



Candidates, officials and supporters all gathered at Town Hall on Monday to be the first to see the results.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Incumbents win all around Turnout about average

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The unofficial results are in and according to the Norwood Town Clerk's Office the incumbents for the two contested races, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health (BOH), came out on top.

Bob Donnelly and Amanda Grow will be returning to their selectmen seats in the Harry Butters Chambers. Board of Health member Carolyn Riccardi retained her seat on the BOD.

Donnelly topped the ticket

in the Selectmen's race garnering 1,843 votes with Grow behind him at 1,500. Challenger Steve Konetchy took third at 1,046 votes and Cheryl Doyle 896 votes. Incumbents Donnelly and Grow won in all districts, except for Grow in District 6 where Doyle beat the incumbent 85 to 74.

Incumbent Carolyn Riccardi topped challenger Kathryn Ahnger-Pier 1,664 to 1,062.

The turnout for this year's election was higher than the previous three with 2,908 votes cast representing 14.04 percent of the vote. The 2024 regular election came in at 2,208 votes in a

largely uncontested ballot representing 11.1 percent of registered voters. The 2023 election came in at 13 percent of registered voters at 2,706 voters. The 2022 regular election saw the highest in the past few years with about 3,500 voters coming out, and the 2022 special election to replace Selectman David Hajjar (who had passed away) garnered 1,677 votes. The 2020 election saw about 3,500 votes as well.

Regardless, the incumbents said they were happy to

Incumbents Win
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Substance recovery efforts to get boost

Ariane Komyati
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Health (BOH) held its monthly meeting recently at the Norwood Senior Center. BOH Chairwoman Kathleen Bishop and members Joan Jacobs and Carolyn Riccardi were all in attendance.

A highlight of the meeting was the director's update delivered by Stacey Lane, Director of the Norwood Health Department. She shared a "hot off the presses" announcement about a new partnership with Riverside Community Care to support substance use recovery efforts in Norwood. Lane explained that a representative from Riverside will present at the next Board meeting.

"We're very excited about this and we're one of the first communities to do this," said Lane. "The recovery coach—his name is Johnny Pike—is really looking forward to working with people in Norwood. The support is available for anyone at any stage of their recovery journey. It could be someone just starting out and maybe thinking about going into treatment and needing some guidance. Or, it could be someone who's just completed treatment and is looking for that continued community support. It's also there for people who've been in recovery for years but just want to check in and stay connected."

The meeting began with the

approval of minutes, followed by an introduction from Kristen McIntire, the Regional Public Health Nurse. Norwood is one of the seven towns that McIntire works with as part of a regional grant program.

"Before this position, I was a pediatric oncology nurse at Children's Hospital," she told the Board. McIntire explained that the work she does varies depending on the needs of each town. "For example, Canton has regular blood pressure clinics that they do at the senior center every week. I help out with that. I also help with summer camp setups. Anywhere nursing is needed, I'm there," she said.

Another agenda item was the public health nurse report, presented by Norwood's Public Health Nurse, Diana Hillery. She noted that there are still many cases of flu and norovirus, and anticipates that flu reports will continue into the summer months. "We're also still seeing cases of COVID, but they have been slowing down," Hillery remarked. She also noted that there are no cases of tuberculosis or measles in Norwood.

The meeting also included an introduction from Regional Epidemiologist Katie Reisdorf. Reisdorf has a background in public health microbiology and worked at a state laboratory of hygiene performing tests that

Board of Health
Continued on page 2

Pa'lante continuing strong

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

This past Saturday, about 50 residents, officials and organizers came to the second Pa'lante Norwood meeting at the Emerald City Plant Shop on Washington Street.

The event centers around organizing, whether it be for political causes, community betterment, local organization support and more. The idea is if you have an idea for an initiative in Town that you wanted support for, or if you wanted to volunteer to help

the Town, this was a regular gathering designed to bring those two groups of people together.

Organizer Mark Negron said he wants to connect people, and while they had a similar attendance number last time in January, he said he was happy to see many unfamiliar faces.


"We got a lot of people here who represent a lot of good stuff; these are all people that I see connecting and doing. We got select

Pa'lante
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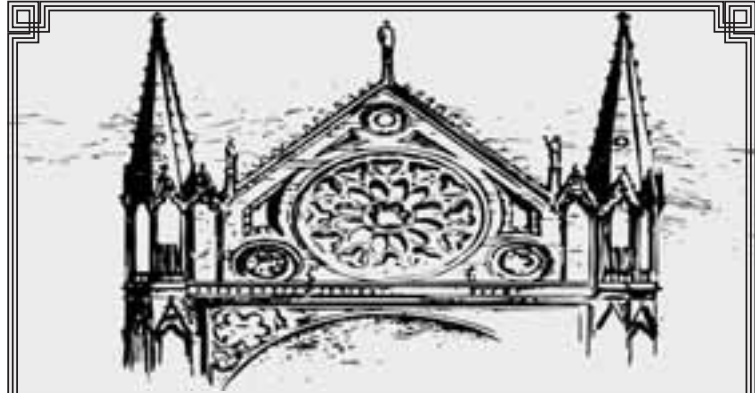
About 50 residents gathered at the Emerald City Plant Shop to organize and pitch in for initiatives to help residents in Town.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN



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12. Libera Me
13. De Profundis Psm 129
14. In Paradisum
15. Pie Jesu



**Helen Peterson
 McCloskey**
Soloist



About 60 members of Progress Norwood recently met to discuss the organization's priorities for the coming year.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Progress Norwood prepping for spring

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

About 60 members of the Progress Norwood group met at the function room of Jake'n'JOES last week for an organizational meeting designed to get members together for different outreach, event planning and group steering activities.

Member Kate Sibbing-Dunn said the group was formed almost eight years ago. "Progress Norwood is a group formed in 2017ish to encourage civic par-

icipation, build communities through events and collaborations and find like-minded progressive people," she said. "We encourage individuals to run for government positions, we participate in and host events that promote our shared values, and we amplify resources and programs that increase awareness of social justice and progressive values."

Fellow organizer Katie Neal-Rizzo said during the meeting that Progress Norwood is not an official char-

ity or political action committee (PAC) and works entirely through volunteers and donations. "We're not a 501(c)(3); we're not an organized political action committee despite what you may have heard," she said. "We do not collect membership dues. It is just volunteers putting in their time for issues that they care about. There happens to be a lot of impassioned people who are good workers!"

She added that Jake 'n

Progress Norwood
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Board of Health *continued from page 1*

focused on antibiotic resistance. She went back to school and earned a master's degree in epidemiology.

"As a regional epidemiologist, I support communities throughout the region. My responsibilities include outbreak investigations and program development based on what the individual communities request," Reisdorf explained.


Bishop read the new business agenda items, including an

application for aerial mosquito larvicide spraying in wetland areas, which would be carried out by helicopter. The Norfolk County Mosquito Control District may conduct helicopter applications of larvicides to control mosquito larvae, depending on conditions. Requests to check or treat wetlands for mosquito larvae in Norfolk County will begin in early April and end in late October. For more information, go to the group's website at norfolkcountymosquito.org.

Norwood's Environmental

Health Agent Angelo De Luca read the health inspector report, inspection and reinspection report, and the new food establishment report. He said the owner of Norwood Royal Pizza is opening Royal Creamery, which will be selling boba tea and ice cream (no soft serve, though) in the near future. De Luca and the Board of Health members seemed intrigued by this since they have never tried boba tea before.

The full meeting can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/pe3vymdx>



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**TOWN OF NORWOOD
 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
 PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on May 6, 2025, at 7:00 PM** on the request of **Marie MacNeil and John MacNeil (Case #25-9)** with respect to property located at **153 Hill Street, Norwood, MA 02062 [Map 4 Block 20 Lot 50]**, in the **General Residence (G) Zoning District**. The hearing will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062 and will also be available for remote participation via Google Meet:

**Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xsu-pnjz-wua>
 Or dial: (US) +1 941-254-1160 PIN: 402 158 920 #**

This Application requests a **Special Permit** pursuant to Zoning Bylaw **Section 5.4.4** to construct an addition to the side of the existing residence that increases the non-conforming nature of the property. The structure is pre-existing non-conforming in area and frontage. The proposed addition would create a new non-conformity in right side setback.

