



A Winter Wonderland..

Norwood received a reported 14" of snow during this past weekend's snowstorm. Luckily, the snow was light and fluffy, and Norwood DPW workers had it under control in short order.

PHOTO BY PAUL ELDRIDGE

FAA questions airport runway justification plan

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Airport Commission's (NAC) plan to go out to bid on their runway 10-28 reconstruction project remains on schedule, but the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has requested further justification supporting the use of declared distances at the site.

Senior Project Manager Jeff Adler of Dubois and King spoke with a representative from the FAA, who told him their current justification for the use of declared distances was not acceptable. This came as a surprise to Adler, as the use of declared distances was approved in the Airport Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan. The Airport Layout Plan is required by the FAA.

"It's a little confusing that the FAA signed off on it and is now saying they need additional justification," Adler said.

The NAC will need to provide the FAA with further justification, but they have not specifically been told what the FAA is looking for.

"I think [the FAA] should give the airport something official," Adler said.

This does not affect the schedule of the runway reconstruction project, but Adler said it is a problem they need to fix. Adler expects them to go out to bid in mid January, receive bids by mid February and apply for a grant shortly after that.

"We don't want to leave it out there as an unresolved issue with the FAA," he said.

Two types of declared distances are Take-Off Run Available and Landing Distance Available. This indicates the length of runway available for the ground run of an airport taking off or landing, respectively.

The need for declared distances at the Norwood Airport is because of the non-standard safety area at the site. The FAA requires a 300-foot safety area on both sides of the runway, but the airport currently has an 88-foot safety area. The airport cannot add the necessary 212 feet to meet the 300-foot requirement because doing so would encroach on wetlands.

The airport does not use declared distances on this runway at the current time.

The NAC also discussed increasing the price of push-back tie down parking space costs at the airport. It costs \$265

per quarter to keep a plane in a push-back tie down, and this price has remained constant since 2004. This charge brings in about \$11,000 to the airport each year, Airport Manager Russ Maguire said.

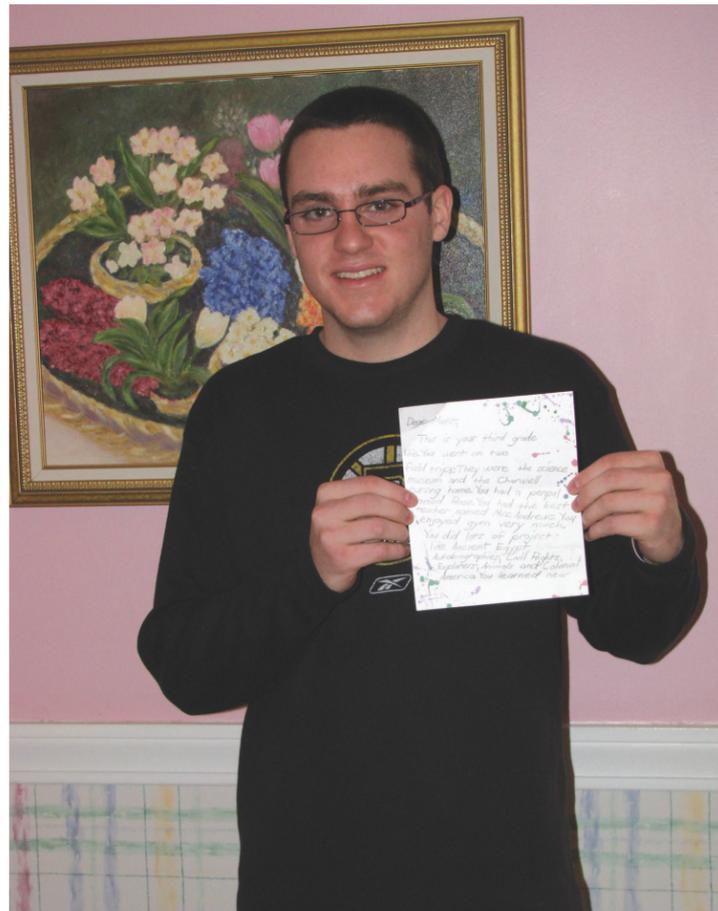
After comparing Norwood's prices to other airports in the area, they opted not to increase the price further. Maguire found that the average cost was \$237 per quarter. MassPort Logan airport was the most expensive, charging \$387 per quarter, while Pittsfield was the cheapest, charging a mere \$48 per quarter.

"They're practically giving it away," Maguire said.

Currently, the Norwood Airport's push-back tie downs are at about 64 percent capacity, as 19 of the 30 available spots are filled.

"Even when times were good, there were six to eight vacant [spots]," said NAC Chairman Mark Ryan.

Because of factors like the economy and number of vacancies, the NAC and Maguire determined it was not appropriate to raise costs at this time, though they will look into the pricing situation again next year.



Matt Walsh poses with a letter written back when he was in Mrs. Stephanie Andrews' third grade class at the Oldham School.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

What was I like back then?

Students receive letters from their younger selves

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

In June 2000, Mrs. Stephanie Andrews's third grade class had a unique homework assignment. They were instructed to write a letter to themselves outlining their third grade life and what they hoped to do in the future. Students were responsible for writing a draft, editing it and creating a final copy.

Now, over nine years later, the letters have been delivered, giving these students a reminder of their elementary school years, and how far they have come since their days in Andrews' third grade class. In the letter, she simply requested the now 18-year-old students take a moment to read their words and remember their 8-year-old selves.

"It really captures their younger self," Andrews said. "I often wonder if they even remember writing them."

Even if they don't remember, several students and par-

ents have stepped forward and contacted Andrews, updating her on their lives and letting her know they received the letter.

"It's a great feeling to see what these young adults have grown into since third grade," Andrews said.

One young adult to respond was 18-year-old Tim Raftery.

"I didn't remember writing the letter," Raftery said, adding, "I kind of figured it was something like that when I saw who it was from."

The goals he outlined in that letter remain true today.

"I told myself back then that I wanted to be a firefighter, and I'm pursuing that goal still by getting my EMT certification my senior year, and then going through and passing paramedic school," Raftery said, adding that he is putting in field time before taking the final test.

He is currently working full time for Eascare Ambulance and in a clinical internship at

Letters

Continued on page 4

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Hi Guys,

MERRY CHRISTMAS...

In the Bill of Rights, the first of the ten amendments in the United States Constitution states... 'Prohibits Congress from making any law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the FREE exercise thereof' ...

Our Town's Nativity scene, traditionally placed in front of the Balch School at the sidewalk for approximately 80 years, has been missing from that site for a few years. A stranger to Our Town became angry, stating the sight of the Nativity threatened the children, etc. The remark is pure insanity of course, but feeling she was an authority, she involved the (anti-Christian-freedom group) ACLU, as together they felt they knew what was legal and right for our community.

The School Committee lost in court. Obviously the First Amendment was interpreted with bias. (Two Norwood attorneys stated that they would represent us pro bono if necessary.) It wasn't brought to court again, but, the Town did vote to keep the Nativity at its traditional location by referendum. When will the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America apply to all?

In Washington State, there is no Nativity or Menorah allowed on the grounds of the Capitol...but what is allowed is the planting of a sign by an atheist group that reads..."There is no god, and religion enslaves minds and hardens hearts."

Repulsive words like the above are allowed, but, not the symbols of peace, love, and re-



Jackie Saber

spect, that mean something to a majority of people throughout the world. Would the following sign be allowed anywhere? "There is a GOD, and religion enlightens minds and softens hearts." Probably not!

