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Postal Customer Local

Vol. 14 No. 4

Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

November 2023



Kick-Off the Holidays at Tree Lighting!

By Michele Taranto

The perfect four-day weekend. It starts with a grand Thanksgiving meal, followed by a day of bargain hunting, holiday decorating, and of course, those delicious leftovers. Saturday is the time to support and patronize, local businesses and

take in lunch or dinner on Small Business Saturday. What could possibly top that? How about closing out the weekend with a community kick-off of the holiday season on Sunday, Nov. 26 with the Norwood Tree Lighting Celebration!

This is the day some may

call, the calm before the storm. A time to celebrate the holiday season with family and friends before the Christmas bustle begins. In true Norwood form, each year the town hosts a free

HOLIDAYS

continued on page 2

Fall Crawl Tapped for Nov 8!

By Michele Taranto

The Friends of Norwood Center (FNC), in partnership with Castle Island Brewing, will host its third Annual Fall Crawl on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 7-11 p.m. Grab your friends to 'crawl' your per Tandy's, then Conrads, and capping off the night at Lewis' Bar & Grill.

This event checks off many beneficial boxes: it brings business and weeknight evening activity to Norwood Center, is a profitable fundraiser for the Friends of Nor-



way through four of Norwood's finest pubs. Cost is \$20 and includes an official Fall Crawl t-shirt!

The 'Crawl' launches at 7 p.m., where participants will be given their limited-edition tee shirt and some fun Castle Island swag! From there, each hour the Crawl will move to a new location: Napwood Center, and an entertaining night had by all!

"It is a true community effort," Friends of Norwood Center Board President and crawl coor-

> **FALL CRAWL** continued on page 3



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HOLIDAYS

continued from page 1

breathtaking afternoon festival that has become a favorite holiday tradition. The fun-filled family event will be held on Sunday, Nov. 26, 1:30-4 p.m., on the Town Common and the Norwood Civic Center. The celebration includes a reindeer dash, horse-drawn hayrides, festive entertainment, holiday readings, face painting, ornament decorating, barnyard animals, a parade, and choir music. The afternoon concludes when Santa and Mrs. Clause make their dramatic entrance and light up the Norwood Town Common!

The Reindeer Dash returns as children race around the Town Common and receive a set of antlers for participating. Face painting and holiday crafts will be offered on the common and barnyard animals will wait eagerly for visitors at the Civic Center. Horse-drawn hayrides will be also be available on the Town Common as local choirs ring in the season. The afternoon concludes with holiday readings, and a parade where Santa and Mrs. Clause arrive and light up the Norwood Town Common for the holiday lighting.

localtownpages

Published Monthly Mailed FREE to every home in Norwood Circulation: 14,659 households and businesses

Publisher

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Ad Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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Plan that holiday shopping and decorating around the Holiday Tree Lighting for a community celebration the entire family will enjoy and remember for years to come!

Sunday, November 26

1:30-2 p.m. Reindeer Dash Town Common

1:30-3:30 p.m.







Face Painting
Ornament Decorating
Town Common

2-3:30 p.m.
Horse Drawn Hayrides
Town Common
Barnyard Animals
Civic Center Gym, Nahatan St.

2-3 p.m. Local musical choirs Walter J. Dempsey Bandstand

3 p.m. A reading of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

Walter J. Dempsey Bandstand

3:20 p.m.

Reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas"

Walter J. Dempsey Bandstand

3:35 p.m.

Parade leaving Guild Square to the Town Common

3:45 p.m.

Santa and Mrs. Claus turn on the Norwood's Holiday Tree Lights Town Common

This schedule is subject to change, depending on weather.

Norwood residents would agree that no town unites like Norwood, and this year's holiday celebration is a great opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors and kick off the holiday season!



That's a Vegetarian Wrap!

By Michele Taranto

The Norwood Farmers Market (NFM) ended their 2023 season on a cool, seasonal afternoon on Oct. 17. For 18 weeks, the Norwood Town Common was filled with produce, food, and artisan vendors, organizations, shoppers, children, and even dogs! Through the extreme heat, and just a few times dodging some raindrops, Tuesday afternoons were reserved for neighbors meeting neighbors, residents discovering new foods and information on local and state, lots of playing lawn games and inflatables, ice cream on Central Ave., laughter, and lots of conversation.

"This year surpassed last year by a lot" NFM Organizer Peter McFarland said. "We consistently the many sponsors of the Market, who allowed the Market to grow this season. Also, the Norwood Department of Public Works for faithfully placing signs throughout town each week, Norwood Light Broadband who was readily available with electrical needs, and especially to the many volunteers, both high school students and adults, who assisted vendors setting up and breaking down their displays. Their assistance is only of many reasons Norwood is a favored market among many vendors. New vendors were being added even in the last few weeks due to Norwood's favorable reputation.

With Norwood's centrally-located Town Common, the Central Ave. picnic area, and the Norwood



had over 20 vendors each week and I was especially happy to have four produce farmers, Jordan Brothers Seafood, and baked goods from Tateo Organics and La Baguette North Bakery. Also, we had a variety of different vendors and local organizations like Norwood Trails at the market."

From its positive attendance numbers, an outdoor market is just what the town needed. Many who visited even drove from outside Norwood's borders learning of its great reputation, variety of vendors, and events. The Market showed a distinctive increase this year in attendance and vendor participation.

"The Farmers Market has grown for several reasons," Mc-Farland said. "First, it's our second season and more people are aware of the market; the Town Common is such a nice venue to site a market, especially with Central Street closed; Michele Taranto, our Market Manager did a terrific job placing vendors and planning event days. We had a great Pet Day, Kids Day, National Farmers Market Day, and the Pumpkin Fest was over the top."

Many thanks are extended to

Farmers Market, Tuesday afternoons had the market cornered on the place to be. Be it a hot summer day, dodging raindrops, or a picturesque, clear afternoon, tents were flapping, music was playing, voices were talking and laughing. All that, while learning and purchasing fresh produce from local farms and hand-crafted or all natural goods. The Norwood slogan 'Buy Local, Eat Health, Build Community,' checks all the boxes at the Norwood Farmers Market!

"We are encouraging people to shop at our market to eat healthy and buy local," McFarland said. "There is a big difference in the quality of produce grown at local farms that what you buy in most supermarkets. Plus, since our produce farmers accept SNAP benefits along with Senior and WIC coupons, our customers can extend their food budgets when buying fresh produce at the Norwood Farmers Market."

New plans, enhancements, a newsletter, and more activities, are already in the planning stages for next year's market...stay tuned Norwood!

FALL CRAWL

continued from page 1

dinator John Carbone said. "Last year's crawl was a lot of fun and supported Center businesses. It's also a worthwhile effort for FNC to raise some necessary funds to continue our work in Norwood Center."

This is a 21 and over event. To purchase tickets, Visit Eventbrite. com and search for Norwood Pub Crawl.

All proceeds to benefit the Friends of Norwood Center, a



volunteer, non-profit organization founded to support and energize the downtown experience for local residents and draw visitors and shoppers. To learn



more about Friends of Norwood Center and its efforts in Norwood Center, follow Friends of Norwood Center on Facebook, or friendsofnorwoodcenter on Instagram.



