The Norwood Record

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About two dozen parents came to the school department meeting on the elementary school redistricting process last week.

Courtesy Photo

School Department reviews redistricting with parents

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Public Schools District (NPS) hosted a public meeting with parents on Nov. 17, the same night as the second night of the Fall Special Town Meeting.

Norwood Superintendent Timothy Luff opened the meeting by reviewing the elementary redistricting plan. By way of background, the pre-planning began about three or four years ago when the district first wrestled with the question of whether or not to move the fifth grade to the new Coakley Middle School. The thinking was that moving the fifth grade out of the neighborhood elementary schools would free up space, as at least two schools at the time were over capacity and the others were approaching theirs.

The department, after public hearings with parents, ultimately decided the move needed to happen.

The NPS then hired Sanborn Geospatial to study the schools and the district to determine a better allocation of students and resources. The plan they and, later, the School Committee decided on was called Scenario 1, which designated the Willett School from an all-kindergarten school to a full grades 1-4 elementary school and then move all the kindergartners to their respective neighborhood schools. Several school districts would see changes, most notably the Cleveland district, which would see about half its students move to the Willett. The Prescott 5 and 6 districts would move to the Cleveland Districts which was unusual in that those districts include the Windsor Gardens complex whose students would then have to travel across the Balch Districts for transportation.

The other big impact was that three Balch districts would move to the Prescott, as well as one Callahan district.

The projection – now about two years old – put the highest capacity schools at 83 percent (the Balch and the Prescott) and the lowest at 71 percent (the Oldham). Luff said at last week's meeting that those projections turned out to be more or less accurate.

Luff said the only changes coming are on a student-by-student basis, but the maps are remaining more or less the same as those approved by the school committee last fall. He added that all grade 1-4 families have received an email with their district assignments for the upcoming 2026-27 school year.

"Now that that email has gone out, the principal from your school for next year will be reaching out, saying, 'Hey, this is the Prescott, Willett or Balch' and so on, and so that will be happening soon," he said.

Some parents asked about tours of the new schools for their students, and Luff said they are working on open houses in the future.

Looking forward, he said they are looking at transitioning teachers possibly as voluntary transfers.

"That's a conversation we're having and it's going very well; teachers are very excited for change and that's been really good," he said, adding that should be done in the next month or so.

Luff said that Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) reconfigurations are also being worked out, as the Little Mustangs Preschool Academy and the Willett Kindergarten School shared a PTO that will need to be broken up to the various elementary schools. He added that the question of whether or not the Willett is ready for grades 1-4 has come up a lot, and he said since it used to be a regular elementary school before a kindergarten, they have not had to upgrade or renovate the building itself and it's pretty much ready.

"The bathrooms are all the right size and all those kinds of things are already in place, so that is not something we have a concern about," he said. "But if there is anything small that has to be done we will talk about those things. The Willett, for example, will need upper-level furniture and the other schools will need kindergarten furniture. So we're making sure we're switching classrooms appropriately to make sure the furniture is ready for our kids."

During the question and answer portion of the meeting, several residents said they were negatively affected by the change.

One resident said her stu-

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The Schools and the Finance Commission are looking at lean years ahead with conflicting visions on how to cope.

Courtesy Photo

Schools, FinCom, have difficult work ahead

School budget starts Dec. 10

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Finance Commission (FinCom) met last week with the Norwood Public School District (NPS) and the Norwood School Committee.

NPS Superintendent Timothy Luff went through the school budget timeline, which has already started, and the School Committee Budget Subcommittee has already been meeting about it as well.

"We've been doing budget meetings for a while now, back-to-back-to-back-to-back, really going through each cost center (transportation, teaching, maintenance, etc.), looking at level service budget proposals and looking at improvement requests," he said. "And there have not been many because they've listened to me. We're looking at what kinds of shifts we can make to make good instructional practices happen without increasing the budget. And also be looking at possibilities for reductions. Everybody has to look at certain possibilities for reductions."

Luff said they will be presenting the preliminary budget

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Mustang Pantry ending, need still great

Ecumenical Food Pantry filling in the gaps

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Mustang Emergency Food Pantry had its last pickup and distribution this week, and volunteers and organizers said they had an fantastic response from Norwood residents.

The pantry, established during the COVID-19 pandemic, was reformed during the federal government shutdown earlier this month that cut or held off food benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Now that SNAP has resumed the pantry is ending, but the Norwood

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to the budget subcommittee on Dec. 10, followed by a presentation to the full School Committee on Dec. 17.

Luff said they will be putting together a recommended budget along with a level services budget. Discussion on cuts have been going back and forth since last May's Annual Town Meeting (at least), because the Town is currently facing a $7 million structural budget deficit that it has only been able to supplement through the use of free cash (leftover funds).

"I will talk about a level-services budget, not level-funded, what we need to have to maintain the current services we have, some improvements, and what I will call bulk considerations or possible budget reductions," he said. "I will not be recommending to the School Committee cutting $7 million or anything like that. But I am going to share ideas of what bulk reductions could be and what the possible range of savings could be."

Luff was adamant that these savings would come at severe expense.

"I also will clearly lay out the decimation that would occur based on that," he said. "I am not going to recommend any of these, but I want to make sure the community knows that we're looking at them, considering them and that these are the reasons we may not be able to move them forward. But if we're moving into FY28 thinking we need to do significant things due to a possible override, we at least want to start that work and have an idea of what those possibilities might be for consideration."

Luff has said in the past he does not want to get into specifics about what could be cut in the future, as that could harm current education through demoralization of the teaching staff. Most of the school budget is made up of salaries – like the entire Norwood budget – and to make significant headway on the approximate $7 million deficit, staff would have to be the biggest target.

"I do not want to scare any staff into writing their resumes after preparing this preliminary budget, because that's what happens in these cases," he said. "We have built some great things here in Norwood, and I want to make sure we continue the educational service and respect of the work our staff has done."

FinCom Chair Sarah Sullivan said this is a line they have to walk. "I appreciate the challenge of that, but it is important for people to know that we are looking at (those cuts) because we do have that structural deficit," she said. "It would be irresponsible of us as a committee not to start looking at what the impact of that would be. I understand the challenge, but it is the unfortunate reality."

Luff said he will be reassuring his staff that right now at least, the Town has enough free cash to cover the deficit.

"I want my staff to know that going into the FY27 budget that there are funds in free cash, and at the same time I want to make sure we are doing what we need to do, being fiscally responsible, but I will definitely be pushing that we continue the things we currently have moving forward," he said.

Luff said in January they will be doing in-depth analysis of the cost centers of the NPS budget and then bring those to the FinCom when finished.

The final vote on both the school and general government budgets occur at Town Meeting in May.

Tell 'em what you think with a Letter To The Editor

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Please include your name, address & telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Moderna is expanding into this parking lot adjacent to the Forbes Mansion for freezer and product storage.

Courtesy Photo

Moderna to utilize freezers at Forbes

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Conservation Commission (ConCom) voted unanimously to approve a proposal from Moderna to place several freezers on a parking lot area behind the Forbes Hill Mansion.

In case you missed it, the Town of Norwood previously bought the Forbes property in 2017 to stop a 40B housing development from being built, and in 2021 sold the property to Moderna for about a $10 million profit.

Moderna's representative at the meeting, Pare Engineering's Joseph Weed, said the company wants to use the freezers to store "finished product" (presumably vaccines), before it gets shipped out. Moderna also recently announced a $140 million expansion in mRNA vaccine production, much of it happening at the Norwood site.

