



Everyone had a great time!

Norwood Center was a Winter Wonderland on Sunday, without the snow, as a huge turnout was on hand to welcome Santa to Town during the Annual Norwood Holiday Extravaganza.

PHOTOS BY PAUL ELDRIDGE

Family dog banished

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The Paddens, the family that own Hawk, the three-year-old Belgian Malinois banished from town by the Board of Selectmen last week, are devastated and heartbroken by the board's 3-2 vote to have the dog removed from Norwood by Jan. 3.

"The long and short of it is we are all extremely upset," Colleen Padden said. "Our children are, of course, our main concern."

Colleen and Christopher Padden have three children, Will, Shawn and Chris, ages ten, eight and six, respec-

tively. The boys were not at the Nov. 24 Board of Selectmen meeting, but watched as Hawk was banished.

"They are telling the boys they have to let something they love go," Colleen said.

She said her children have cried on numerous occasions since the decision was made, and have asked a lot of questions about Hawk's fate, such as where is his going, will he be happy there, will they get to visit Hawk, will the dog miss sleeping on their beds and more.

She described the Selectmen's de-

Family Dog

Continued on page 6

Recycling program continues to impress

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

Before the introduction of the single-stream recycling program in Oct. 2008, Norwood's recycling rates were about 14 percent. However, since then, the town's recycling rates have more than doubled to 30 percent.

"Our curbside recycling rate, which is the only one we can track, is 30 percent," Town Manager John Carroll said. "We started at 14 percent, and we went to 30 percent and it's stayed there."

The single-stream system is partially responsible for this increase. No longer must residents separate recyclable goods into small, red bins. Now, all recyclables can be placed in the same 96-gallon bin.

"It's so much easier to recycle now," Assistant Town Manager Bernie Cooper said.

Aside from helping the environment, the rate increase has a financial benefit. Per the town's contract with Waste Management, it costs \$65.30 less per ton to

Recycling

Continued on page 6

A challenger to Rogers

Jim Stanton thinks 17 years is long enough

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

Jim Stanton of East Walpole has stepped forward to challenge State Representative John Rogers for his seat in the legislature, where Rogers represents Norfolk's twelfth district, which includes the entirety of Norwood and Precincts 1, 2, 6 and 7 of Walpole.

"By the time 2010 rolls around, [Rogers] will have been the state representative for 17 years, and I think that's too long," Stanton said. If elected, he said he would have self-imposed term limits and only stay in the state legislature for ten years.

"The seat needs somebody with a fresh perspective," and Stanton thinks he can bring this to Beacon Hill.

Part of this comes from Stanton's political affiliation: he is a Republican, a group he feels is sorely lacking in the state legislation, and this lack helped lead to his decision to run.

"I was really inspired by the fact that in the legislature, of the 160 representatives, 144 are Democrats," he said. "I feel you need to restore balance to Beacon Hill. Right now, it really is a one-party rule."

He believes this one-party rule helps cause corruption, and cites the past three Speakers of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, all of whom resigned under questionable circumstances, and suggested that Rogers was close to all three. According to Stanton, Rogers voted with former Speaker Salvatore DiMasi 99.49 percent of the time.

Stanton has not been pleased with some of the legislation's action- or lack of action- recently. One decision he opposed was the decision to raise the sales tax from five to 6.25 percent.

"The decision to raise the sales tax was an awful decision



Attorney Jim Stanton is looking to represent Norfolk's 12th District.

that hurts people and makes Massachusetts less competitive," he said, and wants to be part of an initiative to roll the sales tax back.

Stanton also has a problem with the government's lack of action regarding elderly drivers.

"The legislature needs to take up the issue of testing for elderly drivers," he said. "We recently had another accident in Walpole where a 90-year-old woman struck a pedestrian and left him with serious injuries. The current legislature is afraid to alienate a big voting block, but the issue must be addressed."

Regarding voting blocks, Stanton acknowledges it will be difficult to get the support needed to beat Rogers.

"It's going to be difficult," he said. "It's going to be an uphill battle."

Stanton said of the 25,000 registered voters in the district, 3,000 are registered as Republicans, and he hopes to use this group as his base. Of the remain 22,000 voters, 8,000 are registered Democrats and 14,000 are un-enrolled.

"An important segment of the vote will be those un-enrolled," Stanton said. He also hopes to attract Democrats who might be upset with Rogers' ten-

ure in office.

"2010 presents a great opportunity," he said. "Now is the time."

Stanton goes into the race with little political experience, having served on the Zoning Board of Appeals in Walpole for the past 4 years. He has been an attorney since 1995, and during that time he has worked as the Assistant District Attorney under Ralph Martin and has had a private practice since 2001.

In order to bone up on the issues in Norwood, he plans on reaching out to town officials and spend more time at Town Hall.

"I plan on attending as many meetings at Town Hall and talking to as many people in town as I can," he said. Stanton aims to reach out to members of the School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Finance Commission.

While still early in the fundraising and campaigning process, Stanton believes he is off to a good start.

"All the feedback I've gotten so far seems very encouraging," he said.

The 41-year-old Stanton is married to Judy, and they have three children.

Prince joins Board

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

Four candidates stepped forward to fill the vacancy on the Norwood Morrill Memorial Library Board of Trustees caused by the resignation of Roger MacLeod, a 41-year veteran of the board. The Board of Selectmen and Board of Trustees named Cashman Kerr Prince as the newest member of the Board at a joint meeting held on Nov. 24. He will serve the remainder of MacLeod's term, which expires in 2010.

Others to apply for the position were Joel Sklar, Joseph Rich and John Hall, though

Rich withdrew before the meeting, giving members of the boards three candidates to choose from. Prince got the six votes necessary for the appointment, and Hall received four votes.

Sarah Begg, Helen Abdallah-Donohue, Arthur Gearty, Patricia Fanning, Susannah Petro and Bill Plasko all voted for Prince, while Jerry Kelleher, Stuart Plumer, Michael Lyons and Tom McQuaid voted for Hall. Sklar, who was not present at the Nov. 24 Board of Selectmen and Board of Trustees joint meeting, did not receive any votes.