Due to a proposed change to section 5.4 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, the hearing will be opened and immediately continued. The proposed zoning change would change the relief required. Any zoning relief that may be required in adherence to the Norwood Zoning Bylaw shall be considered by the Board. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearing and make their views known to the Board.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Zoning Board of Appeals and may be requested by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Norwood Record: 04/10/25, 04/17/25

Selectmen hear TM articles Discussion and vote next week

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday for its regular meeting with several members of other boards to discuss articles for the upcoming May Town Meeting.

Before that, the Board had to vote to reorganize per Town charter. Every year, the Board selects a new chair and vice chair from its membership. This time, the Board voted to replace newly-re-elected Chair Bob Donnelly with newly-reelected member Amanda Grow. The Board also selected member Bill Plasko as Vice Chair.

“We’ll get right to it,” Grow said.

The Board met with members of the Finance Commission (FinCom) to review articles for Town Meeting. Proposed Articles 9 and 10 garnered the most discussion, as they dealt with the \$29 million in free cash the Town currently has sitting in its coffers, \$7.5 mil of which is already allocated.

FinCom Chair Myev Bodenhofer said the recommendation is to put 10 percent of the remaining free cash into stabilization and re-

serves, 50 percent of the total free cash into capital spending and to create a new capital stabilization fund with about \$15 million, 25 percent of that – the \$7.5 million already allocated to balance the operating budget. Bodenhofer said this would leave about \$3.5 million in free cash moving forward.

The FinCom suggested saving \$2 million as a placeholder for further discussion, in essence saving money for a rainy day. Much of the time, deferred maintenance on buildings for example, becomes more expensive as time goes on, so it makes sense to have funds available to take care of them when it’s most cost-effective.

Vice Chair Plasko said he felt that this conversation was too late.

“I have a problem with the concept of starting this now; special stabilization funds, capital stabilization funds, general stabilization funds, they provide the community with long-term thinking and programs and it gives confidence to the public that we have a long view vision for planning and that’s important,” he said. “But we just took a vote a few weeks ago stating we haven’t done a

good enough job, or we’re in a position where we need to do a better job about long-term planning and our budget.”

Plasko said they have had general discussions about doing better long-term planning, but they rarely amounted to much. He said this new initiative is designed to include all departments and hopefully will have an effect, but now with these recommendations, he felt it was “putting the horse before the cart.”

“We need to do that planning first before we start tying up money that we might need to put into that plan or use in other ways,” he said. “I think we need to slow down.

Bodenhofer said the FinCom had been trying to do just that. “Respectfully, I understand what you’re saying, and as the chair, I can only speak on my own behalf, I believe we need to have those conversations, but I would like to remind the Board that we reached out to you on July 16, 2024, to ask to start to have this conversation,” she said. “We reached out again on March 7, 2025, to have this conversation. So if we are

Selectmen

Continued on page 6

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Progress Norwood

continued from page 2

JOES had donated the space for them to organize that night. “Jake ‘n JOES has been kind enough to let us use this space for free, which is really helpful,” Neal-Rizzo said. “And so our server, whose name also happens to be Jake, please reach out to him if you are thirsty or hungry please order something and please tip Jacob because this is a challenging space.”

Sibbing-Dunn reviewed some of the accomplishments of the organization, including raising election awareness, a week of racial action and literacy with the Morrill Memorial Library, the organization of a counter protest against anti-LGBTQ+ organizers, the Sustainability Series at the Library, the rain barrel program, the Pride Picnic, the Earth Day Celebration and more.

“We were able to leverage our network and get out there and respond to things that were on people’s minds but we are mostly focused on and try to encourage civic action,” she said.

Sibbing-Dunn added that the organization has helped to create offshoot organizations, like Norwood For All, which advocates for affordable housing (www.Norwoodforall.org).

Member Julie Barbour-Issa said they do not endorse political candidates, but asked members to talk to three people they knew to inform them of the then-coming election (now already passed) and get them to vote, as municipal elections have historically low turnout rates (especially since Norwood holds its municipal election on a Monday).

Neal-Rizzo and member Heather Ohins discussed the upcoming Earth Day celebration, which this year is scheduled for Sunday, April 27. Neal-Rizzo said the event started about eight years ago to help promote green initiatives around Town and offer ways for residents to pitch-in and clean up.

“We started it as a way to introduce everybody to all the amazing resources we have in Town, practice sustainability, be more environmentally friendly and highlight all the options out there,” she said. “It started as a community cleanup at all the schools and greenspaces we have in Town, and it evolved into a cleanup followed by a fair with 20-plus tables of local organizations, committees, boards, small businesses with sustainable business models and a picnic with music and just meet your neighbors-type activities.”

The April 27 event is set for the Norwood Common, or the Norwood High School gym if it rains. For more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2s4fu55w>

Ohins said for the cleanups they need site leaders at this point as well as cleanup volunteers. “We need site leaders, which is a fairly simple job; you just pick up a bag of supplies and put all the filled trash bags in one location at the end,” she said.

To sign up at a site leader or volunteer, go to www.tinyurl.com/norwoodearthday2025

Neal-Rizzo added that there is a babysitting network currently established and if you’re interested in helping out but are in need of childcare, that can be figured out too. Ohins said for young children, the cleanup is a great activity to help promote the spirits of civic engagement and volunteerism if the child is three years old or more.

Dunn, now a former School Committee member, discussed the current budget issues. She said between the local structural deficit on the budget (which has created a \$7 million budget gap this year) and the looming threats of federal funding cuts Norwood is looking at a tough time ahead, to say the least.

“The largest portion of the school department budget is personnel,” she said. “What’s going to be happening is more and more difficult conversations taking place. We’ve already had some this year, where we’ve had to give up some valuable programming, which sucks. No one wants to see that. We need to start paying attention. There are public meetings, there are meeting minutes, and you can reach out to the officials or us if you have questions. All of these people are more than open to that.”

Dunn said the 2019 override was the first override the Town had ever had, and combined with issues around COVID-19, supply chain issues, the resulting inflation from both, and now federal cuts, it just wasn’t enough to get the schools’ budget where it needed to be.

Member Nora Zaldivar said this year’s picnic is set for May 31 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the Town Common, with a rain date of June 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. She said they need help with organizing, so reach out to Progress Norwood if you’re interested.

For more information on Progress Norwood, go to <https://tinyurl.com/337ys23j>

WHY WEREN’T YOU THERE?

To the Editor:

On Saturday, thousands, if not tens of thousands of people peacefully gathered at the Boston Common and other cities here and around the nation to protest the pernicious policies and insidious agenda of the Trump/MuskDOGE adminis-

tration. Although there were a wide variety of reasons for the sea of humanity to be there, from cuts to tariffs to abuses of power; everyone with perhaps a few exceptions was there to oppose the influence of Trump, Musk and unelected billionaires on all of our lives. As our freedoms are in the balance and our economy is teetering toward disaster due to Trump’s mis-

guided and selfish tariffs, his constant flurry of unConstitutional edicts, unnecessary cuts for the most vulnerable amongst us, and blatant illegal actions, the question is if you weren’t there, why not?: Apathy?, Complacency? Fear?

Brian Mich
Norwood

Letters

Continued on page 12

LONELINESS IN BEXAR

There is a cost to working on the road—you walk alone. You are like the new guy on his first day of a job—every day. Lunch is often spent joking with guys never seen before and never seen again. Consequently, the excitement of travel wanes and loneliness increases. Today, feeling too alone, I have only to think of Johnny Flanders of Salisbury to rationalize that things could be worse. For he also found himself two thousand miles from home here in Bexar, but he died here.

Young Johnny held the mortgage on a house owned by a widow who could no longer make ends meet. He intended to foreclose on the unfortunate woman, but his father objected, causing a rift which led to Johnny leaving Massachusetts. He lived briefly in New Orleans before arriving here in south central Texas, the pre-air conditioned, dusty land that General Philip Sheridan described thus: “If I owned Texas and hell, I’d live in hell and rent out Texas.”

