



Representatives for the proposed Wendy's/BJ's development located at 1412-1420 Boston-Providence Turnpike went before the Planning Board on Monday night.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

Traffic still the issue at Wendy's/BJ's hearing

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

This Monday evening, the Planning Board continued its hearing regarding the proposed Wendy's/BJ's development located at 1412-1420 Boston-Providence Turnpike. In anticipation of a large audience, the meeting was moved to the Community Room at the Police & Fire Station (137 Nahatan Street).

Around thirty members of the public attended, with many actively scribbling on notepads, commenting to each other, and murmuring the occasional interjection to themselves as the Board and representatives of Norwood 1420 Realty Ventures Nominee Trust went over the applicant's amended project diagrams and plans. In addition to site plan approval, the developer was looking for a special permit relief for a drive-through

and an extra sign.

As announced by Chairman Ernest Paciorkowski at the beginning of the 1412-1420 session, the Planning Board had, in fact, only just received the amended designs that same day, and were looking through them for the first time as the hearing unfolded.

Attorney David Hern stepped up to a copy of the revised diagram propped on an easel that was set up between the Board and the project's representatives – and largely obscured from most of the audience, which went back half a dozen rows – and explained the changes. Almost all of them addressed traffic, the major sticking point for Summer Street area residents who believe they will be negatively impacted by the increase in volume brought on by the proposed busi-

Planning Board
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Spike strip the answer to BJ's/Wendy's zoning concerns?

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

Tuesday evening, August 15, the Zoning Board of Appeals met in Memorial Hall of Town Hall to continue the hearing regarding the proposed Wendy's/BJ's development that would be located at 1412-1420 Boston-Providence Turnpike.

The hearing – which was continued to September 5 at the conclusion of the session – concerns only the BJ's portion of the development because of the requirement for special permits for gas stations in manufacturing zones.

Representing Norwood 1420 Realty Ventures Nominee Trust, Attorney David Hern – who had, the prior evening, gone before the Planning Board regarding special permitting for the Wendy's side of the development – went over changes made to the site design in order to direct traffic toward Route 1 and away from Sumner Street.

Of the changes proposed, attention quickly focused on – and, for the most part, stayed on – the driveway connecting the Wendy's and BJ's lots to each other. In keeping with the goal of reducing outgoing traffic to Sumner Street, the driveway is now diagrammed to go one way from Wendy's to BJ's, utilizing a stop sign, a do not enter sign, and a painted stop line as deterrents. Additionally, the planned driveway has been reduced to a width narrow enough for only one car at a time to be able to pass through but wide enough for a fire truck to access.

Nearly an hour of the meeting was dedicated to comments from the audience, of which there were approximately thirty in attendance. Comments made regarding the ineffectiveness of the connecting driveway in reducing traffic flow to Sumner Street by Paul K. Donahue (who had also spoken the night before at the Planning Board) prompted Vice Chairman Patrick Mulvehill – who presided – to ask,



Attorney David Hern presents revised development plan for Wendy's/BJ's at ZBA.

PHOTO BY MATT MACDONALD

“What would your proposal be for this body on that cut-through? Do you put a fire gate up for emergency access?”

Mr. Hern, in responding to Mulvehill's suggestion, stated, “The idea that it's only going to be accessed by emergency vehicles interferes with our business plan and it doesn't improve anything, really, on Sumner Street... The section of Sumner Street that we propose to have available for the entrance is all within commercial zoning districts so, if you say, ‘You can't come in that way, you can't go over to BJ's,’ then you're preventing our customers from getting into the property... There's no good reason to say you can't go from one side to the other. We've already answered that and this is a fair compromise.”

“I've got to be honest with you, Dave, I'm wrestling with that fact. I really am... You're obviously a worthy advocate for the applicant – I appreciate that – but it sounds like your wish list is a wish list.”

“This is not a wish list. This is how you design a business that you want to be successful to provide services that people in the community want.”

This exchange paved the way for the

ZBA

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Planning Board *continued from page 1*



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nesses.

Mr. Hern started off by stating that – as part of the revised plans – BJ’s would be accessible only to and from Route 1, with Left Turn Only signs directing vehicles that way. The new plans also call for the driveway connecting the gas station to the Wendy’s lot will be narrowed and made one way entry. “They (drivers) want to go to Wendy’s, they’ve got to go by way of Route 1.”

Additionally, the proposed driveway leading to Sumner Street has been modified to prohibit right turns so that any vehicle leaving Wendy’s would have to turn left toward Route 1.

Aside from the altered driveways, the Wendy’s site remains unchanged in the new plan.

For the next hour, Board members leafed through the new plans, asking project representatives about the site’s proposed landscaping, parking, lighting, and hours of operation. Largely uneventful, there was an exchange between Mr. Hern and Board member Debbie Holmwood that moved from preserving onsite trees to additional signage. Referring again – as Mr. Hern did several times during the session – to his client’s request for “one small bit of relief” for the additional sign, Ms. Holmwood drawled,

“How come everything is small, and when I just want a damn tree it’s a big deal?” eliciting some subdued laughter.

Shortly afterwards, when the floor was opened to the public, John MacLean walked to the front, unrolled a site diagram and clasped it to the easel covering the developer’s. He then explained how his alternative plan would use a feeder lane for southbound vehicles on Route 1 to access BJ’s and Wendy’s and force them to exit by way of Route 1, thus keeping that traffic from Sumner Street. “Nobody has been opposed to the project. We’re just opposed to the traffic.”

At one point, Ms. Holmwood questioned Mr. MacLean’s plan in relation to the developer’s new proposal. “You asked and we asked, and they tweaked here and they tweaked there. I mean, nobody’s getting everything they want on either side.”

“From a resident’s standpoint... we’re asking for ‘a little relief’... That’s what I heard tonight. We haven’t gotten ‘a little relief.’ A little relief is not a sign.”

“...It’s not everything you want, but it’s a little.”

“Everything we wanted was no access to Sumner Street.”

“But you don’t get everything you want.”

Responding to Mr. MacLean, Mr. Hern brought up Sumner Street’s mixed zoning, and the effect that it had on his client’s plans. “We’re proposing to use a road that’s in two commercial districts. We’re not proposing to use the portion of the road that’s in the residential district... from Bristol Drive, roughly.”

Several others stood up to ask questions, present their arguments, or to praise Mr. MacLean’s alternative plan. One, Paul K. Donahue, went into some detail warning of the dangers of a four way intersection on the already busy road. “Putting the sign up is just to placate the neighborhood, making them feel like, ‘Oh, I solved your problem.’ This is the problem right here! It’s the traffic situation they’re creating with two cars right opposite one another. That’s the problem, and it is going to cause accidents.”

