



The Norwood School Committee voted to approve the timeline for implementation of the new elementary school districts for the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

COURTESY PHOTO

School Committee chooses 2026 school year elementary change

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee voted unanimously to approve a recommendation from Superintendent Timothy Luff to implement the proposed changes to the elementary school redistricting in the 2026-27 school year. It was a choice of starting in the next academic year or later than 2026.

The redistricting plan, which was decided on at the previous School Committee meeting, essentially turns the Willett Early Education Center to a regular K-4 elementary school from it currently being a kindergarten (more details on the elementary redistricting plans can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/mrx4zu95> and

more details on the decision-making process can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/53h4th6f>). The redistricting plan came as a result of a study a few years ago that showed better use of space throughout the schools by moving the fifth grade from the elementary schools to the Coakley, a new building currently under construction. This will free up space in those buildings and allow for smaller, more beneficial class sizes.

The new plan will also shift districts around so that students currently in certain elementary schools would have to move to others. Parents at outreach meetings said in some cases they had children who would have moved three years in a row if the new plan was implemented next year, the earliest it could have

been implemented since June 2025 is the expected substantial completion date for the new Coakley Middle School.

Luff said this was considered before issuing his recommendation to wait a year, as well as being able to move teachers around. He said they would have to give teachers who wanted to move to a new school the option to do so.

“There are many teachers who might desire to move to different programs and we want to make sure we give them the opportunity,” he said. “The contract allows for volunteers to come first. If we don’t have the right people in the right positions, we would then have to go through the con-

New Redistricting
Continued on page 2

Planning Board discusses master plan meeting

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Planning Board met on Monday, Nov. 18 with a full agenda, which included sign approvals, zoning discussions and an announcement regarding the upcoming public meeting for the Town’s Comprehensive Master Plan.

Chair Rob Bamber said that the Comprehensive Master Plan meeting is on Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. at the Morrill Memorial Library.

“It’s your chance to weigh

in on the comprehensive plan and let your ideas be known on that night,” he said. “If you’re interested in what we’re doing, what’s going on in Town in the future, if you have good ideas and strong opinions – I know a couple of people who do – come on down and share them. Get them on the record.”

Bamber said the Town’s consultant will be there to facilitate and there will be several stations and diagrams designed to gather resident input and show where the process is so far.

The most discussed issue during Monday’s meeting concerned the Open Space Residential Subdivision zoning item. The new zoning district would essentially allow for tighter clusters of homes or townhouses in a subdivision if the developer allows for a large chunk of public open space land or conservation land.

Planning Board members discussed details; how close to cluster housing, setbacks,

Planning Board
Continued on page 4



Norwood Police K-9 Officer Mustang Sally with School Resource Officer Geoffrey Baguma.

PHOTO BY DILANI YOGARATNAM

Feeling better thanks to Mustang Sally

Dilani Yogaratnam
Staff Reporter

Anxiety is an unpleasant feeling, and everyone has their own coping mechanisms. But it’s hard to argue with Norwood Police Therapy Dog Mustang Sally’s track record.

Therapy animals are known to soothe and help people focus. On a beautiful November fall day, retired art teacher Doris Duncan Howard taught her first animal portrait class at Coakley Middle School in Norwood alongside Sally.

The culmination of this effort came from Officer Geoffrey Baguma, Acting Norwood Recreation Department Director Sam White, and Howard, a professional animal portrait artist and former Norwood Public Schools art teacher. Howard’s rendering of Mustang Sally hangs on the walls of the Norwood Police Station.

Baguma works for the Norwood Police Department as a School Resource Officer, and he has a full-time role bringing Mustang Sally to schools, senior centers and even to children’s homes when they are dealing with stress.

Baguma is also a former student of Howard’s and she and Baguma have had several conversations which led to this art class on a Saturday where kids chose to spend a weekend day drawing an animal portrait alongside the real Mustang Sally.

Roughly 20 children, ranging in age from third through eighth grades, entered the art room and eagerly took their seats as Howard had laid out boxes of colored pencils, erasers, and neutral coloring paper. She told them extra white pencils were available as Sally is a white golden retriever. Sally is a very gentle source of comfort, Howard said.

Also on each table were four different views of Sally so kids would not be drawing the exact same picture. Howard spent most of her years teaching fourth grade but wanted to open the experience to kids of varying ages; however she said younger children might get frustrated at not having the skills to draw animals so the cut-off age was third grade. In fact, Mustang Sally would be too young to attend the class

Mustang Sally Soothes
Continued on page 5

New Redistricting *continued from page 1*

tract and I would be working with the (Teachers) Union leadership to complete any involuntary transfers based on contractual obligations; things like licensure, seniority, and the best interests of the district. This can get complex. There are some staff members who are really tied to their buildings and their classes and grade levels and we want to be tender as we do that.”

Luff said he wanted to have all staffing assignments figured out by December of 2025. He said if they decide to go with a 2025 start date that process would have to be extremely truncated.

Luff also said in his recommended timeline they would have time dedicated to determine program needs for special education students for all six K-4 buildings, as well as determine their respective locations and identify any new positions that would be needed. He'd like to do this over the summer of 2025 and have everything sorted with

the regular teaching staff by that December.

Luff said they would also have to have paperwork completed for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for school designations, as well as determine new bus routes for student transportation.

“I don't know how substantial that is going to be but that is something we have to do,” he said, adding between the fall and spring of next year they will have preliminary budget changes for the implementation of those new routes.

Because of the new routes and district changes, there might be start time changes which would be figured out in the summer of next year. However, he said nothing would be significant; likely 10 or 15 minutes' change at the most.

He also said he would want to have biweekly communications with parents starting

now until summer of 2026 so parents can stay up to date. In the fall of 2025, he'd also like to have a community forum set up so they can get additional feedback, as well as take the rest of the 2025-2026 School Year to give parents and students opportunities to visit and get to know their new schools.

“I want to make sure we're thoughtful and that our families and students have transition opportunities,” he said. “I also wanted to think about staff opportunities, so if you're a staff member shifting to a new school, think about what can we do to welcome you to the community and get you in there too.”

Acting Chair Teresa Stewart said she has been hearing from residents that they do not understand why it was not feasible to let certain students stay in their current schools if they have a year or less to complete. She said she'd like to see that data and see if it could be shared with the public.

Stewart also asked about overlap zones, where class sizes in an elementary school district might be too high when the school year is imminent. Luff said in that case, they would move students around to create the best possible scenario. He said this usually happens when folks move into the district and is not likely to be a huge impact, but Stewart asked that if it happens, could students in the scenario she described stay in their schools.

“I think grandfathering, for the most part, is a very difficult thing to do in terms of ensuring you have appropriate class sizes,” Luff said. “You know, if the goal was to have equitable class sizes, and I hate to use the word ‘grandfather,’ but if you decide to continue to keep kids and allow them to stay, then your class sizes in one school become way overloaded and it becomes problematic.”

School Committee member Kate Sibbing-Dunn said they didn't look at specific scenarios, like if all third graders wanted to stay in their respective schools, but they looked into it in general with consultant Sanborn Geospatial.

“It creates hurdles with transportation and class size that become very hairy,” she said.

“We didn't graph it out.”

School Committee member David Hiltz said he didn't really think it was a good idea, as it would have to be, at a certain point, selective on which students get to stay and which do not. “They're all our kids and I care about all of them,” he said. “Especially when we talk about equity, it seems Superintendent Luff said, you're always going to have an outlier of 2.5 percent where you're going to have a flex district, but when we start getting into that, that's where inequities happen and I think part of this purpose is to be equitable in our districts as well.”

The question of getting kids to their schools a year early to cut down on transitions was also brought up, and Luff said he'd look into it. “But I don't see how we do it equitably without overloading classes,” he said.

Sibbing-Dunn said perhaps they should have an outreach session on this to help explain to parents why it could be more of a hazard than they might think. “If people don't understand, maybe it's worth spelling out,” she said.

The School Committee voted 3-1-1, with Stewart against. She said she wants more information. Joan Giblin abstained because she was late to the presentation.