Like many whose grandfathers fought the Great War, Johnny was a patriot drawn to yet another worthy cause. Raised in a culture which reveled in resistance to tyranny by arms, the chance to fight for a new land must have seemed godsent. Of course, Bexar’s full name was San Antonio de Bexar, and the mission where Johnny ended up is today referred to as, The Alamo.

Today the Alamo is a beautifully reconstructed Spanish mission with walled courtyards lined with flower beds. Sprawling live oak trees shade original structures including the famous chapel, which is commonly seen as a picture of the Alamo, and the “long barracks,” where much of the fury of March 6, 1836, occurred. The site is smaller than the original mission, lo-



cated as it is in downtown San Antonio. Indeed, the lazy river which once meandered through the mission is now part of the famous Riverwalk, one of today’s truly wonderful inner-city attractions.

The long barracks houses a museum where I learn that four other Massachusetts natives died alongside Johnny Flanders; Robert Crossman of New Bedford, Dr. Amos Pollard from “central Mass.,” and Williams Linn and Howell, hometowns unrecorded. Of one hundred and eighty-seven “heroes,” by my count twenty-seven were Yankees, a fact not readily advanced by Texan historians. Nor will you hear that famous Davey Crockett’s end may have been less than heroic. According to recently uncovered Mexican archives, Crockett and five compatriots were executed by bayonet, having been discovered after the battle in the long barracks, hiding under mattresses.

Several mission women and children survived the fight, and despite the legend, there exists a possibility that there were male survivors. A researcher has discovered a contemporary Nacogdoches newspaper account reporting the arrival of two wounded men, who claimed they had fought in the battle.

I sit in the Alamo courtyard as the sun sets in this land of western red. I think of Johnny Flanders, whose body was burned along with fellow unfortunates by Santa Anna’s troops after the battle, his body and soul now scattered across Texas Hill Country, blown by winds of change. I marvel that even as lonely as Johnny’s end must have been, had he vision he would not have needed to look far for his own rationalization.

A primary source indicating who fell at the Alamo is found in Texas land court records. Families of fallen heroes were entitled to compensation from the newly formed Republic of Texas, but one individual had no relatives appear in court. He was not two thousand miles from home, but five. His name was John McGregor, and he was from Scotland. His story is unknown prior to his Bexar arrival, but once here, he made his presence known by playing his bagpipes, traditional tunes, and marshal melodies from a distant highland home. Not only did no McGregor ever petition for Texas land, but it is questionable whether his family, beyond an ocean and in more primitive times, ever came to know his fate at all.

I sit in a darkening courtyard under a straggling live oak. I close my eyes and imagine a similar evening, the evening of March 5th, 1836. I sense tension as muffled drums and bugles sound among hundreds of campfires ringing the mission. I hear John McGregor’s bagpipes whining through warm Texas air. And when I hear the familiar northern accents of Johnny Flanders and his Massachusetts brethren, I am not so lonely anymore; no, I am not so lonely.

Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.

He can be reached at donreddick@norwoodlight.com

Incumbents Win *continued from page 1*

get back to work.

“It looks like all nine districts came in for me and it looks like Amanda is probably second in most of those districts as well, which I am pleased with,” said Donnelly. “Amanda and I have worked together for three years and we work well together. I’m looking forward to getting back on the Board and working with our colleagues on issues associated with Norwood.”

“I’m really humbled,” said Grow. “I know I didn’t have the privilege to have been born in Norwood, so for Norwood to choose me is really something. When I look at the results over time, because I’ve run in the past, I’ve seen more and more people get to know me, to talk and to hear me out essentially, it’s just really gratifying and humbling.”

Both said they were excited to get back to it, and on Tuesday the Board will decide who will be Chair this year.

“I think it’s a more recent tradition of ours to rotate the chair because it is a lot more responsibility than being a member,” Donnelly said. “I found that out this year. I think it’s important that we rotate the assignment so our membership has the opportunity to be the chair to understand how to organize the meetings. It makes us a stronger Board because we all understand what it takes to be the chairperson.”

Donnelly added he isn’t ex-

actly torn about going back to being a regular Board member. “I am relieved I can go back to being just a member,” he said with a laugh. “I am really looking forward to that.”

Grow will be throwing her hat into the ring to become Chair. She said she likes the practice of rotating because she thinks the institutional knowledge could get siloed into one person over time, which could be a problem if they leave, for whatever reason. “It’s good to continue to distribute the knowledge of the Board amongst people so that way you don’t have an issue where only one person knows how it all works,” she said. “Having more of us going through the rhythms means the knowledge gets ingrained in the body, as opposed to just one person.”

Grow said it’s a lot of responsibility, but she said she wanted to show, along with former Chair Matt Lane, that it’s a doable job, especially when you also have a day job. “I think it’s important to see what chairing looks like when you still have a day job, and seeing someone in action,” she said. “I know Selectman Lane has chaired before, who also has a job. I think it’s important for getting more civic engagement as it is showing people how that works. Well, watch, I’ll show you!”

Konetchy said he was thankful for the support he received from residents all over Town. “The experience was great and the

people who supported me were absolutely wonderful,” he said. “I really liked running, and I really liked all the interchange I got from people in Town. It was a very good experience.”

Konetchy said he was not certain about running again. “I’ll let you know!” he said.

Doyle was a bit more sure about running again. “After I get over this, I probably will, now that I got a taste for it,” she said. Doyle said the experience was amazing. “It was a lot of work, and it is a big expense too, but I also met a lot of people,” she said. “I’ve been here 30 years and the fact I got to meet more people? I really enjoyed it. I still have hope for the Town and I still think the Town is going to come together.”

Board of Health Challenger Ahnger-Pier said she was sure to run for Board of Health next year. “I’m definitely going to run for this office in the future,” she said. “I’m looking forward to being on the ballot next year!”

Ahnger-Pier said getting out and campaigning was a real eye-opener for her. “It was largely positive,” she said. “It was really nice being able to get out and meet people in the community and share my vision for Norwood. Even though it didn’t work out this time, I think I did a really great job as a first-time candidate when nobody knows who I am and I’m running against a very successful incumbent.”



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Hebrew SeniorLife, a nonprofit organization, honors diversity and welcomes older adults of any religion, culture, race, sexual orientation, gender expression, and class background.



When is the best time for me to claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty: I will be 66 ½ in June and would like to discuss when would be the best time for me to start taking my social security benefits. I am still employed full time and don't want to be penalized because of that. Please let me know what I need to do to set up an appointment with you. I got your information from the AMAC website, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready: You can certainly call us on 1.888.750.2622 during normal EST business hours for a personal conversation. But to facilitate that conversation, be aware that deciding when to claim your Social Security benefit normally depends on just a few factors, including your financial need, your health and expected longevity, and your marital status. A few things to be aware of:

- Born in 1958, your "full retirement age" is age 66 years and 8 months. If you were born in October 1958, you will reach your FRA in June 2025, and that is the point you can get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

- Once you reach your FRA in June, Social Security's "annual earnings test" no longer applies. Thus, you can continue working after you start your SS benefits and your earnings will not negatively affect your monthly benefit amount. If you claim any earlier than your FRA, you will get a smaller benefit and also be subject to Social Security's annual earnings test (which for you this year - your FRA year - is \$62,160, or \$5,180/month after you start your SS benefits). If you decide to claim before your FRA, your benefit will be reduced by .556% for each month early (a permanent reduction).

- You can also wait beyond your FRA to claim and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) at the rate of .667% per month (8% per year of delay), in order to get an even higher benefit later. If financially feasible, you can



Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

delay up to the age of 70 when your monthly benefit will reach maximum - about 27% more than it will be in June of this year.

- If you are single and will not be eligible for a spousal benefit, then you should make your claiming decision based only on your own needs. If, however, you are married and your spouse's FRA benefit is more than twice your FRA amount, you may be entitled to a "spousal boost" (a supplemental amount added to your own SS benefit).

- Your life expectancy should be considered when deciding when to claim your SS retirement benefits. If you expect to enjoy at least "average" longevity (about 87 for a woman your current age), then you might also consider delaying your claim (if financially feasible) and that is often a prudent choice. If you don't expect to achieve a long life, or if you need the money sooner, or if you are entitled to spousal benefits, then claiming at your FRA of 66 years and 8 months is likely your best option.