To all of these, Mr. Hern’s responses were variations of his response to Mr. MacLean’s diagram, “This isn’t our plan. We don’t want this plan. We’re not proposing it. It’s not anything that improves anything.”

The Planning Board will meet again to continue with this hearing on Monday, August 28. It will be held at the Police and Fire Station in the Community Room at 7 p.m.

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Local veterans gather at the North Walpole Fish and Game Club to raise money for veterans suffering from PTSD.

COURTESY PHOTO

Heroes on the Water come to raise money

On August 5, 2017 veterans gathered at the North Walpole Fish and Game club and prepared to set out on the waters of Willett Pond, a row of kayaks sat prepped for a day of fishing. The participants are part of the Heroes on the Water Boston chapter which is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping military service members and veterans suffering from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome) by providing therapeutic experiences through kayak fishing.

The event started with a complimentary breakfast, after a safety brief and tips on the best locations on the pond to catch fish. The kayak anglers took to the water. Bad weather didn't slow their effort. While the fishing was going on the volunteers from the North Walpole Fish and Game Club took on the task of preparing lunch for the veterans and their families. Special kudos go out to the North Walpole Fish And Game Club located in Walpole, Massachusetts which is a active nonprofit corporation. Founded on September 8, 1947, from the start, the North Walpole Fish and Game Club has been faithful, with many functions and scholarship drives. The North Walpole Fish and Game Club has demonstrated a deep moral commitment to the community and veterans. For the past twenty-four years students from Walpole, Norwood, Westwood and Norfolk Agricultural High Schools have received scholarships to help them as they plan their futures.

BACK-TO-GYMNASTICS



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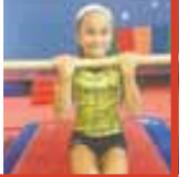
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**BOTTOM LINE ...
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THE RECORDS!**

To the Editor:

Town Meeting Members, both past and present, greatly concerned about the negative direction our town is taking particularly with regard to applications for new construction of one, two and three-bedroom apartment complexes, got together to form Citizens for Responsible Development (CRD). The primary reasons stated in these applications are twofold: (1) the developments are "consistent with local needs" and (2) the Town of Norwood does not meet the statutory minimum requirements pursuant to Chapter 40B of Massachusetts General Laws.

Chapter 40B is a most horrible law. It is biased in favor of developers and prejudicial against residents. It intentionally overrides zoning and conservation laws of any city or town in the Commonwealth in the so-called interest of "affordable housing." A city or town must have either 10 percent of its housing stock listed on the state's Subsidized Housing Inventory or have 1.5 percent of its land used for affordable housing purposes. Section 20 applies to the "consistent with local needs" aspect of the law.

Unfortunately, Chapter 40B also states that existing multi-family apartment dwellings cannot be counted toward the 10 percent minimum, as the law only applies to new construction. Section 8, the voucher program that is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, which allows landlords to rent to qualified low income tenants, is not counted either.

What Chapter 40B does is to pave the way, with few limits, for real estate developers to get subsidies from the state, build their apartment complexes and make exorbitant profits at the expense of taxpayers. One can only surmise that attorneys and lobbyists for developers, together with their governmental allies, wrote the

Chapter 40B bill that was passed by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1969, 48 years ago.

Norwood is only 10.6 square miles, and according to the last census taken in 2010, already has a population of 30,602, making it much denser than any of the surrounding communities. Two and three family dwellings exist in every single one of Norwood's nine voting districts, and residents already consider them "affordable housing." This town has many recipients of Section 8 vouchers. However, neither is factored in. If they were, then Norwood would surpass both the 10 percent housing stock and the 1.5 percent land criteria for "affordable housing" by a very large margin.

Norwood's own Housing Production Plan (HPP), dated Sept. 4, 2013, stated that "Norwood exceeds rental housing percentages in the state, county, and region." It further states: "Norwood has a smaller percentage of single family homes than surrounding communities, the region and the state."

A critical part of the HPP is a town's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). Norwood could have requested an updated SHI with land area, and the Department of Housing and Community Development would have to comply, as was decided in the Waltham court case.

Every time large apartment complexes are built, everything is added to the infrastructure of a community – utilities like sewer, water, electric, roads, trash. Then calculate the cost of police and fire services and the additional number of children to the Norwood School System at \$15,000 per pupil each year. So, unless the tax revenue generated from each apartment unit of these Chapter 40B complexes can dramatically offset the cost to our Town,

residents will feel the financial strain as real estate taxes go up.

How is it that we average taxpayers not only pay for ourselves, but also, subsidize the recipients of all these "affordable housing" apartment units and the projects of wealthy developers who don't even live here? There are some professionals living in this "working man's town" who have publicly stated that Norwood's property taxes are too low. Businesses, especially on heavily traveled Route 1, pay a higher commercial tax rate to help keep that tax rate down for residents on purpose. That's the agreement and has been for years. However, if those professionals feel they can and want to contribute more than their property tax bill, they are welcome to donate additional funds to the Town's Treasury.

Campanelli and the Town signed a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement (read: subsidy for redevelopment). However, a contract was never signed, so it was allowed to morph into a Chapter 40B complex that has 262 apartments. (One has to wonder if that was Campanelli's or the Town's purpose all along.) Now along comes Davis Marcus Partners/Forbes Hill, who recently reduced its requested number of apartment units to 275. However, Avalon Bay is waiting in the wings for another Chapter 40B complex with perhaps another 200 apartments, making a total of 737 one, two and three-bedroom apartment units of new construction in Norwood. How is this "consistent with local needs? How many people will be added to the 2020 census in this already dense town? How many additional students to the Norwood School System?

Town Officials could have nipped this entire Chapter 40B situation in the bud by taking proactive measures years ago and pursue the 1.5 percent of land requirement instead of the 10 percent minimum housing stock angle they proposed with Plimpton Press. At 30,602, as of 2010, this town would never be able to have 10 percent of its housing stock for "affordable housing" even with Plimpton.

It was at Town Meeting that a member who read the Chapter 40B law brought the 1.5 percent land option to the floor. Town Officials never did. The public strongly requested that residents be put on the 1.5 percent Task Force, but why did it take so long to get started when Town Officials knew of the September 2015 Safe Harbor Deadline?

Hence, the Citizens for Re-

sponsible Development. We met, read the law and did our homework. In February 2016, our letter with documentation attached was submitted to the Housing Appeals Committee hoping they would deny the application of Davis Marcus Partners/Forbes Hill. Almost 500 Norwood residents from each of the nine voting districts quickly signed on to our letter that included police, fire fighters, Veterans, nurses, teachers, students, senior citizens, parents of school-age children, apartment dwellers, town meeting members and candidates for local public office. All agreed on this extremely important issue. A great big THANK YOU goes to each and every one.

