

TM has attendance issues

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

The local government election in Norwood is set for April 6.

Among the many open and contested seats for positions on the Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Planning Board are open Town Meeting Seats in all but one district.

According to data from the Town Clerk and Accountant's office, there are around 90 regular Town Meeting seats that will be on the ballot on April 6. Additionally, there are around 10 seats across the nine districts in town that do not have a candidate running for them.

All in all, only 76 candidates - excluding write-in candidates - are running for the open seats.

Town Meeting, comprised of 243 members and several at-large positions, is responsible for approving fiscal year budgets, zoning and regular by-laws, and accepting local option statutes of the Commonwealth.

Despite the important tasks they are charged with, Town Meeting member attendance regularly declined over the course of both the Annual and Special Town Meetings in 2014.

During the Annual in May - which lasted five days - attendance was at its highest on the first day, with 190 present and 58 absent on May 12. By the end, attendance had dipped to 143 present and 105 absent.

Only 159 members were present on Nov. 17, the first day of the two-day Special Town Meeting. On Nov. 20, 139 were present and 105 were absent.

And among those absences are over 50 members who did not attend even half

TM Attendance
Continued on page 12



The Norwood Recreation Department hosted its 2015 Easter Egg hunt at Jean Brown field at the Cleveland School on March 28. Families with children in preschool through second grade braved the snowfall to hunt for Easter eggs and meet the Easter Bunny Saturday morning on Nichols Street. Despite the weather and having to cancel the flashlight egg hunt on Friday night, the Recreation Department had a good turnout to its annual event. Even some parents couldn't help but join in the fun.

PHOTOS BY PAUL ELDRIDGE



Schools find some money 15 positions rescued from chopping block

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

After working with the general government to free up almost \$1 million, the School Committee approved the restoration of around 15 positions that had been cut from the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget during a meeting on March 25.

The School Committee had approved the elimination of 26 positions across the school district for the 2015-2016 school year in order to help cover a \$2.5 million budget deficit on March 18.

For many community members - who cited that it was not just a School De-

partment problem, but a community-wide problem - this was unacceptable.

"The revenue issue has to be addressed," said parent Ed Ferris, who said the cuts were "devastating" to everyone with a child in the schools. "There's not a lot of practical results you can gain when you don't have a clear path to go towards."

Ferris also suggested a communication problem between the schools and the general government, as well as a lack of identified targets in the budget.

Norwood Teachers Association president Jody Smith agreed that there was a community-wide structural deficit prob-

lem, saying students will be the ones who suffer as long as even one teacher present this year is not in the classroom next year.

"It is our responsibility as a committee to educate every single child in this town to let them reach their potential," Smith said.

Smith also said there were many teachers whose positions have been on the chopping block year after year, which was "demoralizing."

On March 23, the general government side approved using \$130,000 from the

School Money
Continued on page 14

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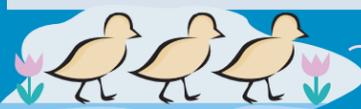
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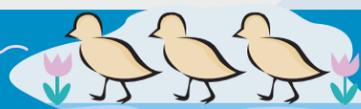
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Selectmen support Balch Field light removal

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

The Board of Selectmen authorized Town General Manager John Carroll to request a reserve fund transfer from the Finance Commission in order to afford the removal of light poles at Eliot Field.

Following the collapse of two of the eight light poles at the baseball field - located behind the Balch School - Carroll recommended that the poles be removed in order to prevent further safety hazards.

Carroll said they had received three proposals from companies to do the work - Island Lighting and Power came in with a \$21,500 bid, Green Acres Landscaping and Construction bid \$24,312, and RED Corporation bid \$31,300 - and they appeared to be settled on Island Lighting and Power.

"We know Island Lighting and Power and they're an excellent company," Carroll said.

Carroll conceded they did not have enough money to do

the project and requested permission to approach the Finance Commission regarding the reserve fund transfer.

The Selectmen voted 4-1 in favor of supporting Carroll's request, with Helen Abdallah Donohue opposed.

"I am in favor of the lights because it's a tradition that baseball is played there. It's already in existence and I'm definitely in favor," Donohue said. "The only question I have is, if we take down the other six poles without testing them first and they are good, it will cost us more money. I would rather do the test now that the weather is better and if those poles are okay, than why should we spend the money to replace them?"

Carroll also said they would have Gale Associates examine the remaining 12 light poles on the facility, located at the softball field and the basketball court, in order "to ascertain their condition."

Carroll went on to say the Town should determine whether or not it would want to light the field "in a modern way," which would cost

an estimated \$800,000.

During the meeting, Light Department Superintendent James Collins made his monthly report, and provided an update on the 115KV transmission light replacement project.

Collins said they were moving through the permitting process and were on track since the Town completed the purchase of the 83-acre Walker Property to mitigate wetland disturbances, as regulated by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Collins also said they were still in the "120 day period" with the Army Corps of Engineers until April 10, but had not heard anything adverse regarding receiving the permit.

Donohue asked about the height of the poles that would carry the transmission lines.

Collins responded that there wouldn't be much difference from the current poles, but there would be some adjustments. For instance, they were close to

Selectmen

Continued on page 6

RUSSELL, McTERNAN, McTERNAN & FRUCI, LLP
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The Reviews Are In! Those Who Know Leadership... Support BILL PLASKO!

"There is no doubt in my mind that Bill Plasko has been one of the **hardest working Selectmen** I've ever seen in my 36 years of service as Norwood's Town Clerk & Accountant.

In order to see the results of Mr. Plasko's labor over the years, one need only drive around Norwood and observe. Bill's vital involvement in the town's "Committee of 21" groups and other subcommittees over the years has resulted in his "fingerprints" being evident in Norwood's impressive **Police/Fire Building**, a glistening new **High School Campus** and a state-of-the-art **DPW Facility** currently under construction.