Before the vote, the Select-

men gave candidates the opportunity to speak about their experience and asked them a few questions. Questions were limited, because the Morrill Memorial Library Board of Trustees previously interviewed the candidates.

Multiple members of the boards were pleased with the interest in the Board of Trustees.

"It's great to have four people interested in doing this," Gearty said.

Lyons thinks "it's great to see we have more than one [candidate] to choose from, and

Prince joins Library

Continued on page 3

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Friends of St. Nick name Couple of the Year

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

Every year, the Friends of St. Nick (FOSN) honor a person or group from Norwood who has given back to the community in a selfless and unassuming way. The Board for the FOSN named Al and Valerie Bishop as Norwood's "Couple of the Year" to continue the legacy of giving.

"We're humbled more than anything," Al Bishop said. "We're honored."

The Bishops are recognized for the numerous services provided by their company Boston Air Charter. They dedicated an aircraft to Boston MedFlight, a non-profit organization that provides emergency and critical transportation to six Boston-area hospitals.

"Our company, and Valerie in particular, have provided services to Boston MedFlight since the 1970s," Al said.

These flights are often done with little notice, and the plane

dedicated to these missions spends roughly 400 hours per year in service.

"The trips take us as nearby as Nantucket to as far away as South Florida," Al said.

The FOSN also recognize the Bishops' work providing transportation for the New England Organ Bank. They make approximately 150 missions a year transporting organs, providing those in need of a life-saving organ transplant the best possible scenario.

"They do a lot for the organ bank," said Marty Sansone, a Director on the Board for FOSN. "We heard a few stories about things they've done recently, and we couldn't opt to not honor them this year."

The Bishops have worked with the New England Organ Bank for over 25 years, and during this time, their planes are on call 24/7, ready to go should the need arise.

"We've had a pretty significant interpersonal relationship," Al said. Their connection

with the organ bank goes back to when he worked with Eastern Air Center (now Flight Level Aviation) and Wiggins Airways he said.

Not all of their work is medical in nature. During the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Bishops sent aid in the form of backpacks to the children of New Orleans. Their daughter, Rebecca, organized a drive to get books, school supplies and backpacks to schools in New Orleans, and once collected, the donated items were flown down.

The Bishops also have three sons, Sean, Joshua and Michael.

The Board of the FOSN described the couple's "quiet and understated style has allowed them to quietly serve so many special causes. They do this continuously without ever drawing attention to themselves" in a statement on their

Friends of St. Nick
Continued on page 4

Prince joins Library *continued from page 2*

these are always difficult decisions to make."

Prince comes to the Board from Wellesley College, where he is a visiting lecturer in the Classical Studies Department. He has a Ph.D. in Classics with a Ph.D. Minor in Comparative Literature from Stanford University, as well as a Diplôme d'Études Approfondies from Université de Paris, and made the most of his opportunity to join the Board of Trustees. He has worked at libraries in the past, and started in his junior high school years.

"Though I am a newcomer to Norwood, I am not a newcomer to libraries," he said, later adding, "I'd welcome this opportunity to join the Morrill Memorial Library's Board of

Trustees."

Prince mentioned that he frequently went to the Morrill Memorial Library for his reading needs, and is consistently pleased with the collection found there. He also enjoys the outreach programs offered by the library and would like to see some of the programs, including the concert series and film series, expanded in an attempt to attract more patrons to the library.

Because he is filling a spot vacated by MacLeod, Prince's term will expire in 2010, at which point he faces re-election, and his return to the Trustees lies in the hands of Norwood voters.

The Library Board of Trustees has numerous tasks: they

establish policies, approve expenditures, have control over bequests and delegate administration to the Library Director, Charlotte Canelli, who was pleased to see four candidates step forward for the position.

"I'm just thrilled we have a trustee that I can get up to speed so he can be a functioning member of the board," she said.

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Editorial

Tough call by selectmen

Selectmen voted 3 to 2 a week ago to ban a dog from Norwood. The dog, admitted to by everyone at the public hearing, bit a woman without provocation. Also admitted to by the owners is that it was their fault, that the dog should have been restrained and wasn't. The purpose of the hearing was not to determine guilt, but to render a decision as to what to do with the dog.

The decision to require removal of the dog from the town borders was harsh, and to many, particularly dog lovers, extreme. This writer loves animals and has had at least one dog his entire life. In fact, this incident hits close to home because a very similar incident occurred when I was a child.

We owned a German Shepard named Fritzee back when I was a young boy. Fritzee was a large dog, even by Shepard standards, and was trained personally by my father since he was a pup. I remember my dad would take a chunk of meat and place it on Fritzee's paw and give a simple command of "no." My father would then go about his business, pattering around the house or watching TV, not even looking at the dog for a period of a few minutes, though no doubt he could have made it hours or even days. Sure enough, when he turned his attention back to the dog, the slab of sirloin was still on the paw, and that dog was as still and erect as the Sphinx. With a smile, and then a pat on the head, he would say "ok" and the meat would disappear between those jaws in the blink of an eye.

My two sisters and I loved that dog as much as he loved us. He was so big I could actually ride him like a horse, and as young kids are prone to do, we dressed him in clothes and made him wear funny hats and he would just lie there and let it all happen.

As time went on Fritzee was becoming over protective. At first he would place himself between us kids and any strangers, and then even friends of the family were subject to his closer and closer scrutiny. He didn't bite anyone at first, but he made it clear to those impeding our space that he was zeroed in on them like a missile to its target.

My parents sensed this and decided to restrain the dog whenever he was outside. One day the dog was chained to a tree in front of the house, and I was sitting next to him enjoying the summer breezes. A motorcycle went by and revved its engine as Harley drivers sometimes do. Fritzee, sensing danger, went after the motorcycle, snapping the chain like it was a shoestring. The rider didn't have a chance and was bitten badly. Soon thereafter, the mailman and the milkman wanted nothing to do with our house, and the parents of other kids, rightfully, didn't want their children in our yard.

To say my father loved that dog would be an understatement, but he knew what had to be done. Even though that dog would lay down its life for any one of us, he had become a threat to those around us.