Norwood residents called our attention to Group Homes in their neighborhoods. Although these homes normally have three units per address, any more need special approval. A Norwood resident gave us architectural plans for "single" family homes with 10 bedrooms in each that sit on 2.65 acres of land. So, how did those two Group Homes at that location even get Town approval? Why was the acreage not counted in the Town's SHI submission? Another resident knows of a Group Home situated nearby that has several automobiles in the driveway. Also, not counted. Moreover, many told of a Group Home on a main road in town that is situated on 1/3 acre, also not included in the Town's inventory. Norwood's submission of 60 Group Homes was low and Davis Marcus knew it. That's why they didn't challenge the number. Some more pertinent points to ponder:

- The state's Housing Appeals Committee said Norwood was short by only .03 of the 1.5 percent. The public was told many times that the Town's information would surpass the state's minimum requirement. It didn't.

- Why did Town Officials reject the assistance of members at Town Meeting instead of agreeing to work together? Town Officials didn't even meet with a resident's attorney who won the case for Waltham in Superior Court for Middlesex County.

- Why did the Board of Selectmen delay and wait 15 months into a two-year Safe Harbor time period to form the 1.5 percent Task Force? This critical 15 months could have produced land for the Town to purchase and leave no doubt about the Town's 1.5 percent standing.

- While the Town submitted the number of 60 Group Homes on its Subsidized

Housing Inventory as of the September 2015 deadline, how did the state have 66 DDS Group Homes and 5 DMH Group Homes in February 2016, a mere four months later? If Group Homes, publicly or privately built, owned or managed are receiving State Funds (read: taxpayer), then the acreage of all Group Homes should be counted towards Norwood's 1.5 percent Statutory Minimum Requirement of land devoted for "affordable housing."

- In all these years, why hasn't the Massachusetts Legislature, including our own delegation, taken the initiative and done anything to alleviate the negative impact and hardship this law has on towns like Norwood that have full rentals and "affordable housing?"

- Why wasn't Fowl Meadow counted in the Conservation calculations and declared "not buildable?" Has that error been corrected? If not, why not? No more loopholes!

- Has an environmental study been made of the entire Upland property?

- Have traffic issues at the site been resolved for the safety of residents in surrounding neighborhoods, including lower Washington Street?

- What are the effects of Storm Water Drainage in the area?

- If the Boston area has the third highest rents in the country, after San Francisco and New York, exactly what are the market rates going to be for these new construction one, two and three-bedroom "affordable housing" apartment units?

- How does "consistent with local needs" apply to already dense Norwood? Make it denser?

- What is the ratio of apartments vs. home ownership?

- How does M.G.L., Chapter 40B, enhance the quality of life of residents who live or work here in Norwood and who are struggling just to make ends meet?

- The reluctance of State and Town Officials is telling in that Norwood is faced with three Chapter 40B "Affordable Housing" complexes.

- Is the goal of State and Town Officials to make this beautiful Town of Norwood the "City in the Suburbs?"

What the Citizens for Responsible Development is asking the Zoning Board of Appeal to do, before rendering its final decision forty days from the closing of the public hearing last Tuesday, Aug. 8, is to subpoena the records at the Department of Housing and Community Development for the acreage of all Group

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Letters

Continued on page 6

Airport, BEH square off again

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 9, the Airport Commission met for a relatively brief open session that was overshadowed by the ongoing litigation between Norwood

order to protect FlightLevel Aviation, the incumbent FBO at the airport.

Along with the other agenda items slated for the meeting, Boston Executive Helicopters was there as well, as old business regarding a fueling plan was required for its FBO permit appli-

email had been sent, BEH President Christopher Donovan – present with two other company representatives – requested permission to address the Commission.

After being warned by Ryan – and after a request had been placed by Clerk Kevin

“Do you have a fueling plan? That’s a simple question. Yes or no.”

– Airport Commission Chairman Mark Ryan

Memorial Airport and charter company Boston Executive Helicopters.

BEH alleges that airport officials discriminated against it when it applied for a Fixed Based Operator (FBO) permit in 2014 in

cation.

When the time came to bring the matter up, Chairman Mark Ryan asked Airport Manager Russ Maguire if BEH had been contacted regarding the matter. When Maguire informed him that an

Shaughnessy – to keep his comments limited to the matter in question, Sullivan sat at the end of the table opposite Ryan and

Airport

Continued on page 6

ONE-ON-ONE GENEALOGY SESSIONS

Volunteer genealogist and Norwood resident Joe Petrie is once again offering personalized, two-hour-long sessions at the Morrill Memorial Library during the month of October to those interested in researching their ancestry. These sessions are being held at various dates and times in

October. If you are interested in reserving one of these coveted spots, please

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SECTION A REQUEST FOR WRITTEN RESPONSES TOWN OF NORWOOD, MA

Written responses will be received up to 11:00 A.M. (Verizon time), September 6, 2017, in the Purchasing Department, 566 Washington Street, 3rd Floor, Norwood, MA 02062 for the following Public Project:

Installation of Ceiling Tiles – Norwood Civic Center

The complete package may be obtained in the Purchasing Department between 8:15 A.M., and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Bid documents can also be obtained electronically by registering and downloading at: <https://bids.norwoodma.gov>.

The written response must be filled out and signed as directed therein. Responses can be hard copy or electronic copy. Electronic responses are to be sent to: ccarney@norwoodma.gov. Hard copies are to be addressed to: Catherine Carney in the Purchasing Department, and endorsed with the name and address of the bidder, and marked, “Ceiling Tile Installation - CONTRACT #NRD-18-02”.

A bid bond is not required for this contract. A pre-bid conference and site visit will be held on August 22, 2017, at 11:00 A.M., at the Norwood Civic Center, 165 Nahatan Street, Norwood, MA 02062.

The successful responder shall, within ten (10) days of notification of award furnish the Town a performance bond and a payment bond in an amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of the award price.

Written responses shall be prepared, considered, and the contract awarded in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 149. Every response shall be on forms furnished by the Town. Bids submitted on other forms may be rejected. The award of the contract shall be made within 30 working days after the opening of General Bids, Saturdays, and Sundays excluded.

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

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

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

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

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BY: John J. Carroll
General Manager

Norwood Record, 8/17/17

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Airport *continued from page 5*

began to read a prepared statement:

"The Commission's conduct, with respect to BEH's FBO permit application and request to lease space on which to conduct an FBO operation are critical issues in both the pending Federal court litigation..."