Because of Mr. Plasko's efforts over the years, the Town of Norwood has **very low average residential tax & utility bills** compared to its neighboring towns and recently received a **bond rating increase to AA+**. We also have strong Public Safety and Public Works divisions, which result in our streets being both safe and clean.

I hope that you will join me in thanking him for his tireless efforts on our behalf by voting to **re-elect Mr. Bill Plasko on Monday, April 6**. Thank you!"

Robert M. Thornton, CPA
Former Norwood Town Clerk & Accountant

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William J. Plasko, Sr.
Selectman

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- Senator Mike Rush

"Bill is a difference-maker and works tirelessly on behalf of the residents that we both represent."
- Representative John Rogers

"How about these qualities? Smart, leadership, work ethic, honest, institutional knowledge. Bill is a 'can-do' guy who gets it done!"
- Judy Langone, Finance Commissioner

"On committees, Bill listens to all sides, seeks out creative solutions, and brings people together for a common goal. I'm proud to support Bill Plasko."
- Joe Sheehan, Planning Board Member

"We worked side-by-side on the Board for 9 years. I know the commitment it takes - and I know that Bill brings his 'A-Game' every day, to every issue. Now, more than ever, the smart choice for Norwood is Bill Plasko."
- Jerry Kelleher, former Selectman

"As a professional ambulance service executive, I know that Bill's efforts to bring Advanced Life Support (ALS) to the Fire Dept. resulted in enhanced safety for Norwood residents."
- Michael Nemeskal, ALS Study Committee Member

"Bill has owned a local business and he knows the concerns of owners. He's an asset to Norwood Center and all who live and work in town."
- Jean Ferrara Taylor, Downtown Steering Committee

"Bill is knowledgeable on procedures and bylaws. In fact, he has written many of them himself!"
- Patty Griffin Starr, Housing Authority Commissioner

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—J.B.K.

OPINION

I have forfeited the privilege

Even men of recognized intellect have been known to stumble from greatness on occasion by making a mistake. Therefore, it should come as no surprise how often they are made by men of pedestrian intelligence like me, and the latest screw up has caused a problem.

Regular readers may remember a number of weeks back when a member of the Board of Selectmen took the local press to task for not promoting elections enough, which is one reason turnout at the polls had been so poor. Well, your humble scribe took this to heart and decided to forego a previously hard and fast rule of not allowing endorsement letters to be published prior to an election, which is pretty industry standard. The faulty logic behind the decision was that if more people read the letters more would have an interest and take the time to vote, and this may still turn out to be true. However, what was not anticipated was the vast number of letters subsequently submitted when the first few appeared in print, well more than we could possibly publish. Hence the dilemma.

The conspiracy theorists among our readership will surmise that because their letters didn't appear on our pages, we must logically be rooting for the other guy. This couldn't be further from the truth. Each of the challenging candidates to incumbents have established themselves as worthy of the positions, more so than in recent memory. Quite frankly, it's been encouraging to see the signs pop up on peoples' snow banks and watch as intelligent answers were given to questions posed by the recent League of Women's Voters Candidates Forum. There are no poor choices.

Typically in the issue just prior to any election, this newspaper would endorse candidates it feels are best qualified to steer the Town in the proper direction. However, in an attempt to be fair to everyone, I have decided we will not be doing so this year. It is my way of trying to level the playing field as best as possible, a mea culpa to the unpublished letter writers who were rooting for the guy we would not have endorsed. We will also be falling back to our prior policy of not publishing endorsement letters in our Letters to the Editor section during future elections.

In a somewhat unrelated note, this newspaper recently learned that Boston police officer and former U.S. Army Ranger, John Moynihan, recently severely wounded in the line of duty, grew up in Norwood. Moynihan, a decorated soldier with tours of combat duty in Iraq was shot in the face while protecting the citizens of Boston neighborhoods, just like he was protecting you and me while serving in the military. He is still hospitalized, but reports of his recovery are encouraging. A very nice way to recognize Officer Moynihan would be to get out and vote on Monday. You would not only be fulfilling your obligation as a citizen, but also be recognizing all soldiers like Moynihan who are willing to lay down their lives for your continued ability to cast a ballot. Isn't that reason enough to take a few minutes out of one day?

Dennis Cawley

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL – PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeal of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** in **ROOM 12** of the **Municipal Office Building** on **April 21, 2015 at 7:30 pm** on the request of 738 Washington Street, Nominee Trust (Case #15-09) with respect to property located on **738 Washington Street**, in a **CB- Central Business District**.

The application requests:

This Application requests a Special Permit under Sections 3.1.5 A-5 of the Zoning Bylaw to allow applicant to create a first floor one bedroom apartment from space previously used as office/commercial space. There will be no exterior changes to the dimension of existing building.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeal and may be viewed during normal working hours, Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

BOARD OF APPEAL
Philip W. Riley , Chairman; Patrick J. Mulvehill, Harry T. Spence,
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Norwood Record, 04/02/2015, 04/09/2015

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Selectmen continued from page 3

the minimum height over I-95 and would be increasing the height by five to ten feet. Overall, he said, the wooden H-frame poles would be between 60-80 feet tall, with around ten feet in the ground.

Donohue also asked whether the Light Department would be installing them, to which Collins said the project would be going out to bid, since they do not have the equipment to do that type of work. He also said the only metal poles the Light Department has are at the Dean Street Substation.

Earlier in the meeting, Bryan Jarvis of Compass Project Management, provided an update on the Department of Public Works (DPW) building project.

Jarvis reported that the project was still on schedule for a September delivery and was tracking to be on budget.

He said much progress had been made at the Lyman Street site since the weather had improved. The administration building would be near completion in July, and the maintenance garage was also moving along. Excavation would also soon be taking place for the salt shed, Jarvis said.