RECENT NORWOOD TRANSACTIONS

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16 Alandale Parkway	\$599,000	206 Prospect St	\$899,000
86 Longwood Ter	\$675,000	315 Neponset St U:40	\$220,000
22 Dorset St	\$635,000	9 Endicott St U:1	\$250,000
20 Longwood Terrace	\$670,000	46 Rose Ct U:46	\$425,000
26 Summit Ave	\$740,000	785 Washington St U:305	\$425,000
19 Orleans Rd	\$695,000	140 Railroad Ave U:B309	\$425,000
470 Nahatan St	\$765,000	785 Washington Street U:202	\$459,000
79 Rosemary St	\$879,000	61-63 Maple St	\$900,000
26 Barberry Ln	\$890,000	73 Hoyle St	1,078,000

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Help Bundle Up Your Neighbors!!

WBN's 8th Annual Mitten/Scarf Drive begins November 1.

BY MICHELE TARANTO

For the past seven years, the members of the Women's Business Network of Norwood (WBN) look forward to their Annual Mitten/Winter Accessories Drive, for numerous reasons. First, they welcome the opportunity to facilitate an event that gives back to the community that support their local businesses. Second, this fundraiser provides a pathway to help those in need during the winter months. Third, and likely the most moving, each year the witness the generosity of strangers and the true meaning of community.

This event is scheduled not only to coincide with the seasonal transition to cold weather gear, but also as to aid those who maybe cannot afford much during the holiday season. The donations are given to numerous organizations the first week of December to coincide with the weather and holiday season.

Rising inflation rates have left many struggling even more to make ends meet this year. With priorities given to necessities, such as mortgages, rents, gas, heat, and stocking pantries, this year's event is more important than ever to provide warm accessories and holiday gifts. As needs rise, however, so have requests for donation sites, which typically equals to more donations.

The 8th WBN Annual Mitten/Scarf Drive will be held Nov. 1 through Nov. 30. Many thanks to the gracious owners of the following establishments who will host the donation boxes: Nor-



wood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St., Norwood, Morrill Memorial Library, Norwood, Murph's Place, 58 Broadway, Norwood; May School/May Institute, 1 Commerce Way, Norwood; Modern Eyes, 696 Washington St., Norwood; League School, 300 Bos.-Prov. Hgwy., Walpole; Clean Remodel LLC, 50 River St., Dedham; Home Helpers Home Care, 609 Neponset St., Unit 1, Canton; Back in Balance Chiropractic, 59 Pond St., Suite A, Sharon; Passion Beauty Supply & Salon, 1257 River St., Hyde Park.

The first week in December, all items will be donated to the Norwood and Dedham communities through local organizations and churches: the Norwood Food Pantry, the WCC Thrift Shop, First Baptist Church (Blessings Boutique), First Congregational Church of Norwood, and the Allin Congregational Church, of Dedham.

Since its inaugural year, this event has yielded a tremendous response from Norwood and surrounding communities. Many talented neighbors knit and crochet



year-round in anticipation of the event and others even purchase new items to place in the bins. Donated items can be new, gently worn, or handmade. According to the Norwood Food Pantry Donations Coordinator, these donations are greatly appreciated and helped many Norwood families keep warm throughout the winter.

WBN is a local women's networking group. It has developed a reputation not only as a valuable referral and resource network for working women, but also for contributing to the local community

For more information on WBN, email wbnofnorwood@gmail.com, or call 781-799-7068. You can also visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/wbnnorwood//

Look for the decorated boxes in the locations listed above! Donations are accepted during regular business hours.

Are you interested in building your business and receiving referrals? Looking to meet working women in the area, share/receive business tips, maybe get involved in the local community? Meet a few of the members of the Women's Business Network of Norwood (WBN) and learn more about this non-profit networking group at their Open House! Drop in to Perks Coffeehouse, Tuesday, Nov. 28, 9:30-11 a.m. Meetings meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 8-9:30 a.m., Norwood Civic Center. One member per industry. To inquire about your industry, call 781-799-7068 or email mtarantorealty@gmail.com.





Save The Date! Luminary Night Shines for its 22nd Season

BY MICHELE TARANTO

This annual event is a heartwarming invitation to 'light up' the Circle of Hope through Luminary Night. Mark those holiday calendars early. Saturday, Dec. 2, 4-6 p.m., on the Norwood Town Common; the experience does not disappoint.

All residents are invited to the Town Gazebo on this special evening, now in its 22nd year, to pay tribute to a family member or friend, or to simply unite and support Norwood's compassionate community. Luminaries are purchased in remembrance of

Dempsey Bandstand; the scene is breathtaking and enlightening is no many ways.

Luminaries can only be purchased in advance. Luminaries are \$5, and can be purchased at Murph's Place, 58 Broadway, Norwood, or by sending your payment to COH, PO BOX 421, Norwood, MA 02062.

The Circle of Hope foundation was established in 1998 in memory of Norwood resident Michelle Kennedy, who suffered from leukemia. Norwood residents united during her battle, many who did not even know her personally. The Circle of Hope

inception, the COH has donated over \$1,000,000 to Norwood residents in need of assistance.

"The people of Norwood who support us are the actual Circle of Hope," Kennedy said. "We do the fundraising and the people who support us allow us to do what we do."

It is a magnificent sight to stroll through the heart of Norwood as luminaries radiate the walkways. Even residents who did not purchase a luminary make a special trip to Norwood's Town Common this evening to view this spectacular site, read the touching engravings, and take a



a loved one with a brief message of life, hope, remembrance, or tribute to the season. These lit bags line the sidewalks surrounding and through the Walter established in her memory preserves that community spirit by donating fundraising proceeds to Norwood families facing a catastrophic medical illness. Since its

moment to remember someone close to them. This is an evening of communal celebration that truly delivers the spirit of the holidays.



Wreaths Across America

By Michele Taranto

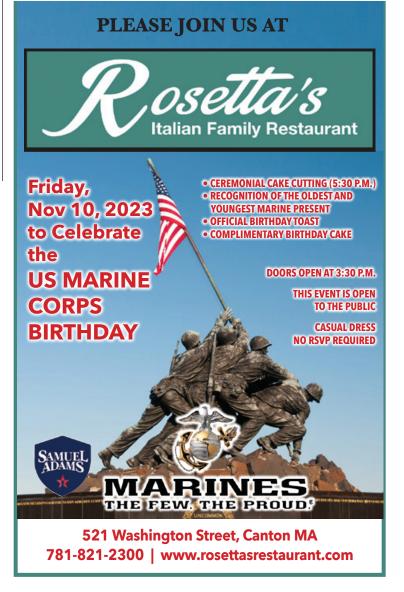
Wreaths Across America is currently seeking donations for their Annual Wreaths Across America event, which will be held tional Cemetery and more than 1.600 locations across 50 states in the United States.

Norwood's local cemeteries need help from its residents. In



Saturday, Dec, 16. On that day, volunteers across the country to fallen veterans and honor those who are often forgotten. The mission is to REMEMBER fallen U.S. Veterans, HONOR those who serve, and TEACH children the value of freedom. This is done by placing wreaths on local service men and women's graves at Highland and Old Parish Cemeteries. This expression is in coordination with wreath-laying ceremonies with Arlington Na-

addition to volunteers to place the wreaths, donations are desperately needed to purchase these seasonal symbols. To make a donation, sponsor a wreath, volunteer, or to learn more about Wreaths Across America, visit wreathsacrossamerica.org/ pages/158150/overview/. At press time, only 31 wreaths had been sponsored, 0.7% of the desired local goal. Help Norwood honor and remember local veterans this holiday season.



