



Local Girl Scouts have launched an initiative to help students in need this prom season. Pictured, left to right, are Isabel Morales, Amanda Johnson and Nichole Adams.

COURTESY PHOTO

Scouts launch Cinderella Project for prom season

Jennifer Santos
Staff Reporter

Girl Scout Troop 74220 of Norwood is playing the role of Fairy Godmother to 15 disadvantaged girls who cannot afford to go to their senior prom.

Using funds from their annual cookie sale, the three high school junior scouts have fronted the costs of prom tickets, a dress, and salon coupons in a package they have come to call The Cinderella Project.

As part of their troop requirement, local Girl Scouts

must develop a business plan and learn to work with local area businesses in their community. The Cinderella Project is the product of that effort and was accomplished despite a cookie sales slump.

This year, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, which serves 45,000 girls aged 5 to 17, reported a 10 to 11 percent drop in cookie sales. Stacy Wilbur, public and media relations manager for Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, said the decrease in sales comes as a result of the season's tough economy, freezing winter, and

the national peanut butter scare.

Although Girl Scout cookies were not affected by the peanut butter recall, Wilbur said the organization still took a hit because customers were afraid to purchase the cookies. Overall, she said people are still buying Girl Scout cookies but not in the same amount that they used to in previous years.

There are currently 24 troops in Norwood between grades K-12. Tess Goutreaux, co-leader of Troop 74220, said

Cinderella

Continued on page 8

Formal protest filed in high school bid

Date with Attorney General set for April 13 on mysterious challenge

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

A formal protest has been filed with the State Attorney General regarding the bids for the Norwood High School project, a move that could prevent the town from awarding a contract for the largest building venture in town history.

According to Town Manager John Carroll, the protest essentially seeks to prevent the town from hiring the high and low bidding general contractor, but does not name who has filed the protest. "The protest is basically trying to knock out Agostini and J & J," Carroll said.

"It has to do, in general, with a failure to accurately and completely provide information," he said, reading directly from the protest notice.

The actual protest filed with the Attorney General and brought to the town's attention Monday only named the attorney representing the protesting party. Attorneys from Hayfitz and Sullivan in Boston did not return calls from the *Record* before press time.

Bonfatti said that it was unusual for a formal protest to leave the actual protester unnamed.

"We really don't know

who filed it," he said, "but it's clearly against Agostini and J & J. They are claiming that they did not include accurate information as they neglected to include information about some prior litigation, which is really irrelevant, but I've never seen a bid protest that doesn't name the protesting party. It's very odd."

It was thought, at first, that Fontaine Brothers Construction would file a protest based on low bidder Agostini Construction's lack of unit pricing in their bid. Bonfatti also warned that the masons union would potentially protest the low bidder for employing non-union workers.

The formal protest, according to Bonfatti and Carroll, did not include any claims regarding unit pricing or non-union masons, as was previously suspected.

"We had been contacted by the masons and bricklayers union asking what could be done about the low bidder not taking a union company, but that's the decision of the general contractor, it has nothing to do with the town," said Bonfatti, but reiterated that it was not clear in the protest documents that the unions

High School bid

Continued on page 7

Selectmen agree to energy-saving rebate program

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

In a time where energy efficiency means lower bills, people are looking for ways to save power and some new programs are helping them find ways to do it.

On Tuesday, members of the Board of Selectmen reviewed and approved the Energy Star Appliance Rebate program, which will allow residents to apply for rebates if they have purchased appliances with proven energy saving capabilities.

Dan Morrissey, who attended the meeting with members of the Norwood Municipal Light Department, said the program had been worked out with Energy New England and Energy Star in an attempt to increase sales of efficient appliances in an effort to conserve electric power.

"Buying Energy Star appliances may mean a little more of a cost up front, but they use less electricity over the life of the appliance," Morrissey said. "For one appliance, it may not be that big of a deal, but if everyone does it with

multiple appliances, it could make a big difference in the amount of energy being used."

Using Energy Star appliances could reduce energy costs by 15 to 50 percent, according to the light department.

Energy Star is an official rating system to determine the efficiency of home appliances, including refrigerators, televisions, washing machines and dryers, dishwashers, and central air conditioning systems. Those appliances that have been verified efficient boast a bright yellow sticker

somewhere on the machine's surface or backing. That sticker, Morrissey said, needs to be copied and sent into the light department, along with a purchase receipt and a completed application in order to receive the rebate, which will be applied as a credit to monthly electric bills. Refrigerators and central air systems will net the highest credit, at \$100 each, while computers, computer monitors and televisions are only worth \$25. Norwood Light customers, however, are eligible for an additional \$25 credit for those

items provided they are proven to be Energy Star certified efficient.

The rebate amounts are not based on the actual cost of the appliance or the cost of energy, but on industry standards and data from other towns already implementing the program.

"We basically reviewed what other towns and light departments have done and they all offer similar rebates," Morrissey said. "I haven't seen anyone offer more than

Rebates

Continued on page 8

'He couldn't say no'

George Thomas helped countless veterans with pride

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

When something unusual or extraordinary would happen, George Thomas would shake his head and say, "Only in

America," and coming from Thomas, a seasoned war veteran and Norwood town employee, that is saying something.

In his time as the Norwood Veterans Agent, Thomas helped countless veterans readjust to

American life after serving overseas, a job he took great pride in, though he maintained a modest and approachable demeanor.

A life long resident, Thomas passed away last Tuesday, March 24 at 85 years old. Of

those 85 years, Thomas spent 35 serving the town of Norwood both as the Veteran's Agent and with the Electric Light Department. Thomas also served his country in World War II and saw heavy military action during a two-year tour in the Western Pacific Theater.

While Thomas was an expert marksman and sharpshooter, serving on behalf of his country, state, and town, it was his work when he came home to Norwood that meant the most to him. After 28 years, Thomas retired from his post in 2000, and was succeeded by current Veteran's Agent Ted Mulvehill, who said he has used his predecessor's dedication and work ethic as a model for his own work.

"I, like many others, came to him for help when I returned



George Thomas

from service," Mulvehill said. "He greeted me with a smile and a handshake, and that made a real impact on me. He helped thousands of veterans, but there's no doubt he helped thousands more that we don't know about."

George's wife of 58 years, Florine, "Lovee" Thomas, remembered her husband's selfless service not only as a military man, but as a veteran's advocate. "There were so many Thanksgivings where he would

George Thomas
Continued on page 3



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Moretti lashes out at Governor School Supt. says stimulus plan is unfair

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Norwood School Supt. John Moretti is not pleased with Deval Patrick's plans for school stimulus, and he's not keeping quiet about it.

Last week, Moretti told members of the School Committee that he sent a letter to local legislators expressing his concerns and disappointment with the way the state is doling out money. He's not the only one.

Hundreds of parents rallied on Beacon Hill last Thursday to protest Patrick's plan to disperse federal stimulus money to Massachusetts cities and towns that were not meeting their foundation level spending amounts. Norwood was among many towns that will not see any

money from the first round of stimulus funds.

"It just seems very inequitable to me," Moretti said. "Towns that have not been meeting their foundation level budgets, which are required by law, will be getting money, but towns like Norwood that have worked very hard to meet their obligation are getting nothing."

"While I consider the Governor's actions to be prudent and timely, I am sorely disappointed that communities, like Norwood who have met their financial obligations to education, were ignored," Moretti wrote. "The Governor has sent a clear message that legislation to meet the foundation budget is meaningless."

While Norwood will see some stimulus money for spe-



Norwood School Supt.
John Moretti

cial education and Title One programs according to the Governor's plan, the town will not see any additional funding for general education or building and capital improvement projects.

"I am very disappointed in

Moretti

Continued on page 6

George Thomas *continued from page 2*

say, 'just eat without me, but make up a few plates so I can bring them to some of these guys who are alone. I have to go see them.' And I always did. He was so proud of his work. He absolutely loved his job," she said.

George and Lovee met through mutual friends when George returned from his service overseas. He was 22, she was 15. The two eloped despite the religious barriers of Lovee's traditional Catholic family, and she said that although they had seen many ups and downs in the past, she never regretted their decision. "I was Catholic, and he wasn't, and those were lines you just didn't cross in those days, but he was a good man, and he was better to my mother than anyone ever was," she said. "We had our arguments, but we always worked it out."

Lovee said her husband was incredibly kind and incurably generous, traits he used in his

work with local veterans. "He was really generous to a fault," she said. "He couldn't say 'no' to anyone, and even if he did, he would change his mind a few hours later."

"George was so modest," Mulvehill remembered. "He was more concerned with helping others, and that's why we're seeing this outpouring of support."

Thomas' funeral last Saturday, complete with a military salute and presentation of the flag to Lovee, was a fitting remembrance for a man so revered in Norwood and beyond.

"I could walk down the street or go to the supermarket and people would approach me and tell me how grateful they are to him," Lovee said. "These young veterans come to me and tell me he was like a father to them."

"He really had an incredible career," said Mulvehill. "I may have 10 or 12 Norwood kids

serving now, not nearly the big numbers George had during Vietnam, but I use his service as an example for my work everyday."

Thomas was instrumental in the dedication of multiple Veterans Memorials in Norwood, but it was his unflinching dedication that will truly be remembered by the numerous families he has helped in his career and beyond.

"He retired when he was 76 years old, and he would have never left if he could have done it a few days a week," Lovee said. "He truly loved what he did, and he really left his mark on this town."



Let's Talk Real Estate

with Jerry Armstrong, Broker, REALTOR®, CBR, ASR

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Editorial

SUPPORT THE NEW SCHOOL

It is as simple as that. No doubt, most residents who give a damn about what goes on around here have analyzed and reanalyzed the issue to death. Town Meeting voted resoundingly in favor of the plan put forth by those placed in charge of dealing with Norwood's very real high school problem. In fact, relatively speaking, the small number of those voting against the plan at TM pretty much mirrors the size of the group taking an active part in trying to discredit the merits of building a new school on the hill.

The process undertaken over the last few years reflects town government at its finest. Resident Joe Fitzgerald was accurate when he depicted last week's town meeting as almost a Norman Rockwell painting. True Americana... the way government should be run, with fairness, efficiency and proper attention to detail and with the best interests of its residents in mind.

In fact, the only way this process would perhaps fail to become future fodder for case studies of American civics is if voter turnout on Monday is low. That would be really unfortunate. First, as Selectmen on Tuesday correctly pointed out, the outcome of Monday's election is not a given. Many a popular opinion has failed at the polls because voters simply assumed that their choice was the obvious one, and just had other things to do that day.

Second, and perhaps more important, is that everyone who has involved themselves in working towards Norwood's future in this evaluation deserves your support. A high voter turnout is, in essence, expressing thanks to everyone who gave of their time and talents to serve the general populace. Each of us has a million reasons why we can't take part in a cause, but only a few find the balance in their lives to be able to carve out a little time to make a difference. Say thank you by voting on Monday.

Norwood's future is now. The time for discussion is over, PowerPoint presentations need to be mothballed and a new era for this town is about to begin. An affirmative vote on Monday to build a new school will be a bold statement to America that her citizens will not wilt under current enormous pressures and raise the white flag of surrender to the greed and avarice of some who took advantage of this country's opportunities. It would be easy to say that now is not the right time, or let's wait and see what the future brings or we just can't afford it given everything going on in the world.

Your public servants have proven to you that you can afford it. They have painstakingly laid out a plan that takes advantage of current pricing opportunities, low borrowing rates, guaranteed state funding for more than half of the total project costs and, most important of all, designed a new facility that will properly position Norwood students to compete in a future most of us could not compete in ourselves.

To those who have fought tooth and nail to derail this project, I say to you well done. You have put up the good fight and kept everyone involved sharp, focused and on point. And if your efforts fail to curry voter favor on Monday, you have served the town well in many ways and you too deserve thanks and praise. But, then it is time to lay down your arms and join the movement. Everyone needs to get behind this project once passed and work towards successful completion. It won't be easy, nor without contention and pain. However, in the end, when the first students step through the doors of the new Norwood High School, everyone should feel honorable and accomplished. Everyone should feel like he or she made a difference.

Everyone should feel like an American.

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Letters to the Editor

TUESDAY CAN BE HISTORIC

To the Editor:

Monday, April 6, will be a historic day in the Town of Norwood. Voters are being asked to build a new school at 245 Nichols St. Many forums have been held to allow all voices to be heard. When you enter the privacy of the voting booth on Monday, remember that your vote will make a difference.

I would ask that you please consider the following when marking your ballot. Since Norwood High School was built in 1926 and the "new" wing added in 1962, course offerings as well as the delivery of curriculum to our students have changed. Out of necessity, our school building must also change to reflect what is taking place in 21st century education.

Norwood High School needs modern, cutting edge science classroom and laboratories; larger classrooms equipped with the latest technology; a spacious library/media center; more classroom space for our award-winning instrumental and choral music program; an auditorium that allows us to showcase our drama productions where they should be, at "the school on the hill." It also needs an 18,000 square foot gymnasium with four teaching stations to enhance a vibrant physical education program and provide adequate court surface and seating space for home sporting events and graduation. And, what some have forgotten, the facility should be handicapped-accessible to allow everyone the opportunity to enter the building through the front door.