A NAY VOTE FOR THE BABY JESUS?...

It was recently reported that as part of 'INCLUSION,' the Obama's stated that they were going to 'EXCLUDE' all Christian symbols while decorating for the 'Christmas season,' at the White House, hence, no Nativity, etc. But, it came to pass that the exclusion didn't pass, and the baby Jesus is in the Nativity where He should be. Maybe because the president's poll numbers are in the tank, he thought about it a bit harder and made a 'wise man's' decision.

AND AGAIN THE AWARD GOES TO...

...Norwood's Guild Salon III, for its beautiful display of the Nativity scene in the front window of the business!

IN MEMORY...

Our Town sends our sincere condolences to the Grazado family, due to the passing of Beatrice (Molinari) Grazado. Bea was the adored wife of, William 'Bill' Grazado. (Bill and Bea were married 70 years this past June). Bea also leaves three loving children, Robert, June, Mary, and their spouses, 10 grandchildren, eight great, and two great-great grandchildren. Memory Eternal.

Our Town also sends its sad condolences to the family of 'Nick Destito,' who passed away recently. There is so much good that can be said about Nick it would take many pages. Nick was a retired Norwood Police Officer proudly wearing Badge #1. Thoughts and prayers are sent to his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, his loving sister Catherine, and very dear friend, Olga Abdallah. Memory Eternal.

E-MAILS...

Many thanks to everyone who takes the time to send me e-mails every week. Of course, I have to wait until my son comes home from work to read them, since I do not know how to use a computer, and never will!

Our Town's, Charlie and Evelyn Kuphal, surprisingly, weren't the only people who experienced a fire involving 'mercury light bulbs.' In a few recent e-mails, others have had the same experience. An individual suggested we look into the 'LED' bulbs. The flashlight LED's are great. If bulbs become available in a form other than mercury, that are safe and provide proper lighting, I will try one. Until then, the incandescent bulb is the best! Call to have the 'fiery' law rescinded. Capitol 1.202.224.3121...White House 1.202.456.1414.

GO, STOP, GO, STOP, GO, STOP...

The silent chorus of traffic signals that start on Dean Street and continue across Route 1 are driving drivers nuts. Some cars get stuck on Dean with the back end of their cars on Route 1 while stopped at the third red light at the jug handle. Drivers think the state did a lousy job in designing traffic control and have created more problems than were there before the change.

BEWARE OF THE 'PINE TREE SNIPPER'...

It has been reported that a woman in a late-model car is stalking Norwood neighborhood yards for pine trees. In broad daylight she has been known to sneak into yards and 'snip' large branches from pine trees that she probably uses for her personal Christmas decorations. Be on the lookout!

FOLLOW THE LEADER...

Since the Secretary of the Treasury, Tim Geithner, was able to escape the law by not paying his taxes that were due for years, (until he was appointed, and with no criminal charges)... it has recently been reported that some White House employees, senators, and representatives, owe approximately and collectively 8 million dollars in back taxes since 2007. Would we be treated in the same manner by breaking the law?

Saber

Continued on page 3



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School Committee approves preliminary budget

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The School Committee unanimously approved a preliminary budget of \$36,774,298 for Fiscal Year 2011 at their Dec. 16 meeting, and this represents an increase of about 10.72 percent from their FY 2010 budget.

However, this is the first pass budget, and represents a raw, unfiltered budget proposed by the needs of school principals and the department. It is not reflective of the final FY 2011 budget the School Committee will request.

"We're dealing with a placeholder," School Committee Chairman Paul Samargedlis said. "The first placeholder is 36 [million] and change, and we'll work from there."

He stressed that this budget is "very, very preliminary."

While it is an idealistic budget, the School Committee and Interim Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Granatino recognize it is not attainable, and will look to cut down the proposed budget.

"Obviously, it is an increase," Granatino said, adding that they know it cannot be sustained.

Further budget discussion will take place at their Jan. 6 meeting, which will be strictly devoted to budget. The need to lower this budget is not meant to punish any school or negatively effect a child's learning environment.

"Every step we backtrack from is only because of the fiscal times," Samargedlis said.

Granatino added, "We want to put forth a budget that meets the needs of our 3,500 students."

Granatino acknowledges that the \$36,774,298 preliminary budget is a large number, but all the line items included on it were deemed important enough to be included on the first pass budget, but might not make it into the final budget.

"Obviously, what we're looking at in April is a lot different than what we're looking at now," he said.

The approximately ten percent preliminary budget increase is due to a variety of factors, including plans to hire new teachers. Currently, there are 445.6 full time equivalent (FTE) employees working in the Norwood School Department, and there are plans to hire an additional 19 FTE employees, mainly teachers. These new

hires will cost over \$800,000.

School principals hope to get new reading materials and textbooks for students. Approximately \$50,000 of the first past budget is for library books, while \$200,000 is for next textbooks, mainly in science and technology.

The athletic department sees approximately \$130,000 in increases. Part of this is due to additional transportation costs. Due to the destruction of the gymnasium at the Norwood High School, many teams were displaced. For example, the varsity football was relocated to Westwood High School this year, and the junior varsity football team played at the Coakley Middle School. Due to the heavy weight of the football equipment, they were bussed to their new locations. The athletic department increase also covers the cost of an athletic trainer, which had not been budgeted for during FY 2010.

It was heavily stressed that this is a placeholder, and some members were ready to discuss it in detail at the Dec. 16 meeting, but will have to hold off on specific questions until Jan. 6.

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Saber *continued from page 2*

Also, Harry Reid, the Senator from Nevada, made a recent statement that is totally unfair to all hard working Americans. He stated that Congressional aides who have educational loans don't have to worry about paying them back, because you and I will do that for them. He also stated that the aides will be able to buy into the healthcare programs available to Congress. (Gee, did he just forget to include you and me in the program?)

When any president, congressman or congresswoman is elected, they are elected to serve the people as our EMPLOYEES...not as elite in-

dividuals that are bowed down to and that are allowed to circumvent the laws of the land.

I wish you a Blessed Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and, Happy New Year to All!

In closing...the words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow..."And in despair I bowed by head, There is no peace on earth I said, For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: GOD is not dead, nor doth HE sleep; The wrong shall fail, the right prevail with peace on earth, good will to men."

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A eulogy to Nick Destito

Provided by Former Norwood Police Chief, George DiBlasi

Introduction:

I was asked by the family to share with you today a thumbnail sketch of the life of Nick Destito, a truly kind and gentle man. A man most of all in life loved his family; son Nick, daughters Ellie & Lynn, Beloved sister Catherine, his four grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and his dear friend Ollie Abdallah.

How we met:

Nick and I met in 1981, when I came to Norwood as police chief. After sitting down with each officer one on one, I knew this guy was the "Real Deal". Now, those of us who knew Nick know he is not a man of many words or one to be caught up in small talk. He was a seasoned officer who had been around awhile and told you exactly what was on his mind without the least bit of filtration or hesitation. I knew immediately after that first meeting and conversation with this guy that all he wanted to do was be a good police officer and, most of all, a good man.

His interest was not in how many people he could arrest or how many tickets he could give. He was a true believer and advocate of Community Policing before Community Policing was the buzz phrase of the future of policing. I liked him immediately and he had my attention and respect over the years while on the job, and after we both retired we became good friends.

Attributes:

Gentleman, honorable man, a man who loved his family, loved his church, loved his country and loved his town. Loyalty was the foundation of Nick Destito's character. What you saw was what you got; you were never in doubt of his sincerity and commitment.