Weed said most of the construction work will entail moving about 35 trailer containers onto the site to act as the freezers. They will be also doing electrical work running the power needed to support the freezers from the Forbes Mansion.

"We're reusing this as a clean unit storage area," Weed said. "We call them clean units; they're basically freezer container storage units mounted on a trailer chassis, and they'll be parked here with the finished product ready to be shipped out."

Pare Environmental Scientist Seaver Anderson reviewed the details as they relate to the nearby wetlands. He said the work required does fall within the 200-foot buffer of the Plantingfield Brook and other wetlands near Upland Woods Circle. He said the wetland resource areas require several buffers be set up, like the 25-foot "no disturb" buffer for Plantingfield Brook.

Weed said the total work geography will include about 1.5 acres, most of it on the existing parking area pavement. Anderson said they will be working on about 700 square feet of greenspace, and will require six trees to be removed for the work.

"In total, it's about 700

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Letters to the Editor

HOW MUCH CAN THIS TOWN AFFORD?

To the Editor:

To the Boards, Committees, and Officials of this Town. You have again presented another unsustainable and unrealistic spending package to this feckless Town Meeting (TM). This town is fully funded thru 6/30/2026. The cost of THIS TM, (Through Free Cash and Borrowing) after approval, WILL be 25 million more dollars, separate of, and in addition to, the current approved FY 2026 balanced budget. Coincidentally there is 25 million dollars in free cash at the start of this STM. You also heard the Fin-Com clearly say, "We have a structural deficit." (hint?) Why are town officials not listening?

At the last couple of STM (Special Town Meetings) TM had approved over 56 million dollars, again, separate from the funded budget of those two years. How much can this town afford? How many new vehicles, equipment, renovations, building remodeling, and real estate purchases do we need? Does it make sense? Curb spending, scale it back, offer an alternative article, and put

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dents can now walk to the Callahan, but have been reassigned to the Prescott. They are still within the two-mile radius of the Prescott, but still too far to walk (students more than two miles away from their school get free bus transportation). She said she now has to add another 15 minutes to her work commute, as her job is in the opposite direction.

"I feel like that this seems odd, where I could walk to the Callahan but now I have to get him to the Prescott," she said. "Now I'm crossing into Route 1 into traffic, adding at least 15 minutes to my morning commute, and I don't get that time back. I'm now trying to figure out how to rework my work schedule – which I don't think is promising because I work for the government which has issues in and of itself – it's just hard to fathom. I cross Nahatan and I'm at the Callahan."

She added her whole street is similarly impacted.

Another resident asked about the two-mile transportation zone because while her kids are technically close enough to walk, they would have to cross Route 1, which is just inherently unsafe for children.

Balch Superintendent Diane Ferreira said students situated inside two miles of their school can opt into transportation, but parents do have to pay for it. "Beyond two miles is free, anywhere inside the two miles they have to pay the bus fee that we have," she said.

For students in grades 1-6 outside the two-mile radius, the fee is a $25 annual administration cost per student. That fee must be paid as well as an annual service fee of $275 per student (with a cap at $750 for big families). The full fee schedule can be found at https://www.norwood.k12.ma.us/about/transportation-services

School Committee Chair David Hiltz said the original vote for the district was centered around getting the highest number of students as close to their nearest schools as possible – along with other concerns like staffing, capacity, growth, density and more – but just because they voted on a model they felt did that best doesn't mean it's perfect.

"We know it's a cost, and there is no good way to do it, and we know it's a lame answer, but I'll say it; we can't do the best thing for everyone and we know that and that may not be comforting, and I'm sorry for that but we need to take the 10,000-foot view," he said.

"It's not going to be perfect, there is no question," Luff said.

Luff added that he had 1,500 calls last year from parents asking that their student stay in the current school and be "grandfathered" in.

"We considered the grandfathered piece, but considering all the class sizes and how out of whack that would make it, we had to say no to those," he said. "Wherever you draw the line, somebody's going to be impacted around those areas, no question. But what you guys have shared is valid and relevant and I have taken it into consideration with a lot of the conversations I've had."

Luff added that students being displaced from one district to another will be moved into as many of the same classrooms as possible so there will be, hopefully, some familiar faces for students moving into a new district.

For all the materials on the elementary redistricting study, go to https://www.norwood.k12.ma.us/sc/2024-elementary-study

THANKSGIVING


Don Reddick

For thousands of years, agrarian societies celebrated various Days of Thanks Giving, often acknowledging successful harvests. The celebration's genesis has evolved in a sort of Pilgrim's progress, so that today's focus is primarily on food. I submit that I have consumed a turkey leg every year of remembered existence on this hallowed day. Mounds of potatoes and gravy, stuffing, and squash along with green bean casserole, onions, sweet potatoes, and cranberry sauce rivet our attention once a year, aided by a one-day dispensation for over-indulgence. And then, as we barely recover from our now traditional Thanksgiving dinners, the call to dessert comes, where a plethora of family favorites entice, my wife's brownies, Connie's Snicker Doodles, and especially Laura's famous chocolate chip cookies.

I had seen poverty, but no Buenos Aires barrio, no San Paolo favela came close to preparing for what reigns in India, dominating the landscape like a human car wreck you are unable to avert eyes from. Each morning's ride to work saw old women side-by-side with dogs, on knees digging by hand and with sticks through piles of rotting, discarded produce, the scene juxtaposed with vibrant colors of roadside fruit stands and women's sarongs. Witnessed are things so distasteful they are an intellectual blush of embarrassment; human life challenged beyond western imagination. Mumbai's population today is approximately twenty-five million, over half of whom live in slums, half of which, in turn, have no running water, electricity, or sewerage infrastructure.

Westerners were advised not to leave their hotel rooms after work, but I could not resist. I walked into the shanty town surrounding my hotel and saw excited eyes following my every move, news rifling through the camp that a foreigner walked among them. A growing crowd of children gathered in my wake, smiling and talkative, some bending down as I strolled and patting the tops of my feet, later explained as a token of respect. Soon there were thirty or forty people following, families peering from openings of makeshift shacks, mostly pieces of board and plastic weighed down at their edges.

I could not forget the children's faces, fascinated that they radiated a cheerful innocence so brightly, without appreciation of the level of poverty they endured. The next evening, I strolled along the beach behind my hotel and approached a group huddled about a snake charmer sitting cross-legged and playing a flute-like instrument called a pungi, as a gaggle of cobras rose from his blanket, slowly turning about. I watched for a few minutes, then made my way back toward the hotel, followed closely by a group of smiling children who, despite the language barrier, were eager to interact.

Once home, I told my wife about the children, and she insisted on baking a treat for them. I returned to India with a Tupperware bin loaded with homemade brownies. Back in my Indian Ocean-side hotel, I went to the locked doorway to the beach where a guard observed the brownies, then vigorously implored me not to go out. I waved him off, and after repeated attempts to dissuade, he reluctantly unlocked the door and allowed me onto the beach.

The beautiful, smiling children ran to me and soon I was surrounded by reaching, screeching kids, my hands raising the bin over my head in attempt to regulate, to hand brownies out one by one. But the swelling crowd surged and pushed and grabbed my arms and reached the bin, tearing it from my hands. The larger boys jerked it from the others and then fought among themselves, spilling the brownies onto the sand where children dived and grabbed, pulling the cakes apart in furious hurry to stuff as much as possible into their mouths. One tiny soul, too young to physically compete, fell to the sand crying, reaching her hands upward. The scene was abysmal, the gang a frenzy of wanton hunger. With any last vestige of brownies ingested or irretrievably trampled in sand, the Tupperware pieces were fought over until I staggered back, astonished at the violence, retreating to the hotel courtyard doorway where the guard allowed me back through with a sullen, knowing glance.