Jarvis added that they were now back on the schedule they had prior to the snowfall in February. They were able to do so in part because of when the snow fell, and were able to make up for many delays even before the snow began.

Permanent Building Construction Committee Chairman Ed McKenna said they were fortunate to have a good contractor and a good “super.”

“Despite having a very tight site and no room to move, this man has been able to keep things moving,” McKenna said.

DPW Superintendent and Town Engineer Mark Ryan announced that leaf bag pick up in Town would begin again on April 6. He also said the Spring-themed banners, provided by Norwood Bank and designed by the Downtown Steering Committee, were being installed on light posts along Washington Street this week.

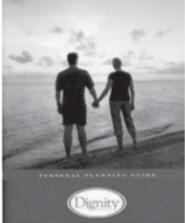
The Selectmen supported the reappointment of Cheryl Rogers, Peter Bamber, Joe DiMaria and Carol Fishman to the Conservation Commission. Rogers said they were all on the same appointment schedule because they had to be re-sworn in during glitch in the system when Town Meeting members all had to run again. Carroll also mentioned there were two open positions on the Conservation Commission.

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Grilled Salmon \$15⁹⁹
Fresh salmon filet char-grilled with potato and vegetable, soup or salad.

Fried Clams & Scallops \$18⁹⁹
Native whole clams and scallops flash fried, served with French fries and homemade cole slaw, soup or salad.

Appetizers

Cranberry Pecan Salad \$4
Fresh mixed field greens with candied pecans, sun dried cranberries, Feta cheese and homemade cranberry vinaigrette.

Spinach Stuffed Mushrooms \$8
Sautéed white mushroom caps filled with baby leaf spinach, garlic-herb Boursin cream cheese, baked with seasoned bread crumbs.

Entrées

Guinness Braised Lamb Shank \$18⁹⁹
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Uber's presence in Norwood both a benefit and a concern

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 3, the Town of Norwood revoked a hackney license for American Executive Taxi, leaving six cab companies operating within the Town.

"We've had a number of complaints about taxis recently and have brought those before the Board when we thought action was warranted," Chief of Police William Brooks said.

Hackney Officer Paul Murphy said he received an estimated 10 complaints over the last year regarding taxi service in Norwood - with many of the recent complaints coming from customers "frustrated with the amount of time they had to wait for a cab or the unavailability of cabs" during the winter weather. American Executive Taxi was the only company to have its license to operate in Town revoked.

But with the complaints regarding cab companies that have reached the Selectmen's agenda several times over the last year, and the roughly 23 individual taxicabs remaining

in service in Norwood, some residents may consider taking advantage of rideshare mobile applications, such as Uber and Lyft.

These "apps" allow users to find private vehicle drivers to bring them to a destination in exchange for a fee. For example, an Uber driver, hailed from a mobile phone, could transport an individual from Norwood Airport to Norwood Hospital, about two miles, for a fare estimate of between \$7 and \$9. Depending on the time of day, riders wait for as little as two minutes before their ride arrives at the requested pick up area.

A metered cab, from Norwood Town Taxi, on the other hand, would take you between the same points for \$4 for the first mile, then \$3 for each additional mile after that.

To some, these rideshare apps may seem like another taxi company - one that works according to the rider's schedule.

In its legal framework, however, Uber insists that is "does not provide transportation or logistics services or

function as a transportation carrier."

"Uber does not come under our regulations because of the way they operate," Brooks said. "In fact, livery cars don't either."

Instead, Uber says its services can be used "to request and schedule transportation or logistics services with third party providers," but the company assumes no liability.

Recently, Uber made it easier for drivers to use their own smart phones instead of company-provided phones. Relaxed regulations have allowed some drivers to purchase multiple cars and hire out subcontracted drivers. Some of the owners lease cars directly to the drivers, while others split fares taken in.

Murphy said Uber drivers are not regulated by the Town and, therefore, police only become involved if there is a criminal complaint. And for Murphy, the concept of "Uber fleets" resembles "a Cab Company without rules and regulations."

"We've been telling people

Uber

Continued on page 14

NORWOOD PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of MGL CH40A, Section 5, the Norwood Planning Board will hold a public hearing on April 13, 2015 at 7:15 P.M. at Norwood Town Hall, 566 Washington Street, Norwood, MA in Room 12.

The purpose of the public hearing is to accept public comments on the proposed amendments to the Zoning Bylaw. The proposed zoning bylaw amendments would change: Section 7.5.1 Definitions; (2) Section 2.2 Overlay Districts; (3) Section 3.1.5 (F) Table of Use Regulations.

Copies of the proposed Zoning Bylaws amendments are available at the Norwood Planning Department and the office of the Town Clerk.

Joseph F. Sheehan, Clerk

Norwood Record, 3/26/15, 4/2/15

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WINES & SPIRITS



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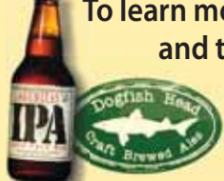
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Sports

Comback falls short as Mustangs lose to Mansfield

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

Norwood's late charge wasn't enough to overcome some early mistakes as they fell to Mansfield on opening night, 13-11.

Danny Farrell led the Mustangs in scoring, factoring in on more than half of their goals. He scored five of his own, assisting on three others. Kyle McCue had three goals, while Eric Sullivan had a pair of both goals and assists. Mark Murray also had a goal for Norwood in the Bay State-Hockomock clash.

Trailing by five at halftime (9-4) and the end of the third quarter (12-7), the Mustangs showed resolve by slowly chipping away at the Hornets in the fourth quarter, cutting the deficit to 12-11 at 6:17 of the period on Farrell's final goal of the evening. But when Mansfield stretched the lead to two at 9:50, they also went man-up thanks to an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty against Norwood, all but ensuring the score would hold for the 13-11 final.