Nick loved being a policeman and was particularly proud of being one of the first Italian American police officers in Norwood. He spoke of that with me on numerous occasions, probably because we were both of Italian decent and had a similar view of life.

Policemen are like Gladiators; they are put in the ring to protect and fight for the people they serve. Nick was a true Gladiator. From the movie, "The Gladiator", I culled this quote; I know a man who once said: "Death smiles at us all; all we can do is smile back"

Being a policeman can sometimes be boring and repetitious, but on this job things can change in an instant and become both physical and dangerous. Anyone on the job long enough runs into situations that can quickly get out of control, and you need a backup NOW! Nick was the kind of policeman you wanted with you when you needed a backup or things got tough in a physical way. He was as strong as an ox and as tough as nails, and you would be delighted to see him roll up in the first backup unit. On more than one occasion as a Norwood Police Officer Nick responded to a call of "shots fired" and was the first to arrive.

Nick was a sensitive, kind man who would do anything for anybody. One of the things he did, with very little fanfare, was to be at the side of almost every Norwood Police officer who was terminally ill. Nick would visit the officer; take him out for rides or to an appointment, and just generally check on him frequently during his illness. He was not a man of many words, but his actions spoke for him. The US Army awarded Nick the Bronze Star.

SHORT POEM

*Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the lord.
Author unknown*

Closing:

Nick, I know you're up there looking down on us as proud as proud can be. I want you to know that if I was able to select you as a cruiser partner or a backup, I would have chosen you without hesitation every time.

*Until we meet again!!!
We all Love You!!!!*

Capital Projects for FY2011 Planned

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

At the Dec. 16 meeting of the School Committee, Joe McDonough, the Director of Buildings and Grounds, outlined nine capital projects for Fiscal Year 2011. Eight of these projects are building related, one is a request for a new vehicle.

The goal of a capital project is to improve the school's facilities. In order to be considered a capital project, the project must have a five-year lifespan or a \$25,000 minimum value.

A list of 30 possible capital projects were created for FY 2011, and McDonough, Interim Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Granatino and Board of Selectmen Chairman Bill Plasko narrowed this list down to nine.

"Most of these are lighting replacement projects," McDonough said, adding they have had successful lighting replacement projects at both the Coakley Middle School and James R. Savage Education Center gymnasium.

"They were tremendous," McDonough said. "The benefit was we saved \$3,500 per year at each school, and the illumination almost doubled."

Letters

continued from page 1

Brockton Hospital.

Of course, not everyone is following the path they set in third grade. Matt Walsh said his letter focused on his love of history at the time, but that has since changed.

"I'm not a history buff any more," Walsh said. "I mentioned Ancient Egypt, the civil rights movement and colonial America, which I'm obviously not studying now."

Rather, Walsh is studying communications at the University of New Hampshire, where he works in broadcasting at the school's radio station, WUNH.

Walsh had forgotten he wrote the letter, but upon hearing other students received them, he looked forward to reading about his days in third grade.

"It was very strange, but also very, very exciting," he said.

Cara Cole, this reporter's 18-year-old sister, was among the students to receive the letter. It arrived while she was at the University of New England, where she is studying athletic training.

"My mom called and read it to me over the phone," she

The new indoor lighting projects will cost approximately \$1.24 million dollars, and he said the projects would be similar to those done in the past, in that it makes use of daylight harvesting, which allows them to take advantage of the natural light that shines into the classroom. Schools affected by the project include the Cleveland Elementary School and Prescott Elementary School, and he feels the work is worth the cost.

"It's more efficient, it's better for the students in the classroom: it helps them focus better," McDonough said.

Not all the projects are about lighting. Other capital projects include floor replacement at the Cleveland School and window replacement at the Willett Early Childhood Center. The Willett represents the only school in town not to have its windows and doors replaced, McDonough said.

McDonough described the lighting project at the Prescott and the floor project at the Cleveland as their top two priorities.

The floor project at the Cleveland Elementary School will replace the floor in the school gymnasium.

"They essentially have the original, 50-year old asbestos

tiles," McDonough said. "[The tiles] are not a hazard in their current state, but they need to be removed."

The final capital project for FY 2011 is a vehicle replacement for the Buildings and Grounds Department. They are looking to replace a pick-up dump truck. The truck in question is eight-years-old, has approximately 70,000 miles on it, burns oil and needs a new tail-light.

"Right now, it's not reusable," McDonough said.

McDonough referred to the truck as a "frontline vehicle," the lead grounds man uses it for plowing some of the schools in town.

These nine projects have not been approved yet. They are subject to School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting approval.

School Committee member Dick Kief pointed out that while Town Meeting always approves funding for these capital projects, it often falls short of the requested amount, meaning several, but not all, of the projects can be completed. An example of this is the Cleveland Elementary School Lighting project. This was planned for FY 2010, but was delayed due to lack of funding.



Stephanie Andrews at her desk at the Oldham Elementary School.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

said.

Cole's letter focused on the life of a third grader. She wrote about her friends at the time and the musical instruments she was learning to play.

"I'm friends with some," she said. "I still talk to them, but there are a couple who I don't even remember who they are."

Her letter also included a promise to remember it all. Like several others in the class, this was not the case, as she had forgotten writing the letter.

One student who remembered the letter is the 19-year old Mike Fabbruci, who now studies at New England Insti-

tute of Technology.

"I remember writing that letter," he said. "I was waiting for that letter. I got it and was like 'Oh my God!'"

Andrews started this back in 1997 as an end of year homework assignment for her third grade students. She got the idea after reading an article in Parade Magazine. She now teaches second grade at the Oldham School, and will continue the tradition with her students this year. The second graders who write their letters at the end of the 2009/2010 school year can expect to receive them in 2020.

HS construction forced indoors

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

With the beginning of winter, the work at the new Norwood High School construction site is in transition. Workers are going from outside the building to the inside. Inside work has begun, and numerous portions of the building, including a portion of the front and east side, are closed in.

Inside construction includes a variety of tasks. Workers at the site need to install stairs, continue with masonry work and work on ducts, piping and electric elements. This work has begun in Building A, and is expected to begin in Building B within a few weeks. Despite the separate building designa-

tions, the new Norwood High School is one large building. Those letters are used to identify specific portions of the building.

Michael Moisé of Agostini Construction said one of their goals is to have the rough-ins in Building A installed by the spring. Rough-ins include the duct work and piping, or as Moisé described it, "the stuff above the ceiling."

Moisé added, "We plan on working from the top down. The third floor will be more advanced than the first floor."

In addition to rough-ins, they are installing stairs in Building A.

Because of the move indoors, some parts of the construction project have been put

on hold. One element of construction that is most likely taking a break until the spring season is the slab pours. The only way any slab pours will be done during winter is if they get a good stretch of warmer weather, Moisé said.

"We're pretty much wrapped up with slabs," he said.

This is not to say slab pours are completed. Slabs still need to be poured in Building D, but that won't happen until the spring. Structural steel work

needs to be completed there, and Moisé expects they will be done with steel erection there during the first week of January, just in time for the topping off ceremony, which takes place on Jan. 6 at 11:00 a.m.

Slab pours is just one element of the project dependent on weather. As the temperature decreases, the length needed for a proper slab pour increases, and this can cause site work to go late into the evening on days these pours are made. Another part of the project that ties into

the weather is roofing.

"Unless we get some really bad snow, C will have a roof on in, and maybe D," Moisé said.

Regardless of what gets done over the winter, Moisé knows one thing for certain.