This vote is also about staff and community. A new high school ensures that administration can attract and retain highly qualified teachers, thus providing a greater incentive for those who desire to teach in Norwood. A new high school solidifies the strong partnership between the school community and all the residents of this great town. A new high school creates an opportunity for residents to enroll in a dynamic adult evening education program and to use the walking track above the gym as well as the fitness center. Norwood High School will be a building that will be vibrant and active in the early morning, during the school day, and well into the evening.

It is time to make it happen and build this 21st century educational facility. Time to make it happen for the students; time to make it happen for all the residents of Norwood.

After five years of due diligence, the homework has been done, and the decision has been made: a new high school is the best option. The Committee of 21, the Working Group, and all of the town boards have embraced and endorsed the project, for all the right reasons.

As a lifelong resident, proud graduate, member of the faculty for 44 years, and building principal, I, too, endorse the new high school project and urge you to vote 'yes' on Monday, April 6.

George S. Usevich

Principal

Norwood High School

HS HAS GOT TO GO

To The Editor:

The Norwood Senior High School has got to go.

It is not without great sadness that I make this decision. My heart

says, "you can't tear down my alma mater," but after taking the tour I know it has to go.

I was there from 1961-1965 during the last renovation and the main school was old then. With competition from other local schools, Walpole, Medfield, Westwood, King Philip, how can we expect to attract the top new teachers? The integrity of the town depends on the integrity of its schools. The Norwood Senior High School has got to go.

La Verne Haasis Lovell

Class of 65

THANK YOU FROM FRIENDS

To The Editor:

On behalf of the Friends of Norwood Council on Aging, we thank The Westbury Farms Family Restaurant for their fundraiser on March 23.

It was the eighth year in a row and what a time we had. Ninety seniors packed the restaurant and enjoyed a fantastic meal and each other's company.

With the new people on the wait staff saying what fun they had, and the wait staff that were with us from day one saying they love to do it, it comes from the heart and you know they care.

To Mike Reaney and Steve Flaherty, who never want to take credit for what they do, you do deserve all the credit for making life for the seniors much better and happier. We also want to thank your families for letting you take time away from them to be with us. From all the seniors and the Friends of the COA, we thank you again.

Bill McCoy Friends of

Norwood Council on Aging

'VOTE NO'

To the Editor:

We have been told that Norwood High is old and cannot be fixed.

FACT: Almost half of Norwood High was built in 1962, which makes it younger than the Cleveland, Prescott, Balch, Callahan and only a year older than the Oldham. Mr. Cahill agreed that the school can be fixed, but he believes that it would be too expensive to do so. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has just sent a letter imploring the Board of Selectmen NOT to destroy historic Norwood High. Like Norwood's historic Town Hall, already on the Trust's National Register of Historic Places, Norwood High also should be on that Register.

We have been told Norwood High is overcrowded and has only 187,000 square feet.

FACT: The NEASC stated in its accreditation report that Norwood High has capacity for 1425 students. Current enrollment is less than 1100. This means the current building is not overcrowded. The existing Norwood High has 231,258 square feet. The proposed new school is smaller with 227,000.

We have been told renovations are not reimbursed.

FACT: The only 2 plans submitted to the MSBA for consideration were a new school and the so-called "Bare Bones" renovation plan. The Norwood Common Sense Committee has NEVER supported a "Bare Bones" plan. From the outset, NCSB has supported the \$18 Million 2004 Renovation with

2 additions, originally endorsed by town and school officials, but never submitted to the MSBA as a renovation option.

FACT: Milton, Medfield, Needham, Bedford, Canton, and Walpole all have renovated their high schools and all were reimbursed.

We have been told that there will be no loss of the sports program.

FACT: At a minimum there will be a loss of a baseball field and a practice field. (Soccer field to be in front of proposed school.) Athletes will need to be bused (paid for by taxpayers) at least for the next 3 years (and beyond) to off-site fields. What will the trickle-down effect be on town-wide and high school sports programs?

We have been told that now it is "our turn" to step up and pay for a new school.

FACT: Seniors already have paid for the current schools, all their additions and repairs. Now they are being asked to help pay for a proposed new school. When will they be exempted from paying for more and more and more?

We have been told it is for the children.

FACT: What will the impact be on children in the other seven schools where funding and sports may need to be cut in order to pay for this new high school? And there are many parents today who are worried about their own jobs and college expenses for their children who are nearing graduation.

We have been told that if we don't take this plan Norwood won't receive any reimbursement and Norwood will go to the end of the line.

FACT: Are there other school districts in greater need than Norwood? The promise by MSBA to all towns and cities was that school districts with the greatest need would get funding on a priority basis. Has that promise changed? Town officials should have started with the 2004 renovation plan as a start. Renovations have been done all over this state and all over the country, without destroying valuable assets.

We have been told that Norwood students want a new school.

FACT: If new schools were completely funded by the state, everyone would want a new school, but "new" is not always better. The question needs to be asked: Will a new high school guarantee higher MCAS scores, or acceptance into more prestigious colleges, or more generous scholarships for its graduates? Will a new high school make a more productive, and responsible citizen?

Please REJECT the ballot question on April 6 by voting NO. The ballot question is open-ended, has no dollar amount, and gives the town a blank check. Prepare for more overrides.

Judith Howard
Town Meeting Member
District 3

WALK IN THE STUDENTS' SHOES

To Ms. Howard, Ms. MacPhee, Mr. McKeown and anyone else who opposes a new high school, when

Letters

Continued on page 16

New MCAS tracking method could be more accurate

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

As Norwood school officials grapple with steadily decreasing MCAS scores, a change in the way students are assessed may provide a better insight into the real root of the problem.

In Norwood, the Coakley Middle School has failed to meet Adequate Yearly Progress scores for the past three years. In MCAS terms, the AYP is the target number students are required to pass with a "proficient" grade each year. As it stands, scores are judged from class to class, with current third grade scores being compared to last year's third grade scores, a comparison that some say is producing skewed results.

"It's like comparing apples to oranges," said Norwood School Committee member Courtney Rau, who devotes much of her professional career to MCAS testing and development. "It really doesn't produce valid data because you're comparing different groups of students with different skill sets."

This fall, the state will revise their MCAS assessment system to track students as they progress through grade levels, so the scores of a current third grade class will be compared to their own scores the following year.

"They are going to track it longitudinally now," Rau said, "which will likely produce more accurate results."

Rau added that one of the problems with comparing the scores of different classes is that poor results are often blamed on teachers because there is no system in place to assess individual student progress. "The teachers unions

are concerned because this approach leads to teacher tracking, not student tracking," said Rau. "If done properly, this new method will track the progress of individual students, not their teachers."

Jodi Smith, President of the Norwood Teachers Union, said she agreed the current assessment system placed unnecessary blame on teachers. "This is the way it should be done," she said. "There are a lot of things that could effect a classes performance, and some kids just aren't good test takers. These people should get in a classroom and then try blaming the teachers."

The new tracking method, which will be implemented this fall, will not affect how the MCAS test is administered, only the way the results are read. Rau said the scores may not actually change, but will make it easier to pinpoint where the true problem areas are. "I think it will give a clearer picture of what subgroups aren't making AYP, which will eventually lead to changes in program and curriculum design," she said. "The point of the MCAS has always been to track student progress against curriculum frameworks." Smith, who also used the "apples to oranges" comparison, said that the current system has always been somewhat tainted, and does not accurately portray students' progress or deficiencies, but instead lumps classes into poorly defined categories compared to another completely different set of scores from a different class. "They are comparing different classes, and that's why the scores aren't providing accurate results," she said.

The new tracking method

may not drastically increase the scores at the faltering Coakley Middle School, but it may make it easier to target where improvements need to be made. Rau said that there are still pros and cons to the state's new approach, but the benefits of accurate data would likely outweigh the potential flaws. "I think there are more pros than cons, but you could run the risk of targeting some subgroups as dragging a district down. If you are looking at the same group of kids and start to see a trend, it becomes a problem, but if those same group of kids show improvement, they will meet the AYP," she said. "I think about MCAS all day long sometimes, wondering how we're going to get these kids to meet the AYP."

Rau said that hopefully, an apples-to-apples comparison would make it a little easier to answer that very question.

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Where Working Group ends and PBCC begins

Town officials study transition of high school project after Town Meeting

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

As a new Norwood High School becomes closer to reality, the group responsible for laying much of the groundwork finds itself mired in uncertainty.

The High School Working Group, which has held weekly meetings since the model school project was proposed last summer, will technically be out of commission if the project is approved by voters on April 6 and the details are handed over to the Permanent Building Construction Committee.

Some town officials, however, recommended that a new group be created to provide an extra layer of oversight during the transition.

Finance Commission member Joe Greeley aid recently that he and Town Moderator David Hern had discussed the possibility of adding a resolution to the Town Meeting warrant to create such a group. The group would deliver information back to Town Meeting members through subsequent

meetings throughout the project's span. That proposal was never formally proposed to Town Meeting, though.

"It would be a way to fill the gap between the PBCC, the Working Group and the Project manager to make sure there is a vehicle to come back to Town Meeting with reports," Greeley said. "The role of the Working Group moving forward is vague at best. If I asked 10 people, I got 12 different answers as to where the Working Group starts and the PBCC ends."

Selectman Bill Plasko said the group would be more about information gathering than oversight, but FinCom member Alan Slater said that the real issue is to determine the role of the Working Group before adding another committee to the mix.

"The MSBA still requires a working group throughout the project, so we will still have them, the question is what is their role, and if this resolution will actually give us anything. If not, it's superfluous."

Town Manager John Carroll

said an additional committee might result in a case of too many cooks in the kitchen.

"We can't have three groups overseeing this. It's going to get too confusing. We can't have all these people walking onto the job site getting information," he said. "My understanding was that the PBCC would pick up the work of the working group."

But Greeley said it might still be prudent to consider having some extra eyes on the largest project the town has ever tackled. "We need some way to get information back to Town Meeting, and I don't see any feedback or reporting mechanism," he said. "There's no clarity going forward and I want to make sure Town Meeting has a finger on the pulse of this project."

Plasko recommended that instead of the resolution authorizing the creation of an entirely new group, it require the PBCC to issue reports to Town Meet-

PBCC

Continued on page 9

High School bid *from page 1*

were responsible for the protest.

Bonfatti added that if the union masons were to protest, they would likely do so with the intention of getting the second low bidder, Fontaine Brothers, on the job to in turn get more work to the unions in a tough construction climate.

"There's really not much

we can do about that," Bonfatti said. "We have no right to direct the general contractor to take any other subcontractor besides the low bidder. You can't protest someone for carrying a non-union subcontractor. That's really not a legitimate protest."

High School bid
Continued on page 8

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Forward thinking decades ago paying off pensions now

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

Towns and cities across the state are grasping at straws to provide millions of dollars in pension funds for retired municipal employees. But, with some savvy savings, Norwood has escaped the fiscal frustration and is fully funded for the foreseeable future.

Sensing the impending doom of leaving a mass of unfunded liabilities for future generations to handle, Town Clerk and Accountant Bob Thornton and Finance Commission members decided to start saving in the early 1980s to prevent the pension gap many cities are just now attempting to deal with.

"We were smart enough to save for the future, and that has kept us ahead of the pack," said current FinCom Chairman Allan Howard, who was in the commission in the 80's when

the question first came to the forefront. "We had some very good financial advisors who recommended we start saving and we said, 'absolutely'."

Thornton said that it was clear, even over two decades ago, that the town needed to plan for the growing pension funds that, at the time, would only cover the current year's retirees, and did not factor in future generations of town employees who were entitled to pensions.

"We started funding liabilities in the early 80s by appropriating funds above and beyond what we had to," Thornton said. "The concept was that if you put aside extra funds as investments, they earn investment income and that reduces the cost to the taxpayers."

Thornton said that if, hypothetically, the town had to pay out \$1 million in liabilities, they would appropriate \$1.5 million, and invest that extra

\$500,000 so it steadily gains interest. As a result of that saving, the investment income now accounts for the town's \$115 million pension fund, 15 percent of which is held in cash.

"When I started here, we appropriated exactly what we were paying out," Thornton said. "Nothing was being put aside for future employees. It was being ignored, but now the assets have accumulated and that is offsetting our costs."

Thornton added that the town has a pension payroll of over \$5 million, but is only paying \$2-3 million because of the earnings and interest prior investments have gained.

The town also has other unique sources of income that have placed Norwood in a favorable position.

"We have a high percentage of commercial and industrial real estate, and a profitable municipal light department, and that profit is used to subsidize other departments and help the town's cash flow," Thornton said.

Both Thornton and Howard agreed that Norwood's forward financial planning has placed them in considerably better standing than most towns, but that even in tough times conservative spending and creative saving has helped the town stay afloat.

"Even in tough times, we're doing OK," Howard said. "We're very fortunate not to be in trouble like all these other towns and these huge financial

institutions. Sure, we're down, but nothing like those other places are."

"Norwood and Wellesley were two of the first towns to get into this," Thornton said. "Wellesley beat us to the punch in being fully funded, but we were both fully funded by the late 90s. You just have to stay on top of it."

Howard said the FinCom is

preparing to take a similar approach to unfunded benefits for town employees, and that the problem, and the solution is almost identical.

"We are seeing the same problem now with unfunded benefits for retired town employees, and we're starting to pay for that now, because that's how we do things in Norwood."