BSAC PET CORNER

How We Help

It was 2012, and a BSAC volunteer was standing in her yard when she noticed a neighborhood girl lingering at the foot of her driveway. When asked "Can I

and the little kitty could only reply "Meep," so the volunteer said "Meep it is!" A veterinarian exam revealed severe anemia, a fever, a displaced right hind leg knee cap, a dislocated but healed



help you?" the young girl told the volunteer that some children had found a cat and "she is very sick." The volunteer followed the girl to a spot where saw a small, terribly emaciated black and white cat sitting in the weeds. The cat was skin and bones and flea infested. As the volunteer asked the tiny cat, "What shall I call you?"

left hip, swollen joints in both front legs and very decayed teeth. Meep had probably been struck by a car, causing the dislocated hip and displaced knee cap. In her injured condition, she was unable to eat, became anemic from the fleas which weakened her immune system. Her rotten teeth became quite infected.

Tiny Meep was feeling a bit bet-

www.baystateanimals.org



www.facebook.com/BSAC09



www.twitter.com/BayStateAnimals



www.instagram.com/baystateanimals16

ter after flea treatment, antibiotics and TLC, but although she was gaining weight, the fever and swollen, painful joints persisted. Her infected teeth were removed determining they were the source of an infection that had spread to the joints, causing septic arthritis to develop, resulting in a permanently deformed left front leg. After the teeth were removed, little Meep immediately felt better but her ability to move around was severely limited by her displaced right knee cap and deformed left front leg. A future surgery to the displaced knee drastically improved Meep's quality of life.

BSAC asked for financial help with surgery and medical bills, and the Norwood community answered!

Meep (Mia) Today

A message from her family,

It was LOVE at first sight! I wanted to adopt a Shelter Cat and a Black cat at that! We wanted to help her and adopt her. After waiting for her surgery and then for her to heal, it finally came the day. She was soo small and all shaved from her surgery. She limped due to arthritic right front paw and did not use her back leg that the cast had just been taken off of. She looked so small, helpless and scared.

Little by little she came into her own. Never really sure what her limitations "might" be. She has NO LIMITATIONS. She runs like a gray hound up and down the halls. Jumps on the bed and couches. She has the sweetest personality/disposition. Thanks to the very caring BSAC

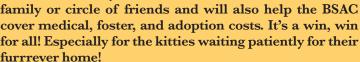
Reserve Your 2024 Calendar!

The 2024 BSAC Calendars are almost ready for pur-

chase! Think holiday gifts, grabs, or just a great way to put a smile on your face every day in 2024 with memories of our adopted cats!

The calendars will ready to order mid-November. Stay tuned to the BSAC website, Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter for more information next month.

Your calendar purchase will be much appreciated by the animal lovers in your



This is How BSAC Donations Help!

volunteer who found her and BELIEVED in her we have our Meep / Mia still to this day - 11 years later. BSAC saved her life. And we got our little Black Cat. She could not be loved more...

Spay/Neuter Assistance

The Bay State Animal Cooperative is a proud recipient of a very valuable grant from the Massachusetts Animal Coalition (MAC). This grant is funded by the Spay/Neuter, Animal Friendly License Plate. MAC proposed and implemented the Animal Friendly license plate.

Thank you for all you do MAC. MAC has many resources on its website so please visit to see what resources are available in Massachusetts, from lost pet resources, spay/neuter options, legislative advocacy, and much

If you have not yet considered a special Animal Friendly license

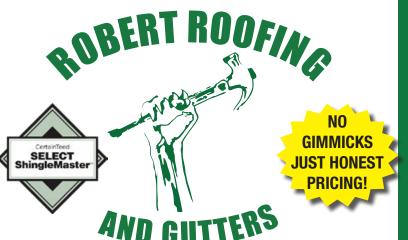
> **BSAC** continued on page 7

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BSAC

continued from page 6

plate please do. We can attest that the funds raised go directly to local communities to help alter pets to help decrease pet overpopulation. As recipients of \$1,000 we are excited to provide

VOLUNTEERS needed! As part of this effort, can you provide transport for 1-5 cats to and/or from surgical appts be it local or as far as 1 hour away? Be a part of the pet overpopulation solution

Finally, BSAC is going to



free and/or subsidized spay/neuter surgery assistance to the community.

As a cat rescue, we are focusing on cats per our grant application. To provide funding to the community we are proposing the following:

If you have cat needing spay or neuter, please reach out to us via email with the following information;

- 1: Gender, age, vaccine status and any and all medical or behavior concerns regarding your cat.
- 2: Why would you like us to consider your cat for spay/neuter services?
- 3: Since funds can only be used for the surgeries, are you able to pay for vaccines and any other services like flea/tick treatment? If so, how much can you contribute.
- 4: Would you be able to pay any portion of the surgical procedure and if so how much? You may be able to get discounted microchipping, deworming or feline leukemia and feline immunodeficiency virus testing as part of BSAC's mission outside of spay/neuter surgery.
- 5: Are you able to transport your cat as far away as Grafton, Mass? It's a same day surgery so drop off and pick up would be in the same day. Other possible surgery locations may be available so please let us know what you can or can not do so we can assess our volunteer needs to accommodate this surgery.

match the grant amount and provide an additional \$1,000 towards spay/neuter for pets and owners in need.

Send your request need or volunteer interest to us at info@ baystateanimals.org.

Thank you again to MAC for deeming us worthy of this valuable grant! Get your Animal Friendly license plate the next time you register your car. Details regarding how much money goes to the grant fund initially and every year thereafter is available on. Website. Ready. Set. Go

Is Your Dog The Cutest?

Everyone thinks their dog is the cutest dog around. Why not show them off to the world? Charley's Angels Pet Initiative, a local pet non-profit organization is holding a pet photo contest for their 2024 calendar. Once the photo is submitted, solicit votes for your pet (\$1 per vote), and the photo with the highest votes will be featured on the front cover and a calendar month. Eleven second place winners will hold a spot the remaining months.

All winners will receive a FREE 2024 Charley's Angels calendar. Entry deadline is November 15. To enter, vote, and view all the rules and guidelines, visit www.charleysangelspetinitiative.com



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Living Healthy



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Screen Time and Dry Eye: Can We Have One Without the Other?

By Graham R. Stetson, OD, MS

Between computers, smartphones, and TVs, excessive screen time has become a major part of our lives, but it brings along significant discomfort for our eyes. This discomfort stems from dry eye and, to some extent, eye strain. Unfortunately, these symptoms are frequently misattributed to other causes, leading to ineffective treatments and ongoing discomfort.

Despite the name, dry eye does not always make your eyes feel dry. Instead, it can manifest as burning, itching, redness, excessive tearing, a foreign object sensation, or fluctuating vision quality. Sometimes, these symptoms lead people to mistakenly believe they have allergies.

Prolonged screen use, close-up tasks, and contact lens wear are the primary culprits behind dry eye. These activities decrease our blink rate by 35-50%. Contact lenses exacerbate this by further reducing blink frequency. More-

over, screens, close work, and contact lenses weaken our blinks, occasionally causing our eyelids not to close fully during a blink.

Insufficient and weak blinking results in inadequate oil secretion from tiny glands in our eyelids. This oil plays several crucial roles, including preventing tears from evaporating, maintaining clear vision, lubricating our eyes and eyelids, and safeguarding our eyes from allergens. When not used correctly, these oil glands produce abnormal oils and become clogged. Without this oil, everything on the eye's surface goes awry, leading to the symptoms mentioned earlier. Dysfunctional oil glands also give rise to eyelid and lash inflammation, which can further affect the eye's surface.

