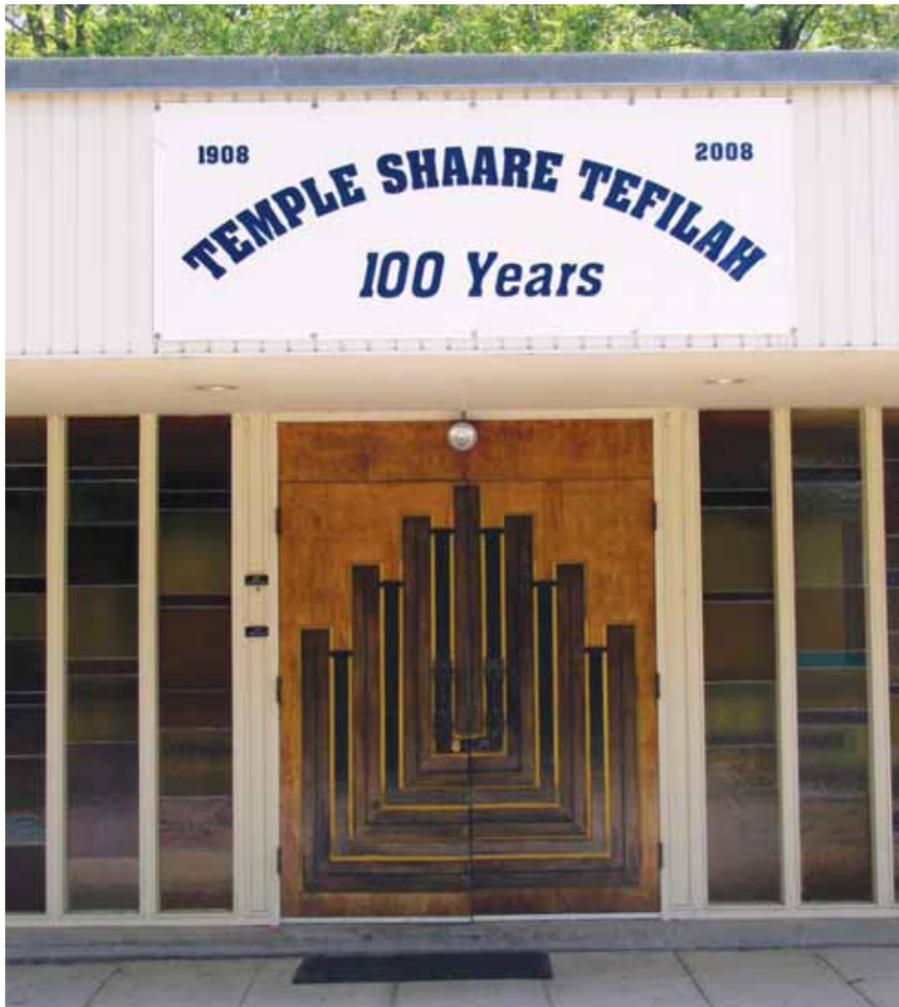


Town eyes temple

Norwood Synagogue could become conservation land



Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

After celebrating 100 years in Norwood, Temple Shaare Tefila may be packing up and moving on.

According to Rabbi Andrea Gouze, the temple is on the market and the congregation is looking for a smaller place to call home.

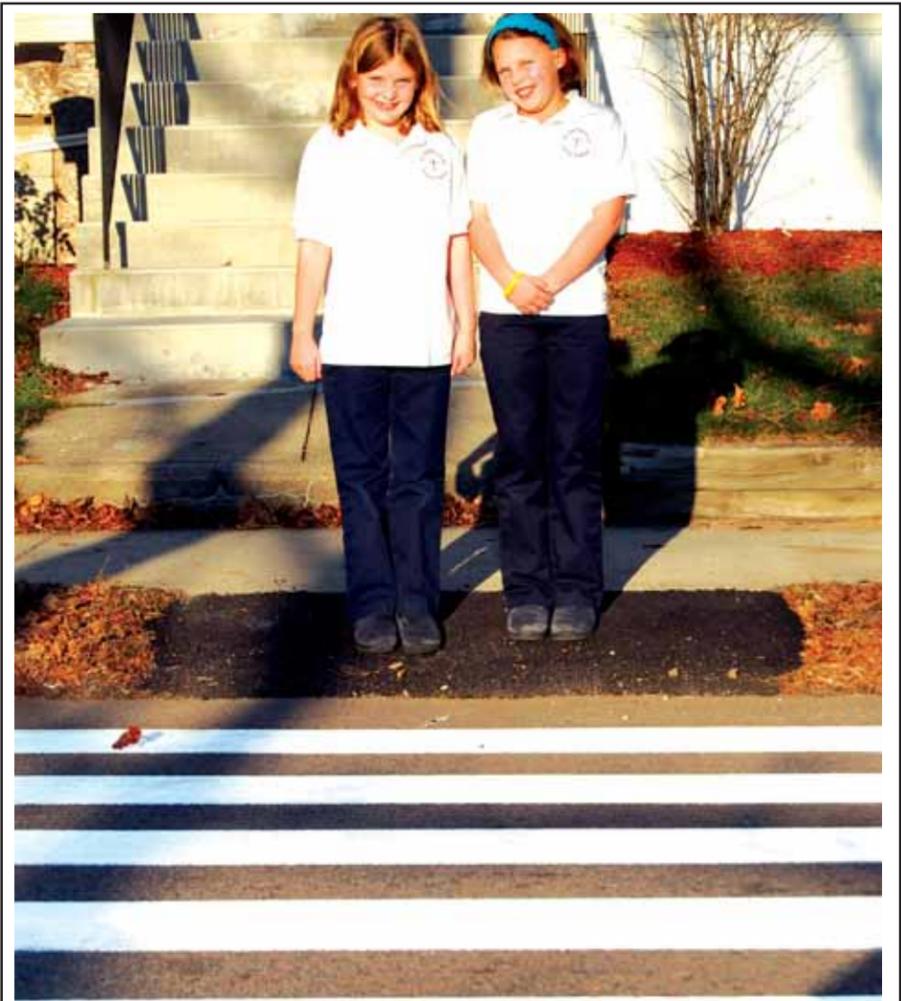
“With the current economic conditions, it’s getting harder to keep up with our maintenance and overhead,” she said. “We just don’t think we need this much land or a building this big any-

more and are looking for somewhere more appropriate for our needs right now.”

The town has expressed an interest in the land, which borders on Ellis Pond.

Norwood Conservation Agent Al Goetz confirmed that the Conservation Commission was interested in purchasing the land to possibly provide better access to the pond. Goetz said the commission only technically owns the dam and a small strip of land surrounding the

Temple
Continued on page 4



Emily and Amanda Rooney

Crosswalk Kids

St. Catherine’s students make streets safer

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

After two years of unanswered letters and ignored requests, Emily and Amanda Rooney decided it was time to step up and take action.

The sisters, 3rd and 4th grade students at St. Catherine of Sienna School in Norwood, successfully petitioned to have a crosswalk painted near their house at 235 Railroad Ave. to make it safer and easier for their fellow classmates and neighbors to cross the often busy street.

“We just thought it would be a good idea,” Emily said. “They have one over on the Nahatan St. side, so we thought we would try to get one put in over here.”

Kathleen Rooney said she had made multiple requests to Town Hall to try and have a crosswalk installed, but it wasn’t until her daughters hit the streets with a petition and a mission that local officials took notice.

“I was really proud of them,” she said from the family’s kitchen, warm

Crosswalk Kids
Continued on page 7

Search is on for Coakley principal

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Coakley Middle School Principal Marjorie Tessier is retiring in January, leaving a lack of leadership in a school prepping for some serious changes.

Superintendent John Moretti said Wednesday night that the advertisement seeking a replacement for Tessier had officially closed and he had received 24 applications in response.

24 applications submitted for consideration

Of the 24 applicants, Moretti identified eight with the qualifications to take the top job at the Coakley. Four, he said, are acting principals. One is an internal candidate currently working in the Norwood school system.

“We will begin meeting next week with a search committee that includes teachers, department heads and administration from the middle school,”

Moretti said, adding that the goal is to narrow the field to two candidates.

Once the final candidates are chosen, Moretti said he plans to hold a community forum to give members of the public a chance to meet the individuals and ask whatever questions they may have regarding the future of the middle school.

The School Committee, while sup-

portive of Moretti’s plan, made it clear that expectations are high for the new Coakley leader and they wanted to be sure the candidate Moretti chooses is up to the challenge.