Stopped at that point by Ryan and not allowed to continue, a back and forth followed in which Sullivan insisted that his statement would address the fueling plan and Ryan insisted that what little had been read was already out of order.

"We've asked you for the fueling plan," Ryan said. "This is not the time to get up here and talk about the Commission and their actions. What you need is to get the fueling plan to us, get the FBO permit, we can start talking."

The tone hovered between quietly confrontational and perfunctorily civil. When Sullivan denied having received Maguire's email, Ryan responded, "That's false, because I saw that email." Referring to the fueling plan and his statement, Mr. Sullivan continued, "I am attempting to address that..." before being cut off

The Norwood Record

by Ryan, "Do you have a fueling plan?"

"I am attempting t..."

"Do you have a fueling plan?"

"I am attempting to address that."

"Do you have a fueling plan? That's a simple question. Yes or no."

"Well, I'd like to give a simple answer and address that in a statement to the Commission."

"What I suggest is whatever information you have there, you send it to Russ, we can address it next meeting. If you want to be on the agenda to present it, you're more than welcome to. Okay?"

"If you're refusing to allow me to address the Commission on the

fueling plan, that's fine."

"We've asked you a number of times for this fueling plan. The attorney said it was coming. Now you have some statement accusing us of..."

"I'm not accusing anybody of anything. I'm trying to address the fueling plan."

Vice Chairman Michael Sheehan interjected.

"You started off addressing the court action, which we're all waiting for the decision on," Sheen said. "So if you can address the fueling plan without mentioning the court action, because there's no correlation at all. You had a

August 17, 2017

chance to get a lease. You let that time lapse several times. If you're here to ask us to reconsider, that should be your topic."

The matter was ultimately left with Ryan's suggestion to Sullivan unchanged.

Shortly after this exchange, the meeting went into Executive Session to deal with the ongoing litigation between the Town, the Airport Commission and BEH.

In other Airport Commission business of note, the lengthy terminal renovations overseen by FlightLevel Aviation, having been completed, will be celebrated with an invitational open house to be held on Sept. 6 from 4-9 p.m.

Letters *continued from page 4*

Homes in Norwood, and therefore, let it be decided by Superior Court of Norfolk County.

State and Town Officials are supposed to be the guardians and caretakers of the residents in the Commonwealth. All efforts must be made to ensure that the residents of Norwood are included.

Judith Howard
TMM - District 3

IT'S UP TO THE ZBA TO DO THE RIGHT THING

To the Editor:

Our Zoning Board of Appeals will cast votes to decide our 40B fate on Sept. 5. That decision will be announced on the four-year anniversary of the start of our two year 40B safe harbor. Instead of working with the public, our Board of Selectmen have chosen to deceive the public and work more backroom deals to achieve the desired goal of getting two more 40Bs. You could thank the BOS for that if they would allow the public to speak with them.

This 40B fight has been going on for over half a decade without one single public hearing on the matter since John Carroll announced his "home-grown" 1.5 percent defense game plan. Instead, the games continue with "executive sessions" and damage control comments to the public made by Bill Plasko. That page 5 article in last week's paper is his latest round of 40B lies. One only needs to flip to the back page to get a dose of the truth from Brian Hardiman. God bless you Brian. God bless Judith Howard as well. The lies are too thick to just sweep them under the rug with an announcement on Sept. 5.

We have been told that Town Counsel is going to defend us in Court for four long years. Then why was our litigation budget for Town Counsel lowered for the upcoming fiscal year at Town Meeting? Aren't we preparing for a 40B showdown in court? That is never going to happen, folks. Our BOS has already surrendered. We will have three hostile 40Bs here in Town wel-

comed in by their friends. It is Monkey Business as usual here in Norwood, Mass. They should have things wrapped up nicely in time for John Carroll to break out his trusty 40B silver shovel two more times before he parts ways with us. It would be fitting if his last official function was to hoist the White flag at full mast at Town Hall as he leaves us.

The ZBA, as well as our BOS can still file those subpoenas in court and be done with this 40B nightmare forever as Waltham has done. But there is one thing that stands in their way. It's the deal that our BOS has ALREADY made with the Finley/Avalon 40B in "executive sessions." Shame on you all. You've managed to spit in the eye of every person who has ever lived and breathed in this town, and any and all future inhabitants as well. All eyes are now on the ZBA and this pivotal moment in the history as we decide the future fate of our Town. Let's hope the ZBA stands tall and does the right thing. They have no excuse not to. The ZBA has been given in writing all the ammo they need to justify denying the Davis/Marcus comprehensive 40B permit by caring citizens of this Town. We will automatically get the Avalon 40B if the ZBA goes down without a fight. The 40B truth shall set us free and "save us all" if our ZBA has the guts to stand up against Bill Plasko and our BOS.

Kevin Pentowski
District 7 Town Meeting

PUT CHRISTMAS BACK ON THE CALENDAR

To the Editor:

I applaud Mrs. McNulty for her strong statement about the School Committee stripping the word "Christmas" from the school Calendar. In doing so, some of the members said that it was done in the name of "inclusion" and Diversity." That is an example of twisted logic.

Christmas is a joyful time of year and has been a national holiday for many years. Let's not pretend otherwise. Our schoolchildren know better!

Missy Walker
Norwood



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Schools seek to simplify Town Meeting reporting

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

The School Committee's budget subcommittee met on Monday at the Savage Educational Center to go over its plans regarding presenting the School Department's finances to the Town in an easier to understand way.

Present at the meeting were School Committee members Myev Bodenhofer and Maura Smith. Also attending was Finance Commission member Anne Marie Haley, who has been advising and working with the School Department in an effort to help it to clarify its bookkeeping system. Everyone agreed on the importance on the importance being able to look back to past budgets, while acknowledging the current difficulty in doing that effectively.

Aspects of the problems with the system were touched on early. When Haley asked if it might be possible to get ongoing status reports regarding the 2018 budget, Bodenhofer responded, "We do get monthly

reports on the status of the budget. The problem is the format that they come in is the Town accounting system, which is sometimes of limited value to us."

This proved to be an underlying theme as – later on – Bodenhofer went into more specifics regarding its nuances.

"To really line it up and say, 'How much did we spend in FY16,' you have to look at how much we spent in FY16 and how much we spent in FY15 to pay it forward and then subtract out whatever we were left with in FY16 that we prepaid into FY17," she said.

Despite this confusion, Bodenhofer sounded relatively optimistic about finding these figures and applying them correctly and volunteered to start trying to sort expenditures out.