People often ask if eye drops or medications can cure dry eye. While they can provide temporary relief and reduce inflammation, these treatments merely alleviate symptoms and do not address the root causes. Relying on these treatments allows the underlying causes of dry eye to worsen.

The most effective way to treat dry eye is by rehabilitating the oil glands in the eyelids, addressing inflammation from the eyelids and lashes, and retraining blink patterns. While discussing all of these methods exceeds the scope of this article, one practical tip I can provide is the "20/20/20+Rule": For every 20 minutes of screen time or close work, take a 20-second break, gaze at something 20 feet away, and blink forcefully five times during the break.

For more advice on dry eye treatment or to schedule a comprehensive eye exam, visit the Modern Eyes website modern-eyesnorwood.com, call 781-352-4849, or stop by our location at 696 Washington Street, Norwood.

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Living Healthy

It's More Than Just a Click or a Pop!

TMJ is a condition characterized by pain in the jaw joint and surrounding tissues accompanied by a decrease in the range of motion of the joint itself. There may be clicking or popping and a noticeable swing of the lower joint. Currently more than 12% of American's suffer from TMJ symptoms.

There are many causes of TMJ. These include dental procedures, autoimmune disease, biting into a large sandwich or bagel, injuries to the jaw area and infection. Once the biomechanics of the joint has been altered, the function becomes affected and the pain ensues. Traditional treatments include pain medication, muscle relaxers and dental appliances. These are effective resources for some but not for all, especially long term.

Stephanie B. suffered from TMJ pain for over two years since the removal of her braces. Chewing certain foods would aggravate her jaw and intensify her pain. In the beginning, she felt she could handle the problem on her own by giving up chewing gum, eating oversized sandwiches, chewy meats and certain fruits. However, she noticed that over time just yawing and even singing, could cause an exacerbation. She was becoming disillusioned with the



Dr. Rochelle Bien & Dr. Michael Goldstein

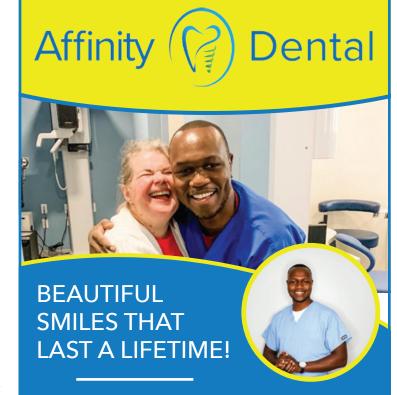
idea that she could fix this on her own and decided to call The Holistic Center at Bristol Square and made an appointment to see

Upon exam, the swing was noted in Stephanie's jaw as she both opened and closed her mouth, indicating a dysfunction in the biomechanics of her TMJ. After several weeks of treatment, the clicking and popping were gone and the swing in her jaw was stabilized. She no longer suffers from the TMJ pain and has noticed that the headaches she thought were unrelated had gone away as well.

If you are suffering from TMJ pain, do not hesitate to contact The Holistic Center at Bristol Square, located at 1426 Main Street, Walpole. Call (508)660-2722 and make your appointment today.

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Senior Notes

By Michele Taranto

Social Security 2024 COLA Increase

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for more than 71 million Americans will increase

3.2 percent in 2024, the Social Security Administration announced today. On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by more than \$50 per month starting in January.

More than 66 million Social

SUBURBAN LIFESTYLE



michele taranto



Security beneficiaries will see the 3.2 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) beginning in January 2024. Increased payments to approximately 7.5 million people receiving SSI will begin on December 29, 2023. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits).

"Social Security and SSI benefits will increase in 2024, and this will help millions of people keep up with expenses," said Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of Social Security.

Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$168,600 from \$160,200.

Social Security begins notifying people about their new benefit amount by mail starting in early December. Individuals who have a personal my Social Security account can view their COLA notice online, which is secure, easy, and faster than receiving a letter in the mail. People can set up text or email alerts when there is a new message--such as their COLA notice--waiting for them in my Social Security.

People will need to have a my Social Security account by November 14 to see their COLA notice online. To get started, visit www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Information about Medicare changes for 2024 will be available at www.medicare.

gov. For Social Security beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare, their new 2024 benefit amount will be available in December through the mailed COLA notice and my Social Security's Message Center.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

To learn more, please visit www.ssa.gov/cola.

Free Virtual Caregiving Sessions

AARP is offering four free virtual caregiving sessions in November to mark National Family Caregivers Month. The convenient online sessions will be held on Nov. 2, 9, 16, and 30 (Thursdays), 7 p.m. There will also be an additional session on Nov, 9, at noon.

The topics included in the sessions will be 'Essentials of Caregiving,' 'Caregiving Financials,' 'Medication Literacy,' 'The Pillars of Brain Health,' and 'Downsizing and Decluttering Your Living Space.'

These sessions are open to all but registration is required. To learn more, visit www. aarp,org/caregivingma.

Extending Your Employment Interests

Many seniors are looking

to stretch their work lives past 'traditional' retirement age. Whether it be for financial reasons, personal interests, boredom, or contribution, older workers can find it challenging to find work with the rapid pace of technology. AARP is there to help.

Finding a Job

AARP hosts a job board designed to match older workers with employers looking to tap into their valuable experience. www.aarp.org/jobs.

Honing Skills

Skills Builder for Work offers a free course to address the technical abilities needed in today's workplace. www.aarp. org/workskills.

Resume Writing

This service shows employees how their resume can stand out and receives a personal resume review. AARP members also receive discounts on writing packages. www.aarp.org/ resume.

Job Search Webinars

AARP offers Learn@50+ that includes customized webinars on topics such as improving interview skills and how to revamp your career. www. learn.aarp.org.

Staying Current

The AARP is busy posting daily information and advice in areas of finding and keeping a job. www.aarp.org.work.

Navigating the Job-Hunting Waters

The AARP Back to Work 50+ program provides training, coaching and other skills needed in the job hunt.

Helping Veterans

The AARP Veterans & Military Spouses Job Center offers information and tools to leverage the experience and skills veterans learned while in uniform. www.aarp.org/vetsjobcenter.



Norwood Awarded Road Safety Grant

Congratulations to the Norwood Police Department on their acceptance into the 2024 Municipal Road Safety Program for \$25,047! This grant is made

possible due to a collaboration with Congressman Lynch, Senator Rush, and Representatives McMurtry, Philips, Vaughn, and John Rogers.

safety improvement - including ment and safety enforcement.

This grant will allow road plans for improved training equip-

Norwood PD is Hiring!

If you have been considering joining the Norwood Police Department (NPD), this may be the year. The Norwood PD is actively seeking qualified applicants look-

the getbadged entry exam and submit an application online through www.getbadged.com.

Residents do not need to travel far to take the exam; on



ing to join their valued department of officers. The current job opportunities are currently listed on www.getbadged.com.

To be considered an eligible candidate for hire by the NPD, you are required to pass

Nov. 4, the Norwood PD will be hosting getbadged at Norwood High School. Interested applicants will also get the opportunity that day to meet members of the Norwood PD.





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Norwood Sports

Golf Captains; Two Different Style, One Goal

By Christopher Tremblay

Norwood golfers Teddy Caparrotta and Zach Badger both approach the game in different ways, but the two senior captains are both looking to get the same result when the day is done.

