

## Thomson out on leave

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Public Schools District announced last week that Superintendent Dr. David Thomson will be out on leave for the foreseeable future.

According to a release from the school, the leave is on the recommendation of his physician, and will see him unable to work for “some time.”

His status will be updated periodically and provided to us,” School Committee Chair Marie Mazzolla read at the most recent School Committee meeting. “We wish him a speedy return to good health. We appreciate everyone respecting Dr. Thomson’s privacy at this time.”

The School Committee appointed Dr. Jose Muñoz to the position of Acting Superintendent of Schools in Thomson’s absence, as well as Norwood Schools Business Official Matthew Wells as Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

“Please know that as the governing body of the school district, the Norwood School Committee is committed to working with Dr. Muñoz and Mr. Wells during Dr. Thomson’s absence to make sure that there is no interruption in district business or educational goals,” Mazzolla wrote in a statement.

Muñoz also released a statement, saying he sees challenges ahead.

“As we navigate these uncer-



Norwood Public Schools Superintendent Thomson is out on leave for the foreseeable future.

FILE PHOTO

tain times together, we must come together as a community,” he said. “We understand that there may be hurdles ahead, but we are here to support you and your children every step of the way. We are committed to addressing any challenges that arise collaboratively. Your feedback and input are invaluable to us as we work to ensure that your children receive the best possible education.”

The district in fact already chose Thomson’s replacement,

as he announced he was concluding his tenure at the end of this school year. Muñoz said the district will continue the trajectory to get Timothy Luff into the position after the end of this school year.

“Looking ahead, we are actively preparing for the transition to a new superintendent in July,” he said. “We are dedicated to making this transition as

**Thomson**

Continued on page 2



About 40 teachers and staff came to the meeting to hear about the district's budget.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Future of schools — not rosy —

FinCom refers to potential “fiscal cliff”

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee met last week in a joint meeting with the Norwood Finance Commission (FinCom) to go over its budget. About 30 or 40 parents and teachers also attended, due to concern over the reallocation of a teaching position at the elementary school due to retirement.

According to School Business Official Matthew Wells, that reallocation didn’t need to take place, as the position was going to be moved to the Practical Application of Curriculum and Skills (PACS) program at

the Willet School, and the Willet’s current projected enrollment decreased since the last School Committee meeting.

But the conversation took on a more long-term view of education in Norwood, and the outlook is not great. Firstly, many positions funded by COVID-19 relief funds are running out of money after the fiscal year 2025 budget. This, along with decreases in Chapter 70 state education funding and unpredictable reimbursement for out-of-district special education placements (state reimburses the dis-

**Schools Look Bleak**  
Continued on page 2

## Norwood remembers Paul Alberta

Jeff Sullivan  
Staff Reporter

When asked what Paul Alberta was like, the most common response from those who knew him was simple and telling: laughter.

Alberta started out in a suburb of Pittsburgh and moved his way up through the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra at a very young age. In 1959, he entered the Boston Conservatory of Music before coming to Norwood in 1963 as the Director of the Norwood Junior High School Band at the old Middle School that’s now the Guild Medical Building. He became the Director of Music for Norwood in 1966 and worked in that position for 30 years placing Norwood on

the musical map.

Resident and friend of Alberta Jerry Kelleher said he was a consummate performer and perfectionist. He said as a music teacher, he was very demanding on his students.

“I played sax, and Paul Alberta was my teacher, and you know it was hard to BS him,” he said. “But a lot of kids came out of there and became superstars.”

Indeed, the Jazz History Database documented that he inspired more than 100 students to either go into musical education or perform themselves.

But it must be said that he was demanding of himself, as demon-

**Alberta**

Continued on page 4



Paul Alberta and his wife Doris at the Boston Pops Concert on the Norwood Common in 2022.

FILE PHOTO



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Helen Peterson McCloskey  
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# Schools Look Bleak *continued from page 1*

tract for transportation to programs it cannot provide for students, up to 75 percent of the cost if it has the money to pay that high a percentage), means that if the schools were to maintain a level-funded services budget – that is, all services provided by the schools remain the same and contracted pay increases take effect – the department would need about a 13 percent increase in funding from last year’s budget.

The schools also put together a wish list of what ideally they would need to do their jobs in the best possible way, and that would have been a 20 percent budget increase (that’s about \$11 million). And both the School Committee and FinCom recognized that neither of those percentages was feasible.

Superintendent David Thomson originally recommended a 9.93 percent increase. However, after detailed scrutiny by the Budget Balancing (BBC) and FinCom it came down to a 7.99 percent increase from last year (about \$3.1 million increase to about \$61 million total).

Wells pointed out that with out-of-district placement cost increases and the loss of COVID-19 funding the schools’ budget would go up 5 percent immediately without any increases.

“Just between those two items we’re starting at a 5 percent budget,” he said. “And we’ve gone up to 7.99 from there, and so we’ve added not a lot on top of two very specific items that are growing at a very high rate in this Town.”

And School Committee member Kate Sibbing-Dunn pointed out that’s not even considering the previous cuts the department made leading up to the budget override in 2019.

Now, the future outlook is not great. FinCom Chair, and former School Committee member Myev Bodenhofer said there is about \$1 million of one-time funds being used in the school budget to balance the budget,

and added that Town Meeting would have the option to use more free cash to get more services, but that is pushing the Town toward a financial cliff, since more and more funding will be going away in the next fiscal year.

“So we’re using more than \$1 million in extra money over our revenues to balance the budget,” she said. “That makes us really nervous, because what’s the fiscal cliff going to look like next year? We took a two-year outlook with the BBC and we have been fortunate with some free cash – some extra revenues have come in lately and we expect that we could contribute a similar amount to the budget next year, and we’re hoping we can do that. But then the following year is really unknown and there’s a possible fiscal cliff.”

She said there is a sustainability concern with using one-time funds to fund positions, which in most accounting and finance circles is not something anyone really recommends.

School Committee Chair Marie Mazzolla pointed out that the Town has already been underfunding education for a long time.

“Let’s be honest,” she said. “I grew up in this Town and we’ve been underfunding education since well before now. It was not good. A lot of this growth since the override is making up for lost time, let’s be honest.”

“Our curriculum now matches what our students are being tested on,” said member Joan Giblin. “That’s what the override did.”

About 10 or so parents and teachers at various Norwood Public Schools spoke about their specific concerns with the budget during the hearing. Giblin said the district is doing as much as it can to crunch numbers and find savings, but at a certain point there is only so much blood in any given stone and you have to go to a higher power.

“The long-term solution to a lot of these problems is to email John Rogers, our State Rep. Stephen Lynch, our congressman, Senator Markey, Senator Warren, and State Sen. Mike Rush,” she said. “Tell them this is important and a lot of what’s going on is squeezing towns in ways that are unsustainable.”

“And because you guys are awesome some of you are already doing that and emailed me today about getting this canned response about the Student Opportunities Act and a proposed amount that was meant to go through,” said Sibbing-Dunn. “So that’s a little bit problematic and not really working the way it’s meant to work. So we need to keep pushing and we could do more, but thank you to those who are already doing that and we’ll work on ways to help you understand other things that can be done and things that are happening legislatively.”

And any messages to legislative reps might be a good idea, as it might help to add weight to concerns residents are seeing across the state, according to Wells.

“You can take solace in the fact that 90 percent of the towns in Massachusetts are having the same exact conversations,” he said, “if that helps.”

“Does it help?” Mazzolla asked.

“No,” Wells said with a desultory laugh.

“Well it makes me feel better,” Mazzolla said. “Misery loves company.”

Wells added that he is moving to another district this summer, and that district is expecting a 50 percent increase in transportation costs for the next fiscal year.

“So that is a massive increase, and those towns in that area are seeing 50 percent increases in their yellow bus transportation,” he said. “That’s a couple million dollars. On their budget, that’s three or four points right off the bat, just for transportation.”

## Thomson *continued from page 1*

smooth as possible so that your children’s education remains our top priority.”

Thomson served as the Assistant Superintendent of the Blackstone Millville Regional School District from 2014 to 2017, and before that he worked as a supervisor at the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association and as an adjunct professor of education at Worcester State University. Though he announced he would not be re-

newing his contract back in the fall of 2023, he has served Norwood since 2017, and seen the schools district through the 2019 budget override, a school start time change, the funding and design process of the Coakley Middle School rebuild, not to mention the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said in the fall that he was “incredibly proud” of all the accomplishments the district has been able to make

with him in the Superintendent chair.

“We successfully advocated and gained support in this community to pass the first operational override and gain financial stability to move the district forward, as well as the Town,” he said. “These accomplishments were only possible by the talented and dedicated administrative staff, administrative team, incredibly passionate teachers and an amazing staff that make the Norwood Public Schools a special place and a great learning community.”



The Day House in Norwood will see improvements if Town Meeting approves the funding application to the Community Preservation Committee.