Rebates *from page 1*

\$100 credit."

The credit is only available on appliances purchased after Jan. 1, 2009, and is a limited time offer. Norwood Light Superintendent Malcolm McDonald said that there is enough money in the department's budget to fund the program indefinitely, and Morrissey said they would offer credits as long as there was enough money to do so.

Morrissey said that there is a \$225 limit per residence, and added that complete details and application forms would be included in upcoming electric bills. Information will also be posted online at www.norwoodlight.com.

"It sounds to me like you're trying to help the consumers here," said board member Helen Donohue. "This sounds like a great program that could help us a lot."

High School bid *from page 7*

Carroll has said that the issue of unit pricing is also minor in the grand scheme of the project.

The actual protest, however vague, has been reviewed by the Attorney General and a hearing date has been set for April 13, where representatives from the town, along with the unnamed protesting party will make their case to the AG Bid Protest Unit.

Bonfatti said that he and

Carroll will meet with others close to the project in the coming days to discuss what they will bring to the table, but until then, will continue to work with what little information they have.

"This is still so new, and since it's so unusual, we may have to sit on it for a while. But we will be meeting soon as a group to figure out what it is we have to do," he said.

Cinderella *continued from page 1*

scouts in Norwood sold a total of 13,929 boxes of cookies this year.

In an effort to meet their goal, the organization extended cookie sales by one week, expecting to sell 300,000 boxes of cookies by March 31. Just before the cookie sale deadline, the organization, nationwide, had sold 2.5 million boxes of cookies since January.

"If people aren't buying our cookies there is a chance less programs will run next year or there will definitely be some impact," Wilbur said.

Goutreaux said local sales were boosted by taking pre-orders for cookies in early December. She said that beginning the sale that much in advance allowed the troop to get more orders in before people started dieting and making New Year's resolutions.

However, with the tough economy, Goutreaux said she did notice a drop in the purchase of cases of cookies.

"In the past, I sold cases to people for \$48, knowing that they would go sell the boxes back to their friends and co-workers," Goutreaux said.

Under the direction of Goutreaux, the scouts have been collecting prom dress donations, which selected girls will be able to purchase through Allison's Closet for \$25. Allison's Closet was created two years ago in memory of Allison P. White, a 2008 graduate of the Oldham School.

In addition to the prom dresses, selected girls from Norwood High School, Norfolk Agricultural High School and Fontbonne Academy will receive coupons for a free manicure and \$30 towards the cost of hair styling for the prom on May 16. Guidance counselors from all three high schools are working with the troop to select Cinderella Project candidates.

Each school has its own method of selecting candidates

for the project. Some counselors have held an essay-writing contest to determine why they should be selected for the Cinderella Project.

For the Cinderella Project, Goutreaux said one of the scouts is putting together a manual on how to run a non-profit business to serve as a guide for interested parties in the future. With this manual, next year someone can choose to do something similar for senior boys.

"This project is something that pulls at their heart. This time of year always makes people happy to see Girl Scouts and it helps provide the girls with revenue to fund programs and various projects," Goutreaux said. "I'm happy to see the Girl Scouts setting goals. Each meeting was about planning and preparation for this project. There was no benefit to them whatsoever in any way. Every single ounce of their energy was devoted to their project."

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Parents say thanks

To the editor:

Recently, the Norwood Parents Music Association held a fundraiser featuring DJ Jim Plunkett at Concannon's Village in Norwood, MA. The event was a great success and an enjoyable evening for many. Special thanks to Tommy Concannon and Joanne at Concannon's, Baystate Wine and Spirits, Colonial House Restaurant, the Farulla family, Bayside Resort in West Yarmouth, National Amusements, Six Flags of New England, Lorraine Gagnon and Jenna Boyden from Sharp Hair Studio, and a big thank you to Sarah St. Cyr for her decorating expertise. Without our generous donors and volunteers we could not be successful.

The Norwood Parents Music Association supports the music programs in the Norwood Public Schools. Thank you for your continued support of the Norwood Parents Music Association.

Carmel T. Kerrigan
Norwood Parents Music Association

PBCC *continued from page 7*

ing, therefore removing the need for another group while still keeping the PBCC and some form of the Working Group in commission.

"The Town Meeting vote is putting this in the hands of the PBCC," he said. "They will be the main contact, and they could provide those reports."

Slater agreed that for financial reasons, the PBCC should take the reigns of the project. "The PBCC has the responsibility because they pay the bills," he said.

Working Group Chairman and newest member of the PBCC Dick Kief said some of

the confusion stems from the MSBA's requirement that the town have a building committee specifically for the high school project.

"We're a little unique because we already have a permanent building committee. Most towns create one for each project," he said. "The PBCC has to have control of this, so let's do this right until the last stone is turned."

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Town tough with marijuana

Krystal Grow
Staff Reporter

While voters overwhelmingly approved the decriminalization of small amounts of marijuana, local police are still taking a stand against illegal drug use in their town. Since the new regulations took effect in January, Norwood police have issued 16 citations for possession of less than one ounce of the drug, which is still considered an illegal substance.

While popular with voters, the new law was not welcomed by many law enforcement officials. At a League of Women Voters ballot question forum in November, Norwood Safety Officer Richard Giacoppo called the relaxed regulations a boon for drug dealers and a threat to public safety. Despite his warnings, the ballot ques-

tioned passed by a large margin in Norwood and throughout the state.

Norwood Police Chief Bart King said officers have made the necessary adjustments with relative ease. "Procedurally, it hasn't been a difficult adjustment," he said. "We developed a policy and trained our officers on what they can and can't do, and for the most part, it's been successful."

King said that while officers are limited in making arrests for possession, they can still conduct searches if they feel there is probable cause, which has at times led to arrests for possession of other substances or has produced more than the one ounce limit.

"They can still conduct searches if there is probable cause," King said. "It's still an illegal substance."

The new law imposes a \$100 fine for possession of under one ounce of marijuana, and according to the Norwood Town Clerk's office, which collects the fines, offenders have three weeks from the date of issue to pay. King said the new system also allows police, and the town, to better track offenders. Of the 16 citations issued in the last three months, King said only four remain unpaid while three are still within the 21-day time limit for payment.

"We never really measured the number of citations before," King said. "This really creates a way for us to track it."

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Sports

For Mustangs, less filling, tastes great Baseball to go with smaller athletic group



Senior standout catcher Jesse Shaughnessy, shown here sliding into second base, is looking to make an impact offensively for the Mustangs this season. Norwood is hoping to reverse its fortunes, after closing at 7-13 last year.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Prescribing to the theory that less is more, Norwood High baseball coach Tony Fruci will carry 18 varsity players this season as opposed to the 20-22 he usually does.

But there is a reason behind the madness. Fruci is stacked with a bunch of athletes who are adept at playing several positions in both the infield and outfield. So, it's not just a matter of making do with who he has, but rather utilizing who he has to the maximum benefit. While Fruci generally doesn't care to compare teams from year to year, he acknowledges, "We're stronger and more athletic this year" than last season.

"We have multi-dimensional players who are very

athletic," said the head mentor, whose squad finished at 7-13 last spring and missed the state tourney for the second consecutive season, after qualifying every year for almost a decade. "It's a unique team of good athletes who can play different positions, and I want to use that to our advantage."

The Mustangs also head into the 2009 campaign with an abundance of pitchers. Though it's an overall unproven group still "in the growing stages," said Fruci, "we have a lot of kids who can throw."

Fruci's hope is that the number of hurlers in the arms race will help level off the loss of graduating senior ace Chris Pinette, who carried the bulk of the load last year, and fellow senior graduate Justin Black. Seniors and projected

starters Nico Rodriguez and Pat Hickey look to lead a group of mostly upcoming juniors, who haven't pitched much, if at all, at the varsity level, including Brandon Davis, Mike Goodwin, Kevin Kuestauskas, Joey Lopez, and John Henry.

Rodriguez and Hickey made their marks in a number of games last year, while Goodwin made use of some varsity time.

Also in the pitching mix will be seniors Cory Sennott and Joe Trahon, though the latter is expected to miss a month or so, recovering from a broken leg.

"The question," said Fruci, "is how can we utilize who we have as pitchers in a nine-inning game three times a week."

While it has yet to be determined how all the potential

talent on the field and on the mound will be strewn together, there are a few stabilizing forces. Senior captain Brian Williams will anchor at shortstop - "He's our leader, and the kids look up to him," said Fruci - while reliable junior Sean Keady, "a key factor last year," will likely suit up at second base, and also help in the outfield as needed. Senior catcher Jesse Shaughnessy is a mainstay, and Fruci says the slugger has the potential to be more of a threat offensively after struggling somewhat last year.

"I think he'll come around with the bat and have a big year," said the coach. "He's real focused, and was good at working out in the off-season."

Rodriguez, meanwhile, is among the veterans who can play both the infield and out-

field, while making a strong presence at the plate.

"He's smart," said Fruci. "And he has good bat control."

Hickey and Goodwin also add veteran savvy in the infield and outfield, respectively, while an influx of talented juniors from the JV team will bolster the Mustangs at a variety of positions. A.J. Silletti arrives as an outfielder, Chris O'Brien as an infielder, and Billy Glynn as an infielder/outfielder, while Matt Stover and Kevin O'Sullivan both add depth at catcher.

"We're well preserved in the field," said the coach.

But all this is just a start. Fruci and many of his players have been around long enough to know that just a few slip-

Baseball

Continued on page 12

Softball returns with new and familiar look

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

Wow, we have come full circle. Who would have known that when *The Record* started up last spring, the Norwood softball team would be just starting out on its own journey into one of its best seasons in program history? The Mustangs won two state tourney games, before succumbing to Bay State Conference rival and No. 1 seed Braintree in the third round. "It's the farthest the softball team has gone in 28-30 years," noted long-time head coach Kathy Smelstor, after the season.

And speaking of circles, just who will be throwing strikes for Norwood in the pitching circle this spring now that the town's most recent pitching goddess, Kristen Dolan, who has taken her act to American International College, and the also talented Paige Hackett, have graduated? And for that matter, who will be the new catcher replacing graduated standout Diane Barry?

The good news for the Mustangs is that what would have been their biggest problem on any list of 100 also is their only problem. The only thing Norwood has to change is the battery, but it was a darn powerful one that featured Dolan, who struck out an unfathomable 239 batters last spring; a reliable Hackett, who did yeomen's work as the No. 2 hurler; and the strong hitting and fielding Barry.

"All my starters are returning in the field, so I just have to replace the catcher and the pitcher," said Smelstor, whose squad finished at 17-6 last year.

Smelstor will replace last year's pitching duo with sophomore right-handers Ali Maloof and Lauren Duggan as her primary hurlers, while senior Kelly McCabe slips into the No. 1 catching role.

Maloof and Duggan played major roles as freshmen last year, particularly at the plate, so they will have the chance to — as they say — help their own cause this season. Both hit well for average and power. Duggan drove in more than 30 runs, while Maloof had an on-base percentage of close to .500. Neither has pitched at the varsity level, but both have tossed in the competitive Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) program.

When Duggan isn't pitching, she'll play first base, where the slugger primarily played last year. Maloof, an outfielder/DH last season, will see time in right field when Duggan pitches, while senior Kelly Millin will hold the fort in right when Maloof is throwing in the circle.

McCabe, meanwhile, will catch the duo, after serving mostly as a pinch-hitter/runner last season.

The Mustangs are fortified with strong defense all the way around, with returnees Brittany Calarese at second base, Katie Lang at shortstop, and Natalie Metta at third. Brianna Gearty,

who made two terrific catches to help save last season's second round tourney win, and the fleet-footed Alex Dukas return to left and centerfield, respectively. All are seniors except for Metta, who returns as a junior.

The solid group also started to peak offensively late last season, taking 4-2 and 6-0 wins over Carey Division foe Framingham and Herget Division archrival Walpole, the latter of which clinched a postseason berth for the Mustangs.

Norwood also will get a boost from several strong newcomers. The junior contingent includes first baseman Emily Whitney, outfielder Maeve Finneran, second baseman Stephanie Callahan, infielder Nikki Cignarella, and catcher Catherine Kelly, all of whom were brought up from junior varsity.

Dolan, of course, will be difficult to replace. Her fastball often was almost unhittable, and she played the leading role last spring in 11 of Norwood's 17 wins, including postseason. But Smelstor is hopeful that a talented and familiar cast will help make up for some of the star's prowess.

"It's going to be tough to replace someone who had over 200 strikeouts, but I'm hoping to make up for it with our intensity in the field and at the bat," said the coach. "As long as my expectations aren't higher than theirs, we'll be okay. They're anxious to prove themselves and to play a game."



Star shortstop Katie Lang is back to help lead the Norwood softball team, after the Mustangs finished last season with two state tourney wins, closing its best campaign in some 28-30 years.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Title hopes abound for boys' lacrosse



Senior captain and star midfielder Pat Coskren and the Norwood boys' lacrosse team have their biggest challenge ahead of them: topping last year's stunning 16-6 ledger, including a state tourney win. Coskren, a Bay State Conference All-Star last spring, led the BSC in winning face-offs at a clip of over 80 percent.