Delivering an optimistic but realistic message at Town Meeting was also a major Budget Committee theme. Citing the large amount of information Town Meeting members are asked to digest, Maura Smith laid out a basic set of talking points.

"Here are the amazing things

we're doing. Here are the amazing things we'd like to do that we can't. And here are the programs that we've lost. I think that people have forgotten that Art is gone from the Willett."

Towards the end of the meeting, Bodenhofer summed up the general goals of the budget subcommittee.

"What we really want to do is give people something that makes sense instead of... When people ask a simple question, they don't want 300 pages of detail for the answer," she said. "They want a one page summary."

Haley interjected, saying, "They want you to say, 'I've looked at all of these accounts, I understand where the expense and income come from in these accounts, and this is the bottom line.' They want you to be able to say, 'I've looked at it. I've taken care of it, and it makes sense or doesn't make sense.' And if it doesn't make sense, then the School Committee will work on it."

The next School Committee budget subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Sept. 20 at 3 p.m. at the Savage Center.

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Sports



Nearly a year after surgery on his left elbow, Cam Ryan returned to action this summer for Post 70. His arm remains intact, which means he'll look to continue his baseball career at Elon University.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Ryan's Post 70 summer a significant step

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Cam Ryan never really considered not playing baseball again.

The former Norwood High star suffered an injury in his left elbow – his throwing arm – early in his senior season with the Mustangs, depriving him of a chance to pitch on the then-defending State Champion baseball team in 2016.

Testing revealed that Ryan needed UCL reconstruction – or as it's more

commonly known, Tommy John surgery – a procedure becoming more and more common among players in Major League Baseball

But the timetable for recovery from Tommy John can take up to a year, with many pitchers not regaining their pre-surgery form until their second year removed from the operation – if ever.

This didn't just effectively end Ryan's pitching career with the Mus-

Ryan's Return
Continued on page 9

Mellen working to make it to the "Show"

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Sean Mellen has all the attributes you'd want in a pitcher – tall, left-handed, hard-throwing and fearless – but his freshman season at Northeastern University was filled with ups and downs, due in large part to struggles with his command.

Mellen proved he could strike out college hitters with little difficulty, fanning 22 batters in 20 innings of work. Opposing hitters were reaching base against him, yet they could hardly hit him – his .194 opponents batting average against was the best mark on the Huskies.

Walks were persona non grata for the 2016 Norwood High graduate, as he issued 28 bases on balls.

Not that walks were never an issue for Mellen – even in his no-hitter against Dedham on May 9, 2016, he issued eight free passes – but was he getting at all discouraged that the issue was following him to the next level?

"Never," Mellen said earlier this week. "At times, I was pounding the strike zone. It's about becoming consistent with that."

Work remains, no doubt, but improvement for Mellen didn't just come incrementally this summer while pitching for the Worcester Bravehearts of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, it came exponentially.

The 6-foot-5 lefty saw his earned run average (ERA) plummet from 10.80 at Northeastern this spring to 3.83 with Worcester; Mellen pitched



Sean Mellen, seen above in his NHS days, has a fastball that can reach 94 mph.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

40 innings for the Bravehearts, or twice the amount he threw for the Huskies. His walk rate shrunk from 12.6 per nine innings to 7.65.

That last number is still a bit high, but Mellen can already tell the tweaks he's made to his pitching motion are paying off.

"It definitely improved," Mellen said of his control. "I was making adjustments all year mechanically, but towards the end of the [spring season] I started to feel comfortable with my delivery and just tried to carry it over into the summer."

His fastball sits consistently in the low 90s, generally running from

Mellen
Continued on page 9

Girls soccer heavy on home-and-home series

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Hopefully, travel won't make for a weary Norwood High girls soccer team this fall.

Rebecca Newman's first season as head coach of the varsity team includes 11 road matches – including the first five of the season – compared to just seven home matches over the course of the season.

The Mustangs will play 11 league games, facing each remaining team in the Bay State Conference once each (plus an extra game vs. Milton). The remaining seven games for Norwood will come against nonleague opponents, with one team noticeably absent: the Dedham Marauders.

While football, boys soccer and field hockey will still compete with Dedham, girls soccer's rivalry with the Marauders will be on hiatus for at least this season while Norwood's league affiliation is sorted out. Dedham begins competing at a member of the Tri-Valley League this fall.

Nonleague opponents for Norwood include Hockomock League teams in the Sharon Eagles and Stoughton Black Knights, as well as the Ursuline Academy Bears of the Catholic Conference and Quincy Presidents of the Patriot League.

The Mustangs will play Quincy just once, but their remaining nonleague opponents will all be part of home-and-home series. Norwood both opens and

closes the season with Sharon, as the Mustangs travel to the Eagles on Tuesday, Sept. 5, with the return date at Norwood (at Father Mac's) on Thursday, Oct. 27.

The season-opening five-match road swing for the Mustangs heads to Braintree after Sharon, followed by Quincy, Natick and finally Milton.

Norwood's first home match is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 18 vs. Weymouth.

After the initial road trip, the Mustangs have just one remaining road swing longer than one match. The team will play five of its final eight matches at home, a stretch beginning on Thursday, Oct. 5 vs. Needham.

Norwood's lone match with Walpole

is on Thursday, Sept. 28 at Bird Middle School.

The Mustangs have not won a game within the Bay State Conference since the 2011 season. The team went 2-15-1 last season, its wins coming over returnees to this year's schedule in Stoughton and Ursuline Academy. Norwood plays Stoughton on Wednesday, Sept. 20 (away) and Monday, Oct. 16 (home); it faces Ursuline on Tuesday, Oct. 3 (away) and Friday, Oct. 20 (home).

Barring a change in the schedule, the Mustangs are currently to scheduled to play 17 of their 18 matches in the afternoon, with all matches beginning between 3:30 and 4 p.m. Norwood's lone night match of the season is slated for Friday, Sept. 15 at Milton at 7 p.m.

Bay State Shuffle: where would Norwood fit?

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Thirty-four schools comprise the Bay State Conference (BSC), Tri-Valley League (TVL) and Hockomock League (Hock).

Each league has existed since the 1960s or earlier, each league taking on different shapes and sizes in the meantime.

The three leagues are all in similar geographic areas, spanning from the Metro West towards the South Coast back east towards Route 24 and the South Shore.

A common thread throughout Norwood High's process of prying free from the BSC to join the TVL has been, "If the leagues formed today, rather than 1958, would Norwood be a part of the BSC?"

Based on enrollment? Highly unlikely. Norwood had 957 students this past school year, while behemoths such as Newton North, Framingham, Weymouth and Brookline were all well over 1,900. Milton was the only other school with an enrollment under 1,000 in the BSC.

