

Move Over Mustang Sally!

Norwood has a new Top Dog in town!

By MICHELE TARANTO

For many Norwood natives, Norwood's new police chief is a familiar face. What a journey for Christopher Paddon; from the Cleveland Elementary School, then through Norwood's middle and high school. From a patrol officer, to sergeant, lieutenant, and deputy chief, and now, the Norwood Police Department's 28-year veteran, sworn in on May 1, 2024, is Norwood's highest-ranking officer protecting its residents.

"I had no intention of being Chief of Police," Chief Paddon said. "I found myself where the opportunities were there. It was never my goal, but if there is an opportunity to serve, you do it. I was happy being a patrolman. It's the best job in the world."

Chief Paddon's first job was serving his country. He was a member of the United States Marine Corps, and was stationed in Operation Desert Shield/Operation Desert Storm, and later served in the reserves. His choice to join a po-

lice force after the military was influenced by his interactions with policemen when he was younger; kid stuff as he called it, but an ultimately positive inspiration.



Norwood residents will not likely see a lot of changes under Paddon's regime. As working with Norwood's former Police Chief, William Brooks for many years, he was heavily involved in the systems that were in place and working when he took the position. Chief Paddon also

shares his predecessor's team philosophy, an energy that has been embraced by the local community.

"It is a team effort, and that effort is going to continue in the same manner," Chief Paddon said. "The Chief [Brooks] was always the one who brought attention to the NPD. I really want to push the everyday work of the men and women of the Norwood Police Department."

There is no denying that Chief Paddon is filling big shoes following the legacy of Chief Brooks. The two, however, worked very closely together and residents can rest assured, the streets of Norwood and the community will receive the same attention and effort they have grown to expect, embrace, appreciate, and respect.

"Chief Brooks included everyone in the development, budget, etc. of the department," Chief Paddon said. "There was a good succession plan in place."

CHIEF

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Juneteenth for Three!

By BELLA CAGGIANO

Norwood knows how to celebrate. The Town hosts many annual and specialty events that draw in crowds from around the state. Juneteenth can now be added to the list thanks to the original organizer, Norwood Police Officer Geoffrey Baguma, and new committee members, Morrill Memorial Library Director Clayton Cheever, Ieshia Karasik, and Assistant Recreation Department Director Sam White.

"This event has been a great event to include into the lineup of Norwood's annual events," Officer Baguma said. "It is an excellent opportunity for the town to come together and learn together while celebrating the federal holiday of Juneteenth."

The Town Common will again be filled with eating, dancing, and singing, for the 3rd Annual Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 15, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Bring comfortable shoes, chairs, and an appetite as the fun-filled afternoon will include events for kids, a DJ, singers, poetry readings, dance, artwork, and possibly a dramatic performance. Currently scheduled for entertainment are the Mathematics, Trend N Motion,



a songstress from Norwood High School, a melodic performance from the Coakley Middle School chorus, possibly a jazz band and beer garden, and much more!

"One of our artists 'Mathematics,' has professionally grown since he was with us for our first Norwood Juneteenth," Officer Baguma said. "He is returning for our now third event. He was recently on a TedTalk. He is a musician, spoken word artist, actor, and motivational speaker. He will be accompanied by his artists at

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CHIEF

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He made sure everyone was on board. A good team player. You have to work with everyone beneath you for an organization to work well. He was very influential in policing across. The town only knows half of it. Norwood PD is in great shape, there is nothing to fix.”

As a Norwood native, an extensive military and police background, and comprehensive experience in the Norwood Police Department, Chief Paddon was ready to hit the ground running in his new position. His presence and qualifications will ensure a smooth transition as Chief Brooks prepared for and a department that will continue to patrol and remain visible on the streets and sidewalks of town and always put the community first.

“Norwood is a great place and we have great people here,” Chief Paddon said. “The biggest thing is if people’s experience is positive. The people that you deal with every day, they are great. It’s because they know us. If people want to know why we are doing something, we are happy to sit down with them. It is really important to have that communication.”

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the event, which will include singers and poets.”

Juneteenth, short for June 19, commemorates the day when federal troops marched into Galveston, TX, in 1865, two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation to ensure the freedom of slaves. On June 17, 2021, it officially became a national holiday honoring the end of slavery in the United States.

“Every year that we put together Norwood Juneteenth, the goal is to always educate and celebrate,” Baguma said. “This is and will always be a great opportunity to learn together. By learning together, we can understand each other better. With a greater un-

derstanding of each other, we can then celebrate our new found connection. We like to quote Maya Angelou and others in history who have said, ‘If one of us isn’t free, none of us are free.’”

As in previous years, members of the Norwood community will also be recognized with the Nor-



wood Juneteenth Honors. These awards will go to people who have given back to and/or educated the community in the areas of inclusion and diversity.

portant and historic event for this year and future years, consider donating to the Juneteenth Venmo account on this page. One hundred percent of donations go towards the event which can only be possible through the generosity of Norwood neighbors. If you would like to become a volunteer for the event, email Norwoodjuneteenth@gmail.com. Help is needed 9 a.m.-noon for set-up, during the event, and breaking down at 3:30 p.m.