Yes, we should eat, drink and be merry on this special day; we need not mutiny on our bounty. I relate this not as any Grinch who stole Thanksgiving, nor is it an attempt to elicit regret or shame for our celebration, but to simply remind that though our focus is on food, the fundamental purpose of our holiday, today's Day of Thanks Giving, is to truly give Thanks for our fortune, our condition.

Today I ate my turkey leg and surmounted two heaping helpings of excellent food. Undeterred and utterly remorseless, I afterward approached the dessert table, where Connie's Snicker Doodles and Laura's famous chocolate chip cookies beckoned. But I moved past them, engaged in my own private acknowledgement of personal Thanks, to my wife's plate.

I reached for one of her brownies.

Don Reddick is a writer from Norwood.
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The Morrill Memorial Library Board of Trustees met recently and went over issues at the library.

Courtesy Photo

Morrill Librarian awarded

Book Tree Lighting returns

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Morrill Memorial Library Board of Trustees met recently at the library and discussed an award recently bestowed on a local librarian.

"Last Thursday, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MLBC) had their 135th anniversary of their founding. These are the people responsible for library services across the Commonwealth, and every 10 years they gather to give out awards," Morrill Executive Director Clayton Cheever said. "These are really coveted awards."

Cheever said some of the awards included and were bestowed on Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell for her recent work against the federal government standing up for library access and rights.

"There is a court hearing Downtown on Dec. 4, and if you are interested in attending let me know," Cheever said.

Closer to home, Cheever said a member of the Morrill staff was also honored at the once-in-a-decade ceremony.

"Our very own (Adult and Information Services Librarian) Heath Umbreit and their work with the Trans Librarians Group across the state was recognized for their service to libraries and what an innovative job they've done to support

Heath Umbreit

trans rights," he said. "It was really neat to be able to sup-

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Tell 'em what you think with a

Letter To The Editor

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Did the Obama-era Social Security Tax Cuts Hurt the Program?

Russell Gloor
AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I will be retiring early next year but my question to you is: During the Obama administration, payroll taxes that employees pay were cut in half from 6.2% to 3.1%, while the employer's part stayed the same at 6.2%.This continued for around a year I think. This was an attempt at giving people a tax cut, which I think was a bad idea or maybe the wrong way to have done it. How much damage do you think this may have caused to Social Security?

Signed: Soon to Retire

Dear Soon to Retire: FYI, the Obama-era cut in the employee portion of FICA payroll taxes and SECA (self-employment tax) was a temporary measure, which has long since expired. However, the legislation which enabled that cut in employee FICA/SECA taxes also included a provision to replenish the Social Security Trust Funds from the General US Treasury in an amount equal to the estimated loss of tax revenue to the Trust Funds. So, in effect, there was little or no impact on the Social Security Trust Funds.

FYI, the Trustees of Social Security have been projecting for many years that the Social Security reserves would be fully depleted in the mid-2030s, unless Congress takes action to reform the SS program. Unfortunately, Congress has not yet taken any meaningful action to accomplish that reform, and the current projection from the Trustees is that all Social Security reserves will be depleted in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% in everyone's benefit. Time is running short, and we see signs that Congress is finally starting to seriously discuss Social Security reform.

- At AMAC, we have developed and submitted to various Congressional Representatives a reform plan which would restore Social Security to full solvency. You can see AMAC's suggested plan at www.amac.us/social-security-guarantee. And AMAC is working every day in Washington, D.C. to promote Social Security reform to avoid future cuts in benefits. We believe and hope that Congress will eventually reform the Social Security program to avoid future benefit cuts but, unfortunately, not until they can muster sufficient bipartisanship to make the hard choices needed. To this end, contacting your Congressional Representative to demand Social Security reform now would be a good thing to do. The longer Congress delays reform, the harder the choices will be.

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The Mustang Food Pantry helped to fill the gaps after SNAP was unavailable for a time, but the Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry still needs help.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Food Donations *continued from page 1*

Ecumenical Food Pantry is in full swing and could use donations, especially (but not exclusively) around the holidays.

"It's been peddle to the metal for us trying to meet the operational needs of the Pantry," said Director Deb Devine. "Between coordination of holiday food drives, locating offsite storage, the temporary SNAP suspension and resulting increase of new clients and more have created one of the busiest years for us."

The Norwood Food Pantry stated that it is working hard to prepare and respond to the "overwhelming requests and outpouring of support" it has received over the last month. Pantry Communications Director Tracey Johnson said they had more than 216 household in some weeks during the SNAP shutdown. Including children, she said that can really add up.

"If you think about it we're actually handing out food to feed 565 people," she said. "And the thing that's not being talked about, especially in Norwood, is the fact that the majority of our clients are senior citizens, they're retired veterans, and single mom families or families struggling, even though they are working. Yes, we do have some people from other countries, but we have a lot of older people and I don't think people realize that."

Johnson said she sees a lot of misconceptions about food insecurity, especially online, and she wanted to dispell some of that.

"People just don't know and it's very sad," she said.

At the most recent distribution on Nov. 22, the line of idling vehicles sometimes extended beyond the parking lot of the Grace Episcopal Church. Volunteers ran back and forth, up and down and sometimes side-to-side getting all the bags of food and other items out to clients as they came. Even by the late morning – the distribution ran from 9 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. – residents continued to line up to obtain groceries.

The procedure is that grab n' go bags are placed outside with nonperishable food items beforehand, and then once a client arrives, runners go inside and grab the perishable items.

Despite the return of SNAP, the need is still great. The Norwood Food Pantry has several ways you can help if you are able. The Pantry has a system, for instance, for residents to host their own food drives. This requires donating five or more bags of food, and if you're interested you can go to https://www.norwoodpantry.org/food-drive

Johnson asked residents to please organize with the pantry before hosting a food drive. Many times, she said, good-meaning residents will get a food drive together when the pantry has too much food and just drop it off one day.

"We have to stage them," she said. "We get a lot of food in November and December and then by March, we're completely out of food."

Johnson said they are trying to have more drives throughout the calendar year, as they can only store so much food.

The Pantry stated donations are collected well in advance and have filled November and December, but the need in Norwood is great and continues all year. As reported during a Board of Selectmen's meeting a few weeks ago, more than 4,000 of Norwood's 30,000 residents are receive SNAP benefits.

If you are looking to volunteer during collections and/or distributions, the pantry has already received "an overwhelming number of volunteer applications," and currently has a waiting list.

However, Johnson said they are in need of translators, most needed right now is Haitian Creole, followed by Portuguese and Spanish.

"We have a huge need for translators on Saturdays," she said.

You can also donate funds directly: https://tinyurl.com/bd5pwwka

If you are in need of food, go to https://www.norwoodpantry.org/client-registration

Please note the pantry serves only residents of Norwood and Westwood.

And speaking of locations, the pantry is outgrowing its space and so Johnson said they are in the market for a new space. Reach out at norwoodpantry@gmail.com

As far as the Mustang Pantry goes, organizers said they feel that this quick response was a wakeup call. Organizer Anne Haley said the immediacy of the need and the response was kind of like a training day for the future, and she said they feel much better prepared for any similar such emergencies in the future.