Selectman Jerry Kelleher got it right when he said that as selectmen, they are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the neighborhoods and the protection of its residents. Remedies such as invisible fences, muzzles and promises to keep the dog fenced in and on a leash are just not enough. The dog has now rationalized that people around his family pose a danger, and he will do anything and everything to protect them.

I feel badly for the family who owns the dog. I know how tough it will be to give the dog up, particularly for the kids. I went through it. But, it is true that time heals all wounds and the sensible approach to this problem is to place the dog in a more appropriate location. It is the fair thing to do for the neighbors, who should be able to enjoy the tranquility of their streets without having to live in fear of what could happen should the dog get free again.

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Letters to the Editor

SELECTMEN DECISION A DOG

To The Editor:

Re: Selectmen's Meeting,
Nov. 25.

The decision by the Board of selectmen to ban a family dog from Norwood in thirty days appears to be a wake up call to the citizens of Norwood who own pets.

Anyone who has a dog that weighs over 50 lbs., barks and is a joy to a family with children or a companion to a senior (yours truly) is in danger of having their pet banished from Norwood.

Granted, as stated by the owners of the dog, a mistake was made, but by them not the dog.

The Board of Selectmen are human, don't they ever make a

mistake? The owners are willing to spend a considerable amount of money and time to correct the problem. Are they not allowed another chance?

It's quite a gift for humans to play the "What If" game, like what if the dog had seriously injured the lady?

Other examples might include what if the electric problem was handled properly? You don't break contracts. What if the building of the Police and Fire Station was handled properly? What if the Senior Center floor had been handled properly? It's quite a gift to be human in the case of this dog and to be able to foresee what ifs like this.

All the above examples were by humans and given chances to

correct. What about this dog's second chance?

As the owner of the dog stated they made a bad mistake, would now like to correct the mistake and are not being given the opportunity to do so.

I applaud the two members of the Board of Selectmen who voted to give the owners another chance. I guess the other three members never make mistakes.

In closing, it appears owners with dogs over 50 lbs. better be prepared to shuttle their dogs to wooded farm areas and deny their family the love and companionship they deserve because a few think they are not suitable to live in Norwood.

Peter Antonitis
A 65-year-Norwood
Resident

Friends of St. Nick *continued from page 3*

Web-site.

The FOSN 2009 luncheon takes place at Concannon's Village at 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 4, and tickets cost \$40. Those who cannot attend the event can watch it live on NPA-TV.

Money raised at this luncheon will be donated to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Jimmy Fund. In the FOSN's 18-year history, the group has raised over \$400,000 for these organizations via their annual luncheon, raffle, silent and live auctions.

"All the money raised goes to Dana Farber," Sansone said. "Cancer doesn't take a vacation."

These donations led to the Dana Farber In-

stitute naming one of their research rooms after the group, and it is also in memory of the late Chris Curran, who served as a board member for FOSN.

Individuals recognized by the FOSN in past years include Paul Angelo, Olga Abdallah, Barbara Kinter, Anne Lydon and Ted Mulvehill. The FOSN have also recognized organizations and businesses, including the Norwood Colonial Boys, The Challenger League and Norwood Bank.

For more information on the FOSN, visit <http://friendsofstnick.org>.

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Downtown Steering Committee looks for new member

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The Downtown Steering Committee (DSC) is one member shy of a full group, and Chairman Jerry Kelleher is looking for a new person to step forward and join the committee.

"We're looking for a resident interested in the central business district," Kelleher said. He is specifically referring to the area of town between Guild Square and Railroad Avenue. "We want someone with enthusiasm and new ideas."

Those interested in applying can send a letter to the DSC, care of the Board of Selectmen's office. Those who apply will be considered, and the new member of the committee will be determined at a future meeting.

The DSC features residents, business owners and town officials.

"We try to get as many different perspectives as we can,"

said committee member Michael Lyons, who joined the group as the business owner of Breadbasket Bakery, and remains a representative of both a downtown business and the Board of Selectmen.

"We're looking for commitment, enthusiasm and someone who may have a different take on downtown," Lyons said. "We're really looking for someone who looks slightly into the future. There are a lot of people who have ideas for what's needed... and that sort of feedback is helpful."

In addition to Lyons and Kelleher, DSC members are Jean Taylor, Tom Wynne, Ed McKenna and Julie Vecchio. The committee aims to improve the downtown area, and has worked to do so since their formation of April 1998.

The committee works with state grants to help re-vitalize the downtown area, Lyons said. They have used grants to upgrade storefronts, improve façades and make the area more

attractive.

"It's an action committee, and we've done a lot of work," Kelleher said. "It's a great committee."

This work will continue. At the Nov. 24 Board of Selectmen meeting, Lyons said one of the group's current goals is to help enable Norwood Center to compete with malls or large outdoor plazas, such as Legacy Place in Dedham. He pointed out that these large plazas attempt to capture the look of the main street lined with shops, as if that location no longer exists. While such a main street exists in Norwood, competing with a large shopping plaza like Legacy Place is not an easy task.



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Eno went on to say that we don't talk about dynasties. We just come in every day, treat the customers right, offer them a clean store, and a great Citgo product at a fair price. He said "If we do that consistently, the awards will keep coming."

Congratulations to Store Manager Henry Eno and his staff.

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Family Dog *continued from page 1*

cision as devastating,

Another one of Colleen's concerns is the timeline they have to remove Hawk from Norwood. Per Selectman Jerry Kelleher's motion, the family has until Friday, Jan. 3 to find Hawk a home outside of Norwood. Selectman Helen Abdallah-Donohue, who also voted in favor of banning Hawk, initially suggested a three-month period.

"While we strongly disagree with Mrs. Donohue, she was intelligent enough to know placing an animal takes time," Colleen said.

She does not feel the allotted one-month period is sufficient. The Paddens adopted Hawk through Belgian Malinois Rescue, and the adoption

process took ten weeks. They are now being asked to find Hawk a home in half that time. Colleen added she does not understand the board's sudden urgency: the incident occurred in early September, and no decision was made until late November.

As of Dec. 1, they have not decided if they will appeal the board's decision. They have until Dec. 4 to do so.

"We feel we've been backed into a corner," Colleen said, adding "it's like walking on eggshells now."