The Juneteenth committee is also looking for family-friendly art pieces from local artists related to Juneteenth and freedom to display at the celebration. If you are interested in providing an art piece for the event, reach out to the Norwood Juneteenth Committee at Norwoodjuneteenth@gmail.com.

Vendors will also be present on the common to share information with the community. There still may be time for businesses and residents who may be interested in participating. Inquires can be directed through email at norwoodjuneteenth@gmail.com.

Lastly, events such as this require funding and volunteers. To donate and support this im-

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Published Monthly
Mailed FREE to every home
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Circulation: 14,659
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Publisher
Chuck Tashjian

Send Editorial to:
editor@norwoodtownnews.com

Advertising Director
Jen Schofield
508-570-6544
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Creative Design & Layout
Michelle McSherry
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Ad Deadline is the
15th of each month.

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Fresh is Back on the Common!

By BELLA CAGGIANO

The reputation of the Norwood Farmers Market (NFM) has expanded through town lines. Its success lies with the commitment of Norwood residents supporting local, independent farms and businesses and the pledge of the vendors to set up on the Town Common each week, rain or shine. Last year's NFM article described a return to the Norwood Town Common as bigger and better. Could it possibly expand from the 2023 season? The objective for NFM Organizer Peter McFarland and Market Manager Michele Taranto is an absolute

18-Oct. 15, 2-6 p.m., Norwood Town Common, (Aug. 6, 12-4 p.m.).

Market patrons who visited last year will see many familiar faces and vendors in the 2024 season. McFarland and Taranto will be present to assist and guide every week, and while the lineup of vendors was still being finalized at press time, many vendors from last year were anxious to reserve their lawn spot this year: Jordans Seafood, Oakdale Farms, Morrill Memorial Library, and Wild Willys Sports Cards. The list is not complete and changes weekly throughout the year! This

the market offers lots of outdoor games, but there will also be specialty-themed events, such as School's Out for Summer, Pet Day, National Farmers Market Day, Independence Celebration, and Harvest Day! Musical guests will also be visiting the market and don't be surprised to see inflatables on the town common!

The Norwood Farmer's Market is a collaboration with the Norwood Sustainability Commission and the Friends of Nor-

wood Center with its primary initiative to buy local, eat healthy, and build community. Credit to the market's success is spread through many areas: high school volunteers are essential to the efficient set up and breakdown of vendor tents, but they always find more ways to help the market flourish. As mentioned, McFarland and Taranto are available to answer questions and ensure a fluid, efficient, educational, and fun experience, Market sponsors,

and the Norwood DPW and Norwood Town Hall with communication assistance through websites and signage.

The Norwood Farmers Market has not only developed into a destination to purchase fresh local produce, food, and handmade items, but with the Central Ave. picnic area, crowds visit to enjoy and take in entertainment, music,

FARMERS MARKET
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yes! The Norwood Market will be back again, bigger and better!

"Last year's market exceeded my expectations," McFarland said. "We are looking to increase the number of vendors and activities this year."

The Norwood Farmers Market will again be open for 18 weeks this season, Tuesdays, June

season, however, is already scheduled with more activities, more special events, and a diverse assortment of vendors.

In addition to the delicious fresh food choices, various artisan and specialty selections, and information offered at the Norwood Farmers Market, it also delivers lots of fun! Each week,

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NOW HIRING - A Flexible Job Opportunity with Maria C. Levin P.C.

By: JENNIFER RUSSO

Though the current unemployment rate in the United States remains below 5%, Bureau of Labor Statistics studies are showing that the job market today is still rather unpredictable and growing at a very slow pace. Many people are looking for solid career opportunities that also offer a good work/life balance. If you are currently looking for a role that is engaging, with a great team of people, but also offers a flexible schedule to maintain a high quality of life, look no further.

Maria Levin has been a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) for over 30 years, specializing in tax and financial advisory services, from her office in Norwood. With an influx of new business and new clients knocking on her door, she is currently looking for an experienced tax accountant or two to help, ideally for 35 hours per week, and the salary will be dependent on the level of experience.

"We do have a lot of fun here. I believe you really need to love the environment that you are in, and when you like the work and people you are working with, it makes all the difference. Some people have been with me more than 20 years – this is a wonderful place to be," says Maria.



Maria is looking for a team player with a positive attitude, and a willingness to learn. The team runs the gamut for income taxes, working with businesses and individuals on tax resolution, filing, debt, foreign tax, small business set up, QuickBooks®, and more. Tax season can be demanding, but Maria really believes in the team mentality.

"It's not me or you – it's us. We work together to get things done. Laws and rules regarding finances and taxes in Massachusetts do change from time to time, but we stay on top of everything and can train the right candidate(s) in anything they don't already know. If you are a tax accountant who took some time off to raise a family or do other things, this might be the right fit for you too," Maria shares.

