

Gigantic snowman graces Winter Street

Making the most of the latest snowfall, Norwood kids recently built a 24-foot snowman at 103 Winter St. Dan and Jordan Conree said they and their children, (from left to right) Gabriel, Meridian and Lincoln built the snowman after Sunday's snow storm. Dan Conree said they first started at the base, pushing the snow into a pyramid and shaping it to look like the traditional snowman shape. He said after that was completed, they had to use a ladder and bucket system to get the rest of the snow up and shaped correctly.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN



Canton states its case for ice rink

Has three possible sites, only one for Norwood

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and its Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) held a public meeting at the Canton Public Library on Monday night to provide an update on its South Shore Ice Rink Feasibility Study.

The meeting, overseen by DCR Commissioner Leo P. Roy, touched upon the background, scope and schedule for the project, as well as the next steps.

Four sites between Canton and Norwood are under consideration for if – or when – the DCR decides to go ahead and build a new rink in the area to replace the Metropolis Rink in Canton, which partially imploded on Feb. 28, 2015 due to massive snowfall that winter.

The meeting was the first of two scheduled for the area this week, with a more Norwood-centric meeting taking place tonight, Feb. 16, at the Coakley Middle School at 7 p.m.

Chris Sgarzi, principal of Interdisciplinary Design Consulting (IDC), is conducting the feasibility study along with Nancy Freedman, a mechanical engineer and cost consultant. Among the major projects IDC is currently working on include a new hockey rink at Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y.

Sgarzi gave April as a timetable for when the study will be completed, adding that while three proposed locations are in Canton compared to just one in Norwood, he is not looking to pit the two towns against one another.

Vibes from the meeting indicated, however, that all three Canton locations seem to be preferred to Norwood's lone location – at the Hawes Pool Complex – by residents and politicians from both towns.

"I believe Canton would be a great venue, regardless of which venue it is," State Sen. James Timilty said.

Canton's three locations under review include Indian Line Farm, the site of the former Canton Airport off Neponset Street, and the site of the old Metropolis Rink itself – which remains in a state of purgatory, coming up on two years since the collapse.

Bob Burr, who serves on the Canton Board of Selectmen, reiterated the stance that the objective of the study wasn't to pit the neighboring towns against one another.

"We're not here to have any fight with the town of Rink

Continued on page 6

Schools asked to consider override request

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

Although the state's Chapter 70 figures have yet to come in, parents, teachers and Town Meeting members chose not to wait any longer as they made a valiant push to convince the School Committee to go for an operational override.

Thus far, the committee has made \$561,854 in cuts. However, there is a \$1.7 million deficit in the school budget for fiscal year 2018.

Town Clerk/Accountant

High School Principal Jonathan Bourn spoke about his list of suggested cuts, which included eliminating the entire athletic program, during the Feb. 8 School Committee meeting.

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER ROBBERSON

Thomas McQuaid said a majority vote by the Board of Selectmen would be required to put an override on the April 3 ballot.

"The board does not necessarily need to express an opin-

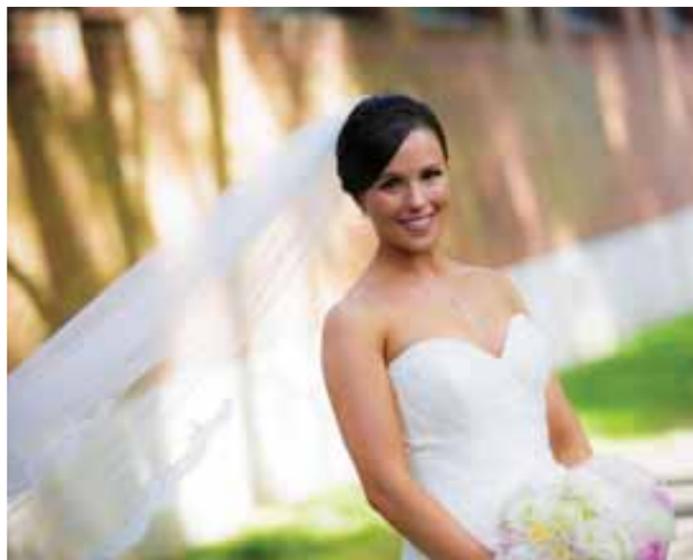
ion on the merits of an override, only voting to decide if it should appear on the ballot," said McQuaid following the committee's Feb. 8 meeting.

School Budget
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Should the selectmen vote to put an override on the ballot, they would need to notify McQuaid "at least 35 days prior to the vote of the public," which, in this case, would be Feb. 27. The vote would also need to include the reason for the override.

During the meeting, District 8 Town Meeting Member Edward Ferris told committee members to stop making cuts and put the remaining burden on the Finance Commission (FinCom).

"Your job is not to meet the number that FinCom gives you," he said, sighing a number of times while making his comments. "It's FinCom's job to balance the budget, not yours, stop playing the game."

If it comes to pass that an override is not a viable option, Ferris said the town could change the current funding split in which the schools receive 55 percent of all available finances and 45 percent remains with the town. He said the town could also authorize Treasurer Robert

Marsh to take out an \$8 million loan.

"When push comes to shove, our children are the only value we have," he said.

Colleen Reynolds, a Special Education teacher at the Willett Early Childhood Center, spoke about the importance of what happens every day at 100 Westover Parkway.

"The Willett is absolutely critical, it's the welcome mat for the Norwood Public Schools," she said. "I haven't seen you guys advocating for an override, this is an emergency - we need an override - we needed it five years ago."

Jody Smith, a Special Education teacher at Oldham Elementary School, said more harm than good has been done by not substantially increasing the residential and commercial tax rates.

"It is no longer a badge of honor not to have an operational override," she said.

The committee's discussion with the principals did not go as

planned.

Willett Principal Diane Ferreira said her school is currently in danger of losing its Developmental Learning Center.

"We wouldn't be able to do our jobs with a cut on that teaching level," she said.

Ferreira said Willett had 26 special education students in 2012, a number which had jumped to 55 by 2014.