COURTESY PHOTO

# CPC finalizes project list

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Community Preservation Committee (CPC) met last week and voted unanimously to approve the current list of 11 projects it will present to Town Meeting for funding approval.

The list of projects includes restoration of the Blue Room Fireplace at the F. Holland Day House for \$25,925, preserve and restore annual Town Reports for \$20,250, restore stained glass windows at the Morrill Memorial Library at \$55,000, restore Memorial Hall benches at \$75,000, and restore the memorial fire bells (which counts as two projects) at \$60,000 for historic preservation. For open space and recreation, the CPC approved a transfer of funds to the Conservation Land Fund at \$10,000, the Tiot Trail bridging and water crossings from the Norwood Trails Advisory Committee at \$80,000, the improvement of the Morse Hill

Park (Washington Street and Mylod Street intersection) at \$91,560 and funds for the proposed playground at the Norwood Memorial Airport at \$213,630.

For affordable housing, the Committee approved the \$1 million affordable veterans housing proposed at 20 Vernon St. and the Shared Housing Organization funds directed for the regional housing initiative approved at last year's Town Meeting (again this year for \$14,000).

The Committee toyed with the idea of bringing the stained glass windows at the Library into Town Meeting to show residents what they'd be paying for, as they all agreed the windows are quite impressive and photos don't really do them justice.

"They would have to be very careful," CPC Member Joseph Greeley said.

"They can be fragile," said member Cheryl Doyle.


"The windows are actually pretty robust, I do think we could," said CPC Coordinator Kristen

Phelps.


Member John Hall said photos could work.

**CPC**

Continued on page 5



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# Alberta *continued from page 1*

strated by his performance with the Boston Pops in 2022. The day was hot. Incredibly hot. When the orchestra played the theme from 'Star Wars: A New Hope' you could almost imagine yourself on the desert planet of Tatooine, or at least Tunisia, where it was filmed. There was a constant breeze during the show, but it just seemed to push the heat towards you faster. Kelleher said it was not ideal conducting conditions.

"It was brutal," he said. "It was freakin' a hundred degrees."

And he said while Alberta needed a hand getting up there to play 'Stars and Stripes Forever,' once he got up there, nothing but the performance mattered. Yes, he could be demanding on his students, but he was also demanding of himself.

"And after the fact, all those professional musicians they all came up to him and said he was the best conductor they ever had," he said. "He brought his own baton, his own tux, and there was no fooling around. That guy was a real perfectionist."

One interesting thing that happened that day, at least for someone who may have been trying to grab a candid photo of Alberta, was that it was difficult to get a clear shot of him. There were too many well-wishers going up to him at any given time.

Resident and friend Helen Abdallah-Donohue said she first met Alberta at the Norwood Junior High School as teachers in 1968. "Dr. Coakley hired him and he wanted Paul Alberta to make Norwood an outstanding musical community, and that's exactly what he did," she said. "He made Norwood famous, all over the United States. At one point I think we had 188 people in the Marching Band."

She said this continued late in his life, as when he, his wife Doris, former Norwood ZBA member Phil Riley and she went to an orchestra event in Sherborn. "The other musicians, they were almost bowing to him," she said.

Resident and friend Toni Eosco said Alberta still has a lasting effect on her and her family. "We really shed a tear when Paul Alberta died; there are not sufficient words to describe the genius of Paul Alberta," she said. "He was such a mentor to his staff and every musician who went through Norwood Public Schools (NPS). I had two daughters who were in the music program, and the work ethic he was able to instill in them and the talent he was able to draw out of his students was amazing. We were just so fortunate that he chose to stay in Norwood."

Member of the Massachusetts

Instrumental Choral & Conductors Association Jeffrey Leonard said Alberta basically founded the organization, which still issues a scholarship every year in his name. "He was complicated," he said. "He was a passionate musician and a hard worker. Long hours didn't matter, it was just getting the job done and doing it well. High standards in everything; he always wanted to be better, always wanted his students to be better. No end on his hours."

Resident and former Norwood Parents Music Association (PMA) president Julie Daughinee had trouble getting words out, as she kept laughing in remembering Alberta. "He strived for excellence and he got it, and he was very loving too," she said. "Just a great guy."

NPS Director of Fine Arts Jeffrey Kerr released a statement on behalf of the department, and recognized that the department's music programs wouldn't be what they are today without him.

"When many people hear about Norwood, they often think of the strong arts programs that exist, and in large part, Mr. Alberta put us on the map and set that standard," he said.

Norwood Town Manager Tony Mazzucco, a documented music lover himself, said Alberta left a unique impression on the Town that will only continue to grow. "We're saddened by his passing but are comforted knowing the impact he had will live on, and we will fondly remember just a couple years ago when our maestro conducted the Boston Pops right here on the Town Common in Norwood—a perfect day made even more so by Paul Alberta's contributions," he said. "Our prayers are with Paul's family as are our thanks to them for sharing him with Norwood for so many years."

The PMA released a statement extolling Alberta's lasting impression on the Town.

"His contributions and legacy are woven into everything we do for the Norwood music students. Our thoughts are with his family at this time," the statement read.

Resident and friend George Usevich will be giving Alberta's eulogy this week.

"He inspired, motivated and touched our lives as a music educator," he wrote. "We will always remember him and celebrate his many accomplishments. Bravo, maestro!"

Alberta's wake and funeral are this Thursday and Friday respectively. Please refer to his obituary on Page 8 for more detailed information.

## WHY THE RUSH ON 3A HOUSING?

To the Editor:

On March 21, Town Meeting rushed through another unfunded mandate, this time in the name of the 3A Communities Act. The planning board demanded you pass this now, after being lectured by Ernie Paciorkowski and Dave Hern on how Norwood needs THIS particular plan, a plan which offers 50% more land than the law requires! A plan which is VERY generous to massive out of state developers who will profit on at least 20% of the apartments as a perk! Registered

speakers spoke, including one man on the "for Norwood Apartments" team begging, almost sobbing, to pass this article tonight. After the Registered spoke, the question was IMMEDIATELY moved.

I attended four of the prior informational meetings regarding the project. Here are some of my concerns: 1.) For single family owner/occupied homes it'll be taxes up, values down. 2.) The uncertain status of Norwood Hosp. 3.) Rainwater Basin Project. 4.) New town hires will be necessary for higher population (82% of school budget dol-

lars already go to staff pay/benefits). 5.) Transient renters come and go. 6.) Too much control for Planning and Zoning Boards: 60 units per acre? That's over four times the legal requirement. 7.) These three district proposals are in addition to and separate from any other new apartments throughout the town. 8.) Why is Norwood rushing this through without more input? We're one of the first towns to comply out of the 177 municipalities in the State, and this plan is not due until the end of this year.

Ed Lynch  
Norwood

## THE DANCE

A wind-sanded stroll alongside roving, moon-danced waves, the slow arc of porpoises visible in increasing, light-popping dusk. My wife and I walked Madeira Beach and entered a tiki bar. Thatched roof, open-air beer and frozen margaritas—just a little salt. The answer, my friend, is mousetraps on the bar holding steel-clasped dollars, otherwise blowin' in the wind. A small, quiet crowd, low talk amongst the ring of steel drums in warm, caressing Florida air.

Edward Bates, a member of Abraham Lincoln's cabinet, once said, after the funeral of a good friend's wife, to whom his friend had been married for over half a century, "I know not how he can bear the loss of such a companion. I am prepared to see him sink rapidly and die soon." I once worked with a middle-aged electrician, in perfect health, who died five hours after his wife passed away. I have friends who became emotionally paralyzed upon the death of their spouses, commonly at a loss for words to adequately describe the loss of life. Most subsequently experience an almost incomprehensibly difficult truth, that despite the calamity, the dance of life goes on.

Beach tiki bars are wonderful, exuding laid-back tranquility, easing any day's working harshness. Steel drums carry a magical call to dreamy imagination, a sound of long, hot, sand and seashell beaches. A peaceful call framed by bursting palm trees overhanging salt water, the lovely mixture of sanded toes and sunshined shoulders and the relief of the cool breeze, open-aired sanctuary and its cold, cold refreshments.

A woman sits at the next table with her nineteen or twenty-year-old daughter. The woman is thin, small, and plain looking, and very quiet. She sips a colorful concoction, umbrellas and fruit overhanging its edges. Occasionally she leans toward her daughter, speaking softly. We introduce ourselves and converse in bits and pieces, learning from the daughter that tomorrow she will realize a life-long dream of swimming with the dolphins. We learn they are from Canada, from the Toronto area. We learn they are nice, friendly people, and that they travel alone.

I know of one man, an old, encrusted Navy veteran, who regularly laid on the grass above his wife and talked with her. Another ninety-seven-year-old neighbor, who had lost his wife of over sixty years, said to me, "Donny, you're gonna think I'm crazy, but I'm with Mary every day. I'm telling you the truth, I hug her every day, she sleeps in her bed next to mine every night. You're gonna think I'm crazy, but she talks to me..."