PHOTO BY ZALINA MCGUIRE

Mike Stoller
Staff Reporter

If ever there was a challenge to meet for the Norwood boys' lacrosse team, it's this season. The Mustangs closed last spring with the best record in their four-year history as a varsity program, finishing at 16-6, including a Division 2 East state tourney win over Hopkinton, before bowing to Andover in the second round. To show just how far the Mustangs have come, they were a winless 0-16 in 2005.

Entering the 2009 campaign, Norwood is in prime shape to make another strong run. The 'Stangs return nine veterans, including three Bay State Conference all-stars in captains and midfielders Steve Cottens, Steve Mahon, and Pat Coskren. Norwood's fourth leader, senior standout defenseman Alistair Brockmeyer, is back leading a sturdy defense that includes fellow returnees Mark Nardelli

Lacrosse

Continued on page 13

Baseball *continued from page 1*

ups can have them exited from contention from the heated BSC Herget Division.

"We have to get out of the box quickly and [continue to] improve, because the teams we're playing are doing the same thing," said the coach,

noting the majority of BSC teams made the postseason last year. "We have to be up from one game to the next and can't let our guard down. ... The goal is always first place."

Fruci also emphasized that

starting the season well is key, especially because the Mustangs will be tested early on the road, after playing the opener at home against Natick this Monday. After that, Norwood is on the road until April 23.

"It's a lot easier playing at home with a winning record," said the coach. "We have to take it one game at a time and take no team lighter than the next team. You have to bring your 'A' game to every game or you're not going to win. ... Not that you can take any team for granted, but it always hurts when you lose to the teams you should beat. ... They're a good group of athletes, and if they don't let down, everything should be good."

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

Norwood Youth's impossible dream comes true

Jeff Kelleher

Special to the Record

Disappointed enough for not making Norwood's 8th Grade Boys Basketball A Team, further heart break seemed imminent for the 11 players relegated to the B squad. There was no one to coach the team and their season would have to be cancelled.

Someone had to step up and put an end to the boys' nightmare. Little did they know, someone would. Willie Rodriguez, the Norwood Basketball Association (NBA) Travel Coordinator and President, noticed something special about these 11 eighth grade boys. They really wanted to play basketball. They already had been cut from the Boys A team and if only they could get a coach anything would be possible.

Rodriguez became the B team coach in November. He was assisted by Pat Collins. Four months later, the team's wildest dreams were realized. On March 15, the coaching tandem guided the hard-working bunch to a Division 5 Metro West Basketball League championship. They became the first Norwood eighth grade B team to win the championship and the first eighth grade boys travel team from Norwood to win in six years.

The Championship did not come easy. They defeated a hard nosed scrappy No. 2 seed Dover-Sherborn (Blue) team, 41-40. The title game took place one night after both teams had played grueling semi-final tilts the previous night. Dover defeated Milton in overtime while Norwood dispatched Canton, 51-37, as the team rallied from a 13-point third quarter deficit.

In the semi-final game, Calvin Peterson led all scorers with 18 points, nine of them coming in the fourth period. Center Rodney Jean Marie started the Norwood comeback by scoring six straight points in a momentum-changing third quarter. Employing a man-to-man trap defense, Ryan Greeley, Devon Ryan, Brian

Brooks, Alex Cubelli, Bobby Boucher and Stephen (Chizzy) Chisholm swarmed Canton's guards, creating steals and leading fast breaks to bring Norwood back.

Chris Sullivan and Will Carroll provided key defensive moments by blocking several shots in the fourth period while Brad McIsaac pulled down some critical defensive rebounds for the team.

Exhausted from the physical pounding of the semi-final game, Norwood did not lack in spirit and will, making key free throws and shots in the Championship Game. It was a back and forth game at its finest.

For what seemed like the longest five seconds in a basketball game, Dover-Sherborn had as many as three opportunities to make the last shot. As the buzzer sounded, Stephen Chisholm was hoisted by his teammates into the air as they celebrated their first championship ever.

Both teams put all they had on the floor. During the season, these teams had split their series and true to form, the championship went down to the wire. Brad McIsaac pulled all the stops in the fourth quarter by making seven clutch points, including the key winning free throw with 25 seconds left on the clock.

Dover-Sherborn had plenty of opportunities, but Norwood's relentless trap defense and double teams led by Stephen Chisholm, Brian Brooks, Ryan Greeley and Calvin Peterson (playing with four fouls) made the needed stops at the end to secure the win. Calvin Peterson led all scorers with twelve points. Will Carroll, Chris Sullivan, Devon Ryan, Rodney Jean Marie and Alex Cubelli provided defensive stops throughout the game.

Norwood completed its championship campaign with a 12-3 record overall and 9-3 in the regular season. They all believed they could do it. All they needed were coaches to help make their dreams come true.

Lacrosse *continued from page 12*

and Mike Verrochi. Senior Chris Arthur, a staple in goal last season, junior Brian Girard, a backbone at midfield, and solid junior attack Billy Watt, also return.

Cottens, who led the BSC in scoring last season with 108 points, ranked among the top five players in the state in goals scored, while Coskren proved to be the top player in the conference in winning face-offs at a clip of over 80 percent.

"This season will hinge on the focus of our veteran players," said Norwood head mentor and last year's Bay State Conference Coach of the Year, Tom DeMaio. "If we work hard on and off the field, we will fulfill our potential and legitimately compete for our first Bay State [Conference] title.

"The offense will be strong," added DeMaio, whose team averaged a whopping 12 goals a game last season. "But expect an athletic defense to create a lot of opportunities for

our offense."

In a conference that boasts high talent all around, the Mustangs know there can be no let up in their play, but they are particularly aware of who they lost their five regular season games to last season - twice to Herget Division rivals Walpole and Wellesley, and once to Carey Division powerhouse Needham.. "[All are] top 10 teams in the state [and] will be tough competition," DeMaio said.

But the Mustangs aren't backing off from any difficult opposition. In fact, they welcome the challenge. DeMaio noted this season's team has upgraded its non-conference schedule to include multiple-time Division 3 state champion Cohasset and 2007 Division 1 state runner up Waltham.

"This group of players is very athletic and now have the experience and a good understanding of lacrosse," said the coach. "The potential of these

kids is unlimited. Our hope is that we stay focused on and off the field and have a great season."

Norwood will miss the services of graduated senior sensation Mike Rossman, who left the program as the school's all-time leading point getter with 95 goals and 95 assists, while also playing a big role in assisting in the town's youth programs.

New players, all midfielders, bolstering the lineup include seniors Brian Underhill, Stephen Botex, and Brendan Greene; junior Ryan Folan, and freshmen Andrew Alty and Mike Murray.

"We are very proud that in our short four years we now have five former Norwood players currently playing lacrosse at the collegiate level, and three more seniors committed to play in college next year," lauded DeMaio, referring to Mahon, Cottens, and Coskren.



The Norwood eighth grade boys' basketball 'B' team recently won the Division 5 Metro-West League championship.

COURTESY PHOTO

Norwood Youth Football/Cheer Offers Scholarship

Norwood Youth Football & Cheer is offering a \$500 scholarship to a former youth football player and former youth cheerleader, who participated at least three years in the program.

Candidates must be a

graduating high school senior and attending either a 2 or 4-year school in the fall of 2009.

Applications are available in the Guidance Office at Norwood High School and surrounding private high schools.

Application deadline is April 15.

Winners will be notified by May 15.

Please call Tank Nardelli (President) at (781) 769-7057 with any questions.

**To advertise, call
the Norwood Record
at (781) 769-1725**

Town and Country

Hi Guys,

NEVER SAY NEVER...

In regard to the issue of Norwood High School, I've changed my mind and have decided to vote for a new Norwood High. The lower than expected construction figures that were received were good news. The lowest figure was submitted by Agostini Construction, the company that built the Whitman/Hanson model school and is approximately \$12 million less than expected. We can pay now, or we can pay much more later. The decision to build has become much clearer since the figures have been presented in black and white. The original NHS is a magnificent study in architecture, but

was neglected for years by those that were responsible for its care. Hopefully all school committees that sit after the new school is built will take pride in the building and make sure that all necessary care is given when needed.

IN HONOR OF THE PASSING OF GEORGE 'TIGER' THOMAS...

Our heartfelt condolences are sent to Tiger's wife, Lovee, and sons, David, Mark, and Mark's wife, Judith, their four grandsons, and his extended family. Tiger was Our Town's former Veterans' Agent for many years, helping thousands of veteran's with their service related issues. Tiger loved those every other Wednesday lun-



Jackie Saber

cheons with the guys. They miss him already! Memory Eternal.

A WARRIOR PASSES...

The following is a remembrance of love and respect that was sent to me from Our Town's, Helen Clarke Palmucci Thompson, recent widow of George Th-

ompson.

On February 22, 1920, a sleigh driven by a doctor made its way through a blinding snowstorm to deliver a perfect baby boy, George Edward Thompson, named after our first great President, George Washington.

Tommy, as he was called, grew up to be an amazing athlete, excelling in hockey, baseball, and football. His family moved to Dedham when he was in high school. He graduated from DHS in 1936, the season when his football team had the distinction of becoming unscored upon and undefeated. The team was inducted into the DHS Athletic Hall of Fame just a few years ago. After graduation Tommy joined the CCC, then the Navy. He moved

to Norwood after the service and worked as a railroad inspector, making Norwood his home for sixty-three years.

In June of 1940, before the official outbreak of WWII, Tommy joined the Navy and worked his way up to the grade of Chief Petty Officer. He was on the USS Arkansas as a gunner and was fired upon many times by German U-boats before the war even started. He was fond of telling how his sleeping quarters for two years was a hammock.

On Dec. 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, he was on leave in Dedham and was recalled to his ship in Portland, Maine.

Saber

Continued on page 20

Deaths

ALVINO

Lillian C., of Norwood, formerly of Dedham, March 25. Late member of the Sons of Italy Auxiliary, Readville and The Jacob Jones VFW Post Auxiliary, Dedham. Beloved wife of the late Sabino T. Alvino. Devoted mother of Patrick Alvino of Parkman, ME, and John M. Alvino of Boston. Sister of the late Charles Conley, James and Ted Haggerty, Helen Paige, Lois Daley, Louise Ryan and Evelyn Whittemore. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury. Funeral arrangements by George F. Doherty & Sons, Dedham.

DALY

Angela M. (Benedetti), 89, of Norwood, March 25. Beloved wife of the late Charles P. Daly. Devoted mother of Maureen E. Daly of Oregon and Jean D. Calautti and her husband John of N. Attleboro. Sister of the late Henry, Daniel, Edward and Michael Benedetti. Grandmother of Devin and Brendan Calautti of N. Attleboro. Daughter of the late Nicola and Mary (Massarelli) Benedetti. Interment Highland Cemetery Norwood. Donations may be made in her name to Friends of Norwood COA 275 Prospect St., Norwood, MA 02062. Funeral arrangements by Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, Norwood.

DeFEO

Paul C., of Norwood, formerly of Easton, March 25. Son of Dorothea E. (Mulcahy) DeFeo of Easton and the late Charles DeFeo Jr. Brother of Nanette Longley and her husband Charles of Tyngsboro and Suzanne Freitas and her husband Thomas of Jericho, VT. Also survived by one niece, one nephew, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Interment Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Easton. In lieu of flowers, donations in Paul's memory may be sent to Red Cloud Indian School, 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, SD 57770-2100. Funeral arrangements by Kane Funeral Home, Easton.

McCARTHY

William J., firefighter, Brookline Fire Dept., in Norwood, formerly of Brookline, March 27, peacefully at home after a courageous battle with cancer. Late Army Veteran, Vietnam War, and late member Local #950, I.A.F.F. and

the Norwood Lodge of Elks. Beloved husband of Susan L. (Carey) McCarthy. Loving father of Michael J. and his wife Michelle P. of Norwood, Christopher J. of Norwood, Alison C. Robertson and her husband Joseph P. of Medfield and Steven W. and Thomas J., both of Norwood. Dear son of the late William J. and Lillian M. (Hanley) McCarthy and son-in-law of John and Carolyn Carey of Canton. Brother of the late Linda Lescell. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Billy may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney St., Boston MA 02115. Funeral arrangements by Bell-O'Dea Funeral Home, Brookline.

MEECH

Alfred B., of Norwood, March 19. Life partner of Timothy L. Zimmerman for 35 Years. Uncle of Patricia Burnside, Douglas Meech, David Meech and Brian Meech. A Memorial service will be held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 59 Court St., Dedham, April 4 at 1 p.m. Funeral arrangements by McNamara Funeral Homes, Brighton-Cohasset-Norwell.

O'KEEFE

Alma D. (Higgins), 91, of Norwood, formerly of Canton, March 24. Wife of the late Harold D. Mother of David F. and his wife Carol of Rockland, Maureen J. Flaherty and her husband John of Bedford, NH and the late Robert D. Sister of Joan Krupa of AZ, formerly of Norwell, John "Jack" Higgins of Stoneham and the late Donald Higgins and Frances Rose. Also survived by seven grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Donations in Alma's name may be sent to the American Heart Assn., 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701. Funeral arrangements by Farley Funeral Home, Stoughton.