"And this is strictly my point of view on this after doing it, but I think we need to be prepared for this type of issue," she said. "We need to have a group of people who know what to do and how to do it. Might not necessarily be food, but any kind of downturn for the people of Norwood. Maybe there is a time when we lose a block of buildings from a fire. The question is are we prepared for that? This showed us that we can do things for people, but we need to stop and think about it and make sure we're covered for any kind of future disaster."

Overall, Haley said the emergency food pantry was a great success.

"It's been very good here; we have managed, with the help of Ernie Boch Jr., to have been able to supply a huge amount of groceries to Norwood," she said. "I'd say we gave out at least 100 bags of food each day, with more than 150 one day."

Volunteers Eric Fleming and Erik Bodenhofer said their experiences volunteering at the pantry were very positive.

"It's important to help out your neighbors and address the community when there is a need," Fleming said. "I think over the last weeks Norwood rallied around the people who need help."

Bodenhofer said he's optimistic regarding the resumption of SNAP benefits. "Hopefully that need will go away for the foreseeable future, but we'll see," he said.

"Food insecurity will always be a problem, but hopefully after this it will be a bit more manageable when the federal government is actually doing what it should be doing," Fleming said.

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square feet of clearing of natural vegetation, everything else is in existing degraded riverfront; that's the existing paved areas," he said. "And there is a pretty robust mitigation plan proposed including invasive species removal and erosion controls to be installed along the perimeter."

Anderson added they will be using tree protection devices on the trees not slated for removal to ensure they survive the construction. They will also be replanting new trees at a two-to-one ratio.

"So 12 trees planted for the six removed," he said.

Anderson added there will be a perimeter security fence around the site as well. "In total, the planting areas are greater than three-to-one of the clearing areas," he said. "We're proposing just over 2,000 square feet of seeding and planting."

Anderson said the current plan does encroach into the 25-foot-no-disturb-zone on the southwest side where there are some vegetative wetlands, but that is only because they are looking to replant vegetation and remove invasives to mitigate the trees and vegetation they are losing outside of said buffer zone.

"Along that area there is quite a bit of Asiatic bittersweet, some wineberry, and multi-floral roses starting to choke out some of the trees there, and so the plan is to remove that to improve the area," he said.

Anderson said they are also removing 400 square feet of impervious surface in the middle of the parking area, which amounts to about five parking spaces.

Norwood Conservation Agent Carly Rocklen asked about the 23 other native trees of a caliper of six inches or higher not inside the wetlands area – so out of the jurisdiction of the ConCom – and previous discussions she had with Moderna to have the company replant new trees elsewhere on the site. Weed said Moderna was open to it and they would continue discussions, likely through the Planning Board's Site Plan Review process.

Rocklen said she had several special conditions in addition to the standard conditions applied to projects working near or in a wetland resource area. She said firstly, Moderna needs a land disturbance permit from the Norwood Stormwater Authority, the company must provide a campus-wide stormwater pollution prevention plan, and a one-to-one replacement of those 23 trees mentioned above.

The ConCom voted unanimously to approve the plan with the normal order of conditions and the special conditions.

Librarian Awarded

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port Heath and the other awardees on Thursday at the State House."

Cheever said he is very excited about this particular honor. "When I talk about highlights, this is a big one that's going to last a long time for us," he said.

The MBLC awarded the Trans Librarians Group, represented by founders Umbreit and Robin Goodfellow "Puck" Malamud, the Samuel Swett Green Award. Green was a Worcester native educated at Harvard and became president of the American Library Association. The award honors Massachusetts librarians who create new and innovative programs that meet the needs of an ever-evolving populace.

In other business, the Board heard from Library Administrative Assistant Casey Kennedy regarding just some of the library's operations. She said as this is the holiday season, the Library is participating in several charity operations to help those in need.

"We currently have three donation bins active in the library lobby if anyone is feeling generous, and we have a regular (Norwood Ecumenical) Food Pantry collection that runs continuously," she said. "That's always open and available for people to drop off. We also have a new thing for the Women in Business Group that's meeting on Nov. 30 of this month. This is their 10th year doing that with us, and we're also working with a Norwood High School student who is collecting items on behalf of Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA), which is asking for toiletry items for care packages going to patients at Wellesley Hospital."

Lastly, Cheever said the library is hosting a Book Tree Lighting on Dec. 5 starting at 3:30 p.m.

"(Children's Department Head) Kate Tigue and the tech services put together a fabulous tree across from the Reference Desk every year. It has wonderful decorations, all homemade too," he said. "We will light it up on Deb. 5 afternoon and have some stories to share."

Trustee John Hall said he had some concerns about the name.

"Could you clarify what you mean by 'lighting' here, because it sounds like a book burning," he said.

"There is not a book burning happening," Cheever said, with an apparent laugh stifled before it could be really heard. "It is a tree made of books that we fit artificial lights on and illuminate."

The library will be closed this Thursday and Friday. For more information on the library, its services and events, go to NorwoodLibrary.org

Norwood Record
661 Washington St, Suite 202
Norwood, MA 02062
Tel: (781) 769-1725 / Fax (781) 501-5611

JOIN UP WITH TOASTMASTERS

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps develop communication and leadership skills for our members and the community at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just how we do it! Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. We meet from 6:45 until 8:30 p.m. at the Norwood Civic Center, Willet Room,165 Nahatan St, Norwood, Massachusetts 02062. Please visit our website: https://norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/ for additional information." The upcoming meeting date is Tuesday, December 9th.

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.

2025 Ford Expedition Twin Turbo V6

Ford is building trucks SUV's, and of course the Mustang. This week Automotion delivered me a 2025 Expedition high output twin turbo V/6 that sounds and feels like a V/8. The 10 speed transmission keeps the engine in the perfect RPM range and shifts positive under hard acceleration. From the outside the body shape and style is very modern, this is not a boxy square SUV. The interior is also simple to use and all controls are in reach. Look at the rectangular steering wheel design it looks amazing and has great feel. Rear end gear is a performance 3:73 ratio with an e-locker. 34 inch pano ip display, 13.2 inch center touchscreen. Second and third row power seats, ambient lighting and LED lighting everywhere. Panorama roof and the list goes on. EPA 15/22 18 MPG average. **Base price starts around $81 ,000 as tested $86,195.** This is a large SUV that doesn't look an handle like a large SUV and dive and feel are more small SUV like.

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.

For the Record

LMPA NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

LMPA is the public preschool of Norwood Public Schools. This state-regulated integrated program blends children with identified special needs with peer role models. There are no more than fifteen children in each class. Our staff includes Certified Special Education Teachers, a Speech and Language Pathologist, an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist, a licensed school nurse. The program is designed to address all areas of development. We pride ourselves on providing programs that emphasize high quality, developmentally appropriate activities which address self-help skills, social and language skills, fine and gross motor activities. Children Applying to LMPA as Peer Role Models: Must be 3 years of age by August 31, 2026. Must reside in the Town of Norwood. Should not have any identified special needs. Should be toilet trained. Must demonstrate strong language and social skills.

ADVENT ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Come join us at the First Congregational Church in Norwood for an Advent Adult Bible study beginning on Sunday, November 30. This year we will continue to explore biblical geography and travel, focusing on the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel of Luke and the visit of the Magi and the flight to Egypt in the Gospel of Matthew.

We meet in the parlor from 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., beginning each meeting with a time of fellowship and food, including coffee, bagels and muffins. We'll end with a time of music and meditation, and the lighting of the Advent candles. We hope you can join us for this time of preparation for Christmas. All are welcome.