Though many people do their own tax returns through online software options, there are things that often get missed, especially if a client is someone who has a business or other assets, has a child in college, or other factors. Having a CPA in

Employment spotlight

your corner ensures that you are not spending more than you need to and that someone can walk you through the intricacies of state deductions, investments, and more so that taxes do not need to be amended and errors are not made.

"I really enjoy what I do. We have invested back into the business with innovative technology to support administrative functions and create the highest level of security for our customers. I love helping people get the most out of the work that they put in to create a happy and fulfilled life for themselves. This is true in helping people financially, but also for those who work with me," explains Maria.

"We value family and relationships – we all need to work, but it's more about that quality and balance. Family is first, always. This can be a full-time role or a part-time one. We can hire



someone to work in the office or in a hybrid capacity. We are even pet friendly. What is most important to me when filling this role is finding someone who is highly collaborative, with an optimistic outlook, and is willing to put the effort in to be the best they can for our clients."

If you are a tax accountant and think this might be the role for you, please reach out to Maria via e-mail to info@levincpas.com or call (781) 769-2487 to discuss. Learn more about Maria and her practice on her website at www.levincpas.com.

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FARMERS MARKET

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demonstrations, eat, and participate in the fun, family activities on the Common!

“Having Central St. closed enhances the feel of the Common, not just for the Farmers



Market but for the community,” McFarland said. “It’s not the cut-off island at the busiest intersection in town. You can go by the Common any time of day and see people enjoying it, I never saw that before in my 40 years in town.”

It’s not too late for vendors,

businesses, and nonprofit groups to showcase and share their food, wares, creations, and information. Any vendors or organizations interested in participating in the Norwood Farmers Market can email norwoodmafm@gmail.com. Visit the Market Facebook page at ‘Norwood MA

Farmers Market,’ to stay updated on Market news and subscribe their new weekly newsletter!

“We are always looking for local businesses and organizations who want to connect with people and share their product, service, or mission,” McFarland said.

A Little Off The Top

By STUART GREEN

Gavel to Gravel: A Town Meeting of the minds

“Order, order, or the best we can do under the circumstances of disorder. I hereby, herewith, heretofore, and haircut call the Annual Tom Meeting to order. And I should know. I’m Tom.

“My friends in the third grade call me Tommy, but that’s neither here nor there – or even way over there. But you can just call me Mr. See-ya-later.

“We have several important, crucial, issues for our fellow third-graders that we’ll vote on with all due speed and nonchalance, where they’ll remain on the books in perpetuity – or until at least next month when we’ll promptly forget all about them.

“Let us take our jobs as Tom Meeting reps seriously, staying here as long as we have to – but not past 8:30 coz that’s when my mom says I better be home by and get to bed.

“First, I’d like to point – which really isn’t very polite - that, after years of waiting, each member finally has their own, individual kicker so they can vote. The process is pretty simple – if you are for a motion, kick once; against, kick twice. Those who abstain have nothing to kick about.

“I’d like to call for a quorum, but I don’t have the number. So I’ll just see who we have here – Susie, Freddy, Bananahead, Rhino, and Peach Smoothie. The number being higher than the sum of a grasshopper’s hind legs and lower than my kite still in the wires two weeks later (thanks, Bananahead!), I will declare quorum. Here goes: ‘Quorum.’

“Our first order of business, in order, is a petition article, signed by every member of the third grade, and three second-graders who really know how to plan for the future. Will the Tammy the Tattletaler, minister of mayhem, please read the motion?”

“Yes: That the third grade vote pursuant to G.U.M. 1223 to suspend and therefore eliminate all sense of homework by Mrs. Oh-oh (pronouns them/they), and furthermore increase out of classroom recess from the sum of the current 15 minutes to the total of 4 hours, but at no time to exceed 7 hours.”

“Thanks, Tattler. Do I have a

third-grade second on the motion? I see Monkey Mandy’s tail swishing, so I’ll take that as a second.

“Now, I think we can do away with our kickers for this one and take a voice vote. All in favor, smile broadly. Opposed – don’t bother showing up in class tomorrow. That seems to have passed.

“Next, the treasurer will give his report of what’s in the treasure chest – or at least what’s left. John Silver?”

“It wasn’t my fault.”

“Well, I guess that sums up our budget right there.

“Now, the Board of Reflection has proposed the following, which I’ll read, mainly because the members have completely lost interest in the proceedings: ‘To wit, it is proposed that the cafeteria, known commonly as the Grub Hub, be required on a daily weekday basis, that being from Monday through Friday, inclusive, to serve French fries with every meal. It is further required to serve French fries both before every meal, and, as anticipated, after every meal.’

“Before we get to that vote, I need to make a motion to adjourn for the night. My mom just called.”

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The BSAC is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization and is funded solely through generous donations. The BSAC volunteers, Sir Basil, and Princess Mira, will truly be grateful for any help.