“We are not a training ground for principals,” member Mark Joseph said. “We need a leader here that has proven

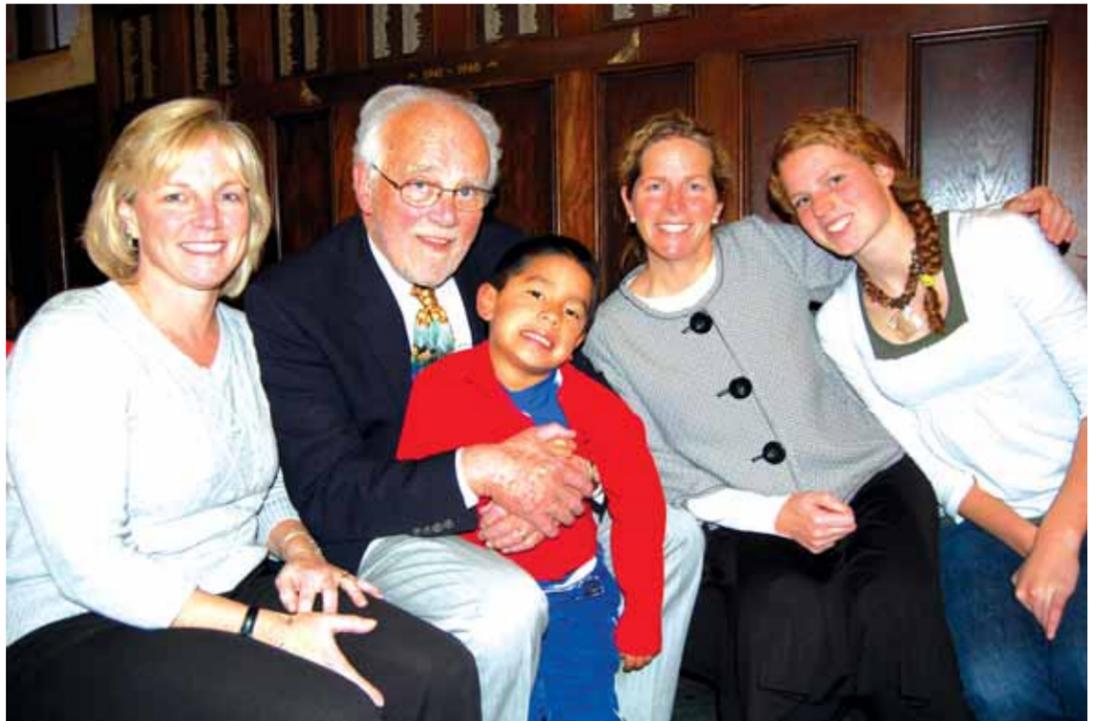
Coakley principal
Continued on page 4

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John Carroll and daughters Judithe and Cathleen, grandson Desi and granddaughter Colleen.

PHOTO BY KRystal GROW

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Carroll still rolling

Town Manager celebrates 30 years in Norwood

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

A lot of things have changed since 1978, and Norwood Town Manager John Carroll has steered the town through the ups and downs of the past 30 years with what friends and co-workers called an unmatched professionalism and dedication.

Carroll was hired on Halloween of 1978, and has certainly seen some pretty scary stuff in his time, but last Thursday at a celebration in his honor Carroll had nothing but fond memories and proud moments to show for his tenure in Norwood. "The things we have

accomplished in this town have been amazing," he said, "but we've done it together."

Never one to take full credit, Carroll said the quality of his work is largely the result of the high quality staff and elected officials he is surrounded by in Town Hall.

"We have a great staff of people, and the Board of Selectmen is relatively non-political. They're honest and they're trying to do things for the benefit of the town, not for them-

selves," he said.

Current Chairman Mike Lyons said that as a relatively new member of the board, Carroll's management style and professionalism made him a natural leader and a pleasure to work with.

"I learned early on that John has a way of never making me feel like I don't belong in the room. He makes everyone feel

Carroll

Continued on page 16

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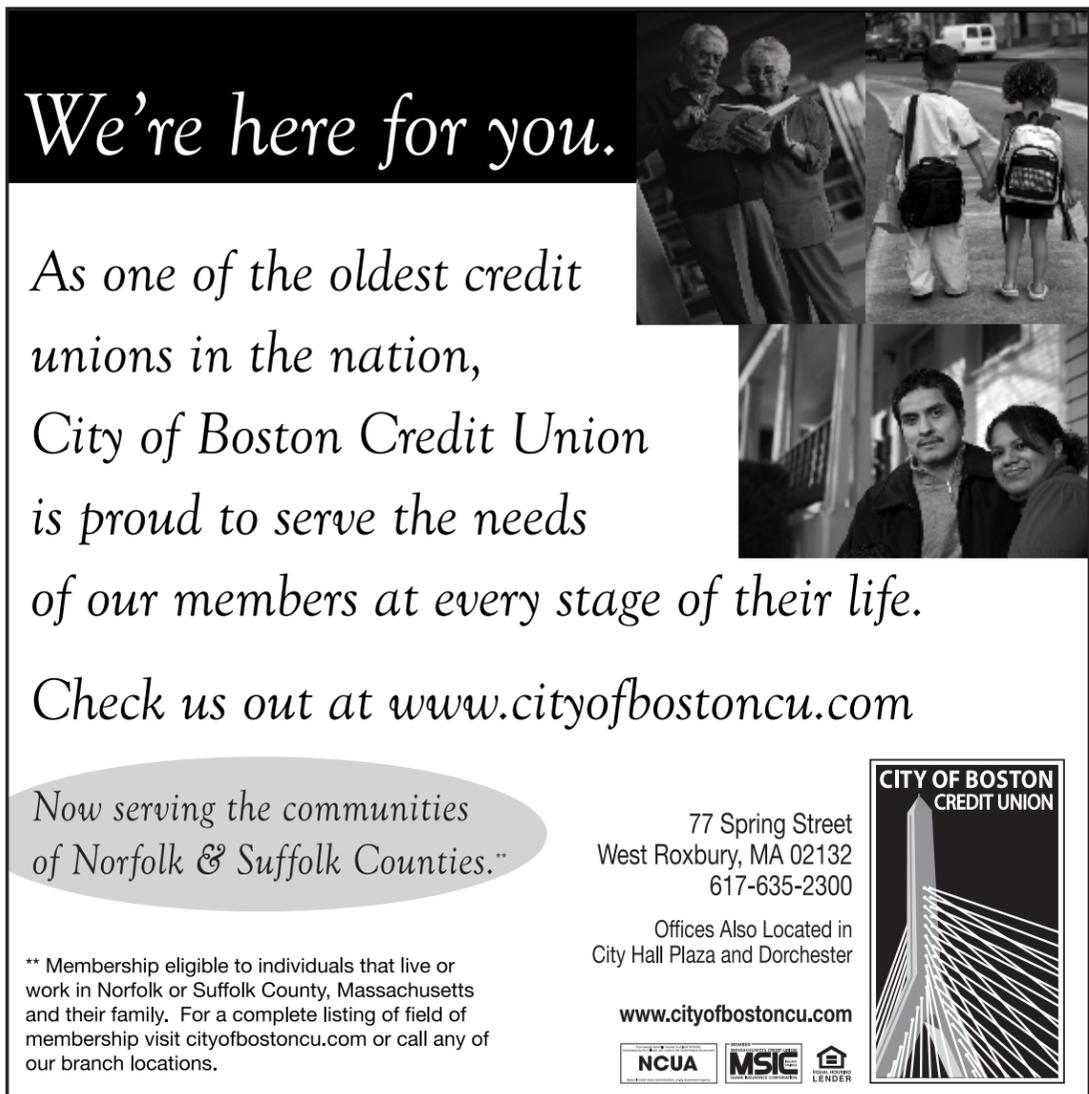
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State sets reimbursement rate for high school project

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

The Committee of 21 announced Monday night that the Massachusetts School Building Authority has offered a 59 percent reimbursement for the construction of a new Norwood High School. The MSBA, however, declined to settle on a specific price tag for the entire project.

Project Manager Tim Bonfatti told the committee that last Thursday the MSBA determined that they would pay a base reimbursement rate of 52 percent. Norwood is eligible for 5 additional percentage points for participating in the Model School Program, will receive an added 2 percent for the building's green and sustainable attributes and net another 1 percent for what Bonfatti called Norwood's "history of maintenance."