She said overcrowding has also been a constant obstacle with 401 students, adding that the English language learning classes are now held on the cafeteria stage. Ferreira also said her reading specialists are also crammed into the same space.

The elementary school principals sent their most seasoned administrator to represent them at the meeting: Robert Griffin, principal of Callahan Elementary School and a 45-year district employee.

"We have already cut a sparse budget year after year after year," he said, adding that

the elementary schools have been losing teachers for the past seven years.

Griffin said that in his building alone, one teacher received a layoff notice for three consecutive years.

"Lucky for us she persevered instead of going to other towns where they never seem to be in our financial straits," he said.

According to budget documents, the School Department has missed its initial request by an average of \$2.1 million over the past six years. During the same time frame, 86.2 full-time employees have lost their jobs to budget cuts - an average of 14.3 per year.

A similar scenario played out when high school Principal Jonathan Bourn spoke about his list of cuts.

"There isn't an ounce of sound pedagogical logic to justify any of my recommendations," he said.

Although the Athletic Program is on his list, Bourn still fought to keep it.

"I can't imagine the high school experience without athletics," he said. "I don't know if

you understand the position I'm in - this does not make sense."

However, Member Michele Eysie-Mullen said losing the Athletic Program is now a very real possibility.

"We could easily take you very seriously with your athletics," she said.

Igoe said the cuts Bourn suggested would have a significant impact on the high school's core values.

"You proposed to eliminate, not cut, to eliminate athletics and activities," she said. "How is that standing behind our core values?"

"It's not," replied Bourn. "It basically puts me in a position of subsistence."

Member Myev Bodenhofer thanked the principals for developing their lists under extremely stressful circumstances.

"If you recommended no cuts, I have no idea what we would do," she said. "Where would we find \$1 million or more?"

Following the meeting, Chairman James Gormley said

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Selectmen approve brewery license despite Donohue concerns

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

Although the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to grant a pouring permit to Filipe Oliveira, owner of the Percival Brewing Company, the favorable decision did not come without a few bumps in the road.

Prior to the vote during the Feb. 14 meeting, Selectman Helen Abdullah Donohue said she was concerned that Oliveira was attempting to open a bar without going through the proper licensing process.

“What you’re doing here is a way to get around that,” she said. “I’m having a hard time not thinking of it as a bar; you’re trying to circumvent the state law.”

However, Oliveira said that would not be the case at all, adding that Percival will not be set up in a way that invites cus-

tomers to stay for long periods of time.

“We’re manufacturing wholesale, the wholesale side of the business is where we want to be,” he said, adding that a bar is much more of a retail operation. “We just want people to come in, sample this, and be on their way.”

Oliveira said the pouring permit would allow him to serve patrons one five-ounce glass of beer for about \$2 each. He said it would also allow him to establish a rapport and a clientele to help market Percival’s beer.

“Those are the individuals who are going to move the product on the retail level,” said Oliveira, adding that he does not have the money available to launch a full-scale marketing campaign.

Selectman William Plasko asked if snack food would be available. Oliveira said that in addition to Percival purchasing

such items from other businesses in the complex, he is also working with an online food vendor FoodTrucksIn.com.

Selectman Paul Bishop reinforced the purpose of a microbrewery such as Percival.

“What this allows you to do is to do a test run, so to speak,” he said of the pouring license. “You’re not there to create another sports bar.”

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he would favor an override not only for the schools, but for the town as well.

“It’s a mechanism to deal with the fact that funding from the state is insufficient,” he said, adding that there is anxiety every year over job security.

Eysie-Mullen said she would support an override should it become necessary.

“It’s got to be planned out and developed, I believe in working together,” she said.

However, she said an override is not the ultimate answer.

“It would help, but it wouldn’t solve everything,” she said.

Eysie-Mullen also said the

committee was unfairly targeted during the meeting.

“Fingers were pointed in the wrong direction, we’re taking an awful lot of heat right now,” she said. “If an override is what we need, that was not the forum for it.”

Bodenhofer did not have a decisive answer as to whether or not she would support an override, saying it is something that will need to be vetted by the committee.

Member Patrick McDonough was the only one in outright opposition of an override, saying the committee needs to take its time and wait to see how much funding comes in from the state.

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DISAPPOINTED IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

To the Editor:

To the School Committee, I am disappointed in your lack of vision and support for investing in Norwood's schools, not to mention the ridiculous urge to change Winter Break to Christmas to address some perceived victimization or attack on the holiday. It just creates a tempest and deflects energy from where it's needed: a long-term solution to school funding challenges. Rather than spin trading off administrative cuts versus teaching staff as a positive, I'd encourage you to be a better advocate and collaborate with the passionate parents and school community members to address the ongoing operating challenge of funding. Identifying areas of the school budget that will be cut as a result of the proposed town funding formula is scary. And even if these line items get moved around so that another teacher is spared and instead maintenance is deferred (again) that is not a win. Please focus on more constructive efforts as an advocate for our schools. Part of that means being able to take criticism and come out of heated discussions with a stronger plan for Norwood, not a demoralized staff and polarized citizenry.

Sheri McLeish
Norwood

PEACEFUL PROTEST IS PATRIOTIC

To the Editor:

I enjoy reading The Norwood Record each week, but find myself increasingly disturbed by portions of Jackie Saber's columns. I appreciate how Ms. Saber highlights community events and recognizes local residents doing good works here in town

or serving their country overseas. But their good deeds seem tarnished when placed alongside Ms. Saber's opinions concerning national political issues, distorted facts and harmful rhetoric form vitriolic attacks often aimed at the most vulnerable people in our society and those who stand up for them.

Ms. Saber's latest attack is on immigrants. She refers to the famous inscription on the Statue of Liberty (the one that welcomes the huddled masses yearning to breathe free) and somehow twists that into a condemnation of "roaming thugs protesting something or other holding ridiculous signs that say 'we are all immigrants, and we deserve it all.'"