The Selectmen voted to have Hawk removed from town after an incident on Sept. 8, when he attacked and bit 71-year-old Joan Walsh. Kelleher, Donohue and Board

The Norwood Record

of Selectmen Chairman Bill Plasko voted in favor of banning the dog.

The incident occurred before the three children left for their first day of school, and Colleen was taking pictures of them with the dog. She went into her house to grab a cloth to clean a portion of one of her son's shirts, which had gotten dirty, and during this time, something scared Hawk and he left their property and attacked Walsh. Colleen stated the dog was acting out of fear, not malice.

At the Nov. 24 Selectmen meeting, the Paddens took full responsibility for the dogs actions that morning.

Chris described the situation as an unfortunate incident, but it was the first time such an incident had happened. Colleen added that they have no problems with Hawk.

"I'm not afraid to let people into my house," she said. "I've never had a neighbor come up to me and say 'I'm afraid of your dog,'" adding that Hawk is not an aggressive animal.

Despite his intimidating size- Hawk weighs in at 77 pounds- he is a playful animal, and enjoys playing with his Frisbee, Kong dog toys



Left to Right: Will, Chris (in blue) and Shawn Padden pose with Hawk, the Belgian Malinois banned by the Board of Selectmen last week.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

and partially deflated basketball. He also obeys numerous commands, including, but not limited to, sit, stay and come.

"He's a good boy who made a bad mistake," Colleen said.

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Recycling *continued from page 1*

get recycled goods removed than it does to get rid of trash. It is difficult to quantify the actual amount saved, but the initial Fiscal Year 2010 rubbish budget called for \$2,246,000, and the revised budget comes in at \$1,687,000, representing a \$559,000 savings.

While the increased recycling rate contributes to this savings, it is not the sole factor, Cooper said. Also contributing to the rubbish budget reduction are the automated collection system and the overall reduction in tonnage of trash and recycled materials collected.

"Nationwide, the amount of trash and recycled goods generated has fallen," Cooper said. "Norwood is not alone in that."

Cooper suggests the biggest reason for the reduction is the economy, but other factors have contributed to the overall garbage reduction. Goods are placed in smaller, lighter packages, there has been a shift to lighter materials and more goods are being made out of plastics than metal.

"Our trash has gone down, and our recycling has gone up," Cooper said, later adding how pleased he was with the town's increased recycling rates.

"From our perspective, the program has worked extremely well," he said. "We were hope-

ful the program would work well, and its exceeded our expectations."

Despite the rate increase, MassDEP reports that Norwood remains behind several surrounding towns. During calendar year 2008, MassDEP reported Norwood's recycling rate was 21 percent, higher than the 14 percent calculated by the town. This put Norwood behind several surrounding towns: Walpole had a recycling rate of 39 percent, Canton had a rate of 40 percent and Dedham had a rate of 43 percent. However, Norwood's current 30 percent recycling rate puts them ahead of towns like Sharon and Westwood, which had recycling rates of 25 and 26 percent, respectively.

"The town of Norwood is not lagging behind," Town Engineer Mark Ryan said.

One reason for the discrepancy is how the rates are determined. Norwood determines the rate by taking the tonnage

of recycled goods collected and dividing it by the combined tonnage of trash and recycled materials. MassDEP determines their rates by dividing the residential tons of trash diverted, which includes recycled, composted and hazardous products collected, but the total amount of trash collected.

Another difference comes from MassDEP's use of estimates. According to their web site, if the tonnage is not reported to MassDEP, they estimate the tons of trash generated by multiplying the municipal's population by a statewide residential trash generation rate, assigns recycling credit on a per household basis and calculates per capita default composting tonnage in lieu of actual reported tonnage.

In addition, this 21 percent calculation represents MassDEP's first report of Norwood residential recycling rates since FY 2001.

The Norwood Police and Fire Logs can be found online this week under the **Links** button at www.norwoodrecord.com



Veterans Donation:

Ted Mulvehill accepts donated home-cooked Thanksgiving dinners from the Town Republican Committee. L to R: Debbie Holmwood, Patricia Barrett, Ted Mulvehill

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

Republicans step up to feed veterans and families

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Town Republican Committee prepared and gave out 20 homemade Thanksgiving dinners to Norwood veterans and their families. This marks the committee's third year preparing food for veterans on Thanksgiving.

The food was prepared and donated on Nov. 25. Members of the committee, including Debbie Holmwood and Patricia Barrett, spent the day cooking and preparing the food for Veteran's Agent Ted Mulvehill, who distributed it to veterans throughout the town.

Holmwood said their yearly donation would not be possible without the work of the entire Town Republican Committee.

"It's a joint effort," Holmwood said. "Somebody

brings the rolls, somebody brings the beans, somebody brings the gravy."

In addition, meals include pie and home-cooked turkey, prepared by Holmwood and Barrett the day of the delivery. The turkey is roasted and sliced before distribution.

She stressed that it was homemade, saying that they did not go out to the store to buy a complete turkey dinner.

This was evidence by her kitchen, which had been used throughout the day to cook the turkey. Holmwood and Barrett spent over six hours on Nov. 25 cooking and preparing the 20 dinners.

"I figure people are willing to sign up and get shot at, we can cook some turkeys," Holmwood said.

"I'm so happy to be able to do this" Barrett added.

Mulvehill said the food went to eight veterans and their families, all of whom live in Norwood. The veterans who received the meals served in a variety of wars, ranging from the Korean War to Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom. He provides the Town Republican Committee with a list of unnamed veterans interested in the home-cooked Thanksgiving dinners, and the committee steps forward and delivers on a yearly basis.