"As a captain, I want the kids to have fun while I am being a good role model," Badger said. "I want them to be able to succeed in addition to setting them up for the future. The goal this year is to be able to do better than last year (Norwood went 11-7 and made the tournament). I feel that we are playing good golf and on the pace to do just that."

Badger's co-captain echoed his sentiments.

"I am hoping that I can bring the team closer together while looking for the younger kids to improve their game to a specific level and help us get to the tournament," Caparrotta said. "No one has personally told me, but I hope that they look up to me as a captain and appreciate what I do for the team."

Qualifying for the Division 1 State Tournament while getting their teammates to improve their game is top priority for both captains, and about mid-way through the season they both feel comfortable with the way the team is currently playing.

"Zach and Teddy are great role models for the younger players, and they look up to them," Norwood head coach Chuck Allen said. "They are both playing in their fourth season of the program and will do everything that you ask of them."

Both athletes were relatively late bloomers when it came to swinging the clubs. Caparrotta was not big into normal sports and although he did try a few of them out, he was not impressed. He would much rather control his own destiny and not leave fate up to others. In addition to playing golf for the Mustangs, he is also on the swim and track teams, all individual sporting events.

Badger, who also plays hockey and baseball, was looking to find a fall sport. A few months before high school started, he fumbled upon golf, took a few lessons, and decided to try out for the high school team.

According to Allen, Badger is a very relaxed individual on the golf course in the mental game and has grown over the years. He is also a very smart golfer that doesn't give up. On the other hand, Caparrotta is a groomed golfer who has gotten better with each year and is respected not only his peers but his opponents as well.

"They are not only great young men, but are captains of the team," the Norwood Coach said. "Being captain of a golf





Norwood golfers Zach Badger, left, and Teddy Caparrotta

team is to a rah, rah type of sport, you have to get on the course and lead by example and they both are capable of doing that."

Caparrotta played in the PGA Junior League and took in some camps at the Norwood Country Club prior to getting to high school. He began his golfing career for the Mustangs on the junior varsity squad as a freshman shooting consistently around 44-45. By his sophomore year he had moved up to the varsity team but played sparingly that season.

"The Coach would put me here and there that year," Caparrotta said. "I guess you could say he was taking a chance on me because at that stage of my career I could shoot really good or very terrible. But the coach knew that

I was not one to give up; I'll go out and play my hardest right to the very end."

According to Badger, golf was originally just a fill-in sport but it is now his number one. He not only grew to love the game, but he wanted to play as much as he could while getting better.

"My freshman season I had no experience with the sport, and I was ok starting out on the JV team," Badger said. "I found myself still on the JV team the next year, but after one match the coach brought me up to varsity. I was really excited, and it was a great feeling to be moved up, but I really didn't have any real expectations the rest of that year as I considered myself to still be learning the game."

The Norwood duo is continuously working on their games to get better and help the golf team in any way that they can get the Mustangs back to the tournament. In doing so they are letting Coach Allen know that he can depend on their play match in and match out to deliver good scores.

"In practice, we are two ferocious competitors, but once we get onto the course as a team, we're looking to help each other out in any way that we can," Badger said.

Badger and Caparrotta both are hoping to take their golf games to the next level come the fall of next year when they head off to college.

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NHS 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

The Norwood High School Athletic Hall of Fame is pleased to announce its 2023 inductees. The student-athletes are: Joe Travers, 1981; Denise Carroll Flaherty, 1993; Katelyn Mullane, 1998; David Rukstalis, 2002; and Ryan Henry, 2006.

The induction ceremony will take place on Saturday, Nov. 25,

in the Norwood High School Auditorium. The event will start with a reception and refreshments at 12 noon, followed by the ceremony 1-3 p.m. This event is open to the public.

The Class of 2023 will join last year's inductees:Tom Smelstor, 1965; Steve Salvatore, 1979; Kevin Keegan, 1986; Bob Goonan, 1986; Steve Grenham, 1991; Andy McNulty, 2003; Lauren Duggan, 2011; Ali Maloof, 2011; Cory Ryan, 2011; along with coaches: John "Duffy" Doherty, 1971-1982; and Jack Martinelli, 1969-1982.

Any questions, contact Brian McDonough at bgmcdonough@gmail.com.

Norwood Sports

Norwood Volleyball Captains

By Christopher Tremblay

Over the past two seasons, the Norwood girls volleyball team has come just short of qualifying for the State Tournament. According to Federico, the team had a lot of new girls with some big holes to fill from last year, but they have since found their way to turn things for a new sport as she entered high school and found volleyball to be very interesting. She also participates in clinics during the off season.



nament, but this year the Mustangs quad-captains are more than determined not to make it three years in a row. Currently, under the guidance of Coach Paul Nimblett, the team is currently just inside the bubble to find their way into the tournament sitting as the 28th ranked team (32 will advance).

"Over the past two years we have been cut short of the tournament, so making a big push down the stretch to get there is going to be our highest priority," senior Molly Federico said. "It is completely possible, especially since the way we've been playing the last few weeks. The team defiantly has the drive to get there."

Unfortunately, the girls opened the season slowly and found themselves in a hole, but as of recently they are moving forward and feel that they are in the right space to make that charge to get back into the tour-

around. At the time of this writing, the Mustangs were riding a two-game winning streak and felt they were on the top of their game.

In addition to Federico, who is primarily a right or outside hitter but can play all around, Norwood will be led by senior captain middle hitter Natalie Gale and outside hitter Kaylie (Kiki) Delamere as well as junior setter Colleen Brady. Despite Brady being a junior, all four girls basically started playing volleyball the same year.

Gale also plays softball, something she has done for a lot longer than her volleyball days, while Federico previous played softball and ice hockey for Norwood and Brady was a dancer for 10 years before she decided to step away and join a club volleyball team her sister was on. Of the four, Delamere is the only year-round player. Four years ago, she was looking

Delamere, who is now in her second year with the varsity team, was a back row player but has developed into a hitter and now plays outside for the Mustangs.

"She is a smart player at putting the ball into play and is a great defensive asset," Coach Nimblett said. "She plays all six rotations.

Last fall, Gale was set to be an alternate for the team, but according to the coach, she came in and beat out the other girls for the number two spot and this year she has elevated her game to be the team's number one hitter in the middle. Nimblett went on to say that the senior currently leads the team in blocks and gives the squad a strong front-court presence. Playing in her final year, the senior would like to record more kills than she did last year (around 60).

Federico moved up to the varsity team midway through

her sophomore campaign, and as a junior last fall, she logged a lot of minutes on the court. While she is a very versatile athlete, she is a good server and was previously a setter splitting time with Brady but was switched to hitter. Nimblett noted that by moving Federico, she has been able to provide the team with versatility on the right side.

With Federico moving up, Brady has claimed the setter's position all for herself and has consistently improved her game.

"Colleen has been with us since her freshman year and although she was new at the time, she is now an experienced veteran leader who loves the game," Nimblett said. "As our starting setter, she runs our offense and sets up the hits while she is also helping the younger girls with their skills."

Brady, although only a junior, looks to keep the team uplifted as a captain.

"I feel that we have a more confident team this year and are connected," the youngest captain said. "In the past, we seemed to have gotten down on ourselves when we were losing. I want to create a less stressful situation to keep things more positive and it starts with me. As a setter, I have to be able to put the ball in the right position for the hitters. If I have a bad day, it affects the whole team."