Meet Bessie & Elsie

Bessie is quiet but enjoys attention. She is not a lap cat, but loves to snuggle next to you so



you can pet her. If you stop, she will squirm and twist so your hand will keep petting. Very resourceful! We think Bessie would do best in a home that

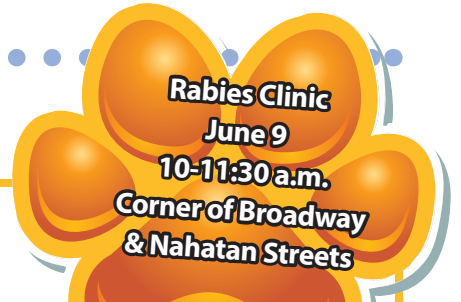
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help. Bay State Animal Cooperative (BSAC) was happy to say "Yes." That is what we do. We don't even know his name. An emergency foster situation was set up for him and his companion. During the intake vet visit, it was discovered he had a heart murmur. BSAC scheduled a follow-up with Angel Memorial to fully assess what he will need to have a healthy life in his forever home. His foster family dubbed him Sir Basil, and his BFF is Princess Mira. They have a long road to learn to trust and to be healthy enough to go to their forever home.

is quiet and has patience with her as she acclimates to her new environment.

Elsie is a "Squishmellow" cat. She is soft and will sit in your lap in many positions and purr. While we would not recommend using her as a pillow, when she is lying down and relaxing it's hard to resist taking advantage of all that fluff! We think Elsie would do best in a home that is quiet and has patience with her as she acclimates to her new environment.

Bessie and Elsie are sisters and we prefer to adopt them as a pair, but they can go home separately in the right situation. Both girls are black and white, with Elsie's predominant color being white and Bessie's is black. While their parentage is unknown, their shorter legs, wide faces, shorter tails, dense fur, and thick bodies speak of a British shorthair background. They spend most of their time resting and soliciting gentle attention from trusted humans although recently they have been playing with their toy mice! Both girls have great appetites and drink plenty of water.

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Houdini is friendly and loves pets and scratches but is still a little skittish. He is content knowing his human friends are in the vicinity, but not necessarily right next to him. Bandit has made such huge strides with his confidence level and is a total chatterbox! He doesn't enjoy being petted but he will carry on a conversation, telling you about his day and his opinions on various topics. In time, you will wonder how you ever lived without them!

If you are interested in adopting Bessie, Elsie, Houdini, or Bandit, complete a Bay State Animal Cooperative, non-commitment application at www.baystateanimals.org.

There is a \$175 adoption fee that includes: spay or neuter, age appropriate vaccines, feline leukemia test, FIV test if over 6 months of age, microchip, flea treatment and roundworm treatment as needed, and additional treatments as deemed necessary.

Thank you and if you do not hear from a volunteer in a reasonable amount of time please do not hesitate to reach out to us!



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Senior Corner

Norwood Alert System

Are you concerned for yourself or a loved one with cognitive impairment wandering off from their home or caregiver's location? The Council on Aging and Norwood Police Department have partnered and developed a

plan of action to locate individuals and assist to ensure the safe return of its residents. This program is modeled after the Silver Alert, a nationwide program very similar to the Amber Alert to find missing or alleged kidnapped children.

This program was scheduled for a May launch and should be currently available. Interested Norwood residents would need to complete a Norwood Alert form which asks for specific individual information: demographics information, a physical description, and current picture. If someone is reported missing, this information is vital as it will be shared with officers on duty.

According to the Alzheimer's Association (AA), it's common for a person living with dementia to wander or become lost or confused which can happen at any stage of the disease. While wandering may not be an issue now, it could develop into a problem and better to be prepared today. AA also stated that six in ten people living with dementia will wander at least once and could do so repeatedly. They could get confused and intend on going home or even to a prior workplace, someplace familiar in their

SENIOR CORNER
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Norwood Senior Center

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Nanci Kelleher, Program Director
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Legal Clinic
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For more information or to sign up for these events, visit the Senior Center at 275 Prospect St., or call 781-762-1201.

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Grilling Safety Tips

- Always grill outdoors.
- Grills must be 10 feet from the side of a building unless the manufacturer's instructions say it can be closer. Make sure grills are not underneath overhanging branches.
- Grills cannot be used on a porch, balcony or deck with a roof, overhang or wall (other than the exterior of the building).
- Grills can only be used on



open first floor porches, decks or patios if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or the porch is at ground level.

- Grills cannot be used on fire escapes.
- Place grills away from the house and deck railings.
- Keep all matches, lighters and lighter fluid away from children.
- Keep children and pets three feet away from grills. Children should never play near grills or propane cylinders.

SENIOR CORNER

continued from page 8

distant memory. If this does happen, they can often become lost and disoriented if they do wander away. This is where Silver Alert can be implemented and possibly save a life.

To sign up or learn more about Silver Alert, contact the Norwood Police Department

(781-440-5100) or the Senior Center (781-762-1201). Completed registration forms with a picture can be dropped off or mailed to Sgt. William Fundora, Norwood Police Department, 137 Nahatan St, Norwood, MA 02062 or forms can be emailed to wfundora@norwoodma.gov. For further help, contact Kathleen Rooney, 781-762-1201, x3, or email krooney@norwoodma.gov.