The dance floor moves as couples sway slowly, tightly to magical, soothing sound. A light evening breeze floats through off the Gulf of Mexico. I ordered another beer, another frozen margarita—just a little salt. We learn the woman is widowed, that they have saved for some time to take this trip. The mother appears shy, perhaps forty years old. We include her in conversation; we notice young eyes drawn to her daughter. Later, the younger approaches, and turns to me.

"I don't really know how to say this, but can I ask a favor of you?"

"Of course."

"My father died a year ago. And my mother...my mother



hasn't dated anyone...well, she hasn't danced with a man in a year, since my father passed away, and—I don't know how to ask you this—she'd like to dance with you."

"Why sure," I responded. I rose and approached the woman, extending my hand. She smiled under eyes miming volumes, sad eyes, excited eyes, thoughtful eyes, thankful eyes. The woman walked to the dance floor with me, put hands on my arm and shoulder, and, after a few moments, leaned her forehead against my chest. As the gloriously mellow ringing of steel drums wafted from our tiki bar and carried out across sand and moon-lit, glimmering water, we danced. Slowly we danced.

I have never told my wife this, but that night as I lay next to her, staring into darkness above our bed, I thought of co-workers, friends, and Edward Bates; I thought of the evening, the woman, and the dance. And I thought that if that time ever comes, I hope she dances. Yeah, I can't really tell her this, but I hope she dances.

Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.  
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The show will see floral arrangements complementing or mimicking art pieces submitted by Norwood High School and Walpole High School students.

COURTESY PHOTO

# Art in Bloom returning

**Jeff Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

The 18th annual Art in Bloom event is returning to the Norwood Morrill Memorial Library this weekend on both Saturday and Sunday.

Founding member of the Norwood Evening Garden Club (NEGC) Donna Lane said the event is based off of the Boston Museum of Fine Art's program

of the same name. She said it's just a great way for the NEGC membership to spread their wings a little into something they don't always do.

"I was president of the NEGC at the time, and the art teacher of the Norwood High School (NHS) had the idea of having a program working with the high school. We then expanded it to Walpole because the Walpole kids felt they were be-

ing left out," she said. "We have a lot of members in Walpole and surrounding towns and we opened it up to both schools and it's been going ever since."

Both Walpole and Norwood High Schools submit 10 pieces each for the event. Lane said it's been a pleasure to see what students at both schools had to offer over the years.

"The art has been getting better and better, quite frankly, from both schools every year," she said. "This is probably the best year for artwork that we've received yet."

**Art in Bloom**  
Continued on page 6

## CPC continued from page 3

"Good color pictures, that would get us most of the value without the breakage," he said.

"I like the idea, but I don't like it a lot," said Greeley with a laugh.

"I would be happy to look into that and talk with the Town Manager's Office about doing it," said Phelps. "The impressive thing about having them in real life is the scale. They're really big and impressive."

"I mean like John said I could show you a picture of it, but the physical presence of it – not only for the purpose of this article – but in the big scheme of things, this is kind of what we're all about, related to preservation," Greeley said.

"You'll have to get someone to help you carry it," said CPC Chair Joseph Sheehan.

"I'll borrow a truck," Greeley said.

Sheehan said the funds for the Blue Room Fireplace at the Day House would be returned, with interest, if the house were to change function. Member John Hall said this would be enforced through a contract with the Norwood Historical Society.

"The funds being asked for, we have an agreement set up - basically what it does is trying to help us protect our investment in it," Sheehan said. "The main part of it is they would have to do certain things – most of which they already do in terms of community events, research opportunities and offerings – and many of us were not quite aware of all they do until they came and told us."

Sheehan also mentioned that the \$1 million for the Vernon Street housing project would be contingent on the construction of the housing itself, and would be enforced through a similar contract. If the project does not move forward, the Town would get its money back.

"Of course we'll go through Town Counsel, but (Phelps) has been looking at what other towns have done and the best way to come up with an agreement," Sheehan said. "But we do have some time and that is one of the big things we have to think about in the future."

Greeley asked about how residents could access the historical Town Reports after the preservation has taken place. Phelps said residents would have to ask the Town Manager's Office for physical access, but digital copies will be made more readily available as well through the library.

The actual article numbers have not yet been finalized for Town Meeting. When they are, these items and all other Warrant Articles can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/4p2xemd4>



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- + **Led by:** Hyde Park Neponset River Access Committee



## When Should We Claim Social Security?

**Dear Rusty:** I am almost 63 and my husband will be 61 soon, and we are looking to see when our best time would be to start our Social Security benefits. We would like to know if one of us qualifies for benefits from a previous marriage from 1984 to 1995. And we are wondering if I can start drawing at age 65, in two years, or if it is better that I wait until 67 because my spouse is 2 years younger than me. Also, if I were to continue working limited hours after 65, what would my earning limit be?



**Russell Gloor**  
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

**Signed:**  
*Almost Ready*

**Dear Almost Ready:** The first thing to understand is that full retirement age (FRA) for both of you is 67. If either of you claim before that, your monthly benefit amount will be permanently reduced and, because you are working, you will be subject to Social Security's "earnings test."

If you claim your benefit at age 65 your monthly payment will be about 87% of what you would get if you claimed at age 67. If your husband claims at age 62, his benefit will be about 70% of his FRA amount. The only way to get 100% of the benefit you've each earned from a lifetime of working is to claim at your FRA. You can choose to claim at age 65 as long as you're comfortable with the benefit reduction which will occur, and as long as your annual work earnings do not significantly exceed the earnings limit for that year. In any case, when each of you claims will not affect the other's retirement benefit amount.

Social Security's "earnings test" for those claiming before FRA sets a limit for how much can be earned before some (or all) benefits are taken away. The earnings limit for 2024 is \$22,320, but it changes yearly. If you claim early benefits and your work earnings exceed that year's limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They take away by withholding future benefits long enough to recover what you owe for exceeding the limit. If you significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you may be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your FRA (the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA). I cannot predict what the earnings limit will be two years from now, but it will be more than the 2024 limit and published at that time. FYI, in the year you turn 67 your pre-FRA earnings limit will be much higher, and when you reach your FRA the earnings test no longer applies.

Regarding your previous

marriage, you cannot receive spousal benefits from an ex-spouse while you are currently married. But when to claim may also be influenced by whether either you or your current spouse will get a spousal benefit from the other. If the FRA (age 67) benefit amount for one of you is more than twice the other's FRA entitlement, the one with the lower FRA amount will get a "spousal boost" to their own amount when both of you are collecting.

Spouse benefits reach maximum at one's FRA, but each person's personal SS retirement amount will continue to grow if not claimed at FRA. Waiting past FRA to claim allows the SS retirement benefit to grow by 8% per year, up to age 70. So, with an FRA of 67, claiming at age 70 will yield a payment 24% higher than the FRA amount, 76% more than the age 62 amount, and about 37% more than the age 65 amount. But waiting beyond FRA is only smart if financially feasible and life expectancy is at least average (about 84 and 87 respectively for a man and woman your current ages). And, as a general rule, if one's spousal benefit at FRA (50% of their partner's FRA entitlement) is highest, then that spouse should claim at FRA to get their maximum benefit.

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

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# Library Notes

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

### ENJOY ART IN BLOOM

Usher in springtime with the Norwood Evening Garden Club's 18th annual Art in Bloom!

Art in Bloom is a community event that displays artwork generated by Norwood and Walpole High School students coupled with interpretative floral designs composed by members of the Norwood Evening Garden Club. Twenty pieces of artwork will be displayed in the Library on Saturday, April 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday April 7 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Admission is free and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend to support the student artists.

For information about the Norwood Evening Garden Club, visit [www.NorwoodEveningGardenClub.com](http://www.NorwoodEveningGardenClub.com). Contact Mary Ellen Heike at [meheike59@gmail.com](mailto:meheike59@gmail.com) with questions or for more information.

### SEED LIBRARY LAUNCHES IN APRIL

The Town of Norwood Conservation Commission, Community Development Department, and the Morrill Memorial Library are very excited to launch the Norwood Seed Library. The grand opening is scheduled for April 8, during the library's annual Norwood 101 open house event. The Norwood Seed Library will be located at the Morrill Memorial Library on the first floor.

Our seed selection will include popular veggies, herbs, native plants, and ornamental flowers. Our goal with this service is to provide seeds to the community and encourage gardeners to learn and grow with their gardens, as well as learn how to save seeds from their best plants. Although it is not required to harvest and return seeds to the Norwood Seed Library, it is our hope that Seed Library patrons will return seeds from their harvest, making the library self-sustaining. We thank our volunteers for their support during the launch of this initiative, we could not have done this without their hard work and expertise! This is a great opportunity to try something new in your garden this year, at no cost.

Stay tuned for workshop announcements throughout the year to grow your gardening skills and native plant know-how! Further details about the Norwood Seed Library will be available on our website, [norwoodlibrary.org/seed-library](http://norwoodlibrary.org/seed-library).