While members said the news was encouraging, the MSBA has indicated it was hesitant to make a public conclusion as to how much the building will actually cost, making the actual reimbursement difficult to determine.

Chairman Tom McQuaid asked if the MSBA would share in the costs if the project exceeds the quoted price. Bonfatti said those details are still being discussed.

"They are still sorting that out on the state level," Bonfatti said, "the discussion is ongoing, but the goal is to work out the terms of the reimbursement and the project scope and budget agreement by the end of the month."

Project architect Scott Dunlap showed the committee a revised site plan, updated with suggestions gathered from a community forum and Planning Board meeting last week. The

light poles have been reduced to 20 feet, parking adjustments have been made to accommodate traffic flow and the possibility of a practice field has officially been ruled out.

"There is just no practical space to put another field on the site," Dunlap said.

After much discussion and debate among both the community and local committees, Dunlap said they had exhausted every feasible option.

But High School Working Group Chairman Dick Kief said the school's Athletic Department was prepared to handle the loss for the sake of the new school.

"When we went to the athletic department with this they weren't up in arms about it," he said.

Finance Committee representative Joe Greeley admitted that the loss and subsequent relocation of the practice field was relevant and said the committee should focus on the educational potential of the building first.

Town Accountant Bob Thornton agreed.

"The educational specifications are the crux of the discussion and the project here," he said. "The physical layout and the fields are really secondary."

Thornton added that a preliminary estimate showed minimal costs to transport athletic teams to a field at the Coakley Middle School

Mike Lyons, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, said it was necessary to have a plan for the fields, and to provide as much information to the public as possible to make sure voters are informed when they go to the polls for an override vote in April.

"From a public relations standpoint, it is important to discuss this. Those questions need to be answered. There won't be

that much discussion on the ed specs, but there will be enormous discussion and concern for the fields, and people need to have answers before they vote for it," he said.

In an attempt to get the word out, the Committee of 21 and the High School Working Group have planned a campaign to inform the public of new developments in the process of building a new high school.

"We are reaching out and we are listening to the community," Kief said. "It has been a challenge to try and get information out when it keeps changing, but we are trying to reach a happy medium."

McQuaid said the committee was interested in producing a program on Norwood Public

Funding

Continued on page 12

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. —M.B.



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TOWN OR CITY OF NORWOOD Date: 9-17-08 Page: 2

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with Jerry Armstrong, Broker, REALTOR, CBR, ASR

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF. If there is one thing that buyers have made abundantly clear, it is the fact that they want as much garage space as possible. In fact, we have seen the two-car garage give way to the three-car garage in recent years. Not only do homeowners want space to park their treasured automobiles, they like the notion that they can tinker around in a protected hobby area and store "stuff" conveniently. With all this in mind, sellers will want to do everything they can to fulfill buyers' expectations. While no one is necessarily suggesting that sellers build a garage (where none existed before) or add another bay to an existing garage, they should show their garages' potential by cleaning them out.

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advantage when selling your home. Many people aspire to own a home that includes a garage. Make sure the garage is clean. Adding storage racks to garage walls is highly desirable to buyers who appreciate storage and organization. To learn more about how to appeal to buyers, contact me at Century 21 American Properties, 781-249-3432 or email me at jerryarmstrong123@comcast.net. You will benefit from my 36 plus years of knowledge and experience. The office is conveniently located at 33 Broadway, Norwood. I look forward to hearing from you!

HINT: Sellers with garages crammed with junk may find it in their best interests to purchase a shed in which to store tools, lawn mowers, and deck furniture.

Visit my website: www.jerryarmstrong.com

Editorial

Turkeys, everywhere

It is Thanksgiving. And what would that holiday be without plenty of turkeys.

In the past few weeks we have been under siege by fowl and foul behavior. When you think of turkeys these days, you think of stuffing - as in stuffing marked bills into the bra or palm of your choice.

We were talking in the newsroom the other day about the current sad state of affairs in local, state and national government. Journalists are, typically, considered cynical sorts. The perception is that we enjoy seeing the mighty fall. Perhaps there is some truth to that. As H.L. Mencken once said of the trade, its mission is to "to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable." But lately, even our own ink-stained wretches have had enough. Recent days have brought a tsunami of wrongdoing to our shores. Or, to carry the weather motif a step further, we have hit an iceberg. No matter the damage, we know that there is far more than we can see below the surface.

Let us recap some of the things we are not thankful for.

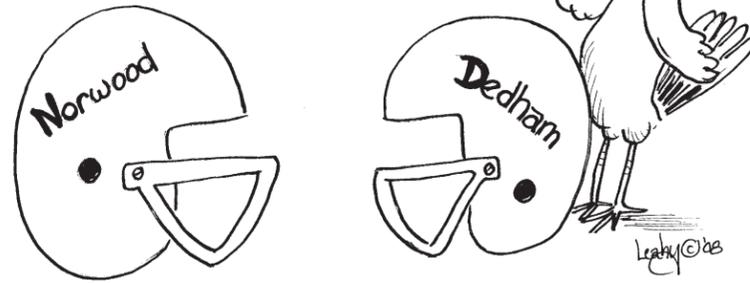
We have a sitting president whose strategy for dealing with the economy seems to be covering his ears and making a loud, "lalalalalala," sound to drown out cries for help. Even worse, when he or Congress does pay attention, they do so by kiting checks our great-great-grandchildren will still be paying for. Billions by billions, the American people are now vested in insurance companies, banks and - soon enough - auto companies. The tin cup is the new golden parachute.

On the state level, we have a governor who thinks that \$7 tolls for residents of East Boston, and a 60 percent increase for those unlucky enough to live in Allston-Brighton, are good ideas. Around the corner from his spacious office, we have Sal DiMasi and John Rogers bending (and perhaps breaking) all manner of ethical standards. They, however, have been spared the indignation of Dianne Wilkerson, a woman who has grabbed so many negative headlines over the years you might be tempted to think her first name was "Embattled." Wilkerson, who has a long, rich tradition of ethical lapses, finally caught the wrong eyes. Her arrest on bribery charges, long overdue, begs the question of what else she has tucked away in various undergarments over the years.

Her pal, Boston City Councilor Chuck Turner, was also nabbed in the same sting. Oh yes, by the way, innocent until proven guilty. Even if there are surveillance photos. And even if you claim to not know someone who, in fact, was an informant you met more than once. Its all racial anyway, we are told, when we know all too well the only color that matters is green.

To recap: the economy is tanking, more than a few of you reading these words will be out of work soon and the people we have charged with protecting us, with representing us, are busy financing homes with shady financial maneuvers, gobbling up per diems and asking the waitress at No. 9 Park if she has change for \$1,000.

Turkeys. They are everywhere. Pass the cranberry sauce and pray it all gets better. As John Lennon once said, "It couldn't get no worse."



"My only hope is a very long overtime...gulp"

Temple *continued from page 1*

pond. "If we purchase it, it could even mean tearing down the temple and using the land for town purposes," Goetz said, "but there's no solid information yet so we don't know what's going to happen. We still have to raise the money."

The process for the Conservation Commission to purchase property is a complex and lengthy one, Goetz said, and one that is in the earliest stages regarding Temple Shaare Tefila.

Goetz notified the Norwood Board of Selectmen that the commission was interested in purchasing the land, asking for assistance in raising funds to make the deal.

"All we know is that it's available for purchase," Goetz said. "It's an opportunity that comes around once every hundred years."

While the temple, a Norwood fixture since 1908, may be leaving their current location on Nichols St. Rabbi Gouze said the plan is to find another location in town, but said she wouldn't rule out a good piece of real estate in a neighboring town.

"We feel very connected to Norwood, so the focus is to find somewhere in town, but if we found a good place on the Walpole line, we'd certainly consider it," Gouze said.

This would be the third relocation for Temple

Shaare Tefila, which moved to its current property in the mid 60s. The move was a town wide event, with members of the congregation walking the Torah from one site to the other; a symbolic pilgrimage that Gouze said would likely be replicated in their next move.

"It's an important and very symbolic ceremony," Gouze said. "I would hope we could do it again, but depending on the new location, we may not be able to walk the whole way, but we'll surely do it at least in part. The ritual will be upheld."

Rabbi Gouze said that while it would be difficult to uproot the congregation again, she was confident that the temple would find an appropriate home, and was happy the town has stepped up and expressed an interest in the property, though she said the temple has hired a real estate broker who has already shown the property to a few interested individuals.