"The spring time will be a lot of work," he said. "We're planning on a big push around the building."

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T.O.N.Y. nominees named

The Ten Outstanding Norwood Youth Awards (T.O.N.Y. awards) are a yearly tradition in Norwood, and once again, the T.O.N.Y. Banquet will be held at the Norwood Masonic Building at 76 Day Street in Norwood. Ten local high school students will be recognized and named this year's Outstanding Norwood Youth. In addition, one student will be awarded The Joe Pierce Scouting Award, and another will receive The Father Robert Dwyer Award for service to the church.

Those who win a T.O.N.Y. Award will receive a plaque, a citation signed by Governor of the Commonwealth Deval Patrick and a \$1,000 Savings Bond.

This year, 39 Norwood Youth were nominated for the awards:

Notre Dame Academy Junior Ellen Bartlett, Norwood High School Seniors Rebecca Baturin, Jessica Boayke, Kelly Cronan, Megan Curran, Brandon Davis, Kristina Domaney, Jessica El Bach, Jason Fogarty, William Gearty, William Glynn, Michael Goodwin, Meghan Harrington, John Henry, Claudine Joseph, Catherine Kelly, Kathleen McConaughy, Lauren McDonough, Shannon McDonough, Meagan McGinnes, Ashley McGinnes, Mark Nardelli, Christopher O'Brien, Kevin O'Sullivan, Brianna Palamatter, Sean Porter, Alexandra Slater, Robert Smith, Catherine Sobchuck, Katherine Welter, Megan White, Catholic Memorial Sophomore Cameron Carpenter, Roxbury Latin Senior Matthew Hawley, Mount Alvernia High School Sophomore Megan Hines, Norwood High School Junior Rasika Murali, Ursaline Academy Juniors Cassandra Saad, Nicole Saad, Emily Whitney, and Bi-County Collaborative Senior Eric Smith.



Season's greetings from all of us, to all of you.

As 2009 comes to a close, we'd like to thank all our customers for helping to make Norwood Bank your community bank. On behalf of all of us at Norwood Bank, we wish you a joy-filled holiday season.

Christopher B. Dixon, *President & CEO*

Please note our special holiday hours:
 Thursday, December 24th 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.
 Friday, December 25th Closed.
 Saturday, December 26th Closed.
 Thursday, December 31st 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.
 Friday, January 1st Closed.



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Million Dollar Lottery Ticket Sold on December 4, 2009

Store Manager, Henry Eno, was thrilled to report one of his customers scratched a Merry Millionaire lottery ticket, and both were shocked to find the lucky ticket was for 1 million dollars.

Broadway Citgo is famous for receiving Platinum Awards for service and store appearance. Henry Eno stated, "Now we're famous for selling a million dollar ticket." Eno promised that all the fame and publicity won't change the way he runs the store – always clean and always good prices.

Keep up the good work and Merry Christmas to all from the folks at Broadway Citgo.



The Senior Center was jam-packed with seniors, who were on hand to celebrate the season at the center's Christmas Party held on Dec. 17. They were served lunch and treated to a performance by The DeBenedictis Twins, Lyn and Jan.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

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Restaurant
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NEW YEAR'S EVE FEATURES

APPETIZERS

Lobster Bisque cup \$4
Lobster, in a rich cream stock flavored with sherry.

Bang Bang Shrimp \$8
Deep fried tender shrimp coated with a creamy spicy sauce.

Corrib's Crab Cakes \$8
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Grilled Rack of Lamb \$20
Herb encrusted rack of lamb, grilled to order, served with potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Roast Black Angus Prime Rib au Jus \$18
Slow-roasted boneless prime rib, served with potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Baked Stuffed Scallops & Crab Meat Casserole \$16
Sea scallops baked with crab meat, seafood stuffing, lemon wine & seasoned crumbs, served with potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Pan Seared Salmon & Shrimp .. \$16
North Atlantic salmon filet, pan seared with gulf shrimp, artichokes, tomatoes, Kalamata olives and capers, lemon-wine sauce, potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Filet Mignon & Shrimp \$20
Grilled 8 oz. filet mignon and twin baked stuffed shrimp, served with beer battered onion rings, potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Join us as DJ Mike Keeley rings in the New Year, playing all your favorite tunes & holiday songs from 10PM 'til 2AM. Party Favors & Complimentary Champagne at Midnight.

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The students in Miss Patricia Doucette's class at the Willett Early Childhood Education Center pose to show off their gingerbread decorations. The children were hard at work on Dec. 17 constructing, building and decorating the gingerbread men and women.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

Santa thief strikes

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

'Tis the season to be jolly, but Christmas got a little less merry for residents of Marlboro Street, as a trio of holiday figurines were stolen between 7 p.m. on Dec. 14 and 7 a.m. on Dec. 15.

The decorations in question were a four-foot tall plastic Santa and a pair of Mr. and Mrs. Claus displays. One was described as a four-foot tall "Mr. and Mrs. Santa" display made

out of cloth, that was kept in a Marlboro Street resident's porch, while the other Santa and Mrs. Claus set was on display in a resident's front yard.

"I feel bad for these people," Officer Kevin Grasso said. "They dress up the yard to make it look nice and so people can enjoy it, and then someone ruins it."

It is unknown who stole the decorations at the current time. The only information known is that at 11:30 p.m. on Dec. 14, a Marlboro Street resident heard

a car pull up, kids laughing and then quickly driving off. The resident was unable to get a description of the car or those driving it, nor is there proof this group is responsible for the thefts of the Santa and Mrs. Claus figurines.

Grasso described the situation as odd, but said similar thefts and actions have happened in the past.

"It does happen, and it's usually at the hands of kids and pranksters," Grasso said.

Sports

Girls' hockey goes to 3-0



Is a Cinderella story in the making? Ali Maloof and the Norwood girls' hockey team are off to a 3-0 start, after taking both Newton North and Milton last week.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

The Norwood girls' hockey team is in the midst of a huge turnaround season. First, the Mustangs defeated Natick in their season opener, and with two more wins against Milton and Newton North last week, Norwood is sitting pretty at 3-0.

"It took a team effort to beat Newton North, a team that made the Division 1 state tournament last year," Norwood head coach Bill O'Donnell said. "This win is another nice step that [we] can build upon."

The coach said his squad showed its true character after Newton North took its first and only lead, 2-1, on a power play

strike midway through the second period.

"[We] went out and made plays," O'Donnell said. "Everyone worked hard, [and we] tied up the game, and went for the win by attacking the net."

That combined with the solid goaltending of freshman standout Christina Frasca did the trick. As the Tigers worked to extend their lead in the second frame, Frasca held the fort with several key stops. Soon after, the Mustangs evened the game at 2-2, when Kaitlyn McCarthy fired the puck into the right corner from 15 feet off the left post at 9:45. was Hayley O'Rourke and center Jenny O'Donnell. Surging out of the Norwood zone, O'Rourke hit O'Donnell, who

took the puck wide along the left boards and behind the Newton net, before curling back to find McCarthy.

"This goal jump started [us] as [we] began to take the play to Newton North," O'Donnell said.

After Norwood took a 4-2 lead, Frasca, who totaled 16 stops, came up with the save of the game on Stephanie Vitone's breakout with 10 seconds left in the second stanza.

The Mustangs then played remarkably well on defense in the third frame.

