

He took it to the streets Chief Brooks' tenure concluding this month

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

When you walk into the Norwood Public Safety Building to see Chief William Brooks III, or if you see him just strolling along Washington Street, one thing you might notice is his boots.

"Spit shined, every day," he said.

Shined to mirror quality, Brooks takes his boots out for walks just about every day. According to the Chief, nothing is more important than bringing the police to the people.

"Because I was appointed in February but wasn't going to start until May, I had time to do a lot of thinking and to make decisions," he said. "The first was that I was going to work in a patrol uniform every day. And any day that I could I was going to do at least an hour of foot patrol. I just wanted to be available to the public if they needed anything or if they had a question to ask. And that's just really taken off.

"I'm supposed to get off duty at four o'clock, but I never get home before six, and lots of time at 5 o'clock I'm in the center of Town and people just go by, toot and wave, and I can recognize half of them because I've gotten to know so many people here and have such friendships and relationships with everyone," he said. "All officers here on all shifts are expected to do a foot patrol at some point during their shift. Even the midnight shift



Chief Brooks said he's always believed in getting out and about in the Town, including during a solar eclipse.

PHOTO BY NPD

goes out to CVS and then to a gas station or a hotel. The day shift goes to elementary schools in the morning and then does additional foot patrols, perhaps in the business district, public housing, or when baseball season starts to the fields, and so I think people relate to us in a lot of different settings. It's a foundation that's been healthy for the department and the Town. And I know that will continue."

And it has, at least a few times, led to extremely positive outcomes.

"I had one guy come up to me and say, 'Hey Chief! There's speeding on my street!.' I said, 'Where do you live?' He told me and then I told him, 'By the time you get home today there will be radar in front of your house.' Next time I saw him he was

laughing saying 'There was radar in front of my house.' Yeah, so if you have a problem, let me know. We may not be able to fix it right away but we will work on it."

Another time, Brooks said a resident informed him of a more serious matter, this time concerning a possible overdose.

"And I got there around the same time the radio car got there. He was behind one of the buildings near the center of Town," he said, adding they were able to administer help right away.

Brooks grew up next to the Westwood Police Chief and was friends with the chief's

Chief Brooks

Continued on page 4



Impact Norwood hosts a variety of events for kids and parents, including the annual Dodgeball Tournament with Norwood Recreation.

FILE PHOTO

Impact Norwood tackling substance abuse and mental health

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Impact Norwood organization has been looking to confront youth substance abuse and mental health for 10 years now, and Program Director Conor Brosnan said the organization has been making an impression.

"Our goal is to lower the rates of youth substance use in our community, but moreover I think just kind of really providing our youth a space in the community where they can grow in a healthy manner, be involved and fulfill their wellness," he said. "That's kind of the goal anyone has for any person I guess, but we're focused on kids. We really want to give

them an opportunity to be the best version of themselves and provide them a healthy environment to do that."

The group was founded in 2014 with the help of Norwood Police Department Chief William Brooks and former Norwood Health Department Director Sigalle Reiss to address the opioid crisis. Youth mental health has been a growing concern during the last 10 years – and there have been numerous studies linking mental health and stress to substance use – and the effects of the pandemic have really ramped up those stressors. Brosnan said the group has

Impact Norwood
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Dozens of residents came by for the 18th annual Norwood Art in Bloom at the library this weekend.

PHOTO BY KWOT ANWEY

Norwood artists bloom

Kwot Anwey
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Evening Garden Club (NEGC), in collaboration with Norwood High School and Walpole High School, held the 18th annual Norwood Art in Bloom event last weekend at the Morrill Memorial Library. Bridging the gap between floral design — typically by NEGC members — and young artists, the event displayed artwork by students of the schools alongside floral designs by members of the club.

"It's just a win-win-win right across the line," said Art in Bloom Co-Chair, Lois

Walsh. "This gives us practice on floral design; it's a creative exercise for an individual, just in general...and then of course, the students get their art highlighted. They feel special that their art has been selected; it's a good way to show the art that is being produced at the high schools. It's wonderful for the library, it brings people in here. It's just a great all over community event."

The Norwood Evening Garden Club, founded in 1996 with the goal of supporting home gardening and natural resource conservation, sponsored the event alongside a supporting grant from the Norwood Cul-

tural Council. Twenty of the roughly 50 members of the club picked at random from a hat which art piece they'd interpret through their displays. Utilizing their creativity to the best of their abilities, they had a month to plan how to showcase their understanding of the work.

Students from Norwood High School and Walpole High School in various classes got chosen by their teachers to be in the show. Each school selected 10 pieces to feature, taking into account factors like color palette, quality of work

Art in Bloom
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Art in Bloom *continued from page 1*

and diversity of the work they put into the show, resulting in 20 total featured artists and floral designs.

Roughly two days before the art show, designers gathered materials – either by making a trek out to Boston to floral vendors, by going to one of the two local florists in Norwood, or by ordering online – and snipped and conditioned their flowers to prevent them from going bad. The day before the show, designers assemble their displays, and the day of, the gallery is set up at 8 a.m., replacing floral pieces on a need basis through-

out the weekend.

Donna Lane, Co-Founder of the club, and Ann Malachowski, former art director of Norwood Public Schools, began the show nearly two decades ago. The two took inspiration from the Boston Art in Bloom show held for the past 48 years by the Museum of Fine Arts, also showcasing art pieces and their complementary floral arrangement. Since the founding of the Norwood show, pieces have only gotten more elaborate from all types of show contributors.

“The art teachers are be-

coming much more selective in what they give us,” said Lane. “We have certain requirements and they’ve been giving us better artwork year after year. So the students are really excited when they’re artwork gets picked to come in and see what we did with it.”

Stepping up the twisted library staircase and heading to the right, an info table about the gallery was run by members of the club in maroon gardening aprons. Viewers were immediately greeted by two different pieces of art, giving a taste of what the gallery had to offer.

Upon entering into the reserved room on the second floor – which was intentionally kept cooler than the rest of the library to prevent flower wilting – the work of the artists, their artist statements, the botanical display and a list of the botanical and common plant names were placed on display tables on the edges and in the very center of the space. Spectators walked around the room, pondering each individual work and drawing parallels between it and its companion.

From photography and graphic design work, to sculptures and paintings, there was something at the art show for everyone; floral designers utilized everything down to mirrored containers, peacock feathers, and bended wire to



Artist submissions included paintings, sculptures and any kind of media students could come up with to pair with floral arrangements.

PHOTO BY KWOT ANWEY



The 20 Norwood and Walpole high school students shined at the event showcasing their work.

PHOTO BY KWOT ANWEY

bring specific aspects of the pieces to life, calling to the forefront details viewers would not have seen otherwise.

“What I find exciting about every year is there’s something that I don’t notice in a piece, and then when they enter reinterpreting the flowers, there’s always something I didn’t see that they pull out,” said Norwood 6-12 Visual Arts Department Chair, Laurie Mead-McGrory. “So there’s something always exciting about someone taking your work and interpreting it, it’s totally different media.”

With bursts of excitement each time high school artists

showed up to the event, students got to see the design for the first time while floral designers got a chance to meet the creators of their given piece and discuss their own analysis. The event served as a sight of learning for local residents to learn more about both their local youth art programs and an active community club.

“Anytime that you get that collaboration, where the community and the school are coming together, I think it enriches [the community], because I think then people get to see what’s happening in the schools, and then the schools also get to see what’s happening in the community,” said Mead-McGrory.

The Norwood Evening Garden Club is planning on having one of their biggest events of the year, a plant sale, on May 11 from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. Norwood Public Schools and Walpole Public Schools will be having their district-wide art shows on April 26 and May 1, respectively.