"We've always appreciated the town's commitment to town institutions and to helping them thrive," she said. "If they wanted to make a deal with us, that would be great."

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgrow@norwoodrecord.com or by calling (781) 769-1725.

Coakley principal *continued from page 1*

themselves educationally. This building needs a total rehab, and this position is really under the gun."

Joseph, who called issues at the middle school "close to my heart," said during the meeting that he would closely monitor the selection process. "I can assure you that if I am not comfortable with any of the applicants, we will reconsider," Moretti said. "I'm not interested in immediacy or convenience, I want the right person."

Member Bill Plasko, Jr. said the committee should consider the possibility of hiring yet another interim in the event that one of the acting principals, if

chosen for the job, is not able to start immediately in January. "If the group chooses one of those four, there is a good chance they may not be able to start by early January," he said. "We may have a better chance of looking for an interim."

Committee member Dick Kief suggested Moretti consider tapping former Coakley principals for the job, should the committee decide to hire an interim. "Some names have been brought to my attention and I will contact them Dec.1," Moretti said.

But Joseph again warned the committee to be stringent in their standards, especially if

considering appointing another interim. "I don't want the state looking at this and seeing us hiring another interim," he said. "We need to be selective."

Moretti said his intention was to find someone who could lead the Coakley through reorganization, and hoped to have a candidate on board in time, but that if the recent pool of applicants did not produce the right person, the search would resume in the spring.

"If we don't get it right this time, we are going to have a very busy spring," he said.

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgriw@norwoodrecord.com or by calling 781-769-1725

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Brother's back in the dough

Local shop reopens

Krystal Grow
 Staff Reporter

Just over one month ago, the windows of Brother's Bakery were scattered along Washington Street and one employee was in the hospital after a failed pilot light triggered an explosion in the familiar South Norwood shop.

Fletcher Longley has owned the bakery for the past two years,

and had been slowly making repairs to the 26-year-old store before the sudden explosion ripped out the windows and damaged much of the exterior fixtures. "The most important thing is that Andrea is ok and home," Longley said last week.

Andrea Planney of Norwood had been working at the bakery for about a year, but had trouble lighting the pilot light on the commercial oven the morning of Oct. 14. When the pilot finally did light, the gas buildup provided enough fuel and pressure to blow the windows out, and send Planney running out into

the street screaming for help. Neighbor Peter Shockey said he heard the explosion, and saw Planney run out of the bakery in flames.

She was transported to Caritas Norwood Hospital and later transported to Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. But last Wednesday, the windows at the bakery were intact and decorated with bright yellow "Grand Opening" signs as the long-time local bakery officially reopened. "It's so refreshing to have it all back together,"

Brother's Bakery
 Continued on page 7

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Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Parade this Sunday!

The Holidays are right around the corner and all the festive cheer it brings with it will be rolling into town this Sunday in the Norwood Holiday Extravaganza.

Norwood Light crews have been working all week stringing white lights on the trees downtown to prep for the tree lighting on the common, which will be lit by Santa Claus himself with the help of Mrs. Claus and his elves.

The parade steps off from

the Guild Medical Center at 3:35 p.m., and will travel down Washington Street until they reach the Town Common.

But there will be plenty of ways to get into the spirit before the parade. Horse-drawn hayrides will travel around Norwood Center from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The Baystatesmen Barber-shop Chorus will sing old-time favorites from 2-2:30 p.m., followed by Norwood High

School's award winning Madrigal Singers from 2:40 to 3 p.m.

And what holiday celebration would be complete without a retelling of some classic tales? At 3 p.m., Linda Rau will read "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," with help from some of the stars of the story. The Grinch, Cindy Lou Who and pooch Max will all be on the Common to make sure she gets the story right. At 3:30,

Selectwoman Helen Donohue will read "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Santa and his parade, complete with the Division III Champion Norwood High

School Mustangs Marching Band and the Police and Fire Department are expected on the common at 3:45 p.m. to light the tree and officially kick off the holiday season in Norwood.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will stick around for photos and to

Parade

Continued on page 12

Brother's Bakery *continued from page 6*

Longley said.

After replacing all the windows and installing new flooring, lighting and new electrical wiring, Longley said he was happy to be back in business. "We survived all the trials and tribulations and now we're open again," he said.

And they couldn't have chosen a better time. Longley said Brother's Bakery is taking orders for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and were happy they could still be a part of Norwood family traditions. "People have

been so wonderful," Longley said. "Everyone has been asking when we would open again and how things were going."

The official grand re-opening was last Tuesday, but on Wednesday afternoon there was still a healthy supply of fresh rolls on the racks even though a few small ladders and utility lamps littered the floor space. The orange and white display case, a rare leftover from the bakery's early days, was empty, but cleaned and polished to make room for the cakes, pies

and breads that will fill it in the coming weeks as holiday orders come in. A faint scent of cooking gas filled the room, but was overpowered by the comforting aroma of fresh bread. The plaster dust in the air was a reassuring sign that some neighborhood staples aren't so easy to bring down.

Brothers Bakery has been located at 1122 Washington St. since 1982.

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgrow@norwoodrecord.com or by calling 781-769-1725

Crosswalk Kids *continued from page 1*

with the scent of apple crisp on a chilly fall afternoon. "They saw me trying to get it done, and then they started learning about how the government works and Amanda made the connection."

"It sort of made me upset," Amanda said. "My mom kept asking about it and they just ignored her. They didn't do anything."

So the Rooney sisters learned the power of petition and hiked up and down Railroad Avenue in search of support. "Everybody thought it was a really good idea and told us we were doing a great job," Amanda said. In three days, the girls collected over 40 signatures from neighbors, teachers and local kids, and had gathered enough encouragement to bring their request back to Town Hall. "We watched the Selectmen's meeting when they were talking about it," Emily said. "We were really excited they were going to do it."

By Wednesday afternoon, the Rooney sisters had a freshly painted crosswalk to christen on their way home from school. "It was really cool to walk across it for the first time," Amanda said, "and it's there for other kids now too."

St. Catherine's Principal Gretchen Hawley made sure the entire student body knew about the girls' civic ambitions, making an announcement during prayers on Thursday morning. The Rooney sisters were called on stage to receive the proper recognition for their work.

The girls said that while the

applause was nice, they were a little shy in the spotlight. "I was nervous," Emily said, but chatted openly in the comfort of her own kitchen after school Friday.

When asked how it felt to know they had made a change in their town that would last

long after they had grown up and moved on, both sisters grew wide eyed and giggled. "That's cool," Amanda said.

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Sports

Making a splash! Mustangs finish a stunning seventh at state meet



Norwood senior co-captain Juliana Cirillo swims the butterfly leg of the 200 Medley Relay during a recent postseason meet.

COURTESY PHOTO

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

The Norwood girls swim team completed one of its best seasons in recent history with a remarkable seventh place finish at the state meet at Wellesley College on Saturday. The Mustangs again were tops in the Bay State Conference as they were two weeks ago at the sectional meet at MIT.

“I think Walpole was next in 11th place,” said Norwood head coach Kim Goodwin, who closed her first season in style as Norwood’s varsity mentor.

It wouldn’t matter if Walpole finished 11th or just a sliver behind the Mustangs. The point is Norwood outshined both the Rebels and Wellesley, two of the perennial powerhouses in the BSC Herget Division, two weeks in a row.

“The [team] of Juliana Cirillo, Emily Metta, Natalie Metta, and Meghan Shilo did so well,” lauded Goodwin, after her star quartet placed fourth in the 200 medley relay and fifth in the 200 free relay.

BSC All-Star Emily Metta, meanwhile, ranked as the top scorer in the conference. Overall, Metta finished second in the 100 breaststroke and seventh in the 200 Individual Medley.

Natalie Metta also “had just a monster postseason,” said Goodwin of the junior standout, who lowered her times with personal bests in both the 100 fly and 50 free, while placing 11th and 12th, respectively.

Norwood’s success in the postseason caps a campaign in which the Mustangs posted a stunning 7-5 record during their dual meet slate.

“What a fun and incredibly successful season,” marveled Goodwin.