House Numbers: Don't Play Hide & Seek with the Fire Department

Can firefighters find your house? Can paramedics find your house? Can the police find your house?

Don't play Hide and Seek with your emergency services! Help us find you quickly by following these important tips.

- Your house number(s) should be clearly visible from the street. How about at night?
- Make sure bushes, vehicles, or other things don't block house number(s).
- Your house number(s) should be in a contrasting color to your house, at least 3 inches high.
- If you have a rural home, mark your address clearly on the mailbox or a post at the front of your driveway.
- Make sure your address is posted by every telephone in your home. In stressful situations it can be very easy to forget your address.
- Make sure all family members know how to call 9-1-1.

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Living Healthy

Cloudy Vision (and How to Fix It!)

There are many reasons why your vision may be cloudy, but for people “of a certain age” one of the most common causes is cataracts. Cataracts are a condition where the crystalline lens inside the eye becomes cloudy and can affect your vision. If you collect enough birthdays, you will end up developing them. This process typically begins around the age of 60, though there are instances where they may begin at a younger age. In rare cases, people are born with cataracts or develop them early in life, though these generally do not get worse over time or significantly affect vision.

For most people, cataracts will affect their eyesight and, if affected enough, they can be removed by a surgeon. The crystalline lens gets cloudy when the precise arrangement of its proteins is disrupted. This happens gradually throughout life, but there are several other factors that can accelerate that process. Some of these factors are UV radiation exposure, diabetes and other metabolic disorders, hypertension, smoking, and the use of

certain medications such as corticosteroids.

Common symptoms of cataracts include blurry vision that cannot be corrected with glasses or contact lenses, difficulty with night vision, difficulty reading, glare and halos/starbursts around lights, a rapidly changing eyeglass prescription, double vision in only one eye, and the fading or yellowing of colors.

Cataracts can be detected and evaluated through a comprehensive eye examination. The testing for cataracts typically involves vision and prescription testing and a dilated eye evaluation, though cataracts can be assessed to a lesser extent without dilating the eyes.

There are two pieces of good news regarding cataracts: They have almost no potential to permanently affect eye health or vision, and they can be removed through surgery which typically improves vision significantly.

Cataract surgery is the most performed surgery in the world and the United States; millions are performed in the US an-



nually. The surgery is normally brief, the recovery is relatively short, and vision improves rapidly after surgery. Better still, modern lens implants mean that people are typically less reliant on visual correction after surgery. There are several different types of lens implants used during cataract surgery, and some can even help people see at distance and near with little to no help from visual

correction.

Ultimately, cataracts cannot be prevented or avoided. However, their development can be slowed by managing systemic health conditions, refraining from tobacco use, protecting the eyes from UV radiation, and a consistent intake of vitamin C.

Annual comprehensive eye examinations are crucial for detecting and monitoring cataracts,

as well as other eye diseases and problems that can cloud your vision.

For more advice, schedule an eye exam by calling (781) 352-4849 or stop into the office at 696 Washington Street in downtown Norwood.

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Living Healthy

Seasonal Allergies

SPRING! The birds are chirping, the flowers are blooming, the sun is shining and the scent of cut grass is in the air. What could be better you might ask? For many people, this season boosts energy levels with increased light exposure, warmer temperatures and those familiar fragrances, but those suffering from recurring allergies react to the season very differently. Spring allergies affect 20% of the population who will experience itchy watery eyes, sneezing, runny nose and even rashes. Airborne pollen is the most common cause of seasonal allergies.

There are, however, resources to combat those allergies other than medication. Eighty percent of your health is located in your gut, so supporting your digestive health is essential to sustaining a healthy immune system. When your immune system is compromised, symptoms such as allergies emerge.

Tom G suffered for 10 years with seasonal allergies, complaining of congestion, runny nose, sneezing and cough until his colleague at work suggested he visit The Holistic Center at Bristol Square. We identified his specific allergies and started Tom on a program which was geared toward rebuilding his immune system. Removing stressors to the immune system such as processed foods, preservatives, and cleaning products, as well as creating a healthy eating plan, boosted his nervous system function through NIS (neurological integrative systems work) and added supportive supplements. Within several weeks Tom noticed a significant difference. He was less congested, his nose stopped running and the



Dr. Rochelle Bien & Dr. Michael Goldstein

cough was greatly reduced. Tom is not worried that SPRING HAS SPRUNG as he is feeling so much better and is planning on enjoying all the outdoor activities he had to miss out on for so many years.

If you are suffering with allergies call THE HOLISTIC CENTER AT BRISTOL SQUARE located at 1426 Main Street, Walpole. CALL (508) 660-2722 to schedule your appointment today.

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Norwood Sports

Norwood Hoping To Break Into The Win Column

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

The past few years have been relatively tough for the Norwood boys tennis team. The Mustang racketeers have not been able post a team win over the last two seasons, and neither doubles team has been successful over that time. This year, Coach John Churchill is looking for improvement that eventually earns the squad a win.