Socioeconomics are most definitely a factor as well. In the current TVL, Westwood,

Medfield, Hopkinton and both Dover and Sherborn (which form a regional high school) are in the top 25 in the state in terms of per capita income. In the current BSC, Wellesley, Brookline, Needham and Newton (which contains Newton North, of course) are also in the top 25.

So in many regards, Norwood isn't a great fit in either the BSC or the TVL.

But the Hock?

Only one community, Sharon, is even in the top 50 in terms of per capita income statewide. And for whatever reason, Sharon High's athletic program doesn't seem to com-

pare with many of those around it.

Norwood has an enrollment larger than that of several schools in the Hock (Foxboro, 826 and Canton, 951), and is compatible with both Sharon (1,058) and Stoughton (1,059). There's a reason all four of those schools are popping up all over various schedules for the Mustangs this fall, and will continue to do so in the winter and spring.

This all isn't to say the Hock is expanding. It seems to have a pretty stable membership after growing from nine teams to 10 in 2010 (bringing on Attleboro) and from 10 teams to 12 just two years later (Taunton and Milford joined the league).

Taunton and Attleboro are both cities, much like Framingham, Newton, Brookline and Weymouth in the BSC. But Newton and Brookline are each extremely affluent communities; the others, not so much.

Geography is another manner in which all leagues should be constructed. Norwood currently shares a border with a member of the BSC (Walpole), the TVL (Westwood) and two members of the Hock (Canton and Sharon – each of which is very compatible with Norwood in terms of enrollment).

Considering it all, there's no question Norwood's best fit in today's leagues would be in the Hock.

But since that doesn't appear likely – for now – what might happen if the BSC, TVL and Hock decided to blow it up and start over from scratch?

There wouldn't be many changes in the TVL's membership, unless Norton (760 students) and/or Dedham (739) decided geography would

make them a better fit in the Hock. Hopkinton (1,090 students) and Westwood (999) have the numbers and the resources to compete with almost any of the schools, but why leave a good thing?

Here's what the Hockomock and Bay State Conference would look like if they were re-imagined today:

* Hock – Small Division: Stoughton, Milton, Norwood, Canton, Foxboro, Dedham * Hock – Large Division: Mansfield, Oliver Ames, N. Attleboro, Walpole, Milford, Sharon

* BSC – Small Division: Natick, Wellesley, Needham, Braintree, King Philip, Franklin * BSC – Large Division: Attleboro, Weymouth, Taunton, Framingham, Brookline, Newton North

This would leave the TVL alone (minus keeping Dedham from them and leaving it at 10 schools). The "new" Hock is made up the 12 smaller schools between the current BSC and Hock, while the "new" BSC is the 12 larger schools left over. Newton North and Brookline could easily swap with King Philip and Franklin based on tradition, socioeconomics and geography – the big three of league formation, with an assist of course from enrollment.

Going strictly off of enrollment can create awkward fits. Everything needs to be considered. But if I say so myself, the new leagues really don't look all that bad.

Norwood fans, what would you prefer? The status quo of the Bay State Conference, jumping to the Tri-Valley League, or something completely out of left field that just might make more sense than either of the first two options?

Mellen *continued from page 8*

90-92 mph; Mellen said that he's topped out at 94. He's also throwing a curveball, slider and changeup to complement his fastball, adding that his confidence level has grown in throwing the pitches in the zone for strikes.

Mellen reflected fondly upon his time with the Bravehearts, which saw their season come to an end on Saturday vs. the Nashua Silver Knights, but mentioned it was hard at times watching his former high school teammates get back together for one last ride with the Norwood Post 70 American Legion baseball team.

"It was tough seeing all my friends back home playing, because you feel like you let them down not being there with them," Mellen said. "I felt like I was missing out on all the good times. [But] it was an honor to play for Worcester this summer for a great organization with great coaches and teammates in front of great fans. I learned a lot of valuable things there this summer and stuff that I'll bring with me for the rest of my time at Northeastern."

Mellen is unsure where he'll be pitching next summer, but in the meantime, he'll worry about preparing for his sophomore season with the Huskies.

Though it's something that couldn't hap-

pen until the spring of 2019 at the earliest, Mellen said his ultimate goal remains being drafted by a Major League Baseball team.

"I think every college baseball player, or any baseball player for that matter, dreams of getting drafted," he said. "I would love for it to happen one day for me."

At least one player from Northeastern has been drafted in 12 of the last 17 seasons since the turn of the century. Four players all-time have gone from the Huskies to play in the majors, including current Northeastern manager Mike Glavine; Carlos Peña, who played 14 big league seasons and had a brief stint with the Red Sox; and Adam Ottavino, currently in his seventh major league season and pitching for the Colorado Rockies.

There's a long, long road ahead of Mellen before that goal is attainable, but he hasn't forgotten at all how he got to even this point. He credits Norwood High baseball coach Kevin Igoe and Norwood Post 70 coach Paul Samargedlis with helping shape him in to the person he is today.

"They both had a huge impact on getting me to where I am today in different ways," Mellen said. "They taught me so much about life and baseball."

Ryan's Return *continued from page 8*

tangs, it put his future to pitch on the Norwood Post 70 American Legion baseball team in doubt. Knowing surgery was imminent, he threw one last hurrah vs. Westwood last summer before going under the knife.

The road of rehabilitation was up next for Ryan, who completed the arduous task in time to get back on the bump for Post 70 this summer.

"The rehab process was hard, but it went well," Ryan said shortly after this summer

season ended for Norwood. "It was a lot of work and physical therapy post-surgery just to get back to throwing a ball. I never really considered not playing baseball again."

Ryan, who's set to begin his sophomore year at Elon University in North Carolina in the coming weeks, said that this past spring was definitely weird for him not being able to play baseball for the first time in years.

Distance made the heart grow fonder for Ryan, who felt

confident he wasn't done with the sport just yet.

"A year without playing baseball really makes you realize how much you love the game," he said. "So it was hard, but it was worth it in the end when I was finally able to get back on the field."

The hardest part is now behind Ryan, who pitched for Post 70 this summer without any setbacks from a health standpoint.

The next step will have its own challenges, however, as he figures out how to continue refining his form so that he can pitch at the next level.

Ryan has plans to pitch for the club baseball team at Elon this spring, and if all goes well, he'd like to give a shot at making the varsity team in the future.

"I'll keep building up my arm strength and fine tune my mechanics and take it from there," he said on the matter. "If everything goes well and I feel like I'm putting myself in decent position to have a shot at getting on the team, I'll definitely try it."

Ryan led Post 70 with seven appearances this season – five starts and two relief appearances – and recorded the team's only save, way back in its season opener vs. Walpole.