TEAM STANDINGS

Girls Swimming		
Carey Division	Conference overall	
Framingham	10-0	11-2
Brookline	7-3	8-3
Needham	7-3	7-3
Newton North	5-5	5-6
Braintree	2-8	2-8
Weymouth	2-8	3-8

Herget Division		
Walpole	9-1	9-1
Wellesley	6-4	6-4
Norwood	5-5	7-5
Natick	2-8	4-8
Dedham	0-10	0-13

Football	
Carey Division	
Framingham	8-2

Needham	5-5
Weymouth	4-6
Braintree	4-6
Brookline	3-7
Newton North	2-8

Bay State Conference Girls Soccer Leading Scorers

	G	A	PTS
Cory Ryan - Norwood	19	9	28
Jean Bell - Weymouth	18	6	24
Patrice Vettori - Dedham	17	7	24
Kim Clooney	5	17	22

Bay State Conference Girls Soccer - Goalies		GAA
Erin Greenstein - Framingham		0.58
Kristen Darling - Weymouth		0.75
Cara Cole - Norwood		0.82

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Football

At 93, former rival players reunite for 'The Game' Legendary athletes Howard and Pagliuca to be honored



Williams and DiMaggio? Like the baseball greats, Norwood's John Howard (right) and Dedham's Joe Pagliuca were rivals back in their day. Howard and Pagliuca, both 93, will be back at midfield as honorary captains for the coin toss for this Thursday's Thanksgiving football rivalry game at Norwood's Murray Field. Pagliuca and Howard, shown here at a local bowling alley, played for their high school town football teams during the 1930's.

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

In an ironic twist of fate, two legendary star athletes — one from Norwood, the other from Dedham — crossed paths about 11 years ago in the parking lot of a local shopping market heading in opposite directions. The two also were going in opposite ways the last time they had seen each other before that encounter. It was on the football field at Norwood High in a memorable Thanksgiving rivalry game played in 1933.

"Wherever I go, if I see someone, I say, 'hi,' and he said 'hi,' recalled former Norwood football standout John Howard of the day he ran into Dedham's Joe Pagliuca. "Two seconds later, he comes back, and says, 'Hey wait, aren't you Howard?'" I said, 'Yes.' And he said, 'I played football with you in 1933.'"

"I hadn't seen him since that game," added Howard, who wore No. 6 and graduated

Norwood High in 1934, while Pagliuca, who donned No. 3, graduated Dedham High in '35.

Both men are 93-years-old and members of their respective high school Hall of Fame.

It amazed Howard how Pagliuca could recognize him from that long ago, when football was played with a rounder ball and had no free substitution rule, and the players weren't nearly as big as they are today.

"I was a custodian all of my life, so I was good at recognizing people," said Pagliuca. "Johnny was such a great ballplayer... And his face hasn't changed."

Speaking jovially about their chance meeting again, both Pagliuca and Howard remembered so much about the 1933 season, you would have thought it happened yesterday.

"We were good, but Norwood had a really great

Howard and Pagliuca
Continued on page 10

COURTESY PHOTO

Strong 'Stangs await much-improved Dedham squad

Pride on the line in more than 80-year old rivalry

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

There will be plenty of food for thought and a little extra gravy at that when Norwood and visiting Dedham hook up on Thanksgiving morning for a good ol' game of football at Murray Field. Could this be the last rendition of the more than 80-year old Bay State Conference rivalry between the teams?

Who knows what will become of the rumblings that Dedham football could be off to either the Hockomock or Tri-Valley Leagues? At this point, they are just possibilities, but one thing is for sure: Thursday's game between the Mustangs and Marauders will be the last one played on the current Norwood facility as constructed if the override to remodel the school is passed.

Adding a little more salt to the turkey, a pair of local leg-

ends who played in the famous 1933 holiday contest during Norwood's undefeated championship season will be brought back for the coin toss as honorary captains on the 75th anniversary of the game. Norwood's John Howard and Dedham's Joe Pagliuca will be recognized before the big 10 a.m. kickoff.

As for this year's joust, well you know the drill. It's Thanksgiving so, as Pagliuca said of the big game so many years ago, "Emotions run deep."

Thus, neither team will need any pre-game talk for motivation. The holiday game stands alone as its own kind of winner-take-all championship.

"We have a ton of respect for them, and have seen them numerous times this season," said Norwood head coach Buzzy Curran. "They don't have [a strong record], but they've been through 10 games [and] have played tough all



Norwood senior football captains, from l-r, Jesse Shaughnessy, Brian Williams, Pat Cavanaugh, and Mike Fabbrucci will lead the Mustangs into battle against arch-rival Dedham tomorrow.

PHOTO BY MIKE STOLLER

year."

Dedham first-year head coach Keith Comeau, meanwhile, is no stranger to gut-wrenching holiday games, hav-

ing been an assistant coach at Salem High, where its age-old rivalry with Beverly runs well over a century. The fact that Norwood stands at 8-2 and

Dedham at 1-9 doesn't make this game much easier for the favorite, particularly when

Football

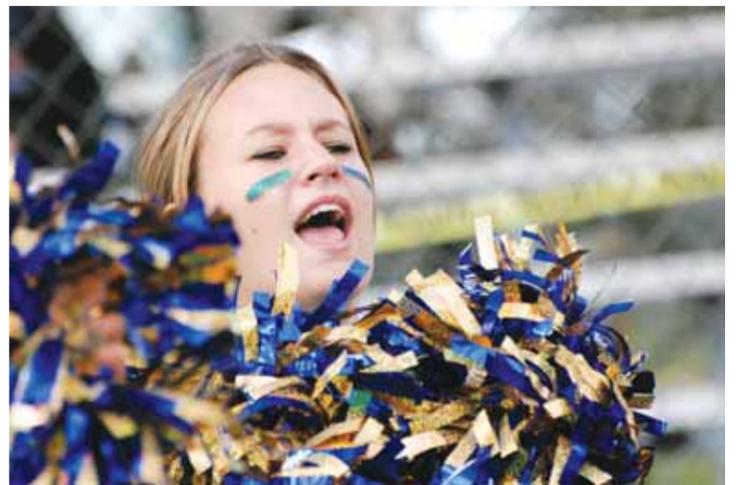
Continued on page 13



From left: NHS cheerleaders and B team youth coaches Lizzie Cawley and Jenny Marinucci hold the first place trophy, COURTESY PHOTO (see story, pg. 11);

NHS cheerleading captains Amber Smith, Lizzy Curran, and Nikki Colton; Rah, rah, sis boom bah, go-o-o Mustangs!

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE



Howard and Pagliuca *continued from page 9*

team,” said Pagliuca, recalling the talents of Howard and other Norwood greats such as full-back Bill Tranevitch and quarterback George Bader.

Howard also spoke of Tranevitch and Bader, while listing all of the players from both squads by position. He then added of his Norwood group, “That was a really great team.”

Norwood and Dedham will recognize Howard and Pagliuca on Thanksgiving morning when the host Mustangs and Marauders renew their historical football rivalry at Murray Field on the 75th anniversary of the 1933 game.

On the holiday morning that year, Dedham’s Pagliuca, a star right halfback on offense and linebacker on defense, threw his first and only touchdown pass off a trick play to give his team a 7-0 lead at halftime. Norwood eventually rallied to beat Dedham, 14-7, to complete an undefeated championship season, in which Howard was the main attraction as a wide receiver on offense, though like all players in those days, he played on both sides of the ball.

With the initiative taken by a mutual friend, Norwood Police Lieutenant Brian Murphy, and arrangements made by Norwood High Principal George Uservich, Athletic Director Brian McDonough, and

Head Football Coach Joe “Buzzy” Curran, the two legendary stars will be at center stage before this Thursday’s 10 a.m. kickoff. Howard and Pagliuca, who also both served in World War II - the former as an Army Air Corps Veteran and the latter as an Army Signal Corps Veteran - will be brought together at midfield as honorary captains for the coin toss for this year’s rivalry game, joining the current leaders from both squads.

“I figured what the heck, why refuse something as good as that,” said Howard, who ran into Murphy recently while walking on Washington Street.

It was then that Murphy informed Howard of the plan for the holiday ceremony. Murphy, Howard, and Pagliuca recently gathered for breakfast to discuss the upcoming honorary proceedings.

“Oh yeah, I have a lot of good memories,” said Pagliuca. “And Johnny and I still see and greet each other.”

Adding a little extra spice to the recognition of both players is that the game most likely will be the last one played on the current field due to the remodeling plans of the school.

Howard and Pagliuca were also scheduled to appear in tandem on Norwood Public Access Television in a one-hour taped special to be shared with the

Dedham channel.

It seems the two former opponents and standouts, the last surviving starters from each team, haven’t lost a step - well, at least, not too many - while keeping strong ties with the towns in which they grew up.

