



About 70 residents packed Memorial Hall on Monday to hear what each candidate has to say on the future of Norwood.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Override the top concern at Candidate's Night

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Chapter of the League of Women Voters held a candidate's night community forum on Monday, March 18 at Memorial Hall in the Norwood Town Hall.

The night featured opening statements and questions from every candidate able to attend – including those running unopposed – and focused mainly on the bud-

get for the Town. Currently, the Town is facing a budget deficit and it has been decided that at an upcoming Town Meeting, members will get to vote on a \$5.9 million budget override that will bolster the budget for the next five years.

Current School Committee Chair and unopposed candidate Myev Bodenhofer said if the override does not pass, the budget they've been able to work out at the School Committee is bare bones at best.

Candidates Night
Continued on page 10

School Committee continues to make severe budget cuts

Susan Kryczka
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee focused on both current and future budgets at its March 13 meeting, as it continues to grapple with the uncertainty of a tax override.

School Committee Chair Myev Bodenhofer asked David Hajjar, a member of the Town Facilities Committee and the Finance Commission to comment on her update on the plan to consolidate facilities management services in the town. Hajjar and the Facilities Committee have been working for months on a plan to merge services into one unit that would result in budget savings for both the government side and school side and provide better in-house support.

"We've been talking about a memorandum of understanding that is still underway," said Bodenhofer, "I personally don't feel we are quite



The Committee heard the latest updates on the plan for a town wide facilities manager.

PHOTO BY SUSAN KRYCZKA

ready to make a decision today." Hajjar was invited to take questions and feedback from the committee.

Hajjar agreed. "We are working on the MOU," adding that he had received more details from the school committee that needed to be included. "We are working on some of the language that I know was an issue." He added that there would be time to review the

School Committee
Continued on page 8

BEH hovers over Airport Commission meeting

Matt MacDonald
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Airport Commission (NAC) held its monthly business meeting on Wednesday afternoon, March 13 in its offices at 125 Access Rd.

The session ran 15 minutes, featured one appointment, and drew about 10 people.

Among those present was Boston Executive Helicopters (BEH) President

Christopher Donovan, a key participant in the ongoing federal lawsuit brought by his company against the Town and members of the NAC.

That case had been ordered settled by U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns on Jan. 23 but on March 1, BEH filed a motion that is still pending to reconsider the ruling.

Although neither Donovan nor BEH had been listed on the meeting agenda posted at Town Hall on March 11, there

had been a possibility leading up to the meeting that the BEH president might have been a late appointment addition.

Donovan, in fact, was not invited to speak and remained silent throughout the meeting (except to announce – at its start – that he was videotaping it). Despite this, however, BEH still hovered over nearly everything on the agenda.

In the meeting's only appointment, Jeff Adler, director of DuBois & King – the engineering firm handling construc-

tion work on two Airport taxiways – updated the Commission on the progress of that AIP (Airport Improvement Program) project.

AIP projects are grant assisted through the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and by the MassDOT (Massachusetts Department of Transportation).

In a Nov. 2, 2018 FAA Director's De-

Airport
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Selectmen cut Outback a break

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, March 19 and voted to give Outback Steakhouse and CMI Property Owner David Spiegel 35 more days to come up with a solution to the former restaurant's all-alcohol liquor license.

The license has been out of use since Jan. 16 of 2018, when the Outback closed down and, apparently, since that time Outback entered into a contract with property owner David Spiegel for him to buy the license pending finding a tenant. According to Spiegel's attorney at the meeting, Brian Almeida, that has not happened yet. He and Outback's attorney, John P. Connell, requested a continuance from the last Board of Selectmen's meeting on the matter in November.

"In February of this year, Outback entered into a contract with Brian's client Mr. Spiegel, where he was going to purchase the license," Connell said.

Selectman Helen Abdallah-Donohue summed up the impatience of the Board on this issue, since a license that would generate serious tax dollars to the Town during a time of budget crunching has been out of use for more than a year.

"If we give you an extension, we expect this matter to be resolved in that time because we've been very fair to you," she said.

Connell said the agreement between the two parties stipulated that a purchase offer was supposed to come in by March 19, the day of this Selectmen's

meeting, and both parties had agreed in the contract that if that did not happen, they both would request a continuance.

Connell then said if the Board issued a violation and take back the license to give to another party after an appeals process from the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC), the agreement with Spiegel could "arguably" be sold to another party in the interim since state law stipulates Outback would have 180 days, per a case between the Saugus Board of Selectmen and the ABCC (32 Mass. App. Ct. 914, 1992).

Almeida said he and his client have been working to find an entity to go into the site and take over the liquor license, and has had a number of interested parties, but nothing in writing as of yet.

"There has been diligent work done to try to find a tenant," he said. "We haven't been resting on our laurels."

While the Board expressed its impatience with the fact the license has been in limbo during this time, Selectman Bill Plasko pointed out that if they were to issue a violation on the license and they weren't correct on it, legally speaking, it could be dragged out even further.

"The arguments being made, whether or not they're correct, could have a significant impact on us whether or not we can take an action and then get tied up in appeals," he said. "I could argue all night about it, but I don't know if that gets us anywhere... We should talk to Town Counsel. I don't want to go six months or three months just to get back

to this point."

A motion was brought forth to meet again with both applicants at the next Selectmen's meeting 35 days from March 19 to reopen the issue and hopefully get it resolved.

In other news, Director Travis Farley of the Norwood

Selectmen

Continued on page 8



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OPINION

BUY YOUR WAY IN

The scandal du jour, and one that has this area sharing the national spotlight, is a pay-for-placement scheme that allowed the rich and famous (emphasis on the former) to cut ahead of other students for consideration at prestigious colleges and universities.

Among the 50 people accused of the crime are actresses Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, and fashion designer Mossimo Giannulli. They, and others, paid between \$200,000 and \$6.5 million to secure admissions for their kids. Among the schools targeted by the perpetrators and a Boston-based for-profit college counseling firm were Yale, Stanford, and Georgetown. Among the feats of trickery used were fabricating top-tier athleticism (via the magic of Photoshop) to entice coaches and athletic directors and hiring “proctors” to take entrance exams for the would-be students.

In a sad world of war and political divisiveness, Collegiate (ok, we just made up that nickname) is the perfect, gossip-worthy story to come along: it has shallow, cheating celebrities; millions of dollars; and a reason to rage about unfair systems that have it in for “the little guy.”

We do need to ask, however, why these crimes are a reason for all that aforementioned “rage?”

