Somerset-Berkeley Raiders and Milton Wildcats to improve to 12-3.

It's five wins in a row overall for Norwood, which had lost its previous two games prior to this current run.

"Our next goal is to try to secure a home game [in the tournament]," said head coach Alex DaLuz after knocking off the Raiders 62-53 on Thursday night, when the Mustangs clinched their post-season berth. "Last year we played on the road and lost to Sharon. Right after that loss, I said in the locker room, 'our goal next year is to get a home game.' It makes a difference, we lost by two. If we're at home, it's a little bit of a different comfort level. You get your own



The Norwood Girls Basketball team is playoff bound after a pair of wins last week. Above, the Mustangs' Ally Copponi, right, prepares for the opening tip in a game against Somerset-Berkeley.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

crowd."

Meghan Reen led the Mustangs with 27 points and 10 steals vs. S-B. She just missed out on a triple-double with nine

rebounds, also the team high for the night.

Julia Copponi also cracked double figures with 11 points, matching her season high she

had attained in back-to-back games vs. Ursuline Academy and Dedham on Jan. 5 and 6.

The Mustangs overcame a lackadaisical start to beat the

Raiders, trailing 10-2 before DaLuz employed a full-court press, which rattled S-B into constant turnovers. Norwood had 22 steals in the game. After taking the lead off a Reen 3 at 15-12, the Mustangs never looked back.

It wasn't all praise from DaLuz following the game, however. Citing the snowstorm earlier in the week, he realized that both teams dealt with the same circumstances of not being able to practice for a few days. But he couldn't let his team off the hook entirely.

"We kind of came out flat," he said. "They played with much better energy, especially in the first half. We beat them pretty good the first time around, so I think maybe our players came into this game thinking 'we're just gonna

Playoffs

Continued on page 10

Norwood drops hard-fought contest to Milton



Chris Bell, right, scored 17 points in the Mustangs loss to Milton on Jan. 30. After a rough week, Norwood's record sits at 3-11.

FILE PHOTO

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Another strong first half performance was once again undone by the inability to close out an opponent as Norwood fell to Milton, 61-55.

Blowing halftime leads has been commonplace for the Mustangs (3-11) this season. Norwood had previously defeated the Wildcats in an earlier meeting (6-9), 62-42, on Dec. 22 at home.

With Rich Cormier out for personal reasons, JV head coach/varsity assistant JJ Oliver assumed head coaching duties on Friday night at Milton High School. He joked after the game that his boss probably wouldn't be pleased with his performance.

"Rich is not a moral victory sort of guy," said Oliver.

Norwood came out firing in the first quarter. Clifton Clark (11 points) and Chris Bell (17) each sank a 3 within the Mustangs' first two possessions, helping them jump out to a 6-0 lead. Norwood would rely on the deep ball throughout the

first quarter, attempting only one shot from the paint in the first eight minutes. Clark and Bell would each sink another three later on in the quarter, helping stake the Mustangs to an 18-13 lead after the first.

Kevin Perry, coming off his worst game of the season statistically vs. Bishop Feehan, scored the first six points for Norwood in the second quarter. Perry finished with 13 points after going scoreless against the Shamrocks.

But despite Perry's efforts, the Wildcats continued to hang around, never trailing by more than eight points. A series of missed opportunities by the Mustangs enabled Milton to cut the lead to four at the half, 32-28.

The Wildcats continued matching Norwood offensively throughout the third quarter, taking their first lead of the game with 3:03 to go in the third. Clark would sink another 3 to hinder Milton's momentum, tying the game at 41-41.

Boys Hoops

Continued on page 10

Norwood Wrestling team can't keep pace with Natick on Senior Night

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The Natick Red Hawks spoiled Senior Night for the Norwood wrestling team, upending the Mustangs 60-6.

Depth, which has been an issue for Norwood all season long, played a big role in the lopsided score. The Mustangs had to forfeit several weight classes due to not having any wrestlers on the roster within the designated weights.

Senior Mike McDonough was the lone senior honored, as JJ O'Donnell had to miss the ceremony due to previous obligations (Senior Night was originally scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 28 but pushed back to the 29th due to the winter storms). O'Donnell was able to make it to the gym in time for his match, the final match of the evening.

The Mustangs won only one match, thanks to Christian Ferris's pin in the 112 pound weight class. Aside from Ferris, only two other Mustangs went the distance in their matches: fittingly, it was the seniors McDonough (160 pounds) and O'Donnell (170). Neither one



Mike McDonough, left, is honored by Coach Phil Mastro during the Norwood wrestling team's senior night festivities.

was pinned in the duration of their six-minute matches, but still came up short.

"I told them before they came out here: the guy that gets the first takedown will win the match, guarantee it," said head

coach Phil Mastro after the meet.