STEPANOWICH

Shirley P., 84, of Norwood, March 17. Daughter of the late Joseph and Tillie (Zames) Stepanowich. Cousin of Robert Zames and his wife Jeanette of Ohio. Godmother of Kelly A. and Cheri K. Zames, both of Ohio. Also survived by Leigh Zames Orbell and Dean Orbell, both of Washing-

ton DC. Dearest friend of Grace Jordan of Walpole and other close friends, Dorothy Lonergan, Claire Palmero, Diane Svendsen, Frank Stepanowich, Ruth Kizala, and Mary Catholdi. Interment Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to Deepwood Foundation for Developmentally Disabled People, 8121 Deepwood Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060. Funeral arrangements by Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, Norwood.

THOMAS

George "Tiger," 85, of Norwood, March 24. George worked for the Town of Norwood for 35 years, initially starting with the Electric Light Department in 1965. Later, he was appointed as the Town's Veterans' Agent in 1972, and held that position until his retirement in 2000. George assisted thousands of Norwood veterans over the years with respect, compassion and integrity. A United

States Army veteran of World War II, George was assigned to Company B, 440th Signal Heavy Construction Battalion, and saw major action during two years in the Western Pacific Theater, with campaigns in New Guinea, the Philippines and Ryukus Islands. An expert marksman and sharpshooter, his exemplary service to his country resulted in the award of the World War II Victory Medal, the American Theater Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal w/bronze Battle Star and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Honorably discharged in 1946 with the rank of Master Sergeant. He was a member of Norwood American Legion Post 70 and a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Norwood Post 2452. Life member of Norwood Elks and Former Norwood Town Meeting Member. Beloved and devoted husband of Floreen "Lovee" J. (Harb) Thomas. Devoted father of David M. of Norwood and Mark

J. and his wife Judith of Palm Harbor, FL. Brother of Sandy Thomas of Norwood and the late Sam Thomas and Freda David. Grandfather of Gregory Thomas of Walpole, Brett Thomas of CA, Marc Thomas of Quincy and Brendan Thomas of FL. Son of the late Abraham and Mary (Howard) Thomas. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and good friends. Interment with full Military Honors, Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the charity of your choice. Funeral arrangements by Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, Norwood.

Condolences extended to:

Sandra L. Travers on the death of her mother and Josh Travers on the death of his grandmother Ruth M. (Tunberg) Kropoff of Dedham, Mar. 27.

Roy Gebhardt on the death of his sister Rita E. (Gebhardt) McGurk of Hyde Park, Mar. 28.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The First Congregational Church, located on the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street, will be offering the following services during Holy Week. Palm Sunday, April 5: the service begins at 10 a.m. with the Procession of Palms and an anthem by the children's choir, and then moves into a drama of the Passion based on the gospel of Mark. Maundy Service, April 9: the service begins with an intergenerational meal in remembrance of the meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. The meal begins at 6:30 p.m. and is potluck. If you plan to attend the potluck, please call the church office to aid us in planning the meal. Upon finishing the meal, we will move to the sanctuary, accompanied by a solemn handbell processional. There, beginning at 7:30 p.m., we will conduct the service a Tenebrae, with gospel readings from Jesus' last hours and the gradual extinguishing of

lights.

Good Friday, April 10: a contemplative service will begin at 12:00 noon. This will be a quiet and reflective service with a focus on remembering Jesus' last moments and the crucifixion. Easter Sunday, April 12: the Sunrise Service begins at 5:45 am on New Pond in Walpole, led by our Jr. High Youth Group. For directions, please call the church office at the number below. Our celebration of Christ's resurrection continues at the 10:00 a.m. the sanctuary. In addition to the anthem by the Chancel Choir, there will be special music for piano, organ and trumpet.

The Church (UCC) is also offering a time for prayer and reflection on Thursday evening, April 2, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The evening will include a centering moment followed by time for individual prayer and reflection. For more information, call the church office at (781) 762-3320.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN EVENTS

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 24 Berwick St., will be offering midweek Lenten worship services each week throughout Lent on Wednesday afternoons at 2 p.m., and Thursday evenings, at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call the church office at (781) 762-9457.

The Church will also hold its annual Good Friday Vacation Bible School on Friday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 24 Berwick St. Children age four to grade 4four are invited. There will be stories, crafts, music, games and worship. A mid-morning snack is provided. This is a free event open to all children. Students are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to help stock the shelves at the Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry. Registrations are due by April 3. Call the church office at (781) 762-9457 to register children for this event.

The Record Book

CHATEAU BENEFITS FOR MUSIC AND LACROSSE

The Chateau Restaurant of Norwood, 404 Providence Highway, is sponsoring a fundraiser to benefit music programs in Norwood schools. On Wednesday, April 8, The Chateau will donate 20 percent of all dinners purchased that evening to the Norwood Parent Music Association (PMA). The PMA is a non-profit group that supports music programs in Norwood public schools. To participate, visit the PMA Web site, www.norwoodpma.org/ for a special fundraiser ticket, or contact Carmel Kerrigan (781) 551-9518. Any purchase you make from 5 p.m. until closing, including take-out, will qualify for the donation. To make reservations, call (781) 762-5335.

The Chateau is also sponsoring a fundraiser to benefit Norwood Youth Lacrosse on Thursday, April 9. The Chateau will donate 20 percent of all dinners purchased that evening to the Norwood Youth Lacrosse program. To participate, visit the Norwood Youth Lacrosse Web site for a special fundraiser ticket (www.norwoodlacrosse.com). Any purchase made from 5 p.m. until closing, including take-out, will qualify for the donation. To make reservations at The Chateau, call (781) 762-5335.

NHS ARTWORK

Norwood High School's students will have their work exhibited on Saturday and Sunday, April 18-19, and April 25-26, from noon to 3 p.m., at the F. Holland Day House, 93 Day St. The Norwood Historical Society's headquarters will open its doors to the public for this special exhibition. To create the artwork for this show, students who are enrolled in Drawing and Painting IV and in AP Drawing, visited the Day House twice last fall. First, students visited the mansion for a tour. At that time they also learned about the historical background of F. Holland Day and his significance as a pioneer in American Fine Art Photography. Students then returned a second time to sketch their ideas for this unique assignment - to incorporate one of the three primary themes of Day's work (Portraits, Allegory, and Historical sites) into their own work. Using varying media and styles, seventeen pieces of student artwork, each a distinctive interpretation of these themes, will be on display. Visual Arts teacher Laurie Mead McGrory, who conceived of this assignment, hopes that it will "help students connect with the artistic heritage of Norwood which Day provides." In addition, the students will be adding to the cultural life of Norwood themselves through the exhibit in this important historical setting. The exhibition is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Norwood Historical Society at (781) 762-9197 or www.norwoodhistoricalsociety.org.

TOASTMASTERS CLUB ALUMNI

The Norwood Toastmasters Club is seeking alumni for its 10-

year anniversary/reunion dinner on May 19. All past members are invited to attend. For more information, contact Peggy Wyllie at (508) 734-5677 or pegwyllie@aol.com.

FOXWOODS TRIP

A Foxwood's Casino trip is planned for Monday, April 13. Cost is \$24 per person. Those interested should call Fran Macaulay at (781) 686-4346. Proceeds will benefit the Norwood American Legion.

BALCH SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

The Balch School Spring "Swing" Fundraiser is underway. Enter the raffle to win golf for four at The Shattuck Golf Club in Jaffrey, NH Included with the prize is a \$100 Citgo gas card. Raffle tickets are \$5 each and the drawing will be held Thursday, April 16 during the book fair. For more information, contact Jen Jenks at jenjenks@verizon.net.

CLEVELAND SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to former students of the F.A. Cleveland School on June 2. The awards will be given to outstanding young men and women who are graduating from high school in June, 2006. Applicants must presently reside in Norwood. The four awards include two special achievement awards, the F.A. Cleveland School Graduate Award in memory of former principal, William P. Kenny, and a fourth award given unanimously to a student who is involved on a continual basis in volunteer work. The completed application, including a cover letter, a letter of recommendation, and the most recent high school transcript must be received by the F.A. Cleveland School no later than Friday, May 1. F.A. Cleveland Scholarship applications are available from the guidance department at Norwood High School and from the principal's office at the Cleveland School.

BLUE HILLS REGIONAL BOOSTER CLUB

The Booster Club of Blue Hills Regional Technical School in Canton will hold a Comedy Night Fundraiser on Friday, April 17, 7 p.m., at the Randolph Elks Lodge, 21 School St. (behind the CVS on Route 28). The event will feature local comedians Christine Hurley, Tommy Dunham, Dave McDonough and Alicia Love. Tickets are \$15 and only 200 will be sold. To reserve tickets, e-mail Bhboosters08@aol.com with the number of tickets needed. Tickets can be picked up at the next Booster Club meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14 in the Chateau, the school's student-run restaurant. Please make checks payable to Blue Hills Booster Club.

NEW YORK CITY TRIP

The Norwood Italian Lodge presents a trip to The Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Ground Zero and Little Italy in New York on Saturday May 16. The group will leave the public parking lot behind

Babel's at 6:30 a.m. and return at 10:30 p.m. Cost \$69 per person. For more information, call Delia at (781) 762-6813.

NORWOOD GARDEN CLUB ACCEPTING PRE-SALE ORDERS

The Norwood Evening Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hawes Pool Park in South Norwood, rain or shine. There will be no early-bird sales. However, the Club is once again offering advance orders for geraniums, herbs, and 12-inch hanging baskets and patio pots. To make pre-ordering more attractive, most prices will be the same as last year. Pre-order forms may be downloaded from www.norwoodeveninggardenclub.com or by calling Vivien at (781) 769-7940. All advance orders must be received and pre-paid by April 11. Held the day before Mother's Day, the sale is an excellent opportunity to purchase a gift for Mom as well as plants for your own garden. As in past years, perennials from member gardens will be offered at reasonable prices, most under \$10. A large variety of herbs will also be available for sale. Proceeds from the Plant Sale are used for the club's many civic beautification and education projects. For information about membership, call (781) 769-7940.

FIFTH ANNUAL ART IN BLOOM

The Norwood Evening Garden Club will sponsor their Fifth Annual Art in Bloom, where members will interpret the work of Norwood High School artists by creating floral arrangements on Saturday, Apr. 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 5, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the George H. Morse House, 1285 Washington St. The students' paintings will once again be based on the concepts and techniques of the Fauvists, an art movement from the early part of the twentieth century in France. Using the Fauvist stylistic influence, students will create landscape watercolor paintings of Norwood. The public is invited. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. The public is encouraged to attend to support the students in this endeavor. Students participating in this event are: Rashi Batra, Ashley Bischoff, Paige Bourque, Marcquia Brooks, Alix Campbell, Laura DiTomasso, Nicole Flaherty, Rebecca Gillis, Domenic Iarocci, Priscille Joseph, Meredith Kiy, Michael Le, Chelsie Marinucci, Sandra Mastinggal, Kelsey Smith and Larissa Zabrowski. For information about the Norwood Evening Garden Club, call (781) 769-7940.

NORWOOD SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Join the Norwood Scholarship Foundation, Inc. in celebrating the 22nd annual "Century Club Dinner" on Thursday, April 16, at 6 p.m., at the Brookmeadow Country Club in Canton. Social hour is at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. The evening will include a so-

cial hour, dinner and entertainment by the Norwood High School Madrigal Choir and student exhibits in both art and cosmetology. The Foundation has awarded more than \$1 million dollars to Norwood residents pursuing post secondary education. Tickets are \$60 per person and may be purchased by contacting Barsha Plumber at (781) 762-6074.

ELECTION SEASON ON NPA-TV

Norwood Public Access-TV (NPA-TV) will rebroadcast the League of Women Voters Candidates Night, Special Town Meeting and other election related programming for the rest of election season leading up to live coverage on Election Day, Monday, April 6, at 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.npatv.org, or call (781) 551-0338.

JACKIE O

Noted actress and author Robin Lane will perform a dramatization of the life of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis on Tuesday, April 7, at 7 p.m. at the Morrill Memorial Library. In "An American Original: Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis," actress Robin Lane reveals the private woman behind the public mask, while keeping alive the mystique and magic that Jackie personified. Funding for this event is provided by a grant from the Norwood Cultural Council and by the Library Endowment Fund. Seating is limited. Register early by calling (781) 769-0200. The program will be held in the Simoni Room of the library, which is handicapped accessible.

CABIN FEVER PARTY

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Norwood VFW will be hosting a Cabin Fever Party on Saturday, April 4, from 8 p.m. to midnight, at the VFW at 193 Dean St. Put winter behind you and enjoy a buffet dinner, dancing with DJ Joe O'Neill, raffles and a cash bar. Cost is \$10 per person. Tickets are available at the VFW or at the door. All proceeds will benefit the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW programs.

NORWOOD'S WOMENS' CLUB

The Norwood Women's Club will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 12:30 p.m., at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 24 Berwick St. The program will feature a performance about John Adams where "he" will share facts about his life and the historic times in which he lived. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For more information, call Trina Mallet at (781) 762-8173.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Norwood Hospital is holding its 32nd Annual Golf Classic on Monday, June 1, at Walpole Country Club. The event includes lunch and then 18 holes of golf, with a new car going to the hole-in-one shooter on a designated Par 3 hole. Raffles will be featured throughout the day and appetizers, dinner and an awards ceremony will follow play, as well as silent and live auctions where bidders will take home items like Boston Red Sox tickets. Anyone interested in becoming a sponsor and/or enjoying a day of golf and activities while supporting Norwood Hospital, may call Susan Dowling in Norwood Hospital's Development Office at (781) 278-6001.