Walks became an issue for Ryan as the season plodded along, as he issued 36 free passes in 25 2/3 innings pitched.

He's not overly concerned about it, attributing it to a combination of shaking off the rust and tinkering with his

delivery to accommodate for his elbow.

"I played around with my mechanics a lot this year," Ryan said. "I switched my windup to incorporate a lot more of my legs and take some of the burden off my elbow. I think it was a mix of shaking the rust off and figuring out my mechanics."

Ryan, who said that no baseball memory of his can match the title run of the 2015 Mustangs, is glad he came back – no matter how difficult it will be to recreate a moment like that.

"I'm definitely glad I came back," he said. "It was great being able to get on the field again. It was a long process, and it was rough at times, but it was all worth it."

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BOULIS

SOPHIE S. a lifelong resident of Norwood passed away on Aug. 8, 2017 at the age of 93. Loving sister of Mary Thomas of Boynton Beach, Fla. and the late William Boulis, Bob Boulis, Hifa Toney, Minnie Alberts, Helen Nedder and Elizabeth McDonough. Daughter of the late Sam and Annesee (Elias) Boulis. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Sophie was an active Lifelong parishioner at St. George Orthodox Church in Norwood. She was also very active in all her nieces and nephews lives. Funeral was from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St., Norwood. A funeral service was at St. George Orthodox Church, Norwood. Burial was at Highland Cemetery Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to the St. George Orthodox Church, Sunday School Scholarship Fund in memory of Bob and Anne Boulis or to St. George Orthodox Church Building Fund 6 Atwood Ave. Norwood, MA 02062.

CLARK

Frank H. 83, of Norwood, Saturday, July 29. Son of the late Frank H. and Frances (Lawler) Clark. Beloved husband of the late Eliza-

DEATHS

beth "Betty" (Ianello) Clark. Devoted father of Kelly Dutcher of Norwood, and the late Frank J. Clark and his wife Leigh of Bellingham, whom survives. Loving grandfather of Haley Elizabeth and Jake Harrison Clark, Shaw Garrison Dutcher, and Russell (Shea) Iannello. Brother of Loretta "Chicky" Carter of Quincy, Eugene Clark of Foxboro, and the late Barbara Bruce, John Clark, and Patricia DelloRusso. Frank was the longtime proprietor of Colombo's Sandwich Shop in Norwood, and worked for Remax Realty as a Real Estate Broker for 26 years. He was an avid Boston Sports fan and was also a local youth sports business sponsor. A memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 9 in St. Mary's Church, 176 Washington St., East Walpole at 11:30 a.m. Interment Private. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Frank's memory to Dana-Farber Jimmy Fund Tribute Program, 1 Harvard St., Brookline MA 02146-9795.

HOUSTON

Stephen F., 49, of Norwood,

and formerly of Roslindale, suddenly on Friday, Aug. 11. Son of the late Barbara L. (Evans) and A. Herbert Houston. Beloved husband of Rose McLaughlin. Devoted father of Jarred Stephen Houston of Norwood, Danny McLaughlin of Hyannis, and Lindsey McLaughlin of Norwood. Cherished grandfather of Lucas Peoples and Daniel McLaughlin. Loving brother of Barbara Fanning of Plymouth, Michael Houston and his wife Sheila of Sagamore Beach, Paul Houston and his wife Lorraine of Hyde Park, Richard Houston (BPD) and his wife Bonnie of West Roxbury, and Timothy Houston and his wife Catherine of Reading. Also survived by many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Stephen was a Laborer with Local 243 in Worcester, and was President of the Norwood Hoop Club. His true devotions were to Rose, their children and his shared love of basketball with Jarred. He was a true super fan of Norwood sports and Beaver Country Day basketball. The love and pride for

his family, friends and the Norwood community will not be forgotten. Funeral Thursday, Aug. 17 from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St. (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD, at 8 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood at 9. Interment St. Joseph's Cemetery, West Roxbury. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Stephen's memory to the Stephen Houston's Memorial Fund, 16 Oak Road Norwood MA 02062.

MAWBY

Geoffrey K., 90 of Norwood, Saturday, July 22. Pre-deceased by his wife of 30 years, Jacqueline Sarfas; survived by his daughter Marjorie and son-in-law Jon Didriksson. He was a Marine Corps veteran, had a long career in the publishing industry, and was active life-long as an artist. He will be remembered by many for his kind and generous nature, and his beautiful paintings and cards. Services and interment are private.

MYERS

Helena L. (Liles) of Norwood, passed away on Aug. 7, 2017. Born in New York, N.Y., she was the beloved daughter of Robert and Luseal (Sharpe) Liles and the loving wife of Ernest Myers. Devoted mother of Crystal F. Myers of Silver Spring, Md. and Ernest R. Myers of Norwood. Cherished sister of Bobara Liles of Mitchelville, Md. Dear aunt of Michael Liles of Mitchelville, Md. A funeral service was held at the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St. (Rte. 1A), Norwood. Interment was private.

NORTON



BARBARA M. (Donahue) of Norwood passed away on Aug. 8, 2017 at the age of 81. Beloved wife of W. Barry "Bud" Norton. Devoted mother of Jeannemarie

Deaths

Continued on page 11

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ZBA *continued from page 1*

next speaker – Attorney Nicholas Nardone, representing abutters on Summer Street – to provide the key moment of the session. “Anyone who has gotten a rental car at an airport knows about those reverse barricades. You drive over one way, you can do it. The other way, it pops your tires.”

Mr. Mulvehill immediately stopped him and asked Mr. Hern if he had looked into the idea. This seemed to throw the attorney off balance; sitting at the front table, he glanced back at the project manager sitting on a front bench before shaking his head and quietly seeming to say, “No.”

After Mr. Nardone was allowed to finish, Mr Hern was asked about it again by Board member Thomas Brady. “What’s the owner’s answer to putting up a spike strip to prevent people from going through?”

“It’s not just the owner, it’s the... tenant. You’re trying to interfere with the business in a business zone on Route 1. Putting a strip up like that...”

“Wouldn’t prevent people from coming southbound and getting in there,” Brady finished.

Mr. Mulvehill added, “They’ve got to leave on Route 1... per your own testimony. So what’s the problem? What is wrong with something like that? If your testimony is that there’s only one way in, why don’t we make it hurt if they try to do it the other way?”

The development’s project manager and petroleum engineer both stood to speak in favor of not having a spike strip installed, and Mr. Hern returned to that point several more times, but Mr. Mulvehill remained intrigued. “Obviously this is a very unique development. I don’t know if, in thirty years, we’ve come across something like this that’s impacted a neighborhood that’s already slammed with traffic. Even one car that gets through, in my humble opinion, is a little too much for that neighborhood right now. I think it’s a valid idea.”