Well Ms. Saber, first of all, we are not "roaming thugs," but rather Americans exercising our constitutional right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for a redress of grievances. And in this case, the "something or other" we were protesting was the President's illegal and immoral order banning citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States, an order the courts have now agreed violates the equal protection clause of the Constitution because it was motivated by animus toward members of a particular religion and violates due process because it capriciously abridged the liberty of green-card and visa holders who had been thoroughly vetted and cleared to enter the country. These sudden blanket restrictions did nothing to make anyone safer and caused harm by separating families, stranding children fleeing war-torn regions, preventing professionals who had lived in the U.S. for years from returning, and even

Letters

jeopardizing the safety of brave individuals who had risked their lives to work with U.S. forces in Iraq.

And second, our cry is not "we deserve it all." Our cry is "we all deserve equal protection under the laws, regardless of our religious beliefs, and we all deserve a rational, moral immigration policy, one that adequately screens people but also allows in those attracted by the ideals of America, those who have the willingness and ability to come here and help make our country great, just as our ancestors did." I know that's hard to fit on a sign, but it's important to explain.

There is, however, a larger reason why peaceful protest is important at this moment in our history. We have elected a leader with a worrisome tendency to exploit people's fears and prejudices, who frequently tries to shut down reasoned discussion by punishing and personally attacking those who disagree with him, even when they are judges and officials whose job is to provide the checks and balances that prevent any one man from becoming too powerful. As patriotic Americans, we may disagree on the details of immigration policy, but must stand together to defend our Constitution and the rights and freedoms it provides to us all. If we fail to do this, we could find ourselves in the situation of many countries (Cuba, North Korea and the former East Germany to name a few) where leaders who claimed to speak "for the people" gained power and soon no one in government had to spend much energy preventing immigration – a more pressing issue was how to keep people from getting out.

Eric Stevens
Norwood

WYETH ADDRESSES CRITICISM

To the Editor:

I am compelled to respond to Mr. McDonough's Feb. 9, 2017 letter to the editor. I would like to correct the record.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail!)

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

Grateful thanks. —P.M.

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bargaining. How many jobs would be available at other schools in other towns for these teachers should they leave to and sign on with? A half a dozen positions at most.

It's time for the Norwood School Committee to face facts and their own duplicity in creating school budget deficits year after year.

Bert Forest
Norwood

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MADE WRONG CALENDAR DECISION

To the Editor:

The school committee meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 8 was disheartening. It was difficult watching principals try to defend and be forced to justify cuts they obviously did not want to make, teachers, parents and students advocating for as much support as possible and tears from people so emotional about the fate of the Norwood Public Schools. It is evident that our school system is in dire straits.

However, even something as detrimental as a financial crisis did not prevent a vote to set a tone of exclusion and potentially increase religious and racial tensions in an already challenging political climate within our small community. Rehashing a decision that was made two years ago, when we are facing extreme educational cuts seems like a distraction from the issues we are currently facing.

In voting to change Holiday Vacation back to Christmas Vacation, the School Committee has sent the message to an entire group of people. That message is, "You don't matter." Yes, our country was founded with Christianity. Our forefathers were white Christian men; however, our world is no longer run by only white Christian men. We live in a global and diverse society and should do our best to respect and include all of the people in it. What does matter to certain board members is that we always called it Christmas Vacation. Certain board members, instead of voting to protect a minority, voted to go back to the old way because they were tired of talking about it. Some of the comments to support the change included, "I am happy to say Christmas," and "You can call it what you want."

Two school committee members made sincere pleas to keep Holiday Vacation on the calendar. Their reasoning included inclusiveness, as well as the argument that it had already been decided and should not be voted on again.

Various staff members of the Norwood Public Schools who spoke that evening about budget concerns are also residents of Norwood and shared how proud they are to live in such a town. As a 15-year resident of Norwood, I too have always been proud to live here and proud that my children have been surrounded by so many different cultures and languages. They have friends of different backgrounds with different languages and religions whose families are from countries that at their ages I had never heard of.

I am here as a Christian to speak for those who may not celebrate Christmas but are potentially afraid to speak up. As one



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Christmas Vacation once again to appear on school calendars

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

In a 3-2 vote, the School Committee during its Feb. 8 meeting passed a motion made by Member Patrick McDonough to rename the week between Christmas and New Year's as Christmas Vacation.

However, Chairman James Gormley said he disagreed with McDonough's motion.

"We might open ourselves to more of an issue than is necessary," he said. "By going back to Christmas Vacation, we are opening up a whole can of worms that we don't need to open - we should not pit one religion against another."

Member Myev Bodenhofer also spoke in opposition. She said calling it Christmas Vacation could easily send the wrong message to non-Christian students, particularly with all the "anti-Muslim rhetoric" that has surfaced as of late resulting from President Donald Trump's recent travel ban.

Bodenhofer also said swastikas had recently been found at Westwood High School.

"Given that climate, this has even more symbolism than it did before," she said of the proposed name change.

Vice Chairman Lisa Igoe said she was ready to settle the issue as it had come up before in prior years.

"I don't want this to keep coming up year after year after year," she said. "I don't want this brought up anymore."

Igoe said the name Holiday Recess was intended to be inclusive of all holidays.

"Whatever's printed on this piece of paper doesn't really matter, people are going to call it what it means to them," she said.

Igoe also said that Christmas itself has changed dramatically over the years.

"For a lot of people, it's become about Santa, the Christmas Tree and the presents," she said, adding that Good Friday is "more religious." "People are missing the point."

Igoe also did not want the committee to become sidetracked, particularly when she and her colleagues continue to work frantically to find a way to solve the district's \$1.8 million budget deficit.

"What we heard here about the budget, that's what's important," she said.

Gormley said he did not understand how the issue kept creeping onto the agenda every year.

"This was something that

was decided two years ago, one year ago and now we're back here again - why?" he asked. "Once something has been voted on, people accept it, I cannot vote to go back to calling it Christmas Vacation."

According to the committee's minutes, McDonough made the same motion during the April 6, 2016 meeting, which was ultimately voted down 4-1.