### NORWOOD 101

Please join us for Norwood 101 on Monday, April 8 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Norwood 101 is a new

resident open house held every spring at the Morrill Memorial Library, 33 Walpole St, Norwood.

Representatives and officials of the Town of Norwood departments and community organizations will be here to welcome you and answer any questions you may have. Learn about what's going on around town!

The Morrill Memorial Library will also have a number of great resources and services we offer on display. Stop by to meet our staff and see what we can do for you!

The event will be held throughout the library from 6:00-8:00 pm, so feel free to drop in anytime during the event. While registration is not required, welcome bags of swag will be distributed to the first 50 registered attendees; free raffles will be provided by local businesses. You may register through our events calendar at [norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar](http://norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar).

### CLIMATE RIBBON PROJECT

To celebrate Earth Day 2024, the Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host our very first Climate Ribbon Project! We hope to get town-wide community participation in this month-long project, which will officially kick off at our annual Norwood 101 event on the evening of Monday, April 8.

About the CRP: As we deal with climate change it is important to reflect on all that we have and what we may lose due to climate change. Will it be our lakes, beaches, green forests? Will it be our food production? Will our health worsen? There is a lot to think about. Started in 2014, the Climate Ribbon Project uses art and ritual to grieve what we each stand to lose to Climate Chaos, and affirms our solidarity as we unite to fight against it (Source: <http://www.theclimateribbon.org/project#home>).

How will it work here in Norwood? Following our launch on April 8, we will have a table on the first floor with all the materials needed to create your own ribbon to contribute to the project. Or, you're welcome to bring your own ribbons from home. Writing materials will be provided. The question you have to ask yourself is, "What do I love and hope to never lose to climate chaos?"

Write your answer on your ribbon and we will show off all the ribbons as part of an outdoor display in front of the library. The Climate Ribbon Project will be a visual symbol of our collaborative efforts to create an impact in the community, to bring awareness about climate change to the Norwood community and beyond. The project will conclude on April 30.

**Library**

*Continued on page 7*

## Art in Bloom *continued from page 5*

The concept is somewhat simple in principle but also very complex and subjective in its execution: create a floral arrangement to complement, mimic or amplify an art piece. And while that might sound like something of a disconnect—how can a bouquet look like a portrait, for instance? The NEGC pulls it off most times. They don't go into it blind as each student submits a paragraph about their piece as well just in case it's a bit too abstract.

"It helps the arranger understand the intent of their piece, how they approached it and the mediums they used to create it," she said. "It can be quite challenging."

Lane said the schools select which pieces get sent, and this means that the NEGC members really have to stretch themselves artistically as they can't see a piece beforehand and pick it because it might be more floral than other pieces.

"Whatever it is they submit

we present; they may submit a clay piece for example, so it's all kinds of art that's presented," she said. "We don't necessarily choose, but we make the best of it."

Lane said one of her memorable pieces was a photo of arranged kitchen implements, and the accompanied floral arrangement had an eggbeater sticking out of it.

"That was a challenging piece but I really liked that one," she said.

Lane added that this year's pieces should be something to see, as different members took all 20 spots.

"This year everybody stepped up," she said, adding that's not always been the case. "Some people get really nervous about floral design, because we're basically a garden design club, but we have a lot more members now interested in floral design and it's a nice thing."

Lane said they moved the event to the library three years

ago and the NEGC hasn't looked back. She said Morrill Memorial Library Executive Director Clayton Cheever has been really welcoming and supportive of the event.

"Cheever's just been great," she said. "He really is happy about us participating."

Cheever said it's always a pleasure to host them.

"It is a treat to have Art in Bloom return to our library for the third year in a row," he said. "Each time the quality of art from our local students is awe-inspiring and the floral arrangements the students' art inspires are truly impressive. We are delighted to partner with the NEGC again on this wonderful event."

For more information, go to <http://www.norwoodeveninggardenclub.com>

The club is also hosting its annual plant sale this May 11 at the Adams Farm in Walpole, due to construction this summer at the Hawes Pool site, where it is usually hosted.

# Library *continued from page 6*

## BIRDS IN YOUR BACKYARD

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to offer a presentation called Birds in Your Backyard by Joy Marzolf on April 11, at 7 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

As the days get longer and temperatures get warmer, a wide variety of birds may visit backyards in the Greater Boston area. What makes a good backyard habitat? How do you attract those beautiful birds? Who is coming and who is going this time of year? Come find out more about our local birds, as well as occasional visitors, and what brings them to our neighborhoods. Experience the sights and sounds of some of our most beautiful neighbors!

About the presenter: Joy has loved animals from the time she was a child growing up in New England and she would always take advantage of any outdoor time to explore nature. In addition to a BA in Biology, she has been doing a variety of animal-related education programs in her professional life for over 20 years. One of her favorite things to do is break people's misconceptions about many animals that people fear, such as predators including sharks, reptiles and spiders. This program is free and open to the public aged 18+.

We thank the Friends of Morrill Memorial Library for generously providing funding for this program.

## NORWOOD'S OWN TO PERFORM

The Morrill Memorial Library's Spring Musical Sundays Concert Series continues in

April. Join us for a Norwood favorite, the Steve Rudolph Trio, on Sunday, April 14 at 3:00 pm.

Get your toes tapping as the Steve Rudolph Trio presents a joyous sampling of some of the best of American popular music from '40s, '50s and '60s - from Big Band tunes to Frank Sinatra to Elvis and the Beatles. Norwood's own pianist/vocalist Steve Rudolph, founder of the trio, has performed extensively for over 50 years both in the U.S. and in Europe in venues ranging from jazz clubs to churches.

## THIRD ANNUAL PEEPS DIORAMA CONTEST!

The Morrill Memorial Library is thrilled to announce our third annual Peeps Diorama Contest! Pick up a package of Peeps from the Library, create a diorama, and send a photo of the finished creation for a chance to win fun prizes and, more importantly, eternal bragging rights!

This year's theme is "Local Peeps," so we're looking for dioramas all about Norwood. Register to pick up a package of Peeps from the Library between Tuesday, April 16 and Monday, April 22. Contestants are asked to submit a photo of their completed dioramas by April 23, with voting to begin at noon on April 24.

## PLANNING FOR MEDICARE

Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts to bring a presentation on the very important topic of Medicare to the library. The program is called Planning for Medicare- Countdown to 65 on April 16, at 6:30 PM in the Simoni Room.

Please join us to understand Medicare eligibility. Learn about your health insurance options outside of employer-sponsored coverage. Many people need help understanding the coverage options available to them. This is especially true for people that plan to retire and are leaving employer sponsored coverage. For these individuals, retirement may be the first time they do not have a Human Resource representative coordinating, explaining, and negotiating a rate for their health plan premium. The presentation will explain: Medicare Parts A and B, Medicare enrollment timeline, Medigap Plans that supplement Medicare coverage, Medicare Advantage Plans, such as HMO and PPO's, Medicare Part D prescription drug plans, and plans and programs available to early retirees, such as COBRA.

About the presenter: Susan Flanagan, Senior Plan Consultant, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

## TALKING POETRY WITH DE LA PAZ

For National Poetry Month, the Morrill Memorial Library is honored to host Worcester Poet Laureate Oliver de la Paz for an in-person program called "Talking Poetry" on Tuesday, April 23 at 7:00pm in the Simoni Room.

Join us this evening for a reading by Oliver de la Paz, an award-winning poet currently serving as Poet Laureate of Worcester. Oliver will also talk about his writing process, experiences, and poetry as a form of writing; and answer questions from the audience.

Conserve our resources.  
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## Feeling the Blues?