"The emphasis for the team was defense in the third period. All of [our] defensemen moved the puck out of [our] zone ef-

Girls' hockey
Continued on page 8



Sean Keady and the rest of the Norwood boys' hockey team were on top of their game this past week, defeating both Milton and Newton North to zoom into second place in the Bay State Conference Herget Division.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Boys' hockey gets revenge on Milton Evens record at 2-2

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Talk about a quick recovery. The Norwood High boys' hockey team, ailing from two straight losses to open the season, bounced back with two consecutive wins last week. Saturday's 5-3 victory over visiting Milton at Canton Ice Rink boosted the Mustangs into second place behind Natick and Wellesley in the Bay State Conference Herget Division at 2-1, as Norwood stands at 2-2 overall.

"We dug ourselves in a hole, but we're back to .500," Norwood head coach Bill Clifford said. "It was a good win."

This one was sweet, especially when considering Milton

was the team that edged out Norwood by a point for the division title last year.

"Exactly by one point," Clifford emphasized. "I think the kids wanted a little revenge for missing by a point. They wanted to play."

After the Wildcats (1-2) took a 1-0 advantage at the 10:22 mark of the opening frame, the Mustangs stormed back 18 seconds later. Anthony Gaita struck from 10 feet out off a lead-in pass by senior tri-captain Sean Keady, as Tyler Gover also assisted. Soon after, Connor Mahon (2 assists) and Adam Kewriga (1 goal, 1 assist) set up Mike DeCosta, who streaked down the right wing, cut to the middle, deked the

Boys' hockey
Continued on page 8

Curran let go as football coach

Longtime Norwood football coach Buzzy Curran was let go after a six-year run as head mentor of the Norwood varsity football team. Told that the program was looking to go in another direction, Curran was given notice

last Thursday by Norwood Interim Superintendent Jeff Granatino. Norwood Principal George Usevich and Athletic Director Brian McDonough also were on hand.

The embattled Mustangs

faced numerous injuries this past season, in which they finished 3-8, after posting a strong 9-2 ledger last year.

Curran said he wasn't told the team's record was a factor, but said, "I bet if we were 5-6, I'd be

back...Three plays probably were the difference."

Curran said he was given no other reason other than program was looking to "move in another direction," and that he was told as late as Thanksgiving morning

that he was all set to return. With an injury-riddled squad, the Mustangs lost a heartbreaker to rival Dedham, 26-25, on the holiday.

"I can hold my head high," Curran said. "I gave my best for 17 years [in the program]."

High numbers put Mustangs on the fast track

Boys/Girls both triumphant in first meet

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

The thriving Norwood high boys' and girls' track teams entered the winter campaign last week with unusually high numbers for both squads. The boys' line up will comprise 50 athletes, while the girls will compete with 62, the latter up from the usual 38-40.

The good turnout already has paid off in the form of two Bay State Conference wins last week at the Reggie Lewis Arena. Both the boys and girls teams defeated conversely undermanned Dedham, winning, 68-9, and 70-15, respectively. All BSC teams were matched up against a rival conference squad, while individual competitors were ranked among the entire group.

"We ran well," Norwood girls head coach Matt Curran said. "Many of the returning runners picked up where they left off last year, while many of the newer runners had solid starts to their careers."

The Mustangs return with senior star Megan Underhill and junior standout Cory Ryan leading the sprints. Underhill returns as a 2008 BSC champion in the hurdles, while Ryan will compete in the 300 meters, after capturing the Division 2 championship crown in the spring of 2008. In the first meet, Ryan ranked first overall in the 300 with a time of 43.24, while Underhill topped out in the hurdles in 9.32. Sophomore kingpin Danielle Ringler, senior Jill Walsh, and freshmen Emma Campbell and Afoma Okoye will add depth.

Against Dedham, Ryan also won the high jump, while Underhill took the 600 meter, with Afoma Okoye finishing second in the former and Caroline O'Day placing second

in the latter against the Marauders. Campbell finished sixth overall in the high jump.

The Mustangs also will get a boost from their larger-than-last year group of distance runners, led by senior Anuli Okoye, who made the switch from sprinter; juniors Lauren Higgins and Jen Sobol; senior Catie Kelly; and sophomores MaryKate Galvin and Rebecca Dyckes. However, the team's inexperience lies mainly in these events, in a "very tough, strong [conference]," Curran said.

Against the Marauders, Higgins and Okoye led sweeps of the mile and the 1000 meter, respectively. Higgins was joined by Dyckes and Heather Jones, while Okoye teamed up with Kathleen O'Day and Catherine Sobchuk.

Higgins, Ringler, Anuli Okoye, and Caroline O'Day also won the 4x400 relay.

The squad also lacks depth in the shot put, "though [it] could become a strength very quickly," Curran noted, citing 13 new shot putters, led by junior Lauren Duggan. Duggan won the event outright at the first meet with a toss of 33 feet, 11 inches. Overall, the Mustangs arrive with a young contingent, as 23 freshmen will compete among the 62 participants.

"There is plenty of room to improve as we plan to be more competitive in the BSC," Curran said.

For the boys, veteran head coach Jim Forrest leads a group, whose strengths include the distance events, shot put, and hurdles. Senior stars Steve Curley and Rob Sheehan, and juniors Bill Ryzdewski, Richie Farah, Dan Cubelli, Jim O'Connor, and Josh Dyckes all return running either the two-

mile, mile, or 1000 meter. Seniors Evan Sinclair and Matt Stover, junior Andrew Stover, and junior newcomer DJ Shiloh provide depth in the shot put, while senior Jon McGowan and junior Jon Canniff will compete in the hurdles.

Against Dedham, both Sinclair and Shilo had remarkably strong outings in the shot put, finishing sixth and eighth, respectively. Sinclair's toss went for 39 feet, 4 inches, while Shilo threw at 38 feet, 1 inch.

In the hurdles, Canniff raced out to a hot start with a second place finish out of 40 runners, crossing at 8.70. Newcomer Eric Pham placed 15th at 9.44, while McGowan finished 23rd at 10:06.

Curley finished 12th of 43 runners in the mile, crossing at 5:02.97, while Cubelli placed 20th at 5:12.07.

In the 1000, Sheehan placed 10th of 46, crossing at 2:53.09, while Dyckes finished 20th in a time of 3:09.69.

Farah closed in 24th place out of 50 runners in the 600 at 1:39:09, while Ryzdewski finished 17th of 30 in the two-mile in 11:31:05.

The Mustangs will lack depth in the 55 and 300 meter sprint events and the high jump. Norwood will house a young cast of many freshmen, though it arrives with junior standout Bill Pena and rookie phenom Ryan Igoe leading the sprints.

Other top newcomers include Craig Hughey (55 and 300) and Doug Jenson (hurdles).

Assistant coaches for both teams include Hank Shacoy in the shot put and Amiee Worcester in distance running. Forrest oversees the hurdles and high jump, while Curran leads the sprinting events.

Boys' hockey *continued from page 8*

goalie, and went top left corner on a "nice shot," Clifford said, to give Norwood a 2-1 lead, at 7:13.

"We did a good job. We played well in the first period," said Clifford, whose squad out-shot Milton, 10-5, in the opening stanza and 22-20 overall.

The coach was equally impressed by his team's next strike, an early second period tally by Kewriga, who converted a nifty pass from Mahon at the 1:49 mark to make it 3-1. Mahon passed the puck out from the left corner as Kewriga darted for the net out front, before beating Milton goalie Mike Muse to the low left side.

"Kewriga just came out front and banged it home. It was a nice goal," Clifford said.

But the second period had its shortcomings for the Mustangs, who surrendered a goal while they were on the power play. Brian O'Regan scored on the shorthanded bid for Milton at 8:32 to cut the deficit to 3-2.