In the end, only you can decide when you should claim your Social Security, but we're always here to answer any additional questions you may have. You can feel free to call us at any time (1.888.750.2622) during normal EST business hours to discuss your options directly with one of our certified Social Security advisors. Or you can also ask any additional questions via email, which we will be most happy to respond to promptly.

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

Selectmen *continued from page 3*

going to move forward and you'd like to delay, I understand that, but I would like to be sure that we have a real solid plan about how to have this conversation. We as a FinCom can't do this on our own. We tried to reach out and we don't know how to engage in this dialogue."

The Board agreed to try to do just that.

Several of the other articles went through without much comment, but one of the Planning Board articles also stirred up some conversations. Articles 7 and 8 are proposed to remove the Medical Services Overlay District (MSOD) from the Zoning Bylaw and rezone the entire hospital area it covered for Medical Services. Town Planner Sarah Dixon said this would essentially remove

other non-medical uses from the table of uses there, meaning commercial, residential and industrial would not be allowed.

An overlay district essentially adds uses - as the old Norwood Hospital was built before zoning - and the underlying zoning allowed for other uses. This would eliminate that seeming loophole.

Dixon said this was a recommendation from the Norwood Hospital Task Force. Chair Grow said she believes this kind of work would help telegraph to potential operators that the Town is willing to do work to help bring an operator into the hospital space.

However, as Selectman Michael Saad pointed out, Medical Services does not necessarily mean a hospital,

as life sciences, medical and vaccine research are all included in the Medical Services Zoning (as it currently is for the overlay).

"The company up the street might (Moderna) might want to come in and grab that building from MPT (the owner of the site, Medical Properties Trust) and take control over it," he said. "Then we've got no hospital going in there."

In other news, Grow said the Hospital Task Force has been invited by the Westwood Board of Selectmen to present and promote FinishtheJobNorwood.com and help to raise awareness around the issue to hopefully speed up bringing the hospital back.

The Board is meeting again next week at 6:30 p.m. in an irregular meeting to vote on whether or not it recommends all presented Town Meeting articles.

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Please include your name,
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Unsigned letters will not be
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Pa'lante *continued from page 1*

board members, we got (Assistant Community Development Director) Ilex Jones here talking about the Community Preservation Committee (<https://tinyurl.com/23vdrnfv>), we're just connecting people," he said. "We want to see people we haven't seen before too, that's a good sign."

Negron said he wanted to thank everybody for coming to the night. "I think we all are in the same boat, and this whole idea came about because I could see the desperation and anxiety on people's faces," he said. "And I wanted to create something that would bring people together and connect a lot of dots."

The phrase "Pa'lante" is a contraction of the phrase "para adelante," which roughly translates to moving forward. The phrase was popularized in the 1960s as the title of a magazine in Puerto Rico which advocated for the Spanish colony-turned-U.S.-territory's independence from the United States.

Emerald City owner Quontay "Q" Turner said she welcomed Pa'lante back, as she felt the shop was becoming more and more a fixture of the community, so why fight it?

"I mean this is what it's for," she said. "We're centered in Norwood here on Washington Street. I originally wanted a plant shop but when I saw how big the space was

I realized there could be events here. So we have community meetings, karaoke night; a whole host of events every month. I'm just very blessed to have this in my space."

Turner said they are currently vending for the Bloom Festival, which was in Providence last weekend and then they're heading to Burlington, Vermont, at the end of the month to travel with the show. "And then we're going to be turning four in May, so we have a whole host of events coming up," she said. "We'll be doing a plant giveaway at the Mattapan Branch of the Boston Public Library on May 17. So stay tuned for all of our events!"

Resident Dani LoPiccolo said she was helping to garner volunteers for the Norwood Food Forest initiative, which organizes work at the Norwood Community Orchard and the Grace Episcopal Church. "I'm really focused on creating opportunities for micro-volunteering because everyone is just so busy. We want to create opportunities for people to volunteer without a huge time commitment," she said. "Some individuals we have now do make a huge time commitment and if we can supplement that with people who are able to give whatever time they have it helps sustain and build this bigger program."

LoPiccolo said though she just started on the project last month, she's been working with volunteers here in Norwood and at the Boston Food Forest Coalition (<https://www.bostonfoodforest.org>) to gather resources and better understand how they can start producing sustainable food for those in Norwood who need it.

LoPiccolo said they will also be working on putting together lists so they can get that food to those who need it most. If you're interested in volunteering, shoot her an email at DelPiccolo@gmail.com

"There is going to be a lot of talk around growing your own food, especially after the last week," said Negron.

Norwood Police Department School Resource Officer Geoffrey Baguma was there as well looking for volunteers for the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration at the Norwood Common for June 14 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Baguma said interested residents can reach out to him directly at NorwoodJuneteenth@gmail.com or any of the group's social media accounts.

Baguma also said they are looking for new musical acts for this year's performances. Interested parties can reach out the same way presented above. "We're looking to provide a different variety of talent every year," he said. "We have folks come back every year who have been glad to

be a part of it, and we appreciate them, but we would like to mix it up a little bit so musicians, performing artists, dancers, all of the above really. They can reach out to us."

Baguma said he feels like the event is cemented as a part of Norwood's fabric. Some events in Town come and go, but some have stood the test of time, and Baguma said he thinks they have at least started down that road.

"We're really excited because this being our fourth year we feel like we finally

have our roots in the community," he said. "And it can't be Norwood Juneteenth without Norwood and people coming together helping us. A phrase I've been thinking about a lot this year is, 'Our breath is your breath, and your breath is our breath,' and we're hoping things happen where we can come together and create."

Cultural council member marypaz also organized around artist issues in the community. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/yc85pd5e> for more information.

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

**Public Hearing Notice
Norwood Planning Board**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Board of the Town of Norwood will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING on April 28, 2025 at 7:00 PM** at the request of Hobbs Brook Real Estate, LLC regarding property located at **1125 – 1177 Boston Providence Turnpike (Map 15 Block 15 Lot 7 and Map 15 Block 13A Lot 1A), Norwood, MA 02062**, located in both the **Boston Providence Highway (BPH) and Manufacturing (M) Zoning Districts**. The hearing will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062 and will also be available for remote participation via Google Meet:

<https://meet.google.com/mhu-ifvs-njz>
You can also dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 401-646-2388
PIN: 517 092 088#
7:00 P.M.

This Application requests a **Special Permit** pursuant to Section 6.2.21 [Signs - Special Permit] of the Norwood Zoning Bylaw to install signs that would exceed the maximum number permitted, maximum size permitted, and with interior illumination. The Board will also review proposed amendments to the previously approved Site Plan pursuant to Section 10.5.

Any zoning relief that may be required in adherence to the Norwood Zoning Bylaw shall be considered by the Board. Interested persons are encouraged to attend the hearing and make their views known to the Board.

Plans are on file with this application in the office of the Planning Board and may be requested by emailing comdev@norwoodma.gov or by calling **781-762-1240 ext. 6055, Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.**

Norwood Record: 04/10/25, 04/17/25



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DaCOSTA

Bonnylu T. of Blackstone, formerly of Norwood, passed away on March 30, 2025 at the age of 67. Beloved wife of Luiz F. DaCosta. Devoted mother of Luisa DaCosta of Blackstone, Rosanna B. DaCosta of Blackstone, Diana L. DaCosta of Blackstone, Luiz F. DaCosta Jr. of Haverhill, Priscilla F. DaCosta of Blackstone and Fabio Fernandes of Haverhill. Sister of Daniel "Butch" Septelka of NH. Daughter of the late Anthony and Evelyn (Dale) Septelka. Cherished grandmother of Kathlynn Costa-Rocha of Blackstone. A graveside service was held on Monday April 7, 2025 12 noon at Highland Cemetery 320 Winter St. Norwood, MA 02062. Arrangements by the Kraw Kornack Funeral Home, Norwood, MA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to the Cat Sanctuary 266 Mendon St. Woonsocket, RI 02895.