"We're on the smaller size in terms of depth and experience," the Mustang Coach said. "Without that depth and experience it is very tough to compete against the other teams and even harder to win, but I see a lot of progress being made this year and the team looks to be getting better."

Through the early part of the season, the Norwood team has already earned that elusive win that has avoided them for the past two years. At the time of this writing, the Mustangs were currently 2-3.

Taking the reins at first singles for the third straight season is Partha Jammalamadaka. The junior has been able to use his power and strong serves on the courts this season to help his team win. According to his coach, he plays he best when he is able to open up the court on his opponent.

"Partha is going up against the top competitors at first singles," Churchill said. "When those opponents are able to move the ball

around, he has a tough time."

As a freshman, Jammalamadaka was able to earn six wins, upping that total to nine last year,

quickness and is able to get the ball back in play. So far this season he is doing a much better job with his offensive opportunities. While Joe's overall game is im-

said. "Originally, it was an experiment but after they won their first match I might leave them there."

The first time playing together

Although Norwood was able to return most of its players from last spring, Churchill was unsuccessful connecting with the freshmen and hoping to get them to



and Churchill is hoping that he can once again at least reach the nine wins.

Another three-year tennis player, Juneau Joe, will be anchored at second singles for the Mustangs. The junior has good

proving, Churchill noted that he is still looking for his game on the baseline.

Rounding out the singles players is sophomore Joe DiPierro who is playing singles for the first time on the varsity level; last spring, he had some opportunities to play doubles for the Mustangs.

"He [DiPierro] has been working his way up the team," Churchill said. He is driven to play singles and as a sophomore he is in a position to be there long term. He knows that singles is tough to get some wins, and when he eventually does that he'll be able to go from there. At this point, he is working very hard and is motivated and seems to be getting better each match."

Playing together for the first time as a doubles tandem are senior Aiden Ciavatonne and junior Jack Weafer and the duo looks to be driven to compete on a high level.

"I saw the possibility of putting these two guys together giving us the best chance to finally get a doubles win," Churchill

as a tandem, the duo has shown improvement right from the start and has been able to secure quality points for the team. According to the coach, it is only a matter of them working together and eventually making the most out of their opportunities on the court.

The second doubles team is currently in a rotation phase where no one is locked into playing. Senior Mahin Hossain and sophomore Trevor Levell currently have the inside edge. The duo has been able to get the team their first second doubles win against Ashland.

"They have been improving their games, but still need to work on unforced errors," Churchill said. "They are better at their serves and returns and have given us a better presence."

Sophomore James Saulnier and junior Jason Bower are also looking to earn some playing time on the doubles team. Saulnier played some second doubles last year, while Bower is working hard to work his way into the starting lineup.

try out for the team. Norwood was able to secure an eighth grade waiver this season and has one player on the roster; despite being small in stature, he may eventually get to see some action during the season at some point.

When the season got under way a few weeks ago, the Norwood tennis players were more than ready to finally get some wins under their belt, and by doing so early into the season, they were able to shed that weight off their shoulders. It was a big step in the right direction and now they are hoping to continue to compete with each and every team.

"It was huge to get that first win," Churchill said. "Not that we are a totally young team, but we do have a good amount of youth, which leaves us in a good position for the future."

Now that they have that first win or two, it makes it that much easier for the players to step onto the courts with the outmost confidence that they can secure another one.

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Norwood Sports

James Norton, From Player to Mentor

By Christopher Tremblay

James Norton was relatively young, he believes around kindergarten or first grade, when he picked up a lacrosse stick for the very first time, and it wasn't long after he realized that he found his sport.



"All the older kids in the neighborhood were playing, so I decided to give it a try," Norton said. "I found that it was a fun sport, sort of a mixture of many sports and I stuck with it. It's a sport where everyone comes together for the benefit of one another and the team."

In the early days, the Norwood native found himself playing midfield but come middle school he made the move to attack, a position he has held ever since.

"The coaches were looking for someone to play the position and I felt that I had good stick skills," Norton said. "So, we came to a mutual agreement that I move into the attack position."

Leading up to high school, the now Norwood junior hooked up

with the club team Laxachusetts where he would patrol the field for five years. Just before entering high school, he wasn't feeling club lacrosse any more and left the team to focus on his high school career.



Although confident in his ability to play the sport on the high school level, he admitted that he went into the tryouts a little

scared. Norton felt that he was much smaller and undersized compared to most of the upper classmen already on the team. Despite the skepticism, he went into the tryouts hoping to do well and not let his smaller stature get in his way.

Having made the cut to play on the varsity team was a great feeling for the freshman, but although he was a member of the Mustang lacrosse team, he didn't see that much playing time that season.

"I understood that I was a freshman and we had a very talented team that season," Norton said. "I did start to show the coaches my skills during man-ups and whenever I got the chance to be on the field I gave it everything that I had to show that I belonged and could play the game."

During the off-season, he really didn't have time to work on his game. He did shoot around a bit and got to the gym occasionally, but not as much as he would have liked due to work. However, the lack of preparation was not going to deter him from getting more playing time in his second season with Norwood.