Member Michele Eysie-Mullen said she was also ready to put the matter to rest.

"I've heard voices on both sides," she said. "We have much more important things to discuss."

McDonough was the only member who did not speak on the motion.

"People knew what my position was," he said following the meeting.

McDonough said that the name change was something he promised voters during his campaign for School Committee.

"I'm really happy with the result, it's something that people wanted," he said. "It shows that we listen."

Eysie-Mullen said although residents have the right to disagree with the committee, members should not

Christmas Calendar
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Superintendent search down to five

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

From the original pool of 37 applicants who set out to become Norwood's next superintendent of schools, five have emerged as finalists.

They include Dr. David Thomson, assistant superintendent of schools of the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District; Dr. Robert Tremblay, superintendent of schools in Weston; Dr. Jodi Fortuna, superintendent of schools in Hudson; Dr. Mary Brown, principal of Baker Elementary School in Brookline; and Patricia Kinsella, assistant superintendent of schools in Lincoln.

Thomson holds a Bachelor's Degree in biology and secondary education and a Master's Degree in educational leadership, both from Framingham State University, as well as a Doctorate from Northeastern University. He was also the principal of Raynham Middle School prior to being named assistant superintendent of Blackstone-Millville in August

2014.

Tremblay holds a Bachelor's Degree in music education from Boston University and a Master's Degree in general education from Lesley University. He also earned his Master's Degree in public administration and Doctorate in education administration from Northeastern University. Before taking the helm of the Weston Public Schools in July 2016, Tremblay had been Milford's superintendent for nine years. He was also the assistant principal and principal of Memorial Elementary School also in Milford.

Fortuna holds a Bachelor's Degree in special education from Bridgewater State College, a Master's Degree in educational leadership and administration from Framingham State University and a Doctorate in educational leadership and administration from Boston College. Before taking the reins in Hudson in June 2014, Fortuna was the district's assistant superintendent and the principal of Forest Avenue Elementary School also in Hudson.

Brown, a Norwood native, is

the only finalist who does not hold a central office position and has been Baker's principal since 2009. Prior to taking her current job, Brown was principal of Downey Elementary School in Westwood.

Kinsella, the only finalist who does not hold a Doctorate, received her Bachelor's Degree in English literature from the University of Massachusetts at Boston and her Master's Degree in bilingual education from Boston University. Kinsella's prior experience includes teaching for 16 years in Boston and being the curriculum coordinator for English Language Arts for Brookline Public Schools.

Thomson, Tremblay and Fortuna were selected by the 13-member Superintendent Search Committee consisting of Michele Eysie Mullen, Lisa Igoe, Diane Ferreira, Cathy Connor-Moen, Lisa Salvaggio, Karyn Manning, Julie Ann Shore, Kevin Igoe, Carolyn Riley, Leah Hickey Ramsdell, Michael Sheehan, Thomas Maloney and Sarah Cullen. Brown and Kinsella were selected by the School Committee.

Rink *continued from page 1*

Norwood," he said. "They're our friends."

He did, however, take issue with a letter written by State Rep. John Rogers of Norwood, stating that there were several inaccuracies within his writing.

"Canton does have four sheets of ice...four private sheets of ice," Burr said, referring to the Canton SportsPlex and new Canton Ice House, which just opened its doors last fall. "He [Rogers] is very interested in having the rink choice being the town of Norwood. Which is fine, but there are different ways to go about that."

Burr also assured the audience that the roof at Metropolis did not collapse due to negligence on the part of those who ran the building, saying that "there were roof collapses all over Massachusetts" in the winter of 2015.

Nick Maffeo, president of Canton Youth Hockey, was curious if a determination had yet been made on the future of Metropolis Rink, asking if the building was at all salvageable.

"There are a number of code issues if you have a new facility; you have to bring it up to code," Roy said, adding that at the cost of bringing the rink up to code, "you might as well build a new structure."

Nine years remain on the lease between Canton/Metropolis Rink and the DCR.

"As far as I'm concerned, at this time the lease is enforced between the DCR and the Town of Canton," Roy said, with the DCR acting as the landlord and the Town of Canton acting as the tenant.

However, Roy added that he was not a lawyer, and that different lawyers may interpret the lease differently.

Two Norwood residents in attendance, Regina Noonan and Irene Gotovich,

spoke up in opposition to the rink proposal in Norwood.

Each woman said they were in favor of a Canton location, with Noonan's main concern being the traffic impact on Washington Street at the proposed Norwood location.

"I know that the Norwood Nuggets want what they want at all costs, even if it does exclude doing the right thing," Noonan said, citing a traffic study conducted by the state which backed up her claims of a traffic nightmare.

"I'm very pleased to see what is available in Canton," Gotovich, a District 6 Town Meeting member in Norwood said. "Your choices are varied; your real estate is a luxury, and I severely hope this rink is located in Canton."

The potential for any of the four rink sites to be expanded in the future was also brought up by several attendees of the meeting, with an overriding sentiment that the Hawes Pool location had the least potential for expansion.

One Canton resident, James Fitzpatrick, said he hoped that if his town was chosen for the rink, that the old airport location would not be the spot, citing environmental factors.

Roy noted near the conclusion of the meeting that whether the rink was located in Canton or Norwood, that doesn't necessarily mean one town would get preference of ice time over the other - nor any other towns which may be searching for ice time, be it at the youth, high school or collegiate level.

Bill Naumann, president of the Norwood Nuggets, said that he would wait until tonight's meeting in Norwood to make his comments.

Christmas Calendar *continued from page 5*

be considered "bigots and racists" because of the way they voted.

"It's just a break from school," she said. "Why aren't these people questioning Good Friday? Nobody is screaming about that."

Although she voted in favor of renaming the week Christmas Vacation, Igoe said the name, Holiday Recess, was intended to be inclusive of all religions.

"You're never going make everybody happy," she said. "I elected to honor the democracy by going with the majority."

Bodenhofer maintained that continuing to call the week Holiday Recess was a good compromise.