Let’s think this through: wealthy parents open up their bank account to ensure that their sub-academic offspring can attend college. How is that any different from standard operating procedure?

College is a business. Like all businesses, despite protestations of self-importance and attestations of societal improvements, these institutions exist to make money. Like any company in a capitalistic world, these schools are in a near-constant state of expansion, and this growth requires revenue. Tuitions keep spiking and assorted fees keep multiplying. For larger schools, even those with generous financial aid packages, endowments total in the tens-of-billions of dollars.

We can illustrate our point simply. A wealthy family wants their academically ungifted kid to go to their alma mater, so they hype their status as a “legacy,” capped off with a large donation for a library wing, planetarium, science lab, etc. That prospective student will soon have an admission’s letter in their mailbox, and the whole process is both legal and common among rich folks (see: Bush and Trump).

Yes, the whole admissions process is a scam from the get-go. If you don’t hail from wealthy stock, then start dribbling a basketball. The other express lane to most schools is to excel at a sport (be it football, baseball, basketball, field hockey, golf or synchronized swimming) and be willing to earn the institution notoriety and money while you toil under NCAA rules.

As for the testing that leads to the admissions process, it too is Big Business. Heck, we wouldn’t be surprised if there were kickbacks from the #2 pencil people to muscle out the #3 competition.

Yes, there is something noble about higher education, but don’t for a second lose sight of the mountains of cash made from issuing sheepskins and tasseled hats. No colleges seem to have knowledge or involvement with the pay-to-play admissions process that is at the heart of the recent controversy, but their legal business plans are not really that much different.

Norwood Record

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Letters to the Editor

ONE NORWOOD WANTS YOUR SUPPORT

To The Editor:

We are One Norwood, a Municipal Ballot Question Committee supporting the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ operational override in Norwood for the June 3, 2019 election. We believe in a future for Norwood with fully funded schools, long-term fiscal security, and quality services for the entire town. Norwood is a strong, vibrant community that we are proud to call home.

We love Norwood’s town services and programs that meet all residents’ needs. We believe in our wonderful public safety officers. We believe in our amazing library and our robust Recreation Department. We believe we have the best Light Department and DPW around and want our great services to remain strong. We want the town’s finances to be secure and stable so Norwood can continue to provide these services.

Our vision for Norwood is a community that provides fundamental educational services to our children. We believe in meeting the State’s Mass Core standards, providing social emotional support to our most vulnerable children, and facing twenty-first century demands for technology, literacy, and foreign language. It is our duty to ensure that all our town’s children will graduate college- or career-ready.

Our supporters are parents, grandparents, retirees, public servants, educators, neighbors, and friends – working together to support a stable financial future for Norwood. Over the next few months, we will be continuing a grassroots effort within our community. We welcome your support for vital campaign efforts such as fundraising and sharing correct information about the override through canvassing and other community events.

Join us at OneNorwood.com and you can follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages, and remember to vote Yes on June 3. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at contact@onenorwood.com or P.O. Box 482, Norwood, MA 02062.

One Norwood
Julie Barbour-Issa, Co-Chair
Katie Neal Rizzo, Co-Chair
Sarah Quinn, Co-Chair

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

To the Editor:

For this Irish girl, holidays, like St. Paddy’s Day, bring up fond memories. Memories of family traditions and special moments. Especially happy memories from growing up in Norwood. Riding on a float in

the Fourth of July parade with my championship softball team, visiting Washington DC with my 8th grade class, having an undefeated freshman field hockey season...

Now I’m fortunate enough to live in this town and be able to create these kinds of memories with my daughter. I’m grateful for afternoons at Father Macs, cheering on the Mustangs while watching her dad coach soccer, for playdates at the Tot Lot on Bond Street, for decorating gingerbread houses at the Civic Center, for visits to the fire station. I hope that one day she’ll get to ride on a championship float in the Fourth of July parade or march up Washington Street in a field hockey uniform to kick off Norwood Day.

Of course, not all memories are happy ones. Some we want to forget, but even in sad times, there’s always a little good that shines through...especially in Norwood. This is why our town is so amazing. We come together like no other community. Mr. Rogers told us in times of tragedy to “Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.” That’s Norwood. We rally together to help a family in need or support a sick neighbor. We have to come together now more than ever before! Our town, our children, our future needs us.

Norwood is being squeezed by increased state requirements, increased service costs, and underfunded education mandates. If, on June 3rd, an override does not pass there will be massive cuts to our town. Trust me, nobody wants to pay more in taxes, but everyone wants to continue to benefit from all the wonderful services this town provides. I don’t want my daughter, or any child, to feel lost in an overcrowded classroom or to have to go to a high school that doesn’t offer extracurricular activities.

This is a town that everyone comes home to. I hope my daughter and the next generation will think so too. Please vote yes on June 3rd.

Elizabeth Healy
Norwood

BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME

To the Editor:

How many will come I wonder? Will our schools be overburdened, our resources stretched, yet we continue to welcome builders, developers, anyone that is building apartments. How many hundred are on deck? We have acquired a mansion with no creativity for RIF or occupancy, we’ve got apartments on Lenox Avenue, apartments on the corner of Nahatan and the grocery store (this would be too convenient

for any senior), a convent to be imploded for 12 units of housing (not for seniors), an antique dwelling that will probably be developed, again into apartments, Avalon apartments.

Norwood’s reputation is a community that creates apartments for the single-medium sized families while the existing senior citizens have no housing whatsoever, no conveniences. We are lucky to have a wonderful Senior Center. The original method to build this beautiful town in the early 1900’s is to be admired, but no one has respected or emulated it. Has anyone figured out what impact the potential children have on the school system?

We’ve turned into a town of greed and WIFM (what’s in it for me). Years of trying to restore the downtown area when store owners don’t even want to park in the back of their store? Not nice or commendable.

I truly think that we’ve come thru the good old days. And they were good if you paid attention. Good people doing good, random acts of kindness meeting the needs of the citizens, we cared about each other. My grandfather would write in his book that if you needed milk and bread and you could pay him when you got paid.

Is there a voice in the community that addresses the need for Senior Housing? I’m attempting to find a reliable source at the State level because I’ve been told the head person of senior housing in Norwood (local level) does not report to anyone in Norwood, at least not the Town Manager or selectmen. It is a secret, but where is the visibility on how many people are on a wait list for years? No disclosure on this very quiet department. Is this part of the Mueller report? The silence is deafening for advocating senior housing.

It is really a shame because Norwood had many opportunities to be the leader in Norfolk County. We just needed a few brave folks that focused on the needs of the aging population. Unfortunately, I think this is typical, eliminating a specific segment all because of the almighty dollar.