The ZBA will meet again at Town Hall on September 5 at 7:15 p.m. to vote on this application.

Deaths *continued from page 10*

Norton of Popponesset and Christine A. Sheehan and her husband Mark of Norwood. Cherished grandmother of Colin Sheehan. Sister of the late Marjorie Levesque. Daughter of the late Thomas A. and Ethel M. (Malloy) Donahue. Also survived by many Godchildren, nieces and nephews. Funeral was from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, Mass. A funeral mass was at St. Catherine of Siena Church Norwood. Burial was at Knollwood Memorial Park Canton, Mass. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to the American Lung Assoc./ Interstitial Lung Disease 1661 Worcester Road, Suite 301 Framingham, MA 01701.

PHINNEY

Chandler D., Jr. Of Norwood, Aug. 9. Dear father of Chandler D. III of Plymouth and Timothy J. of Norwood. Loving grandfather of Blair Phinney. Brother of the late Virginia Bramhall and the late Priscilla Besegai. Visiting hours Monday 5-8 p.m. at the Folsom Funeral Home, 649 High St, Westwood. Services and interment will be private. For directions, obituary and guestbook please visit

website. Late WWII Army Veteran. Folsom Funeral Home.

SANSONE

ANNA Marie of Stoughton, formerly of Norwood, passed away on Aug. 13, 2017 at the age of 59. Devoted mother of Eric A. Anderson and his wife Jessica of Bellingham. Loving sister of Gerard L. Sansone and his wife Leticia of Virginia, Mary J. Rotiroti and her husband Nicola of Canton and the late James J. Sansone (Seaman US Navy). Cherished grandmother of Paisley Anderson. Aunt of Sarah Rotiroti and James and his wife Amy Rotiroti. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Daughter of the late Leon F. and Anna A. (Keady) Sansone. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, Saturday Aug. 19, 2017 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 Friday, Aug. 18, 2017 from 4-8 p.m. Burial will be at Highland Cemetery Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

SURETTE

Blanche R. (Trask), a life-long resident of Norwood passed away on Aug. 5, 2017 at the age of 92. Beloved wife of the late Francis J. Surette. Devoted mother of Francis R. Surette and his wife Cindy Weixel of Virginia, Joanie Surette and her partner Cardinal Hughes of Maryland, Paul W. Surette and his wife Kascha Piotrkowski of Norwood and Mary Jane Surette of Upton. Cherished grandmother of Sharon, Andrea, Hannah and Harry. Daughter of the late Benjamin and Anna V. (Tomasunas) Trask. Sister of many late brothers and sisters. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Blanche was a graduate of Norwood High School. She was a very active parishioner at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood and former member of the Ladies Sodality. Blanche was a volunteer for many years for the Norwood Meals on Wheels. Funeral was from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., NORWOOD, MA. A Funeral Mass was at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood. Burial was at Highland Cemetery, Norwood, Mass. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to VNA Hospice & Palliative Care, 199 Rosewood Drive, Suite 180, Danvers, MA 01923. www.vnacare.org/donors. Kraw-KornackFuneralHome.com

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IAM STRONG FOUNDATION NOW ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS

The IAM Strong Foundation, which seeks to shatter the stigma surrounding teen mental health struggles, is pleased to announce the 2017 fall grant cycle. Grant applicants must be non-profit organizations or affiliated individuals who share a vision that aligns with the values and mission of the IAM Strong Foundation.

The IAM Strong Foundation welcomes grant applications from all local communities. The IAM Strong Foundation grant cycles began in the fall of 2015, and since that time, almost \$100,000 have been awarded in grants and programming. This past spring, ten grants were awarded, to organizations including Doc Wayne Youth Services, to provide sports-based group therapy to help youth with mental health struggles, Hale Reservation, to fund a teen workshop focusing on wellness themes, Norwood High School, to create mindfulness corners for students with social and emotional difficulties, Walpole High School, to fund an organizational tool for all freshman with an emphasis on emotional and mental health and to support a film festival featuring films on mental health topics, and Ashland Public Schools, to fund training for counselors and staff in the SOS Signs of Suicide Prevention Program.

The fall grant cycle opens on Aug. 1 and will close on Oct. 1. Grant applications for up to \$2,000 will be considered, and grant recipients will be notified on or before Nov. 1. Grant applications and details about the grant process are available at www.iamstrongfoundation.org. Email grants@iamstrongfoundation.org with any questions or requests for further information.

NORWOOD DAY COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

Please join us on Saturday, Sept. 9 for Norwood Day. Enjoy live local entertainment, clowns, games, prizes, crafters, food, sidewalk sales, kiddie rides, business groups, and town department displays!

Norwood Day Buttons will help support activities and allow for free food tasting, kiddie rides, trolleys, rock climbing and racing. Cost of buttons be-

fore event are \$3.00 each, \$5.00 day of event.

Parade starts at 9:30 a.m. at the Library, goes through town and ends at the Walter J. Dempsey gazebo.

CONCERTS ON THE COMMON COMMITTEE PRESENTS 24TH ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES

The Town of Norwood Concerts on the Common Committee is pleased to announce our 24th annual Sunday Evening Concerts series for 2017. This year there will be nine concerts ending on Aug. 27. Note all concerts this year begin at 6 p.m.

August brings the return of several favorites on Aug. 20; Oberlaendler Hofbrau Band and ending the season on Aug. 27 with The Suburbanaires. All concerts are held on the Norwood Town Common on the Walter Dempsey Memorial Bandstand at Veterans of Foreign Wars Square. Please bring your own seating. All performances are 6 - 8 p.m. at the Walter J. Dempsey Memorial Bandstand on the Town Common. Please bring your own seating. For more information please call the Norwood Town Hall at 781.762.1240 or visit <http://www.norwoodma.gov/>.

FREE SUMMER CHILDREN'S CONCERT SERIES

For the third year, the Norwood Junior Women's Club is hosting free children's concerts on the common in Norwood every Tuesday from 7 - 8 p.m. Each week will feature a different performer including: Rick Goldin, Bubble Man, DJ Sean and more.

What do you need to do? Grab the children, pack a blanket, and head to the Norwood common. There will be snacks available for purchase. New this year, we will be raffling off a weekly prize for a family fun activity each week. Tickets are \$1 for 1 or \$5 for 10. All proceeds from the raffle will be used to support the ongoing programs for the community. These concerts are best for children ages 1-10 but fun for the whole family. Your child will have a chance to dance, sing, and make new friends.

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