Murphy has known Pagliuca, who worked for the Dedham School Department, as a long-time member of the Old Colony Civil War roundtable that meets one night a month in Dedham. His ties with Howard run through Norwood, as Murphy’s father, a former town police chief, was a contemporary of Howard, who served as deputy fire chief. Howard and Pagliuca still drive and partake in their respective retirement communities, where at times they run into each other at bowling outings. When one group is leaving the other usually arrives.

Howard, at 5-foot-8, was a force for the Norwood team, earning All-Scholastic honors from all five of Boston’s newspapers at the time - The Boston Globe, Record American, Boston Herald, Boston Post, and Boston Traveler. With Dedham keying on him, Howard was well-defended in the 1933 game, but still managed to free himself for several clutch catches.

Pagliuca, a former multi-sport athlete, stood at 5-foot-1

when he threw his memorable pass 75 years ago.

“He was Flutie before Flutie was Flutie,” Murphy joked of Pagliuca, while referring to modern day legend and former Boston College star Doug Flutie.

Pagliuca still waxes emotionally about how his team could have upset the stronger Norwood squad had Dedham not fumbled a punt he said should have been left untouched.

“We fumbled and Norwood recovered it, and it was late in the third period,” Pagliuca cringed. “The game turned in their favor completely. It took all the steam out of Dedham. Norwood had great players, but we gave them all they could handle. Emotions run deep.”

After their meeting in the shopping market parking lot, Pagliuca hadn’t seen Howard for another eight years, when he handed a picture from a scrapbook of Howard to a girl work-

ing at a local bowling alley, and asked if she ever saw Howard.

“It was kind of out of curiosity,” said Pagliuca.

The girl responded that she did and eventually when Pagliuca walked in with his club one day, she mentioned to him that Howard was there with his, and the pair reunited again.

“That was really odd the way that happened,” said Howard.

Back in their days when Howard and Pagliuca were rivals on the field, Norwood hosted every Thanksgiving game against Dedham. The field’s fenced-in conditions made it easy for organizers to charge for the contest, and both towns’ athletic departments benefited by the funding.

This year, the game will again be played on the same historic Norwood gridiron, and both towns will benefit by recognizing two of their most legendary athletes.

Bay State Conference Herget Division Standings

Football	W	L	Carey Division Standings		
			W	L	
Walpole	10	0	Framingham	8	2
Natick	9	1	Needham	5	5
			Weymouth	4	6
Norwood	8	2	Braintree	4	6
Milton	4	6	Brookline	3	7
Wellesley	2	8			
			Newton		
Dedham	1	9	North	2	8

Full of good cheer...

'Routine' business is anything but for youth cheerleaders and their coaches

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

A three-minute routine embodied three weeks of practice that resulted in a first-place finish. Zip, zing, zap, and there you have it: The Norwood B team youth cheerleaders holding the trophy on the front page of the Norwood Record on Oct. 30, after winning the 12-and-under Bay State Conference youth competition in Lowell last month. The effort earned the Mustangs a trip to the regional youth cheerleading competition for their age group in Rhode Island this Saturday.

Behind it all were a pair of teenage coaches who cheer for the high school Mustangs, freshmen Lizzie Cawley and Jennie Marinucci. The duo volunteers its time to mentor the 'B' cheerleaders. Fellow Norwood high cheerleader Amanda Lynch leads the 14-and-under 'A' team, while teammates Lizzy Curran and Brianna Reid coach the 'C' group. Parents lead both the non-competitive 10-and-under 'D' and 8-and-under 'E' squads.

The time put into the preparation is all-consuming for both the cheerleaders and their coaches, the latter of whom often agonize over what music and steps to use for the fast-moving routines.

Take Cawley and

Marinucci, for example, who spent hours of work watching a variety of hip-hop music on the internet and conjuring up ideas for the final rendition.

Cawley and Marinucci split the honors, with the former writing the fancy dance steps to the mixed-in music of four hip hop songs - I Need a Miracle, Disturbia, Rock Star, and Forever - and then downloading the piece on a friend's laptop computer, and the latter scripting and directing the team cheer - Norwood Mustangs were back again, coming, prepared and ready to win. We won't be defeated and we won't be outdone, cause Norwood Mustangs are number one! So sit down and watch out, we have just begun... Blue, Gold, and White...Mustangs, let's fight! ...

The pair also combined to direct the team's stunts and pyramid formations. Cawley and Marinucci were often exhausted leading two hours of practice three days a week, after revving it up during their own high school practices. But they also know the advantage of having high school cheerleaders coach the younger squads.

"[The kids] know high school girls can relate to them, because we've been there," said Marinucci. "We know how much it helped us."

Thus, to come home with the youth trophy was a dream-come-true for the 'B' Mustangs and their mentors. Step by step, the team took to the routine and outperformed BSC rivals Natick, Weymouth, and Framingham.

"We knew they'd do well, because three days before in the dress rehearsal, they did very well," said Cawley. "Once they got out there, they saw the 12 judges and realized they have to do it perfect now and pull everything together."

Added Marinucci, "I knew they could pull it off, because they are amazing girls and they listen so much. [Our team] didn't feel the pressure to win. We just told them to work hard and have fun, because we'll never have this opportunity again."

Calling all Coaches

The Norwood Record is looking to hear from all coaches and parents in Norwood about our local sports teams. Have a tip or a story idea? Call Mike Stoller at (781) 769-1725 or e-mail us at mstoller@norwoodrecord.com

Good Luck Mustangs!

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Advance sale of Thanksgiving Day football tickets offered

Norwood High School Athletic Director Brian McDonough and the Norwood High Spirit Club invite everyone to the school's Murray Field on Thursday, Nov. 27, at 10 a.m., for the annual Norwood vs. Dedham football game.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$5 for both students

Thanksgiving Day football game goes live on NPA-TV

NPA-TV is proud to announce that for the first time in school history the traditional Thanksgiving Day Norwood/Dedham Football game will be broadcast LIVE from Norwood's Murray Field on NPA-TV's School Channel!

While the turkey is in the oven, tune in and join Joe Curran Sr. (NHS '48) and Ed Hickey ('72) as they announce the game. NPA reporter Katelyn MacLean ('04) will be roaming the stands catching up with alumni home for the game.

There will also be a special televised pre-game coin toss to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the 1933 Norwood/Dedham Football Game with former rivals John Howard (NHS '34) and Joe Pagliuca (Dedham '35).

So don't be the last to know the score — catch the game LIVE on NPA-TV on

and adults.

They can be purchased in the school's main lobby today at 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Tickets will also be available for advance sale at the Civic Center today. All tickets will be \$7 on the day of the game.

Thanksgiving morning, Thurs, Nov 27, at 10 a.m.

Norwood basketball is now online

Norwood Basketball Association is pleased to announce that it's going On-line.

Registration for the upcoming 2008-09 season is to be completed at NORWOODBASKETBALL.COM. At that site, you can register for intramurals and other programs.

Funding

from page 3

Access Television to update residents on the project. Also discussed was the possibility of distributing flyers and informational pamphlets.

There are also a number of meetings planned for December as the committees work to meet an aggressive schedule and gather more information for the work ahead.

The Planning Board will close their public hearing on the special permit application on Dec. 1. The High School Working Group holds open meetings every Monday and the Committee of 21 will hold their next meeting on Dec.29.

Parade

from page 7

hear the wish lists of Norwood's children after the tree lighting.

If it's too chilly to stay outside, staff and volunteers at the Civic Center will host holiday arts and crafts, face painting and seasonal music by the Norwood High School Spirit Club. Refreshments will be for sale by the Backstage Boosters in support of Norwood High School drama programs.

In the event of inclement weather, most of the events will be moved to the Civic Center.

GO Mustangs!
 Have a great game



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Football *continued from page 9*

Dedham has come on strong of late. "I'm used to these tradition games," said Comeau. "And being 1-9 at this point, it doesn't matter. [Our guys] want to play against Norwood. It's a big thing."

Dedham has peaked when it counts most in terms of preparing for the annual grudge match against the powerful Mustangs. The Marauders started off slow, and while their record doesn't indicate much of a change, they picked it up a notch in the late season, chalking up a big win against Weymouth, while losing other games by close margins.

Part of the reason for the Marauders' sudden surge is the progressing play of senior quarterback and tri-captain John O'Connell.

"We've relied on him heavily throwing and running the ball the last few weeks," said Comeau, who noted O'Connell averaged about 16 carries a game during Dedham's late season stretch.