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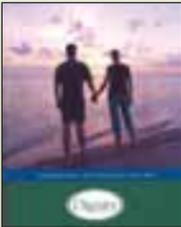
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Current members of Norwood for All, a housing advocacy group that Abundant Housing Massachusetts recently awarded the 'Rookie of the Year' title.

COURTESY PHOTO

Local group to receive award

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Abundant Housing Massachusetts announced last week it is awarding locally-grown housing advocacy group Norwood for All (NFA) on Nov. 21 at the Aeronaut Brewing Company in Somerville.

NFA will be sharing the honor of the Abundant Housing 2024 Rookie of the Year organization award with Building Equitable Neighborhoods for Franklin, the title being a play on the town's namesake, Benjamin Franklin.

NFA founder and District 7 Town Meeting member Elizabeth Hestad said she started the organization with residents Alex DeSilva, Andrea Goeschius, Patrick Ronan and Jay Strother to increase housing advocacy and awareness in the Town. She said the spark for her was Town Meeting's reluctance when it came to the 259 Lenox St. housing proposal, first proposed in 2022.

"It made no sense to me that we didn't have any advocacy and no one knew how the vote would go, and I don't really remember

how I found out about Abundant Housing Massachusetts, but I became a member and reached out to them for support," she said. "They started an initiative to help people start their own local groups and I began working with an Abundant Housing staff member to start a local group here in Norwood."

Hestad said that it's not difficult to find residents in Norwood who are pro-housing, the difficulty is actually time-management.

Norwood For All
Continued on page 6

Moderna buys its own campus

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Readers may remember the Forbes Hill Mansion decision back at the 2017 Town Meeting where the Town of Norwood voted to buy the property rather than let a developer pack a 40B housing proposal onto the site.

The vote was necessitated because Norwood's land dedicated to affordable housing was not enough to protect the Town from 40B proposals. Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40B is an affordable housing proviso that states if a municipality has less than 10 percent of its housing stock or 1.5 percent of its land dedicated to affordable housing, a developer can come in and ignore most local zoning laws to remedy that.

Norwood allowed Avalon Bay to put in the current building at Lenox Street, but it had two other developers proposing 40B projects when it was confirmed that Norwood was .03 percent off its affordable land designation and open to 40B projects. So, the state declared that both those other projects could move forward.

Town Meeting voted to purchase the site for \$13 million to prevent one going forward, and the Town then shopped it around for a few

years until Alexandria Real Estate Equities bought it for \$24 million. And now, Moderna is buying Forbes Hill and its surrounding campus for \$400 million.

According to the Norwood GIS property records (<https://next.axisgis.com/NorwoodMA/>), the Forbes Mansion property is now worth about \$15 million, while the three other parcels comprising the Moderna campus are appraised at \$175 million. It should be noted that appraisals are often well under purchase and sale prices, due to the nature of supply, demand, economics, etc. Those assessments are purely for tax purposes and do not reflect the real estate market.

According to Banker & Tradesman, Alexandria has sold about \$318 million worth of other land in Massachusetts, citing those properties as "non-strategic location" real estate. Biotech labs, the development of which had been skyrocketing in the Greater Boston area, have since slowed down. Alexandria sold properties in Cambridge, Waltham, Boston and Newton in the last two years.

Moderna, for its part, stated in its recent Securities and Exchange Commission filing (<https://tinyurl.com/mr3xzpsa>) that it does not

view the property as a "non-strategic location."

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Planning Board

continued from page 1

how many units would folks like to see etc. All of the discussion was extremely preliminary.

"This is a very drafty draft," said Bamber. "We're throwing out ideas and coming up with a consensus on where we want to focus our efforts and draw the lines and so there is always good conversation on both sides and on every piece of this."

Selectman Bill Plasko spoke during the hearing and said turning subdivisions into this kind of as-of-right development was dicey at best. He said he would also predict that residents might be opposed to the increased density.

"People are not opposed to housing per se, but people are opposed to density," he said. "We're getting a lot of it, and I don't know that we need to promote things to do that in order for developers to put in a few more units and make a few more dollars. And doing it as a matter of right, that's like the new thing, like the (accessory dwelling units) saying it's a matter of right in every zone in every Town. What it's starting to do is erode the control of zoning."

Plasko also added that if this was allowed to be an overlay over non residential zones, the Town could lose commercial properties and businesses to residential development.

Town Planner Sara Dixon said they could write the zoning bylaw to only allow at currently residential zones. Member Ernie Paciorkowski brought up the Telco Property off of Route 1, which is currently vacant, but used to be a large manufacturing and commercial facility. Dixon allowed that residential development had been proposed there as part of a resident petition but nothing has moved since then.

Dixon said the best case use for that property would be commercial or industrial. She also said she would put together the consensus points she heard including that commercial should be left out and the limit on townhouses would be three units.

Also discussed at the meeting was a proposal from the owner of 38-40 Guild St., a multi-family, four-unit building right next to the Norwood Hospital site. Owner Kenya Stephenson said she wants to turn the adjacent two-story, 800-square-foot barn into another unit. She said she has seven parking spaces there already and is a four-minute walk from the Norwood Central MBTA Commuter Rail station (as timed vociferously by her mother).

The proposal came as part of the regulations set forth in the Downtown Mixed-Use Overlay District (MUOD) and is the third such proposal since it was approved by Town Meeting in 2019. The Board voted unanimously to approve the special permit to allow the new unit to be built inside the two-story barn.

Also at the meeting, the Board unanimously approved two sign requests from K Cafe Streets at 685 Washington St, the old site of Perks Coffeehouse, and at the Side Door Cafe, at 7 Vernon St.

K Cafe partner Sangwan Lee said they're just replacing the current awning that reads Perks and putting up a new one with no other material changes. The Board approved the sign.

Side Door Cafe representative Gregory Petrucci said they want to put in a small circular illuminated sign that would be at a right angle to the building so as to be visible from Washington Street as foot traffic goes by. Board members reminded him that the sign must be shut off one hour after closing.

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Letters to the Editor

2025 CPA PROJECTS

To the Editor:

We all remember the touching remarks by Remy Lawrence about her son, Tyler J Lawrence, who was tragically murdered on Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023, while walking near his grandparents' home. He loved watching the planes taking off and landing at Norwood Airport, and a park project which included a playground was approved at Spring Town Meeting to honor his memory using \$213,630 in CPA funds. A few days ago I took a drive to check out this new playground under construction. I was shocked to see the tiny "Jungle Gym" shoved in a corner to the left of the parking lot. My first thought was "where's the rest of it?" I can't believe this little structure is all we got for the money.

The Nov. 7 Norwood Record reported about a dozen new CPA projects being considered for 2025: \$20,250 to restore old Norwood Annual Town Reports; \$8,750 to inventory town hall artwork; \$10K to plant wildflowers on the old dump; \$200K to study

the Guild Pond restoration; \$25K Eliot Fields study of possible updates to the Charles W Eliot Park behind the Balch school; \$175K for a Balch School Ramp; \$200K for a Chapel St Park construction design; \$5 Million Chapel St Park playground; \$175K for a Shattuck Park wall restoration; \$175K for Washington Hts Complex roof (I was under the impression CPA funds couldn't be used for repairs or renovations); \$812,905 for Washington Hts Complex, \$24K to put St Gabriel's Chapel on the National Register of Historic Places.

One of these projects that jumped out at me was \$20,250 to restore old Norwood Annual Town Reports. I remember an article identical to this was approved at Spring Town Meeting and thought this was just a duplication. But no, the Town Manager wants another \$20,250 in 2025 to restore more old Annual Reports. I don't remember a discussion at Town Meeting about this being an ongoing project. I searched past Town Meeting Articles looking for other An-

nual Report restoration projects, and in 2022 we approved \$14,500, \$11,000 in 2023, \$20,250 in 2024, and now he wants another \$20,250 for 2025. That's \$66K over 4 years to restore old town reports!

Why are we doing this? This isn't the Declaration of Independence for goodness sake! Can't we store these as is, and simply retype and store them in PDF format? This Article should have been submitted in its entirety detailing the entire scope of the project: how many reports need to be restored; the total cost; and the number of years it would spread out over. Instead, it feels like it's being snuck through one year at a time, with no mention of the previous or future restorations.