Research Volunteers Needed

**If you or someone you know is...**

- 50 years or older
- Experiencing stress, worry, can't get going, or sleeping poorly

**...then you may be eligible to join the Peers Plus Study!**



Interested? Call and leave a message at:  
**(617) 724-8343**

**What to Expect:**

- 8 weeks of peer support
- Surveys about your health

\*Payment will be provided for participation





  
Margie Vogt, Broker  
617-212-7660

  
Erin Vogt  
617-212-7662

  
Joe Donnelly  
617-256-3978

  
Lianne Rich  
617-470-1937

  
Nancy Killion  
617-716-9040

  
Maureen Hayes Rossi  
617-417-1000

  
Patsy Brennan  
857-472-2982

  
Diana Bradley  
617-312-2432

  
Nancy Knight-Shah  
617-678-1969

  
Alex Macrides  
617-571-8746

  
Jena Verrocchi  
781-801-5500

  
Dave Maguire  
617-763-5752

  
Joe Regan  
617-771-3366

  
Emily Letendre,  
508-942-4154

  
Mina Papoulidis  
617-319-6363

  
Marina Gorodnicheva  
617-301-8344

  
Katerina Bitados  
617-281-3043

  
Lisa DiPietro  
781-424-4028

  
Steven DiPietro  
508-969-6134

**NEW LISTING! OPEN HOUSE:  
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 12-1:30**



**27 Stearns Road, West Roxbury**  
Recently renovated 3 beds, 2.5 baths, Colonial. All new plumbing, heating, electric and Central Air. New kitchen with peninsula, opened into the dining room. Front-to-back living room with wood burning fireplace. New 1/2 bath and office space on the 1st floor. 2nd floor laundry and new full bath. Finished basement with extra living space, 1 full bath, and a custom bar with a recessed wine fridge. Fully enclosed backyard, with large deck off the kitchen, and brand new patio and shed, and 1 car driveway.  
**\$849,900**  
Erin Vogt 617-212-7662

**NEW LISTING! OPEN HOUSE:  
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 12-2**



**56 Lincoln Street, Dedham**  
Stately 4 bedroom Colonial in Endicott! Fabulous updates and location! 2 car garage.  
**\$899,000**  
Patsy Brennan 857-472-2982  
and Maureen Hayes Rossi  
617-417-1000

**OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY 12:30-2**



**43 Searle Road, West Roxbury**  
Luxury New Construction 4 Bed, 2.5 Bath hip roof Colonial home in Bellevue Hill area. Designed with attention to detail, this property features 4 bd, 2.5 ba, and beautiful finishes throughout. The heart of the home is the family room, complete with a cozy fireplace, seamlessly opening to the gourmet eat-in kitchen and separate formal dining room and living room. The lower level is finished with a potential family room, home gym or whatever suits your needs! A large yard completes the picture!  
**\$1,599,000**  
Diana Bradley 617-312-2432

**OPEN HOUSE: SAT AND SUN 12-1:30**



**360 Corey St., West Roxbury**  
NEW Construction custom built by premier builder. High Ceilings and gorgeous moldings/millwork adorn this 4 story Colonial. 1 car garage to finished basement/mudroom, main level offers open and airy layout but defined spaces, fireplace family room + adjacent chef's kitchen with huge island, Quartz countertops, custom backsplash, high-end appliances, easy access to beautifully landscaped enclosed lot, two additional rooms for versatile living complete the 1st floor, 2nd floor offers primary suite and 2 additional bedrooms and laundry, 2 room 3rd floor suite with another gorgeous bath, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Must see!  
**\$1,645,000 / Erin 617-212-7662 and Margie 617-212-7660**

## ALBERTA



Paul M. Alberta, age 82, of Medfield, Massachusetts passed away on March 30 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in a small suburban community near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. While attending High School Paul was guest soloist with The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for five years. Paul attended the Boston Conservatory of Music and was a member of the Conservatory Orchestra, Concert Band Chamber Ensembles, as well as guest conductor for the Concert Band and played for Broadway Show productions for three years. He was presented an award upon graduation for outstanding qualities of character and leadership. Paul started his career at Norwood Public Schools in 1963 as a Director of the Junior High School Band and assistant at the High School.

In 1966 he was appointed the Director of Music and Fine Arts for the Norwood Public Schools until his retirement in 2002. Under Paul's direction the Norwood Mustang Marching, Symphony and Jazz Ensembles all appeared at many national and international festivals and competitions, which included a nine-country tour of Europe as well as and The Orange Bowl Parade. Paul also taught Music Education Courses at the New England Conservatory. Paul was a member of the Massachusetts and Norwood Teachers Associations, Music Educators National Conference, Massachusetts Instrumental & Choral Conductors Association, and the International Association of Jazz Educators. He also served as a host chairperson for the Southeastern Massachusetts District Festival and Festival Auditions, All-State and All-Eastern Music Festivals, Massachusetts Music Educators Association Public Relations Director, President of Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductor Association, President of Massachusetts Association of Jazz Education. He is a recipient of the Lowell Mason Award, Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductor of the Year Award, Massachusetts Association for Jazz Education Lifetime Achievement Award, Mass Educators Association Distinguished

## Deaths

Service Award, recipient of Official Town of Norwood Seal, MAC Band Conductors National Award, Massachusetts Alliance for the Arts in Education Outstanding Teacher Award, three time recipient of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Official Seal of Proclamation for Outstanding Musical Achievement, cover story feature for School Band & Orchestra National Education magazine, Boston Conservatory Distinguished Alumnus Award, recipient of the Mass. Lions Club prestigious Melvin Jones Award, and the Progressive Melvin Jones Award, Mass. Instrumental & Choral Conductors Association and Norwood Parents Music Association present annual scholarship in his honor.

Appointed to the board of overseers at The Boston Conservatory. Invited to guest conduct the All-Eastern United States Honors Jazz Ensemble. Appointed to the Board of Directors of Lowell Mason Foundation Committee. Named to Mass. Drum Corp Music Educators Hall of Fame, Appointed Chief Adjudicator for the Mass. Association of Jazz Education. The Norwood School Committee dedicated the new Performing Arts Center and Fine Arts wing at the Norwood High School after him in 2022. He was the guest conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra, performing Stars and Stripes Forever at the Town of Norwood 150th birthday celebration Concert on the Common. Paul was avid golf, softball, basketball player and huge Celtics fan. He loved to cook his famous sauce for his family for Sunday dinners. His relaxation was to ride on his tractor with his pipe and fish on the pond and taking rides in his MG. Paul is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years Doris (Mulvee) and loving father of Donna Bruno (late husband Thomas), Kathleen (Sean) Devlin, Deborah (Joseph) Burgess, Paul (Kellie) and Kerry (John) McCarthy. Also, survived by his Grandchildren Jason, Lauren, Paul James, Taylor, Joseph, Ashley, Daniel, Bruce, Jayden, Makena, Colin and Liam. Great-Grand Children Savannah and Carmelo Sister-in-law Paula Alberta and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Fred and Pearl Alberta, sister, Yvonne Marie and brother Robert, and his son Scott. Thank you to Brigham and Women's Cardiac and Heart Pal Team for your amazing care. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend Paul's Life Celebration on Thursday, April 4th, 2024 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm in the James H. Delaney & Son Funeral Home, 48 Common Street, Walpole. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in the Blessed Sacrament Church, 10 Diamond Street, Walpole, on Friday, April 5th, 2024 at 10:00 AM. Interment will follow at Vine Lake Cemetery, Medfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Paul's name may be made to the Norwood Parent Music Association Scholarship at PO Box 454, Norwood, MA 02062 or to the MICCA King Philip Regional High School: Attention Michael Keough, Paul M Alberta Scholarship Fund, 201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093.

## BAKER



JOHN Vernon, Jr. of West Bridgewater, formerly of Brockton, passed away on March 29, 2024, following a brief illness. He was 67 years old. John was born in Boston, MA to Ellen and John "Vern" Baker, and raised in Norwood. He graduated from Norwood High School and St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He worked in the restaurant and construction industries for many years. John was a devoted Boston sports fan and enthusiastically followed the Boston Red Sox, the New England Patriots, and the Boston Bruins. He loved spending summer vacations with his wife and sons in Kennebunkport Beach, Maine and Weirs Beach, New Hampshire. John also enjoyed traveling with his brothers, "The Fabulous Baker Boys," to attend baseball games at stadiums across the United States. He was also dedicated to staying connected with family and friends. He is survived by his beloved wife, Jennifer (Barry) Baker, son Brett and his wife Siobhan, son Cody, and son Tyler. He was also lovingly known as "Papa" to his three-year-old granddaughter, Bridie. John leaves behind his mother, Ellen Baker, of Norwood, and five younger brothers and their wives: Joseph and Keri; Martin and Dorothy; Timothy and Kimberly; Thomas and Marianne; and Daniel and Jamie. He is also survived by many in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., Norwood, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to 22Mohawks, a local charity benefiting veterans and first responders. Donations can be made using the information below: 22Mohawks 2 Commercial St Sharon, MA 02067 <https://22mohawks.com/donate/>

## HANSEN



JAMES Joseph of Norwood passed away on March 30, 2024 at the age of 84. Beloved husband of Ellen (Corbett) Hansen. Devoted father of Kelly A. Needham and her husband Francis of Walpole, Karen M. Carroll and her

husband Thomas of Stoneham and James M. Hansen of Norwood. Brother of Claire Gibbons of Littleton and the late William A. Hansen, Betty Hansen and Joan Howard. Cherished grandfather of Jack Hansen and Jessica Hansen who they fondly called Popsie. Jim was a graduate of Charlestown High School. Jim was a USMC Veteran and was stationed at the Marine Corp Barracks located at 8th & I Street, Washington DC as a Honorary Member of the Drill Team. While stationed in DC, Jim had the honor of accompanying Former President Eisenhower on several trips to Camp David. He was also a 37 year employee for Boston Edison and retired as a customer service designer. Once he retired he had more time to play golf with his wife and friends. He also enjoyed family vacations, whether that was camping in New Hampshire and Maine in a tent or summering at the family cottage in Dennisport. Jim also thoroughly enjoyed supporting his grandchildren in all their activities. He was a loyal Boston sports fan and also enjoyed Cape Cod Baseball. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood, Saturday April 6, 2024 at 8:30am followed by a funeral mass at 11am at St. Denis Church, Westwood, MA. Visiting hours will be held on Saturday morning from 8:30am-10:30am prior to the funeral mass. Burial will be at St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to the Wounded Warrior P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8 5 1 6 [www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/donate)