Against Weymouth, O'Connell rushed for 105 yards and a touchdown to combine with 180 yards, including three TDs, passing.

"He's been our big play guy this year, and has been doing a lot more running," said Comeau.

But with the Dedham signal caller mainly being a threat to throw, Norwood knows it needs to be ready for a possible aerial assault. O'Connell has passed for more than 1,100 yards this season. His 11 touchdown tosses

ranks third in the BSC. "He's throwing effectively and has made big strides from the beginning of the year," said Comeau. "He's shown that he can throw the deep ball or go short."

O'Connell's main target is fellow senior star captain Paul Sullivan, who has accounted for more than 700 receiving yards, including seven touchdowns.

"He's had a very good year," said Comeau. "He's the biggest threat in our passing game, and many of our biggest plays have been through the air."

Also playing well is Chris Pezzulo, who has made three recent long touchdown receptions of 81, 60, and 40 yards.

"They may have an advantage in their passing game on our secondary, so we're going to work on that," said Curran.

The Norwood mentor also said his special teams haven't always played up to snuff, and that the Marauders will be ready to pounce on an opportunity to break loose on a kickoff return.

"Our special teams were well below par all year," said Curran. "We didn't do well on kickoff coverage a lot, so that needs to be cleaned up."

But if anything, these deficiencies have proven just how strong the Mustangs are in other areas to become one of the powerhouses in the BSC Herget Division. Norwood's only losses have come at the hands of undefeated Walpole and 9-1 Natick. Walpole won

the Herget title and a playoff spot with a win over the Red and Blue two weeks ago.

The Mustangs enter Thursday's contest with one of the strongest ground games in the conference. Junior superstar tailback Jhorgy Antoine has consistently rushed for more than 100 yards a game and has totaled well over 1,000 yards for the season, while fellow senior Chris Colantonio adds a lot of speed to the Norwood backfield. Lately, senior running back Mike Verrochi and juniors Vincent Serino and Mark Nardelli have also made significant contributions.

"Our game plan is no surprise, we want to pound the ball," said Curran. "Usually, on the holiday, it's wet, windy, cold, or all the above. So you have to be able to run on Thanksgiving. Overall, we have a few wrinkles to work out, but we're going to try to move the chains, and keep their offense off the field."

Norwood has accomplished this for most of the campaign thanks to its remarkably strong offensive line led by senior captain and center Mike Fabbrucci.

Still, Comeau says his team has responded well to this type of smash-mouth game.

"[The Mustangs] play a very similar style to Weymouth in that they run the ball and are not going to hide it," said the Dedham coach. "And we respond to that. We have hard-nosed kids who line up to teams that say 'try to

stop us', and we respond well to it." Specifically, Comeau referred to his squad's leading tackler, senior captain and linebacker Rob Zarthar, who has "been all over the field making tackles," and defensive end Nick Tannetta, who, at 6-foot 3, 245 pounds, has averaged an astonishing eight tackles a game during the last three contests.

Meanwhile, when the Mustangs take to the air, both senior quarterbacks and captains Pat Cavanaugh and Brian Williams have proven worthy of notice from their defenders. Cavanaugh recently rallied Norwood via the pass in a 29-23 win over Brookline, while Williams threw a pair of touchdown tosses in the ensuing come-from-behind win over Newton North. Standout receivers Brenden Greene, Steve Cottens, Matt Murphy, and Silqwan Russell have all figured strongly in the Mustangs' passing attack.

On defense, Norwood relies on a brick-wall line that includes senior tri-captain Jesse Shaughnessy, fellow senior Chris Foley, and junior strongman Anthony Colantuoni, while senior linebacker Moses Acloque also has proven to be a tremendous force.

"Records notwithstanding, Thanksgiving is a whole other story," summed up Comeau. "And especially between teams like Norwood and Dedham where the tradition runs so deep. We're playing well, and they're playing well, so it should be a good game."

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The Record Book

TOYS FOR TOTS PARTIES!

The Norwood Elks will be holiday their 22nd annual Toys For Tots Holiday Party on Friday, Nov. 28 from 7:30 p.m. to midnight, Chapel St./Elks Way. Please bring an unwrapped non-violent new toy. There will be music, a 50/50 raffle. Cash bar. Admission is \$5 with a gift or \$10 without. For more information, please call Trudy at (781) 762-5265. All proceeds will be donated

to the Norwood Food Pantry. The VFW Post 2452 and the Ladies Auxiliary will be holding a Toys for Tots Party on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m., 195 Dean St. Local band British Invaders will be performing and refreshments will be served. There will also be hourly raffles. Admission is \$5 with a new unwrapped toy or \$10 without.

Signing, Dec. 7, with Patricia Fanning, Heather Cole and Ed Sweeney; concert of renaissance music by the Norwood High School Madrigal Singers Dec. 14, at 2 p.m.; and vocal performance by mezzo soprano Grace Allendorf, Dec. 21, at 2 pm. For additional information, call the Norwood Historical Society at (781) 762-9197 or visit www.norwoodhistoricalsociety.org.

CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS RECYCLING DRIVE

The Coakley Middle School is sponsoring a four-week "Cartridges For Kids" recycling drive, through Dec.19, at a drop-off box in the main office. The drive will include empty inkjet and laser cartridges, used cell phones, laptops, video games and consoles, digital cameras, ipods, DVDs, GPS systems and Palm Pilots.

account of the Nativity in a fun, dramatic environment. Traditional carols will be sung as the congregation participates in this interactive service. The First Congregational Church is located at the corner of Route 1A. For more information, call the church office at (781) 762-3320.

AHANUKKAH CELEBRATION TO REMEMBER

The South Area Solomon Schechter School is sponsoring "A Hanukkah Celebration to Remember," on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2-4:30 p.m., at One Commerce Way. The event will feature music by Shirav and Lisa Yves, a live auction and traditional holiday food. Admission is \$18 per adult, \$5 per child. Family maximum is \$50. Open to all. Advance reservations requested. This event is handicapped accessible. For more information, e-mail bhoffman@sasds.org or call (781) 769-9400.

FINE ARTS CONCERTS

The Norwood Fine Arts Department

The Record Book
Continued on page 15

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. — N.M.

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

The Norwood Historical Society announces its seasonal holiday tours of the Fred Holland Day House Museum, on Sundays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, 14, and 21, from 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. The F.H. Day House is located 93 Day St. in Norwood. Admission: \$4; children under 12 and NHS members free. Special events: Book

LYNCH PROVIDES UPDATE

The League of Women Voters of Norwood will be holding a legislative update forum, featuring Congressman Stephen Lynch, on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m., in Norwood Town Hall. The general public is invited.

PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA

The North East All Retriever Rescue (NEARR) is sponsoring pet photos with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 13, from noon to 4 p.m., at 1 Wilson St. For \$10, you will get on 4x6 photo of your pet with Santa and digital photos will also be available at snapfish.com. All proceeds benefit NEARR.

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References Available

The Record Book *continued from page 14*

ment has announced the following concerts in December, at 7 p.m., at the Coakley Middle School. On Tuesday, Dec. 9, performers will include the Coakley Middle School honor chorus, 8th grade chorus, 7th grade band, 8th grade band, and 7th and 8th grade orchestra. Also, the new men's chorus will make their first public performance. Free admission. Wednesday, Dec. 10, features the Senior High concert band, orchestra, Madrigal singers, women's chorale, concert chorale, Celtic strings, and wind ensemble. Admission is \$5. On Tuesday, Dec. 16, a concert features the Coakley Middle School honor chorus, 6th grade orchestra, 6th grade band, 7th grade chorus, and 6th grade chorus. Free admission. The public is invited to all performances. All admissions benefit student programs in Norwood.

FLU CLINIC

The Norwood Health Department will be having its final flu clinic of the year on Monday, Dec. 1, from 6-7 p.m., at the Town Hall, health department. There is a limited supply of vaccine and the immunization will be on a first come first serve basis. The Norwood Clinic is open to Norwood residents 18 years of age and older. Please bring proof of residency and all Medicare and supplemental senior insurance cards. For up to date information, call the information line at (781) 762-1240, ext. 220.

BALCH SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Bring your holiday gift list to Barnes and Noble Booksellers at the Walpole Mall on Wednesday, Dec. 10. Shop any department all day, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to benefit the Balch School. Simply request a voucher at any register before your purchase

is rung up. There will also be a story hour in the children's department at 4 p.m., where guest readers from the Balch School will read specially selected children's books.