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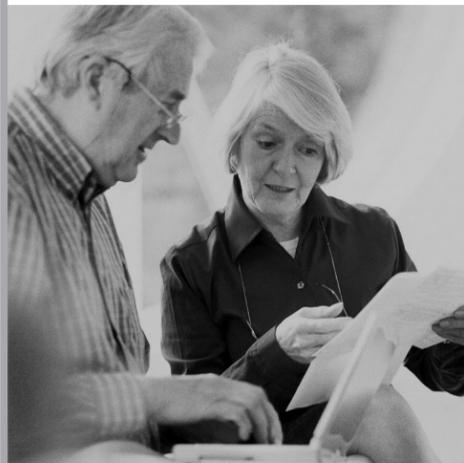
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Sports

Dedham stuns locals with late rally



Sophomore standout Andrew Alty was off to the races, gaining big yardage for Norwood, including a 64-yard touchdown run in the first quarter. But, the Mustangs ultimately fell to host Dedham, 26-25, in a thriller at Stone Park on Thanksgiving morning.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

And to think this football rivalry could have gone by the wayside. Eight months after deciding to remain in the Bay State Conference, Dedham High made an even more definitive statement of its belonging with a miraculous 26-25, come-from-behind win over visiting Norwood at packed Stone Park on Thanksgiving Day. In one of the more entertaining jousts on the holiday morning - the 81st rendition between the teams - the Marauders rallied from as many as 10 points down to pull out the stunning victory with 1:01 left in the tilt, and narrow its overall series deficit to 43-38.

Norwood, which led, 19-10, late in the third quarter, held the advantage at 25-20, when Dedham senior Nick Walch made a magnificent leaping catch down the left sideline, amid deep coverage on a just as beautifully thrown ball by quarterback Dan O'Connor that gave the Marauders a 28-yard gain and a first-and-goal at the Mustang six with just 1:12 left in the game. Two plays later, senior

captain Bernie Girard barreled in from the five to give the hosts the lead for good.

The Marauders finished at 2-9, winning their last two games, to uplift a squad whose town had mixed feelings about whether its entire high school athletic program should even remain in the highly competitive BSC. Last March, the Dedham school committee board voted, 5-2, in favor of staying.

"It's a great feeling. It's a great, great feeling," Dedham head coach Keith Comeau said, after his team rallied for the holiday win, its first in six years over the Mustangs. "I'm so happy for the kids and these seniors. They really came to play."

Walch's catch that set up the winning score capped a remarkable day for the standout receiver. Walch also caught a 28-yard strike from O'Connor early in the second frame to cut Dedham's deficit to 13-10. On defense, he had two interceptions in the final 41 seconds, as Norwood used its timeouts in desperation for a miracle of its own.

For the Mustangs, who closed at 3-8, it was a frustrating

Football

Continued on page 9

Stately outing for girl swimmers

Mustangs impress at Division 2 finale

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Adding to its extraordinary success this season, the Norwood girls' swimming team finished eighth overall and second only to Framingham among its Bay State Conference rivals at the Division 2 state meet, Saturday at Harvard University.

"[We had] a pretty successful meet," Norwood head coach Kim Goodwin said, citing the team's third place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay, and Emily Metta's second place finish in the 100 breaststroke.

Goodwin said Metta "was obviously disappointed being out-touched and having a state championship elude her. But what a career she's had," the coach said of the star senior captain.

Even the winner's time in the 200 free at the states was slower than Metta's time in the same event at the sectionals more than two weeks ago.

"Small consolation for Emily, but she still has bragging rights for having the fastest time for the season in Division 2," Goodwin said.

Metta's effort and the team's third place finish in the 200 free relay were the highest individual and relay placements ever for Norwood at a state championship.

Fellow standout senior leader Natalie Metta posted eighth place points in the 50 freestyle. Metta also helped the squad to officially breaking a team record with fifth place points in the 200 Medley Relay, equaling its sectional time that was later disqualified.

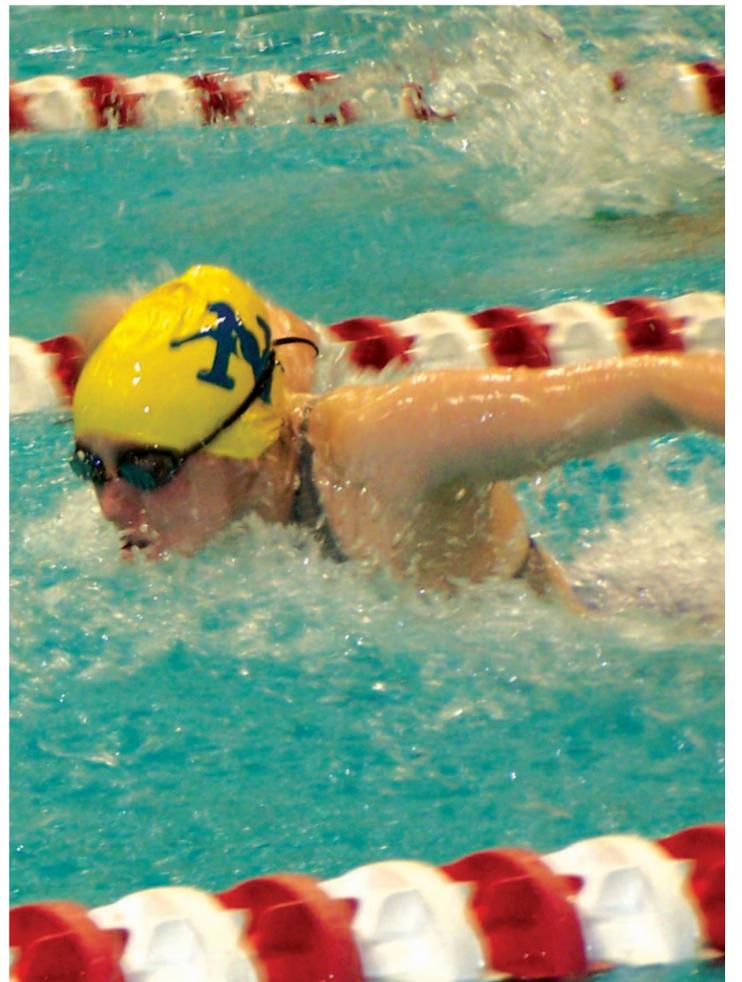
"Her blazingly fast legs on both the 200 Medley and the 200 freestyle relays helped give her team high place finishes," Goodwin said.

"Natalie's 50 freestyle leg was her fastest ever," the coach said of Metta's remarkable time of 25.4. "[It was] a memorable way to end her high school career."

Patricia Lee finished 12th in both the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly, and Molly Shilo also finished 12th, in the 200 free.