But Clifford said all was good in the final frame. "We settled down," the coach said.

With Norwood still leading, 3-2, in the waning minutes, the Wildcats, who already were on the power play, pulled their goalie, to create a six-on-four advantage. But Norwood's Brendan Cathcart scored the

first of his two empty net goals to make it 4-2.

Still playing with the extra man, Milton sliced the deficit to 4-3 with 1:34 left, before Cathcart took a pass from Andrew Alty and settled the issue with 17 ticks remaining.

Sophomore goalie Pat Clifford made 17 stops in goal for the 'Stangs, while senior Billy Glynn was cited for his strong game on defense.

Norwood also defeated Newton North, 3-2, on goals by Al Morteo and tri-captains Brian Girard and Sean Keady, as Gaita, Gover, and Alty picked up assists.



Megan Curran and Emily Metta recently were awarded the Kevin Curran Memorial Scholarships. Both received plaques and \$1000 for their commitment to swimming and outstanding school and community service. Sponsors included the Norwood Aquatics Committee and Norwood Bank.

PHOTO BY COURTESY PHOTO

Girls' hockey *continued from page 7*

fectively," O'Donnell said, citing the play of Jackie Walsh, Katie O'Brien, Allison Ryan, Kate Allan and Heather Folan.

Offensively, the line of Ali Maloof, Taylor Donners and Lisa Coskren pushed Norwood to a 5-2 advantage. Coskren finished the deal on a wrist shot from 10 feet out for her second goal of the game. Donners set up the play, feeding Maloof along the left boards near the circle, before the latter found Coskren in the slot.

Newton made it interesting with 1:59 left, as star forward Hannah Jellinek sidestepped the Norwood defense and fired the puck into the top right corner.

The Tigers then pulled their goalie in favor of the extra skater, but Frasca turned away all attempts, making a couple of key saves, including one on a blast from the top of the right circle with 40 seconds remaining.

Norwood also took a 1-0 win over Milton on Saturday.

"Each game and practice everyone on the team is trying to improve," O'Donnell said.

UPCOMING GAMES

Wednesday, Dec. 23

Boys Hockey vs. Brookline
Girls Hockey at Brookline

Monday, Dec. 28

Boys Basketball at
Rockland Christmas Tourney

Boys Hockey vs. Burrillville,
Rhode Island

Tuesday, Dec. 29

Boys Basketball at
Rockland Christmas Tourney

Wrestling at Pentucket Tourney

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Boys Hockey vs.
Archbishop Williams

SCOREBOARD

Boys Hockey

Norwood 5, Milton 3
Norwood 3, Newton North 2

Girls Hockey

Norwood 1, Milton 0
Norwood 5, Newton North 3

Boys Basketball

Milton 65, Norwood 58
Newton North 62, Norwood 34

Girls Basketball

Norwood 44, Milton 36
Newton North 55, Norwood 25

Wrestling

Brockton 44, Norwood 30
Walpole 62, Norwood 12

Boys Track

Norwood 68, Dedham 9

Girls Track

Norwood 70, Dedham 15

Gymnastics

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IES request denied

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The School Committee voted 6-1, with Mark Joseph opposed, to deny the IES Language Foundation a waiver which would remove their \$57/hour rental fee for using a room at the James R. Savage Education Center.

The IES Language Foundation has operated a foreign language program for elementary school students in the extended day program for the past few years, but due to an oversight, was not being charged rent. They are viewed as a Level 3 user, which means they would be charged \$57/hour. Janitorial services make up \$22 of this fee, while the cost to use the room itself is \$35.

Director of Buildings and Grounds Joseph McDonough spoke out about granting a waiver. While the School Committee can waive these rental fees- and they have in the past- he did not feel it was appropriate to do so in this case.

"I'm not commenting on the educational benefits," McDonough said, stressing he was making his recommendation from a policy standpoint.

He cited two recent cases where the rental fee was waived. One was for the Norwood Police Association Softball game held at Norwood High School, the other was for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. McDonough supported waiving the fee in both those cases, because the Norwood Police Association often donates the money they bring in to the schools and the community, and because "we all know what the cancer society does."

"I don't think they're in the same category of the two previous waivers," McDonough said.

While the IES Language Foundation is a non-profit organization, they charge \$144 per child for a ten-week language program. Their most recent offering was an Italian Course, and seven local students took advantage of the opportunity. The \$144 charge is used to pay for staff and teachers, and if IES is charged \$57/hour to rent the room, they do not feel they could continue to offer the program at the Savage Center.

School Committee members and Interim Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Granatino feels they could offer a similar pro-

gram to extended day students who are interested.

"If there is interest, we could facilitate it," School Committee Chairman Paul Samargedlis said.

Granatino added "We're lucky we have the resources we have- both the staff and the students," and indicated that they could integrate a foreign language program as part of extended day for students in kindergarten to grade six. If such a program is created, a charge could be used to offset its costs.

School Committee Mark Joseph was wary of this discussion, saying it provides a false lead to the public and that they might not be able to create such a program. There are no finite or concrete plans at this time.

Joseph was the sole committee member to vote against denying the waiver request, because a certain piece of information was missing from the equation. He wanted to know if IES provided scholarships for Norwood students. He said that if this was the case, a possible rent deduction could be justified.

A representative from IES could not be reached for comment.

Deaths

CARLSON

Filicya M. 'Phyllis' (Bloch), of Norwood, formerly of Buzzards Bay, Dec. 16. Filicya was born in Lowell, on New Year's Day (1917), daughter of the late Anthony and Bronislaw Bloch. As a child she thought New Year's fireworks were actually for her birthday. She married Arnold T. Carlson on August 18, 1940. They were married 58 years until Mr. Carlson's death in 1998. She was devoted to her Roman Catholic faith and to her late husband, Arnold, and seven children, Edith Stanley, Ellen Carver, Richard Carlson, Janet Manley, David Carlson, Elizabeth Carlson and Russell Carlson; 12 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She is survived by her sister Helen Bloch, brother Edward Bloch and a host of family and friends. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Norwood Senior Center, attn. Dorothy Vitale, 275 Prospect St., Norwood, MA 02062.

LALLY

John J., 85, of Norwood, formerly of Dorchester, Dec. 18. Korean Conflict US Army Veteran. Beloved husband of Mary A. (Greene) Lally of Norwood. Devoted father of Mary 'Maureen' Nolan and her husband John of PA, Catherine A. Erickson and her husband Richard of Norwood and Anne M. Lally of Norwood. Brother of Frank Heneghan of MD, Bea Gaffey of Dorchester and the late James and Thomas Lally. Son of the late James and Mary (Heneghan) Lally. Also survived by seven grandchildren. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., Norwood, Wednesday, Dec. 23, 9 a.m., followed by a funeral Mass at 10 a.m., St. Timothy's Church, Norwood. Interment Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the American Heart Assoc., 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

PENDER

Michael W., 34, of Norwood, Dec 19, suddenly. Former member of Local 550 Pipefitters Union. Son of Kathleen E. (Fuller) Pender and the late William J. Pender. Brother of Jayne Ford and her husband James of Norwood. Loving uncle of Hunter and Hope Ford. Grandson of Elizabeth Pender of Sandwich and Katherine Fuller of Norwood. Visiting hours will be held at the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St (Rt. 1A), Norwood, on Wednesday, Dec 23, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Services and interment private. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in Michael's memory to the Norwood Scholarship Foundation, Box 112, Norwood, Ma 02062.