You may not condone or agree on my writing style, however it’s time for the solid citizenship to stand up and be heard, if not for yourself, but for your neighbor. If your plans include selling your home and moving to Florida, open your eyes to the needs of those folks who belong to your club, the senior center, etc. I always laugh out loud when I hear “age in place”, and luxury assisted living. Exactly what place are

Letters

Continued on page 12

CPC deals with 84 Morse St. contingencies

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Community Preservation Committee (CPC) met on Wednesday, March 13 and discussed several potential projects ready or getting ready for Community Preservation Act funds.

According to Committee Chair Joseph Greeley, Norwood is looking to have about \$1.4 million in the fund by 2020, and have enough applicants for about \$500,000, including four projects that were presented at the public hearing on Wednesday. The fifth project, however, looks like it has to be put on hold for now.

The Saint Streets property, located at the southern end of Elliot Park by the Balch Elementary School, is currently under purchase agreement with DCD Realty, owned by the Boch Group. The company was looking to put a large parking lot at 84 Morse St. to keep vehicles for stock, but the community balked at how much greenspace and open land would be affected by the lot. So DCD shrank the proposal and said they would give the Town the option to purchase the land once the other part of the parking lot had been approved by all relevant Town agencies.

As reported in last week's Norwood Record, the 84 Morse project is currently tied down at the Conservation Commission, which had two main reasons for keeping the project under review. Firstly, the commission contended that it did not have enough time to go over the updated plans they received and wanted more time before they could sign off and the sec-

ond was that one member had written about four pages of questions for the applicant, and the project was continued for another meeting.

Assistant Town Planner Patrick Deschenes said that the CPC would have to wait until the ConCom signs off on the deal, as that was the agreement DCD made with the Town before they could start negotiating for potentially buying the lot.

"That is when the 18-month clock begins," he said. "It is not guaranteed."

Every CPC project has to go through Town Meeting approval and Deschenes said it would just be too much to try to have it ready for April or May. The CPC voted not to submit it for upcoming spring Town Meetings and look to put it in for the fall.

"Right now it's still something obviously I think we would want to go forward with for the annual Town Meeting in the spring, but we still can't really pull the trigger just yet," he said.

The idea is to do architectural and design work to the lot to create walking trails, and obviously that plan can't go forward until the land is purchased at Town Meeting.

The other projects discussed for Spring Town meeting approval included a rehabilitation of the Lower Balch Court, just by the Saint Streets lot. Town Recreation Department Director Travis Farley said the improvements would focus around the currently disused skate park and the basketball court. Farley said they would also be constructing a handicapped accessible ramp to the new area from the rear of the school and also an outdoor

classroom.

"The rehabilitation of the area can be tied into the future projects near the Saint Streets lot," Farley said, adding the natural trail could be used by the school in conjunction with the outdoor classroom.

The project would come in at a total of \$143,476, which includes an extra 10 percent contingency plan for unexpected costs that may come up (every CPC project has this contingency).

The other Recreation proposal Farley discussed was the resurfacing of the Bond Street Playground. He said currently it is surfaced with wood chips or mulch, but maintaining it is expensive. Farley said instead

CPC

Continued on page 7

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Town and Country

HI GUYS, ROBIN'S, ROBINS, EVERYWHERE Last week as I looked out the window I saw many Robins that bunk here in the winter, devouring every red berry on my holly shrubs that frame the front door. The Robins nestled themselves into the very middle of the shrubs and feasted heartily. It was a beautiful sight.

SENIOR CENTER HANDCRAFTERS

Evelyn Kuphal and her special group of extremely talented knitters have been creating 'greatly appreciated' knitwear such as prayer shawls for the residents of The Ellis Nursing and Rehab, Victoria Haven, Charlwell House...22 Chemo hats to Foxboro, 43 prayer shawls



Jackie Saber

to Norwood Hospital, 27 prayers shawls and 20 lap robes and afghans to the VA Hospital. The Balch, Callahan, Prescott, Cleveland and Willett Schools were also



Nick and Cameron driven to school by Officer Geoffrey Baguma.

given 39 hats and scarves. A donation box is in place at the Center for those that wish to give to others. The talented group has been doing good for others for 15 years! They would love to have you join them as they always welcome new volunteers. They meet every Monday from 1 to 3PM at The Center. Please call the Center if you have any questions at 781.762.1201. They do so much good and are a terrific group to be a part of!

RAFFLE WINNER

Second grader, Nicholas, was the lucky raffle winner at the Cleveland Elementary Schools "Monster Mash". He won a ride to school in the 'Police Van, asking his friend, Cameron, to come too. They were escorted by very kind Norwood Police Officer, Geoffrey Baguma. They had a chance to see the inside of the back of the van. Nicholas and Cameron both thank Officer Geoff, as they stated they had a blast!

SAVE THE DATE

NHS 'Class of '61' will hold their 58th reunion Saturday, Oct.

19, 2019, at the Olde Colonial Café. They will gather together in celebration enjoying 'catch up' with old friends, and a wonderful Colonial brunch. If you are reading this, and are not on the mailing list and would like to be, please contact...ptracy59@comcast.net...or call or text to 617.750.0712. More details will follow. The committee is working hard and looking forward to seeing you all in October. Thanks for the info, Patty Flynn Tracy! 58 years, really? The mirror doesn't seem to reflect that at all, does it!

TOWN HALL

Our Town Hall is an architectural gem, but, whatever seemingly large units have been placed on the roof, in birds-eye view, totally destroys the beauty of an historical building. When looking at the structure, the eye is automatically drawn to the units blurring the majesty of a building steeped in Our Town's very special history.

PROBLEMS AND

MORE PROBLEMS

The parking lot across from the Fire/police building is still in tremendous disarray, dangerous for cars, and for pedestrians. A high school student could have probably designed a more conducive and safer system. Have you noticed the over saturated construction of apartment units in Town? Have you looked at what is behind TJMaxx? The school dep't needs money, as do others dep't's. When is it going to stop? We have no more space in our present schools for such an explosion of students or traffic! Looks as though the damage has been done and is not recoverable. We, the residents of Norwood, are the losers. What have we done to ourselves?

IN THE NEWS

Mass. emergency medical service personnel are NOT allowed to medically tend to police canines at the scene if injured during a call. Recent proposed legislation would allow

Saber

Continued on page 7

5-4-19

Helping Our Neighbors

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CPC *continued from page 5*

they want to pour in a rubber surface to make it safer and more aesthetically pleasing for residents.