"We started a ton of new guys, so it was sort of to be expected," said head coach Anthony Roman of his team's slow start to the game. Murray's goal



A furious comeback, led by standout Danny Farrell, was not enough for the Norwood boys lacrosse team as they fell to Mansfield 13-11 last week.

opened scoring in the contest, but the Hornets scored four unanswered to grab control. "I'm never going to expect to get down 9-4 in the first half, but I knew with the guys we had that we were going to start off

slow and it went just the way we thought. I'm really glad the way we fought back.

Roman was critical of his teams many mistakes, particularly those that game in the first half.

"Some from some young guys, some from some veterans," he said. "But it's the first game. It's alright."

Norwood's largest deficit of the night was seven, when Mansfield went up 11-4 at 3:54

of the third quarter. With the game trending towards a blow-out, McCue responded with two goals in a 33-second span, kicking off what was a 7-2 Mustang run for the remainder of the game.

Farrell scored four of the Mustangs final five goals, including two tallies just over a minute apart at the beginning of the fourth quarter.

"Anytime we can get him going, it's always a huge deal," said Roman of his co-captain. Farrell is coming off a season in which he was named the first All-American in the history of Norwood boy's lacrosse. "Everybody sort of feeds off of it. Once he started finding his mojo, that's when we started cooking."

The Mustangs fell in their home opener on Monday, 16-7 against Foxboro, in another Bay State-Hockomock showdown. Farrell had three more goals, giving him eight total on the young season. JJ O'Donnell was an outstanding 18-for-27 on faceoffs for Norwood in the losing effort.

It's a quiet week coming up for the Mustangs, with just one game on the schedule. They'll host Cohasset in another non-league game, this time against a South Shore League opponent on Saturday at 1 p.m.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Girls lacrosse team opens season with victory

Jake Levin
Staff Reporter

The Mustangs girl's lacrosse team opened its season with a 13-10 road win over the Braintree Wamps on Monday afternoon.

The game played out in three distinct phases for Norwood. After swapping goals early on, even trailing 3-2 at one point, the Mustangs went on a 7-1 run to close the half, giving themselves a large enough cushion to nullify Braintree's rapid push in the latter portion of the second half, when the Wamps were able to turn a six-goal deficit into just two.

"I think that we got a little anxious when they got two goals in a row, and we just kind of fell apart a little bit and thought that we needed to get those goals back as fast as we could," said head coach Caitlin

Harrington after the game. "I'm always telling them, 'we don't have a shot clock in lacrosse, so take a second, make smart decisions.'"

Kacie Smith had seven goals for Norwood to lead the way, including the first and last goal of each half. Val Quinlan added three goals for the Mustangs, while Julia Higgins, the lone freshman on the roster, notched a pair in her first varsity game.

"She's tall and she's fast," Harrington said of Higgins, noting the degree of difficulty for freshman making the varsity team right from the get-go. Last year, Coley Hayes was the lone freshman to get the varsity nod.

Maura O'Neill also added a single goal for the Mustangs.

Juniors Alex Dimitriou and



The talented Mustang squad kicked off the season with a 13-10 victory over Braintree. The team will play the Wamps once again, but at home this time, on April 10.

Girls Lacrosse
Continued on page 11

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

Girls Lacrosse continued from page 10

DEATHS

CONTON

Louise M. (Charron), 88, lifelong resident of Norwood, on Feb. 20. Beloved daughter of the late Eugene R. and Georgianna (Healy) Charron. Devoted wife of the late John F. Conton. Loving mother of Gerard D. Conton and his fiancée Cindy Marden, Mary Lou Conton, Norwood, the late James E. Conton and Jayne Holway-Pestana. Cherished grandmother of Ryan P. Dempsey and his wife Julie, of Norfolk, Michael J. Dempsey, of Franklin, N.H. and Daniel J. Holway of Concord, N.H. Dear sister of Margaret Meyer and her husband Jesse of Middleboro, Jean Poce and her husband John of Norwood, Paul Charron and his wife Joan of Norwood, Alice DeAbreu and her husband Edmund of Halifax. Also, leaves many cousins, nieces and nephews. Dear neighbor of Anne Ranalli of Norwood. Funeral Mass 11 a.m. Monday, April 6 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood. Interment will follow at Highland Cemetery, Norwood.

DAVIS

Eleanor M. (Brown), of Westwood, formerly of Norwood, March 26, in her 100th year. Beloved wife of the late Arthur E. Davis and sister of the late Evelyn Jones, Frances Dundulis, and Dorothy Hunt. Survived by many loving nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews. Relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral Wednesday, April 1 at 2 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 150 Chapel St., Norwood, MA 02062 followed by burial in Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations to Grace Church (address above) would be appreciated.

HOLWAY-PESTANA

Jayne E. (Conton), 54, formerly of Norwood. Beloved daughter of the late John and Louise (Charron) Conton of Norwood. Wife of the late Richard Pestana, Tilton, N.H. Loving mother of Ryan P. Dempsey and his wife Julie of Norfolk, Michael J. Dempsey of Franklin, N.H. and Daniel J. Holway of Concord, N.H. Dear sister of Gerard D. Conton and his fiancée Cindy Marden, Mary Lou Conton and Anthony Afamefuna. Step-grandmother of Zachary and Nathan Holmes of Norfolk. Also, leaves many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Former wife of Wayne Holway, New Hampshire, and the late John Dempsey, Norwood. Arrangements were by the Cremation Society of NH. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at the same time as her mother, Louise Conton, at 11 a.m. Monday April 6 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Norwood, MA. Interment will follow at Highland Cemetery, Norwood.