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Selectmen discuss potential timeline for Stormwater fee

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday night and discussed the proposed stormwater fee.

Town Manager Tony Mazzucco presented a possible timeline for the proposed fee to deal with the Town's aging stormwater infrastructure. He said whether or not the Board and the Town decides to go forward with the plan, it's best to start working on it now so the Town can implement it as soon as it is approved. He said one of the first steps is to set up an enterprise fund so the Town can legally start collecting the fee in the next fiscal year.

Selectmen have yet to vote to establish the stormwater fee. Mazzucco's plan assumes that happens in May, and should that happen the enterprise fund could potentially be approved during the May Town Meeting. Then in August, the Board could set the fee which will be used to fund several upcoming stormwater infrastructure projects that were recommended but never implemented in the 2004 Meadowbrook study.

Selectman Michael Saad said the process was being rushed.

"We've got Hennessey Field; folks are up in arms down there, and there are a lot of variables for this project, and we haven't had any flooding in the last year or six months after heavy rains," he said. "I just think we're rushing here and taxing people who have been taxed out already. It just seems like a crazy project for a crazy idea, and I think the people of Hennessey Field deserve some time. We need a public hearing, and it shouldn't be online, it shouldn't be on Facebook or on the computer. It should be at Memorial Hall or the high school. These people are going to be really affected at Hennessey Field, and for us to go in and say, 'We're going to put a retention pond in your backyard,' it doesn't make sense to me."

The last public hearing for the Hennessey Field project was in the fall and held at the Norwood High School Paul Alberta Memorial Hall. For The Record's coverage of this meeting, go to <https://tinyurl.com/54t45my9>.

Selectman Amanda Grow said she's seen problems with the recent rains.

"A point of information; living down in that neighborhood, the sump pumps haven't

stopped running," she said. "I want to make clear that, already, water is an issue and with one bad storm we've got four feet of water in the basement. This isn't a future theoretical problem. The water is there now."

Mazzucco said delays in the preparation would greatly increase delays in implementation down the line, and also pointed out that the Hennessey Field project is still in the design phase and has a lot more public input and approvals needed before it goes forward. Selectman Bob Donnelly wants to bring in Department of Public Works Director Mark Ryan to speak to the need. It should also be pointed out that the design work for the basin is being funded with a state grant of about \$432,000. The Town has stated previously that it is looking to use \$8 million of American Rescue Plan Act monies to partially fund the actual work. However, the remaining projected \$32 million for the rest of the stormwater improvements will have to be paid for with more conventional means, likely through capital projects and, if implemented, the Stormwater Fee.

The Town is hosting a survey on the Hennessey project now seeking resident input on what they want to see in the design at tinyurl.com/HennesseyField. There will also be a meeting on the design of the project on April 25 at 6 p.m. at the Norwood Senior Center.

In other business, Mazzucco said work at the Norwood Hospital is starting again by the land owner, Medical Properties Trust, but only to essentially close off what's there to avoid damages.

"Some work will begin again in the next few weeks as MPT is going to – as far as we've been told – at least seal off the building, finish the roof and do some exterior work," he said. "They want to make sure the roof isn't damaged and make sure there's no damage to the work that's already been done. They're doing that in preparation or anticipation of the hospital being sold to potentially a new owner." And he made clear that there have been no updates on any sale of the property that he's aware of.

Also at the meeting, Assistant Town Planner Holly Jones and Metropolitan Area Planning Council representatives Martin Pillsbury and Rhodoshi Sinha discussed proposed changes to the Town's Haz-

ard Mitigation Plan, which the federal government recommends updating every five years. For the current draft, go to <https://tinyurl.com/ym3tnmdx>

The Board also voted 4-0, with Grow abstaining, to deny a request from Peter Morrissey for the Town's last remaining All-Alcohol serving license for the Sixties Diner. The two main reasons voiced explaining the denial was that Morrissey wanted to serve brunch alcohol before the Town's 8 a.m. limit (Selectman Bill Plasko said the Board also has discretion to limit alcohol serving between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. and rarely if ever has had anything before 11 a.m.) and the fact that a previous applicant for the liquor license has appealed the Board's previous decision to deny, so the license may end up not being available for quite some time.

Morrissey indicated he may try to combine his current license he holds for the Boston Tavern, located right next door, with the diner. He also appeared disgruntled with the Board's decision.

"I'll say I'm shocked going out the door," he said. "Thank you for hearing me."



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OPINION

Another override is inevitable

For those of our readers frustrated with the seemingly endless requests for more money by your elected officials, as the old saying goes... 'You ain't seen nuthin yet!'

Anyone who had a chance to watch the March 27 School Committee meeting has a pretty good idea of how bad things are. The term "fiscal cliff" was used to opine about the future money the schools will be required to spend and, quite frankly, that term downplays the future potential horror. And if you're wondering how all of the last override money was spent and where all the supplemental pandemic money went, well, there isn't enough room in this column to detail it. Just know that it's all gone.

Why are the schools, and therefore the Town, in such a bad fiscal position? It's too easy to blame the School Committee. And though arguments could be made that perhaps some unnecessary or wasteful

spending occurred, the reality is those dollars amount to a hill of beans when considering the budget as a whole. The real blame should be attributed to the state legislature and Norwood's own Town Meeting, the former including your representatives John Rogers and Michael Rush, the latter including any TM members who supported and continue to support the expansion of Norwood's multi-unit housing stock. The schools are already feeling the impacts by continual increases in spending for Special Education and English Language Learning students including 28 FTE's just for those two line items. The Balch alone already has a 57 percent population of students with English as a second lan-

guage. Imagine what it will be like when 3A and other currently approved housing are constructed. And let's not forget the immigrants continuing to pour into Town.

Should Rush, Rogers, et al continue to support Massachusetts as a 'Sanctuary State' the walls of Norwood's schools will be bursting at the seams, literally, because the current elementary schools have no more room; students are already occupying the hallways and other open areas in some schools. These foreign and domestic migrants as the school committee refers to them shoulder no blame and are deserved of everything all other children are afforded here. They're kids and they have to be taken care of, but when does it end? And

if you're counting on the state to continue to fund these new arrivals, stop being so naïve. Just as 3A Housing became an unfunded mandate as opposed to its original 'guidelines' moniker, the additional funding currently being provided to educate and transport these new arrivals will most certainly cease. Cities and towns will be left holding the bag when the state realizes what a fiscal disaster their Welcome Mat has created.

Here is a sobering reality. The current School Committee budget to be requested at Town Meeting hovers around \$61 million. By the schools' own estimates the budget will climb by millions of dollars within the next two years. Where does that money come

from? Certainly not from the Town's 'Free Cash' account which is already dangerously low. And certainly not from the state's Chapter 70 funding since they have already decided to increase reimbursements to cities and towns by only 1.3 percent adjusted for inflation. The national inflation rate is 3.3 percent, and is even higher in Massachusetts. There should be zero expectation that the state will step up.

At best, Norwood students will be paying a lot of money to play sports, take part in other after school activities (assuming said activities are still available) or, God forbid, have to take the bus. And the days of the schools being able to cover the fees for those unable to pay are likely over. And speaking of bussing, forget about choosing a neighborhood based on what you may consider to be a better fit for your elementary

Opinion

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Chief Brooks *continued from page 1*

children. His experience with the family led him to his career.