I don't know about you, but I'm feeling that this CPA fund is turning out to be a slush fund. I don't know if any Massachusetts towns have revoked their CPA Fund measure, but maybe we should consider it.

Steve Konetchy
District 4 TMM

ROAD HUMOR

On Long Island Expressway I saw a great opportunity for someone to tell a self-deprecating joke, but doubt he will ever do so . . .

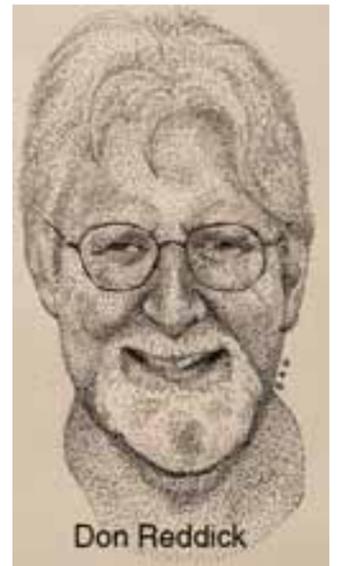
Driving from Milwaukee to Chicago I observed a sign for "Bong Recreation Area," and wondered if an appropriate next stop might be Virginia's "Hungry Mother State Park." Some road humor is ironic, as in Alexandria, Louisiana, where I saw a restaurant with prominent signage boasting, "World's Worst Service." The place was boarded up. Foreign lands can contain inadvertent humor. One Mexico City concern, attempting to appeal to Americans, is El Abad, subtitled, "The Place to Beer." The signage worked. I went in and beered.

Cleveland, Ohio and Gun Barrel City, Texas each have a bar named, "He's Not Here." My favorite stress clinic name, however, graces an Oklahoma City establishment: "Make My Day." Working in Las Vegas, I was informed that Nevada's state motto was, "We Make Up For Utah." In LA I heard, "Know the best part about working in California? *The flights back to the states,*" and in Dallas I was told, "I love doing LSD

in Texas, you know, Lone Star drafts . . ." *In New York City I was admonished for optimism. "You know what light at the end of the tunnel means here? New Jersey..."*

Co-workers fuel a road risibility. One character uttered quips such as, "There's only two things I don't like about him—his face," and, "If I'm up to my neck in, and you throw a bucket of at me, am I supposed to duck?" An associate tells of Phoenix co-workers who, unhappy with a hotel bar sans foot rail, contacted their office complaining that the shipment of rails sent for an elevated press walkway was short, and more were needed. They had welded several rails together in their hotel room creating their own personal foot rail, carrying it nightly to the bar, where they could finally—with good conscience, no doubt—rest one foot upon the rail.

Hapless moments feed self-deprecating humor, and I have proven exceedingly hapless. Once, boarding a plane with a first-class ticket, I maneuvered to remove my overcoat. Looking for the flight attendant, I spotted the thin, professionally dressed blonde and, handing her my coat, asked her to hang it up for me. The woman hesitated a moment, then said,



"OK." After dutifully performing the act, *she sat down next to me.* Another first-classless moment came as I sat poring over preparation for my upcoming rotisserie baseball draft. Beside me sat Steve Sidwell, then defensive coordinator of the New England Patriots. Steve was traveling to see his sons play baseball for Brown University and, observing my array of papers and utter earnestness, asked what I was studying. I responded enthusiastically and at length, expounding deepest thoughts and strategies regarding all things

Reddick

Continued on page 6

Mustang Sally Soothes *continued from page 1*

as she is only one year and 10 months old (not counting dog years). But Sally went from kid to kid, at the start of class making her presence felt and when the children turned to their art supplies, Sally drank from her bowl of water and enjoyed some snacks Baguma provided.

“Every drawing starts with shapes,” Howard told the kids and asked them to name some. Triangle, circle, rectangle and one boy said hexagon which drew laughs. Howard said drawing a dog consists of circles and ovals, while the ears are triangles and the eyes are almond-shaped.

She then emphasized the most important of her six rules of art: there are no mistakes. More practical tips were: draw lightly, as if a butterfly is holding the pencil, look closely at your subject, use your eraser and be patient.

A teacher for 35 years in most of the schools in Norwood, Howard taught for 22 years at Coakley Middle School so she was right at home in the art room. Parents simply took a quick look at the graceful teacher and deposited their kids. And then bolted.

After retiring as a teacher, Howard volunteered at the

Museum of Fine Arts to lead school group tours. Now she is combining her love of art and animals and giving kids a chance to enjoy an art form with a slight reduction of nerves, courtesy of Mustang Sally.

While Howard’s demeanor was gentle and kind, the effects of a dog can’t be matched. Baguma said when he brings Mustang Sally places, she is “our dog” despite the fact he is her owner. She reduces anxiety, particularly at the beginning of school, Baguma said. He mentioned one girl becoming so emotional over the loss of a pet cat that Baguma brought Sally to her home. After a few minutes of petting Sally, the girl appeared soothed.

Baguma recalled when he brought Sally to residents of the Norwood Housing Authority’s senior housing. These particular residents had to relocate after a fire. One resident said that even though she had a new place to live she was still shaky and spending time with Sally eased her transition.

Baguma admitted the best part of his role is “I don’t have to say one word.” People apparently take an immediate shine to Mustang Sally.

If the kids’ reactions are anything to go by, hopefully, more Sketching with Mustang Sally classes will ensue and students everywhere can learn the fundamentals of drawing minus the anxiety.

**NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a **Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and the Norwood Bylaw XXV**, including any amendments thereto on **Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 7:30 pm**. The meeting will be conducted in-person at the **Senior Center at 275 Prospect St** and digitally using Google Meet. Public participation may be accessed through your computer, tablet or smart phone at the following link:

<https://meet.google.com/qxr-awkv-kuj>
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The Commission will hear a Notice of Intent from representative Alyssa Jacobs of Epsilon Associates on behalf of applicant Norwood Airport Commission, concerning perimeter and wildlife fencing improvements in Bank, Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Land Under Water bodies and Waterways, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, and Riverfront Area of Purgatory Brook.

Project Location: **111 Access Rd., Map 21, Parcel ID’s 21-13-1, 21-13-2.**

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: November 21, 2024



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Working Septuagenarian Asks About Disability Benefits

Dear Rusty: I retired at my full retirement age, am now 79 and will be 80 in December. I have been working consistently since. I get a meager Social Security benefit, only about \$800 due to my federal retirement offset. Most jobs I have held since filing and collecting SS have involved very labor-intensive work, to include my current position. This has taken a toll.

My question: is there any provision in Social Security that permits re-evaluation of Social Security benefits for disability after one has collected and paid into the system for some 15 years? I suspect not but thought I would ask, since at my not so tender age, I am faced with having to cease employment that generates needed income.

Signed:
Working Still at 79

Dear Still Working: I'm afraid that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits are no longer available once you reach your SS "full retirement age," or "FRA," which for you was age 66. Indeed, anyone collecting SSDI at full retirement age is automatically converted to their regular SS retirement benefits at the same amount they were previously receiving on SSDI. That's because SSDI benefits are intended to sustain workers up to their SS full retirement age, but SSDI goes away once FRA is attained.

Thus, the provision to apply for SS disability allows only those who have not yet reached their full retirement age to seek disability benefits. Once FRA is reached, SSDI benefits are no longer available. Simply for your awareness, there would be no financial advantage for you to receive SS disability benefits anyway, because the most you can get on SSDI is your full retirement age amount. Thus, since you retired and claimed SS at your full retirement age, no additional disability amount would be available anyway.

FYI, I admire, at your "tender age," that you are still actively working, but I'm afraid you cannot claim more now on Social Security disability because you've already reached your FRA. However, from what you've written, your SS retirement benefit has been af-



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

ected by the so-called Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) which affects those with a separate pension earned without contributing to Social Security.

If you've been separately working (and contributing to Social Security) since you left government service, and you now have more than 20 years contributing to SS from other non-government "substantial earnings," it's possible that you can request a reevaluation of your WEP penalty. WEP provides relief for those who have more than 20 years contributing to Social Security. So, if you have more than that over your lifetime, you could ask that your WEP reduction be reevaluated to consider your additional years contributing to Social Security. If that is the case, your monthly amount would be increased to consider those additional years contributing to SS since you first claimed.