MCNULTY

Joseph F., Ph.D., 85, of Norwood and a member of the Third Order of Preachers (Dominicans) on March 24. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth Colyvas McNulty, he is survived by his sisters, Mary and Theresa. Funeral services will be held on Monday, March 30, at 9 a.m. at the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole St., NORWOOD, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St., Norwood. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday, March 29, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Please omit flowers. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

TARUTIS

Edward J. A lifelong resident of Norwood passed away on March 23, 2015 at the age of 88. Beloved husband of Lillian B. (Katkauskas) Tarutis. Devoted father of Robert J. Tarutis and his wife Elaine A. of Norfolk. Brother of George Tarutis of California. Cherished grandfather of Jonathan and Ethan Tarutis both of Norfolk. Son of the late James and Anna (Janusaitis) Tarutis. Edward was a graduate of Norwood High School and was a former employee for Roche Bros in Westwood, Factory Mutual and Plimpton Press. A funeral home service will be held on Thursday Evening March 26, 2015 7:30pm at the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St., Norwood. Visiting hours will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2015 from 4-8 p.m. At the request of the family burial will be private. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to the ASPCA 424 E. 92nd St. New York, NY 10128 or to the MSPCA 350 S. Huntington Ave. Boston, MA. 02130.

Sam Shea split time in goal for Norwood, each playing exactly one half.

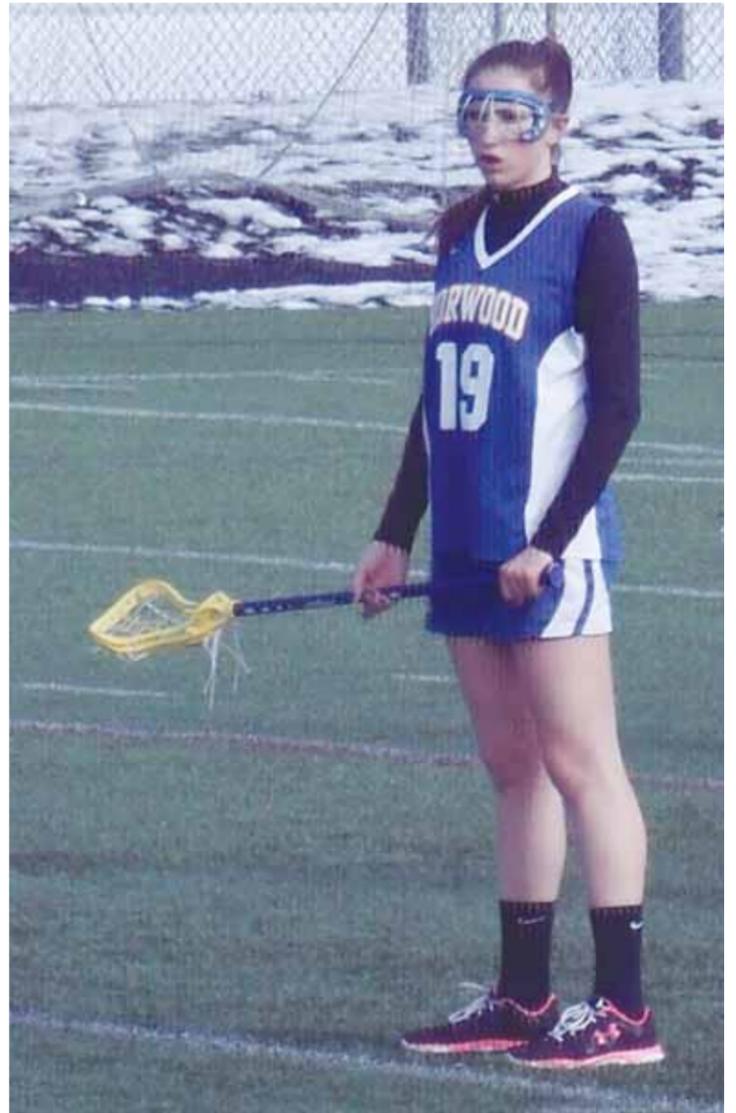
"We have some new blood in net this year," said Harrington of her newcomers between the pipes. Demetrio played the entire first half, Shea the entire second. "They're both new to varsity, Sam's new to the sport even, so I wanted to see how she'd do. We've only had one scrimmage, and they both did great, so I wanted to really give them both equal playing time today and see how they did."

The Mustangs had a 12-6 lead with 9:28 to go in the game and were seemingly on cruise control. But the Wamps were able to at the very least make things interesting, scoring four unanswered to cut the Norwood lead to two with 3:30 to go.

"They're an aggressive team," said Harrington. "I know that they're scrappy, and that they could have come back, so we were really focusing on ball control and possession at that point."

Doing just that, milking the clock for the final minute-plus, Smith got her lucky seventh goal with just 3 seconds left on the clock for the 13-10 final.

A long layoff awaits the Mustangs, as the wrath of the winter continues to be



Julia Higgins, above, is the lone freshman on a deep, experienced Norwood girls lacrosse team.

PHOTO BY JAKE LEVIN

felt by teams without turf fields. A game originally scheduled for this Friday with Brookline was pushed back to the very end of the

season, so instead, Norwood's next game will also be vs. Braintree, this time at home but not until Friday, April 10 at 4 p.m.



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IT IS TIME FOR CHANGE and BRING BACK DENIS DRUMMEY as SELECTMAN!

TO THE RESIDENTS OF NORWOOD:

I endorse former Selectmen Denis Drummey for the open seat on the Board of Selectmen and I encourage your readers to vote for him on Monday, April 6th. He will bring much needed change to Norwood. Let me tell you about my experiences with both the current leadership and how it compares to what Denis will bring to the table.