"I actually took my exam here in Norwood, though I started with Westwood Police, and I became a police officer my senior year in college," he said, noting he started with no police education or experience. "I had no business being a cop. I had no idea what I was doing. Back then, you could work before you went to the academy – it's not that way anymore – but the chief had a rule that I couldn't go out by myself, and it was a great rule. I got to ride with a lot of experienced police officers who showed me the ropes."

Brooks said one anecdote that comes to mind was when he was driving himself and his sergeant to a call. "I was with a guy who became a good friend of mine, Bobby O'Donnell, and I was driving and I think he whacked me on the shoulder and said, 'Slow down! We've got to get there first!'" he said with a laugh. "I learned a lot of little lessons like that."

During his time in Westwood he started working with George DeBlasi, who would go on to become the Norwood Police Chief.

"When I was brand new, I was riding with him and he said, 'Oh, so you're going to have a college degree in criminal justice?' I said yeah. Then he asked, 'But do you know your arrest authority?' I said, 'No, they don't teach that in college.' Maybe they do now but they didn't then. It was like a rolling classroom with him."

Brooks said his first impression of Norwood was influenced by comparing it to Westwood. At the time Westwood was a dry town (no alcohol-selling businesses) which as a result, possibly led to less crime.

"Norwood had more crime, not a lot of crime mind you, but more than I was used to in Westwood," he said.

Brooks followed DeBlasi from Westwood to Norwood about a year after DeBlasi became the Chief in November of 1981.

"He showed up at my house and asked me if I was still interested in the move, and I was," he said.

In 1985, Brooks was promoted to Sergeant, and then six months later promoted to Detective Sergeant, a position he worked for 14 years.

"Certainly one of my favorite positions," he said. "We created NorPAC (Norfolk County Police Anti-Crime Task Force), and that's been around for 37 years now."

He said the task force helps to facilitate instances where jurisdictions can blur a bit in the pursuit of drug offenders. This allows officers, for example, to follow a drug deal from the point of sale to its final destination, as locations may not be in the same municipality.

"Knock on wood; we've existed since 1987 and we've never had a subject or citizen hurt," he said. "The greatest injury to an officer was an ankle injury, which I think is a good record for a drug task force."

Brooks said most of what you might see on TV or movies isn't based in reality, it's more for the amusement of audiences.

"I'm not going to get into all the tactics we use, but this idea of knocking down doors and screaming at people and running through their homes? We just don't operate that way," he said. "We execute search warrants in a very tactful manner, and a lot of drug trafficking involves cars and vehicle take downs, and again we'd do that in ways you won't see on TV. We do it safely so that nobody gets hurt. Car chases aren't necessary. Again without getting into all the details, there are ways to do our jobs without that."

Brooks worked on several interesting cases, including with federal agencies to set up reverse sting operations. He said a reverse sting is when a law enforcement agency pretends to be a drug seller and sets up a drug transaction with a prospective dealer.

"The DEA, well back then it was U.S. Customs and Enforcement, controlled some loads of cocaine brought into Norwood Airport," he said. "They were multi-kilo reverse stings where an agent would pose as a dealer, and a drug trafficker would arrive at the airport to buy the drugs. We would let him see the kilo, and when the money was presented to buy the drugs we'd arrest them."

A large load of cocaine from Columbia was brought into Norwood Airport in a similar operation.

"They'd fly it into Norwood Airport – and again, completely controlled by the federal government – and we're talking hundreds of kilos of cocaine coming in," he said. "The case is old now and those people involved have been convicted, but the purpose was to act as the transportation link for drug traffickers and draw out organized crime figures from the Northeast to come out and pick up their cocaine."

He said the overall federal operation made several arrests here in Massachusetts as part of this operation, as well as New York, New Jersey and Miami.

"That was an interesting experience, just being out there on the strip at 2 a.m. with other plainclothes officers acting as a transportation crew and watching this Gulfstream come in low and land," he said. "That was just an exciting time and Customs was great to work with. Again, it's not like they portray on TV."

Brooks added that the task force leader was actually a Norwood native, and that all those involved really worked as



Brooks always took an opportunity to take photos with residents, including here at Veterans Day last year with vet Bill McCarthy.

PHOTO BY NPD

a team during the operations. "Everybody worked together, it wasn't like, 'Those guys are feds, those guys are stacies,' it wasn't like that. Everybody worked as a team," he said. "It was awesome. I mean there were guys on that team that I worked with where we didn't find out what agency they were with until we made the arrest and they were wearing shields around their necks."

Brooks expressed disappointment that they were not able to solve the 1989 cold case of Susan Simoni. Simoni was found murdered behind the Walpole Mall, but since she was originally reported missing from Norwood, the NPD took an active role in the case.

"It's never been solved and I have strong opinions about it," he said. "It still comes up in conversation around here. Since then, other people involved in the case have passed away, and it kind of haunts me that we haven't solved it."

However, in another important case, Brooks said they were able to use DNA evidence to keep Martin Guy locked up indefinitely after the evidence showed he killed

two people: Christopher Payne and Irene Kennedy. "At the end of it all, we learned that he killed Christopher Payne here in Norwood, right by the Post Office, and his DNA linked him to a murder at Bird Park in Walpole."

In terms of the future, Brooks said he has full confidence in recently-promoted Chief Chris Padden, who will take his oath of office on May 1 at the Norwood Memorial Hall.

"Deputy Chief Padden in the role of Chief will be great," Brooks said. "He and I are on the same page. We don't always agree going into a conversation, but we always come out agreeing and we manage by consensus. I said to someone the other day, 'You're not going to miss me; you won't even notice I'm gone,' because I think the way the department operates now will continue. And the people coming up behind him in the ranks are just great people. Our officers are just very service-oriented; they're friendly, respectful, they handle themselves well, and I'm confident they can handle anything."

Progress Norwood prepping for rain barrels and Earth Day

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The local advocacy group Progress Norwood is preparing for this year's Earth Day, once again selling rain barrels to help residents conserve water while decreasing their water bill and at the same time improving stormwater management.

Progress Norwood Earth Day Organizer Katie Neal-Rizzo said the barrels are for sale at <https://tinyurl.com/yefyernn> for about \$145. She currently owns two.

"I have two, one on either side of the house opposite where my hose is, so I'm able to water two other corners of my yard," she said. "And it gives water another place to go rather than just draining out onto the pavement."

Neal-Rizzo said it's a great way to accumulate water, and Progress Norwood is happy to help.

"It's been about four years since we started doing it, and every time we make a sale more often than not people come back for more of them or their neighbors come to us after seeing the barrels in use," she said. "So we'll keep offering them. We don't make any money off



Time is running out to get your rain barrel this year.

COURTESY PHOTO

of it; we buy in bulk so residents can get a discount."

Neal-Rizzo said they can really help keep your lawn and garden nice and green.

"Especially during summers when we have a drought, like the one a couple of years ago," she said. "It helps to cut down on water use, so it's good for the environment and your water bill."

Neal-Rizzo added if you'd like to have a bit more water pressure for the barrel, then there's an easy fix.

"If you want more water pressure, you just have to raise it a few feet off the ground,"

she said. "We had folks putting them on cinder blocks, while others make stands for them. The higher the barrels are the better the water pressure is."

According to Neal-Rizzo, the barrels were originally used for olive oil transporting, so the rain water in them is safe for vegetable gardens.

"It's food-grade, BPA-free plastic materials," she said. "And it's a good way to keep those barrels out of the landfill also."

The deadline to order a barrel is April 14 by midnight. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/yefyernn> for information on how to or-

der. In related news, Earth Day is coming up on April 21 with events like community cleanups starting at 10 a.m. all over Town and culminates with the Community Picnic and Fair at 11:30 a.m. Neal-Rizzo said all the community favorites will be returning this year for the fair.