I suggest, if you now have more than 20 years of contributions to Social Security from your non-government work over your lifetime, that you call Social Security to request reevaluation of your WEP retirement amount. FYI, you can see exactly how many years of SS-covered work you have by requesting an "Earnings Statement" from Social Security. You can get this Statement by calling 1.800.772.1213, or you can also get it at your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount (Social Security will also be able to tell you this directly when you call). In any case, I wish you good fortune, and hope that reevaluating the WEP reduction to your SS benefit may offer some small financial relief as you go forward.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Norwood For All *continued from page 3*

"The first person I really recruited was someone who was pro-housing and spoke up during Town Meeting, which was huge," she said. "It's easy to find people who are pro-housing. It's hard to find people who are pro-housing and have the time and passion to start or work on a group like this. So we tabled at events and I reached out to progressive groups in Town and we had an event at the library, which brought in more people."

Hestad said education and awareness are key focuses.

"I don't think most people even think about zoning; I just don't think it's on their radar," she said. "We want to be raising awareness of it so people aren't coming to Town Meeting and learning about a project for the first time. We want people to be able to learn about projects and have an informed opinion about it. We happen to think more hous-

ing is good, but it's not like every single development that comes before the Town needs to be built either, but we like people to be informed. We've really taken a big education focus."

Hestad said many times, housing proposals see fierce opposition at the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals or Town Meeting.

"There is a really good book called 'Neighborhood Defenders: Participatory Politics and America's Housing Crisis,' I think by Katherine Einstein," she said. David Glick and Maxwell Palmer are also listed as authors. "It's about how the people who show up to these meetings are generally white older homeowners who are mostly retired and have the financial incentive to oppose housing. And the people who generally would be supportive of these proposals are not at the meetings because they don't live there yet."

Hestad said raising awareness is the key. She allowed that many times at public meetings, people are coming into the debate with their minds already made up and are unlikely to change them.

"But then, there are some who aren't... I think a lot of people just have no idea a lot of times," she said.

Hestad said the group is looking forward to the awards ceremony so that they can meet other advocates from other communities and see what's working for them and what's not.

"It's always really great to meet other people from other communities who are doing this work," she said. "The housing problem is a regional problem, and to see people working on a regional solution is awesome."

For more information on the event, Abundant Housing Massachusetts and NFA, go to <https://tinyurl.com/5n8bycyx>

Reddick *continued from page 4*

Fantasy Baseball. When I paused, Steve said, "Well, I, too, am also preparing for my draft . . ." My head jerked back in sudden realization and I laughed aloud; I was bloviating about my Morse Shoe Rotisserie Baseball League draft, and Steve Sidwell was talking about the NFL draft . . .

A memorable hapless moment combined cultural elements of Boston as well as rural Kendallville, Indiana, where I attended a Bluegrass

Festival held on local 4-H Club fairgrounds. Finding myself thirsty, I spotted a building decorated with shamrocks and the words, "Draught Barn." Well, in Boston shamrocks and the word "Draught" only mean one thing. I crossed the fields, approached the building and entered, only to realize . . . it was . . . a Draught Horse Barn, adorned with the 4-H Club's shamrock logo . . .

So, cruising Long Island Expressway, cognizant of accumulating hapless experience for

self-deprecating humor, I came upon a sight that lent itself to another's splendid opportunity, though again, I doubt he will ever use it. For pulled over on the side of the highway was a long line of cars, all with headlights on, a hearse at the front. As I slowly passed, I saw suited figures fixing a flat tire on the long, black vehicle, and—may Lords of life and laughter forgive me—I burst out laughing. *The guy was late for his own funeral!*

*"Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.
He can be reached at donreddick534@gmail.com*

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Norwood Hospital/MPT update

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

While Norwood Hospital has been relatively out of the spotlight this past year – Steward’s bankruptcy and liquidation of its other hospitals taking up most of the oxygen in the room – small developments are taking place.

And, some of them may be promising.

First, Foxboro’s two Norwood Hospital satellite sites – Norwood Hospital Cancer Care Center and Foxboro CT – have been bought up by Brown University Health, according to the State House News Service. Brown’s healthcare organization now runs Morton Hospital in Taunton – another former Steward hospital – and has extended its license to cover those facilities. Steward had been running those facilities until the state announced that it would not renew the company’s hospital license and it expired on Nov. 5.

Public Health Commissioner Rob Goldstein announced the license transfer at a recent Public Health Council meeting, but did not mention Steward’s former Norwood satellite locations – Norwood Performance Therapy and Guild Imaging Center of Norwood Hospital.

Goldstein echoed comments from the Department of Public Health made to The Norwood Record earlier in October and said the new operator of the Norwood Hospital will have to

obtain a new license or modify an existing one to begin utilizing the site as a hospital.

And The Boston Globe reported last week that former U.S. House of Representatives Speaker and former Steward board member John Boehner appeared at the federal courthouse in the Fort Point neighborhood of Boston where a grand jury is investigating allegations of fraud, bribery and corruption against the bankrupt company. Boehner is one of several members of the Steward Board who have been summoned to answer questions from federal prosecutors, including former Trump administration national security adviser H.R. McMaster (<https://tinyurl.com/38ebe3vw>).

According to The Globe, Steward is under investigation for potential violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, as well as former CEO Ralph de la Torre using funds for personal items. Officials in Malta are also investigating reports of unfettered bribery – the term, ‘brown bags of cash’ was used (<https://tinyurl.com/mry6s5u3>) – involving Torre and Steward. Great Britain is also investigating privatization intimidation and links to Russia (<https://tinyurl.com/2zap76a4>.)

In perhaps mixed news for the fate of the hospital, property owner Medical Properties Trust (MPT) released a third quarter report (which ended Sept. 30) last week (<https://tinyurl.com/3fswz635>), reporting losses in individual sale prices and “Approximately

\$2.9 billion of year-to-date liquidity transactions completed.” For context, The City of Miami’s operating budget last fiscal year was about \$1.8 billion and The City of Boston’s last operating budget was \$4.28 billion.

That’s all to say that MPT is looking for an operator for the Norwood Hospital, which will have to go through licensing and other regulatory hurdles now that Steward’s license is gone. Experts have stated this would be a hurdle for any potential operator. That’s not even mentioning the fact that most hospital operators in the state own the land on which they sit and are not structured to pay rent the way MPT has expected since Steward sold it all its hospital’s lands and properties back in 2016 (and this has been cited as a possible reason for Steward’s bankruptcy in the first place).

MPT also announced that it has sold 18 freestanding emergency department facilities as well as an acute general hospital in Arizona and Colorado for about \$246 million, as well as leased two more former Steward facilities in Arizona for \$140 million to College Health.

Since liquidity means getting rid of assets and MPT has a lot of real estate assets, it’s possible MPT may be willing to sell the land with the hospital to an operator and be done with Norwood entirely, and a hospital already in Massachusetts with a property-owning

Hospital Update
Continued on page 10



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The Town of Norwood has partnered with HomeWorks Energy

Income-qualified households and landlords may be eligible for additional incentives. See website for more details about these offers and eligibility.

**Questions/help?
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**Norwood Thrift Shop Annual
Holiday Sale**

For the members of the Women’s Community Committee, one of the happiest and most anticipated days of the year is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Why? It’s the **Thrift Shop’s Annual Holiday Sale!**

This year, the **Thrift Shop, located at 1091 Washington Street in Norwood,** will be magically transformed into a winter wonderland on **November 30, 2024 at 9:30am and will continue thru December 21st.**

Regular retail hours are: **Wednesdays 6–8pm,
Thursdays 9:30am–3:00pm & Saturdays 9:30am–12:30pm.**

All year, a team of women sort through the weekly donations, cull out the Holiday items and pack them away until the sale. The sale features new items, ornaments, decorations, games, toys, holiday clothing, tablecloths, tree skirts, dishes and lots more!