"I was hoping to do more for the team that year as a starter," Norton said. "Unfortunately, during our first scrimmage I broke my wrist, but didn't know it. I had landed on it weird and a few days later when we had our next scrimmage it was still painful, so we had it looked at and found that it was broken."

With the injury, the sophomore would have to wait to begin his season and would sit on the bench with his wrist in a cast for the first five games.

"It stunk, we were already missing a lot of players and I really wanted to come back and get onto the field so badly," the junior said. "As soon as that cast came off I was

eager to get playing, but my wrist was really weak so I had a lot of work to do. Being a righty, my left wrist got a lot stronger during that time."

Coming into his junior campaign, Norton was looking to be a leader on the team, especially with the squad being made up of a lot of incoming freshman players. Not only did the junior become a leader, he and his upperclassmen also found they were somewhat of a coach as well.

"Coach (Mark) Nardelli, the previous coach, got a promotion at work and was no longer able to come to a lot of the games or practices so the school had to look for a new coach," Norton said. "There was no one applying for the job so a teacher from the school, Mr. Lockert, stepped up to coach us, but he knew nothing about the game. We had to tell him what was going on, but he's been putting in the work and learning."

Norton went on to say that the Mustangs were not supposed to have a great year this season having lost a large number of seniors to graduation, but the team has been able to secure a few wins thus far. The biggest win came against their rival, Dedham, who was looking to walk all over Norwood. Luckily the Mustangs were on their game that day and came out victorious by 10 goals.

"For the rest of the season I'm hoping that we can put together a few more wins," Norton said. "Myself, I want to move the ball quicker and find that open man."

As Norton and his teammates round out the season, hopefully adding a few more wins along the way, they are also looking to get better while giving the newer players some experience so that they can come back next spring ready to battle for the Tri-Valley League title as well as earning a spot in the State Tournament.

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Bereavement Luncheons/Coalitions/Private Corporate Luncheons/Team Dinners

Calendar of Events

June 7

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

The Morrill Memorial Library and Norwood-based Lifeworks Inc. partners to bring a series of art classes called Sensory-friendly Art Classes for Adults to the library. The classes will be held weekly on Fridays from 10:30-11:45 a.m. This is a program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities and guides participants to create one-of-a-kind art projects, often utilizing recycled/repurposed materials and items found in nature. Free and open to ages 18+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 8

Seed Packing Party
Morrill Memorial Library
9:30-11 a.m.

The Norwood Seed Library is having a seed packing party! The library needs to restock some of the most popular seeds in the Norwood Seed Library, so why not make it a social event! Volunteers will pack a variety of seeds, have impromptu gardening conversations with fellow seed packers, and enjoy some light refreshments. Suitable for all ages. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop

First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10-12 noon

The large selection of jewelry is half price on June 8! Come match some pieces up with their beautiful clothes! There will also be a large selection of men's clothing will help get ready for Father's Day. Also see our vast array of entertaining decor, dishes, tableware, kitchen items, linens, and much more.

June 10

Monday Movie Matinee: 'Stillwater'
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

Bill, an American redneck from Oklahoma is forced to fly to Marseille to help his daughter who is currently languishing in jail for a murder charge. Allison maintains her innocence but French authorities and the country's legal system will not let her out easily, so Bill decides to stay and exhaust all possibilities for exonerating her from all charges. Rated R. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Suffrage Song: The Haunted History of Gender, Race and Voting Rights in the U.S.
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library, the Ashland Public Library and other Massachusetts public libraries are presenting a discussion with Caitlin Cass, author of *Suffrage Song: The Haunted History of Gender, Race and Voting Rights in the U.S.* on Monday.

Part graphic novel, part map of the suffrage movement, *Suffrage Song* tells the story of the fight for the right to vote by women from the very beginning. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

June 11

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 wbnofnorwood@gmail.com.

Norwood Toastmasters Club
Norwood Civic Center, Lydon Suite
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/>.

June 12

Financial Planning Considerations in an Election Year
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Financial advisor Bridge McSurely will talk covering the 2024 election outlook in the context of financial planning; recent legislative changes to retirement accounts; a look at federal government spending, debt, and taxes; and financial planning opportunities for the upcoming year. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

The Norwood Junior Woman's Club Meeting
Conrad's Restaurant
7:30 p.m.

The Norwood Junior Woman's Club is a women's social 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 norwoodjuniorwc.wixsite.com/norwoodjwc.

June 13

BTS Party
Morrill Memorial Library
4 p.m.