"We will have live music from Joe Hart, who runs Celebrate Norwood and works for

Band Gig," she said. "His students will also be playing, and Ben Holdley will also be doing some acoustic guitar."

Also this year, Charles River Running's Charlotte Firth is hosting Plogging, which is cleanup with a little more cardio.

"She invites runners to meet at the Town Common at 11:30 a.m. where they'll be greeted with bags and gloves. Participants will run along the route picking up trash as they go," she said. "So rather than just cleaning the greenspaces, this allows people to get in a run and do pickup at the same time. Those of us who are not into running can just go to the fair and listen to live music, visit the booths and have some food. They do a great job; the last time they did it they came back with over 10 bags of trash."

For the regular old, non-running cleanups this year, Neal-Rizzo said they're combining a crew at the Endean Park and

Earth Day

Continued on page 6

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.

—V.C.

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How Do Survivor Benefits Work for a Married Couple?

Dear Rusty: How does Social Security handle the death of one spouse? Say, for example, the husband receives \$2,000 per month in Social Security and his wife receives \$1,000 per month. How is the death of either spouse handled?

Signed:
Concerned spouse



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Concerned: Benefits to a deceased beneficiary stop as soon as Social Security (SS) is notified of the death (notification usually done by the funeral director who handles arrangements). Benefits are not paid for the month of death, only for the preceding month when the beneficiary was alive for the entire month.

A surviving spouse is entitled to the higher of two benefits – their own personally earned SS retirement benefit, or an amount based on the deceased spouse’s benefit at death. In the example you cite, and assuming the surviving spouse has reached full retirement age (FRA): if the husband dies first the wife will receive the husband’s \$2,000 monthly benefit instead of her previous \$1,000 amount. But if the wife died first, the husband would continue receiving only his \$2,000 monthly amount because that is more than his deceased wife was receiving. Note in either case, the surviving spouse would be entitled to a one-time lump sum “death benefit” of \$255.

The surviving spouse would need to contact Social Security to claim the “death benefit” and - unless the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit – also to claim the higher monthly amount, if eligible. If the surviving spouse was previously receiving only a spousal benefit from the deceased (and not entitled to SS retirement benefits on their own), then Social Security would automatically award their higher survivor amount when notified of the death.

If a surviving spouse has reached full retirement age (somewhere between 66 and 67 depending on year of birth) and is eligible for a

survivor benefit, the amount of the survivor benefit will be 100% of the deceased spouse’s benefit. But if the survivor claims the benefit before reaching FRA, the amount of the survivor benefit will be reduced (by 4.75% for each full year earlier). The survivor’s benefit reaches maximum at the survivor’s full retirement age.

If a surviving spouse has not yet reached their FRA, and if they are entitled to (not necessarily collecting) their own Social Security retirement benefit, the surviving spouse has the option to delay claiming the survivor benefit until it reaches maximum at their full retirement age. And if the survivor’s personal SS retirement benefit will ever be more than their maximum survivor benefit, the surviving spouse also has the option to claim only the smaller survivor benefit first and allow their personal SS retirement benefit to grow (to maximum at age 70 if desired).

With Social Security there is hardly ever a simple answer to a question but, in the example you use, if both are over their SS full retirement age:

- If the husband dies first, the wife will get 100% of the amount (\$2000) the husband was receiving, instead of the small amount (\$1000) she was previously receiving.
- If the wife dies first, the husband’s monthly benefit will remain at \$2000, and he will get no increase in his monthly amount.
- In either case, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a one-time lump sum death benefit of \$255.

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.



Hundreds of residents have pitched in to clean up their communities over the years, and this year is expected to be no different.

COURTESY PHOTO

Earth Day *continued from page 5*

Coakley Middle School because of the construction going on at the school. Other than that, the usual cleanup spots will be available and gloves and bags will be provided. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/yxxbmdrw> for a list of locations and to sign up for the cleanup.

Neal Rizzo said Impact Norwood, a youth substance

abuse advocacy group, will be auditing the trash they find for substance abuse indicators, which include everything from empty beer cans, discarded vapes, used needles and more.

“They’ll have that on display this year at the Impact Norwood Booth,” she said. “They did it a few years ago and so it will be interesting to see

how many single serving alcohol bottles and vapes will be collected.”

Neal-Rizzo said if it rains, the cleanups will still take place outside (unless you really, really need to get some spring cleaning done in your house, but that’s your business) but the fair will be moved inside at the Norwood High School Gymnasium.

Opinion *continued from page 4*

school child. Chances are good your children could be bused to the other side of Town due to overcrowding. Are we fearmongering? Just take a few hours and watch the meeting on Norwood Cable Access and judge for yourselves.

Norwood taxpayers should prepare for the likelihood of at least one override within two years to cover these astronomical school costs as well as be prepared to fund stormwater and flooding mitigation either through a water use tax (“fee” if it makes you feel better) or

an additional override should Town officials convince TM that immediate action is a must. Norwood’s enviable tax base can’t continue to grow at a rate sufficient to cover this mess. It’s going to get ugly and, unfortunately, most of the above is inevitable.

Retiree Appreciation Night

The Norwood Firefighters Local 1631 held its annual Retiree Appreciation Night recently at the Norwood VFW. Dozens of former and current firefighters came by to trade stories and catch up on what’s happening now and what happened back in the day. The event was on hiatus for the last few years, but Firefighter Eric Henry revived it for 2024. “Our fraternity/sorority is solid and the tradition continues!” stated the 1631. “We are already planning a bigger and better event for 2025!”

PHOTOS BY NFD



Impact Norwood *continued from page 1*

been seeing this in Norwood and has been working to help students cope with the “New Normal” we’re all finding ourselves in.

“Ever since COVID-19, a lot of the data we have – and this isn’t specific to Norwood or even Massachusetts, this is national –parents have a lot more stressors,” he said. “I don’t like to blame everything on COVID-19, but it did kind of set back kids socially and even educationally. There is a big lapse in schooling, and I think parents have been overwhelmed.”

The group hosts events with parents and students, as well as organizing the Youth Ambassador Program to get students out with materials to meet the kids where they are. Brosnan said they are also working with parents to host events and provide materials at other major events to educate more parents, for example, at youth sports venues.

“We understand how stressful it is to be a parent these days and the pressure they’re under,” he said. “We actually did an event last week called ‘Talk, they Hear You,’ which is really about having open and honest conversations with your kids. The research is showing that the younger you start having conversations with your kids about substance use and mental health, the better the outcomes are later in life. Some parents are starting to have these conversations with kids as young as

7 or 8 years old, and again, that’s what the data shows should be happening. This information that maybe you and I didn’t learn until high school, they’re viewing it much younger.”

Brosnan said mental health and substance use are irrevocably linked. “All the data shows there is a strong link between youth substance use and mental health concerns,” he said, “so the higher a youth’s anxiety and depression levels are, the more likely they are to use substances, now or in the future.”

Brosnan said there are five major tenants to guide what they do; education around the potential psychological and legal ramifications of substance use, raising awareness about substance use among youth, raising awareness of current trends of mental health and substance use in the community, promote healthy living and strengthening adult and youth relationships in the community.

The group has been at major events in Town, Norwood Day being the big one, and they’re also trying to host more unconventional sessions like ‘Unscheduled Night. It’s planned for next year with the Norwood Public Schools, the idea being to give parents and students a night where they can switch off for a while.