"Christian was the only one on our team that got the first take down," Mastro pointed out. "Everyone else got taken down first. You can't get taken

down by Natick. You can't.

"You need to cut them off at the legs. You have to literally and physically just beat them. Show them that you're there to wrestle, and show them that this isn't a joke to you. And

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Christian was the only one that did that," said Mastro.

O'Donnell was facing his opponent, Nick Tessler, for the third time in his career. Tessler owns a 3-0 record vs. O'Donnell, but Mastro projects O'Donnell will have at least one more chance to get over the hump in sectionals.

"Unfortunately, JJ has a tougher route now," explained Mastro. "He'll get the 2-seed. The CM kid will be the 3-seed.

"And when he beats the CM kid in the semifinals, which he will do, he'll go against this kid [Tessler] again," said Mastro. The coach also said that the two could face off after that even, in states, and possibly even all-states if all goes according to plan.

Norwood also had a quad-meet on Saturday, where they wrestled against Duxbury, Chelmsford and Brockton, going winless.

This week, the Mustangs face Walpole on the road this afternoon at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, they host Minuteman and Lexington in a tri-meet. And on Tuesday, they have their final regular season meet on the road vs. Dedham at 5 p.m.

Playoffs *continued from page 9*

show up and win.' That's just not a good approach, ever.

"We finally figured it out, we did enough to win. We scored in the 60s, which is good," said DaLuz. The nine-point win was the smallest margin of victory during Norwood's winning streak. The Mustangs (60.9) are one of two teams in the Bay State Conference averaging over 60 points per game (PPG), with No. 1-ranked Braintree averaging 65.6 PPG in the Carey Division.

Reen cleared the 20-point mark again in Friday night's 57-30 win vs. Milton, in which the Mustangs avenged their first loss of the season to the Wildcats back on Dec. 22. Norwood used a 20-3 run in the second quarter to doom Milton.

It was Reen's second straight game of 20-plus points

after topping the threshold just once in her previous 13 games this season. Over the last four games, she's averaging a healthy 21.3 PPG.

Norwood has six games left in the regular season, two of them this week. Ursuline paid a

visit to Norwood High School on Wednesday, a game held after the Record's deadline. On Friday night, the Mustangs travel to Wellesley (10-4) for a Bay State-Herget Division showdown. The Herget race is still four teams deep, with Natick, Walpole, Norwood and Wellesley all separated by one game in the standings.



Krista Bradley takes the floor during a Mustangs win earlier this season.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Boys Hoops *continued from page 9*

The teams entered the fourth quarter tied at 43-43 apiece.

An exciting fourth quarter featured two ties and five lead changes within the first five minutes of the quarter. With 1:50 to go, Milton sank a crucial 3 to make it a four-point game, 57-53.

Bell missed a pair of free throws on the ensuing offensive possession for Norwood, but was bailed out by a shot clock violation against the Wildcats. Again, the Mustangs couldn't capitalize, as they turned the ball over on the ensuing possession.

Trailing by six with 35 seconds left, Bell sank a layup to get back within four. Norwood immediately fouled, sending Milton to the line in a one-and-one situation. The Wildcat shooter missed the front end, but when the rebound fell right back into Milton hands, that all but iced the game.

"We came out pretty hot

to start the game," said Oliver following the game.

"They made a run in the first half, we withstood it, went into halftime with a lead. And ultimately, we just didn't have answers offensively when we needed a couple of buckets.

"We couldn't keep them off the boards. It felt like they had as many chances as they wanted. If they wanted to get an offensive rebound, they did. And that ultimately kind of decided it, coming down the stretch we couldn't get anything going because we couldn't get any offensive possessions," said Oliver.

Norwood has a full slate of games this week. They host Archbishop Williams tonight at 6:30 p.m. in a makeup game originally scheduled for Jan. 27, and host Wellesley on Friday night, also at 6:30 p.m. An additional makeup game may be added on to Monday thanks to this week's snowstorm.

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The Record Book *continued from page 8*

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NORFOLK LIONS YOUTH SOCCER SPRING 2015 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Norfolk Lions Youth Soccer (NLYS) invites players age 3 (as of Sept. 1, 2014) through high school to register for their Spring 2015 season today. You do not have to live in Norfolk to join in the fun! To register, please visit the newly designed website at: www.norfolkliionsoccer.com. If you have any questions, please contact info@norfolkliionsoccer.com or 508-528-8015.

2015 WINTER CONCERT SERIES AT NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

On Sundays, from 2 to 4 p.m. Winter Concerts series. Located at Norwood High School, 245 Nichols St.

Feb. 8: Roy Scott Big Band, Feb. 15: Dan Gabel and the Abletones, Feb. 22 Tom Nutile Big Band. Admission is FREE. All are WELCOME.