NORWOOD CLASS OF 1973 REUNION

The Norwood High School Class of 1973 is having an informal 35th reunion on Saturday, Nov. 29, at 2 p.m., on the front steps of the high school. The alumni will pose for a group photo, followed by pizza and drinks at the Lewis II Grille Room until 7 p.m.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Annual Balch School Pancake Breakfast with Santa will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., in the Balch School cafeteria. For only \$4 per person you will receive a delicious breakfast of pancakes with butter and syrup, sausage, fresh fruit and your choice of juice, milk, coffee or tea. Enjoy the 5th graders singing holiday songs prior to Santa's big entrance. For a small fee, have your picture taken with Santa and make holiday crafts and ornaments.

GINGERBREAD FAIR

The United Church of Norwood will hold its annual Gingerbread Fair on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the corner of Washington and Nahatan Streets. The fair will feature Joan Ripley of Belmont with her handmade Christmas and holiday wreaths, centerpieces, arrangements, ornaments and much more. In addition, there will be a large selection of gently used books, videos, and puzzles as well as jewelry and a special kid's shop. There will also be a bake table and a large selection of raffled gift baskets and a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, visit unitedchurchofnorwood.org.

STORYTELLER ELISA PEAMAIN

The First Congregational Church will begin the Advent season with the theme of "Hope in Uncertain Times," on Sunday, Nov. 30. Storyteller and author Elisa Pearmain will be participating in our service for the fourth straight year bringing her blend of stories from her international repertoire of folk and wisdom tales. The First Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) is located at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street. The Sunday morning worship service is followed by a fellowship hour in Pingree Hall. Church school classes and nursery care are provided during the service. Rev. John Hamilton is glad to extend pastoral support to any who may be in need. For more information, call the church office at (781) 762-3320.

WASTE SITE CLEAN UP

The Norwood Health Department has secured a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to encourage and facilitate community involvement in the clean-up activities at the former Zimble Drum and former Winslow Tannery located on Endicott Street. The meeting is scheduled for Dec. 3, at Memorial Hall in Town Hall.

STAMBANDET SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Emmanuel Lutheran Church will host Stambandet, a Scandinavian vocal ensemble, on Sunday, Dec. 14, at 4 p.m. Presenting a Swedish Christmas through music, traditions and pageantry, the singers wear folk clothing representing their particular heritages, Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian. A narrator will invite the audience into the traditions of a Swedish family and set the stage for different groups of songs, each reflecting a particular time of the Christmas season. A high-

light comes when St. Lucia and her attendants appear out of the darkness, dressed in white and carrying candles. They will bring us all light in the darkest time of the year. Come share with us a respite from the busy season and a treat, musically and visually, to remind all of the true meaning of the Advent and Christmas seasons. Coffee, a Swedish punch and cookies will be served following the concert. Tickets, \$15 for adults and \$5 for youth ages 5-15, will be available at the door the day of the performance. Emmanuel Lutheran Church is located at 24 Berwick St. For more information, call (781) 762-9457.

MADRIGAL BANQUET

The Annual Madrigal Banquet will take place on Friday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m., at the Elks Hall on Elks Way. The evening will feature 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. The cost of admission is \$35 per person. To purchase your tickets, or reserve tables of 10, please contact Catherine Connor-Moen, director of Fine Arts for the Norwood Public Schools, at (781) 440-5916. This event is sponsored by the Norwood Parents Music Association. All proceeds benefit Norwood music students.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

A Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 26, at 7 p.m., at the First Congregational Church, at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street. The Rev. John Hamilton will conduct the service. All are invited to attend.

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Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Recreation Department Superintendent Gerry Miller and Fields Committee member Rick Morrison have some big plans in mind for local athletic fields.

Last Wednesday, Miller and Morrison went before the Norwood School Committee to discuss the condition and status of some ongoing projects, and to get a pulse on the state of the town's fields in the wake of the Norwood High School building project.

Miller said the committee met last week and received a breakdown of the impact the project will have on field usage and gym space. It has been determined that a portion of the gymnasium will

Miller and Morrison discuss plans for local fields

be closed off and that at least one field will be lost during construction of the new school.

The committee paid particular attention to fields at the Balch school, and Miller said they are in the process of putting together a plan to update two of the existing fields there to make room for the displaced high school teams.

"We've asked you to come in tonight because this is where our baseball team will be playing, and if we're going to make upgrades,

we need to do it for them too," School Committee Chairman Paul Samargedlis said.

"The softball field isn't in bad shape, but the baseball field could use some work," Miller said, adding that the irrigation system may need to be replaced as well.

Miller and Morrison agreed that meeting with local coaches helped them get a better idea of what the expectations for the fields will be in the upcoming seasons, but said a meeting with Athletic Director Brian McDonough was essential to future planning regarding high school programs and field usage.

"I would ask that either myself or Gerry be included in the next meeting with the athletic director," Morrison said. "I'm concerned that at the monthly Committee of 21 meetings, most of the decisions have been made and the conversations have already taken place. There's really not much

room for new ideas or discussion."

The question of how the school system will adjust to the sudden lack of field space and the closing of the gymnasium has been a hot topic on local agendas lately, as various groups and committees struggle to find open space in town that will suit the varied needs of Norwood's athletic programs.

"The question of gym space is something I have big concerns about," committee member Bill Plasko, Jr. said. "There are a lot of players in this project and it's a collaborative effort. The communication is great, but further opening the lines of communication will benefit all of us."

Samargedlis said he wanted to make sure the school committee was aware of the conditions of the fields, and exactly how much space the town had to work with to try and solve the problem.

"I want to stay updated on the space we have and what is being done with it," he said.

Samargedlis also asked Miller if there were any preliminary cost estimates for the planned repairs to the Balch fields.

"I've had estimates from \$41,000 to \$21,000 ranging from turf to grass," he said. "but we're trying to find out what the needs of the schools and the neighborhood are."

Miller added that there is currently \$20,000 earmarked in the FY09 DPW budget to fund the project.

Samargedlis suggested the committees consider splitting the cost of the project between the schools and the town since the fields will be shared, but the committee declined to vote on that issue or discuss it in detail last Wednesday night.

Member Mark Joseph said that while there is much work ahead, the fields committee had made remarkable progress in maintaining Norwood's fields.

"When I came on the board 12 years ago, having fields was a dream," he said. "But you've exceeded our goals and expectations and our fields are beautiful."

Carroll *continued from page 2*

like they have something to contribute. He really brings out the best in people, which is a sign of a truly great leader," he said.

South Norwood Committee President Patty Bailey echoed Lyons comments, thanking him for

his years of service and his commitment to the community. "He has always been so approachable," She said. "His door is always open."

Board member Bill Plasko said his first vote as a Selectmen was to hire Carroll, a vote he said failed the first time around.

"It was a technicality, of course," he said, in response to the laughter echoing through Memorial Hall. "John is truly deserving of our attention today. A lot of people may call him a carpetbagger, but except for the time he's spends sleeping, he's here in Norwood."

Carroll lives in Milton with his wife Penny, and the two have raised a prolific family of 16 children and countless grandchildren. His resume includes stints as a town engineer and public works superintendent and state DPW commissioner, magazine editor and lobbyist and military man, but said there's something special about Norwood that has kept him here for so long.

"The people of the community are so involved and active, and it's the projects that effect the neighborhoods that I enjoy the most. It's solving their problems and addressing their concerns that means the most to me," he said.

While it is the most gratifying part of his job, sometimes getting the community on board with projects and plans is often the most

challenging part of his job. "It is hard to convince people, sometimes it takes years," he said, "but it's because people care about their town."

Finance Commission Chair Allan Howard said that while he's had his fair share of spats with Carroll, he respects and appreciates the hard work and dedication the manager puts in for the town.

"I have to give credit where credit is due," he said. "He is a true professional. Norwood has been very well managed and well run, and we're very lucky."

Police Chief Bartley King said in his years as police chief he has found Carroll to be a generous, thoughtful and considerate leader.

"He is a great person to work for," he said. "He always has the best interest of the town at heart and in mind."

Carroll's heart is certainly imbedded in Norwood. So much so that he told his crowd of admirers at Memorial Hall that although his street address is in Milton, his heart resides at 566 Washington Street.

"He is truly a happy man," Mrs. Carroll said. "He wakes up happy to go to work every morning, and that's because this is truly a special town. We are so thankful to the people of Norwood."

Krystal Grow can be reached at kgrow@norwoodrecord.com or by calling (781) 769-1725.

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