Farley said it would be about 3,750 square feet of pour-in-place rubber safety surface, which is environmentally friendly and freeze/thaw/slip resistant.

"It will also make the park (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant, as wood chips are very hard to navigate with a wheelchair or a walker, roller or cane," Farley said. "It would make the playground much more accessible to those who would want to use it."

He said the resurfacing will cost \$88,000 but, with no maintenance, it will pay for itself over time.

Conservation Commission representative Ramanda Morgan also presented a proposal for a new pavilion at the Lower

Pond on Endicott Street just south of Walpole Street. Morgan said the area is a small wooded space with a recently added butterfly garden, so she said creating this two-table pavilion with off street parking right nearby gives residents in the area and those going to the new shops at Wintersmith Mall opportunities for passive or active recreation.

She said the structure will be 28 feet by 30 feet with a concrete slab underneath and electrical connections installed. She said the structure would have a 30-year warranty and need only three weeks of notice before the contractor comes to start and finish construction in one day.

"We'll also be using some of the ADA picnic tables so they can seat about eight people each and two people if they have wheelchairs or mobility devices," she said.

Saber *continued from page 6*

emergency medical workers to treat police canines injured in the line of duty. Pass the law and do what's right! Maybe self-acclaimed socialists, Rep. A. Ocasio-Cortez, and Independent Bernie Sanders, should take a trip to Venezuela and 'feel the love' of Socialism, feel free to stay for a while and enjoy themselves. Ocasio-Cortez is quoted as stating, "young people have to ask a legitimate question in the wake of climate change and mounting student loan debt: Is it okay to still have children?" She also stated that we should eliminate air travel, not that she has, take public transportation, abolish Customs Enforcement, ICE, and just hand out to anyone free public college and trade school and a 70% tax for incomes over 10M, otherwise our world will end in 12 years. Does she have a direct pipeline to the man upstairs? That's a definite NO! He's the boss and Creator, only He knows when and how our world, as we know it, comes to an end. Just in...the news has reported that eating just three eggs per week could be the cause of one's death. Cluck, Cluck. Here's another doozy....Newly elected Ma. Rep., Ayanna Pressley, introduced a bill to LOWER the voting age in Mass. to SIXTEEN. There is no sane response to that mode of thinking as an American! The news has reported that newly acquired Patriot, Michael Bennett, has stated that he will remain in the locker room during the playing of our National Anthem before all games this coming season. Grateful American? BYE GUYS,

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Morgan said the parking lot would be packed stone dust to also allow for ADA compliance. She said the total project cost would be \$46,965.

Trails Committee member and noted carillon player Lee Leach also presented a plan to refurbish and repair the instrument at Town Hall. Leach said Norwood's hasn't seen much done in the way of maintenance since the mid 80s.

"It was dedicated in 1928, so it's a little older than 90 years," he said. "There was work in the mid 80s, which was the result of the fact that for about 10 or 12 years before it was virtually unplayable, as I understand it.

Leach said this time around they are going to work on the bell frame, the installation of new bell clappers, the replacement of guide wires and spring turnbuckles for the instrument. He said some of the work will need specialized help, in which they were fortunate to find a company in Virginia that can do it. He said the expected schedule is to start planning around June 2019 with a spring to summer 2020 expected completion date. The total expected cost for the project is \$215,000.

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School Committee *continued from page 1*

MOU before a definitive version is finalized. When the plan is fully implemented over a few years, Bodenhofer said, \$4.7 million will be removed from the school budget and moved into a shared expense budget, representing a significant amount of money. Hajjar said that the School Committee needs to be satisfied that the best decisions are made moving forward, especially for the students. Roll out of the new consolidated services would begin in January 2020. Sensing concerns, Hajjar added, "Don't give up and don't condemn it either."

School Committee member Maura Smith asked about the timeline. "Has there been any discussion of having it later?" Smith pointed out that it was a big undertaking. Whether the override passes or fails, she felt it seems rushed. "If the override does fail, that means a lot of moving parts," Smith said saying that the override not passing means throwing many more issues into the pot that will need to be addressed.

"I'm not sure any time is a good time to undertake it," said Hajjar. He pointed out that the facilities issue will be there no matter what. Smith continued to press Hajjar. "Would there be a dedicated electrician for the

schools?" Hajjar said there would be no dedicated electrician, but the work would be prioritized by the nature of the problem. Superintendent David Thomson said there are already good relationships with the facilities staff who help when necessary.

Smith stated, "I cannot support this until I know the override is passed." A motion was made and passed to table further discussion.

The discussion then shifted into an update from the Budget Balancing Committee. Bodenhofer reported that there is no savings to be found with group health insurance. The snow and ice budget will be over budget, but not overly so compared to years past.

The discussion turned to the budget for FY 20. Bodenhofer reported that there is currently a deficit of \$431,021. She recommended that the Committee vote to cut \$200,000 from the snow and ice budget, which was also recommended by the Budget Balancing Committee. The vote was unanimous to accept the recommended cut. This still left \$231,021 to cut. Bodenhofer pointed out that when athletics was removed from the budget, some items related to athletics remained and she recommended

removing the majority of those, saving an additional \$130,203. The Committee approved this motion. It was also decided to reduce the athletic director's position from full-time to part-time cutting \$59,000 from the budget.

To find the final \$41,000 to cut the choice was to either

freeze the cost-of living increases for administrative staff or to take the needed amount out of instructional supplies. Since employees on the government side would not have their increases frozen, it was decided that the additional \$41,000 cut would come from instructional supplies, so school staff would not be singled out for a salary freeze. This decision was

passed by unanimous vote.

Bodenhofer then reviewed a summary of what balancing FY 2020 requires: cutting all athletics, all fine arts, all after school activities, closing the Willett School, cutting four elementary teachers, three middle school teachers, 2.2 high school teachers, and a reduction to half-time for the athletic director.

Selectmen *continued from page 3*

Recreation Department Superintendent submitted his monthly report of department activities. He said the February vacation programming went very well, with 70 participants in seven different programs, and the first iteration of the Winter Carnival.

"This was the first time we've ever done this and we had 375 participants come," he said. "The kids had a blast, it was good to see kids come out on a winter afternoon and join us at the Civic."

He said spring programming is starting up now, with 350 participants all combined during the last session. He said April vacation programming will include new classes, like a golf class, a kids baking class and a STEM Lego building

class. He said there would be a number of field trips planned as well.

Norwood Senior Center Executive Director Kerri McCarthy also submitted her monthly report. She said the Senior Center is also doing extremely well, with an average of 80 to 100 participants on a typical weekday, excluding special events. She said the Learn to Play Mahjong program is their fastest-growing, and they are looking to put it in another larger room.