“It’s usually held between sports seasons, and there’s no homework given the night of and no test for the next day, and no

afterschool activities,” he said. “The idea is that the kids go home right after school and give the parents some ideas for family time. We might work with local businesses to give families a discount to purchase things or to go out for dinner. It’s not going to fix this issue of parents having limited time with their children, but it sends a message as a community that this is important to us; that family time, time with your guardians, grandparents, whoever it is who is raising you, that that’s a priority.”

Brosnan said they will also be meeting with the Parent Teacher Organizations at regular intervals, as well as setting up regular trips with the Youth Ambassadors to the Norwood Senior Center every other month or so. The idea is to share stories about growing up now versus in the past and how those challenges compare and contrast.

“It’s another way also to build relationships in the Town,” he said. “That’s coming up on April 18 at 10 a.m. I’ll also be presenting to the Norwood Board of Health on the 22nd at 10:30 a.m. too. We’ll be at the Earth Day Festival on the 21st, and we’ll be at the Multi-Lingual Fair on the 30th and we have another Coalition Meeting on May 30, but we haven’t figured out where we’re going to do at that one quite yet.”

For more information on Impact, go to <https://www.impactnorwood.org>

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Edward Paul, Sr., 86, of Norwood, son of the late Theresa and Angelo DiMartino, brother of the late Robert, passed away at home with his family early March 25 during the lunar eclipse. Beloved husband of Marjorie Spada for 62 years, devoted father of Lisa and son-in-law Kenneth Blakkan, Paul and daughter-in-

law Nancye Good, and loving grandfather to Jason DiMartino and Faye Iwata. Ed served in the US Air Force in Nagoya, Japan and Homestead, Florida, and had a long career in name brand retail, merchandising and sales. He loved canoeing, waterskiing, dirt biking, sailing... and being active in general. In retirement, he served for years as a member and officer of the Norwood Senior Center Retired Men's Club Bocce League. He was an avid gardener and a meticulous, crafty caretaker of his Italianesque home and garden. Ed prioritized family, was kind, generous, honest and caring, and loved by many. A private celebration of life is planned for a later date. In his memory donations may be sent to Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062. Arrangements by

Deaths

George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, Dedham.

KELLY

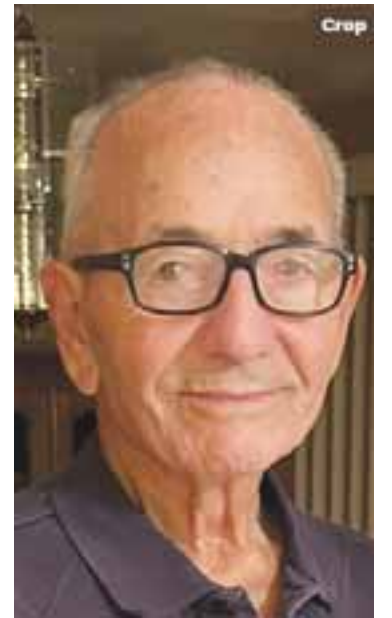


Janet M. (Hill) of Canton passed away on Sunday March 10, 2024 at age 95. Born in Boston she was the daughter of the late James J. and Julia A. (Fitzgerald) Hill. Janet lived most of her life in Newton and Norwood, moving to Cornerstone Assisted Living in Can-

ton in recent years. She was a member of the class of 1946 of Sacred Heart High School in Newton and went on to graduate with honors and as president of her class from Kathleen Dell Secretarial School. Janet worked for over 38 years as an Administrative Secretary for Boston College, in the Office of University Development. It was her life's work. Janet was the beloved wife of the late Stephen E. "Mike" Kelly, and the devoted mother of Stephanie and her late husband Barry J. O'Leary, Janis and her late husband Jack Springham, Stephen P. Kelly and his wife Jean, and Kerry and her husband Mark Gentile. She was the sister of the late June A. (Hill) Miller. Janet was the proud grandmother of Dacey and her husband Brian Wilson, Joseph D. O'Leary and his wife Natasha, Kelly Ann and her husband Joseph Theriault, Kerin O'Brien, Kristen Springham, Kevin Kelly and his wife Ali, James Kelly, Jillian Kelly and her partner Dave Bournazian, Nicholas Gentile and his wife Jaclynn, Breanna and her husband Sean Hartley, Nathan LeBlanc and his wife Jeannie, Emily LeBlanc, the late Michelle Amanda Gentile, great-grandmother of Ruby B. Wilson, Jordan LeBlanc, Luca and Gioia Gentile, Logan and Jackson Bournazian, Bailey and Gavin Hartley, and is survived by many nieces and nephews. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Margaret Mary Church, Westwood on Friday March 15. Interment was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Needham. Funeral arrangements were made with Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street, Norwood. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Janet's memory to the Rev. James A. Woods, S.J. College of Advancing Studies at Boston College.

wife Kelly of Tewksbury and Leah Robinson and her husband Mark of Walpole. Brother of Robert Nashawaty of KY and the late Richard Nashawaty (Killed in Action in Vietnam) and the late Barbara Nash. Cherished grandfather of Grace, Ava and Penelope. Son of the late Nicholas Nashawaty and Eileen (Gallagher) Prevost. Joe was a member of the Walpole Senior Center. He was also a member of the Pool Club at the senior center and was known as "Captain Joe". Joe was a US Marine Corps Veteran. A funeral mass was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 with a graveside service at the MA National Cemetery, Connery Blvd. Bourne, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306 www.t2t.org

SERRATORE



ANTHONY, of Norwood, passed away on April 4, 2024 at the age of 86. Beloved husband of the late Maria (Giampa) Serratore. Devoted father of Judy M. Thibeau of Norwood, Antoinette Burr and her husband Robert of ME and Joanne Consentino and her husband Joseph of Walpole. Brother of Mario Serratore of Australia, Maria Serratore of Italy and the late Andrew Serratore, Barbara Michienzi, Vincenzo Serratore, Rose Serratore, and Giovanna Serratore. Cherished grandfather of Matthew Thibeau, Joseph Consentino, Nicholas Consentino, Sabrina Burr, and Brooke Burr. Son of the late Francesco and Giuditta (Rondinelli) Serratore. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Anthony was a longtime member of the Norwood Italian Social Club. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood. Burial at Highland Cemetery, Norwood, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to the Joslin Diabetes Center, One Joslin Place Boston, MA 02215 www.joslin.org

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court**

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. NO14P2694EA

Estate of: Katherine G. Dimarzio Norfolk Probate and Family Court
Date of Death: 12/05/2012 35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021
781-830-1200

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Michelle L. Lynch of Canton, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Michelle L. Lynch of Canton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 A.M on the return day of 05/08/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS Hon. Patricia Gorman, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 02, 2024
Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 04/11/2024

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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

NASHAWATY



JOSEPH N. of East Walpole, formerly of Melrose and East Boston, passed away on April 4, 2024 at the age of 81. Beloved husband of Geraldine "Gerri" T. (Guerra) Nashawaty. Devoted father of Richard J. Nashawaty and his

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME SEEKING NOMINATIONS

The Norwood High School Athletic Hall of Fame is looking for nominations for the 2024 Class.

Student-athletes, teams, coaches and special contributors are eligible. Candidates must meet the following criteria: Student-athletes must have graduated from Norwood High School, attended NHS for more than two years, been 10 years since their class graduated and are a respected member of the community. Coaches must have worked at Norwood High for at least seven years and have completed their coaching career. Teams must have achieved a significant accomplishment. Special contributors are individuals who have made a considerable contribution of time and energy to Norwood High School Athletics.

The Hall recently inducted the Class of 2023 – Joe Travers 1981, Denise Carroll Flaherty 1993, Katelyn Mullane 1998, David Rukstalis 2002 and Ryan Henry 2006.