15TH ANNUAL EARLY CHILDHOOD FAIR

"A Morning of Fun for Preschoolers" on Saturday, Feb. 7, Preschool Activities & Crafts, Jungle Jim - Balloon Sculptor, Music with Miss Tina. Crafts & Activities from 10-11 a.m. Music with Miss Tina from 11 to 11:45 a.m. F.A. Cleveland Elementary School, 33 George F. Willett Parkway, Norwood. All activities are free! There is NO pre-registration required for this event. If you have any questions please call Christine Tomasello at Norwood Public Schools - (781) 440-5983 or by e-mail ctomasello@norwood.k12.ma.us

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2015-2016

Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent

of Schools, is pleased to announce that the Norwood Public Schools is beginning its Kindergarten registration. During the week of Feb. 2 - Feb. 6, kindergarten registration will be held at the George F. Willett Early Childhood Center, 100 Westover Parkway, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the evening of Thursday, Feb. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. It is very important that parents/guardians register their child during this week. In order to be eligible for kindergarten in September 2015, a child must be five (5) years old on or before, Aug. 31, 2015.

NORWOOD RETIRED MEN'S NEWS

The February meeting for the Norwood Retired Men's Club will be held at the Norwood Knights of Columbus Hall, at noon, on Tuesday, Feb. 10. It will be the 15th annual Valentine Dinner Dance. A choice between stuffed chicken breast or baked haddock for the entree. John Rampino will provide the music for your dining and dancing pleasure. The price is \$30 per paid up members and their guests. For information or tickets call George

Wallace at 781-326-9273 or E-Mail leftywally@aol.com. The deadline is Friday, Jan. 30. Jim Schmidt 781-769-2442 weanone@norwoodlight.com

WILLETT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

For September Enrollment 2015-2016 School Year. Looking for 4-year-old Peer Role Models! Three days per week, noon to 2:30 p.m. \$265 per month. Four days per week noon to 2:30 p.m. \$320 per month. Peer Role Models must: reside in Norwood, be toilet trained, may not have any identified special needs. Demonstrate strong English Language Skills. Applications online or at the Willett School.

NRMC VALENTINE PARTY

The 12th annual Valentine's Day Dinner Dance will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 10, the second Tuesday of the month. Those interested in signing up may do so at the December meeting but the price and place of the event are still up in the air at the time of this writing. We hope to have all the information at the meeting.

Community Service Directory

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Call Susan at 781-769-1725
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SALE DATES: Thurs. Feb. 5-Feb. 11, 2015

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Spend \$50 or more on **CLOTHING** AND GET A \$25 **CRAZY DEAL Gift Card** FREE!***

** Excludes hats, gloves, scarves, belts, ties, socks, slippers, shoes, boots.

Generators & Snowshoes!



New shipments arriving! Check your local store for prices & availability!

Ocean State JOB LOT

STORE HOURS: Mon-Sat 8am-9pm; Sunday 9am-8pm



Wild Bird Seed
50 lb Black Oil Sunflower Seed **\$25**
Our Reg. \$29.99
25 lb Nyjer Thistle Seed **\$25**
25 lb Signature Blend **\$23**
20 lb Country Mix **8.50**
1 lb Wild Bird Seed Bell **\$2**
Wildbird Feeders **\$3**
• Use with mixed or nyjer seed
Suet Cakes **\$1**

Garant® 18" Poly Snow Shovel **\$13**
Snowbrush & Ice Scraper **\$3**

7-Fin Oil Filled Radiator White or black Thermostat. Comp. \$49.99 **Our Reg. \$40**
\$30
6 Element Infrared Quartz Heater Heats 1800 sq. ft. Comp. \$199 **Our Reg. \$139**
\$119

Infrared Quartz Tower Comp. \$199 **Our Reg. \$149**
\$99
8 Element Infrared Quartz Heater Comp. \$249 **Our Reg. \$159**
\$139

All Comforters **20% OFF**

Silky Touch or Velvet Plush Blankets
Twin **\$18** Full/Queen **\$22** King **\$25**
Microplush Twin **\$15** Full/Queen **\$18** King **\$20**

Ice Melt New shipments arriving! Check your local store for price & availability
3 Qt Scoop Comp. \$6.99 **2.99**

rain-X 2-in-1 De-Icer with Bug Remover Windshield Wash Effective to -25F **3.49**
2.99 Windshield Wash De-Icer
1.99 Windshield Wash
brands may vary by store

All Stove Heaters Comp. \$119 **Our Reg. \$89**
\$79

Comfort Zone™ Oscillating Ceramic Heater Comp. \$39.99 **\$25**

Biddeford® Microplush Heated Blankets Comp. \$50-\$90
Twin **\$30** Full **\$40**
Queen **\$45** King **\$50**
Slight irregulars