She said they are also helping seniors who have had their food stamps cut off with grocery gift cards they received in the beginning of the year.

"Just to get them through the week," she said. "And we go to the fridge and we have a loaf of

bread for them as well."

McCarthy also said they're medical equipment sharing program is also doing well and is available for any resident of the Town of Norwood, regardless of age.

"Walkers, wheelchairs, sock pullers, canes, reachers, we have a whole lot," she said.

McCarthy has been director for about five years now and the Board praised her work there.

"You've taken the Senior Center for the last five years to a whole new level," said Selectman Paul Bishop. "I know some days you can't even find a parking spot up there because so many people want to be there and it benefits seniors because they're not sitting home alone."

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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St. Norwood, MA. A Solemn celebration for Divine Mercy will be held on Sunday, April 28th. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available from 1-2:30 pm in the chapel and the school gym. The recitation of the Most Holy Rosary will begin at 2:10pm followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church. Celebration of Holy Mass in honor of the Solemnity will be celebrated at 3 pm and will include veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. The presider and homilist will be Rev. John Gavin, S.J. with Rev. Stephen Donohoe, Rev. Thomas Sullivan and Rev. Anthony Medeiros as concelebrants.

NAMI TO HOLD MONTHLY MEETING

The NAMI- South Norfolk will hold its monthly meeting in Cafeteria B of the Lorusso Building at Norwood Hospital (800 Washington St., Norwood, MA) at 7 PM on Thursday, April 4.

Mental illness is a label for a variety of diseases of the brain. Often it strikes in late adolescence, devastating the afflicted person and the family. The support group is composed of such families who find mutual support and join together to advocate for their loved ones.

We welcome all families in the South Norfolk area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones.

In case of inclement weather, we will align with the Norwood schools. If they close, the meeting will be canceled.

For further information call Ray at 508-668-2941.

NORWOOD ART ASSOCIATION ARTIST DEMONSTRATION

The Norwood Art Association holds their monthly ARTIST DEMONSTRATION on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Simoni Room of the Norwood Morrill Memorial Library, located at 33 Walpole Street in Norwood. These demonstrations are FREE and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend! Light refreshments are served and there is a raffle

of a piece of art donated by the attending artist. On Thursday, April 18th, the NAA's featured demo artist will be Emily Passman. Emily began her creative journey at a very young age and has been an art teacher and painter ever since. She lives in a suburb of Boston with her husband and son and can often be found in her studio or in some beautiful outdoor setting creating her magic. For additional information or to become a member, please contact the Norwood Art Association at norwoodartassociation@gmail.com and visit them on Facebook.

LITTLE MUSTANGS PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

The Norwood Public Schools Little Mustangs Preschool Academy has OPENINGS for SEPTEMBER 2019 in our 4 year old program. The preschool application can be downloaded from the Norwood Public Schools website norwood.k12.ma.us

Available Classes are: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 12:00pm-2:30pm, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30am-1:30pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30am-11:00am, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 12:00pm-2:30pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30am-1:30pm and Wednesday 8:30am-11:00am. If you have any questions fell free to contact Sherry Sullivan at the Little Mustangs Preschool Academy at 781-440-5802 x 3600

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION "DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS"

An evening with Medium Cathy Ripley Greene on Friday, March 22 at the Norwood Elks doors open at 6:30, event begins at 7. Feel free to bring your own snack and cash bar will be open. Advance ticket \$40.00pp or at the door \$45.00 Please contact Laurieshea@live.com or 781-603-6771 with any questions or for tickets. The NSF/DFS awards over \$50,000.00 in scholarships each year to Norwood Students heading off to college. Please join fun!

"DARK TIDE" TO BE DISCUSSED

the Norwood Historical Society has decided to launch a book club and offer regular meetings at the

Day House. The goal is to read about Massachusetts and local history. We want this book club to be open to all who are interested in learning more about local and regional history. We are preparing a list of books, including non-fiction and historical fiction that explore Massachusetts and the region. Our plan is to include relevant items from the Historical Society's collection on display, to bring the book to life.

We invite the community to come join us for our first meeting on Thursday evening, the 28th of March at 7:00 at the Day House (93 Day Street, Norwood). We have chosen to kick things off with a discussion of Stephen Puleo's Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919. We will have photos of Norwood in 1919 on display as we talk about this unexpected catastrophe and how it changed our lives.

If you are interested in joining us, please sign up on the Norwood Historical Society website or leave your details on our voicemail at 781.762.9197. Please get a copy of the book and we ask that you read it before our meeting. Come prepared to talk about molasses, industrial safety, and Boston a century ago. Tea and cookies will be served after the hour-long discussion, and we will pick a book for the April meeting. Hope to see you there! Visit www.norwoodhistoricalsociety.org to learn more.

TOASTMASTERS TO HOST OPEN HOUSE

Want to improve on your Leadership and Communication skills? Ignite your career or win that job interview? Meet supportive people and learn how to inspire and motivate? Norwood Toastmasters can help. The Norwood Toastmasters Club invites the public to its open house on March 26, from 7:00Pm - 8:30PM at the Norwood Civic Center, 165 Nahatan St., Norwood MA. This is your golden opportunity to meet future leaders and find your voice!

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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 **April 16 2019 at 7:30 PM** on the request of Clear Channel Outdoor, Inc. (Case # 19-08) with respect to property located on **500 Boston Providence Turnpike**, in a **HB-Highway Business District**.

The application requests:

This Application requests a SPECIAL PERMIT under Section 6.2 of the Zoning By-laws to allow: The conversion of an existing static billboard to a digital billboard having the capacity of changing messages and content through electric means, together with such other relief as the Zoning Board of Appeal may determine to be appropriate.

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

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

Norwood Record, 03/21/19, 03/28/19

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 **April 2, 2019 at 7:15** on the request of McDonald's Corporation (Case #19-05) with respect to property located on **32 Broadway**, in a **CB-Central Business District**.

This Application requests a SPECIAL PERMIT under Section 3.1.5 (D) (5) & 5.2 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow a modification to the existing 1987 Special Permit granted for the use of a drive-thru at the McDonald's restaurant. McDonald's is proposing minor updates to their existing restaurant facility, both internal and external to the building and also to their site. The improvement will include but are not limited to exterior facade updates, new building signage, interior ADA updates, new ADA accessible parking spaces, a new ADA accessible pedestrian connection to the public Right-of-Way, walkway improvements, and new drive-thru equipment including a new drive-thru digital menu board, digital pre-browse board, gateway clearance bar and customer order canopy/speaker as shown on the enclosed material. The drive-thru changes consist of one (1) new digital menu board in place of the existing menu board, plus one (1) digital pre-browse board, and the drive thru will continue to function as it does under the current conditions but with an enhanced customer experience. Please note that the combined area of the two (2) proposed digital boards (+/-30 SF) is less than the area of the existing menu board (approx. +/-41 SF).