However, she said the committee has much bigger issues at hand.

"The budget and finding a new superintendent are the highest priorities," she said.

Gormley also stood behind his dissenting vote.

"We're a diverse community, there are many different faiths," he said.

Therefore, Gormley said labeling the week as Christmas Vacation could be viewed as favoring one religion over another.

"It drives people apart," he said.

Many neighboring communities have other names for the week; Westwood calls the week Winter Break, Sharon calls it December Recess, Canton calls it Holiday Recess, Walpole calls it Winter Recess and Medfield has the week labeled as No School.

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Ryan responds to DPW snow criticism

Hayden explains school delays, closing

Christopher Roberson
Staff Reporter

Following the Feb. 9 blizzard that dumped 12 inches of snow across Norwood, the Department of Public Works (DPW) received significant criticism on social media.

Parents wrote their children were forced to walk in the street on their way to school, as many sidewalks remained impassable.

In response, DPW Director Mark Ryan said there are 140 miles of sidewalks in town; however, he only has enough equipment and manpower to cover 32 miles.

Ryan also said that two of his sidewalk plows were “out of commission” when the storm hit.

He said private plow operators caused additional problems by pushing snow out of residents’ driveways, thus creating mounds on either side blocking the sidewalks.

“They’re not thinking, they don’t give a damn,” Ryan said of the private contractors. “It’s a very long, difficult process to do those sidewalks. I think Norwood does a damn good job with their sidewalks. We got a couple inches an hour for a lot of hours. Did we get down to the bare pavement? No.”

He said visibility was another obstacle, as blizzard conditions raged for four hours.

“You couldn’t see 100 feet in front of you,” said Ryan.

Under those conditions, he said crews switched their focus to plowing the middle of the roads.

“It’s hard to get to the side of the road without hitting something,” he said.

However, Ryan said he appreciated the many residents who chose to stay off the roads.

“A lot of people didn’t go to

work,” he said.

He also said the DPW coordinates with the School Department and plows right up to the schools’ property lines.

“There’s no difference there,” said Ryan.

He said 25 town plows and 35 plows operated by private contractors were used in response to the storm. In addition, 400 tons of rock salt was used, as well as 200 tons of liquid magnesium.

In contrast, eight inches of snow fell during the Jan. 7 storm, to which the DPW responded with 35 town plows, 33 plows operated by private contractors, five sidewalk plows, 300 tons of rock salt and the DPW’s full staff of 44 employees and managers.

Going into this year’s winter season, Ryan said the DPW had 900 tons of rock salt available for immediate use and another 700 tons in reserve at the Winter Street landfill.

Regarding school closings or delays, Superintendent of Schools James Hayden said the choice is always a moving target.

“I watch multiple weather reports,” he said, adding that they tend to change three times during the course of the night.

He is also in close communication with Ryan and Buildings and Grounds Director Paul Riccardi.

“You try to respect the fact that parents want their kids to go to school,” he said.

Hayden said he used a two-hour delay on Feb. 10 to allow time for the rock salt to melt the ice as well as for additional DPW cleanup operations.

“I knew there was nothing else coming,” he said.

However, he elected to cancel school on Feb. 13 as a result of winds gusting from 40-60 miles per hour. He said the wind could have knocked down tree limbs, knocked out power and

generated bitterly cold wind chills.

Hayden said that particularly in those cases, he thinks of the middle school students who are the first ones out waiting for the bus at 6:30 a.m.

“If it’s still snowing through noontime, a one or two-hour delay isn’t going to do any good,” he said.

Hayden said this was the first time in six years that he made the wrong call about a snow day, as the sun was out by noon.

He also said that a student will be excused from school should their parents decide that it is too dangerous to go out.

RUSSELL, MCTERNAN, MCTERNAN & FRUCI, LLP
Attorneys At Law

839 Washington St., Norwood MA 02062



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**NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and Norwood Bylaw XXV, including any amendments thereto on Wednesday March 1, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. in Room 12, Norwood Town Hall. The Commission is to hear a request for a Notice of Intent from Guaranteed Builders & Developers, Inc. of Douglas, MA for the proposed garage with associated grading within the wetland buffer zone. The proposed garage is to be located 46.2' from the edge of wetlands, and the limit of disturbance is 41' from the edge of wetlands. Project location: 109 Mylod Street, Norwood, MA.

Copies of request and plans are available for review by appointment only. Please call Mr. Al Goetz at 781-762-0781.

Cheryl Rogers, Chairperson

Norwood Record, 02/16/17

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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **Room 12 of the Municipal Office Building** on **March 7, 2017 at 7:15PM** on the request of Lindsay & Scott Whitcomb (Case #17-01) with respect to property located on **44 Spruce Road**, in a **S-Single Residential District**.

This Application requests a **SPECIAL PERMIT** under Section 5.4.4 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow a second story addition above the pre-existing, non-conforming single family home with 8604 s.f. where 10,000 is required and a lot frontage of 75' where 90' is required and a side setback of 12.2 where 15' is required on left side, pursuant to section 5.4.4.

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

BOARD OF APPEAL

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

Norwood Record, 02/16/17, 02/23/17



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Sports

As season enters home stretch, Norwood remains alive and kicking for postseason berth

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The ball is in Norwood's court.

Or, shall we say, the puck is in the Mustangs' zone.

After a scoreless tie vs. the Newton North Tigers last Wednesday and a 5-1 triumph over the Milton Wildcats on Saturday, Norwood's improbable turnaround season continues to push the finish line further back.

At 6-8-2 with four games remaining, the Mustangs are very much in control of their own destiny when it comes to qualifying for the postseason for the first time since the 2013-14 season.

"We're treating every game as a playoff game. The kids know that," first-year Norwood head coach Chuck Allen said.

Even with the scoreless tie vs. Newton North (4-8-5), goal



From 3-31-5 the last two seasons, Norwood High's boys hockey team is 6-8-2 and can still finish above .500 and make the tournament for the first time since 2014.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

scoring is up exponentially for the Mustangs. The team has 35 goals through 16 games this season, including a pair of five-goal outbursts wrapping around the 0-0 draw vs. the Tigers.