The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is an Open & Affirming congregation, welcoming all. We are located at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street in Norwood. During the worship hour Sunday School classes are offered for children in preschool through grade 8 and nursery care is available. In addition to in-person worship, the service is also live-streamed and posted to the FCC Norwood YouTube channel afterwards. Rev. Michele Bagby Allan is glad to extend pastoral support. For more information, please visit the church website (www.fccnorwood.org) or call the church office at 781-762-3320.

BOY SCOUTS CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARY

Troop 42, one of the oldest chartered Boy Scout troops in America, is celebrating our 115th anniversary in 2025!

Fall and Winter are here and following our summer bike and camping trips and a week at summer camp, we're gearing up for some fabulous adventures, including camping and hiking trips to Mt. Greylock, Mt. Monadnock, and our Klondike Derby (to name just a few)! If you're a boy between the ages of 11 and 18 and are interested in more information about joining our troop, please stop by our Pancake Breakfast or check out our website at www.troop42norwood.com. No previous experience necessary – just an interest in growing and having fun!

In honor of our former Scoutmaster and Town Selectman David Hajjar, we are collecting food donations for the Norwood Food Pantry. If you are able to bring any non-perishable items along with you, our Scouting for Food drive will collect them and deliver them to the good people at the food pantry to help out those in need of food items at this time of year. Thank you in advance for your support.

WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING

The Norwood Woman's Club will be meeting on December 9 at 12:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall. 572 Nichols St, Norwood Mass. Sheryl Faye will present ELEANOR ROOSEVELT in a spellbinding performance and help us celebrate 101 years of the Norwood Woman's Club. A light lunch will be served. Guests are welcomed. Please bring an item for the food pantry. Most needed are canned meats stew, chili, tuna, chicken, cocoa mix (6 to 8 servings), Instant rice, Boxed oatmeal (variety pack) 11 to 18 oz sizes of Frosted Flakes, Fruity Pebbles ,Raisin Bran, Honey Bunches of Oats, etc. Any questions please call Trina at 781-762-8173. Hope to see you there.

PARKWAY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS IN DECEMBER

Parkway Concert Orchestra presents its annual Holiday Pops concert on Sunday, December 7, at 3 p.m. at Ursuline Academy, located at 85 Lowder Street in Dedham. Music Director Thomas Kociela leads the 50-piece nonprofit orchestra in a heart-warming program featuring holiday favorites such as Torme's "A Christmas Song," Anderson's "Sleigh Ride," selections from The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky and others. The program also includes performances by choral students from Ursuline Academy. The program is sponsored by Folsom Funeral Home and is supported by a grant from the Dedham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Donation is $15; $10 for seniors and students; and free for children under 12 years old. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. For more information, please visit the orchestra's website at www.ParkwayConcertOrchestra.org, call 781-444-5041 or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/parkwayconcertorchestra.

DIVORCE RECOVERY

Divorce Recovery is a support program for those who are separated, considering divorce, or divorced. It offers support and healing to people experiencing the pain of separation and divorce. Group members gain knowledge about the emotional stages of divorce and how to cope with lifestyle changes. The group runs for eight consecutive weeks.

The Divorce Recovery Series is an outreach program of the First Congregational Church in Norwood. It is offered as a community service and all participants are welcome, regardless of religious affiliation. Divorce Recovery groups are ongoing and continue throughout the year. For more information, please call the church office at 781-762-3320 or email churchoffice@fccnorwood.org with a contact number.

ANNUAL EVERGREEN FAIRE AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Join us at the annual Evergreen Faire at the First Congregational Church in Norwood (United Church of Christ) on Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's Faire will feature beautiful, handcrafted goods from a wide variety of local crafters including wooden bowls, quilts, knitted items, jewelry, ornaments, Boy Scout wreaths and artwork.

As always, the Country Store will be well-stocked with our famous homemade apple pies, Finnish coffee bread, fudge, and other baked goods, and The Frozen Phantom will offer healthy frozen meals-to-go. The jewelry table is always a big draw with unique and antique finds. Bring the kids to

Calendar
Continued on page 9

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION — **DOCKET No. NO25P3067EA**

Estate of: Barbara E. Farnsworth
Also known as:
Barbara Elizabeth Farnsworth
Date of Death: 09/23/2025

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021 781-830-1200

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by

Ann E. Richards-Farnsworth of Norfolk, MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

Ann E. Richards-Farnsworth of Norfolk, MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/24/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Lee M. Peterson, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 18, 2025
Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 11/27/2025

NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION

Commercial Property
915 Pleasant Street
Norwood, Massachusetts
Release Tracking Number 4-51081

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On November 12, 2025, P&W Incorporated, recorded with the Norfolk Registry of Deeds a Notice of Activity and Use Limitation on the disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1070 through 40.1080.

The Notice of Activity and Use Limitation will limit the following site activities and uses on the above property:

(i) Use for residential, childcare (commercial or residential), institutional (with a residential or childcare component), educational (for children under 18 years of age), or other similar use where a child is likely to be present;

(ii) Agricultural activities that utilize subsurface soil for the growing of fruits, vegetables, or flowers for human or livestock consumption;

(iii) Relocation of contaminated soil located within the Property subject to the Activity and Use Limitation, unless such activity is first evaluated by a Licensed Site Professional who renders an Opinion which attests that such relocation is consistent with maintaining a condition of No Significant Risk;

(iv) Activities and/or uses, except emergency utility repair work, which are likely to involve the disturbance, excavation, and/or removal of the contaminated soil at the Property unless such activities are conducted in accordance with the Obligations and Conditions set forth in the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation; and

(v) Any action or inaction which, in the opinion of an LSP, is reasonably likely to create a significant risk of harm to health, safety, public welfare or the environment.

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation may contact Brian F. Klingler, PG, LSP of Coneco Engineers & Scientists, Incorporated, 4 First Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 02324, (508) 697-3191.

The Notice of Activity and Use Limitation and the disposal site file can be can be viewed on the Mass DEP online data portal using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 4-51081 at **www.mass.gov/find-out-about-a-contaminated-property** or at the MassDEP Southeast Regional Office, 20 Riverside Drive
Lakeville, Massachusetts 02347, (508) 946-2700.

Norwood Record: 11/27/25

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 December 15th, 202 5 at 7:00 PM** at the request of Lenox LLC regarding property located at **55 Lenox St (Map 4 Block 2A Lots 2 & 4), Norwood, MA 02062**, in the **Central Business Zoning District (CB) and MBTA Communities Multi family Overlay District-Norwood Depot (MCMOD-ND).** 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 9.5.6.B [Bonuses: Stormwater and Heat Island Bonus] of the Norwood Zoning Bylaw for one story of additional building height in exchange for enhanced storage and treatment of stormwater runoff and heat mitigation. The Board will also conduct Site Plan Review pursuant to Section 10.5 for redevelopment of the property for multifamily housing with associated landscaping and parking area improvements.

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. Written materials from the public may be submitted to the Board by emailing **comdev@norwoodma.gov** no later than noon on the 3rd business day before the hearing.