The Women’s Community, a volunteer non-profit organization, hopes that this Holiday Sale is one of the first stops for your holiday gift buying. All proceeds are used to support local organizations.

For the Record

Morrill Library Events

Registration is required and free for all events below unless otherwise indicated. Sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar, or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY MOVIE FRIDAY

The Morrill Memorial Library is offering an in-person sensory-friendly movie on the 4th Friday of the month for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities.

Join us for our Sensory-friendly Friday movie at the Library! This program will be held in-person in the Simoni Room on Friday November 22, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Our November movie in the Sensory-friendly Friday movie series is Disney's Wish, rated PG.

The Morrill Memorial Library and Lifeworks Inc of Norwood are excited to bring this program series to the Norwood community.

FOLK DUO HUNGRYTOWN TO PLAY

The Morrill Memorial Library's Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series continues with a performance of the folk duo, Hungrytown, on Sunday November 24 at 3:00 pm.

Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson, through their years of worldwide touring and tireless devotion to many classic genres of music, have crafted Hungrytown into a true artistic hybrid, able to hold Celtic and Americana, ballads and psychedelia, sunshine and darkness, joy and despair—not only within the same album, but within the same song. Hungrytown has nearly 20 years of experience performing on the library circuit, around the US, and overseas, and their music has received extensive radio airplay worldwide and has appeared on several television shows, including The Daily Show and Portlandia.

NATIVE SEED SAVINGS

Morrill Memorial Library and Norwood Conservation Commission is excited to announce a workshop called Native-seed Saving Workshop on Saturday, November 23 at 9:30 a.m. in the Simoni Room at the library.

Join us to learn about seed saving through a presentation followed by a hands-on workshop on seed-saving techniques.

TSUKAMOTO RETURNING FOR CONCERT SERIES

The Morrill Memorial Library's Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series continues with a performance by a returning Norwood audience favorite, classical guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto, on Sunday, December 1 at 2:00 pm. NOTE: the start time of this concert is earlier than other shows in the series.

MATT YORK WRAPS UP CONCERT SERIES

The Morrill Memorial Library's Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series wraps up with a fun performance by New England country music artist, Matt York, on Sunday, December 1 at 3:00 pm.

Longtime New England musician Matt York will be performing "Songs and Stories Holiday Songs". The songs will run the gamut from those that have been around for hundreds of years to more modern Christmas and holiday classics. People are encouraged to sing along if they'd like! The concert is a combination of performance and stories behind the songs being played.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OPEN HOUSE

Calling all Norwood Residents! Come out and have your voices heard. Participate in the Norwood Comprehensive Plan process at this Community Open House, to be held at Morrill Memorial Library on Tuesday, December 10 starting at 6:00pm in the Simoni Room.

Library

Continued on page 12

HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Our Holiday Open House is December 7, from 4:00pm – 8:00pm.

The Norwood High School Madrigals will perform on December 8, at 1 p.m.

Norwood native Grace Allendorf, mezzo-soprano, will sing holiday favorites from the 1950s to today, accompanied by pianist Wayman Chin ON Saturday, December 14, at 3 p.m.

Children's Story Hour & Holiday Crafts- Young ones (with parental supervision) will enjoy holiday stories, ornament-making, and refreshments. Space is limited for this event; Please register your participation by completing the RSVP questionnaire on our website or Facebook page.

COME TO BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Boy Scout Troop 42 Norwood is once again hosting its Thanksgiving Day Fall PANCAKE BREAKFAST Saturday, November 23, 7:30am - 10:30am at the First Congregational Church, 100 Winter Street, Norwood (corner Rte 1A). Please join us for a delicious breakfast of pancakes, sausages, home fries, juice and coffee! Plenty of parking behind the church, and the entrance is handicapped-accessible at the corner of the building.

Troop 42, one of the oldest continuously chartered Boy Scout troops in America, is celebrating our 114th anniversary in 2024!

Fall and Winter months are here and following last year's bike and camping trips to Nantucket and a week at summer camp, we're gearing up for some fabulous adventures, including camping and hiking trips to Camp Greenough in Yarmouthport, Camps Nobscot and Squanto, New England Base Camp in Milton, and skiing and tubing trips (to name just a few)! If you're a boy between the ages of 11 and 18 and are interested in more information about joining our troop, please stop by our Pancake Breakfast or check out our website at www.troop42norwood.com. Adult meals are \$8.00, child meals are \$5.00, and a family meal is \$20.00. No previous experience necessary – just an interest in growing and having fun!

In honor of our former Scoutmaster and Town Selectman David Hajjar, we are collecting food donations for the Norwood Food Pantry. If you are able to

bring any non-perishable items along with you, our Scouting for Food drive will collect them and deliver them to the good people at the food pantry to help out those in need of food items at this time of year. Thank you in advance for your support.

WOMAN'S CLUB TO MEET

The Norwood Woman's Club will be meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 12:30 p.m.. The meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St, Norwood. To help us celebrate the 99th year of the Norwood Woman's Club Tommy Rull will perform his Christmas Holiday Show with a "Musical Journey Through the Years". A light lunch will be served. Guests are welcomed. Yearly dues are now \$35.00. We are asking everyone to bring one item for the Ecumenical Food pantry to each meeting. Any questions please call Trina at 781-762-8173. Hope to see you there.

PARKWAY CONCERT ORCHESTRA PRESENTS HOLIDAY POPS CONCERT

Parkway Concert Orchestra presents its annual Holiday Pops concert on Sunday, December 8 at 3 p.m. at Ursuline Academy, 85 Lowder Street, Dedham. Music Director Thomas Kociela conducts the 50 piece non-profit orchestra in an exciting program including Nutcracker Overture and Act 1 conclusion by Tchaikovsky, Noel by Chadwick, and other holiday favorites. The program also features Concertmaster, Sarah Rogers, violin, in Winter by Vivaldi, as well as choral students from Ursuline Academy.

The program is sponsored by Folsom Funeral Home and is

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

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

On Sunday, November 24th, the First Congregational Church in Norwood will celebrate "Thanksgiving Sunday," giving thanks for God's continuing providence and for the gifts of creation. Congregants are invited to bring food items to this special service for us to share with the Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry. These items will be blessed during worship and delivered at a later time as a blessing for the wider community.

We will also receive new members on Thanksgiving Sunday, giving thanks for all those who have found their spiritual home at the First Congregational Church.

First Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) is an Open & Affirming congregation welcoming all. We are located at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street in Norwood. The regu-

Calendar

Continued on page 9

NOTICE OF HEARING ON TREE REMOVAL

In accordance with Section 3 of Chapter 87 of the Massachusetts General Laws, notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on Thursday, December 5th at 9:00 am in the Department of Public Works Conference Room located at 1 Lyman Place, on the cutting and removal of a 40-foot maple tree located on the southerly side of Vernon Street in front of House #197 Vernon Street. The purpose of this tree removal is for safety purposes.

All persons interested in the foregoing are hereby notified that they may be present and heard at said meeting, if they so desire.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON TREE REMOVAL

In accordance with Section 3 of Chapter 87 of the Massachusetts General Laws, notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on Thursday, December 5th at 9:00 am in the Department of Public Works Conference Room located at 1 Lyman Place, on the cutting and removal of a 40-foot maple tree located on the southerly side of Vernon Street in front of House #153 Vernon Street. The purpose of this tree removal is for safety purposes.

All persons interested in the foregoing are hereby notified that they may be present and heard at said meeting, if they so desire.

TOWN OF NORWOOD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Norwood will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on December 3, 2024, at 7:00 PM on the request of Norwood Building Commissioner and Zoning Enforcement Officer Gary Pelletier (Case #24-30) with respect to property located at 92 Union St. Norwood, MA 02062 [Map 15 Block 1 Lot 4], in the Single Residence2 (S2) Zoning District. The hearing will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062 and will also be available for remote participation via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xsu-pnjz-wua>
Or dial: (US) +1 941-254-1160 PIN: 402 158 920#

The Commissioner requests the Board revoke a Special Permit granted by the Board in case no. 23-15 at their July 11th, 2023 meeting pursuant to the Special Permit conditions no. 1, 5, and 6. These conditions require that approved construction must be in conformity with submitted plans and approved by local authorities prior to use, and state that the Board may revoke the approved plans if the conditions of the decision are violated.