Scraper Entrance Mats Needle-punch
2'x 3' **\$6** 26" x 60" **\$8**
20" x 60" **\$7** 3'x 4' **\$10**

MOTOR TREND
Booster Cables 16', 6 gauge Comp. \$29.99 **14.99**
50% SAVINGS

Peak • Rain-X • Trico Wiper Blades
Comp. \$16.95 **2.99-5.99**

Ripstopper™ Industrial Tarps
8'x10' **8.19** 10'x20' **20.49** 12'x25' **30.69**
10'x12' **12.29** 12'x16' **19.69** 16'x20' **32.79**
20'x30' **61.49** 25'x40' **101.99**
20'x40' **81.99** 30'x50' **129.99**

Enviro Log Firelog 5 lb. • 3 hour burn
Enviro-Log
\$13 CASE of 6
Single Log **\$2.99**

Snow Zone 38" Snow Tube **9.99**
35" x 22.5" Kiddie Pull Snow Sled **9.99**
54" Snow Go **9.99**
57" x 33" Slalom Racer **12.99**

Premium Rubber Door Mats By Mohawk & Apache Mills
18" x 30" Comp. \$15 **\$7**
2' x 3' Comp. \$25 **\$10**
3' x 4' Comp. \$40 **\$12**
3' x 5' Comp. \$50 **\$15**

Mens Technical Thermal Underwear Tops or Bottoms Wicks moisture, quick drying. Comp. \$24 **\$7**
Ladies Premium Single layer jersey knit polyester/spandex. Comp. \$30 **\$10**

Famous Sports Label Men's Active Pants Cotton/Spandex OR **Mens' & Ladies Fleece Lounge Pants** Comp. \$24 & more **\$8** YOUR CHOICE

29.99 Famous Maker Winter Jackets Comp. \$80-\$200
\$20 Sweater & Plush Fleece Jackets Comp. \$80

Men's & Ladies PJ Sets Comp. \$24-\$40 **\$10**

Men's & Ladies Sweaters Comp. \$30-\$70 **\$10**

Winter Scarves Comp. \$25 or more **\$5**
Mens & Ladies Hats Find in ski shops, resorts & more! **\$5**
Bomber & Peruvian Hats Lots of styles - unisex styling Some wool blends Comp. \$30 **\$10**

Famous Brand Leggings Discontinued styles Basics & Corduroy OR **Fleece Lined Tights & Leggings** Comp. \$7.99-\$16 **\$5** YOUR CHOICE
Silver Fox Wool Thermal Socks Comp. \$7.99 **2.99**

Famous Maker Ladies Casual Pants **15**
Famous Maker Ladies Jeans **15**

JUST ARRIVED! Comp. \$48-\$54 Your Choice **\$15**

Indian Tapestry Rugs
30" x 48" Comp to \$40 **\$15**
3' x 5' Comp to \$60 **\$25**
5' x 7' Comp to \$150 **\$60**
7' x 10' Comp to \$300 **\$125**
8' x 10' Comp to \$350 **\$150**

2 Pk Premium Window Panels Textured Jacquard, Insulated, Faux Silk & more! PAIR **\$12**

WILSON® FOOTBALLS We don't know if they are properly inflated... but the price is right!
Mini Comp. \$14.99 **7.99** K2 Composite Comp. \$23.99 **9.99**
Spiral Comp. \$14.99 **7.99** TDJ Junior Comp. \$29.99 **12.99**

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4 Shelf Seed Starting Greenhouse 63"Hx19"Dx27"W **\$20**

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Ladies Swimwear 5 Department Store Labels Comp. \$50-\$100 **15**

JUMBO BED PILLOW **SAVINGS 75%**
Comp. \$40 **\$10**
Tencel Fiber Jumbo Pillow Organic fiber made from eucalyptus trees Gusseted

Fleece, Pintuck, Platinum or Famous Designer Microfiber Sheet Sets
Twin **\$12** Full **\$15**
Queen **\$18** King **\$20**

29" Swivel Bar Stool Microfiber cushion Easy assembly Comp. \$30 **\$20**
OR **72" Wooden Coat Rack** 2" diameter Espresso finish Comp. \$49.99 **YOUR CHOICE: \$20**
68" Coat Rack Comp. \$30 **\$15**

Shoe/Boot & Glove Dryer Comp. \$40 **\$20**
2 Pair Boot & Glove Dryer Comp. \$60 **\$40**

Commercial Quality 3 Piece Rain Suit Small - 6 XL Comp. \$30 **\$10**

21" Carry-on with Inline Skate Wheels Comp. \$39.99 **\$25**
24" Expandable w/ Spinner Wheels Comp. \$49.99 **\$30**
28" Expandable w/ Spinner Wheels Comp. \$59.99 **\$35**
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