## KUREY



Joseph Michael of Norwood, Massachusetts, passed to eternal life on February 5, 2024. Joseph was born on March 20, 1950, in Boston, the youngest of three sons of Thomas J. Kurey, Sr. and Mary Anne (Sarofeen) Kurey. He graduated from Austin Cate Academy in Strafford, New Hampshire in 1968. On September 30, 1978, he married Anne Marie Saunders in Lexington, MA. Joe worked for many companies over a career lasting more than 40 years, including General Electric (at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory in Niskayuna, NY), Arthur Little, and Quest Diagnostics. He was very devoted to his family and enjoyed travelling with Anne to visit family members, sometimes on his motorcycle. He was active in the Masons and served in several capacities at lodges in Massachusetts. Joe was preceded in death by his wife, parents, brother Thomas J. Kurey, Jr., and brother and sister-in-law Michael and Patricia Kurey. He is survived by his son Scott (Loretta), grandchildren Nick (Sierra) Kurey, Diana Kurey, Ryan (Melissa) Scrima, David (Molly) Barrows, and Michelle Kurey; 11

## Deaths

Continued on page 9

## Legal Notice

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family CourtINFORMAL PROBATE Docket No. NO24P0591EA  
PUBLICATION NOTICEEstate of: Reed Ann Holmberg Norfolk Division  
Also Known As: Reed A. Holmberg, Reeda A. Holmberg  
Date of Death: January 5, 2024To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of  
Petitioner: Robert R. Bixby of San Diego, CA  
a will has been admitted to informal probateRobert R. Bixby of San Diego, CA  
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Norwood Record: 04/04/2024

SECTION A - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID  
TOWN OF NORWOOD, MA

Sealed bids will be received up to 11:00 A.M. April 18, 2024 for the following Public Project:

## BOH-24-01 Digitization of Health Department Records

The complete Bid package may be obtained electronically on [projectdog.com](http://projectdog.com) Project Code: 861369. Bids shall also be submitted on the [Projectdog.com](http://Projectdog.com) website.

The work will consist of packaging, transporting, scanning, and return of all specific health department files for the health departments that make up the Norfolk County 8 Public Health Coalition - Canton, Dedham, Milton, Norwood, Walpole, Wellesley, and Westwood.

The effective date for this contract shall be from contract execution date to June 30, 2024. There is the option to renew, at the Town's sole discretion for an additional year from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. The estimated value of the contract is \$100,000.

Bids shall be prepared, considered, and the contract awarded in accordance with all statutes governing such contracts (MGL Chapter 30B as most recently amended). Every General Bid shall be on forms furnished by the Town. Bids submitted on other forms may be rejected. The award of the contract shall be made within 30 working days after the opening of General Bids, Saturdays, and Sundays excluded.

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

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

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids or to accept any part of a bid or the one deemed best for the Town.

BY: Tony Mazzucco, General Manager

Norwood Record: 4/4/2024



# Deaths *continued from page 8*

great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Martha (Jim) Johnson of Wisconsin, Ellen (John) Gould of Connecticut, and Carol Kurey of Wisconsin; and dozens of cousins, nieces and nephews. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, April 6 at 10:00am at Our Lady of the Cedars of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church (61 Rockwood St., Jamaica Plain, MA), with the burial at Mount Benedict Cemetery immediately afterwards. A lunch in celebration of Joe's life will begin at approximately 12:00pm. The family thanks the Gillooly Funeral Home of Norwood for its help in handling arrangements. Joe will be dearly missed by his family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Joe's memory to Shriners Children's Hospitals (www.shrinerschildrens.org or 2901 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL, 33607); St. Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church (www.stsharbellasvegas.org or 10325 Rancho Destino Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89183); or the Maronite Servants of Christ the Light (www.maroniteservants.org or 856 Tucker Rd., Dartmouth, MA 02747). May his memory be eternal!

## O'TOOLE



Margaret M. "Peg" (Keady), age 92, of Norwood, Wednesday, March 27, 2024. Born in Galway, Ireland, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Mary (Carr) Keady. Peg was the beloved wife of the late James O'Toole. She was the devoted mother of Patrick O'Toole and his wife Donna of Wrentham, Thomas O'Toole (Ret. Norwood PD) and his wife Carol of Norwood, Mary O'Toole of Norwood, Margaret "Meg" and her husband David Lavanchy of

Walpole, Theresa O'Toole of Norwood, Catherine and her husband Rick Roche of Westwood, Eileen O'Toole of Norwood, Noreen and her husband Marty Gaughan of Walpole, and Sheila and her husband Kieran Ruth of North Attleboro. She was the sister of Bridie Faherty of Norwood, and the late Patrick Keady, Mary Flaherty, and Sarah Naughton. Peg was the proud grandmother of Kevin, Jenny, Caitlin, Bryan, Jessica, Christopher, Meghan, Sarah, Bridget, James, Jimmy, John; and great-grandmother of Monroe, August, Elsie, Riley, Maeve, and Liam. She is survived by many nieces and nephews. Services from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Peg's memory to St. Catherine of Siena School, 249 Nahatan Street, Norwood, MA 02062 or Pat Roche Hospice Home, 86 Turkey Hill Lane, Hingham, MA 02043. Gillooly Funeral Home Norwood (781) - 762 - 0174 www.gilloolyfuneralhome.com

## QUINLAN



John "Barry" Sr. of Norwood and Walpole, March 26, 2024. The son of the late John and Ida Quinlan of Boston; and the loving brother of Janice Slade of Norton. Barry was the beloved husband of 68 years of Maureen Quinlan. He is survived by his son Barry of Foxboro; his son Brian and his wife Pamela of Norwood; his daughter Denise and her husband Jack Sullivan of Walpole; his daughter Debra of Sharon; and his son Mark and his wife Sheila of North Attleboro. He was the father of Diane Quinlan, late of Wrentham. Barry was the proud grandfather of Jenna, Kellie, Kevin, Justin, Rory, Valerie, Anya and Hunter. Barry was a 1952 graduate of Boston Latin, where he was a member of the 1951 Championship Track Team and was the recipient of the Allan Hiram Whitman Scholarship. He loved running, and, in 1953, he

## The Norwood Record

ran in the Boston Marathon and finished 26th, with a time of 2 hours and 49 minutes. The following month he ran in the Chippewa Marathon in Yonkers, New York and finished 20th. He was also a member of the Boston Athletic Association Running Club. He served his country from 1953-1955, where he was a Corporal in the Army. While serving, he was a member of the Fort Carlson Cross Country Team. In 1961, he earned an associate's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Northeastern University. In 1964, he earned a Bachelor of Business Degree from Northeastern University. Barry worked for The Polaroid Corporation from 1958-1987, where he was a mechanical design engineer. He was very involved in Norwood youth groups, where he was Little League Pee Wee President, Babe Ruth League President, Norwood Boosters President and a longtime member of the Parents Music Association. He was a member of the Norwood Knights of Columbus Council 152 and, in 1993, he was selected as Norwood's Man of the Year. Barry enjoyed his days with his family and recalling stories of all the wonderful times he had, as well as sharing stories of his beloved Boston Braves. Services from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD. Interment Wrentham Center Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Barry's memory to The Melanoma Research Foundation at melanoma.org Gillooly Funeral Home Norwood (781)-762-0174 www.gilloolyfuneralhome.com

## Obituary policy

The Norwood Record publishes obituaries from information supplied by funeral homes. Relatives and friends also may supplement information by e-mailing our office at [news@norwoodrecord.com](mailto:news@norwoodrecord.com) by Monday at 1 p.m. Photos also will be accepted.

# The Record Book

## "TRIBUTE TO ELVIS" AT WOMAN'S CLUB

The Norwood Woman's Club will meet on April 9, 2024 at 12:30 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Nichols St. Michael Slater will bring us his unique "Tribute to Elvis". Come and enjoy some of your favorite Elvis tunes. The cost of the May luncheon on May 14 at Conrad's in Walpole is \$30. Food choices are steak tips, baked haddock or stuffed chicken breast. Please put your food choice on your check made out to The Norwood Woman's Club and bring it to the meeting. Hope to see you there. Guests welcome. Questions call Trina 781-762-8173.

## GRAB YOUR GARDEN PLOT

A few plots are still available in the Community Garden at Adams Farm in Walpole. If you'd like to rent a plot for the 2024 gardening season, you can access the Registration Form at [https://www.walpole-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif1381/f/uploads/2024\\_community\\_garden\\_registration.pdf](https://www.walpole-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif1381/f/uploads/2024_community_garden_registration.pdf). Applicants will be assigned to plots on a first-come, first-served basis, so get your application in soon!