"Outstanding accomplishments for freshmen to be in the top 12," Goodwin said.

Captain elect Katherine Lee, Alexandra Metta and senior captain Kayla Ring, meanwhile, all swam to their fastest times in the 400 freestyle relay, finishing as a group just short of the top 12 places.



Norwood freshmen swimmers Patricia Lee (above) and Molly Shilo scored 12th place finishes in their respective events at the Division 2 state meet at Harvard University on Saturday. "Outstanding accomplishments for freshmen to be in the top 12," Norwood head coach Kim Goodwin said.

COURTESY PHOTO

Football *continued from page 8*

ing finish to a season already marred by numerous injuries that curtailed the team from contending for a higher spot in the BSC Herget Division. Two of their top senior receivers and defensive backs, Mike Goodwin (shoulder) and Silquan Russell (broken arm), and fellow senior and star nose guard Anthony Colantuoni (sprained knee) all missed the game.

Clearly though, this was a win the Marauders earned, not one the Mustangs gave away. Norwood head coach Buzzy Curran was gracious in defeat, crediting Dedham for playing an outstanding game and even expressing joy for his squad's neighboring nemesis.

"Am I happy that we lost, no, but am I happy for the Dedham football program, I give them credit, they came out and played hard today, and it was a heck of a show," Curran said. "People got their money's worth... I give credit to coach Comeau. And the Dedham kids, they played their hearts out. They never quit. It was a heck of a game... They made one more play than we did. And I got to congratulate them. We didn't lose the game. They won the game, and I congratulate that program."

The game's momentous turn came with just over six minutes left in the third frame, after the Mustangs, who led, 19-10, had stopped Dedham on a crucial fourth-and-four pass from its own 42.

Seemingly in control, Norwood took over in good field position with a nine point lead. But Dedham star sophomore Mikyle Hill intercepted a Kevin O'Sullivan pass, as the Mustangs tried for a big gain on a flee-flicker. O'Sullivan pitched the ball to Andrew Alty, who flipped it back to O'Sullivan. But the senior quarterback's toss to the right side was hauled in by the speedy Hill, who ran it back to midfield.

A pass interference call on Norwood brought the ball to the Mustang 37. Hill, who also stars on offense, and fellow sophomore Shane Lowe, picked up a pair of first downs to make it first-and-goal from the 10. Girard caught a swing pass for four yards, and a Norwood penalty on the next snap brought the ball half the distance to the goal to the four. On second down, O'Connor went over the middle to Dan Sheehan in the end zone, but strong coverage by Norwood senior Sean Keady prevented the touchdown. However, after another Mustang penalty put the ball on the two, Girard waltzed in for six, and Brian Coakley's extra point made it 19-17.

"We stopped them on fourth down, and then we tried to get it all, and [they got] the intercep-

tion by Hill, and he took it the other way, and it took our legs out from under us, but, hey, that's part of football," Curran said.

"All that being said, I credit my seniors," the coach said.

"We had a lot of sophomores out there. We played with a lot of heart today. We're just not used to [all the hardships we've had this season]."

Early in the fourth quarter, the Marauders took the lead for the first time since opening the scoring on a 21-yard field goal by Coakley, which was set up by a spectacular catch in stride by senior Kevin O'Brien.

This time, Coakley booted it straight through from 37 yards out to give Dedham a 20-19 edge with 11:05 left in the game.

The Marauders' first comeback of the morning had momentarily halted a sensational day by Alty, the Norwood sophomore, who churned his way for huge yardage in the first half, including a 64-yard TD run in the opening stanza that spurred the 'Stangs to a 13-3 advantage. Alty also scooted 44 yards to the Dedham one, leading to Norwood's first score, a one-yard keeper by O'Sullivan, as Mike DeCosta kicked the extra point.

The Mustangs had to settle for a 13-10 lead at the half, after they lost the ball on a fumble on a first-and-goal from the three late in the second quarter. But Norwood established control again on its opening drive in the third frame, as O'Sullivan connected with Keady over the middle on a long pass that set up a first-and-goal from the Dedham seven. Two plays later, Alty scored from five yards out to give the Mustangs their nine point lead.

After Dedham took the lead in the fourth, Norwood had enough gas in its tank to regain the edge on a 70-yard march keyed by Keady, who escaped a tackle for a first down on a third-and-three screen pass, and Alty, who surged for huge gains of 19, 14, and 24 yards. Senior running back Mark Nardelli capped the drive on a two-yard run with 4:40 left.

Fittingly, O'Connor, Walch, Sheehan and Girard all sparked Dedham's final 70-yard drive with an assortment of aerial plays, the biggest of which Walch hauled in at the Norwood six.

"It's an awesome feeling," Comeau said of the win. We executed our game plan. It's a good win, a good feeling."

At halftime, Dedham honored its long-time marching band director and director of its fine arts department, Joe Brogan, who will retire at the end of the school year.



Senior star back Mark Nardelli found some room here against Dedham on Thanksgiving morning, but the Marauders got the last say by the time the clock wound down.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Turkey Trot draws runners, raises funds



Age knows no limits at Norwood's annual Turkey Trot.

COURTESY PHOTO

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

More than 600 participants from many Massachusetts towns swarmed into Norwood for the 23rd Annual Turkey Trot on Nov. 22. The four-mile race starts and finishes behind Clay Chevrolet.

The event's purpose is to raise funds for all Norwood High School athletic teams. It is run by the Norwood Athletics Boosters Club, which provides jackets, letters, scholarships and some extras for all teams at Norwood High.

"We had 600 plus runners, just about a record," said Nora Glynn of the booster's club. "Jim Henry, [our] race director did a fabulous job."

Glynn cited the major event sponsors as Norwood Bank, Vanderbilt Club, and Republic Plumbing Supply, while also thanking Honey Dew Donuts/

Mr. Franks, Lamberts, Conrads, Old Colonial House, Norwood Sport Center, Mint Café, Escada, Sky, Chateau, Norwood Caritas and Fitness, Dedham Savings Bank, People Savings Bank and City Sports, "and all the wonderful volunteers."