Any zoning remedy that may be required in adherence to the Norwood Zoning Bylaw shall be considered by the Board. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearing and make their views known to the Board.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeals and may be requested by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Norwood Record: 11/14/2024, 11/21/2024

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Please include your name, address & telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published.



ROBERT H. of Sharon, formerly of Norwood and Walpole, passed away on November 14, 2024 at the age of 70. Devoted father of Aaron W. Johnson and his wife Michelle of Walpole and Michelle E. Johnson and her partner Erik MacDonald of Sharon. Brother of Jean Johnson of Attleboro and the late Edward Johnson and Carol Silva. Son of the late Edward E. and Delores (Mitchell) Johnson. Cherished grandfather of Owen and Abigail Johnson. Uncle of Anthony Silva of Norwood, Nicole Johnson of Attleboro, and the late Manny Silva. Robert was a graduate of Walpole High School class of 1973 and a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Boston. He loved camping, hiking, and billiards. All services will be private. Friends and family are welcome to attend a celebration of life at Napper Tandy's in Walpole, Ma on December 1st from 3pm to 6pm. Arrangements by the Kraw Kornack Funeral Home, Norwood, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to the MSPCA-Angel 350 South Huntington Ave. Boston, MA 02130 www.mspca.org

MAIN



HAROLD was born on September 5, 1938 and passed away on November 16, 2024 at the age of 86. He is preceded by his beloved mother Martha Main and his longtime girlfriend Claudette Nargassans. Harold was a larger-than-life figure in the town of Norwood and on any given day could be found at local businesses, The police station/ fire station, Dunkin Donuts or at many Norwood Town meetings. He very often participated in the 4th of July parade. Harold

Deaths

loved Norwood and Norwood loved him. He was blessed to live at the Bradford house in Norwood and loved the staff and his housemates dearly. He later moved to the Hellenic nursing home in Canton, where he was surrounded by many special people who took wonderful care of him. He spent many days at Lifeworks and made wonderful friends there as well. Harold was a kind soul who will be greatly missed, especially by his dear friend Cheryl Germano. Rest in the sweet peace of Christ Harold. Visitation will be held on Friday morning November 22, 2024 from 9:00am-10:30am at the Kraw Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, MA. Following the visitation a funeral mass will be held Friday at 11:00am at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood. Burial will be at New Calvary Cemetery, Boston, MA.

McCARTHY



Francis X. passed away peacefully on Monday, November 11, 2024 after an extended illness. Born and lived all his life in Norwood, he was the son of the late Roland and Josephine (Pusateri) McCarthy. Francis was a 1956 graduate of Norwood High School. "Franny" was known for his speed and tenacity as an athlete and enjoyed sharing his experiences playing sports, especially football, baseball, and track while a student at NHS. His proudest moment was scoring the winning touchdown at the 1955 Norwood vs. Dedham Thanksgiving Day game. Francis was a mail carrier for 35 years in Norwood and was well known by many. Francis was the beloved husband of Corinne (McIntosh) McCarthy of Norwood, and the devoted father of Mark McCarthy of Marshfield, Lisa and her husband Brian Dubey of Dudley, Erin and her husband Timothy Mallette of Wrentham, and Kate McCarthy of Mansfield. He was the brother of Billy, Jerome, Dennis, and Jimmy McCarthy and the late Theresa McCarthy. Francis' biggest joy was sharing his life with his five grandchildren, Brock,

The Norwood Record

Bronson, and Brigham Dubey, and Jack and Mya MacIver. He is survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements were made with Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street, Norwood. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Norwood on Saturday, November 16. Interment Highland Cemetery, Norwood. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Francis' memory to your favorite charity or organization.

MATA PAYAMPS



Carmen M. of Norwood passed away on Monday, November 11, 2024 at age 72. Born in Santiago, Dominican Republic, she was the daughter of the late Patricio Mata and Ana Mata Payamps. Carmen worked for many years at the Ellis Nursing Home in Norwood. Carmen was the devoted mother of Rosa Morillo Mata of Norwood. She was the sister of Manuel Mata Payamps, Maria Mata Payamps, Isabel Mata payamps, and Mercedes Mata Payamps. Carmen was the proud grandmother of Nicolas Morillo Mata and is survived by many nieces and nephews. Services were held in the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street, Norwood on Sunday November, 17.

Calendar *continued from page 8*

lar Sunday morning worship service is at 10 AM. In light of COVID-19, worship services are conducted in person, live-streamed during the worship service, and posted to the FCC Norwood YouTube channel afterwards. Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. Sunday School classes are held for children in grades Pre-K through 8 mid-September through mid-June. Our Pastor, Rev. Michele Bagby Allan, is glad to extend pastoral support. For more information, please visit the church web site (<https://www.fccnorwood.org>) or call the church office at (781)762-3320.

HELP LIGHT UP THE CIRCLE OF HOPE

The Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation invites you to help light up the Circle of Hope by purchasing a luminary to be lit on Saturday evening, December 7, on the Town Common from 4 – 6 PM. Continuing a Norwood tradition begun 23 years ago, the members of the Circle of Hope Foundation say the luminaries are a symbol of Life, Hope, the Season, and Remembrance of others. Last year more than 2000 luminaries were lit on the town common.

Luminaries can be purchased for \$5.00 each by sending your payment to COH, PO BOX 421, Norwood, MA 02062 or by stopping by Murph's Place Restaurant at 58 Broadway, Norwood. You may include a brief message of life, hope, the season or remembrance to be written on the luminary. You will also find an order form in your November light bills and on our website NORWOODCOH.ORG. The candles will be lit beginning at 4:00 pm and the Foundation members welcome residents and friends to come out and see this beautiful site.

The Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation is a non-profit organization established to support Norwood residents who need assistance due to a catastrophic medical occurrence. Since its founding in 1998 the Foundation has provided over \$1,250,000 to Norwood residents in need of assistance. The Foundation was established in 1998 in memory of Michelle Kennedy, a young Norwood resident, who suffered with leukemia. During Michelle's battle the entire Norwood community, many of whom did not know Michelle, joined together and it is in that spirit that the Circle of Hope Foundation continues.

VFW MEAT RAFFLE IS BACK!

The Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452 on Dean Street in Norwood hosts a Meat Raffle every Saturday from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The Meat Raffle is open to the Public and everyone is welcome. The price for each Drawing is only \$2.00. Ten Drawings are conducted each Saturday. A Pre-Buy for \$20.00 is available during the week at the Post. This Pre-Buy allows for entrance in all Ten Drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win. The prizes are delectable, delicious, and generous portions of meat and chicken. The Drawings also include a 50/50 Money Raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5.00.

The Norwood VFW is located at 193 Dean Street in Norwood. The Meat Raffle will continue every Saturday thru May. The Norwood VFW is looking for new members. Veterans of the Gulf War, and personnel who have served overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan are welcome to visit the post at any time or come to one of the Monthly Meetings which are held on the Fourth Wednesday of each Month from September thru May (Except December).

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Ask The Doctor

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

Hyundai Sonata Hybrid Limited

I remember when Hyundai cars were not on my radar, step ahead 25 years and you have one of the best vehicles made and a warranty to back it up. I had a Hyundai Sonata Hybrid Limited this week and what a grand car this was. Power comes from a 2.0 liter Hybrid system through a real 6 speed automatic. The Limited package is loaded with standard equipment no optional equipment needed. Look at the body lines and the style of this mid size car. This Sonata was a joy to drive in every way. Power is instant and the transmission shifts smoothly under any condition. Paint color is called transmission blue, interior is black. Seats are power both heated and ventilated front panorama roof, 12.3 inch both dash cluster and center touchscreen. and the list goes on. MSRP \$30,000 / 2025 MSRP \$31,000, NLine MSRP \$36,000. EPA 44/51 combined 47.

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

Monday, November 11

0948 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Plymouth Dr Resident requesting an officer keep the peace while her roommate moves out of the home.