REC NEWS GOES ONLINE

The Norwood Recreation Department is developing an online community calendar to promote community events throughout the town. Events are but not limited to: sport registrations, car washes, fundraisers, musicals, retirement parties and more! If you have an event that should be posted, email communitycalendar@norwoodma.gov. Please include your name, your phone number, event name, event date, and event start/finish time.



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Letters *continued from page 4*

was the last time you spent a day at Norwood High School? Instead of a tour, why don't you spend an entire day there? That way you could see the crammed lunchroom where students have to sit on the radiators because the cafe is too small to accommodate the student population or use one of the dark and dingy bathrooms. I only hope that you have a good strong pair of legs because if you have any physical handicap, you are in for quite a challenge. The students with Wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, braces and splints find it next to impossible to maneuver around the building. Maybe you should attend an assembly in the auditorium. Since seating is limited, you may have to line up along the sides or sit on the floor in the front. If you happen to know a student who is performing in any fine arts production, you will have to see them perform off site because the auditorium cannot accommodate any large crowd or production.

Everyone talks about the beautiful columns in the front of the building, but if you look closer they are a mess. To look at Norwood High from a distance, yes it is a lovely building but it needs work and has for many years. We do not have the luxury of just gutting the building because we still have to house the students. Renovating it is out of the question because we would lose \$45 million from the Mass School Building Committee. The sad thing is the kids are the biggest losers in all of this. What happens when they try and get into college coming from a high school that has lost its accreditation? As far as taxes go we are talking about roughly \$1.50 a month. That is less than the price of a cup of coffee.

*Thank you,
Nancy Gillis-Cawley*

STUDENT SUPPORTS NEW HS

To the Editor:

I am currently a junior at Norwood High School and I am definitely a supporter of a New Norwood High School.

Every school day for the past three years, I've gone to the famous school on the hill. From Nichols Street the outside of the school looks really beautiful, but as you move closer to the building it loses that description. If you take a close look at the outside of the building you can see all the damage it has. The columns are starting to fall apart, there are broken windows in many places, and many parts of the building are starting to rust. There are also some cracks in the foundation, just from age. It's really difficult to get into the learning spirit if the outside of your school is starting to fall apart.

Even worse, the inside of the school isn't much better. People who went to the school years ago or those who have never been in NHS probably don't realize how bad it has become. At times during the day it is impossible to make it to class on time just because the stairways in the West Building (or to others the "New Building") become so crowded it is impossible to move. The cafeteria also has an issue with overcrowding. Sometimes at lunch, I can't even get a seat because the room fills up so fast. More unfortunate is the fact that some classrooms don't have enough room or even desks. My health class this year had to change rooms just because we couldn't all fit into the classroom; there are 36 of us. Last year, my math class was in a former teacher's lounge. That doesn't really get you excited to learn.

There is one part of the year that every person at Norwood High School, and that includes teachers, dreads. It is late spring and early summer. NHS currently contains no air conditioning system, so the school becomes incredibly hot in the warm weather. It's really hard to concentrate on a test when you're worrying about heat stroke. My history teacher last year had trouble teaching my class because the temperature in her classroom was 103 degrees. We know this for a fact because one of the science teachers came in to get the temperature. It's not easy for us to cool off because there is no ventilation; sometimes it is hard to breathe in the burning hot classrooms of the upper West.

I understand that some people think the new school is too much money to spend or that they're worried about the slight tax hike. To those people I say, think about the current students of Norwood and those of the future. Since I'm a junior I have to start worrying about college. The worries include the SATs, applications, and picking a school. But, some of us may be forced to add an unaccredited high school to mix, if the vote doesn't pass. My fellow classmates and I are afraid, that after 13 years of school, we won't make it into the college of our choice because NHS isn't accredited. That would really hurt our bright futures.

So, on April 6, I ask the citizens of Norwood to vote yes for a new Norwood High School. And that vote wouldn't just be for the future students of the school on the hill, it would also be for the current students and their quest for higher education.

*Alexandra Slater
NHS Class of 2010*

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

To the Editor:

Norwood is being given the opportunity of our lifetime to build what State Treasurer Tim Cahill called the most important school that will be built in the Commonwealth. At Town Meeting, Treasurer Cahill guaranteed that the state has the money in hand and ready to be spent but made clear that after the first wave of projects are funded, there is no guarantee when or if further money will be available.

We as citizens must ask ourselves: If not now, then when? Nobody ever wants to see their taxes rise, not people on fixed incomes and not people like me raising a family with four young children living and attending school in Norwood. We cannot just put things off and hope that somebody will deal with it later. If there was a better location don't you think our elected and appointed leaders would have found it, they have no stake in the school's location other than doing what they feel is best for the students. With all due respect to those who don't want to lose the existing building, the building does not meet the needs of the students and the standards to which we should aspire on behalf of the children.

The most important right we have as citizens is the right to vote. I know from having lived in Norwood my entire life that if you truly vote with your conscience and not merely with your wallet that the answer to whether an override is necessary is a resounding yes.

Brian P. Fitzsimmons

THANKS FOR ADMISSION

To the Editor:

Thank you for admitting that the headline "Seniors back new high school" on the front page of the 3/12/09 edition of *The Norwood Record* was "just flat out wrong." No doubt, some in the audience might have felt that the new school is the way to go.

By the same token, I suspect that there were as many who felt that it is not the right way to go.

Dennis, for your information, I'm not a "conspiracy theorist," but I found it very revealing that you came up with that designation. Very revealing! Do you know something that the majority of Norwood citizen/residents do not know, or have not been privy to?

I prefer the word "orchestrate" to the use of the word "conspiracy" or "conspire."

Orchestrate, over and above the musical definitions, is defined as: "to arrange, coordinate or manipulate the elements so as to achieve a goal or effect." Similar to conspire, I suppose, but a bit less harsh. Again, that's the Webster's College Dictionary definition.

In closing, I urge the good people of Norwood to vote "NO" on Monday, April 6. We've been led down the wrong road!

*Frank McKeown
Town Meeting Member
District 2*

SKEPTICAL OF NEW CONSTRUCTION

To the Editor:

I have been living in Norwood for just about 23 years. No, I did not graduate from Norwood High, however my three girls did. The education in Norwood was good then, but we can no longer say the same.

From my experience in Norwood, new construction means "leaky roofs, leaky windows, or flooding. Isn't that what happened with the police station/fire station. I happened to collect the rainwater at the Larusso Building at Norwood Hospital. Just about every time it rains the water comes through making us pad the windows or put receptacles on the window sills... new construction.

Since when does new and bigger = better education? How can we in this economy justify the demolition of a structurally sound building when people like me are living from pay check to pay check and people in California are eating out of dumpsters and some of the children are only to happy to go to school, not only to learn but to have perhaps the only meal of their day. If this situation trickles down to the North East, we will be in the same boat. And what about those teachers who are already line up to be cut off from the Oldham school, I wonder how they feel. If this project goes through, and I pray it won't, why should we pay to have the steel, bricks and copper haul away? Why couldn't we give it to Habitat for Humanity, let the residents of Norwood take it or as a last resource let me have some of it, my house is just about 60 years old and, according to what I hear, under the new construction standards it should be ready to be demolished.

Thelma Macomber

LOOKING FOR FACTS ON COST

To The Editor:

We all heard a lot of talk about what a good deal this model school is.

What we are not hearing is a full disclosure of the total cost of the 27-year period, the same type of disclosure you get when you buy a home, complete with principal and taxes as well as all the other expenses such as bus-ing, alternate playing fields, etc.

This will be a constant cost item every year. We don't have them now and each year they will increase. How many other costs are buried and will not be discussed?

We have not heard about all the other schools in town and what condition they are in. The Junior High South was part of the original picture. What happened to it? It still needs major repair. Has it been trodden on or will it emerge after the vote? Will it be the next override?

The other expenses are the electric light interest. What is the total cost of that failure? How much has this fiasco cost. All we hear and see is the town hall battle cry: "Raise the rates".

We still don't know what the \$13 million dollar fire station total cost was. Between court costs, extras, replacement of equipment, etc., the project is going on. What is the full disclosure of that project?

There is talk of a new DPW yard. Is the state going to pay for all this or is the tax burden going to be so high, any one on a fixed income will have to go on welfare or get out of town.

The Senior Center was one of the PBC projects. What happened there? Between the ledge and delays that took place it went on and on. Will the same thing happen with the school? Do we have faith in this commission?

Where is the capital out lay committee with our projected expenses for the next 25 years? Do we have any other major projects in the offering or on the want list? Why aren't they on the radar screen?

All we heard at Town Meeting were rebuttals to the Common Sense Committee. State Treasurer Tim Cahill only answered four, pointed questions from the work committee. None from the opposition. Selectmen McQuaid sucker punched the meeting by being allowed to talk first to assure that a roll call vote would be taken and get the intimidation effect in place. They could not take the chance of a secret ballot. They may have

lost a few votes that were on the fence.

I applaud all those who had the guts to stand and speak against this boondoggle. There are alternative sites that would be better and could work with the model school. One is the Junior High South. It will be next on the list for demolition. Put the high school there and put the middle school at the high school. With an unbiased committee, a better solution could have been worked out. A take it or leave it choice is all we were given.

It does not make sense to tear down a \$25 million dollar building that was built like a fortress and replace it with a building that will need renovations before it is paid for. At the very least, rent it or sell it.

If this project is turned down, what will happen? Nothing. The school and life will continue as it has and the voters will have voiced their opposition to another take it or leave it project. Maybe then we will get a real choice.

Do not vote your emotions or believe it's for the children. Vote NO and vote for real change.

*Louis R. Santoro
Town Meeting Member, District 7
Common Sense Committee*

'RIDICULOUS'

To the Editor:

Ridiculous. That's what I think of the new high school proposal being pushed upon us by town officials and others after I saw the presentations at Town Meeting.

We own a historic building along with fields known as Norwood Senior High School worth \$15 million. We are told it's in such disrepair that it must be torn down. We are told this is a great deal the state is "giving" us. We are told our children are entitled to this new school. We are told it will only increase our tax rate by an average of \$150 per year. What a "throw away" society we've turned into.

The reality is the new building's construction will not be as good as what we have now. The new building will sit further back on the property, causing us to lose at least two fields at this facility. This will cause us endless years of bussing our young athletes to other fields in town. I also have no doubt that sometime after the new high school is built people will come forward wanting lights on the fields for night activities. Full speed ahead with no regard for the neighbors.

Our officials have done nothing to maintain the current facility. They have done nothing to deal with accreditation issues. They have put all our eggs into this one basket called the new Norwood High, hoping it will pass on the Town vote.

If this proposal does pass, I will look back to this time in our history-it may be 20 years, it may be 30 years. Because of shoddy construction, defects and, again, a complete lack of maintenance, our town officials and others will come at us with a proposal for a "new high school" preaching the same old rhetoric as what they're saying now.

They will say-we need a new high school, it's a great deal, we'll build it in front of the existing school and we'll be able to put two fields at the new high school that we don't currently have! This will mean we won't have to bus our kids all over Norwood.

If it weren't such a tragedy it would be laughable. What a waste of a perfectly good building and asset that could easily be renovated and brought up to today's standards.

John Marsoobian, Jr.

SUPPORTS RENOVATION

To the Editor:

I am for remodeling of the existing Norwood High with new additions. Those saying it cannot be done, have not seen the new Needham High School.

When I visited it, the Vice Principal gave me an extensive tour of the very impressive facility. My first question was: "Has anyone from Norwood inquired or visited the new school." His answer was, "not one person." How does anyone make an informed deci-

Letters

Continued on page 17

Police Logs

Tuesday, Mar. 24

0734 phone. Medical emergency, transported to hospital. Location/address: 501 Buckminster Dr. 105. Daughter reports her father called her and has fallen, is on the floor and dizzy. Request for ambulance. N666, NFD responded. Party transported. Message left for daughter.

0841 phone. Warrant arrest, arrest(s) made. Location/address: 7 Dean St. @ 1065 Washington St. Officers locate a subject wanted for B&E. vehicle pulled over and one placed under arrest. Arrest: Conway, Sean. Address: 14 Old Post Rd. R, Walpole, MA. DOB: 03/18/1987. Charges: warrant arrest.

1451 phone. Assist other agency, services rendered. Location/address: 40 William Shyne Cir. Officers assist Walpole P.D. as they arrest a subject on warrants who was visiting his grandmother.

1452 phone. Parking violation, services rendered. Location/address: Nahatan St. Ms. Wales in the station to complain about a man that parks in the hp parking area before school that states "during school hours ." She was upset with the words exchanged after she confronted the man. Off. advised her and will speak with safety officer.

1454 phone. Animal complaint, state DPW/Norwood DPW no. Location/address: Bullard St. unit: 677 patrolman edward a farioli Goose hit by car, DPW to handle.

1641 phone. Lost and found, services ren-

dered. Location/address: 104 Nichols St. Report Comcast cable worker on pole in front of house left some tools behind. Resident picked them up. Comcast notified and will have technician go back and pick them up.