Norwood had a terrific showing in the race, as town residents Lee Danforth, Philip Gingras and Kevin Gorman finished in sixth, seventh and eighth place, respectively out of 564 runners. Danforth finished in 21:07, while Gingras and Gorman crossed at 21:08 and 21:10. Thomas Vossen and Jeff Putt were next in line for Norwood. Vossen finished 20th at 24:10, while Putt closed in 28th place in a time of 24:55.

Robert Sheehan and Kathleen O'Day were the top male and female Norwood High School students. Sheehan

finished a strong 30th overall, crossing at 25:03, while O'Day closed in a time of 33:48. It was the second consecutive year O'Day finished atop the board for the NHS girls.

Billy Glynn also finished high among NHS students. Glynn placed 35th, crossing at 25:35.

The top NHS teachers included Justin Merenda, Jan Cohn and Cathy Shachoy.

Joe Navas, of North Eastham, won the race in a time of 20:36, while Dovers's Tony Delogne followed at 20:51. Rounding out the top five were Harry Stants, of Somerville, who crossed at 20:53; Scott Wisnaskas, of Allston, who finished at 20:55, and Jason Cakouros, of Milton, who closed at 20:59.

A complete listing of all runners can be found at www.coolrunning.com.

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Legals

MEETING NOTICE

The Norwood Department of Community Planning and Economic Development will host a meeting to discuss the Town's Community Development Strategy (CDS) on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the Norwood Police/Fire Community Room, 137 Nahatan Street, Norwood, MA. 02062. The purpose of this meeting is update the Town's CDS which summarizes the Town's community-based planning and priority setting and its plan of action to accomplish specific community development goals. Developing and updating the CDS is a prerequisite to applying for grants from the State's Community Development Fund. The Town will apply for a CDF Grant in February 2010.

For more information about the meeting or the CDS, 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, 12/3/09

Public Hearing Notice Norwood Planning Board

Pursuant to Mass. General Law 40A, Section 9 and Sections 6.2.21 and 10.5 of the Norwood Zoning Bylaws, the Norwood Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:15 PM in Room 12, Town Hall, 566 Washington Street concerning the Special Permit and Site Plan Approval requests for new storefront signage at 11-15 Cottage Street East (Map 1, Sheet 6, Parcel 6). The property owners and applicants are Nicholas Karafotias and Paula Carafotes, Trustees of Karafotias Cottage Street LLC, 664 Page Brook Road, Carlisle, Ma. Plans of the new signage are on file in the Office of Community Planning and Economic Development at Town Hall and may be reviewed during normal business hours.

Marco J. Brancato, Clerk

Norwood Record, 11/25/09, 12/3/09

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NORWOOD SCHOOLS' CONCERTS

The Norwood Fine Arts Department announces a number of concerts in December, 7 p.m., Coakley Middle School. Thursday, Dec. 10: Norwood High Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Orchestra, Madrigal Choir, Concert Chorale, Women's Concert Choir and Men's Choir. The Muses female ensemble will make their debut. Admission \$5. Tuesday, Dec. 8: Coakley Middle School Men's Chorus, Honor Chorus, 7/8 Orchestra, 8th Grade Band, 8th Grade Chorus. Free admission. Tuesday, Dec. 15: Coakley Middle School Honor Chorus, 7th Grade Band, 7th Grade Chorus. Free admission. Thursday, Dec. 17: Coakley Middle School 6th Grade Orchestra, 6th Grade Band, 6th Grade Chorus. Free admission. The public is invited to all performances. All admission benefits student programs in Norwood.

NORWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FUNDRAISER CELTIC STRINGS/BOOK FAIR

Make your holiday purchases on Monday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., at any Barnes & Noble Bookstore and support the Norwood high school library. At the Walpole Barnes & Noble, 7 p.m., the Senior High School Celtic Strings will perform under the direction of Katherine O'Toole. For every purchase made with a library book fair voucher, a percentage will be contributed to the high school library. Book Fair vouchers are available at sites around town and through their Web-page at: <http://www.norwood.k12.ma/nhs/page.php?pid=513> and educators may use their Barnes & Noble Educator Cards. Any questions, call Ms. Beth Goldman, librarian, at 781-440-5879.

ANNUAL MADRIGAL BANQUET

The Annual Madrigal Banquet

will be held on Friday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m., Elks Hall. The evening will excite and entertain the music enthusiast with Renaissance vocal and instrumental music, dance, and theater by the Norwood High School Madrigal Choir. A family-style dinner will be served during the performance. Cost of admission is \$35 per person. To purchase your tickets, or reserve tables of 10, contact the fine arts office at 781-440-5916. This event is sponsored by the Norwood Parents Music Association, and all proceeds benefit Norwood music students.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS AT THE F. HOLLAND DAY HOUSE

The Norwood Historical Society announces its seasonal holiday tours of the Fred Holland Day House, 93 Day St., Sundays, Dec. 6, 13, and 20, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy 'A Victorian Christmas Celebration,' the area's loveliest display of high-style Victorian seasonal decoration with historical exhibits and musical entertainment. Tour the three-story mansion, take in a concert of holiday music in the Great Hall, enjoy refreshments; learn about local history and Christmas traditions of the Victorian era. Admission: \$5; children under 12 and NHS members free. Special events include a concert of renaissance music by the Norwood High School Madrigal Singers, Dec. 13, 2 p.m. and vocal performance by mezzo soprano Grace Allendorf on Dec. 20, 2 p.m. For additional information, call the Norwood Historical Society at 781-762-9197 or visit the website: www.norwoodhistoricalsociety.org.

NORWOOD WOMAN'S CLUB

The Norwood Woman's Club will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 12:30 p.m., Emmanuel Lutheran Church Paris Hall, 24 Berwick St. The program will feature Bev Jennings, pianist,

soloist and humorist who will get the audience in the holiday spirit. Contributions to Father Bill's Place are requested; small sized toiletries, new socks, underwear, hats or gloves would be appreciated. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome. You need not be a resident of Norwood to join or attend. For questions call Trina Mallet at 781-762-8173.