HASKELL



Carolyn (Russell) of Norwood, Monday March 17, 2025. Born in Lowell, Massachusetts of the late John Russell and Mary (Rolls) Russell, Carolyn attended Lowell High School and St. Elizabeth's Hospital School of Nursing in Brighton, Massachusetts. Her kindness, compassion and empathy are the gifts she shared with all: family, friends and the people she cared for during her career. Beloved wife of the late William Haskell. Loving sister of Dorothy Daly. Beloved niece of Mildred Rolls. Cousin of Donna Coffey and Patrick Finneral. She endured with grace and dignity over 15 years of Alzheimer's Disease. Funeral Service in the First Congregational Church, 100 Winter Street, NORWOOD on Friday April 11, at 11 AM. A Luncheon

will follow in the church hall. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers expressions of sympathy may be made to Alzheimer's Research. See www.alz.org

KENNEY



Paul Francis of Norwood passed away at his home peacefully on April 4, 2025 surrounded by his loving family. He was 76 years old. Paul is survived by his wife of 52 years, Catherine (Foti) Kenney, lovingly known as the Fabulous Coco, and their three children: Kate (Christopher) Nutting of Norwood; Adam (Marci) Kenney of Hingham; and Evan (Martha Boisselle) Kenney of Beverly. Paul was a loving grandfather, Da, to five grandchildren: Reese Kenney, Jaxson Kenney, Waylon Nutting, Olivia Nutting and Cosette Boisselle. They will forever remember his love and how very proud he was of each of them. Paul is survived by his brother, Jack Kenney of Las Vegas, NV and his sister, Patricia Nyan of Naples, FL. He was preceded in death by his brother, Dr. Thomas Kenney, Sr. Paul lived an extraordinary life filled with love and compassion. He was a highly respected trial attorney, a devoted husband, a much-loved father and grandfather, and a loyal friend to many. Paul had a special bond with Christine Bentley Wells who was his legal assistant for 45 years, beside him for most of his legal career. She was dedicated to him and was blessed by him and his loving family. Paul was born on July 17, 1948, the youngest of four children to the late Thomas and Mary (Sullivan) Kenney of Mattapan. Paul's father, a Boston Police Officer, passed away when

Deaths

Paul was just two. Being so young, Paul did not realize how this pivotal moment in his life would influence the man he would become. Paul talked proudly and lovingly about his mother, Mary's, strength that enabled her to raise four children as a single mother. He was forever grateful for her support and that of his older siblings. Paul worked his way through school and became the founding partner of his own law firm that has been very successful in representing victims and their families with personal injury claims throughout Massachusetts. Paul graduated from Catholic Memorial High School (1966) and the University of Massachusetts (1970). He received his law degree from Boston University Law School (1974), where he developed an affinity for trial work. Paul began to develop his trial skills as a legal intern in the office of the Norfolk County District Attorney. After graduating from law school, he accepted a position as an attorney with the Massachusetts Defenders Committee. In 1978, he was invited to join the firm of Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, where he concentrated in trial work. There he developed additional specialties in civil litigation, medical malpractice, wrongful death and other complex personal injury litigation. In 1985, Paul started Kenney, Conley, Sullivan & Smith, P.C., a general practice law firm, where he continued his litigation practice. Together with his very dear friend and partner, Mike Conley, Paul segued to Kenney & Conley, P.C., where he concentrated on litigating catastrophic injury cases in the state and federal court. This past December, Paul celebrated 50 years of being an attorney. There was nothing else that he would have wanted to be doing; he was at his finest when he was conducting cross-examinations during a trial. Over the course of these 50 years, Paul represented people from all walks of life that were suffering and needed his help. He resisted saying no to anyone and was always ready to fight the good fight. Paul was very proud of the firm that he led and was always eager to teach, mentor and support every member,

attorneys and staff alike. Paul created a legacy at Kenney & Conley, P.C. that will continue for generations to come. Apart from the practice of law, Paul had also served as the Chairman of the Board of Caritas Communities Inc., a non profit corporation that provides safe and affordable housing for working men and women throughout greater Boston. Paul loved to go on long walks in the Arboretum and practice yoga and meditation. He was a lover of books, cinema and music. He authored three novels and, together with his close friend, Jim Brady, founded Kinvara Productions, a multi-media entertainment company created to enlighten and uplift through novels, music, art and films. Paul left this world much too soon and our lives will be so

much different without him. But we will focus on the gifts that he gave us and allow him to show us the way. Services from the Gillooly Funeral Home, 126 Walpole Street (Rt. 1A), NORWOOD on Friday April 11 at 10 AM. Funeral Mass in St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 547 Washington Street, Norwood at 11 o'clock. Visiting Hours in the Funeral Home on Thursday from 4-7 PM. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy be made to an organization close to Paul's heart, the ACLU, a nonprofit and non-partisan organization which does not accept government funding and never charges clients for legal representation. Donations may be mailed to ACLU Foundation of Massachusetts, One Center Plaza, Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108.

McDERMOTT

Francis P., (Frank) passed away on April 1, 2025. He was born in Worcester, MA on Dec 3, 1932. Son of the late Nathan and Mary Kobis McDermott. He graduated from Hudson High School in 1950 after which he served in the US Army during the Korean conflict. In 1957 he married Helen Soukaras of West Roxbury and they raised two sons, Michael and Joseph. He graduated in 1962 with a BS degree in Engineering Management. He worked in Quality Assurance Engineering and Management for GTE Sylvania, Exide Electronics, Itek corporation and Dynamics Research Corporation. He was divorced in 1978 and married Joan Seekins Golden in 1986. He then completed post graduate work in financial planning at Boston University and in Computer Science at Northeastern University. Mr. McDermott was active in volunteer programs, having volunteered for the Norfolk Mental Health Association; Pulse inc., the Norwood Drug abuse hotline and the Norwood Senior Center where he was a member of the COA Board of Directors and was also a computer instructor there for many years. In January 2010 he founded the Computer Club at the Norwood Senior Center. He volunteered for 15 years with Hessco Inc in the Friendly Visitor and Nursing Home Ombudsman Programs. He is survived by his son Michael and wife Lissa of Plymouth and his son Joseph and his wife Anne also of Plymouth, his wife Joan Seekins-Golden, one sister Mary Daniels of Hudson, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Funeral from the Kraw-Kornack funeral home, 1248 Washington Street, Norwood. Burial and military honors at St Michaels cemetery in Hudson Mass. Instead of flowers, donations may be made to Hessco Inc, 1 Merchant Street, Sharon, MA 02067.



Thank You Novenas
For Favors or Prayers Answered

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

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

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

All Prayers: \$22 (1 column x 3 inches)
Call 781-769-1725 to place your prayer in the Norwood Record
or order online at www.norwoodrecord.com
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court Department

SUFFOLK Division Docket No. NO25P0539GD

NOTICE AND ORDER:
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF A MINOR

In the interests of: **Norfolk Probate and Family Court**
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021

Michael Cole Cardinale
Of: Norwood, MA
Minor

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

- Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **03/06/2025** by **Juliet A. Cardinale of Norwood, MA** will be held **05/02/2025 09:00 AM**
Review Hearing Located **35 Shawmut Road, Canton, MA 02021**
- Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least (5) business days before the hearing.
- Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
- Counsel for the Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this Proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you.
Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over the age of 14 has the right to be Present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate
Date: March 07, 2025

Norwood Record: 04/10/2025

APRIL BALLROOM DANCE CANCELED

The Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging have CANCELED the April Ballroom Dance due to Good Friday & availability of the hall. Thank you for your understanding. Please plan on joining us Friday, May 16th for a night of Ballroom Dancing. We look forward to welcoming newcomers of all ages. There is a Facebook page so you can check the status of events offered by the Friends: Friends Of The Norwood Council On Aging | Facebook

AUTHOR TALK: JENNIFER BRUNTON

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host author and scholar Jennifer Elizabeth Brunton, Ph.D, for a discussion of her “#ActuallyAutistic Guides” (co-authored with Jenna Gensic, M.A.) on Tuesday, April 29 starting at 7:00pm in the Simoni Room.

The talk will take an in-depth look at the key elements of effective, respectful, inclusive advocacy, allyship, and independence for Autistic people and those who care about and work

For the Record

with them. Every topic was chosen, shaped, and informed by #ActuallyAutistic perspectives. The guides discuss various aspects of how autism is perceived, explore how best to speak up for individual needs and navigate different life transitions, and introduce advocacy for the wider Autistic community. Each step outlines one vital aspect of advocacy and allyship, such as emphasizing acceptance, avoiding assumptions, and assuming competence. The advice and strategies laid out in these guides center the wisdom and experiences of Autistic people and enable the reader to confidently speak up with insight and understanding.