For more information and nomination forms, see the Norwood High School Athletic Department web page, www.norwoodmustangs.com or call Athletic Director, Jonathan Longley at 781 352 3529. The enshrinement ceremony will be held November 30.

Nominations must be submitted in writing to the Norwood Hall of Fame Committee 245 Nichols Street, Norwood MA 02062. The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2024.

Also, the NHS Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is looking for new committee members to continue to tell the story of Norwood High School Athletics and recognize its special students-athletes, coaches and teams. If interested, email Brian McDonough at bgmcdonough@gmail.com.

ROTARY INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

The Norwood Rotary Club is pleased to announce the opening of applications for the prestigious Roy Smith \$1000 Memorial Scholarship. This annual scholarship, honoring the memory of Roy Smith, a dedicated community member and Rotarian, aims to support deserving students in pursuing their higher education goals.

Applications for the scholarship are now available and can be obtained from the guidance offices of Norwood High School, Blue Hills Regional Technical School, and Norfolk County Agricultural High School. Eligible candidates from these institutions are encouraged to apply and seize the opportunity to receive financial assistance towards their academic endeavors.

The Roy Smith \$1000 Memorial Scholarship is a testament to the Norwood Rotary Club's commitment to fostering educational excellence and supporting the youth in our community. By offering this scholarship, the Rotary Club aims to recognize outstanding students who demonstrate academic achievement, community involvement, and a commitment to our motto "service above self."

For the Record

"We are excited to once again offer the Roy Smith Memorial Scholarship to deserving students in our community," said Rotary Club member Peter Strano. "This scholarship not only honors the memory of Roy Smith but also embodies our club's dedication to supporting the educational aspirations of young individuals who exhibit leadership qualities and a passion for making a positive difference in their communities."

Applicants for the scholarship will be evaluated based on various criteria, including academic performance, extracurricular activities, leadership experience, and community service involvement. The selection process will be thorough and impartial, with the aim of identifying students who embody the values of Rotary and demonstrate a strong potential for future success.

The deadline for submitting applications is April 30th, and interested students are encouraged to act promptly to ensure their eligibility for this valuable scholarship opportunity. Completed applications should be submitted to the Norwood Rotary Club PO Box 763, Norwood, MA 02062.

For more information about the Roy Smith \$1000 Memorial Scholarship and the application process, interested candidates can contact the Norwood Rotary Club or visit the official website Norwoodrotary.org. Don't miss this chance to pursue your educational dreams with the support of the Norwood Rotary Club!

About Norwood Rotary Club: The Norwood Rotary Club is a dynamic organization comprised of community leaders dedicated to serving others and making a positive impact in Norwood and beyond. Through various service projects and initiatives, the Rotary Club strives to address pressing community needs, promote education, and foster goodwill among individuals from diverse backgrounds. The Norwood Rotary Club meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM Emmanuel Lutheran Church 24 Berwick Street Norwood, MA. All are welcome to attend.

ART ASSOCIATION ARTIST DEMO RELEASE

The NORWOOD ART ASSOCIATION will hold their monthly ARTIST DEMONSTRATION on April 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Simoni Room of the Norwood Morrill Memorial Library, located at 33 Walpole Street in Norwood. Attendees are encouraged to arrive at 5:30 p.m. These demonstrations are FREE and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend! Please bring your own beverage if you desire. Raffle tickets will be sold for the chance to win a piece of art donated by the attending artist.

The NAA is excited to announce that April's featured demo artist will be D. Sue Dion. Sue paints in acrylic, watercolor, and oil and resides in Uxbridge where she also has a private studio which houses a picture fram-

ing business and her teaching space. She has studied at the RI School of Design and The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Her paintings draw from two great American traditions, abstract expressionism and plein air. Through her use of color, texture, and edge, she invites her viewers to journey along unexpected pathways, ultimately arriving at their own, unique interpretations of her work.

For information or to become a member of the Norwood Art Association, visit their website at norwoodartassociation.com or check them out on Facebook or Instagram.

MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 16, at The Grange, 28 Rockwood Road (Route 115) in Norfolk, MA from 7-9 pm. Mask if you will.

Mental illness is a label for a variety of diseases of the brain. Often it strikes in late adolescence, devastating the afflicted person and the family. The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group is composed of such families who find mutual support and join together to advocate for their loved ones. We welcome all families in the South Norfolk Area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones. For further information call Ray at 508-668-2941.

APRIL MONTHLY BALLROOM DANCE

The Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging will be sponsoring their monthly Ballroom Dance, on Friday, April 19th 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

2024 EARTH DAY CLEANUP

On Sunday, April 21st, Progress Norwood & the Town of Norwood invite you to join neighbors and friends for the 2024 Norwood Earth Day Clean Up, Community Picnic, & Fair <https://www.facebook.com/events/772957448070818>

Cleanups will be held at various playgrounds and green spaces around Norwood from 10-11:30 am. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit

[tin y u r l . c o m / earthdaynorwood2024](https://www.facebook.com/events/1370475153600668). Alternatively, motivated people are invited to meet Charlotte Firth of Charles River Running at 11:30 at the Town Common for plogging (combining jogging with picking up trash.) <https://www.facebook.com/events/1370475153600668> Immediately following the cleanup, grab lunch and join us at the Town Common, at the corner of Washington and Nahatan Street, for a community picnic, live music, and fair (11:30 am-1:30 pm). You will have a chance to visit over 20 local organizations to learn about their work to support the environment or what you can do to be more environmentally minded.

This event is FREE for all and family friendly. Cleanups will happen rain or shine, but in inclement weather, the picnic & fair will be held in the Norwood High School gymnasium at 245 Nichols Street.

Calendar

Continued on page 10

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court**

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION	Docket No. NO24P0819EA
Estate of: Priscilla Ann Urann Date of Death: 01/11/2020	Norfolk Probate and Family Court 35 Shawmut Road Canton, MA 02021 781-830-1200

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by
Beth Muccini of Walpole, MA
requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Beth Muccini of Walpole, MA
be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE


You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 A.M on the return day of 05/08/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS Hon. Patricia Gorman, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 01, 2024
Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 04/11/2024



Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns an 8-bay center in Middleboro, MA. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

Ford Maverick

A year later and another Ford Maverick pickup. This 2024 is the XLT 121 inch wheel base 2.0 Ecoboost 4 cylinder via 8 speed automatic. The Maverick to me is a perfect size four passenger pickup and can be a great all around truck for general chores, including towing small loads (4,000 lb limit). This in not an F150 for towing heavy loads. I did load the bed with 500 pounds of water salt softener and the truck didn't mind it at all. Heated front seats, 8-inch touchscreen, remote start, keyless entry, all safety features and driver assist collision systems, LED lights, and more. I did miss the push to start—this truck needs a real key to start. Base price starts at \$26,315 (destination \$1,595). Our loaner truck had many well-liked options, including equipment group 300A, F4X off road, 4K tow package, XLT luxury package, Ford co-pilot 360, floor liners. This truck sits low to the ground and seat design is low to the floor, making it easy for short people to get in and out of. The multi adjustable seats raise the height as needed. There is ample room for four adults and no instruction manual needed to operate the controls. The Maverick rides and handles like a car, not a truck, and after a two-hour ride up to NH, no back pain. MSRP: \$34,735.

Junior Damato, the "Auto Doctor," has agreed to field auto repair questions from Bulletin and Record readers. Please send your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get them answered.