Condolences extended to:

Vincent and Josie on the death of their father Luigi Carafone, 84, of Hyde Park, Dec. 16.

Library Notes

NUTRITION CONSULTANT

There will be a free nutrition class on Monday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with nutrition consultant Aubrey Thompson. Learn how to live healthier...and to look and feel ten years younger. Topics will include learning how to choose your macronutrients (carbs/proteins/fats) to improve your health, energy, focus and weight as well as tips on how to achieve and maintain your ideal weight, eliminate sugar cravings, and enjoy sustained energy and endurance. Aubrey has been a guest speaker on the radio show "Ask Pavitra," on the talk

show "Alternative Therapies" in Providence, and has been featured in Natural Awakenings Magazine. Sign up at the library or call 781-769-0200, x222 to register.

YOUNG READERS AWARD BOOK DISCUSSIONS

The Norwood Young Readers Award (NYRA) will again hold their Annual Book Discussion on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The NYRA is a town-wide elementary school program where 4th and 5th graders read from a selection of 12 books and then nominate their favorite book. School librarians

and librarians from the public library will be on hand to help guide the discussions. The first session will discuss the book 'Room One, a Mystery or Two' by Andrew Clements, the second book will be 'Rules' by Cynthia Lord and the final meeting will discuss 'Out Standing in My Field' by Patrick Jennings. The books will also be discussed in school. The book list and multiple copies of the books are available at the public library. Refreshments will be served. Register at the children's desk of the library or call 781-769-0200, x225.

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Celebrate this Season of Giving with a Norwood High School Library Holiday Gift Card. Make a donation in honor or recognition of a loved one, a friend, a classmate, a favorite teacher, an outstanding coach, a student's accomplishment or an alumni class. A bookplate will be placed inside the book cover giving the name of the person honored or remembered, along with the name of the donor. Your donation will provide Norwood High School students with the best and most current book titles. Holiday gift cards are available on the Norwood High School webpage, www.norwood.k12.ma.su/nhs, the front office of the high school, by e-mailing Beth Goldman at goldman@norwood.k12.ma.us or by contacting the high school library at 781-440-5879. Make checks payable to the NHS Library Gift Fund.

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS

Build communications skills in a supportive environment. Toastmasters meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Golden Living Center, 460 Washington St. Next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 12. Contact Peggy Wyllie at 508-734-5677 or pegwyllie@aol.com.

NORWOOD RECREATION JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Norwood Recreation Department is currently accepting applications for summer employment positions: lifeguard, swim instructor and playground recreation leader. If you wish to apply, stop by the Civic Center, 165 Nahatan St., to pick up an application. Deadline is Monday, March 15, to be considered for an interview.

SPECIAL REGISTRATION SESSION

The Board of Registrars wishes to inform the residents of the Town of Norwood that a special registration session has been set for the Jan. 19, 2010 Special State Election on Wednesday, Dec. 30, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Municipal Building, room 32. This is the final registration session prior to the Special State Election. Daily registration of voters will be conducted at the Town Clerk's office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. A mail-in registration form is now available at Norwood Morrill Memorial Library and the Norwood Post Office. Qualifications to register to vote are that the applicants must be 18 years old on or before election day and must either be born in the United States or be a Naturalized Citizen.

DIVORCE RECOVERY SERIES

The Divorce Recovery Series, an eight-week program covering the emotional stages of divorce and offering healing and support to those who are divorced or separated, will begin Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, Route 1A and Winter St. The group is led by a professional counselor specializing in divorce issues, and participants are welcome regardless of religious affiliation. Cost is \$90. Pre-registration is requested. To register or for more information on the series, call the church office at 781-762-3320.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

The Norfolk Adult Day Health Center will hold its monthly caregiver support group, Tuesday, Dec. 29, 10 a.m., 595 Pleasant St. This support group is for caregivers of a loved one. Refreshments provided. This group is free and open to the public. Call Marybeth Lynch with questions or RSVP at 781-769-4495.

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

The Norwood Christian Preschool is holding its Annual Open House, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., 100 Winter St. Take a tour of the school and pick up a registration packet. Registrations due by Monday, Feb. 1. Questions should be directed by Carla Howard, program director, 781-762-0923.

PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Norwood Public Schools is hosting three parenting workshops for the month of January: Wednesdays, Jan. 13, 20, 27, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.. James R. Savage Education Center, 275 Prospect St., Room 219. Workshops respectively: Baby Steps: Understanding & Responding to Your Infant; Your Emerging Explorer: Parenting Your Toddler; From Mild to Wild & Back Again: Parenting Your Preschooler. To register, call Jeanne Morrison at 781-440-5983 or by email at jmorrison@norwood.k12.ma.us.

KEY RECYCLING INITIATIVE NORWOOD GIRL SCOUTS

Norwood Girl Scout Troop #4247 is launching a unique key recycling program. Key for Hope is a non profit organization which collects, recycles and sells the brass scrap metals in keys and dog licenses and donates the proceeds to food banks and homeless shelters. According to Norwood's Town Clerk's office thirteen hundred dog licenses were issued in 2009. Collect and drop off your old keys, and outdated dog licenses at any of the following drop off locations: Rocky's Ace Hardware, Hannaford's Plaza, Norwood, Rocky's Ace Hardware, Rt 1A, Walpole, Re/Max Realtor Main Street, 1A Plaza, Walpole, Boch Collision Center, Rt 1, Norwood, Home Depot, Rt 1, Norwood, Ace Locksmith, 1159 Washington Street, Norwood and Century 21 Realtors, 33 Broadway, Norwood.

MEETING NOTICE

The Norwood Department of Community Planning and Economic Development will host a meeting concerning the Town's 2010 Community Development Fund Grant Application on Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 at 4:30 P.M. at Norwood Town Hall, 566 Washington Street, Room 24, Norwood, MA 02062. The purpose of this meeting is to generate public input and comment concerning the components of the grant application including the Town's on-going Housing Rehabilitation Program and the South Norwood Community Development Priority Repair Plan.

For more information about the meeting, please contact Steve Costello, Director of Community Planning and Economic Development at 781-762-1240, email scostello@norwoodma.gov or Pam McCarthy, Community Development Program Coordinator at 781-762-8115 x209, email pmccarthy@norwoodha.org.

Norwood Record, 12/23/09

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 **January 5, 2010 at 7:15 PM** on the request of Daniel and Lauren Brent (Case #10-01) with respect to property located on **12 Brierwood Lane**, in a **S-Single Residential District**.

This Application requests a Special Permit under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to allow a second story addition above the existing first floor foot print on a pre-existing, nonconforming single family home with 8,580 s.f. in area where 10,000 s.f. is required and lot frontage and width of 80' where 90' is required and a side set back of 10.94' where 15' is required on the right side and a side set back of 14.36' where 15' is required on the left side, pursuant to Section 5.4.4 and any other relief the Board deems necessary.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeal and may be viewed Monday - Thursday between 8:30 AM to 3 PM.

BOARD OF APPEAL
Patrick J. Mulvehill, Chairman
Barbara A. Kinter
Philip W. Riley
John R. Perry
Harry T. Spence

Norwood Record, 12/17/09, 12/23/09

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*VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE. PLEASE INFORM AT TICKET PURCHASE.

Religious events

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Winter St./Route 1A
Christmas Eve Pageant and Contemplation

Traditional Christmas Eve service of candles and carols will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. This hour-long service has been celebrated for over twenty years and includes Christmas songs performed by the choir and a Nativity pageant based on readings from the prophecy of Isaiah and the gospels according to Luke and Matthew.