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

Norwood Record: 11/26/2025, 12/04/2025

Deaths

MORGAN

Theresa A. "Terry" (Dias), age 61, a longtime resident of Plainville, passed away on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at Sturdy Memorial Hospital in Attleboro. She was the devoted and loving wife to Kevin Mogan, whom she happily married on May 8, 1992. Born on February 8, 1964, in Boston, Terry was the eldest of two children and the only daughter born to Barbara (Ferris) Dias and the late Herbert Dias, Jr. She was raised in Norwood and graduated from Norwood High School, Class of 1982. Following her high school years, she pursued her passion for beauty and personal styling at the Henry O. Peabody Cosmetology School, embarking on a fulfilling career as a hairdresser in Dedham and West Roxbury. Following her time in the field of cosmetology, for 23 years, Terry dedicated herself to Keady Pest Control in Norwood, where her work exemplified her strong work ethic and commitment to her community. Over the years, she made countless friends and left a lasting impression on all who crossed her path. Terry was known for her immense creativity and joy for arts and crafts, often spending her time making her own clothes. Her creative spirit was matched only by her love for her family. She was particularly devoted to her beloved "fur baby," Anastasia, and cherished every moment spent with her husband, Kevin Mogan. Their bond, which began through a connection with her brother, remained a source of strength and happiness throughout her life. In addition to her husband and mother, Terry is survived by her sister-in-law: Barbara Dias; and her nephew, Ryan Dias. She is preceded in passing by her brother and best friend: Herbert Dias, III, who passed away on November 6, 2024. As we bid farewell to Terry, we celebrate the life of a woman who was truly a blessing to the world. Her spirit will live on in the hearts that loved her. She has gone to Heaven to reunite with her brother, Herbie, who had gone ahead to lead the way and hold her hand. Terry's funeral was held on MONDAY, November 24, 2025 with Funeral Service after at the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington Street, Norwood MA. Terry will be laid to rest privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Terry's name may be made to the Massachusetts MSPCA directly at https://support.mspca.org/site/Donation2?df_id=24020&mfc_pref=T&24020.donation=form

WAITEKUS

Rachel T. (Beauregard), of Norwood, passed away on November 17, 2025 at the age of 97. Beloved wife of the late John W. Waitekus. Devoted mother of John R. Waitekus and his wife Elizabeth of Virginia Beach, VA, Raymond W. Waitekus and his wife Anathea of Marblehead, Thomas R. Waitekus and wife Patricia of Walpole, Joseph M. Waitekus and his wife Marcia of Walpole, Janet D. Jobert and her husband Bradford of Norfolk, Steven R. Waitekus and his wife Karen of Norwood, Norma C. Laren and her husband Robert of Blackstone and Renee E. Maloof and her husband Christopher of Walpole. Sister of Chester Beauregard and his wife Joan of Gardner and the late Roland, Leonard and Francis Beauregard and Estelle Roy. Daughter of the late Raymond and Doria (LaPlante) Beauregard. Cherished grandmother of 19 grandchildren and 1 late granddaughter. Also survived by 9 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Rachel was a 1946 graduate of Gardner High School and was a member of the Norwood Art Association. She was a passionate artist, faithful parishioner at St. Catherine's of Siena Church and a Hospice care volunteer. Funeral from the Kraw Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington St., Norwood, MA. Burial at Highland Cemetery, Norwood. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to St. Catherine of Siena School 249 Nahatan St, Norwood, MA 02062.

Calendar *continued from page 8*

the Treasure Room full of great bargains for everyone in the family. The Silent Auction will feature popular and unique items not to be missed. You can also bid on a variety of gift baskets, jewelry, sports memorabilia, and gift cards for local stores. Bidding on auction items will close at 2 p.m. An eat-in or take-home luncheon featuring soups, corn chowder and chili will be served from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

So come and enjoy the Evergreen Faire at the First Congregational Church, located at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street in Norwood. For more information, call the church office at (781)762-3320, find us on Facebook or visit the church website at www.fccnorwood.org.

HALL OF FAME 2025 INDUCTEES CEREMONY

The Norwood High School Athletic Hall of Fame is pleased to announce its 2025 inductees. The student-athletes are Joe Porcello 1971, Frank Ciavattone 1973, Scott Fiske 1978, Jason Nutting 1994, Jack Dixon 2001, Kacie Smith 2015 and Blue & Gold Recipient: Rick Morrison.

The induction ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 29 in the Norwood High School Auditorium. The ceremony starts at 1:00PM, is free and open to the public.

The Class of 2025 will join the 2023 inductees: Joe Travers 1981, Denise Carroll Flaherty 1993, Katelyn Mullane 1998, David Rukstalis 2002 and Ryan Henry 2006. Any questions, please contact Brian McDonough at bgmcdonough@gmail.com.

HELP LIGHT UP THE CIRCLE OF HOPE

The Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation invites you to help light up the Circle of Hope by purchasing a luminary to be lit on Saturday evening, December 6, on the Town Common from 4 – 6 PM.

Continuing a Norwood tradition begun 24 years ago, the members of the Circle of Hope Foundation say the luminaries are a symbol of Life, Hope, the Season, and Remembrance of others. Last year more than 2000 luminaries were lit on the town common. Luminaries can be purchased for $5.00 each by sending your payment to COH, PO BOX 421, Norwood, MA 02062 or by stopping by Murph's Place Restaurant at 58 Broadway, Norwood. You may include a brief message of life, hope, the season or remembrance to be written on the luminary. You will also find an order form in your November light bills and, on our website, NORWOODCOH.ORG. The candles will be lit beginning at 4:00 pm and the Foundation members welcome residents and friends to come out and see this beautiful site.

VFW TOYS FOR TOTS PARTY

The party is scheduled for Saturday, December 6th, from 7:30 pm to Midnight at the Norwood V.F.W. Post #2452 at 193 Dean Street, Norwood, MA. We ask people to bring an unwrapped, non-violent, new toy, for a deserving tot. Tickets are $5/person at the door with a gift, and $10/person without a gift. USMC will be at the party to retrieve the donated gifts.

There will dancing and live music, as well as a 50/50 Cash Raffle, Cash Bar, light snacks on each table, and a door prize. All proceeds will be donated to the Toys for Tots Boston Chapter Organization. If you would like more information, have questions, etc., please contact Trudy Wallace @ 617-510- 5360, on FB, or via e-mail @ trudywhitewallace@gmail.com.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE — **Docket No. NO25P3095EA, Norfolk Division**

Estate of: Paul Ryan Sexton
Also known as: Paul R. Sexton, Jr.; a/k/a Paul R. Sexton
Date of Death: October 21, 2025

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner: John D. Sexton of Bellingham, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate

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

Norwood Record: 11/27/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION — **DOCKET No. NO25P2400EA**

Estate of: Diane E. Roper
Also known as: Diane Roper
Date of Death: 07/03/2025

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021 781-830-1200

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by

Hancock Park Rehab & Nursing of Quincy, MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

Jonathan J. Davey of Quincy, MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/17/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Lee M. Peterson, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 13, 2025
Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 11/27/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION — **DOCKET No. NO25P2970EA**

Estate of: Ronald A. DeSimone
Also known as: Ronald DeSimone
Date of Death: 08/27/2025

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021 (781)830-1200

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by:

William DeSimone of West Roxbury, MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

William DeSimone of West Roxbury, MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to server **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/10/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Lee M. Peterson, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 05, 2025
Colleen M. Brierley, Register of Probate

Norwood Record: 11/27/2025

Police Logs

Monday, November 17

0958 Walk-In - PD-Lost/ Found Property Report Follows Location/Address: Town Hall - Washington St Party turns in wallet. OF requested and assigned to 669

1000 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Winslow Professional Bldg - Chapel St Party is seeking advice on trespass notice. 662 spoke to the party over the phone and he was advised.