1724 phone. Larceny, complaint/summons. Location/address: Route 1 Auto Service - 305 Bos.-Prov. Hwy. Caller reported larceny. Report to follow. Summons: Maggio, Anthony. Address: 3 Olde Derby Rd. 326, Norwood, MA. DOB: 09/17/1964. Charges: larceny by check over \$250.

1740 phone. Complaint of m/v, spoken to. Location/address: Winter St. Report MA pc 21PH92 driving erratic (marked lanes), last seen entering Norwood. Bolo. to cars. 1746 hrs units stop same 884 block Washington St., spoke to driver, appears ok, no violation observed, Westwood notified.

1752 phone. Well being chk., spoken to. Location/address: 351 Buckminster Dr. 108. Caller requested well being check. Officers checked residence, son stated she was at church. Officers checked St. Catherine's, party located, checked ok.

1908 911. Stolen bicycle, report filed. Location/address: Norwood Civic Center - 165 Nahatan St. Caller reported past larceny of bicycles. Report to be filed.

1916 phone. Disturbance, gone on arrival. Location/address: McDonalds - 32 Broadway St. Caller reported unwanted party threatened him before leaving. Party seen walking to-

wards Nahatan St. Officers checked area, no one found matching description.

1959 phone. Susp. vehicle, spoken to. Location/address: 106 Westover Pkwy. Caller reported suspicious black Honda in front of his house. Officers reported father teaching daughter to drive. Officers spoke with resident, satisfied.

2013 phone. Susp. vehicle, gone on arrival. Location/address: Ellis Playground - Codman Rd. Caller reported suspicious vehicle lv MALV54336. Officers checked area, nothing found.

2032 phone. Susp. vehicle, spoken to. Location/address: Norwood Airport Inc. - 101 Access Rd. Report black mv with 2 black males riding around lot with no headlights, also entering/exiting lot. N665 reports they were being filmed by a helicopter for music video.

2105 phone. 911 hang up, report filed. Location/address: 351 Buckminster Dr. 108. Upon call back-female states all ok, male in background then hangs up. 2nd call back-mother reports kids threatening son. N677 reports son refused to cooperate with information, other kids left before officers arrival.

2125 911. Domestic, report filed. Location/address: 213 Walpole St. Report argument with daughter.

2143 phone. Well being chk., gone on arrival. Location/address: 1391 Block - Washington St. Report of a male, blue jacket or

shirt, tan pants running back/forth on sidewalk flailing arms. Units checked area and side streets.

Wednesday, Mar. 25

0054 phone. Noise complaint, spoken to. Location/address: 40 Lenox St. 2. Caller reports neighbor downstairs being loud (tv & friends visiting) and keeping him up. N677, N669 responded and spoke with all parties involved and advised.

0636 phone. Noise complaint, spoken to. Location/address: CJM Services - 50 Kerry Pl. Resident on Pellana Rd. complaining of trucks idling behind CJM Servies. N669 dispatched, spoke to driver and advised.

1132 phone. Assist citizen, services rendered. Location/address: Mcternan/Russell Attorney - 839 Washington St. Cranberry Saturn, keys inside and motor running. MA 625JT0. Officer secured vehicle and returned with car keys. Message left on answering machine at residence and note left on vehicle. 03/25/2009 1500 owner picked keys up.

1238 911. Assist other police department, services rendered. Location/address: Washington St. @ East St. Caller reported bicyclist struck by vehicle. Westwood P.D. notified.

1350 phone. Susp. activity, report filed. Location/address: Stash's Pizza - 254 Dean St. Paulina reports sp. activity this morning at 10. Male entered store, went behind counter and was writing things down.

1522 phone. Disturbance, spoken to. Location/address: Ice Jack Ice Cream - 686 Washington St. Caller reported black male on bike approached two white juveniles. Officer reported all parties were juveniles and horsing around. No crime committed.

1602 phone. Be on the lookout, area search negative. Walpole P.D. reported Patrick Kid left Riverside Crisis Center over 30 minutes ago. Party made threats to a resident in their town. Walpole has Section 12 in hand. Walpole reported party may be heading to Walpole via the 32E bus. 666, 664 checked area, nothing found.

1708 phone. Susp. activity, services rendered. Location/address: 883 Washington St. Resident reports her car was removed from the property today to be donated. Unknown what company towed the car. Off. reports under investigation.

1732 phone. Larceny. arrest(s) made. Location/address: Dedham Medical Assoc. - 325 River Ridge Dr. Dr. Andersons office reports the theft of a wallet. Suspect who was last in the are a left in tan jeep with two other subjects. As a result one female under arrest and transported by off. Arrest: Feliciano, Zaida L. Address: 251 Hill St. 3, Norwood, MA DOB: 11/27/1975. Charges: larceny from building, credit card, larceny of.

1805 911. Report of fight, services rendered. Location/address: 990 Washington St. Reports of 3-5 teens gathering to fight. No fight, officers report the kids are moving.

1841 phone. Vandalism, report filed. Location/address: 178 Jefferson Dr. Car mirror damaged. Report to be filed.

1845 phone. Animal complaint, taken/referred to other. Location/address: 86 Alandale Pkwy. Report black dog running loose in circle part of street. N.A.C.O. notified. N662 reports owner captured same.

1905 phone. Larceny, report filed. Location/address: 15 Short St. Prescription missing from her car. Report to be filed.

1914 phone. Susp. person, spoken to. Location/address: 48 Brookfield Rd. Report male subject appeared to break something on front door and is now in house, house is vacant. N663 locates same, works for bank, changing locks, checks ok. (MA s57168880).

1946 phone. Susp. vehicle, report filed. Location/address: Marriot Hotel - 300 River Ridge Dr. Report Ford, Taurus, dark color, tinted windows, 2 males on cell phones, 20+ minutes, rear lot. N666 reports 1 citation for drug offense issued.

2237 phone. Susp. vehicle, services rendered. Location/address: Blossom St. White

Letters *continued from page 16*

sion without knowing all the facts? I then asked about the feelings of the townspeople. He stated there was a consensus of the residents to work for the good of the town. They formed the "Extraordinary Safety and Health Committee," consisting of teachers, engineers, and residents. They met once a month, and more, as the work progressed.

Students remained in the old section until one part was finished, then they moved into the classroom portion of the new wing. Classroom locations were moved at each phase of construction. He complemented the students on their flexibility. It is in error to believe that a renovation is not possible. Needham is a prime example of such a project.

I would like to clear some fears about Norwood High School.

ASBESTOS: Asbestos was removed in 1987 at the cost of \$40,000.

ACCREDITATION: Colleges will not punish students with proper requirements from entering colleges. Think of all the ill equipped schools across our nation, and the home schooled children who have no other facilities other than their homes, and often get into top schools.

ACCREDITATION: "The United States House of Representatives Reports accompanying the Reauthorization of Higher Education Act (Pub.L.No.105-244)." The committee believes that college admissions should be determined based on academic ability of the student and not the accreditation of the school in which he or she received a secondary education." 105th CONGRESS, 2ND SESSION, House Representatives, REPORT 105-481, Higher Education Amendments of 1998, April 17, 1998, P.147.

I think we need to take a deep breath, look at facts, and not jump to rumors and fears.

*Caroline A. Pannes
Norwood Historical Society
Norwood Historical Commission*

WHAT THE STAKES ARE

To the Editor:

With the town's debt exclusion override on the high school project slated for April 6, it is important for all voters in Norwood think deeply about what is at stake.

The state will undoubtedly implement further sanctions against the accreditation of Norwood High, and possibly revoke its accredited status completely, if we fail to accept its offer of nearly 60 percent reimbursement for the construction of a brand new, state-of-the-art school. It is difficult to fully

comprehend the negative impact this would have on our town, but there is no question it would result in further declines in our property values and undermine the character and essence of Norwood as a community. For those who would scoff at such an assessment, I would simply suggest a close study of what has happened in nearby Randolph.

Twenty years ago Randolph was a lot like Norwood — a proud community of blue and white collar workers with a thriving downtown, a strong core of small businesses, a number of active churches and a school system that was well-regarded. However, over a period of years, voters and elected officials in Randolph repeatedly refused to raise taxes to make critical investments in the town's infrastructure. This resulted in major budgetary problems, significant public safety shortfalls and failing schools. Randolph's connective tissue as a community began to weaken when long-time residents started to flee the chaos. The erosion was complete when young families with deep roots in the town decided to raise their kids in places like Canton, Easton and Sharon because those communities were demonstrating a commitment to education. As these trends gained momentum over a period of years, two things began to happen in Randolph. First, crime increased and its public safety apparatus began to fail miserably. Second, housing values dropped like a rock and people with no past connection to the town, or long-term commitment to its future, began to move in. Today, Randolph is largely a community adrift because of the past unwillingness of its citizens to make the investments that were needed to ensure that it remained a desirable place to live. We need to pay attention to Randolph's mistakes.

There has been a lot written and said in the context of the high school issue about Norwood being a blue collar, low income community. Norwood is not a wealthy town, but it is not a poor community either. It is a town with great economic, ethnic and social diversity whose income statistics are consistently skewed when analyzed relative to neighboring communities because we have such a large inventory of rental housing. However, the minute we start thinking Norwood is anything less than a solidly middle to upper middle class community we are in big trouble because it means we are making excuses for why we cannot invest in its future.

No one wants to see their taxes to go up,

but we have to preserve things like the integrity of our educational system if we want Norwood to be perceived as a great place to live. Frankly, if you are like me and are concerned about how much your property values have declined during the last 18 months, there is absolutely no better investment you can make than voting yes on April 6. That is because there is absolutely nothing we can do to bolster our property values that would be more impactful in these tough economic times than working together to build a brand new, state of the art high school.

Finally, with respect to the model school concept that has been proposed for the new Norwood High, I think I am in a unique position to comment on its community impact. Although I have lived in Norwood for 25 years, I am native of Hanson and a 1980 graduate of Whitman-Hanson Regional High School.

When the school I attended was razed three years ago to make way for the new Whitman-Hanson, I was saddened because the old building held lots of wonderful memories. However, my attitude changed abruptly when I visited the new school. The new Whitman-Hanson is the crown jewel of two hardworking towns that are a lot like Norwood. It is a wonderful asset — one that has infused both Whitman and Hanson with pride and provided resources and capabilities that neither community could have previously imagined. Perhaps most importantly, my many friends and former classmates who teach there tell me that the quality of education they are delivering to the kids of Whitman and Hanson is far superior to what they could have provided at the old facility. As a proud graduate of Whitman-Hanson, that makes me very happy.

In closing, there is no question the current Norwood High is a beautiful building, but it is rotting from the inside out. It suffers from decades of neglect - evidence of our collective failure to initiate a major renovation 10 or 12 years ago when the state was still providing significant reimbursement for such projects. As hard as it is, we need to move on. We have gotten our money's worth from the "School on the Hill." It is time we honor its legacy by building a new one so we can provide future generations of Norwood kids with the 21st century education they will need.

Please vote yes on April 6.

*Sincerely,
Scott C. Sacco*

Police Logs *continued from page 17*

car backing up and turning around several times. Officer reports driving lessons.

Thursday, Mar. 26

0127 phone. Motor vehicle accident, report filed. Location/address: 200 yds. from Dean St. - Glendale Rd. "AAA" reports a customer had called stating he struck a telephone pole to avoid hitting a dog and was in need of a service tow. N677, N662, NFD responded. No p.i. or damage to pole. Interstate towed vehicle. (MA reg# 19029).

1238 phone. B & E of motor vehicle, spoken to. Location/address: Sal and Vinnies - Bos.-Prov. Hwy. Caller reports two sp. males looking into vehicles. N663, N677, N669 respond. Employees of Jiffy Lube, they were just cutting through the lot.

1507 911. Report of fight, gone on arrival. Location/address: 134 Irving St. Resident reports she can see kids fighting in the playground of Norwest Woods. Unable to locate.

1623 phone. Animal complaint, services rendered. Location/address: Junior High South (Coakley Middle School) - 1315 Washington St. Two white k-9's in the area. Off. reports the owner was able to take them.

1942 phone. Susp. person, gone on arrival. Location/address: 325 Sumner St. Caller reported male party conducting surveys. Caller thought party did not belong in the area.

2128 phone. Susp. vehicle, services rendered. Location/address: 41 Crestwood Cir. Tan vehicle back and forth on the road, goa-

Friday, Mar. 27

0657 phone. Susp. activity, spoken to. Location/address: Neponset Valley Child Car - 110 Kerry Pl. Caller reports parents of children at day care report elder white male got out of (MA reg# 99KT72) and walked up and down parking lots then started walking along fence in back of property. N677 responded and located party who was driving vehicle and he states he is an employee at Poiriers and was not in the parking lot of the daycare, nor is he elderly or fit description. Everything appears to be in order and caller was notified.

0906 phone. Susp. activity, spoken to. Location/address: Furlongs Candies - 1355 Bos.-Prov. Hwy. Elderly female worker who lives on Sumner St. reports she had a blk./male knock on her door this morning who claimed to be a Verizon worker, wanting to get into her house. She did not let him in and he made her very nervous. Incident took place last evening and it was a Fios salesman trying to get her to switch. They are registered, this is second complaint from last night.