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

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

Norwood Record, 3/14/19, 3/21/19

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF NORWOOD

The Town of Norwood hereby notifies all residents that the State Attorney General's office has approved the following amendments to the Norwood Zoning Bylaws which were voted in Article 4 and Article 6 at the Special Town Meeting, November 8, 2018. The changes to amend the Norwood Zoning Bylaws were as follows:

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw Section 11 Definitions by inserting four new defined terms, and by inserting the new definitions in the correct alphabetic order in section 11. Research and Development Facilities Renewable and Alternative Energy; Manufacturing Facilities Renewable and Alternative Energy; Renewable Energy; Alternative Energy. Amend the Zoning Bylaw, section 3.0 Use Regulations; subsection I. Manufacturing, Processing and Related Uses, by inserting new use categories numbers 7 & 8, a column for Planned Mix Use Development (PMUD). Section 3.1.5 Table of Use Regulations, subsection I. Manufacturing, the new zoning category PMUD, substitute the word "Mixed" for the work "Mix".

Article 6. That the Town amend the Zoning Bylaw in the following manner: Amend Section 2.2 Overlay Districts by inserting the new Forbes Hill Planned Mixed Use Overlay District (FHPMUD) at the end of the list of Overlay Districts (as shown on map). Amend the Zoning Bylaw in the following manner. In Section 9.0 Special Regulations, insert a new section 9.8 Forbes Hill Planned Mixed Use Overlay District (FHPMUD).

(Complete copies of these bylaws have been posted at the different locations listed below throughout the Town and are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.)

The above named articles are posted in the following public places throughout the Town, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 32: District 1, Municipal Building; District 2, Norwood News and Bookstore; District 3, Morrill Memorial Library; District 4, Rite-Aid Pharmacy, Walpole Street; District 5, Murph's Place; District 6, South End Hardware; District 7, Pam's Market; District 8, Shaws Market, CVS - Shaws Plaza; District 9, Neponset St. Gulf Gas Station.

Mary Lou Folan, Town Clerk

Norwood Record, 3/14/19, 3/21/19



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- Former elected town meeting member
- Former Council on Aging member
- Volunteer Member of Meals on Wheels and Neponset Valley Rotary Club



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Norwood Housing Authority



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Candidates Night

continued from page 1

She said all funding would be lost for athletic and extracurricular activities, which would include the National Honor Society and Student Council.

"In addition, we will close the Willet School and move the kindergartens back to their local schools and eliminate 12.7 full-time positions," she said.

Unopposed School Committee Candidate Joan Giblin said she's been following the meetings and also feels that the loss of those programs would be detrimental to Norwood.

"This appears to be unprecedented, where a school system would essentially dismantle all middle school and high school extracurricular activities, from sports to fine arts clubs to drama clubs; if there's concern in the community, it's certainly well-founded," she said, adding there's no easy way to fix a \$2.4 million deficit without severe cuts or an increase in revenue.

Also running unopposed, for the Finance Commission, are current Chair Alan Slater and Kellie Noumi. Slater, who also sits on the Budget Balancing Committee (BBC), was asked if he felt the \$5.9 million suggested override that the BBC came up with was the right number. He pointed out that the Town cannot raise its tax levy more than 2.5 percent as per a 1980s state law, and he's seen that state mandated education requirements and inflation have put them between a rock and a hard place.

"And state aid has not kept up with the increasing costs, even though many of those costs are out of the control of communities, such as health costs. Our retirement costs have gone way up, and so the purpose of the tax levy is to allow the community to generate more revenue through taxation," he said. "Quite frankly, there is a gap between where we should be in the budget and where we are and we came up with the number of \$5.9 million."

Noumi said she's been attending BBC meetings and also felt the number to be valid.

"It's a very difficult problem with some hard decisions to be made, because no one wants their taxes higher," she said, and she pointed out that even with the override, Norwood would still have lower taxes than the state average.

In the contested side, there

are three candidates running for two seats on the Board of Selectmen. Current Selectman Helen Abdallah-Donohue said while she's not opposed to the override itself, she doesn't feel that the \$5.9 million price tag is completely necessary.

"I think that \$5.9 million is too high, we don't need the money for the general government, and it would be a tax that imposed on taxpayers forever," she said. "We don't want to force people out of their homes."

Current Selectmen Chair Thomas Maloney said he originally felt that the \$5.9 million number was too high as well, but he did say he now thinks differently after several BBC meetings. Challenger David Hajjar, who has left the Town's Finance Commission to run for this seat (leaving Noumi's bid uncontested) said he feels the number to be appropriate, and reminded the audience that while the Town will have the ability to levy that \$5.9 million over the next five years, the override will not mean they will use or levy all of it every year.

"I think we should work on other revenue-generating ideas, and by doing that we can get some of these additional revenues, we would be allowed then not to use the full tax levy, which is essentially the same thing (as lowering the \$5.9 million amount)," he said. "They don't have to spend it."

Other candidates running in contested elections include Donna Montgomery, Leah O'Leary and Tina Taylor all running for two seats on the Library Trustee Board. The Housing Authority also has one seat open with three candidates running, who are William Breen, Lisa Dufresne and Jennifer Polito. On the uncontested side, David Hern is continuing his bid for Town Moderator, Joseph Sheehan and Robert Bamber are seeking election to the Planning Board, and Carolyn Riccardi is looking to continue at the Board of Health. Anne Marie Haley is joining Slater and Noumi on the Finance Commission (but could not be at the forum) and Joseph Perry is seeking election for the Town Constable.