In 40 total games between the 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons, Norwood potted just 47 goals.

"We've been working hard at practices," Allen said of the scoring touch. "They've been in such a scoring slump for the past couple of years...we're just telling guys to go hard to the net and skate in front of the goalie. Everyone in high school thinks it will be a beautiful goal, but there aren't many of those. It's all about getting pucks to the net and playing to the whistle. That's what they're starting to do now. They're starting to believe in the system."

Boys Hockey
Continued on page 9

Both Norwood Basketball teams bumped by Brookline

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Each of Norwood High's varsity basketball teams were eliminated from postseason contention on Tuesday night, with each team falling to the Brookline Warriors in their respective Bay State cross-over games.

The girls teams, playing at home on senior night, fell behind by as many as 21 in the third quarter en route to a 52-38 loss.

Krista Bradley, playing in her final home game, led the Mustangs (6-11) with 11 points. Freshman Ali Giambanco chipped in seven points off the bench – all in the fourth quarter.

"We've been preaching all season that we need to get better fundamentally," Norwood coach Amy Lepley said after the game. "Brookline was really sound fundamentally, and we need to build off that and get better as a team and individually."

Norwood never led, and

the latest tie it could muster was at 4-4 after Megan Giambanco connected for each of the Mustangs' first two baskets.

The Warriors led 13-8 after the first quarter, 24-9 at halftime and 39-23 after the third. Norwood did not make a field goal in the second quarter, its only point an Emma Maturo free throw with 1:45 remaining.

Ally Copponi, another senior playing in her final home game, broke the scoring drought with a layup with 5:13 remaining in the third quarter. She finished with five points for the Mustangs.

Norwood will play out the string beginning tonight in Walpole, as part of a doubleheader with the boys team. The girls have the early game, with tip-off at 5 p.m.

"Walpole, there's really no motivation that I need to give them," Lepley said when asked how the team will stay focused over the remainder of the season. "They've had that rivalry

since they were younger."

Caitlan Shaugnessey and Meghan Reen were the other senior honorees for the Mustangs. Reen has not played since tearing her ACL on Dec. 22 vs. Notre Dame Academy (Hingham), but is on track for a full recovery and should be ready to go for her freshman season at Assumption College in Worcester next fall.

Lepley, who also suffered a season-ending injury in her senior year of high school (at Bishop Feehan), said that she feels for Reen, but is proud of the way she's continued to be a part of the team.

"I've been there as well, and it's very, very hard," said Lepley, who suffered her injury exactly eight years prior to Reen (Dec. 22, 2008). "My heart breaks for the kid, it's not the way we wanted to see her go out but I give her all the credit in the world for how she's handled it. She's definitely on the road to recovery now."

Kaylin Reen, Meghan's



Front row, left to right: Meghan Reen, Caitlan Shaugnessey, Krista Bradley, Ally Copponi Back row: their proud parents

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

younger sister, switched from No. 44 to No. 4 – the number Meghan has adorned since her freshman year – for last night's game.

After Walpole, the girls team will play in the Woburn Tournament this weekend, with its opening round matchup slated to be the Hanover Indians on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Boys basketball

Norwood lost its fourth game in a row to fall to 7-11 and out of the playoff picture on Tuesday night in a 66-56

loss at Brookline High School.

Mike James and Richie Watson each poured in over 20 points for the Mustangs with 24 and 21, respectively.

Norwood goes for the season sweep of Walpole on Thursday in the night cap of the double header, beginning at roughly 6:30 p.m.

The boys will also have one final home game on Tuesday in a nonleague tilt with the Hopkinton Hillers, beginning at 5 p.m. at Norwood High School.

Boys Hockey

continued from page 8

Not to be lost in the offensive resurgence is improved play on the back end for the Mustangs, beginning with goaltender Austin Reardon. The sophomore stopped all 17 Newton North shots he faced at John A. Ryan Arena in Watertown last week for the first shutout of his career.

Allen knew Norwood needed to secure at least a point coming off a monumental 5-3 win over Natick the previous Saturday, and for the most part couldn't complain with the result.

"Coming off a big win over Natick, you worry about a let-down," he said. "We needed a point out of it at least; we couldn't give a point away. I don't think ahead but the kids know the numbers."

"We had some good dump-ins, but our second guy wasn't there in time to get the puck. Or our first guy gets there and instead of protecting the puck, he pushes it over and they just come out."

Two scoring chances stood out for the Mustangs vs. the Tigers which ultimately went for naught. Late in the first pe-

riod, James Piatelli peeled off the left wing half-boards on a power play and uncorked a wrist shot to the glove side of Newton North goaltender Michael Gresser. But without a screen in front, Gresser had the puck dead to rights and made an easy glove save. The junior goalie stopped 22 shots in a shutout of his own.



Norwood co-captain Charlie Gover, right, prepares for a faceoff in last week's game vs. Newton North.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

riod, James Piatelli peeled off the left wing half-boards on a power play and uncorked a wrist shot to the glove side of Newton North goaltender Michael Gresser. But without a screen in front, Gresser had the puck dead to rights and made an easy glove save. The junior goalie stopped 22 shots in a shutout of his own.

Norwood's final rush of the game with about 15 seconds left in the third period was forged by Charlie Gover, who broke over the blue line into the attacking end but failed to get a shot off, draped by a pair of Tiger defenders.

The Mustangs offensive fortunes improved immensely vs. Milton (5-12-1), with a di-

versified attack featuring five goals from five different goal scorers.

James Golden staked Norwood to a 1-0 lead after 15 minutes on a feed from Gover, setting the stage for the floodgates to open up in the middle period; Kyle McCue, Anthony Marchant and Brandon Walsh made it 4-0 Mustangs after two periods.

"We exploded in the second period," Allen said. "We played pretty good. I'm obviously happy with winning, but I'm never satisfied."

Aidan Reardon scored in the third period for a 5-1 final, his tally closing scoring after Milton found its way on to the scoreboard.