All gardeners should also be sure to review the 2024 Welcome Guide and ensure that you are able to meet the garden guidelines prior to committing to your plot: [https://www.walpole-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif1381/f/uploads/welcome\\_to\\_the\\_2024\\_season.pdf](https://www.walpole-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif1381/f/uploads/welcome_to_the_2024_season.pdf). If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen at [kmarcin@gmail.com](mailto:kmarcin@gmail.com).

## ART ASSOCIATION ARTIST DEMO RELEASE

The NORWOOD ART ASSOCIATION will hold their monthly ARTIST DEMONSTRATION on April 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Simoni Room of the Norwood Morrill Memorial Library, located at 33 Walpole Street in Norwood. Attendees are encouraged to arrive at 5:30 p.m. These demonstrations are FREE and the public are welcome and encouraged to attend! Please bring your own beverage if you desire. Raffle tickets will be sold for the chance to win a piece of art donated by the attending artist.

The NAA is excited to announce that April's featured demo artist will be D. Sue Dion. Sue paints in acrylic, watercolor, and oil and resides in Uxbridge where she also has a private studio which houses a picture framing business and her teaching space. She has studied at the RI School of Design and The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Her paintings draw from two great American traditions, abstract expressionism and plein air. Through her use of color, texture, and edge, she invites her viewers to journey along unexpected pathways, ultimately arriving at their own, unique interpretations of her work.

The Record Book  
*Continued on page 12*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department	
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME	Docket No. NO24C0102CA
In the matter of: FNU YOGESH HARNAL	Norfolk Probate and Family Court 35 Shawmut Road Canton, MA 02021 781-830-1200
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by FNU Yogesh Harnal of Norwood, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Yogesh Harnal	
<b>IMPORTANT NOTICE</b>	
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: <b>Norfolk Probate and Family Court</b> before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of <b>05/01/2024</b> . This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.	
WITNESS, Hon. Patricia Gorman, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 28, 2024 Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate	
<i>Norwood Record: 4/04/2024</i>	

### NOTICE OF MCP PHASE I INITIAL SITE INVESTIGATION, TIER II CLASSIFICATION, AND CONCEPTUAL PHASE II SCOPE OF WORK

1125-1175 BOSTON PROVIDENCE TURNPIKE  
NORWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS  
RTN 4-29757

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a Disposal Site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On 25 March 2024, **Hobbs Brook Real Estate LLC** filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this Disposal Site, please contact **Jennifer L. Sweet, LSP, Haley & Aldrich, Inc., 465 Medford Street, Suite 2200, Boston, Massachusetts, 617.886.7400.**

The Tier II Classification Submittal and the Disposal Site file can be viewed at the MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 4-0029757 at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/search/wastesiteor> at **MassDEP Southeast Regional Office, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, Massachusetts, 02347, 508.946.2700.**

Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

*Norwood Record: 04/04/24*



# Thank You Novenas

## For Favors or Prayers Answered

### Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

*(Never known to fail!)*  
Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.  
*Grateful thanks. —K.B.*

### St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 9<sup>th</sup> day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude. My Prayers were answered.  
*In gratitude for helping me. —I.H.*

### Miracle Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked You for many favours. This time, I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within Your own broken heart where Your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes, it will become Your favour, not mine. Amen. *Say for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.*

—D.J.

All Prayers: \$22 (1 column x 3 inches)

Call 781-769-1725 to place your prayer in the Norwood Record or order online at [www.norwoodrecord.com](http://www.norwoodrecord.com)

**MANY PRAYER CHOICES AVAILABLE**

**Monday, March 25**

1715 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Investigated Location/Address: Landry's Bicycles - Bos-Prov Hwy 911 caller reporting 2 parties threw food at him while in the parking lot. Caller described the males as both Latino descent in their early 20's. Caller is on a red and black bicycle. Party unable to provide further information about the vehicle in question. No medical attention needed. Cruiser clear. Officers spoke with the party. He had a bag of chips thrown at him. He was unable to provide any information about the vehicle.

**Tuesday, March 26**

1815 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Whitewood Cir Caller on the business line reporting their hamster crawled into a vent inside the home. ACO Briana to handle.

2041 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Maple St + Cottage St Caller on the business line reporting a female party in a parked sedan yelling from inside the vehicle. Unknown description of the vehicle or female. Caller is unsure why she is yelling. Norwood 669 reports a verbal dispute was ongoing between a mother and daughter, all parties sent on their way. Units clear.

2136 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Planet Fitness - Walpole St Caller on the business line reporting a male party kicking the trash cans and yelling. 669 reports that party was spoken to. No reported damage. All units clear.

2141 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Elliot St Caller on the business line reporting she hears a female party yelling in the apartment below her. Caller concerned for her wellbeing and unsure of what exactly is going on. Norwood 667 reports speaking to that party. She states she was speaking loudly on the phone. All units clear.

**Wednesday, March 27**

0810 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Investigated Location/Address: Rock St Business line caller reports an aggressive Rottweiler. Made

motions towards her son. Son is okay and did not get injured. Son got on bus and went to school. OFC out with the animal. ACO en route. OFC reports misunderstanding. It is a little puppy. ACO verified animal's information. All parties spoken with. All parties satisfied. OFC clear.

1006 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Report Follows Location/Address: Lansdowne Way Management doing eviction of this address. States apartment has been abandoned for a few weeks. Dog was left abandoned as well. Dog is in extremely poor shape. ACO en route to meet OFC. ACO has the dog.

1558 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Coakley Middle School- Washington St Arrest: Devincintis, Philip Peter Ii Address: 1266 Washington St Apt. #H Norwood, Ma Age: 57 Charges: Default Warrant

2056 Walk-In - PD-Warrant Report Follows Location/Address: Norwood Police Dept. - Nahatan St Male party came into the lobby to retrieve a cell phone that was taken from a previous call. The party has active warrants and was placed under arrest. Arrest: Coombs, Jared Address: 64 Wilmington Ave Dorchester, Ma Age: 28 Charges: Straight Warrant Default Warrant Default Warrant  
2338 Phone - PD-Assist Fire Department Services Rendered Location/Address: Upland Woods Cir 74 y/o male party w/ Parkinson's having hallucinations and refuses to go back into the apartment. The party was transported by NFD to BI-Needham.

**Thursday, March 28**

0226 Phone - PD-Harassment Services Rendered Location/Address: - Chapel St Female party at the above location stating a male party from her past has reached out to her via text harassing her and making fake profiles on the internet. Party has been advised of her options and is satisfied. 0931 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Investigated Location/Address: Extra Space Storage - Washington St Caller reports a concrete pumper, is on site, says he did not give authorization for it to be there. Caller believes the pumper is starting a job. Caller

The Norwood Record

## Police Logs



says it is his property. Caller is in a black Tesla. OFC's spoke with workers. Vehicle being moved. OFC's clear.

1246 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Report Follows Location/Address: Nahatan St + Monroe St E MVST MI REG ESB6352. Three parties under arrest to the station. Arrest: Monteiro, Victor Myers Address: 2 Tyashk St East Taunton, Ma Age: 24 Charges: Fentanyl, Trafficking In More Than 10 Grams Drug, Distribute Class A Drug, Possess To Distribute Class B Conspiracy To Violate Drug Law Arrest: Martins, Denzel Marquise Address: 17 Kingman Ave Brockton, Ma Age: 23 Charges: Conspiracy To Violate Drug Law License Suspended, Op MV With Marked Lanes Violation Arrest: Mapp-Harris, Tauheed Jomar Address: 45 Hillberg Ave Brockton, Ma Age: 24 Charges: Conspiracy To Violate Drug Law

1613 Initiated - PD-Traffic Enforcement Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Dean St + Edgehill Rd 1. MA REG 4MKK34. Unlicensed operator. Criminal citation issued. Licensed operator on scene to take possession of the vehicle.

1852 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Services Rendered Location/Address: Simple Sweets - Washington St Business owner called to report that a female party, who has previously made a mess at her establishment, is on her property. Female party was verbally trespassed and backfilled.

1934 Initiated - PD-Traffic Enforcement Report Follows Location/Address: Pleasant St + Lenox Ave 1. Allen Rd @ Pleasant St with MA REG 1WFE26. Suspended owner with multiple firearm charges. Cruiser stepping out. Don and Wally's en route for the two of MA REG 1WFE26. Owner/operator has been cited a criminal app. OF assigned. Don and Wally's has possession of the vehicle.