Monday, April 1

0844 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Adams St Caller on the business line reports a younger aged female party looking under vehicles with a flashlight and cigarette trash cans, appears confused. Norwood MC5 reports off with that female party, she states she was just looking for her ear buds. All units clear.

1243 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Jefferson Dr From HQ for a walk in party that states they were locked outside of their home by their child. Norwood 666 reports the housing authority was able to open the door, all units clear.

1344 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Services Rendered Location/Address: West St Caller on the business line, Brockton PD requesting a health and welfare check on a 4 year old child. Brockton states there was an incident over custody exchange in their town and want to ensure the child is safe at this time. Brockton is contacting DCF to respond to the home.

1653 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: E Cottage St Portable 492 reports a male party in the area with a black jacket and red winter hat, showing obscene gestures. Portable 492 reports that party has since left the area in a vehicle, all units standing down.

1801 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Westover Pkwy Caller on the business line reports a male party - unable to get a great description other than he is an older male. He has been standing in the area for about an hour, unsure if he is in need of assistance. Officer Landry reports party checks okay, parties advised.

Tuesday, April 2

1053 Phone - PD-Assist Public Peace Restored Location/Address: Norwest Dr Assist Big Jacks towing with a party who is causing a scene for trying to tow their vehicle. Units helped to keep the peace. MA REG: 5DB951

1055 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Subway - Lenox St Caller reporting a male party pacing back and forth outside of Jam Time. She states he is pacing in between Subway and Mustangs pizza. Described to be a tan male party wearing a black puffy jacket, grey beanie w/ lettering and dark pants. Party checks okay, has been advised. The party will be leaving shortly.

1124 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Gone on arrival Vicinity of: Subway - Lenox St Owner from the business Jam Time calling to request PD back on scene for that same male party. He still has not left the area and is now standing in front of the cafe w/ a phone. He appears to be taking pictures or recording. Party not in area, units spoke to the calling party. She was advised, the in house clinician is familiar with the party so units will be reaching out to her. Units will proceed to check the surrounding area for that party.

1224 Radio - PD-Suspicious Activity Gone on arrival Location/Address: Jam Time - Lenox St Caller reporting male party out front of the business harassing customers. Gray hat and black puffer jacket. That party was GOA. The property manager is going to provide a letter of disinvite. Unit will attempt to reach out to the party via phone number. Both units clear.

1628 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Sent On Way Location/Address: Burn Boot Camp -

The Norwood Record

Police Logs



Norwood - Washington St Caller on business line stating a male party is standing outside the window of the business, watching the female parties. He was asked to leave and he will not respond. Male party is wearing a blue puffer jacket, grey hair, white male. Standing outside the window walking back and forth with his hands in his pocket. The party has been moved along. He was not doing anything illegal at this time. The calling party was advised to get some blinds for the business. All clear.

1704 Phone - PD-Soliciting Services Rendered Location/Address: Bird Rd Caller on the business line reporting 2 male parties posing as Verizon workers, going door to door. Caller concerned if they are legitimate. Norwood 669 reports speaking with those parties and they were advised. All units clear.

1805 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Burn Boot Camp - Norwood - Washington St Call from Burn Boot Camp for a male party who is looking in the windows and watching people work out and they feel uncomfortable. Same party as the earlier incident. Norwood 665 reports speaking to that party. He was moved along.

2129 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Saunders Rd Norwood 667 en route to the hospital to see a patient that was bitten by a dog.

Wednesday, April 3

1302 Phone - PD-Burglar Alarm Services Rendered Location/Address: Engamore Ln Simply safe reporting they received a front door motion and patio door motion. On video, simply safe reports they see two male parties carrying belongings around the home. One male wearing a light colored sweatshirt and the other wearing a baseball cap with a beard. Units on scene speaking with 2 males stating they are vendors for the complex working on air filters. Resident returned home and checked the apartment all appears in order. Contact was made with Emergency maintenance and he confirmed scheduled HVAC work today.

1654 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Hoyle St Party in the front lobby like to speak with an officer in regard to child custody exchanges. Kept the peace for a custody exchange all checks okay.

Thursday, April 4

1201 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Investigated Location/Address: Citizens Bank - Nahatan St Call from H.Q. Unwanted female party at this business. Business

wants her relocated elsewhere. Party not causing a scene. Just disrupting customer business. H.Q states in-house clinician is responding as well. OFC standing by with female party at TJ Maxx. Collecting her property. She is going to bus station at the common. Female party refused Riverside services. Female party sent on way.

1401 Phone - PD-Assist Public Investigated Location/Address: Norwest Dr Female party called the business line. She was asking to talk to an OFC and the in-house clinician. States she is scared she is being evicted. Clinician and OFC spoke with female party. She agreed to speak with someone. Riverside will send someone up in the hour. Female party is not in any danger. OFC clear. Tow has the vehicle.

1543 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: University Ave + Everett St Report of a loose dog, black and white in color. ACO notified. They will follow up.

1805 Phone - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Vicinity of: Rock St Third party caller on emergency line reports that a male party pulled up in a GMC pickup, license plate ending in 47, started a verbal fight with another male and it started to get physical. Party has been spoken to. Not cooperative but verbal in nature.

Friday, April 5

1028 Phone - PD-Warrant Report Follows Location/Address: Philbrick St OFC out with a male party. Confirmed WMS in hand for that male party. NWD 665 transporting one to the station. Arrest: Johnson, Adam Page Address: 10 Philbrick St Norwood, Ma Age: 37 Charges: Straight Warrant

1748 Phone - PD-Robbery Report Follows Location/Address: Washington St Caller reporting an attempted robbery. 2 B/M or H/M one wearing a black ski mask, both wearing beige pants and white Nike sneakers. The two male parties assaulted the owner, and stole misc. items from the store. They left on foot towards Day St. Last seen going up Day St. No weapons reported. Juvenile Arrest Age: 12 Charges: Robbery, Unarmed Larceny From Person Robbery, Unarmed A&B A&B Attempt To Commit Crime Juvenile Arrest Age: 15 Charges: Robbery, Unarmed Robbery, Unarmed Larceny From Person A&B

2214 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Spoke With Location/Address: Norwest Dr Mother reporting she wants her 18 y/o son removed from the home. Nothing physical, no weapons. Verbal argument only. 668 out with the male party. Stating he is going to stay with a friend.

Saturday, April 6

0141 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Village Rd E Loud music and people talking outside. People leaving from a party. They were spoken to.

0241 Phone - PD-Shoplifting Services Rendered Location/Address: CVS Pharmacy - Nahatan St Headquarters stating 3 juveniles shoplifting. One of the mothers came to pick up the kids and bring them home. They have trespassed from the above location.

1231 Phone - PD-Assist Other

April 11, 2024

Agency Services Rendered Location/Address: Hampden Dr Walpole PD looking to make contact with a male party at this location who did not pay his tab at Bristol Square Cafe in Walpole. Party is advised to either contact Walpole PD or return to the cafe to pay his tab. Party no longer resides there. Will be speaking to front office to try and gather more information. Cell phone number found and passed along to Walpole police

1753 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Investigated Location/Address: Napper Tandy's - Day St 911-male party calling saying 5 people chasing him with masks. All male. Caller did not give name when asked, then the call disconnected as he was speaking with someone. One person red hair, another with a mask. Second call on 911 from a female party stating a group of kids are chasing her and following her home. CP states it's a group of about 7 kids all wearing black. CP was on her way home. While on the call, CP reported the group went behind the TD Bank. CP made contact with an officer while on the phone with dispatch. Two calls reporting a group of parties chasing and harassing people in ski masks. Second caller on 60 Lenox street reports she is being followed home by them. OFC's spotted them on Lenox st by the bank in between Railroad and Nahatan. NWD 668 reports they are hiding behind fence on TD Bank. NWD unit at Lenox by NWD tire to block them in. NWD 664 in the condo side in the area. NWD 674 reports designer clothes and ski masks. NWD 663 and NWD 668 checking behind the condos. NWD 668 reports no crime involved. Juvenile activities. All juveniles turned over to parents.