Norwood traveled to Walter Brown Arena in Boston last night to take on the Brookline Warriors (3-13-1, 1-9 Bay State Conference) in an event held after the Record's deadline.

In a game originally slated for Monday, the Mustangs will travel to Brockton to take on the Boxers (3-9-3) at 4 p.m. tomorrow. Brockton supplied Norwood its only point last

Norwood stomps Newton North, earns draw vs. Milton



Mustangs captain Coley Hayes and assistant captain Janelle Kelleher were ready for just about every puck that headed in their direction during last week's 4-1 win over the Newton North Tigers.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The postseason no longer in play, Norwood High's girls hockey team is playing out the string with a sense of pride.

The Mustangs earned three of a possible four points last week in a 4-1 win over the Newton North Tigers last Wednesday and a 3-3 tie vs. the Milton Wildcats on Saturday, bringing their record to 5-12-2 with three games remaining.

"The girls are still very excited about playing," Norwood head coach Tim Coskren said. "The motivation is still there. It's just a matter of continuing to do what needs to be done correctly and playing as a team. We're moving them around a lot and playing them with different players, which is sometimes tough to do."

Losers in five of their last six with just nine goals scored, the Mustangs opened things up quite a bit vs. the Tigers, racing out to a 3-0 lead after the first period behind goals from Allie McDonough, Jessica Keller and Coley Hayes.

"The first two periods I think we played real well," Coskren said. "We got to play all four lines; everyone got in, which is always a goal. Keep everyone interested and motivated. So in that respect, it was good."

Norwood was also tight on the defensive end, not allowing a shot on goal for the Tigers for over nine minutes into the game.

At 2:09 of the third period, junior Christina Reilly scored the first goal of her varsity career to make it 4-0 in favor of the Mustangs.

"She doesn't get a lot of opportunities, so it was great to see," Coskren said, adding that he thought "all of the girls who don't get to see much ice time I thought

did really well."

Lydia Mastroianni scored the lone goal for Newton North with under two minutes to go in the third period on a feed from Ally Jurman.

Janelle Kelleher picked up the win for the Mustangs, stopping 28 of the 29 shots she faced from the Tigers. After seeing just seven shots in the first period, Newton North ramped it up a bit to pepper Kelleher with 11 shots each in the second and third periods.

Norwood's tie vs. Milton at Ulin Rink on Saturday saw two goals from Emily Cataldo and another tally from McDonough.

Despite the fact that the Mustangs will be sitting out the postseason for the second season in a row, several metrics indicate major improvements for the team.

To state to the obvious, the five

wins (with three games remaining) are more than the three wins Norwood notched last season.

The 43 goals the Mustangs have scored thus far is already more than last year's 40, and the 54 goals allowed through 19 games puts Norwood on pace to allow roughly 63 goals, down from 76 last season.

The Mustangs hosted the Brookline/Newton South co-op yesterday, in an event held after the Record's deadline.

They'll "host" Walpole at Rodman Arena on Saturday as part of a double header with the boys team at 4:50 p.m., which will be senior night for the girls.

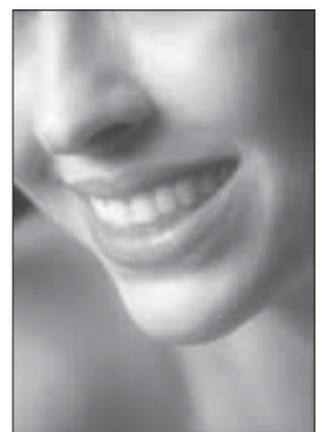
On Monday, the Mustangs will close out the 2016-17 season with a rare trip to the islands—Norwood will take on Martha's Vineyard 1:40 p.m.

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CATTAFFE

Viola "Vye" (Persechino), 86, of Norwood, Thursday, Feb. 9. Daughter of the late Natalino and Maria (DiVincenzo) Persechino. Beloved wife of the late Joseph S. Cattafe Sr. Devoted mother of Joseph S. Cattafe, Jr. and his wife Colleen of New Jersey, and Michael Cattafe and his wife, Diana of Concord. Loving grandmother of Connor, Brian, Anna and Isabela Cattafe. Dear sister of Joseph Persechino and his wife Carol of Fitchburg, and the late Oresto Persechino, and his surviving wife Elizabeth Persechino of Florida. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Viola was a Registered Nurse for many years with Associates in Internal Medicine in Norwood. Funeral was from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD. A Mass of Christian Burial was in St. Timothy's Church, Norwood.

MALACINSKI

Gene G. "Dolly" (Venterosa), a lifelong resident of Norwood passed away on Feb. 10, 2017 at the age of 87. Beloved wife of the late Francis G. Malacinski. Devoted mother of Lisa A. Drummey and her husband Brian F. Jr. of Norwood and the late Tracey A. Malacinski. Sister of Irma Dixon of Walpole, Nancy Studley of Sandwich and the late Nina, Lila, Tappy, Ronny and Ida. Cherished grandmother of Michael, Caitlin, Aaron and Allyson. Daughter of the late Anthony and Palmina (DiBenedetti) Aventeroso. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral was from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., NORWOOD. A funeral mass was at St. Catherine of Siena Church Norwood. Burial was at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to the Jimmy Fund C/O Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

DEATHS

KrawKornackFH/DN Customer LogoKrawKornackFuneralHome.com.

MORRISSEY

Anne E. (Lenhardt) Of Norwood, passed away on Feb. 6, 2017 at the age of 54. Devoted mother of Ashley E. Fuery and her husband Mark of Winthrop, Matthew J. Morrissey of Norwood and the late Kevin S. Tillett. Loving daughter of Maryellen Buhlman of Rhode Island and John C. Lenhardt of Weymouth. Sister of Laura McKiernan and her husband John of Dedham, Diane Gagne and her husband Paul of Rhode Island and John Lenhardt of Rhode Island. Also survived by many cherished nieces and nephews and Jack Morrissey of Norwood and Gloria Lenhardt of Weymouth. Anne volunteered at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Norwood for many years and was a former EMT for Fallon Ambulance Service. Funeral was from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., NORWOOD. A funeral mass was at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood. Burial was at Highland Cemetery Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the American Lung Assoc. 460 Totten Pond Rd Ste 400, Waltham, MA 02451.