Registration is required. To sign up, please visit norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2.

ROTARY CLUB ROY SMITH SCHOLARSHIP

The Norwood Rotary Club is offering \$1000 scholarships to

graduating Seniors who reside in Norwood and who exemplify the club’s motto, “Service Above Self”.

Scholarships are meant to assist Norwood residents in obtaining post-secondary academic, professional or vocational education. Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate academic achievement, community involvement and extracurricular activity. Financial need is also considered.

The Directors of the Norwood Rotary Club award as many scholarships as possible. Applications are reviewed and maintained in confidence. The award is given when the student has successfully completed the first semester of a post-secondary program.

Applications must be returned by May 31, 2025. Mail completed applications and attachments to the Norwood Rotary Club, P.O. Box 763, Norwood MA, 02062. Applications can be picked up at a school counseling office, downloaded from the Norwood Rotary web site www.norwoodrotary.org or requested by emailing lstranno1221@gmail.com

The Norwood Rotary Club, a member of Rotary International, is a non-profit organization that has served the Norwood community since 1926. Scholarships are given in memory of Roy Smith, past President of the club and founder of the scholarship program.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

A Solemn celebration for Divine Mercy will be held on Sunday, April 27th at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 547 Washington St. Norwood, MA. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available from 1:30-2:30 pm in the chapel and the school gym. The recitation of the Most Holy Rosary will begin at 2:15 pm followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church. Celebration of Holy Mass in honor of the Solemnity will be celebrated at 3 pm and will include veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. Mass and homily offered by Rev. Christopher Letizia.

NORWOOD CFCE EARLY CHILDHOOD FAIR

The Norwood CFCE Early Childhood Fair is being held on Saturday, May 3rd, from 10:00am-12:00pm at the Balch Elementary Front Lawn, 1170 Washington St. Norwood, MA. There is no charge. The events is featuring resources, programs, and fun activities for young children—plus free food, refreshments, and a lively performance by the children’s musical group Rockabye Beats!

NEW SEASON FOR OLD PARISH VOLUNTEERS

The non-profit organization, Old Parish Preservation Volunteers (OPPV) will begin their spring work days on Saturday, April 26, at the Old Parish Cemetery, located off Washington Street near Railroad Avenue. Volunteers will clean grave markers, reset stones, and repair those that are broken. Spring, 2025 work days include: April 26; May 3, 10, 17, and 24 all from 8:30am to 10:30am. Anyone interested in helping preserve this important historic site can join the group working in the cemetery. The public is

Calendar

Continued on page 12

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

NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
James R. Savage Educational Center
275 Prospect Street
Norwood, MA 02062

SCHOOL CHOICE - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 7:05 P.M. the Norwood School Committee will be conducting a public hearing to discuss School Choice as outlined in the Education Reform Act of 1993 at the James R. Savage Educational Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA in the School Committee Room. All school systems as of July 1, 1994 must participate in School Choice unless the School Committee votes to withdraw.

Background
Massachusetts first established School Choice in the 1991-1992 school year as part of an effort intended to widen public education opportunities for all students in the Commonwealth. The program defines districts as "sending", "receiving" or both. "Receiving Districts" are municipal and regional school districts that choose to participate in the School Choice Program by accepting non-resident students. "Sending Districts" are those which choice students would otherwise have attended. "Receiving Districts" have discretion in determining the number and grade level of the school choice students they accept. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available seats, students must be chosen by lottery or random selection. "Receiving Districts" receive school choice tuition payments from the "Sending District's" local aid distribution. "Sending Districts" are eligible to receive state reimbursement for a portion of school choice tuition payments.

Requirements
The School Choice Program requires each "Receiving School District" to certify to the Department of Education on October 1st and April 1st the number of children attending its public schools in the program and the community in which the child resides. The October enrollment figures are used to determine final school choice assessments; the April figures are used to adjust the final June reimbursements.

Tuition and Assessment
The Education Reform Act of 1993 mandated that tuition for school choice pupils must be deducted from the local aid of the city, town or regional school district where the pupil resides. Both tuition payments and tuition assessments are part of the last three quarterly local aid distributions. Each "Receiving District" receives one third of the tuition due; and each "Sending District" pays one third of the tuition assessed in December, March and June. If a municipality's Chapter 70 funds are insufficient to cover its school choice tuition payment, the law allows the state to deduct the payment from any of the quarterly local aid distributions including lottery, stabilization aid, highway aid and additional assistance.

Another significant change in the School Choice Program affects regional school districts. Prior to FY94, only municipalities were assessed for tuition reimbursement; now regional school districts will also be assessed.

School choice tuition is limited by statute to 75% of the per pupil spending amount in the "Receiving District" with a cap of \$5,000 per student.

Reimbursement
In FY94, under the revised School Choice Plan, districts or municipalities above the Chapter 70 foundation budget established by the Education Reform Act are still eligible to receive reimbursement at 25%. The difference in reimbursement from prior years is that if they have a net loss of greater than 2% of the total school budget they are reimbursed 25%; otherwise they are reimbursed at 0%. The net loss is defined as the net difference between tuition assessed and tuition received in a district or municipality.

Norwood Record: 04/03/25, 04/10/25

Miracle Prayer

Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have asked You for many favours. But I plead for this one. (mention favour). Take it, place it in your open broken Heart. And when the eternal Father sees it, covered with the mantel of his most precious Blood, He cannot refuse it. For then it is your prayer, not mine. Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee. Amen.

Say three times for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

—B.G.

NORWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

LEGAL NOTICE

The Norwood Conservation Commission will hold a **Public Hearing under M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, The Wetlands Protection Act and the Norwood Bylaw XXV**, including any amendments thereto on **Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 7:30 pm**. The meeting will be conducted virtually using Google Meet. Public participation may be accessed through your computer, tablet or smartphone at the following link:


<https://meet.google.com/qxr-awkv-kuj> or dial:
(US) +1 402-627-0114 PIN: 610 701 599 #

The Commission will hear a Request for Determination of Applicability from John Glossa of Glossa Engineering for a potential two-lot subdivision of two land parcels. The proposed work includes the construction of a single-family house, driveway, utilities, and grading, in the Buffer Zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland. This hearing is a continuation from October 16, 2024.

Project Location: Off of Norton Dr.,
Assessors Map/Plat Number 20, Parcel/Lot Number 10/2 and 8.

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 04/10/2025



Ask The Doctor

Junior Damato began servicing vehicles in 1969. He owns an 8-bay center in Middleboro, MA. Junior is an ASE-certified Master Technician, ASE-certified L-1 and ASE-certified Natural Gas.

Mustang Mach-E

It's electric time again, this time with the Mustang Mach-E. This is a 5-passenger AWD dual electric motor SUV. This could be classified as a performance vehicle, boasting 20-inch summer tires, a rear spoiler, GT performance upgrade, panorama fixed glass roof, exceptional sound system with large touchscreen, heated seats and steering wheel, and power everything. Like I have mentioned before, electric vehicles are not for everyone. My commute now is only 14 miles a day and less than 140 miles when shopping or visiting. For my lifestyle an electric vehicle works for me. Power is instant heat is almost instant on cold days. Traction with AWD and summer tires in the snow was not bad in both 2-4 inch storms we had. If you live way up north all season tires would be needed. The ride is firm and there is very little body roll. The Mach-E was a fun car to drive, as for charging the car I did every 3rd day over night. Advertised range is about 280 miles, this would be under perfect conditions, aggressive driving and cold weather will lessen range. **Base cost around \$60,000.**

Junior Damato, the "Auto Doctor," has agreed to field auto repair questions from Bulletin and Record readers. Please send your questions to news@bulletinnewspapers.com and we will do our best to get them answered.

Monday, March 31

1030 Phone - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Convenient Food Mart - Washington St: Owner (strong language barrier) wants to make past report of a party who shoplifted a bottle. Party stole some items on 3/26 he was in the store recently today wearing black hat and black sweatshirt. Unit checked the area unable to locate.