A contemplative service will be held at 9 p.m. Visitors are welcome to join this special holiday celebration, and pause amid the bustle of the season to reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas.

For more information, call the church office at 781-762-3320.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

24 Berwick St.
Christmas Celebrations
Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, there will be three candlelight worship services, 5p.m., 7p.m. (family worship services with a special story for children), 10:30 p.m. a Formal Liturgy with Holy Communion.

On Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25, there will be an informal Worship with Holy Communion, 10 a.m. Sunday, December 27, a Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion will be held at 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Come and sing your favorite Christmas hymns.

UNITED CHURCH OF NORWOOD

Washington and Nahatan Sts.
Christmas Eve Service

The traditional Christmas Eve Service will be held on Thursday, Dec. 24, 10 p.m., and will feature carols, communion and candlelighting. Guest harpist, Felice Pomeranz of the Gilded Harps Association, will accompany the carols, along with our organist, Beverly Jennings. The sanctuary choir, under the direction of Virginia Holladay, will sing 'Silent Comes the Joy.' The Christmas devotional by the Pastor will be 'Let's Keep Christmas.' Pastor Christensen will also

Church

Continued on page 11

Church *continued from page 10*

sing the traditional spiritual, 'Sweet Little Jesus Boy.' The sanctuary at United Church Interdenominational is the oldest church structure in Norwood. Friends in the community are welcome to attend this special service.

SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH 6 Atwood Ave.

Christmas Services
The following Christmas services will be offered: Thursday, Dec. 24, 9 a.m., Royal

Hours for the Nativity, 5 p.m., Matins and Christmas Liturgy; Tuesday, Jan. 5, 6 p.m., Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Waters for Theophany. Services predominantly in English. For more information, phone 781-762-4396 or visit www.StGeorgeNorwood.org.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER 71 Bond St. (First Baptist Church building)

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Service, Dec. 24, 8 p.m. The service will be a candlelight service and will include traditional Christmas hymns, celebration of Holy Communion, a Christmas message and a special Christmas blessing. Everyone is welcome.

Post Christmas Events
On Sunday, Dec. 27, 8 a.m., Redeemer will hold a service of lessons and carols, consisting of Bible readings, Christmas carols and a second Christmas message. On Sunday, Jan. 3, the church will hold a service recalling the Epiphany, the coming of the Magi.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
150 Chapel St.
Christmas Services
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 6 p.m., Family Festival Holy Eucharist with Choir; 10 p.m. Festival Holy Eucharist with hymns
Friday, Dec. 25; Christmas Day, 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist II
Sunday, Dec. 27, 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist II; 10 a.m., Festival of Lessons & Carols
Sunday, Jan. 3, Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist I, 10 p.m., Family Holy Eucharist II, Epiphany Pageant

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Suzie the dog and Aaron Gilreath sit with Santa Claus at the Dirty Dawg Wash's Pet Photos with Santa event.



Top: Eighteen Balch Elementary School students participated in the school's annual Geography Bee.

Right: Radha David was crowned the winner of the event after successfully identifying that the mouth of the Nile River is located in Egypt.

XMAS for doggies

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

At malls all across the country, children get to sit on Santa Claus's lap and tell him what they want for Christmas. Santa has been very busy this year, but still found time in his schedule to stop by the Dirty Dawg Wash on Wilson Street in Norwood to meet with local dogs and take pictures with them during the holiday season.

This is the second annual Pet Photos with Santa event held at Dirty Dawg Wash, and from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Dec 13, Santa was on hand and people and their pets could have their picture taken with him.

"NEARR [North East All Retriever Rescue] had always done this at other locations, and we did it here last year, and it was a success," said Rosalyn Abdelnour, co-owner of Dirty Dawg Wash, and because of this success, the event returned this year.

Prior to last year, NEARR had no such event in the Norwood area. The closest offering by the program was approximately 30 miles away in Acton, and because of this distance, representatives from NEARR approached Abdelnour to bring the Pet Photos with Santa event to Dirty Dawg Wash.

Despite the name, dogs weren't the only ones photographed: children and families also had their pictures taken with Santa. While the dogs didn't tell Santa their Christmas desires, some of the children in attendance had the opportunity to do so. Three-year-old Aaron Gilreath took full advantage of this chance, asking for a Batman toy.

The Santa Claus in question was Michael Liberty, a customer of Dirty Dawg Wash who brings both of his dogs- Finnigan and Isis- there for cleaning. His decision to volunteer made the Dec. 13 event possible, Abdelnour said. For a while, she had been unable to get a Santa for the event, and without Santa, there is no Pet Photos with Santa event, but then Liberty stepped forward.

It cost \$5.00 to get a picture with Santa, and all money raised at the event was donated to NEARR. NEARR is a rescue organization that helps find homes for retrievers.

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LINDA K. FISHER
L.L.M. in Taxation, Boston University

PHOTOS BY
BRAD COLE



Radha David wins Bee

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

After successfully identifying that the mouth of the Nile River is located in Egypt, Radha David was named the winner of the Balch Elementary School's 2009-2010 Geography Bee (Geo Bee). David beat 17 other members of fifth grade class to claim the prize, and was modest after her win.

"I'm kind of lucky, I guess," she said.

It was more than just luck. Like all participants, David had to study hard, prepare for and pass a qualify test and study atlases and handouts, all to get ready for the Dec. 18 Geo Bee.

In order to make it on stage to participate in the Geo Bee, students had to score 10 or better out of 20 questions on a qualify test, and 18 students managed to do this. The other 18 students who qualified for the Geo Bee were Devaughn Carter, Anthony Petruzzelli, Ian Moulton, Sean Welch, Caitlan Shaughnessy, Jordan Hatchett, Zachary Kimmet, Nicholas Girard, Michael McDonald, Kristen Augenstine, Kelly Mouawad, Mike Saad, Michael

MacFarland, Aaron Wiatekus, John Carty, Sahil Poonatar and Julio Romero.

"The test they took to be up here was very hard," fifth grade teacher Dimitra Karypidis said. "They all deserve to be up here."

The Geo Bee participants stood on the stage in the Balch School cafeteria and were introduced by fifth grade teacher Diane Ferreira. As they were named, each student received a loud ovation from the crowd, which included parents, teachers and other students at the school. Ferreira told the fourth grade students to pay special attention, because any one of them could potentially participate next year. The tasking of quizzing the students went to Karypidis.

David squeaked by runner-up Welch in the eleventh round. Kimmet finished in third place. Rounding out the top five were Poonatar and Hatchett, in fourth and fifth place, respectively.

Kimmet prepared with a solid studying regiment: he went over the handouts presented by his teachers, Karypidis and Carol Malachowski, to help get the students ready for the Geo Bee

and studied the atlas. He felt good about lasting as long as he did and finishing third place in the bee.

"I thought the questions were hard, but I knew some of them," he said.

Second place finisher Welch described the contest as fun to participate in and said it was cool to last as long as he did.

Participants were asked a wide variety of questions, ranging from continents, US cities, countries across the world and historic US landmarks. Students had to identify what state the Wilson Butte Cave is located in (Idaho), what country has the largest Spanish speaking population (Mexico), what continent is the smallest (Australia) and where the Chernobyl disaster took place (Ukraine).

Once asked a question, students have 15 seconds to answer. Once they answer three questions incorrectly, they were eliminated from the stage and watched the rest of the Geo Bee from the audience. Upon elimination, all participants were cheered for their efforts.