BUONAUGURIO

Elizabeth "Betty" (Colella) Of Norwood, formerly of Roslindale, passed away at home, surrounded by her loving family on March 12, 2019. Daughter of the late Ciriaco and Elisabetta (Latorella) Colella. Devoted and beloved wife of the late John Barton and the late Alexander Buonaugurio. Loving mother of Elizabeth "Lisa" Barton of Norwood. Cherished grandmother of Ryan Shields and his wife Jennifer, Krista Landsman and her husband Arik, as well as Elyse Brodie and her husband Austin. Adored great-grandmother of Ava & Alex Shields, Ariella & Ziva Landsman, and Jacob Brodie. Betty is the dear sister of Victoria McKeon and Romeo Colella, as well as being preceded in death by 7 loving siblings: 5 brothers and 2 sisters. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Visitation in Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street, NORWOOD, Friday, March 22, at 10:00AM, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, at 11:00AM, in St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington Street, Norwood, MA. Interment will follow in Highland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of Betty to Old Colony Hospice, 321 Manley St., West Bridgewater, MA 02379. Gillooly Funeral Home Norwood 781-762-0174 www.gilloolyfuneralhome.com

CONNOLLY



Mary F. (Folan) of Norwood and Westwood passed away March 15, 2019 at the age of 90. Beloved wife of the late Nicholas J Connolly (retired NPD). Devoted mother of Martin Connolly and his wife Cynthia of Raynham MA, Philip Connolly and his wife Suzanne of Chatham, NJ and Maureen Lemieux and her husband Dana of Harvard MA. Cherished grandmother of Michelle and Matt Connolly and Brendan and Nicole Lemieux. Sister of Philip Folan Jr. of Rehoboth DE. Daughter of late Philip J and Theresa Folan of Norwood. Graduate of St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of

DEATHS

Nursing, Norwood Senior High School, Class of 1946 and St. Catherine's of Sienna School in Norwood. Member of St Catherine's Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality and St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing Alumni Association. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood. Burial will be at Highland Cemetery Norwood, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to The Butler Did It, PO Box 867, Shirley, MA 01464 or to the Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice, 3 Patterson Road, Suite 3, Shirley, MA 01464.

FLAHERTY



MARYANN (Keady) of Norfolk formerly of East Walpole passed away on March 16, 2019 at the age of 89. Maryann was born in Spiddal, County Galway, Ireland.

She was the beloved wife of the late Michael Flaherty. Loving sister of Edward Feeney of Dorchester, Kathleen Keady of Belmont and the late James Keady, Ann Keady, Bridie Keady and Patrick Feeney. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Maryann was a member of the Norwood Irish Club and a former Volunteer for the Pine St. Inn. She was also a longtime worker for the SMA Fathers in Dedham for many years. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 9am followed by a funeral mass at 10am at St. Mary's Church East Walpole, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to the Alzheimer's Association 309 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

Obituary policy

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

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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 **April 2, 2019 at 7:30 PM** on the request of Dave Cook (Case #19-06) with respect to property located on **380 Nahatan Street**, in a **G District**.

This Application requests a SPECIAL PERMIT under Section 5.4.4 of the Zoning By-law to allow for construction of a 12'x16' deck with stairwell landing on the rear of the structure, and any further relief deemed necessary by the Zoning Board of Appeal.

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

Norwood Record, 3/14/19, 3/21/19

**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 **April 16 2019 at 7:45 PM** on the request of Nahatan Realty, LLC (Case # 19-09) with respect to property located on **111 Lenox Street**, in a **G-General Business District**.

The application requests:

This Application requests a SPECIAL PERMIT under Section 6.1 of the Zoning By-laws to allow: Less parking than normally required under the Zoning Bylaws in connection with the establishment of tenancies and businesses in an existing shopping plaza, pursuant to Section 6.1.12 of the Zoning Bylaws, together with such other relief as the Zoning Board of Appeal may determine to be appropriate.

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

Norwood Record, 03/21/19, 03/28/19

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SENIOR NEWS

BINGO: Every Wednesday, from 12:45 PM to 3:00 PM, \$5.00 to get started. We have begun a new game, for \$1.00, with a winner take all prize! You must be here by 12:45 PM to play the new game!

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC: Walpole VNA will be available for blood pressure screening on the first Wednesday of each month. Ellis Nursing Home will offer blood pressure screening on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The Walpole VNA will provide blood pressure screening on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 AM. Walpole VNA on the 5th.

BRIDGE: Our Bridge Club meets on Thursdays at 9:00 AM, in the Library.
COMPUTER CLUB: The Computer Club meets every Wednesday at 1:00 PM.

CRIBBAGE: Our seniors meet every Monday at 12:45 PM to play cribbage. New Class on Fridays at 12:45 (except the 4th Friday)

DIGITAL PHOTO ORGANIZATION & EDITING: will take place the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:30 AM.

DRAWING WITH COLORED PENCILS- Classes held the first and third Tuesday of the month at 11AM-12:15PM. \$3.00 a session all materials included.

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

HANDCRAFTERS: Handcrafters meet every Monday from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

HEARING SOLUTIONS: Hearing Aide clinic on Wednesday, March 27th 11:30AM.

LEARN TO PLAY MAH JONG -Thursdays and Fridays at 12:30 PM.

LINE DANCE Classes are held each Tuesday. Class will be held from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

MAH JONG: Mah Jong players meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00 AM - Noon.

MANICURES: Friday-March 22nd at 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

NORWOOD RETIRED MEN'S CLUB: The Board of Directors meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10:30AM, at the Senior Center. The Club Membership meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Norwood Elks Lodge, at 10:00 AM.

SCRABBLE: Thursday afternoons at 1:00 PM. Come and join us for a game.

SHINE: We have two SHINE Counselors. Carole is here to help you with your medical insurance needs on Tuesdays from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Amy will be here on Fridays from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Please call 781-762-1201 for an appointment.

TAP DANCE-Thursdays at 11:15 AM. All levels are welcome and encouraged to join the fun.

WHIST: Whist players meet on Tuesdays at 12:45 PM, in the library.

March Events
"Conversation with the Chief", Chief Brooks -Norwood Police Dept., Thursday, March 28th at 1PM.

Civil War Talk by Jack Kelly, Monday, March 25th @ 1PM.
New Afternoon Line Dance, Friday, March 29th 1PM-3PM -\$5.00.

Airport *continued from page 1*

termination in response to a formal complaint filed by BEH, the NAC and the Town were ruled in violation of several grant assurances that participating airports must remain in compliance with in order to receive grant funding.

As a result, the Airport is ineligible for any new AIP grant funds until the FAA approves a corrective action plan – to be submitted by the NAC – bringing it back into compliance.

In his presentation, Adler informed the Commission that – since February's meeting – an application had been submitted to the FAA to eliminate one of the two taxiways from the grant before adding that the FAA may yet provide additional funding to finish the project.

Adler was clear – in response to a comment from NAC Chair Mark Ryan – that the FAA and MassDOT funding was not at issue. Rather, he confirmed, the project reduction was due to the lack of Airport funds to cover its share of the \$440,000 project.