NOTARANGELO

Antanette C. 90, lifelong resident of Norwood, Saturday, Feb. 11. Daughter of the late Lorenzo and Celeste (Poce) Notarangelo. Dear sister of the late Donata Magnani, Caroline Bullock, Mary Angellis, Joan Purpura, and Michael Notarangelo. Beloved aunt of many nieces, neph-

ews, grand-nieces and nephews, and great-grand nieces and nephews. Antanette was a 1944 graduate of Norwood High School, and then worked until her retirement for the former Norwood Gas Co., Boston Gas, and National Grid. She enjoyed taking many trips with a local women's club. Antanette's biggest joy was spending time with her family. Funeral Friday, Feb. 17 from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St. (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood at 11. Visiting hours Friday 9 - 10:30 only. Interment Highland Cemetery, Norwood.

RANALLI

JAMES L. "Jimmy" a lifelong resident of Norwood passed away on Feb. 12, 2017 at the age of 57. Beloved husband of Cathleen "Cathi" A. (Gordon) Ranalli. Devoted father of Jake L. and Mark Joseph Ranalli both of Norwood. Loving brother of Mario A. Ranalli Jr. and his wife Marianne of Walpole, John Ranalli and his fiancée Janet of Norwood, David Ranalli of California, Paul Ranalli and his wife Mary Lou of Lakeville, Jean M. Gagne and her husband Ron of Walpole and Judi-Anne Martin of Norwood. Son of the late Mario A. Sr. and Anne J. (Turco) Ranalli. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, family members and friends. Jimmy was a 1977 graduate of Norwood High School. He then went on to graduate from Framingham State College where he played hockey and was a member of the NCAA Div. 3 National Championship Hockey Team. He was owner of the James Ranalli Remodeling Co. of Norwood for many years. Jimmy was a member of the Norwood Elks and the Sharon Country Club. He was also very active with the Norwood Nuggets as a coach and also played hockey for the Norwood Nuggets growing up. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017 at 10 a.m. followed by

a funeral mass at 11 a.m. in St. Catherine of Siena Church Norwood. Burial will be at Highland Cemetery Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to a charity of your choice.

THORNTON

John Edward, a lifelong resident of Norwood, passed away on Feb. 9, 2017, at the age of 83. Beloved husband of Helen "Eileen" Mary Thornton. Devoted father of John Edward Thornton and his wife Kate of Westwood and Judith A. Lydon and her husband Paul of Norwood. Brother of Maryellen Ireland and her late husband James of Virginia, Anne P. King and her late husband Al of Idaho and the late Thomas Thornton and his wife Carmela Thornton of Norwood. Cherished grandfather of Kerry, Joseph, Katie and Erin Thornton. Son of the late Martin T. and Julia (Clancy) Thornton. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., NORWOOD, Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 10 a.m. followed by a funeral mass at 11 a.m. in St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood. Visiting hours will be held on Monday, Feb. 13, 2017 from 4-7 p.m. Burial, with military honors, will be at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made, in his name, to a Veterans' charity of your choice. US Air Force Korean War Veteran. KrawKornackFH/DN Customer Logokraw-kornackfuneralhome.com

WENSTROM

Bernice F. (Russell) Known to those close to her as "Nini". Of Norwood, Feb. 8. Beloved wife of the late Richard F. and dear mother of Richard F. Jr., and his wife Virginia, of Wrentham. Loving grandmother of Angela Oh, and her husband Jin, Samantha Wenstrom and Courtney Wenstrom. Proud great grandmother of Jae Jin Oh and Tae Mu Jin Oh. Relatives and friends are invited to attend her Memorial Service Sunday, Feb. 19 at 12:30 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 150 Chapel St, Norwood, MA 02062. In lieu of flowers donations in Bernice's memory to St. Roc Haiti Foundation, c/o Grace Episcopal Church (address above) would be appreciated. For obituary and guest book please visit website. Folsom & May Funeral Home www.folsomfuneral.com

Obituary policy

The Norwood Record publishes obituaries from information supplied by funeral homes. Relatives and friends also may supplement information by e-mailing to news@bulletinnewspapers.com by Monday at 1 p.m. Photos also will be accepted.



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Legal Notice

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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **Room 12 of the Municipal Office Building** on **03/07/17 at 7:30PM** on the request of Peter Catanese (Case #17-02) with respect to property located on **56 Providence Highway, in a M-Manufacturing District.**

This Application requests a **SPECIAL PERMIT** under Section 6.2.6 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow remodel existing sign, no increase in overall square footage, same height/width, replace existing digital sign according to attached rendering.

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

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

Norwood Record, 02/16/2017, 02/23/17

Letters continued from page 4

school committee member said, "You can call it what you want." Yes, we can call it what we want. However, what the school committee chooses to call it sends the message that one religion, albeit just a secular holiday for some, is more important to reference and takes precedence over the beliefs and celebrations of other members of the community. Call it what you want. I call it disappointing.

*Christine Banks
Norwood*

SABER SHOULD UNDERSTAND SILLY VERBIAGE

To The Editor:
In her column on Feb. 9, 2017, Jackie Saber mentions

Madonna's silly comment that she had been "thinking about" blowing up the White House. Ms. Saber then writes, "Shouldn't she be arrested? Anyone else would have been!"

I would think that Ms. Saber, of all people, would know that in America we do not arrest people for saying silly or even flat out wrong things.

Madonna did not make a threat to commit a crime. She did not carry out any overt act as part of a conspiracy to commit a crime. She did nothing criminal.

Ms. Saber should think long and hard before she advocates

for making it a crime to say something stupid.

*Mike Reilly
Norwood*

Tell 'em what you think with a Letter To The Editor

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