1306 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St WM brown jacket, sweatpants hanging out on tracks between, Windsor Gardens and Washington St. Commuter rail chief called this in. 668 will be heading toward Lane at Cedar Heading towards Chapel Street. Male is closer to Village Road East. Updated located Lower Copley Baseball field and Davis Ave. Clear of the tracks. He has been advised not to go on the tracks. He wanted to listen to music. Tracks are clear and MBTA notified.

1935 Phone - PD-Disturbance Peace Restored Location/Address: Norwest Dr Caller on the business line reporting her neighbor started an argument w/ her over a previous incident that didn't involve the neighbor. It was nothing physical, only verbal at this time. Verbal dispute between neighbors in regards to a motor vehicle collision that occurred yesterday. Both units clear.

1945 Phone - PD-Assist Fire Department Services Rendered Location/Address: Talbot Ave + Pleasant St Assist FD w/ a possible structure fire. Large back yard fire. Not extended onto any structures. NFD has extinguished the fire. All units clear.

2054 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Building Checked/Secured Location/Address: Howard St 911- door was locked when resident left, neighbor was witness, and door inside is now open. The home was searched. Interior

and exterior, homeowner satisfied. All units clear.

Tuesday, April 1

0755 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Queensboro Court Caller reporting a vehicle MAREG 3HFK52 is parked in her second parking spot. Vehicle has been there since last night unsure of whose it is. Looking to see if the vehicle can be removed. NWD 665 reports speaking to reporting party regarding the vehicle, party possibly visiting his mother who lives on Nahatan Street in elderly housing.

1050 Phone - PD-Harassment Report Follows Location/Address: Dunkin Donuts - Walpole St Employee would like to report a customer harassing her. Party advised and trespassed. OF assigned.

1357 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Checked and Spoke with Location/Address: - Nahatan Street Caller reporting she believes someone broke into her apartment while she was in the hospital. NWD 662 Reports nothing taken from the apartment, advised to speak to management.

1817 Phone - PD-General Info Spoke To Location/Address: Upland Woods Cir Caller on the business line reporting that "secure door" is not secure and anyone can enter.

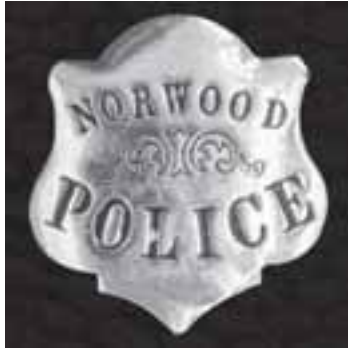
1853 Phone - PD-Disturbance Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Cross St 8 teenagers arguing and throwing bikes, heading river side parking lot. Officer off with the teens and they are all set as they are friends.

Wednesday, April 2

0620 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Arrest(s) Made Location/Address: - Commerce Way + Sumner St Arrest: Burkett, Stephanie Address: 52 Railroad Ave Norwood, Ma Age: 36 Charges: Default Warrant License Suspended, Op MV With

The Norwood Record

Police Logs



Identify Self, MV Operator Refuse

0817 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Winter St Caller believes her neighbor at is stalking her. She has called in regards to this in the past. Caller looked outside today and she saw the female party w/ her dog. 674 spoke to the reporting party. There is history there. She does seem to be paranoid with the situation. She was advised. Officer also followed up with the neighbor.

0819 Walk-In - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Pleasant St RP wanted to report family member has been breaking pad lock to attic door in order to have access. Advised on matter.

1239 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Washington St + Dean St Caller reports that there is a young African American male that is jumping and bouncing off vehicles. She states that she is concerned for his well being and would like an officer to check on him. Male is believed to be wearing a plaid jacket and a hat. Nothing further at this time. Party matching that description just got into MA REG: 283FC8. Party checks out, he was sent on his way, both units clear.

1554 Walk-In - PD-Harassment Services Rendered Location/Address: Winter St Walk-in reporting a harassing letter left in mailbox. Spoke to the party in the lobby it is an ongoing issue with the neighbor. They were advised. Clear.

1556 Walk-In - PD-Runaway Services Rendered Location/Address: Sumner St Walk-in reports her 17 yr old daughter ma have run away.

1822 Radio - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Pellana Rd Party in lobby looking to speak to an officer in regards to stolen packages. Cleared.

2255 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Report Follows Location/Address: - Washington St Arrest: Brown-Woodard, Rahzell Tarquise Address: 39 Page Terrace Apt. #B4 Stoughton, Ma Age: 24 Charges: Stop/Yield, Fail To License Suspended, Op MV With

Thursday, April 3

1206 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: St Catherine Of Sienna School - Nahatan St Caller reports she received a parents phone call regarding their Ring camera picking up a shotspotter notification in the area. Officers checked the area. Spoke to someone in the area and they state the noise possibly came

from a dump truck who was doing a pick-up. Officers in the area report multiple dump trucks. Spoke to multiple parties in the area and staff from the school. No confirmed gun shots. Most likely the dump trucks in the area completing a pick-up.

1615 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Spoke To Location/Address: - Broadway Report of a male party lying under the sign. Described as a white male wearing a baseball cap, and a short beard Spoke to that party and he checks okay. He was watching a show on his phone. He has been sent on his way.

1645 Phone - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Buckingham Rd Party in lobby would like to speak to an officer in regards to threats from a past neighbor. Spoke to reporting party, advised to block her neighbor. Ongoing neighbor issues. Clear parties advised and satisfied.

Friday, April 4

1018 Phone - PD-Shoplifting Report Follows Location/Address: Shaw's Supermarket - Nahatan St Bag of marijuana located in the store and now in manager's office. Also reporting shoplifting from the customers that dropped the bag of marijuana. Report to follow. Loss prevention looking to report shoplifting from last night. The marijuana has been seized.

1433 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Norwood Healthcare - Washington St Caller on 911 reporting that a patient is throwing items at staff. Located on the 2nd floor in the hallway. Staff is completing a Section 12. FD enroute. Staff rescinded the Section 12 on that party. He was calm upon arrival. Spoke to all parties involved. Male party wanted to shower on a different floor.

1504 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Bond St + Winter St Calling party states someone threw a water bottle at them as she was walking her toddler. She is standing by on the corner. States it was a white vehicle last seen heading towards the center of town. Spoke to that party and she declined medical attention and does not want to pursue anything further.

1538 Walk-In - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Cedar St Party reports debit and credit cards lost or stolen and are now being used.

1650 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Report Follows Location/Address: Shaws Supermarket - Nahatan St Arrest: Diede, Nancy Mae Address: 340 Handy St Attleboro, Ma Age: 64 Charges: Default Warrant License Revoked As HTO, Operate MV With (Criminal) Stop/Yield, Fail To * C89 S9

2045 Phone - PD-Missing Person Report Follows Location/Address: Washington St Walk into the lobby looking to report their 15 year old child missing.

2211 Phone - PD-Missing Person Report Follows Location/Address: Dean St Walk in looking to report their juvenile missing. NWD 663 en route to new location to check the area for juvenile. Cleared with negative findings.

Saturday, April 5

0001 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Spoke To Location/Address: Nahatan St Business line

caller reports that there is loud music coming from this apartment. Caller doesn't wish to provide any information. Spoke with parties and they will be speaking with housing.

0031 Phone - PD-Runaway Spoke To Location/Address: Atwood Ave Caller on 911 reporting her daughter ran away again.

0125 Phone - PD-Threats Spoke To Location/Address: Pleasant St E911 caller states that she had verbal threats made to her. Caller states the male threatened to hit her for being on his property. The caller states that her husband's car is in the driveway and she is unsure as to why the vehicle is there and is unsure if her husband is inside of the residence. Spoke to female party, she's looking for her husband as his vehicle is on scene but he is not. Clear.

0749 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Balch Field - Washington St Public Works employee reports a male party and female party, approximately in their teens, are passed out in the third base dugout at the baseball field. Arrest: Gabourel, Ambria Lexis Address: 351 Belmont St Easton, Ma Age: 25 Charges: Default Warrant

1552 911 - PD-Disturbance Report Follows Location/Address: Santander Bank - Nahatan St 911- caller requesting Spanish interpreter. Man threatened caller. Inside the ATM, man stated he was going to kill her. Male is pushing her. He wants to go before the caller. Male party with police. While trying to attain callers name, PD on scene and told the caller she could turn off her phone. Parties were sent on their way. OF assigned.