1211 911 - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/ Address: David Terrace

1302 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Rock St Caller reports ongoing threats toward herself and her dog with a non-resident of the condo Clear and returning to speak with the RP Both parties are complaining harassment and both parties were advised. Unit is clear.

1619 Phone - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Brookview Cir Caller believes her mother may have been a victim of a gift card scam. OF assigned

1652 911 - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/ Address: Hoyle St 911- male party, in driveway, fighting with caller's kids. Two more people with male party. Verbal argument between two adult parties regarding something that happened yesterday between their children. Peace restored, PD clear at this time.

1755 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Stop & Shop - Bos-Prov Hwy 662 flagged down by a manager at Stop & Shop regarding a moped that has been in the parking lot for some time MA moped reg 30428 Manager has been advised of her options. Attempt to contact owner but no contact was made. PD clear at this time.

Tuesday, November 18

0941 911 - PD-Noise Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Adams St 911- noise with people upstairs. Banging on the floor. Was awakened at 730 am. Party was advised of options. No noise upon unit's arrival

1118 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/ Address: Fairview Rd Caller seeking advice on removing a guest from her home. Guest is not at residence currently. Caller advised party is a tenant in the residence and advised of the eviction process and options at Dedham District court.

1216 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Fairview Rd Caller on 911 reporting things are missing from his room. Ongoing issue, cleared

1322 Phone - PD-Extra Watch Spoke With Location/Address: Dedham Savings Bank - Central St Caller requesting extra checks overnight for homeless man sleeping in ATM vestibule. Advised.

1437 Walk-In - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Home Depot - Bos-Prov Hwy Party seeking advice after being verbally trespassed by store manager. Party was advised.

1612 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Pendergast Cir Report of car having difficulty navigating Pendergast Circle, rolling over curbs. Last seen on Neponset Street. Canton PD notified as well. Party advised of complaint, checks out ok. Cleared

Wednesday, November 19

0012 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: David Terrace Caller reports neighbor has left dog outside for hours and this is an on-going issue.

0029 Phone - PD-Trespassing Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA: 3HDB49

0608 Phone - PD-Trespassing Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Upland Woods Cir 5RTX32

0730 Radio - PD-Animal Complaint Animal Control Notified Vicinity of: Pleasant St Westwood Police detail officer reporting boxer mix found off leash running around area, ACO Brianna notified and en route from shelter

1524 Phone - Hypodermic Syringe (Recovered) Services Rendered Location/Address: Westover Pkwy + Manchester Rd Caller reports a found syringe. N666 found that item and will dispose of it.

2005 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Upland Woods Cir Caller reports upstairs neighbor's dogs have been barking for several hours. Advised to management.

Thursday, November 20

1018 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Mgovern Kia - Bos-Prov Hwy Caller requesting to speak with officer regarding homeless male who sleeps against building, believes he may be taking things from vehicles overnight Spoke to store manager, advised him of options

1148 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Wickham Way Behind apartments by intersection of Old Derby Road, 911 female caller reporting 3 parties in this area having loud argument, no weapons seen;

1213 Initiated - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Cedar St Resident reporting pitchfork stolen from outside home by two parties, last seen walking up the roadway Checked area, unable to locate

1254 Phone - PD-Disturbance Sent On Way Location/Address: Ace Locksmith - Washington St Caller reports 15-20 juveniles fighting outside store Parties breaking up 668 advised all units slow down, no active fight, requesting unit speak to group outside bakery Juveniles sent on way.

1315 911 - PD-Disturbance Report Follows Location/Address: Village Road W E911 caller reporting 3 juveniles and a aunt showed up at her house trying to fight the caller's daughter and her friend. 2 daughters boy juveniles Male juveniles possibly weapons on them

1532 Phone - PD-Larceny/ Forgery/Fraud Report Follows Location/Address: Weld Ave Caller reports she was scammed out of money. Report to follow

1634 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: The Juice Bar - Broadway Owner reports a party in the store making employees feel uncomfortable. Spoke with staff as the party left before officer's arrival. They will try to get a picture of his face through cameras as they were concerned of the odd behavior. Clear

1713 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Howard St Caller reports female in the area of screaming for help Spoke with the CP and resident of Howard St who stated it was a group of teens walking down the road screaming.

2016 Phone - PD-Harassment Spoke With Location/Address: Nahatan St Caller reports ongoing issues with an upstairs neighbor.

Friday, November 21

0953 Phone - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Lansdowne Way Call on 911, party with a dispute with the landlord.

1400 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/ Address: Bos-Prov Hwy Caller reports he found a package on the sidewalk and would like PD to look at.

1452 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Ocean State Job Lot - Bos-Prov Hwy Caller states 3-4 cars parked in the HP spot with no placards. 3 citations issued for handicap parking.

1531 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Arrest(s) Made Location/Address: Washington St + Philbrick St Motor Vehicle Stop MA REG H7348 Don & Wally's has been requested. 676 transporting one male party in custody back to the station. Arrest: Mellea, Mark Carl Address: 19 Martin Bates St Dedham, Ma Age: 66 Charges: License Suspended, Op MV With

1930 Phone - PD-Threats Spoke With Location/Address: Residence Inn By Marriott - Norwood Park S Caller requesting officer regarding past guest that threatened he is on his way to hotel to harm staff Caller provided phone number, unable to reach party,

Saturday, November 22

0041 Initiated - PD-Suspicious Activity Sent On Way Location/Address: Oldham School - Prospect St Checking on a vehicle Sent on way

0155 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Dispatch Narrative Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA Reg. PC 4KVZ25 towed for overnight parking violation

0243 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Dispatch Narrative Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA COM X11703 towed for overnight parking violation

0341 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Dispatch Narrative Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA PC Reg. 6YSG39 towed for overnight parking violation

0953 Phone - PD-Assist Public Spoke With Location/Address: Gazebo - Town Common - Washington St Caller on business line reporting three people sleeping on the common. Looking to have them moved along. Same three people that are there. Parties stated they are trying to stay warm and out of the rain.

1127 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Gone on arrival Location/Address: Nahatan St Caller reports a male party asking people for money and being loud. Checked the lot and gone on arrival.

1432 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Spoke With Location/ Address: Burnley Rd Caller on business line reporting that one of their neighbors possibly shot a squirrel ACO requested and en route. Spoke to reporting party and residents in the area. Unknown how it happened.

1650 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/ Address: Home Depot - Bos-Prov Hwy Caller stated two males ran out of store, loaded items into a black SUV and sped off, caller no longer on scene, said one item left in Stop and Shop parking lot in Home Depot cart Followed up with supervisor at Home Depot, they are unsure of what was taken at this time, they will review CCTV and let police department know tomorrow

1900 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Peace Restored Location/ Address: Lansdowne Way Requesting female be removed Kept peace while party moved items, moved along

2117 Initiated - PD-Suspicious Activity Spoke With Location/Address: Norwood Airport Inc - Access Rd Checking on vehicle MA 4XN755 Spoken to, moving along.

2127 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Village Rd W Caller states loud music since 6pm Spoke with resident and they agreed to turn music down

Sunday, November 23

0130 Initiated - PD-Directed Patrol Spoke With Location/Address: Dedham Savings Bank - Central St Homeless party spoken to, moved along

0203 911 - PD-Noise Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: High St 911 caller hears yelling and screaming in this area. Caller wanted to remain anonymous. Verbal argument between parties, 669 will be conducting frequent checks in the area

0252 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Taco Bell - Bos-Prov Hwy 911 caller reports he is attempting to pick up food and the staff is refusing caller service. Verbal argument between customer and restaurant, customer left without meal, peace restored

1146 Phone - PD-Shoplifting Report Follows Location/Address: Home Depot - Bos-Prov Hwy Employee reporting past shoplifting incident. Clear, OF assigned.