Sunday, April 7

0352 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Report Follows Location/Address: Boch Hyundai - Bos-Prov Hwy MVST MA REG 4MFX27. 1 male party in custody. Tow requested. Center Auto en route. Center Auto has the vehicle. Arrest: Katsaros, Panagiotis D Address: 177 Main St Walpole, Ma Age: 32 Charges: OUI-Liquor Or .08% Negligent Operation Of Motor Vehicle Speeding Rate Of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit

0508 Phone - PD-Assault Offenses Report Follows Location/Address: - Plymouth Dr 911 caller reporting her 29 year old daughter was jumped by multiple people. Daughter has facial injuries. Daughter is not giving any other information. Female party declined medical attention. OF requested and assigned to NWD 663. Party and mother will decide to go to hospital in the morning depending on her injuries.

0916 911 - PD-Assist Fire Department Services Rendered Location/Address: Sunrise Assisted Living - Saunders Rd 89 year old male on third floor dining room is being aggressive towards staff. Norwood fire to handle

1818 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Investigated Location/Address: Murphy Field - Lenox Ave Business line caller says a male with a hoodie, ear muffs, white male, middle aged. Is doing metal detecting and digging up holes and not fixing them. OFC spoke with him. No issue. Male party filling in holes.

Calendar *continued from page 9*

A SPRING CONCERT IN NORWOOD

Parkway Concert Orchestra presents a spring concert on Sunday, May 5 at 3 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 100 Winter Street, Norwood. Music Director Thomas Kociela conducts the 50 piece non-profit orchestra in an exciting program including Outdoor Overture by Copland, music from Rosamunde by Schubert, and Grieg's Symphonic Dances. The program also features Scott Woolweaver, viola, in Andante and Hungarian Rondo by Carl Maria von Weber. Mr. Woolweaver's performance is supported by the Bill and Muriel Porter Memorial Fund.

The program is sponsored by Dedham Savings and is supported in part by an operating support grant through the Cultural Sector Recovery Grants for Organizations program from the Mass Cultural Council. Donation is \$15; \$10 for seniors and students; and free for children under 12 years old. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. For more information, please visit the orchestra's web site at www.ParkwayConcertOrchestra.org, call 781-444-5041 or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/parkwayconcertorchestra.

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 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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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.

VIOLA SASTAVICKAS SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Viola Sastavickas has made donations to the Morrill Memorial Library since 2007 in order to create a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 per year. This scholarship is to be awarded annually to a current or former library employee or library volunteer for one of the following purposes: undergraduate or graduate school, a formal course of study, or an enrichment opportunity (continuing education). The scholarship will once again be awarded in 2024 thanks to continued generosity by the Sastavickas Family. Viola Sastavickas was a life-long resident of Norwood and used the library frequently. According to her daughter Kathy, the scholarship is "a fitting tribute to our beautiful mother and to the library and staff who treated her with great respect and affection." A brief application form is available on the library's website. Please contact Clayton Cheever at (781) 769-0200 with any questions. Applications are due by Monday May 06, and they must be submitted electronically to the Director: ccheever@minlib.net. The scholarship will be awarded by June 31, 2024.

NORWOOD'S OWN TO PERFORM

The Morrill Memorial Library's Spring Musical Sundays Concert Series continues in April. Join us for a Norwood favorite, the Steve Rudolph Trio, on Sunday, April 14 at 3:00 pm. Get your toes tapping as the Steve Rudolph Trio presents a joyous sampling of some of the best of American popular music from '40s, '50s and '60s - from Big Band tunes to Frank Sinatra to Elvis and the Beatles. Norwood's own pianist/vocalist Steve Rudolph, founder of the trio, has performed extensively

for over 50 years both in the U.S. and in Europe in venues ranging from jazz clubs to churches.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY FRIDAY MOVIE

Join us for our Sensory-friendly Friday movie at the Library! This program will be held in-person in the Simoni Room on Friday April 26, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Our April movie in the Sensory-friendly Friday movie series is Timothee Chalamet starring in Warner Brother's Wonka, rated PG.

THIRD ANNUAL PEEPS DIORAMA CONTEST!

The Morrill Memorial Library is thrilled to announce our third annual Peeps Diorama Contest! Pick up a package of Peeps from the Library, create a diorama, and send a photo of the finished creation for a chance to win fun prizes and, more importantly, eternal bragging rights!

This year's theme is "Local Peeps," so we're looking for dioramas all about Norwood. Register to pick up a package of Peeps from the Library between Tuesday, April 16 and Monday, April 22. Contestants are asked to submit a photo of their completed dioramas by April 23, with voting to begin at noon on April 24.

PLANNING FOR MEDICARE

Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to bring a presentation on the very important topic of Medicare to the library. The program is called Planning for Medicare- Countdown to 65 on April 16, at 6:30 PM in the Simoni Room.

Please join us to understand Medicare eligibility. Learn about your health insurance options outside of employer-sponsored coverage. Many people need help understanding the coverage options available to them. This is especially true for people that plan to retire and are leaving employer sponsored coverage.

Morrill Library Events

For these individuals, retirement may be the first time they do not have a Human Resource representative coordinating, explaining, and negotiating a rate for their health plan premium. The presentation will explain: Medicare Parts A and B, Medicare enrollment timeline, Medigap Plans that supplement Medicare coverage, Medicare Advantage Plans, such as HMO and PPO's, Medicare Part D prescription drug plans, and plans and programs available to early retirees, such as COBRA.

TALKING POETRY WITH DE LA PAZ

For National Poetry Month, the Morrill Memorial Library is honored to host Worcester Poet Laureate Oliver de la Paz for an in-person program called "Talking Poetry" on Tuesday, April 23

at 7:00pm in the Simoni Room. Join us this evening for a reading by Oliver de la Paz, an award-winning poet currently serving as Poet Laureate of Worcester. Oliver will also talk about his writing process, experiences, and poetry as a form of writing; and answer questions from the audience.

GOLDEN LANE BRINGS IRISH MUSIC

Irish traditional music will join the Musical Sundays Concert Series line up at the Morrill Memorial Library on Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 pm. As always, admission will be free for this family-friendly show!

The group consists of members of "Golden Lane", an Irish traditional group that has been performing in the Cape Cod/SE Mass. area for the past three years. In addition to traditional bal-

lads (in English and Gaelic), the trio will perform some of the lively dance tunes (reels, jigs, polkas) that have made Irish traditional music so popular over the years with audiences of all ethnic backgrounds. Appearing with the group will be step-dancers from the Maureen Haley School of Dance.

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 April Lego club meeting will be held in-person at the library on Thursday April 25, 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 anyone ages 18+. It is specially designed for adults with different levels of abilities.

April Citizens of the Month!



*Grade 8: Alaina DiFlaminies, Noah Zeogas, Kayla Ko, Jacob Evans.
Grade 7: Shareen Ahmed, Aine McGroggan, Aniyah Tisme Berrios.
Grade 6: Stella Panos, Ian Kelly, Gavin Corcoran*

COURTESY PHOTO

Congratulations to the April winners of Dr. Philip O. Coakley Middle School's Citizen of the Month. Citizens of the Month exemplify the school's mission statement and are chosen by teachers and staff.

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