Delamere agrees with Brady's assessment of maintaining a positive vibe while on the court.

"As a captain, I am looking to make sure that the team is

not only focused but motivated to take the court," Delamere said. "I want the underclassmen to strive to be a future captain. We have a much younger team, but we've done a lot of bonding and the girls are playing to win. I want them to see how motivated we are as captains and they will want to do it themselves."

Federico believes that being a captain is important as the younger players look up to their mentors throughout the season.

"I want to be able to give them the experience to continue on with the Norwood volleyball legacy after we're gone," Federico said. "I want them to have fun playing volleyball and the community that we've created here at Norwood."

Gale, who has been working with Brady during the offseason to improve her timing, is looking to run some quicker sets to catch the opposition off guard. She also wants the rest of the team to realize how important it is to improve.

"I want to make sure that the team is confident in their abilities and positioning," Gale said. "They need to be on top of their game at all times while on the court."

With the guidance and preparation of the captains, Norwood looks set to take their game to the next level during the second half of the season and should be in prime form when they do enter the State Tournament for the first time in some years.



Calendar of Events

an's Club is a women's social

Nov 3

Sensory-Friendly Art Classes for Adults - Session 7 Morrill Memorial Library 10:30 a.m.

Join the art instructor Ms. Stephanie for sensory-friendly art classes for adults, a program specially designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Ms. Stephanie will guide participants to create one-of-a-kind art projects, often utilizing recycled/repurposed materials and items found in nature. The program is free and open to attendees, aged 18+. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Nov. 4

VFW Post 2452 Meat Raffle 193 Dean St. 2-5 p.m.

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The pre-buy allows for entrance in all ten drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the pre-buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. The Drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5. The Meat Raffle is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Nov. 5

Musical Sundays Concert Series: Willie J. Laws, Jr. Morrill Memorial Library 3 p.m.

Boston-based blues musician, Willie J. Laws, Jr. performs in a solo performance. A Texas guitar "gun slinger", vocalist and song writer following in the footsteps of T-Bone Walker, Lightning

Drop-In Basketball

The Civic Center offers unsupervised drop-in

basketball on weekday evenings. Please contact

the Norwood Civic Center for schedule details

(days/times will vary based on programming

schedules). Must be a Norwood resident to part-

Norwood Recreation Center: 165 Nahatan

Street, 781.762.0466, www.norwoodma.gov.

Hopkins, Albert King and many others. This music is the kind of real Texas soul, all mixed up with classic R&B, country, blues/funk that grows from the Texas soil. Learn more about Willie on his website: https://www.williejlawsband.com/. To register, visit https://www.norwood-library.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext. 2.

Nov. 6

Cooking with Sandhya: Diwali Special

Sandhya Jain is back, for a cooking program to celebrate the biggest Hindu festival of Diwali. Learn to make rose water flavored Sandesh and vegetarian Galouti kebab. Sandesh is a cottage cheese-based sweet dish and Galouti Kebab is a kidney bean-based savory snack. Sandhya will talk about the spices used in Indian cooking and walk the attendees through the process of making these mouthwatering, popular Indian dishes. All attendees will be able to sample the treats. Handouts will include both the recipes. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext. 2.

Nov. 8

We Remember Our Veterans Open House Norfolk Registry of Deeds, 649 High St., Dedham 4:30-6:30 p.m.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds celebrates the veterans of Norfolk County with an open house and the release of the third volume of Notable Lands Records titled "We Remember Our Veterans."

Norwood Junior Woman's Club Meeting Conrads, Norwood 7:30 p.m.

The Norwood Junior Wom-

group that serves the Norwood community by fundraising in order to give back locally to various programs, events, and families in need. New members are always welcome! For more information, email Norwoodjwc@gmail.com or visit their website at norwoodjuniorwc.wixsite.com/norwoodjwc.

Nov. 9

A Place To Call Home Morrill Memorial Library 7 p.m.

How do the shortages of places to live and soaring housing costs affect us, our children, our neighbors and communities? What can we do about it? Come share your thoughts and experiences through storytelling exercises, and hear how we can have an impact on this key issue. Presenters: Joyce Mandell, a regional organizer for the statewide organization, Abundant Housing Massachusetts and Beth Hestad, Norwood For All. The program is free and open to all ages 18+. Registration is required. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext. 2.

Nov. 10

Patriotic Rosary St. Catherine of Siena Church 1 p.m.

The Patriotic Rosary is a beautiful recitation of the Holy Rosary which invokes God's blessings on the country, each state individually, and every soul in every state. Prayers especially for active military and veterans, living and dead. Prayers for government officials, police, and firefighters. Sing favorite patriotic songs. For more information, contact rita.a.russo@gmail. com or 781-762-4391.

Nov. 10-11

Morrill Memorial Library

The library will be closed in observance of Veterans Day.

Nov. 11

Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St. 10 a.m.-noon

The Christmas extravaganza has started, including a large number of never-used items perfect for gifts. Don't miss out!

Nov. 14

Women's Business Networking Meeting Norwood Civic Center 8 a.m.

The Women's Business Networking (WBN) group is a non-profit organization for women in business or residents of Norwood and surrounding towns. The group meet two mornings per month and in addition to providing referral business, the women share and support business ideas and community events/fundraisers. If you would like more information about the organization, call 781-799-7068, or email wb-nofnorwood@gmail.com.

Norwood Woman's Club Meeting Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St. 12:30 p.m.

Town Manager Tony Mazzucco will inform the group on town happenings, progress on the hospital, and answer questions. A light lunch will be served. Guests are welcomed. Yearly dues are \$35. Please bring one item for the Ecumenical Food pantry to each meeting. Any questions, call Trina at 781-762-8173.

Norwood Toastmasters Club Virtual (Zoom) 6:45 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters Club, now in its 25th year, helps develop communication and leadership skills for members and the community at every level. Guests are always welcome. For more information, visit https://norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Nov. 15

Turn the Page-The Round House Morrill Memorial Library 10 a.m.

The Turn the Page Book Group Meeting will be discussing The Round House, a novel written by Louise Erdrich. Copies of the book in regular, large print and audio are available at the circulation desk. The eBook version is also available via Hoopla.

For questions, contact Patty Bailey at pbailey@minlib.net or call 781-443-8864.

Investing for Retirement Morrill Memorial Library 6 p.m.

How do you define "retirement"? Are you looking to retire

at a preferred date, or when you have a preferred amount in your account? What will you do in retirement? Will you work parttime after retiring? Have you established an account with Social Security? Join us to learn the answers to common questions about retirement and to become a more informed consumer of financial services. Registration is required; please sign up using the form below, or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext. 2.

Turn the Page-The Round House Morrill Memorial Library 6:30 p.m.

The Turn the Page Book Group Meeting will be discussing The Round House, a novel written by Louise Erdrich. Copies of the book in regular, large print and audio are available at the circulation desk. The eBook version is also available via Hoopla.

For questions, contact Patty Bailey at phailey@minlib.net or call 781-443-8864.

Nov. 16

Haitian Documentary Screening: Madan Sara Morrill Memorial Library 6:30 p.m.

The film centers on the informal status of women in Haitian society and their importance to that same society and how it functions. Madan Saras deliver goods throughout the country and most times sell their goods in public marketplaces to support their families. There will be a screening of the documentary followed by a Q&A session with one of the executive producers to talk about the current situation in Haiti, the informal market in Haiti and other parts of the global south, the issues facing the Madan Saras in Haiti, the places of women in Haitian society, and what women empowerment looks like in Haiti. All ages welcome. To register, visit https:// www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext. 2.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

continued from page 14

Nov. 17

Sensory-Friendly Art Classes for Morrill Memorial Library 10:30 a.m.