**Friday, March 29**

1841 Phone - PD-Disturbance Investigated Location/Address: Shaw's Supermarket - Nahatan St Business line

caller reports 5 teenagers. Standing in front of the liquor store at this address. Grabbing customers carts and getting in their way. Called business line caller back. He confirmed they did not physically touch customers. It was getting in the way and touching their carts. OFC's spotted three dark skinned girls wearing black jackets going into Shaw's. OFC spoke with girls. Nothing was taken. All checks out. OFC clear. 2124 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Investigated Location/Address: Nucar Volkswagen - Bos-Prov Hwy Party seen on camera, in the back of the property, silver sedan. Occupied by a male, navy blue sweater, black pants, grey shoes. Alarm company saw him leave the car and walk out of view of the camera. NWD 665 checking in through the garage door inside. OFC reports garage door open to lower part of the building. He is checking that part. OFC's did a sweep of both parking lots and building. Nothing showing. All is in order. Units clear.

2229 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Investigated Location/Address: Norwood Subaru Inc - Bos-Prov Hwy OFC checking on a vehicle with its lights on. OFC reports car is running. No one in sight. OFC got the car shut off. Car was an oversight from business hours. OFC clear.

**Saturday, March 30**

0917 Initiated - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Devon Rd Walk in party would like to speak to officer in regards to an ongoing tenant vs landlord issue. Party has been advised, stated it was an ongoing issue.

0954 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Engamore Ln Business line caller requesting assistance with a male party who pulled his pants down and urinated next to a dumpster. Caller believes party lives in area, and is currently standing outside on his patio. Party described as a black male wearing maroon sweatshirt, and a white t shirt. Caller advised to have officers meet in rear of building. Strong language barrier, RP stated she did not see the act occur. 665 spoke with possible involved parties and it has been unfounded at his time. Both parties have been advised and the CP has been advised. All units clear.

1050 Phone - PD-Assist Fire Department Transported to Hospital Location/Address: Lane Dr + Valley Rd Intoxicated male party, took a fall and cut his hand. RP stating he is in the road way. Party was transported by FD, units clear. 1356 Phone - PD-Suspicious

April 4, 2024

Package Services Rendered Location/Address: Savers - Bos-Prov Hwy Manager stating she received a donation package and there is what appears to be a BB gun. It was an air soft gun and the manager from Savers is disposing it. All clear.

1749 Phone - PD-Disturbance Gone on arrival Location/Address: Shaw's Supermarket - Nahatan St Call from H.Q reports 15 juveniles running around Shaw's causing a scene. Half of them went towards TJ Maxx. OFC's checked the area. Juveniles GOA.

1944 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Investigated Location/Address: Neponset St Anonymous caller reports a male party is possibly intoxicated and creating noise in front of this address. She does not see any bottles of alcohol. Party having a small fire with slight music. OFC advised party to turn it down. Party is not intoxicated.

2213 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Railroad Ave RP called and said her two juvenile kids have left the house at 10am and not returned since. Said girl is 16 and male is 15. Male dressed in all grey, female dressed in all black. Both had backpacks. When pressed for further information, RP said it was typical teenage stuff as to why they have left and not returned. She requested to speak to an OFC. OF requested and assigned to NWD 669.

**Sunday, March 31**

0102 Initiated - PD-Missing Person Report Follows Location/Address: St Timothy Church - Nichols St RP walked into station. Reported female party missing. Left her house on Davis Ave around 6pm. She was headed for 730pm mass at St Timothy's church. She has not been heard from since. Driving MA REG 2DJ242. She is described as 5'6, 135 pounds, brown hair, last seen wearing black jacket, black pants. Party home, safe with family. They were advised on where vehicle is parked. OFC clear.

1207 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Gay St Caller on business line reports while walking by above address, caller noticed all front exterior lights on property were smashed and broken. Caller was unsure if anyone is home at address. Norwood MC5 reports the residents do not appear home at this time, walk way lights appear to have been blown over by wind. Norwood MC5 will follow up, all units clear.

Tell 'em  
what you  
think with a



Letter To  
The Editor

Please write to:  
The Norwood Record  
661 Washington St,  
Suite 202  
Norwood, MA 02062  
Tel: (617) 361-8400  
Fax: (617) 361-1933  
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Please include your name,  
address & telephone number.  
Unsigned letters will not be  
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# Community Service Directory

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 (13-week commitment required)

# The Record Book *continued from page 9*

For information or to become a member of the Norwood Art Association, visit their website at [norwoodartassociation.com](http://norwoodartassociation.com) or check them out on Facebook or Instagram.

### MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 16, at The Grange, 28 Rockwood Road (Route 115) in Norfolk, MA from 7-9 pm. Mask if you will.

Mental illness is a label for a variety of diseases of the brain. Often it strikes in late adolescence, devastating the afflicted person and the family. The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group is composed of such families who find mutual support and join together to advocate for their loved ones. We welcome all families in the South Norfolk Area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones. For further information call Ray at 508-668-2941.

### 2024 EARTHDAY CLEANUP

On Sunday, April 21st, Progress Norwood & the Town of Norwood invites you to join neighbors and friends for the 2024 Norwood Earth Day Clean Up, Community Picnic, & Fair <https://www.facebook.com/events/772957448070818>

Cleanups will be held at various playgrounds and green spaces around Norwood from 10-11:30 am. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit [tinyurl.com/earthdaynorwood2024](https://tinyurl.com/earthdaynorwood2024). Alternatively, motivated people are invited to meet Charlotte Firth of Charles River Running at 11:30 at the Town Common for plogging (combining jogging with picking up trash.) <https://www.facebook.com/events/1370475153600668> Immediately following the cleanup, grab lunch and join us at the Town Common, at the corner of Washington and Nahatan Street, for a community picnic, live music, and fair (11:30 am-1:30 pm). You will have a chance to visit over 20 local organizations to learn about their work to support the environment or what you can do to be more environmentally minded.

This event is FREE for all and family friendly. Cleanups will happen rain or shine, but in inclement weather, the picnic & fair will be held in the Norwood High School gymnasium at 245 Nichols Street.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

A Solemn celebration for Divine Mercy will be held on Sunday, April 7th at St. Catherine of

Siena Church, 547 Washington St., Norwood. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available from 1:30-2:30 pm in the chapel and the school gym. The recitation of the Most Holy Rosary will begin at 2:15 pm followed by the Divine Mercy Chapel in the church. Celebration of Holy Mass in honor of the Solemnity will be celebrated at 3 pm and will include veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. The Holy Mass and homily will be offered by Rev. Kevin Miller, of the Diocese of Scranton.

### VFW MEAT RAFFLE

The Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452 hosts a Meat Raffle every Saturday from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The Meat Raffle is open to the Public and everyone is welcome. The price for each Drawing is only \$2.00. Ten Drawings are conducted each Saturday. A Pre-Buy for \$20.00 is available during the week at the Post. This Pre-Buy allows for entrance in all Ten Drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win.

The Drawings also include a 50/50 Money Raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5.00. The Norwood VFW is located at 193 Dean Street in Norwood. The Meat Raffle will continue every Saturday thru May.

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

## Langone takes Housing seat Large number of blank ballots cast in uncontested elections

Jeff Sullivan  
*Staff Reporter*

The unofficial results are in for this year's Norwood Municipal Election.

First off, a total of 2,116 votes were cast of 19,071 registered voters, a turnout of 11.1 percent. Board of Selectmen Chair Matthew Lane also cited the fact that a total of 6 percent of that 11.1 percent was mail-in ballots.

In the only contested race for this year's election, Judith A. Langone handily won a seat on the Norwood Housing Authority Board of Commissioners with 1,162 votes against William Edward Breen, who garnered 640 votes. There were a total of 1,806 votes cast in this race, with four "unresolved write-in" votes and 310 blank ballots cast.

Last year's election saw a bit better turnout at 13 percent with several contested elections.

William J. Plasko is continuing his long-running streak on the Board with 1,637 votes. There were 43 write-ins, along with 436 blanks on the ballot.

Gerri S. Slater will continue in her role as the first woman Town Moderator garnering 1,641 votes, with 16 write-in

votes and 459 blank ballots.

Kathleen Francis Bishop took in 1,674 votes for her seat on the Board of Health, with 12 write-ins and 430 blanks. David Michael Hiltz Jr. took 1,529 votes for his seat on the School Committee, with 20 write-in votes and 567 blank ballots cast.

Myev Bodenhofer and Eric Fleming each took 1,478 and 1,423 votes respectively for their seats on the Finance Commission, with 11 write-ins and 1,320 blank ballots.

Sarah Elizabeth Begg and George A. Michael will be sitting on the Norwood Trustees of the Morrill Memorial Library with 1,594 votes for Begg and 1,421 votes for Michael. A total of 1,203 ballots were sent in blank in this race.

Planning Board member Joseph Sheehan saw 1,618 votes against 13 write-in votes and 485 blank ballots.

Interestingly, many races saw a good deal of blank ballots being submitted for various races. It should be noted that the total number of blank votes includes all races, including Town Meeting Members, but still amounted to a significant number at 23,750 blanks in the total 2,116 ballots cast.

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