1014 phone. Well being chk., services rendered. Location/address: 220 Nahatan St. Arbor House of Franklin requests well being check on Jeff Boudreau who stated to them he was going to take pills. Officers check apt., no one home. At 1515 hrs., off. checked again and spoke to him, he had appointments today and is ok.

1357 walk-in. Breaking and entering, report filed. Location/address: 128 Nichols St. Attempted be to home on Monday morning

4 a.m. She scared them away and did not call P.D.

1549 phone. Assist other agency, services rendered. Location/address: 121 Codman Rd. Officer assisted Westwood P.D. Westwood P.D. handled. Re: red truck with two males who may be dk. and talking about meeting girls as they were at Roche Brothers in Westwood. Subject left in Westwood reports they are at 121 Codman.

1637 phone. Dispute, services rendered. Location/address: 465 Washington St. 2. Mr. Towne having problem with neighbor. Rooming house. Problem is about dirty bathroom. Officer will attempt to speak to landlord.

1725 phone. Mischief (kids), spoken to. Location/address: Oldham School - 165 Prospect St. Kids in area of Oldham playground, shouting obscenities, very disruptive to neighbors. Only four in area who state they have only been there 5 minutes. Officer spoke to caller who is satisfied with result.

1832 phone. Mischief (kids), spoken to. Location/address: 960 Norwest Dr. Caller reports about 13 kids running in and out of home, no adult present, making excess noise. Kids sent on their way by officers, one female was picking up items at her apt., with her friends, and is staying with aunt at another apt. in complex. Officer spoke to caller. Satisfied.

1918 phone. Susp. activity, area search negative. Location/address: 7 Dean St. @ 1065 Washington St. Caller reports w/male with bushy moustache just threw 2x4's into intersection and is walking up Dean towards Pleasant St. Boards have been moved, area checked goa.

1925 walk-in. Assist citizen, report filed. Location/address: 126 Plymouth Dr. A. Resi-

dent turning in ammunition. See officers report.

1938 radio. Assist citizen, protective custody. Location/address: Balch School - 1168 Washington St. Off. with pedestrian at bus stop. Charles Sumner, 30 Dean St 21. P.C. accepted by girlfriend. P/C: Sumner, Charles W. Address: 30 Dean St. 2, Norwood, MA. DOB: 05/31/1956. Charges: protective custody.

2128 phone. Susp. activity, spoken to. Location/address: 61 Mill Pond Ln. A couple of residents called inquiring about black male w/red shirt who was in area around 7 p.m. 1st caller said his kids were home and did not open door. They believe blk. male tried door knob when no one answered. They did not call P.D., but told father 2 hrs later. Another resident called at 7 asking how late solicitors can be out as a blk./male was selling Fios. Did not request officer. satisfied.

2254 phone. Complaint of m/v, arrest(s) made. Location/address: Direct Tire - Dean St. Caller reports dk. operator in MA 276IZY driving eratically followed into Norwood from Dedham. Driver almost hit guard rail several times. Subject located and as a result arrested for oui. Don & Wally towed MA 276IZY. Arrest: Gomez, Hector DJ. Address: 47 Whitewood Cir., Norwood, MA. DOB: 01/26/1971. Charges: oui liquor.

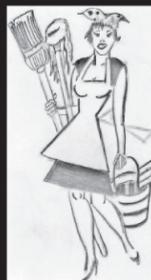
Saturday, Mar. 28

0030 phone. Noise complaint, services rendered. Location/address: 308 Norwest Dr. 2. Caller reports loud banging and rowdiness coming from apt. #2 below her. N677, N665 responded. All quiet at this time. N677 spoke

Police Logs

Continued on page 19

Community Service Directory

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Police Logs *continued from page 18*

with caller.

0202 phone. Neighbor disturbance, spoken to. Location/address: 5 Jacobs Rd. 1st floor resident states upstairs tenant calling her by phone making complaint of noise. N661, N662 responded and spoke to both parties. Matter resolved.

0228 phone. Drunk person, protective custody. Location/address: Nahatan St. Caller reports male on foot walking erratically, possibly drunk on Nahatan from rotary. N677, N679, N662 responded. As a result, N677 returned with 1 in p.c. P/C: Whitaker, Brian Warren. Address: 26 Hemlock Cir., Millis, MA. DOB: 07/18/1987. Charges: protective custody.

0247 phone. Larceny, report filed. Location/address: 151 Cameron Rd. Caller states she believes Jason White who was at her home earlier stole her cell phone. N665 responded then followed up at 77 Ellis Ave. with N662. Report filed.

1315 phone. Susp. vehicle, citation/warning issued. Location/address: 6B Olde Derby Rd. Report mv with engine running in fire lane for 1/2 hour, unoccupied. N679 reports engine not running, tagged, owner moved same.

1329 walk-in. Lost and found, services rendered. Location/address: Cedar St. Party turns in MA pc plate 43EB24 found lying on street. Plate status is revoked. N663 sent to 87 Cedar St. to check for the 2nd plate-not there, message left to have mv owner call police.

1357 phone. Animal complaint, taken/referred to other. Location/address: 11 Peabody

Rd. @ 195 Nichols St. Report two dogs running loose. N.A.C.O. notified.

1747 phone. Lost and found, services rendered. Location/address: Central St. Resident 990 Washington St., apt.8, finds a check on the street near the Norwood Bank. N664 confiscated same and owner notified.

1954 phone. Violation of town bylaw, gone on arrival. Location/address: 54 Mountain Ave. Report door-to-door solicitors still out.

2018 phone. Violation of town bylaw, gone on arrival. Location/address: 7 McKinley Rd. Caller reports two men going door to door for Verizon. She didn't think they were working for Verizon wanted the to be checked out.

2053 911. Violation of town bylaw, spoken to. Location/address: 20 Jefferson Dr. Caller reports a young male knocking on her door claiming to be with Verizon. She was suspicious of him due the time. N679 locates, informed of 6 p.m. stop time.

2116 phone. Mischief (kids), gone on arrival. Location/address: 20 Birch Rd. Report 10 or so teenagers running through neighborhood peeking in windows. N664 spoke to caller.

2236 phone. Susp. person, gone on arrival. Location/address: 92 Roosevelt Ave. Report Portuguese male, glasses, mustache, garage uniform, smell of fuel, was at door stating he wanted to give mail to resident, name on mail not same as resident. N679 spoke to caller, also tried 142 Roosevelt-address on mail-he was not there either.

2253 phone. Assist other police depart.,

services rendered. Location/address: 85 Monroe St. 2. Request attempt to arrest subject (Matos, Edwin) for domestic. N664 reports spoke to a female, said she saw him earlier today but he is not there now. Boston notified.

2322 phone. Road hazard, services rendered. Location/address: 38 Block - Plymouth Dr. Report bicycle lying in middle of road. N664 moved onto sidewalk, will leave here until next shift then pick up.

Sunday, Mar. 29

0120 911. Drunk person, arrest(s) made. Location/address: 240 Washington St. Caller reported intoxicated neighbor standing on his car's hood. Arrest: Franz, Daryn James. Address: 244 Washington St., Apt 2, Norwood, MA. DOB: 09/13/1969. Charges: destruction of property +\$250, malicious, protective custody.

0205 911. Susp. activity, services rendered. Location/address: 50 Plantation Cir. Caller reported lights turned on in ground floor, believed intruder in house. Officers checked property, nothing found.

0220 phone. Be on the lookout, services rendered. Bolo. broadcast for s silver caddy possibly heading Rte. south from I95 originally reported by State Police to Westwood P.D. Vehicle operating erratically.

0412 phone. Disturbance, protective custody. Location/address: 21 Geraldine Dr. Caller reported verbal argument. P/C: Glencross, Kate Margaret. Address: 21 Geraldine Dr., Norwood, MA. DOB: 04/18/1990. Charges: protective custody.

1040 cellular. Motor vehicle accident, taken/referred to other. Location/address: Knollwood/Sharon Memorial - Dedham St.

Report single car mva, into ditch between 2 entrances of cemeteries. Sharon and Canton P.D.'s notified.

1334 phone. Motor vehicle accident, papers exchanged. Location/address: 811 Neponset St. @ 50 Wedgewood Dr. Report 3 car mva. NFD notified.

1455 phone. Disabled mv, gone on arrival. Location/address: 31 Bos.-Prov. Hwy. @ 175 Everett St. Report mv, blue, in intersection on northbound side.

1530 walk-in. Hit and run, report filed. Location/address: Sky Restaurant - 1369 Bos.-Prov. Hwy. Party in lobby reports past mva.

1617911. 911 hang up, services rendered. Location/address: Norwood Hospital - 800 Washington St. Call to security who states they are not aware of any problems. N665 responded and stoodby. No one approached officer.

618911. Medical emergency, transported to hospital. Location/address: 23 Brierwood Ln. Female has fallen. N664, NFD responded.

1626 phone. Hit and run, report filed. Location/address: Petco - 1210 Bos.-Prov. Hwy. Caller reports customer is a victim of a past hit & run in Parking lot and would like officer to respond. N663 responded.

1631 phone. Assist MCI/hosp., services rendered. Location/address: Norwood Hospital - 800 Washington St. 1 hostile inmate being transported via ambulance with 1 officer on board and 2 officers following. N665 stoodby until settled in.

1858 cellular. Disabled mv, gone on arrival. Location/address: Neponset St. Caller reports dmv in middle of roadway beyond Gulf station. N662 responded. Officer checked to Canton line. Vehicle goa.

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Saber continued from page 4

Two years of service in the Atlantic Theater, and after the North Africa campaign, he was stationed on the newly built USS Yorktown in Norfolk, Virginia as a gun-mount captain on a 'five inch 38 gun mount' topside next to the conning tower. Tommy was a plank-owner of the USS Yorktown, which means that he was on board the Yorktown as a sailor for its commissioning, and

was on the ship for its maiden voyage. He was in the Naval Reserve for 33 years.

George (Tommy) Thompson was one of the happiest people I have ever known. After the war he married Livia Bilotta, and they enjoyed marital bliss for 56 years. Although he adored children, he never had any of his own. He enjoyed singing with a group called the "Irregulars," part of AARP for

The Norwood Record

more than twenty years. Tommy had a very powerful and beautiful singing voice. The "Irregulars" toured and sang at many nursing homes and senior centers throughout the state. He was also a short wave radio operator and communicated with people all over the world.

Tommy married again to a local widow, Helen Clarke Palmucci, in his declining years and they were very happy together. He passed away January 5, 2009 in his home with his wife by his side to the great sadness of many people.

NORWOOD ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT...

Recently, a large portion of Our Town lost their electric power in the early afternoon. Thankfully, it is a rarity that we do lose power. As usual, our light department was on the problem, lickity split, and within a very short period of time, we were lit up for business. Kudos to the crews that do a dangerous job, and do it well.

Historically, at a special Town meeting, April 13, 1905, it was voted to construct a municipal controlled electric light plant; the project completed in 1907. Our forefathers certainly had great foresight for the young Town of Norwood. The light department is still located on its original site of Central St.

IT'S NOT AN APRIL FOOL'S DAY JOKE...

The winter season on street parking ban (all night after midnight), is lifted as of April 1.

A NEW LAW...

It is now law that drivers must move out of the lane closest to emergency and repair vehicles that are stopped along the roadway. Fines are in effect.

NHS FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT...

The 12th annual 'Fine Arts Festival' will take place at the Knights of Columbus building located at 572 Nichols St., Our Town. The dates are April 13 and 14 from 6-8:30 p.m.

CHECK YOUR STORAGE AREAS...

We are looking for copies of vinyl records (33-1/3) that were recorded under the NHS musical direction of Mr. John Faucett. The years of '58, '60, and '61 are needed. NPA'S, Jack Tolman, took valuable time and created a fabulous CD of the '59 spring concert that has been aired on local access to the delight of many of we 'oldies.' I recently spoke with John Faucett, now retired. He was very grateful to receive the CD which brought back many memories of our days on the hill.

Hey, Sue Woodall, do you think there are more hiding places at the Senior Center that might be storing our memories? Sue found the original records at the Center, and instead of tossing them, she asked me if I wanted them, and thanks to Jack Tolman, everything blossomed from there. If you have any vinyl copies, please contact Jack Tolman at NHS.

IN CLOSING...

Do you think it is wise for the

USA to give approx. 1.7 BILLION dollars to Mexico to fight their drug problems, as we are in dire financial straits in this country thanks to our inept politicians from both parties? We have families living in pup tents that, through no fault of their own, lost their homes due to the loss of their jobs. Honest Americans seem to be thought very little of.

One last horrible thought...Energy czar, Carol Browner, a former member of the socialist party, recently made the following remark...Eventually, she would like to have electric and gas companies, throughout the nation have the ability, (via computer chips), zoom into our personal thermostats in our private homes and reduce, raise, or shut off our heat and air conditioning if we do not keep the temperatures set in accordance with her desires. "My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of? Just one more thing please...Are you taken in by Al Gore's fantasy of global warming? Don't waste your time. In the 70's global cooling became a big issue, as has the silliness of warming, both due to cyclical changes. HE created the world and gave us everything on it that we would need for survival. He will also decide when it all comes to an end.

Please vote on April 6th. There is only one question on the ballot, regarding the override. It appears at the very bottom of the ballot. Ciao, JHS

"Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you are, you aren't" — Margaret Thatcher

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