NORWOOD REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE HOLIDAY GALA

The Norwood Republican Town Committee invites all to their "Annual Holiday Gala, Sunday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m., 49 Beech St., Norwood, home of Debbie Holmwood. Special guest will be Scott Brown. Please bring a small unwrapped gift for a child to be donated to Toys for Tots. RSVP to Pat Barrett 781-769-2249 or Debbie Holmwood 781-762-5980.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Annual Balch School Pancake Breakfast with Santa will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., cafeteria. For \$4 per person you will receive a breakfast of pancakes with butter and syrup, sausage, fresh fruit and your choice of juice, milk, coffee or tea. The 5th graders will sing holiday songs prior to Santa's big entrance. For a small fee, have your picture taken with Santa and make holiday crafts and ornaments. All proceeds benefit school programs through the PTO.

LIBRARY NEWS

PJ STORYTIME Thursday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., children are invited to the Pajama Storytime. The storytime is for children ages 3-6 and their families and will include bedtime stories, songs,

The Record Book

Continued on page 12

Sports Record Book

SHOP ON-LINE AND DONATE TO NORWOOD YOUTH HOCKEY

Do your holiday shopping on-line this year at the Shop to Fundraise virtual shopping mall, available at www.norwoodnuggets.org up through Friday, Dec. 25. Shop

at over 1100 on-line retailers and 1% to 40% is automatically donated to Norwood Youth Hockey. For more information, contact Chris Larson at 781-769-7347.

NORWOOD YOUTH SOCCER

Norwood Youth Soccer (NYS) announces that registration for the Spring 2010 season is now open at www.norwoodsoccer.com for both the in town Intramural Program and the Travel Program. Saturday, Dec. 19 is the registration deadline for the Travel Program. The in town Intramural Program registration deadline is March 6, 2010. NYS reserves the right to close any age group at any time due to roster restrictions.

Complete details on how to register and how to present payment is available at

www.norwoodsoccer.com. This includes a grid showing birth date and year born and what age group players map to. Free PC access is available at the Norwood Public Library for anyone not having PC access at home or work.

NORWOOD NUGGETS YOUTH HOCKEY

Norwood Nuggets Youth Hockey is currently registering players, ages 4 and up, for its Learn to Skate program at Metropolitan Skating Rink, 2167 Washington St., Canton. Players will learn balance, hand-eye coordination while building basic skating skills. Register now for this 12-week, fun filled session, beginning Saturday, Dec. 5. To register your child, or for more information, visit www.norwoodnuggets.org, or contact Bill Naumann at bnaumann19@aol.com.

St. Jude's Novena

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Holiday House Tour still a mystery!

Brad Cole
Staff Reporter

Just like Santa Claus, the fourth annual Holiday House Tour is coming to town, and it takes participants on a tour of seven decorated houses in town, including the Fred Holland Day House and the Morse House. The other five houses remain a surprise until the day of the event, Saturday, Dec. 5.

Debbie Holmwood, one of the event organizers, said the event is among the last of its kind.

"There were a lot of these holiday house tours, but people have stopped doing them," Holmwood said. She listed several towns such as Dedham and Wellesley that used to hold similar events.

Those who take the tour visit seven Norwood houses, and get to see them decorated and all lit up for the holiday season. There is no set schedule to the day's events. You can spend ten minutes at a house before moving on, or you could stay for forty-five minutes chatting with hosts and admiring the decorations.

"It's a bunch of girls, and sometimes their husbands are dragged along, who go to see the pretty houses," Holmwood said.

The tour is a fundraiser for the Day House, and all the money raised helps cover the upkeep and operation of the nationally registered historic monument here in town.

Money is raised via purchased tickets, the boutique sale at the Morse House and a silent auction.

"All of that money goes to the Fred Holland Day House," Holmwood said, adding that the silent auction has been a big hit in years past. "Our local merchants have been more than generous."

One donor she mentioned was Tom Dunlay, a Westwood artist who does paintings of everyday life and scenery, and has done works based on Norwood High School and the Town Gazebo. Last year, a print donated by Dunlay brought in \$170 at the silent auction, and he has once again donated to the cause.

A ticket for the Holiday House Tour costs \$20, while a pair can be purchased for \$30.

"This is the cheapest game in town," Holmwood said. "Where else can you get a day's worth of entertainment for \$20?"

The event runs from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Dec. 5. The tour used to be held earlier in the day, but has been pushed back at the request of those involved in the tour.

"If you do it when it's darker, it's prettier," Holmwood said, because all the Christmas trees and candles could be lit up.

Anyone interested in purchasing tickets can buy them at the Civic Center or call Debbie at 781-724-8883, and she encourages those who want their



The Fred Holland Day House is included in the Norwood Holiday House Tour.

PHOTO BY BRAD COLE

houses to be part of the tour in future years to contact her.

During the first year of the event, houses featured were all neighbors and people she knew who stepped forward and volunteered, and Holmwood's house was one of several featured. This year is different: she doesn't know any of the five who offered their houses for the

holiday tour.

"These are houses we thought were very interesting, and we wanted to get into," Holmwood said. She mentioned Norwood residents have been receptive to allowing others to enter their house as part of the tour, saying about 90 percent of those asked have allowed the crowds into their

homes in years past.

Approximately 215 tickets were sold for last year's Holiday House Tour event, and Holmwood hopes to exceed that.

"We would love for new people to come out and participate," Holmwood said. "It's a fun day, and I'm really hoping we do more than last year."

The Record Book *continued from page 10*

and a snack. Children are encouraged to wear their pajamas and bring their snugglies to this evening event. No registration required.

SATURDAY MATINEES

Mark your calendars for the "From Books to Movie" Matinees. The series will be shown from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays in December, and are geared to children in grades 1-5. Feel free to read the book first to compare it to the movie. The movies will be "Tale of the Despereaux," rated (G), Dec. 5, "Zathura," rated (PG), Dec. 12 and "Stuart Little," rated (PG), Dec. 19. No registration required and popcorn will be served.

YOUNG READERS

AWARD BOOK DISCUSSIONS

The Norwood Young Readers Award (NYRA) will

again hold their Annual Book Discussions, Thursday, Dec. 10 and Wednesday, Jan. 13., 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Morrill Memorial Library. 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. Both 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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