1848 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/ Address: Mobil Gas - Wash./RR Av - Washington St Employee reports 2 possibly oxygen tanks left on the side of the business. DPW notified and responding. Cleared, DPW collected the items and will dispose them.

2214 Phone - Health & Welfare Check Arrest(s) Made Location/Address: Ellis Ave Caller on the business line reporting there has been a vehicle parked and running in front of his house for the last hour. Driver is possibly sleeping/ slumped down. Arrest: Webb, Julie C Address: 526 Washington St Apt. #2F Norwood, Ma Age: 51 Charges: OUI-Liquor Or .08%, 2nd Offense

2316 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA PC 3EFB92 repossessed by Negosians.

Letters continued from page 4

a freeze on funding some items for a year. Do NOT just count on ANOTHER override, to fix your financial miscalculations and grandiose projects. Real estate taxes of many residents have doubled in the last 6 years after the first two overrides. Preying on TMs generosity or lack of understanding is wrong. Maybe one day we, TM will say No! BTW not even a comment or any update about Norwood Hospital at all? Why don't Town officials update TM on the hospital progress?

Thank You.
Ed Lynch
Norwood

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court – Probate and Family Court

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE — **Docket No. NO25P2743EA Norfolk Division**

Estate of: Shirley Ann Brown
Date of Death: August 12, 2025

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner Douglas H. Brown, Jr. of Roslindale, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Douglas H. Brown, Jr. of Roslindale, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

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

Norwood Record: 11/27/2025

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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, December 10, 2025, at 7:30 pm**. The meeting will be conducted in-person at the Senior Center at 275 Prospect St. and 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 representative Chris Kirby of CM Kirby Engineering on behalf of applicant Louie Bello for the proposed construction of an addition to a single-family home in Bordering Land Subject to Flooding and 100-year Floodplain.

Project Location: **162 Codman Rd., Map 19, Parcel 19-6-119.**

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 11/26/2025

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or dial: (US) +1 402-627-0114 PIN: 610 701 599 #

The Commission will hear a Notice of Intent from representative Matthew Smith of Norwood Engineering on behalf of applicant SBF LLC for the proposed construction of a single-family home with driveway, lawn, and stormwater management infrastructure in Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area to an Intermittent Stream.

Project Location: **Lot 9, Sumner St., Map 15, Parcel 15-1-29.**

Carly Rocklen
Conservation Planner

Norwood Record: 11/26/2025

Morill Library Events

CLASSICAL GUITARIST, HIROYA TSUKAMOTO

Our Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series concludes on Sunday, November 30 at 2:00pm with a show, "A Journey Through Strings and Stories," by classical guitarist, Hiroya Tsukamoto. (Please note the early start time of 2:00pm)

Tsukamoto brings a blend of masterful fingerstyle guitar and evocative storytelling that transcends cultural barriers. His concerts are not just musical events; they are immersive experiences that weave lyrical narratives with intricate melodies. Recognized for his soulful performances that create an orchestra at his fingertips, he invites audiences into his world of musical exploration and emotional expression.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY MOVIES

The Morrill Memorial Library is offering an in-person sensory-friendly movie on the 2nd Thursday of the month for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities.

Join us for our Sensory-friendly Monthly Movie at the Library! This program will be held in-person in the Simoni Room on December 1, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Our December movie in the Sensory-friendly Monthly Movie series is Disney's A Christmas Carol, rated PG.

HOUSEPLANTS 101

In partnership with Norwood Conservation Commission, Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host Kate Donovan of Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens to present an in-person talk titled "Houseplants 101" on Monday, December 8 starting at 7:00pm in the Simoni Room.

Grow houseplants to make you happy, clean your air, beautify your home—or gift to loved ones! We will review several of the easiest plants to grow and will also learn to identify common plant-growing problems. This is the perfect lesson for the houseplant lover or plant lover-wannabee.

About the presenter: Kate is a Master Gardener who lives in Blackstone and has been helping clients grow food sustainably and organically through lectures, garden planning and development since 2016. Kate considers her home as her horticulture laboratory and tries new varieties and techniques every year.

MONDAY MOVIE MATINEES

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to continue our Monday Movie Matinee film series. The series will run through December, 2025. The films will be shown on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Showtime at 1PM.

If you love movies and want to immerse yourself in unforgettable cinematic experiences, Morrill Memorial Library is the place to be! Join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons through December to enjoy an eclectic mix of movies. Movie dates are: 12/8, 12/22. December movies are: December 8: Arzé (90) – NR - December 22: Perfect Days (123 minutes) - PG

LEARN ABOUT HESSCO

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to partner with Health & Social Services Consortium, Inc (HESSCO) to bring an information session about HESSCO to the library on Thursday December 11, at 6:30PM in the Simoni Room.

As we age, there is a new lifestyle to navigate, medical help to seek, and many other future considerations to account for. We are bound to have many questions about the resources available in the community that will help us age well in place. Come join us as a representative from HESSCO explains the long term services HESSCO offers for older adults and adults with disabilities. Presenters: Chelsea Lanson, Director of Planning & Community Development and Julie Clark, Director of Home Care.

About HESSCO: HESSCO is the Aging Services Access Point (ASAP) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for South Norfolk County in Massachusetts. Its mission is to help older adults and individuals living with a disability remain safe and independent at home for as long as possible.

PUZZLE FACE-OFF!

Love doing puzzles? Want to test your speed against others? Come join us for a friendly puzzle face-off against other teams on Saturday December 13, from 2:30pm - 4pm in the Simoni Room.

How does the race work? Up to 8 teams will compete, with a maximum of 4 people per team. Feel free to name your team! Families are welcome to come as a team; children aged 10+ will count as a team member. One puzzle per team. Puzzles will be 500 pieces and design will be the same. The race will kick off at 2:30pm and will end at 4pm. Please plan on arriving by 2:20 pm at the latest, so we can start on time. The team with the most completed puzzle by the end of the race will be the winner, but everyone gets the bragging rights!

This program is free and open to all, but please note that the difficulty level of the puzzle design is most suitable for tweens, teens and adults. Please let only one team member register for the whole team. You will be prompted to enter the number of participants in your team. Please do not register each member of your team separately.

COFFEE CUPPING WITH ROB FITZGIBBON

The Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host coffee enthusiast Rob Fitzgibbon for "Coffee Cupping," an educational workshop and coffee tasting, on Saturday, December 13 starting at 10:00am in the Simoni Room.

If you love coffee, this event is for you! Learn all about the fascinating world of coffee from coffee enthusiast, Rob Fitzgibbon. Enjoy an informal half-hour presentation, covering coffee as an agricultural commodity, how it's grown and processed, how it's been consumed throughout history, and related processes and qualities such as roasting, aroma, taste, and mouth feel.

Rob will then lead participants in a fun interactive exercise in which they try three different coffees and document what they smell and taste, using stickers and a flavor wheel. The event concludes as participants review their shared perceptions of taste and aroma, engage in Q&A, and finish the coffee.

Please note: This program will run for two hours and includes a coffee tasting. Space is limited to 12 participants, so registration is required.

NWC supports veterans

Donation made to Norwood Veterans on November 11 from the Norwood Woman's Club. (L to R) Sue Ingles, Phyllis Spiro, Derek Wennerstrand, Norwood Veterans Agent, and Arlene Bonera.