1113 Walk-In - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Nahatan St Party reports his vehicle was possibly towed off of private property and he cannot locate it. Clear, that party has been notified where his vehicle was towed to. Vehicle was parked on the property for about 11 months before it was towed, clear.

1455 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Nahatan St Resident reporting a female party in the apartment above her, is throwing big bags of trash down the staircase and yelling. Norwood 663 reports that party was throwing the trash over the railing to make it easier to take the trash out. Party was advised to refrain from doing that and refused to identify herself, clear.

Tuesday, November 12

0107 Phone - PD-Disturbance Gone on arrival Location/Address: CVS Pharmacy - Nahatan St Call from staff reports they have a customer who is being verbally aggressive towards staff. Party left prior to officer arrival.

0152 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Yarmouth Rd 911 caller states he hears things moving inside the house. Caller disconnected, attempted call-back caller states he is on the second floor. Completed a walk through of the property outside and inside. All in order and no signs of any break.

0719 Phone - PD-Missing Person Report Follows Location/Address: Olde Derby Rd Called in to HQ, mother stating her 15yo daughter left the house and is unsure where she is going. Left out the back door. Black female, barefoot with an orange sweatshirt on and blue jeans. 669/662 en route to Cedar St apt A, checking for the missing juvenile. Juvenile was not at the residence. 669 heading back to the home address

to speak with mom and possibly fill out a missing person. 669 off with the juvenile, speaking to her now at the residence. Juvenile is back home with her mom, report to follow. OF

1849 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Roosevelt Ave Caller reports ongoing issues with neighbor banging on her door. Parties possibly at Roosevelt Ave. Caller is unsure. Norwood 674 reports speaking to all parties, they have been advised of their options going forward, ongoing issue, clear.

Wednesday, November 13

0727 Phone - PD-Mental Health Services Rendered Location/Address: - Wickham Way National Grid Electric requesting a health and welfare check on a customer who called stated he was going to kill himself with no means given. Due to his power being shut off. Units spoke with involved party. He is okay and the conversation was taken out of context. Units will be clear.

1527 Phone - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Nichols St Female party would like a phone call from an officer in regards to a pizza being stolen off of her porch at 15:00. Spoke to that party and it was in regards to a group of juveniles. No evidence in regards to her claim. She has been advised

1756 Walk-In - PD-Larceny/Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Dean St Walk in reports his Amazon package was opened and items were taken. Clear, report to follow. 1841 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Rock St Caller states there is a raccoon on her front steps that is preventing her from leaving her car and entering her home. Caller states the animal may be acting erratically. ACO Henry en route to assist.

2359 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: E Vernon St Caller on 911 stating lots of banging and shouting coming from the 2nd unit upstairs.

The Norwood Record

Police Logs



Quiet upon arrival, spoke with CP and RP, they will figure out a solution tomorrow, clear.

Thursday, November 14

1234 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Phillips Ave Caller reports she can't get down the road due to utility workers working in the area. 665 reports RW Phillips is doing cable wire work in the area. NO wire obstructing roadway at this time as parties are in area of Walpole and Phillips. Clear and returning. Party called back stating vehicles were still in area and obstructing roadway. 665 reports parties are finishing their work in area and will be moving. No need for another response at this time.

1241 Phone - PD-Assist Public Provided Assistance Location/Address: Coach Lane Walk in would like to have an officer stand by while he talks to his tenants that live in the residence. 674 following this party to Coach Lane to assist with keeping the peace. This is a landlord/tenant issue. 674 reports he was able to keep the peace at this location.

1806 Phone - PD-Assist Fire Department Services Rendered Location/Address: Cross St Report of a possible outside fire, Parties running Pleasant Street from the fire. Unknown description. Possibly two to three people. Speaking to juveniles on Rock Street. Those juveniles check okay. Fire has been extinguished by NFD. Unable to locate the parties that fled.

2107 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Sycamore St Caller reporting child yelling "Daddy no Daddy no" Caller does have clip of the sound if officers would like to speak with him he states that it is all right for them to come by. Child checks okay.

Friday, November 15

0322 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: - Morgan Dr Caller reports that there are vehicles in a parking lot doing burn outs. Spoke to the group of parties leaving the recording studio. They stated it was a friend of theirs that was doing the burn out. That party left prior to officer arrival. Other parties are

leaving now.

1106 Initiated - PD-Threats Spoke With Location/Address: Buckminster Dr Sister called in requesting a call from an Officer regarding the continued threats she's receiving from her sister via email. RP states she lives out of the country. Sent info to 667 work phone. Spoke to party, ongoing issues with sister. On going issue in FL. RP is going to reach out to Riverside, she is satisfied. Cleared

1450 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Plimpton Ave Male caller on business line stating there are individuals from Cross Street ruining his fence. Stated he spoke to another officer prior and now there is damage to his fence. Spoke to both parties. New damage on the fence from RP. Advised both parties. Cleared

1517 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Vicinity of: Washington Street 911- female party mouthed 'help' 2x out back window of red Prius MA REG LV88498. Female party has brown hair. On Washington Street and heading towards the Common. 663 checked Upland, no sign of the transportation vehicle. Going to reach out to the RP. 661 is speaking to American Transport Spoke to the company. Appears to be MH with that patient. Company is going to reach out. Cleared.

1530 911 - PD-Disturbance Transported by other means Location/Address: American Nails Spa Inc. - Bos-Prov Hwy 911-client came in for waxing, claiming her skin was burned and will not leave salon until PD arrives. Darker skin female, black jacket, black pants, smoking outside. Caller states client does not need medical attention. Caller does not have female party's name due to being a walk in. FD is being requested for evaluation. Party to be transported to BI Needham for facial burns. Not satisfied with service. Car may be left overnight in parking lot.

Saturday, November 16

0248 911 - PD-Disturbance Transported to Hospital Location/Address: Commerce Way 911 caller reports 19 year old resident was throwing things in the residence. Party is now cooperating with staff and would like to speak with an officer. Requesting FD on scene. Voluntary transport by FD to BI-Needham.

0953 911 - PD-Assist Fire Department Services Rendered Location/Address: Pams Market - Pleasant St Report of outside fire Pleasant blocked at Nahatan street & Pleasant blocked off at E Cross. Diverting traffic. All units clear. NFD handled the fire

1107 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Collision Services Rendered Location/Address: Furlongs Candies - Cottage St Report of a male party that rode his

bicycle into a parked car. Vehicle was unoccupied. Attempting to make contact with the owner of the vehicle. Gentleman on the bike refused going to the hospital. Officer attempted to contact the owner of the vehicle. He was not home. Minor damage to the driver side rear door. The man who struck the vehicle lives in the same building as the owner of the vehicle. Party will attempt to contact owner as well.

1226 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoken To Location/Address: Fairview Rd 911 caller reporting a possible break in. Last at home at 7:30am. Caller stating there is human feces on the walls. No signs of a break in and nothing is missing from the residence. Home was left unlocked. Parties were spoken to and advised.

1501 Radio - PD-Vandalism Spoken To Location/Address: Prospect Ave Party in lobby would like to speak to an officer in regards to vandalism to yard sign. Party was reporting someone put a Trump sticker on his political sign. He has been spoken to and advised.

1732 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Services Rendered Location/Address: Albemarle Rd + Brook St Male fell off a bike seem altered. Wearing a hat and dark clothes. Male party was being picked up by his brother.

Sunday, November 17

1046 Phone - PD-Stolen Motor Vehicle Report Follows Location/Address: Endicott St Party in the lobby looking to report a possible stolen motor vehicle. Attempted to locate on Endicott St. was unsuccessful. Vehicle has been logged into NCIC. OF assigned and report to follow.

1145 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Checked and Spoke with Location/Address: Stop & Shop - Bos-Prov Hwy Caller reporting that there's a 12 year old child and a baby in a carriage standing out front asking for money. Caller was a 21 year old with a baby, were spoken to, clear.

1153 Phone - PD-Lost/Found Property Services Rendered Location/Address: Norwest Dr Female party on the business line states that she lost/got her purse stolen and she has an airtag on it and this is its last known location. She would like an officer to call her to rearrange a pick up location if the purse is at this location. Items have been located and are being brought back to the station.