Bill Plasko was the Chairman of the Board of Selectman last year. He stated publicly many times that the town did not meet the 1½% threshold needed to protect it from hostile apartment developers. Yet back on September 4, 2013 he authored the Official Community Response Letter to the Davis Group stating that, with the Upland Woods 40B project, Norwood met the 1½% threshold. Bill submitted this letter to Mass Development (a state agency for housing). By changing his tune, did Bill open up the town to potential litigation from Davis? We need consistent leadership. It is time to Bring Back Denis Drummey as Selectman!

Bill Plasko is the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) but never brought in the owners of Regal, Plimpton or Folsom to talk about TIFs (Tax Incentive Finance Agreements) to attract new business to Norwood. Instead, he supported 40R smart growth, building over 400 apartments at the Regal, Plimpton, and Folsom locations. What would that do to the school budget? One of the requirements of 40R is that the development has to be 20 housing units per acre, Mr. Plasko supports 78 housing units per acre. WOW! Over 375% of what is required by the law! Is that smart growth? Denis Drummey understands that we need a broader commercial base more than we need additional apartments. It is time to Bring Back Denis Drummey as Selectman!

Due to Upland Woods, children at the Oldham School, who already have to deal with mobile classrooms, are looking at even larger classroom sizes. That is, if the influx of new students from Upland Woods doesn't cause school redistricting, which will affect students in all of Norwood's elementary schools. The impact of Upland Woods is environmental as well as educational. Many of the cellars of the downstream neighborhoods of the apartment complex are getting water for the first time because of the storm water generated from the clear cutting of trees at the building site. This project is already under construction even though it could have been downsized or even stopped all together if Norwood didn't voluntarily give the developer a waiver that allowed them to ignore our Conservation Bylaws. Denis knows the value of our schools and our environment. It is Time to Bring Back Denis Drummey!

Bill Plasko and I are members of the 1½% Task Force. We need crucial GIS (Geographical Information System) backup data for our work. The Town's report doesn't have it! As a Selectman, Bill failed to fund the purchase of this data from a consultant. Andy Murphy, the Assistant Town Engineer, never asked the Conservation Commission for data, as was admitted during a Task Force meeting. Further, Bill insists on having Andy be the point man for the 1½% report even though he has never authored a 1½% report before. It is like going to your primary care doctor to get brain surgery. What have Andy's reports missed? 444 acres at Norwood Airport, 3.3 acres of Boston Public Library land on Access Road, the emergency access road at Upland Woods, the second storm-water detention basin and part of the dog park at Upland Woods. These acreages were all found by citizens and experts hired by citizens. Over a year ago in an email, I submitted the storm-water detention basins at Upland Woods to Mr. Plasko for consideration in Norwood's 1½% report. He said he would ask Town Counsel for an opinion. Mr. Plasko said after review it could not be counted. Then, after I rented a plane to fly over Upland Woods to take aerial photos, I submitted it again, this time to the Task Force.

I was told that this was new information and it is now part of Norwood's report, which puts Norwood over the threshold of 1½% without the Regal property. Didn't Bill forward this info? Also, why didn't Norwood's Town Counsel know about the storm-water detention basin restrictions? It is in the Comprehensive Permit, the Storm-Water Management Plan and Conservation Commission Orders of Conditions for Upland Woods, all of which Town Counsel was consulted on. Denis has a keen interest in 1½% matters and won't let opportunities pass the town by. It is Time to Bring Back Denis Drummey!

With, my own money, I commissioned Mr. Dick Heaton to do a report for Norwood. He has extensive consultative experience in these specific matters. He has worked on over 90 different projects for over 45 different communities in the Commonwealth. Additionally, I hired Attorney Dan Hill, who also is an expert in the 40B 1½% statutory minimum and has argued before the Housing Appeals Court to examine the report submitted to the Board of Selectman. Bill and some of his supporters have used the debates to disparage these experts' reputations without ever having a meeting to go over the report. Mr. Plasko also touts the fact that he gained a safe harbor with the Housing Production Plan. This was the work of the late Mr. Steve Costello, Norwood's former Town Planner, not Mr. Plasko. Denis Drummey talked to Senator Marian Walsh and Representative John Rogers in 2003 about the dangers we faced with 40B law in the Town and, after he stepped down as Selectman, the Board has done little to protect Norwood. That is why, 13 years later, we still need a safe harbor. Denis takes the time to weigh all the evidence before him and then takes decisive action. It is time to Bring Back Denis Drummey as Selectman!

Mr. Plasko states he has known about the 1½% 40B minimum for years. Let's assume that this is the case. At the 2009 Town Meeting, it was voted to sell 52 Valley Rd. to the Housing Authority with negotiated conditions approved by the Board of Selectman. This sale did not take place until November 2013. Why didn't Mr. Plasko, as chairman of the Board of Selectman, or our Town Counsel, motion to have an affordable deed restriction placed on the property as a condition of the sale? This would have given Norwood even more of a buffer. It is time for change!

The residents have tried to voice their concerns to the Board of Selectmen about the schools, the asphalt plant, Upland Woods, the airport, the deteriorating pumping station, Plimpton and Regal Press, just to name a few. These issues have been used to divide our Town and our voices have all fallen upon deaf ears. Yet, residents have been called "nasty abutters," among other things, for daring to advocate for their community. Perhaps if Norwood's government listened to the citizenry, we wouldn't have so many problems with the airport. How ridiculous it is to even consider landing helicopters at the Norwood Dump when we have an airport! Denis listens, responds and will unite Norwood again. It is time to Bring Back Denis Drummey as Selectman!

We are fortunate that Denis Drummey has volunteered to help fix Norwood's problems. Denis Drummey supports responsible economic development and he has a proven track record of getting new businesses to come to Norwood. Please join me in voting for Dennis Drummey on Monday April 6th, 2015 and Bring Back Dennis Drummey as Selectman!