Sunday, April 6

0805 Walk-In - PD-Lost/ Found Property Services Rendered Location/Address: Bank of America (ATM) - Nahatan Street Walk in turns in large sum of cash and ID's along with credit cards. Owner notified and property returned.

1629 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Washington St 911 caller- Reporting a male party came into the store and was confused. Stating his mouth and hand are bleeding and he does not know where he lives. FD en route. PC to the hospital. NFD transporting to BI Needham. AR assigned.

1853 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Morse St Facility Manager reports a male party just knocked the property camera down. Description of male was broadcasted to responding units. Searched the area and unable to locate the male party in question. Located the damaged camera and report to follow.

1920 Phone - PD-Vandalism Spoke To Location/Address: Gazebo - Town Common - Washington St Report of a group of six parties with scooters possible damaging the gazebo and a street sign. Spoke to the juveniles and sent on their way.

2038 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Spoke To Location/Address: Lansdowne Way Reporting party states her neighbor has knocked on her door 4 times asking for food. Possible mental health concerns

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CAN IMPROVE YOUR COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS

The Norwood Toastmasters Club is dedicated to developing communication and leadership skills for our members and the community, regardless of ability level. We warmly welcome guests to join us and see our process in action! Our meetings take place on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. at the Norwood Civic Center, Lydon Suite, 165 Nahatan St, Norwood, Massachusetts 02062. For more information, please visit our website: Norwood Toastmasters.

NORWOOD PERSONNEL BOARD COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Norwood Personnel Board Committee will hold a public hearing in accordance with Article 39 of the Town of Norwood By-Laws, to discuss recommendations regarding updates to the personnel policies listed below:

- CORI Policy
- Worker's Compensation Policy
- Safety Policy
- Pregnant Worker Fairness Act Policy
- Travel Reimbursement Policy.

The meeting will be conducted on **Wednesday, April 16th, 2025, at 6:00 pm** in-person at the **HR Conference Room at 206 Central Street, Norwood.** Public participation may be accessed at the following google meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/gir-mrjh-iwt>

Or dial: (US) +1 336-754-9147 PIN: 191 643 892 #

The hearing will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 30A§.2.

Personnel Board Committee,

John E. Taylor, Chair
Paula Gorin, Vice Chair
Patterson Riley
Judy Langone
Michelle Pizzi O'Brien

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 (13 week commitment)

welcome to walk through the cemetery during the time volunteers are working; feel free to ask questions. For more information about OPPV, visit the web site: <https://www.oldparishpreservationvolunteers.com>

SOUNDING THE ALARM AT OLD PARISH CEMETERY

Old Parish Preservation Volunteers (OPPV) of Norwood, Massachusetts will be hosting a special event on Saturday, April 19, beginning at 10:00 am, to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the sixty men from South Dedham who answered the Alarm of April 19, 1775. Twenty of these men are interred in Old Parish Cemetery. The Carillon will sound the alarm at 10:00 am as Norwood's Colonial Boys lead the procession to the Old Parish Cemetery where a brief ceremony will take place. All are invited to join the procession from Town Hall to the Cemetery.

NEW RESIDENT OPEN HOUSE

"Please join us for Norwood 101, a new resident open house on Monday, April 14, 6-8p.m. here at the library! Representatives and officials from the Town of Norwood departments and community organizations will be here to welcome you and answer any questions you may have. Learn about all of the great things the Library has to offer!

Welcome bags will be distributed to the first 30 registered attendees; free raffles provided by local businesses. If you are new to town or would like to find out more about our wonderful Town of Norwood, this event is for you! To register, please sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar, or call 781-769-0200 x2."

MENTALL ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 15, at The Grange, 28 Rockwood Road (Route 115) in Norfolk, MA from 7-9 pm. Mask if you will.

Mental illness is a label for a variety of diseases of the brain. Often it strikes in late adolescence, devastating the afflicted person and the family. The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group is composed of such families who find mutual support and join together to advocate for their loved ones.

We welcome all families in the South Norfolk Area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones. If the Norwood Public Schools close because of weather, we will also cancel our meeting. For further information call Ray at 508-668-2941.

VFW CHICKEN BAKE

The Norwood VFW will be serving a Chicken Dinner on Sunday, May 18 at 2:00 PM. This will be served in the Post Lounge Room. The meal will include a one-half Barbequed Chicken, with Corn on the Cobb and a Baked Potato. Dessert is also included to finish the meal. The cost is only \$12.00 per person. This meal is open to the Public. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are available to purchase at the VFW. The VFW Post is located at 193 Dean Street in Norwood. The VFW Post is next to the ROJO's car wash. This has proven to be a delicious meal and is a great value for the price.

VOTING AND BEYOND

To the Editor:

Every day, there seems to be a new budget for a town, state, or nation which shows that the money we have is not enough for what we would like to do to support programming and the quality of life that people deserve. How can we address this issue? Some may consider raising taxes. It is an effective way to acquire more money but is accompanied by negative outcomes. These outcomes may include people experiencing financial stress, and maybe not being able to afford living in the region anymore, resulting in them needing to move. Budget cuts are another alternative that hypothetically leads to spending less, though how we choose what areas we cut back on can be difficult, including how much we cut back monetarily.

One of the ways we can let our voices and opinions be heard is through voting. In Norwood, we are extremely lucky to have an active League of Women Voters. Anyone can access their website, <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/norwood>, and they ask that people running for elected positions answer questions related to their desired position and the town. The League posts the information and responses they share on their website, so we can be informed when we choose to vote. When voting has passed, or if someone is not yet old enough to vote, we can still send letters to our elected officials. Our voices do not need to stop after filling in a dot on a piece of paper.

*Elizabeth Begg
Norwood
Student at Bridgewater
State University*

IN RESPONSE TO MATT LANE LETTER

To the Editor:

I believe that Mr. Konetchy clarified his view of the CPC during the LVW debate by saying he supports the CPC but feels that any voted sums should directly benefit the townspeople and not put money into the pockets of a private company. I did not hear that he wants to abolish it as he once stated in the PAST.

There is an organized group in town that has pushed a tax and spend agenda that has burdened many empty nesters and seniors with large tax increases. In many cases Empty Nesters are still financially supporting the chicks who left the nests. The Senior Tax Work Off Program is VERY limited as to the number of people they can help.

Perhaps (I am not familiar with it) "Norwood Now is not a democratic forum" but neither is Progress Norwood.

The 3A MBTA plan was NOT based on townwide consensus. It should have gone to a townwide (since we always seem to compare our town to other towns) vote as other towns did.

The focus groups touted by the Planning Board were only announced on websites. It was not in the local newspapers, posted at town hall, nor in fliers around town facilities. It has been pointed out numerous times in numerous town critical forums over at least the last 4 years, that ALL forms of communication not just websites need to be used. Most recently this was brought up again by TMM Helen Donohue at the hospital

meeting.

Many TMM voted their personal agendas instead of going door to door on the streets of their districts to find out what the people they represent want. It is my understanding that if you represent a district you need to canvas ALL the demographics in your district.

The plan is not a "pathway for possible future housing." It is a done deal for every lawyer and contractor to pounce on and make a profit. Case in point Savogran project. If a housing complex such as Avalon "is (an) economically advantageous development for Norwood" why is the town budget in trouble?

The biggest complaint towns and some legislators have with the bill is no funding is provided by the state to assist with the infrastructure expenses towns will incur to support the mandate.

The Boston Globe reported that Mass. SJC said "the detailed guidelines issued by the state that municipalities must follow WERE CREATED IMPROPERLY (my caps) and must go through a formal regulatory process." So... our 3A MBTA plan is based on Attorney General Andrea Campbell and Gov. Healey bypassing due process. The regs are not "blessed" nor finalized until that process completes. AND everyone in the state was supposed to be told to give input on the rewriting of those regulations. The attorney general and the governor chose not to widely advertise for that input. Since we do not know what those regulations will be, it suggests that our plan should be totally revisited AND voted on townwide.

*Anne Mackiewicz
District 7 TMM*

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