1256 Phone - PD-Missing Person Report Follows Location/Address: Norwest Dr Business line caller reporting that her daughter left home last night at 0430 and has not been home since. Phone is off and has not been returning calls. She was last seen wearing a black coat.

1837 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Riverside Community Services - Beacon Ave Caller on the business line stating that they are trying to kill her brother.

2045 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Riverside Community Services - Beacon Ave Headquarters reporting female calling to the station to report that they are trying to harm her brother. Units spoke with the female everything is ok. Units clear

Hospital *continued from page 7*

business model – like most if not all other hospitals in the state and New England – may be more inclined to take over.

No statements to this effect have been made by MPT, and it did lease two more former Steward sites in Arizona – bringing its total re-tenanted hospitals to 17 – so the business model is not exactly defunct. But it also sold a hospital, so it is not above doing that either.

“With Steward’s removal from our portfolio, we look forward to demonstrating the strength and resilience of our diversified portfolio of hospital real estate and the importance of our business model to an industry in desperate need for more capital solutions,” MPT Chair, President and CEO Edward Aldag said in a statement.

MPT currently has a total asset count worth about \$15.2 billion in the United States, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Finland, Colombia, Italy and Portugal.

The company’s third quarter report also announced a positive outcome for the years-long lawsuit against the insurance company for Norwood Hospital, Zurich Insurance, in which all “previously recorded receivables” would be offset in their entirety. The lawsuit centered around Zurich’s refusal to pay a portion of its payout to rebuild the hospital because of the definition of “surface waters.” (<https://tinyurl.com/mf9yv4rz>).

**TOWN OF NORWOOD
LOCAL TAX LEVY PUBLIC HEARING**

The Board of Selectmen has scheduled a public hearing on **Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024 at 6:40 PM in the Harry B. Butters Chambers, Room 34, Norwood Town Hall, 566 Washington Street, Norwood**, concerning the percentages of **Fiscal 2025 Tax Levy** to be borne by each class of property, in accordance with **Chapter 40, Section 56, as amended by Chapter 369 of the Acts of 1982, and Chapter 79 of the Acts of 1983.**

Robert G. Donnelly Chairman
Amanda R. Grow
William J. Plasko
Matthew E. Lane
Michael Saad

Norwood Record: 11/21/24

Community Service Directory

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What drives the internet?
CONTENT
 Read the Norwood Record online at
www.norwoodrecord.com

Library *continued from page 8*

Visit the project website for more information and updates: <https://tinyurl.com/NorwoodCP>
 ¡Llamando a todos los residentes de Norwood! Salgan y hagan oír sus voces. Participar en el proceso del Plan Integral de Norwood. Jornada de puertas abiertas para la comunidad Martes 10 de diciembre 6:00 a 8:00pm Biblioteca Comemorativa de Morrill.

Visite el sitio web del proyecto para obtener más información: <https://tinyurl.com/NorwoodCP>

For more information and to access engagement tools, visit www.tinyurl.com/NorwoodCP, or contact Sarah Dixon, Director of Community Development at sdixon@norwoodma.gov.

For further details about the Community Open House, visit the Library's event calendar: norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar.

INFO SESSION ON MASSHIRE

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to partner with MassHire S/W office to bring an information session about MassHire to the Norwood community. The program is called MassHire: meeting your employment needs and will take place on Tuesday December 17, at 6p.m. in the Simoni Room at the library.

MassHire Metro South/West Career Centers offer a comprehensive suite of services for job seekers, employers, and veterans that are unemployed or underemployed. Through our initial Career Center Seminars, job seekers gain access to resources, guidance from case advisors, and assistance from our business services team in the MassHire network. Employers benefit from free recruitment support, job postings, and pre-screening capabilities via JobQuest, our online job search engine. Job seekers can utilize JobQuest for job matching, career counseling, and various skill-building workshops. We also encourage everyone to check our calendar regularly for upcoming events, including job fairs and workshops, designed to enhance career development and connect employers with skilled candidates. MassHire is here to support your path to employment and workforce growth. Our motto is "Helping people find jobs, and helping companies find people." Presenter: Rick Baccari, Business Service Representative, MassHire S/W Career Center.

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

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on December 3, 2024, at 7:00 PM** on the request of Ralph Khirallah (Case #24-29) with respect to property located at **114 Audubon Rd. Norwood, MA 02062 [Map 17 Block 11 Lot 23]**, in the **Single Residence (S) Zoning District**. The hearing will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062 and will also be available for remote participation via Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xsu-pnjz-wua>
 Or dial: (US) +1 941-254-1160 PIN: 402 158 920#

This Application requests a Special Permit pursuant to Zoning Bylaw Section 5.4.4 to construct a one story addition on the northwest corner of the house in the side setback. The house is currently non-conforming in the side setback, and the proposed addition would increase the nonconformity.

Any zoning relief that may be required in adherence to the Norwood Zoning Bylaw shall be considered by the Board. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearing and make their views known to the Board.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeals and may be requested by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Norwood Record: 11/14/2024, 11/21/2024

HI GUYS.....

Isn't the weather comfortable, (except when my sister opens the windows when it has turned cool!!) It's nice to be "hot stuff" like my wheelchair bound son!! Anyway, let's get to it...

THE NH

What has happened to our 105-year-old-hospital? Was its demise due to nature alone, lack of upkeep, or pure greed? Not having our hospital available to us and to those in the surrounding area has created immense problems for many patients and their families. Did my beloved husband die because of negative issues that were taking place at Good Sam that I was not made aware of? Whatever it was, it is unforgivable!

IS IT HALLOWEEN, THANKSGIVING, HANNUKAH, OR CHRISTMAS?

Hallmark movies are now running their Christmas shows 24/7 every day of the week until after Christmas. (2 channels)

NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Wreaths Across Highland Cemetery is in HONOR of our 5200 departed veterans that lay in rest forever in our memories. \$20 will reserve a wreath in your name that you may pick up at Highland, Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 at noon. Is there no group that would be able to help lay the wreaths as some of the family members will not be able to attend even though they have made a donation and their

hearts are sad thinking of their loving departed. If you wish to contribute....Make checks payable to: Norwood High School Alumni Assoc. 12 Leyton Rd. Norwood. Ma. 02062.

MORE APARTMENTS??

According to the paper, our Town has approved the construction of 15 apartments where Town Cleaners used to be.

On the other hand, are we going to stand strong and absolutely say NO to this state to construct more apt's near ANY transportation??!! We've basically lost our Center and other stores due to poor decisions but, of course, that was my era, a beautiful era! Did you hear the national news this week that stated.....AI.....will be running our gas, oil, cars, etc. in the near future. I won't be here but I wish you all luck in the new world.

The PD and NFD had their open house at the station a short time ago. Cute little Molly decided to put her donuts in the fireman helmet where her donuts were easily munchable.

I truly hope all have a splendid holiday season! May joy



Jackie Saber



Little Molly with her donuts

and love spread throughout your families!

Jackie

NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a **Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and the Norwood Bylaw XXV**, including any amendments thereto on **Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 7:30 pm**. The meeting will be conducted in-person at the **Senior Center at 275 Prospect St.** and digitally using Google Meet. Public participation may be accessed through your computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link:

<https://meet.google.com/qxr-awkv-kuj>
 or dial: (US) +1 402-627-0114 PIN: 610 701 599 #

The Commission will hear a Request for Determination of Applicability from applicant William Skopinski on behalf of property owner Marguerite Camozzi, concerning the renovation of a deck including additional footings, in Riverfront Area of Germany Brook.

Project Location: 527 Nichols St, Assessors Map Number 11, Parcel ID11-20-11.

Carly Rocklen
 Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: November 21, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court DOCKET No. NO24P3067EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
 35 Shawmut Road
 Canton, MA 02021
 781-830-1200

Estate of: Julie Ellen Harris
 Date of Death: 04/13/2024

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Debra M. Harris O'Hearn of Portsmouth, RI** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:
Debra M. Harris O'Hearn of Portsmouth, RI be appointed as **Personal Representative(s)** of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/18/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Patricia Gorman, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 15, 2024
 Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 11/21/2024

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susan@norwoodrecord.com
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