These are my beliefs. I encourage you to ask questions and do your own research. I will be happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,
Brian T. Hardiman
(Cell) 617-293-8489
Town Meeting Member
1½% Task Force Member
Downtown Steering Committee Member

TM Attendance

continued from page 1

of the meetings in 2014. Eighteen of those members are now up for reelection in 2015.

Moderator David Hern said there are acceptable explanations for these absences.

"In some cases, people find that due to unforeseen circumstances, they can't make Town Meeting, and I certainly understand things come up," Hern said. "If somebody finds that they consistently can't make meetings, they ought not to stand for reelection. It might make sense for them to resign, so others can be elected to fill the vacancies."

Yet many of those with poor attendance up for reelection this year said they planned to continue serving as a Town Meeting member.

Town Meeting incumbents are able to retain their seats in a fairly simple manner. To be eligible for reelection, members must simply write to notify the Town Clerk's office. They are not expected to garner signatures.

Hern also said there are no rules in the by-law regarding members attending a minimum number of meetings - or anything regarding removal due to poor attendance - and that such a rule "may or may not be a good idea," due to members who are unable to attend due to illness or personal matters.

"The question is whether the voters re-elect people who don't show up on a regular basis, or who only show up for particular issues," Hern said. "They should look at it and say, 'these people shouldn't be Town Meeting members.'"

But Hern doesn't expect any Town Meeting electoral policies to change anytime soon.

"That process that we go through, where incumbents only have to go to the Town Clerk to run, that's statutory. It's State law, not local law," Hern said.

But Hern did say he supports making the process for reelection more active for incumbents, to possibly dissuade those who lack interest or haven't put in the effort.

"Personally, I don't know why everybody shouldn't be required to go out and get 10 signatures, myself, incumbents, and challengers," Hern said. "It wouldn't hurt, but I don't think that's an option."

Town Meeting members with 2015 terms who attended less than half of the 2014 meetings include: Christopher Allen, Ed Brown, Michael Carr, Mario Costa, William Costello III, Robert Crossen Jr., Paul Erker, Brian Fitzsimmons, Gregory Gamel, John Gover, John Higgins Jr., Mark Paul Joseph, Barry and Shaun Keady, John McCarthy, Mike McDonough, Kelly O'Malley and Joe White.

When reached for an explanation, several members mentioned work and family obligations. Ed Brown of District 8 was unable to make any meetings in 2014, but said he was committed to the job.

"I did try to be there when I could and let my voice be heard," he said, noting he would be seeking reelection.

Others, such as Robert Arnold, who did not attend any of the 2014 meetings, said they did not have an opinion on the issues.

Members with 2016 terms also weighed in, and seemed understanding of those with family priorities.

District one member Chris Campilio said family and work had got in the way of his attending six of the seven meetings in 2014. Donna Breen of District 6, said she and her husband Richard - both 2016 term members - struggled to attend in 2014 due to several deaths in the family, but would be attending the meetings in May.

One Town Meeting member of the class of 2017, who attended all seven meetings and asked not to be named, was less understanding of the absences.

"It's embarrassing," she said. "That's part of the job description, to be there and vote on all the issues."

Hern echoed the importance of the position.

"I would hope that people who run for Town Meeting do so with understanding that they should be at these meetings," he said.

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Uber *continued from page 7*

for years, 'don't take rides from strangers,'" Murphy said. "I don't see any reason to change that message now."

Murphy did say he was unaware of any complaints regarding Uber in Norwood, though most would likely end up being a civil matter anyways. That said, an Uber driver in Boston was charged with indecent assault and battery against a rider on Feb. 8.

Uber said the driver had passed a background inspection with the company. This was not the first incident involving the company, however, as several other complaints of assault were reported by victims who said they had requested an Uber.

While Norwood does not yet have any regulations regarding Uber operations in Town, something could be coming down the pipeline at the state level.

Governor Charlie Baker said on March 4 that rideshare services - such as Uber and Lyft - could see regulations within six months, as Baker and other officials work to develop a licensing framework. Currently, 17 cities have already passed laws regulating or banning rideshare app companies.

In the meantime, Norwood continues to deal with taxi complaints.

During a Selectmen's meeting on March 24, Murphy submitted correspondence notifying the Board of Complaints regarding an unlicensed driver for London Taxi, for which there will be a hearing before the Selectmen in April.

American Executive Taxi - whose license was revoked in Norwood in February - was also accused of having an unlicensed driver during an incident in Foxboro.

Selectmen Bill Plasko and Paul Bishop inquired after methods of alerting the Registry of such problems. Plasko said they have not reached out to the Registry in the past regarding companies who have had to return their licenses to the Town.

Bishop suggested consulting Town Counsel regarding options for alerting to companies whose licenses in Town have been revoked, but are still operating.

London Taxi and Anjou Taxi were also contacted for this story, but did not respond to requests for comment. A representative from Norwood Town Taxi did say they continue to work with the Town to provide "the people of Norwood with the best possible service."

Uber did not respond to a request for comment.

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School Money *continued from page 1*

Town's stabilization fund, as well as raising the School Department's estimates for Circuit Breaker and other reimbursements - under the agreement that the general government would support requests at Town Meeting if the numbers came in lower - in order to allow the Schools to put \$958,962 back into the budget.

"We've done this before, with greater numbers and similar commentary," School Committee chairman John Badger said.

According to Superintendent James Hayden, the estimated Circuit Breaker reimbursement for students with special needs sent out of Norwood was increased to 72 percent, which would result in \$51,000 more reimbursed than in the previous year. The state requires the District to pick up the first \$41,000 and is reimbursed on a sliding scale ranging from 35 to 75 percent.

The School Department was also able to "prepay" some of its special education costs for the upcoming year by using funds from fiscal year 2015 receipts that had been higher than anticipated. Three retirements also accounted for \$195,000.