Join the art instructor Ms. Stephanie for sensory-friendly art classes for adults, a program specially designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Ms. Stephanie will guide participants to create one-of-a-kind art projects, often utilizing recycled/repurposed materials and items found in nature. The program is free and open to attendees, aged 18+. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Sensory-Friendly Friday Movie at the Library **Morrill Memorial Library**

The November movie in the Sensory-friendly Friday movie series is DC League of Super Pets, rated PG. Registration is required. This event is recommended for attendees aged 18 and up. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Nov. 18

VFW Post 2452 Meat Raffle 193 Dean St. 2-5 p.m.

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The pre-buy allows for entrance in all ten drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the pre-buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. The Drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5. The Meat Raffle is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Nov. 19

American Red Cross Blood Drive Ferrari of New England, 441 Prov.-Bos. High. (Rte. 1) 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Nov. 24

Morrill Memorial Library

The library will be closed in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Nov, 25

Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St. 10 a.m.-noon.

This is the place to pick Christmas decorations and gifts, and get in the holiday spirit! Come in and browse around!

VFW Post 2452 Meat Raffle 193 Dean St.

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The pre-buy allows for entrance in all ten drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the pre-buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. The Drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle. A separate Winner Takes All Raffle is conducted at the end for an additional \$5. The Meat Raffle is open to the public and everyone is welcome.

Nov. 26

Holiday Tree Lighting Town Common 1:30-4 p.m.

Kick off the holiday season on the Norwood Town Common! The afternoon includes hay rides, entertainment, arts & crafts, a parade, tree lighting, and much more! Event subject to change, depending on weather. FREE!

Musical Sundays Concert Series: Hirova Tsukamoto **Morrill Memorial Library**

Classical guitarist, Hiroya Tsukamoto will be performing. "Eclectic, immersive and mesmerizing; guitarist and songwriter Hiroya Tsukamoto embodies the notion that music has no language: Beautifully raw and cathartically emotional, Tsukamoto is a world-renowned, self-made musician." Learn more about Hiroya on his website: www.hiroyatsukamoto.com. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Nov. 27

Morrill Memorial Library

Let's Talk About It! is a new monthly discussion group for community members interested in taking part in challenging but civil conversations, learning about misinformation and bias in

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literacy skills, and exploring new

ways of thinking about different

perspectives. Every month, group

members will receive a short list

of materials about a pre-selected

topic to review. Then, during

our meeting, we will talk about

how to analyze information

about that topic in context. Ex-

amples of topics we might cover

include, but are not limited to:

book bans and censorship, free-

dom of speech, bodily autonomy,

wellness and medicine, unioniza-

tion, artificial intelligence, filters

and algorithms, etc. The goal is

to encourage everyone to stop,

think, and decide what they actu-

ally believe about a topic based

on sound analytical principles

and reliable sources, not to solve

a problem, engage in arguments,

or pinpoint "the Truth" about a

given subject. This month's topic

is: Land Acknowledgments. Reg-

istration is required to receive the

list of materials. To register, visit

https://www.norwoodlibrary.

org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781

769 0200, ext 2.

Enjoy your career! To learn more, scan the code or visit Rodenhiser.com/Careers

Master Plumber: #10961 | Corporate Plumbing: #2288 | Master Electrician: #21982A Master Sheet Metal (Unrestricted): #5867 | Corporate Sheet Metal: #641



Women's Business Network of **Norwood Open House** Perks Coffeehouse 9:30-11 a.m. Are you interested in building

your business and receiving referrals? Looking to meet working women in the area, share/receive business tips, maybe get involved in the local community? Meet a few of the members of the Women's Business Network of Norwood (WBN) and learn more about this non-profit networking group at their Open House! Drop in to Perks Coffeehouse any time between 9:30 and 11 a.m. Meetings meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 8-9:30 a.m., Norwood Civic Center. One member per industry. To inquire about your industry, call 781-799-7068 or email mtarantorealty@ gmail.com.

Graphic Novel Club **Morrill Memorial Library**

Do you love graphic novels? Come to our Graphic Novel Book Club! Every month, we will meet and take turns talking about which graphic novels we have read, and we'll have some snacks and activities planned as well. There is no assigned book. just bring a smile and be ready to talk about your favorite graphic novel! For ages 6-11. Registration is required. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Norwood Toastmasters Club Virtual (Zoom) 6:45 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters Club, now in its 25th year, helps develop communication and leadership skills for members and the community at every level. Guests are always welcome. For more information, visit https:// norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Titles on Tap Book Group Napper Tandy's 7:30 p.m.

The November title has vet to be announced. Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. They go in for stories that are shaken, not stirred, and don't mind taking the love of lit outside the library walls. Titles on Tap meets once a month in the left-hand bar of Napper Tandy's to eat, drink, be merry, and discuss the latest reading selection.

Nov. 30

Sensory-friendly Lego Club for Adults **Morrill Memorial Library** 12:30 p.m.

Join the L.E.A.D. students in this creative adventure. Just bring your imagination – the library will provide the Legos. The Club is free, inclusive, and open to anyone ages 18+. It is specially designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities Registration is required. To register, visit https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call 781 769 0200, ext 2.

Q&A W/Author Travis Baldree: Discussing Cozy Fantasy "Bookshops and Bonedust" **Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)**

Who doesn't love a good sliceof-life, cozy fantasy with a dollop of romantic froth--with ORCS?! Join in for a fun conversation with author Travis Baldree as he discusses his journey from audiobook narrator to low-stakes fantasy writer. Plus, join in celebrating the book birthday of Bookshops and Bonedust, the eagerly anticipated follow-up to Legends and Lattes. Bring your questions, because this will be a fascinating Q&A!

Let's Talk About It! Discussion

reporting, sharpening their media

Nov. 28

Women's Business Networking Meeting **Norwood Civic Center**

The Women's Business Networking (WBN) group is a nonprofit organization for women in business or residents of Norwood and surrounding towns. The group meet two mornings per month and in addition to providing referral business, the women share and support business ideas and community events/fundraisers. If you would like more information about the organization, call 781-799-7068, or email wbnofnorwood@gmail.com.

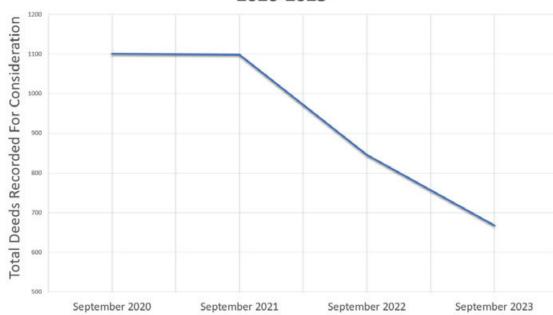
Real Estate Corner

Monthly Property Sales Slump in September 2023

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported that Norfolk County recordings in September, 2023, show a significant decline in the total number of property sales compared to September, 2022, recordings. This decline can be attributed to a limited inventory of new and existing property for sale and a housing market that continues to struggle with higher interest rates relative to what they were in 2020 and 2021.