"They clearly understood previously that there wasn't enough local share," Adler said of the FAA's understanding and position regarding the project.

"So now they're trying to see if there's a way they can handle that, and if we could do it if that was taken care of."

Adler concluded his update by stating that he and Airport Manager Russ Maguire would work with the FAA in the coming days in order to clarify the taxiway funding details.

Speaking after the meeting, Adler further confirmed that last November's FAA determination would have no financial effect on the taxiway project because it had already been approved and underway at that time of the November ruling.

Making his monthly report to the Commission, Maguire estimated – in response to a question from Vice Chair Michael Sheehan – that 22 tenants will be vacating their aircraft from the West Apron by April 1, in accordance with terms of the BEH settlement.

As a term of the enforced agreement, BEH will lease that entire section. How its pending March 1 motion to reconsider the settlement will influence is, as yet, undetermined.

The West Apron is a point of dispute in the settlement because of an easement that

would allow FlightLevel – which would be Boston Executive's only major FBO (fixed base operator) competitor – to cross what would be BEH's leased apron to access its fuel farm.

BEH was also the topic of several pieces of correspondence, with Ryan acknowledging the receipt of two undated letters from Mike Correia and Frank Egan of Helicopters, Inc. that noted their concern regarding BEH's fuel truck operating near the helicopter circles.

The motion was unanimously approved for Maguire to speak with both Correia and Egan in order to obtain more information and provide an update at the next NAC meeting.

Additionally, Sheehan read into the record the Feb. 4 judgment of dismissal regarding the Jan. 23 settlement enforcement order that was subsequently motioned for reconsideration.

At the conclusion of Sheehan's reading of the judgment, the NAC went into executive session to discuss both that lawsuit and last November's FAA Director's Determination.

The NAC holds its meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 3 p.m.

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Letters *continued from page 4*

they talking about? There are so many homeless in need of basic life essentials. Teeth, eyes, hearing aids, and those without are considered "disabled" and qualify for housing.

Kudos to our neighboring town; WRENTHAM — A senior housing development planned off Dedham Street (Route 1A) is going before its first town board this week. The development involving about 50 housing units is earmarked for about 22 acres at 635 Dedham St. just north of Serenity Hill nursing home and toward the Norfolk line. It's age restricted so it will not put a stress on the schools and be straight tax revenue for the town. Is this like creating an international space station! I think Not.

*Madeline Eysie
Norwood*

SICK AND TIRED OF UNDERFUNDING SCHOOLS

To the Editor:

This has taken months to write. First, I had to calm down after the Town Mtg and the FinCom. presentations, then I tried to do some research. I am a retired educator who has substitute taught in several other school districts, and I continue to sub. The schools in this Town have suffered enough at the expense of catering to businesses and wasting money like the downtown lighting and crumbling brick cross walks – to cite just 3 examples. One thing that still aggravates me was the insinuated emotional blackmail that if we do not sell Forbes the schools will be hurt. More on Forbes at another time.

I am sick and tired of town government comparing us to Westwood,

Needham, Walpole, etc... We are not a primarily white collar town, and if the 40Bs continue, we never will be. Norwood began with working class, blue collar, tannery workers and has stayed blue collar. The towns mentioned have a higher tax rate to preserve a quality of life which involves having lots of open space, preserving historic sites, preventing waves of 40Bs, and funding excellent school systems. To contradict one town committee member, I have never heard any family say they came here for the school system. As a matter of fact, I know of 3 families that recently left because of the schools. Furthermore, in the course of my substitute teaching in surrounding towns, I know of teachers who have left the high school because of pay and student discipline issues.

As an educator, I have watched the Norwood school system for 26+ years. Town management has never adequately funded the schools. A new high school does not balance out the system wide need for adequate faculty, appropriate and competitive curriculum, and elementary school buildings in need of repair or with portable classrooms. Norwood since 1992 has had NINE superintendents of school (1 was acting). This is FAR from the norm and a symptom of problems. The Boston Globe South had a series (10 to 13 years ago; was unable to retrieve from archive) in which approx. 25+ surrounding towns were rated on a number of items. Two related to school systems. For town funding of schools, Norwood was either last or next to the last. For number of students who went into the military vs college, Norwood was either first or

second. This was no surprise to me. This was/is not good. The 40Bs will also put stress on an already stressed out school system. I am surprised the school system's certification has not been revoked given what I heard at the public FinCom presentation.

When a Town is more interested in skating rinks and neither values open space nor its own history (Hennessey Field was saved ONLY by years of my neighborhood watchdogging it. The Morse house and school house were preserved through a volunteer grassroots effort.) It also sends a negative educational and quality of life message.

Finally, I am a senior on a limited income and last year's electric and tax hikes really whacked my income hard. However, the chickens have come back to roost due to our continuous now not so wonderful low tax rates. We need this override for the schools, AND some of that money should go to acquiring more open space as a further hedge against 40Bs.

*Anne Mackiewicz
Norwood*

WHY IS THE SCHOOL DEPT. ALWAYS UNDERFUNDED?

To the Editor:

To anyone who watched the video on Norwood Community Media of the meeting where town officials spoke about options to fix the annual budget deficits, you would have heard a member of the School Board tell you that they provide teachers with a annual cost of living adjustment (also know as a COLA) that it is set at 2 1/2 %. That amount is the exact amount our tax base is guaranteed to increase year to year based on Prop. 2 1/2. What teachers also received every year for the first 15 years of their employment, is an annual

'step increase' on top of their annual COLA increase. So the School Board is agreeing to spend more on teachers' salaries than they can expect their budget to increase year to year. The teacher's union representatives are also demanding these increases knowing full well that the increases are beyond what the school budget can accommodate. The union, in doing this, is expecting one of two things to happen, either the teachers they claim to represent will be laid off or the town will be forced to pass an operational override.

Is it any wonder that the School Department claims poverty every year? The Committee agrees to teacher contracts that they know or should know they will not be able to afford, year after year. Is it any wonder their budget demands can't be met without an override?

Anyone in town who believes that the School Committee will be more frugal with teacher wage increases once they get a large override is deluding themselves. The school Committee will see themselves as being unrestrained when it comes to contracts.

And if anyone has watched meetings of local boards and heard mention of a 5 year operational override, this means the town expects to ask residents for another operational override in five years when the override they are asking residents to vote on this June no longer covers the school's budget. The proposed override will last forever on your property tax bill and is estimated to increase the average homeowner's tax bill by almost \$500 in the first year. At this point, I plan to vote against the override and let the School Board and teacher's union deal with the mess they intentionally created.

*Bert Forrest
Norwood*

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