These included receipts from bus fees on the school side, pre-school extension funds and around \$350,000 from the town side - which came from ambulance receipts, repair and maintenance accounts and interest on debt principals and bonds.

Committee member Courtney Rau Rogers wondered why the \$958,962 wasn't "always on the table to negotiate with," since the general government is able to borrow funds and the schools cannot, even though

schools must open in September no matter what.

As a result, the Schools were able to restore three elementary teachers to reduce some class sizes from their totals in the high 20s. Totalling \$192,026, these positions included a second grade teacher at the Oldham School, a fifth grade teacher at the Callahan School, and a fourth grade teacher at the Prescott School.

At the Coakley Middle School, student services were the focus of the restorations, which totaled \$268,153. In addition to restoring the librarian - allowing the library to open during the school year - the Committee approved putting back a guidance counselor, a technology education teacher, and a Foreign Language and English Language Learner (ELL) teacher, which also freed a reading teacher from ELL duties.

The High School saw \$264,716 worth of restorations, including an English teacher, a Social Studies teacher, a Science Teacher, a library secretary, and a suspension monitor. Funding for club and activities advisers were also restored - allowing clubs and activities to be restored - as were funds for summer guidance work.

The School Committee also approved restoring three music teachers in the system-wide budget, allowing the elementary music program to continue. System-wide restorations accounted for \$233,791 of the \$958,962.

In order to make the restorations, the School Committee approved cutting an additional \$53,000 from the operations budget, which covers things like advertising, postage, and overtime.

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 9th 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.
—M.K.

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.

—J.E.K.

The Phoenix Program was also leaving the Savage Center, resulting in \$85,000 in lost rent, but the extended day kindergarten programs would be able to expand into those spaces, eliminating the need for a wait list, Hayden said.

Considering \$140,466 of kindergarten enrichment grant money lost and the \$130,000 added from the town stabilization fund, the Norwood Public Schools FY 2016 budget now looks to be \$39,483,830.

Badger said those who want to support the School System should become Town Meeting members. The School Committee, he said, is given a figure that it must "fight tooth and nail (over) what gets cut and what doesn't." Only Town Meeting can change how much the School System receives for budgeting.

Badger and Rau also highlighted how the budget process works, with the Schools submitting a first pass in December, while the Town doesn't come out with revenue projections until the middle of January.

This, Rau said, results in a shift of the figures given to run the schools, and eventually, "painful and unnecessary" cuts.

Rau said though the cost of running a school system has gone up, so have household budgets, vendor supply costs, costs of utilities, and as a result, spending. And while the Schools' budget is largely salaries, Rau said Norwood teachers are only being compensated in the middle of the salary range, compared with surrounding towns.

"You have people here who will fight for you, who will work with you," Ferris said. "There is more expertise in this town than you could possibly imagine."

The Committee set a public hearing for the budget on April 29.

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Grateful thanks. —M.K.

Search warrant yields heroin arrest

Sam Nickerson
Staff Reporter

Norwood Police and NORPAC detectives made two arrests at 125 Jefferson Drive on March 24, following an investigation of a known heroin dealer.

Daniel P. Nazario, 26, of 125 Jefferson Drive in Norwood, was arrested following a warranted search of his home and charged with Possession of

Heroin with the Intent to Distribute and Possession of Clonazepam, which is classified as a Class C drug.

Nazario was arraigned in Dedham District Court on March 25 and had his bail from a previous case revoked. Nazario was arrested for heroin trafficking two years ago, police said, after a similar investigation by Norwood Detective Paul Ryan.

Ryan and detective David

Eysie began looking into evidence that Nazario may again be selling heroin in and around Norwood several months ago. When the search warrant was executed on March 24, Norwood and NORPAC detectives discovered heroin trafficking paraphernalia, digital scales, cash, and the Clonazepam pills.

Police said the entry to the home had been reinforced and the detectives were initially unable to gain access, but now

have developed procedures to address the issue.

Yolanda Moore, 37, also of 125 Jefferson Drive, was arrested during the execution of the search warrant and charged with Possession with Intent to Distribute Tramadol, which is a class E substance.

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2'x6'	\$7	6'x9'	\$40
2'x10'	\$10	9'x12'	\$95
3'x5'	\$12	8'x10' w/2'x8'	\$80
4'x6'	\$18	Rug Set	\$80
5'x8'	\$30		

Orbital Lounger Chair
Polyester fabric cover
Comp. \$149
65⁹⁹

Flatweave Indoor/Outdoor Rugs with Jute-back

5'3" x 7'5"	Comp. \$80	\$50
6'8" x 9'	Comp. \$130	\$80

Premium Reversible Outdoor Rugs
100% Polypropylene
Easy to Clean!

4'x6'	\$12
5'x6'6"	\$13
5'x8'	\$20
6'x9'	\$30

9'x12' Reversible Outdoor Rug
Easy to Clean polypropylene
Comp. \$60
\$30

PVC Roll-up Blinds
White or Brown

30"x72"	\$6.99
36"x72"	\$8.99
48"x72"	\$9.99
72"x72"	\$16.99

8 Foot Folding Banquet Table
Powder-coated polyethylene top, won't crack, peel, chip or stain. Portable - great for indoor use.
Comp. \$119
59⁹⁹

4 Foot Folding Table
Center folding table - powder coated steel frame
Comp. \$40
29⁹⁹

Stearns & Coleman PFDs
Choose from Paddling, Skiing, Neoprene & More!
19⁹⁹-39⁹⁹

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8 Foot Folding Banquet Table
Powder-coated polyethylene top, won't crack, peel, chip or stain. Portable - great for indoor use.
Comp. \$119
59⁹⁹

4 Foot Folding Table
Center folding table - powder coated steel frame
Comp. \$40
29⁹⁹