"The limited inventory of properties for sale has created a highly competitive market and fewer opportunities for buyers," Register O'Donnell remarked. "Moreover, the higher interest rates have made it more challenging for potential homeowners, especially first-time homebuyers, to secure affordable financing options, further dampening the demand for properties."

Total Monthly Property Transactions in September 2020-2023



The total number of deeds recorded for September, 2023, which reflects both commercial

and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,251, down 12% from September, 2022,

and down 1% from August. However, this number also includes transfers of property within families and other nonmarket transactions. The total number of actual property sales for September was 668, down 21% from last year and down 5% from last month.

"Property prices dropped significantly in September compared to last year, and the number of property transactions was also down, which may suggest that the property price alone is not the sole factor contributing to the decrease in the number of deeds recorded at the Registry," Register O'Donnell said.

The average sale price of commercial and residential properties for September, 2023, fell to \$864,251, a 20% decrease compared to September, 2022, and a decrease of 29% from August, 2023. The total dollar volume of com-

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To all our clients, family and friends, our heartfelt

To all our clients, family and friends, our heartfelt appreciation, gratitude and thanks for your business and continued support and referrals.

Wishing all a very Happy Thanksgiving!



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Real Estate Corner

GOOD DEEDS: "We Remember Our Veterans"

By William P. O'Donnell NORFOLK COUNTY REGISTER OF

Many Americans will never know what it is like to serve in the armed forces, risking our lives for our country and facing the harsh realities of combat. The men and Our Veterans." The open house will run from 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the Registry of Deeds building in downtown Dedham, 649 High St.

This edition of Notable Lands Records is a tribute to the brave men and women of Norfolk County, from the Revolutionary ans." This booklet and event are dedicated to all veterans – past, present and future - for their patriotism and sacrifices for the United States of America. The service of all veterans needs to be honored and acknowledged.

These veteran stories are im-

today. These narratives serve as a reminder of the bravery and resilience displayed by these individuals, highlighting the significance of their contributions to our country's history.

Please come by the Norfolk Registry of Deeds to this free

event which is open to the public. If you have any questions about the event, please contact Jonathan Thomas at (781) 234-3305 or by email at ithomas@norfolkdeeds.org. The Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High St., in Dedham Center.



women who choose to join the military make incredible sacrifices, leaving behind their families and putting their own lives on the line to protect our freedom and way of life. This is something that we, as Americans, can sometimes take for granted. However, it is important to recognize and appreciate the immense courage and dedication that these individuals possess.

Having worked with the Veteran Affairs Boston Healthcare System in Brockton, West Roxbury, and Jamaica Plain through the "Suits for Success" program, I have seen first-hand how much it means to veterans when we do show our appreciation for their selflessness and commitment to serving our nation and recognize the sacrifices they and their fellow veterans have made for our collective well-being. It is our duty as citizens to honor and support our military members in any way

On Wednesday, Nov. 8, the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds will celebrate the veterans of Norfolk County with an open house and the release of our third volume of Notable Lands Records titled "We Remember

War to present-day peacekeepers. The booklet features detailed stories of veterans all throughout the 28 communities that make up Norfolk County. These individuals have led remarkable lives: several are Medal of Honor recipients; one was an experimental aircraft pilot; another served in three wars. The booklet outlines a history of the military branches as well as the four United States Presidents born in Norfolk County who served as commander-in-chief.

There will be much to celebrate that evening. Patriotic music will fill the air. Guests can stroll the Registry's Great Hall and view the fascinating storyboards detailing the history of the various branches of the armed services, the contributions of veterans, and the significant ways a grateful nation honors its veterans. There is also a storyboard that lists the Norfolk County Medal of Honor recipients.

We hope you can make this event. It should be a memorable time. Admission is free. Each person attending the open house will receive a free copy of the Registry's "We Remember Our Veterportant because they provide valuable insights and perspectives on the lives of some of the past and present veterans of Norfolk County. These stories allow us to honor the sacrifices made by veterans and gain a deeper understanding of why it is crucial to support and care for our veterans





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- Phyllis E.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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mercial and residential sales is down, decreasing 37% from last year and 44% from last

"Seasoned homebuyers are doubly affected by current market conditions, as they not only face higher borrowing costs but also have limited options to choose from," Register O'Donnell said. "Additionally, with home loan interest rates exceeding 7%, these same homeowners are also less likely to refinance, leading to a decrease in the number of mortgages being recorded."

For the month of August, lending activity overall continued to decline from last year. A total of 1,174 mortgages were recorded, which is 31% less than last year and 5% less than

"Those who took advantage of the lower interest rates in 2020 and 2021 are also less likely to refinance at current

rates, and with property sales going down, this results in a more pronounced decline in the number of mortgages recorded," O'Donnell said. "For individuals who are struggling to keep up with payments now, refinancing at a higher interest rate is not going to help, which is one factor contributing to the increase in notices to foreclose and foreclosure deeds. Also, many potential sellers who would need to borrow to purchase a new property have elected not to sell given the higher interest rates."

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds continues to closely monitor the foreclosure market. In September, 2023, there were 5 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, whereas in September 2022, there were 4 recorded. Additionally, there were 33 notices to foreclose, the first step in the foreclosure process, more than the 25 recorded this month last year.

"We cannot begin to know all the causes that have contributed to these foreclosures and notices to foreclose, but what we do know is that a number of our neighbors have lost their homes, and even more are dangerously close to losing their homes," Register O'Donnell said. "We all experience unforeseen events in our lives, and sometimes events beyond our control can have devastating emotional and financial effects, so I would urge anyone struggling to pay their mortgage or who knows someone who is struggling to contact one of the non-profit organizations listed on our website, www.norfolkdeeds.

For the past several years, the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has partnered with Quincy Community Action Programs (617-479-8181 x376) and NeighborWorks Housing Solutions (508-587-0950) to help anyone facing challenges paying their mortgage. Another option for homeowners

is to contact the Massachusetts Attorney General's Consumer Advocacy and Response Division (CARD) at 617-727-8400.

"These declining numbers suggest a slowdown in the real estate market," Register O'Donnell noted. "A decree in the number of deeds and mortgages, which make up a large portion of the total documents recorded at the Registry of Deeds, greatly impacts the total document volume."

The Registry of Deeds recorded 8,140 documents in September, 2023. This was 18% less than in September, 2022, and a 15% decrease compared to August, 2023.

"The decrease in the number of documents recorded at the Registry of Deeds indicates a significant decline in real estate activity." Register O'Donnell concluded, "This could be attributed to various factors, such as economic uncertainty or changing market conditions. It will be important to monitor these trends and see

how they impact the overall real estate market in the coming months."

To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives, "like" them on Facebook at facebook. com/norfolkdeeds. Follow on Twitter and Instagram at @ norfolkdeeds.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, located at 649 High St., Dedham, is the principal office for real property in Norfolk County. The Registry is a resource for homeowners, title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities, and others with a need for secure, accurate, and accessible land record information. All land record research information can be found on the Registry's website, www.norfolkdeeds. org. Residents in need of assistance can contact the Registry of Deeds Customer Service Center at (781) 461-6101 or email us at registerodonnell@ norfolkdeeds.org.



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During this time of year especially, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to the community of Norwood. Thank you to all of my clients, colleagues, friends and family for making 2023 a wonderful year! Your referrals and recommendations have all been greatly appreciated. Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Holiday Season ahead.

All my best, Your Local Realtor™

-Anne

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President's Premier Associate Anne.Fahy@nemoves.com





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