Celebrate all things BTS at the library! Meet fellow BTS fans, sample some bubble tea and Korean snacks, and make some fun BTS-themed crafts! If you would like to trade any KPop photocards, feel free to bring those as well! For ages 10 and up. Tweens and Teens Welcome! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

From Trash to Treasure
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with artist Stephanie Enloe to host an up-cycling art workshop called From Trash to Treasure. Stephanie will demonstrate how everyday household materials and discards can be used to create beautiful pieces of art that will bring joy. Using bottle caps and other materials, participants can choose either a bottle cap art piece on canvas or a wind chime. All supplies will be provided. If you are feeling creative and want to learn alternate uses of materials you have at home, feel free to bring them and Stephanie will guide you through creating a unique design. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Why We Read: On Bookworms, Libraries, and Just One Page Before Lights Out
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

This Zoom discussion will be with Shannon Reed, author of *Why We Read: On Bookworms, Libraries, and Just One Page Before Lights Out*. What compels us? What holds our attention? How many of us remember reading by flashlight after we were supposed to be asleep in bed? Shannon has the scoop and will answer all of our questions! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

June 14

Morrill Memorial Library Closed for Professional Development

Library on the Common!

The Morrill Memorial Library recently announces that librarians will be at the Farmer's Market starting June 18, on the Norwood Town Common. Visit the library table, every Tuesday, 2:30-4:30 p.m., except on Aug. 8.

Learn about library services and check out books. Don't forget to bring your Minute-man library card! There will also be books from the Friends of MML Book Sale on hand to sell. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Friends of the Morrill Memorial Library, a non-profit organization that funds many of the library programs. You will get a chance to join the Friends as well. See you there!

June 15

Juneteenth Celebration
Town Common
12:30-3:30 p.m.

The Town Common will again be filled with eating, dancing, and singing, for the 3rd Annual Juneteenth celebration! Bring comfortable shoes, chairs, and an appetite as the fun-filled afternoon will include events for kids, a DJ, singers, poetry readings, dance, artwork, and possibly a dramatic performance. Currently scheduled for entertainment are the Mathematics, Trend N' Motion, a songstress from Norwood High School, a melodic performance from the Coakley Middle School chorus, possibly a jazz band and beer garden, and much more!

June 17

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Norwood Gardens Apartments,
105 Hampden Dr.
1-6 p.m.

June 18

Norwood Farmers Market Opening Day!
Town Common
2-6 p.m.

The Norwood Farmers Market officially opens for the sea-



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CALENDAR

continued from page 14

son! The town common will be hopping with even more vendors than last year, including farm stands, bakeries, fish, meat, baseball cards, non-profit organizations, specialty foods, artisans, and more! There will be games for the kids and music. Meet your neighbors, purchase a fresh dinner, and have some fun!

Magical Girls & Fighting Dreamers: An Exploration of Queer Representation in Manga & Anime
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

Join fellow anime-enthusiast and MML Youth Services Librarian Dina Delic to learn about the history of queer representation in manga and anime. This program will give an overview of queer representation throughout various series, from *The Rose of Versailles* to *Yuri on Ice*, and will answer your most pressing questions: What is shipping? What is the difference between yaoi and yuri? Why are the greatest love stories in anime always platonic? To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

June 19

Morrill Memorial Library Closed for the June Nineteenth Holiday.

June 20

Turn the Page Book Group: 'Finding Freedom'
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.

Join Patty Bailey and other local readers for a friendly and informal discussion, of 'Finding Freedom,' a memoir written by Erin French. This singular memoir-a classic American story-invites readers to Erin's corner of her beloved Maine to share the

June 21

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

The Morrill Memorial Library

June 22

Dr. Cathy Ripley Greene on Mediumship
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Cathy will spend time explaining how the process of mediumship works and then she will make connections with spirit for some people in the audience. This is a gallery demonstration and of course this means not everyone will make a connection, but will definitely enjoy the evening.

June 23

Teen Perler Pride Party
Morrill Memorial Library
3 p.m.

Get crafty and celebrate Pride month by making some fun bead designs! Choose some of the provided pattern templates at the event, or feel free to make your own design. Snacks will be provided. For grades 6-12. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 24

Monthly Ballroom Dance
Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St.
7-10 p.m.

The Friends of the Norwood

June 25

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

The Morrill Memorial Library

June 26

Dr. Cathy Ripley Greene on Mediumship
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

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June 27

Teen Perler Pride Party
Morrill Memorial Library
3 p.m.

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June 28

Monthly Ballroom Dance
Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St.
7-10 p.m.

The Friends of the Norwood

June 29

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

The Morrill Memorial Library

June 30

Dr. Cathy Ripley Greene on Mediumship
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Cathy will spend time explaining how the process of mediumship works and then she will make connections with spirit for some people in the audience. This is a gallery demonstration and of course this means not everyone will make a connection, but will definitely enjoy the evening.

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Monday & Wednesday mornings: 9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
During regular retail hours

Council on Aging will be sponsoring their monthly Ballroom Dance, with music provided by Dave Valerio. cost is \$12 per person. Coffee, tea, desserts, and water are served, and there will be door prizes! Newcomers welcome! To stay up to date on Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging, visit their Facebook page.

June 22

Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop
First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10 a.m.-12 noon.

There is so much to look at! There will be clothes for the whole family, shoes, jewelry, tableware, kitchen items, paintings, linens, books, puzzles, and more! come in and take a look!

47th Annual Art in the Park
Town Common
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Norwood Art Association will be hosting their 47th Annual Art in the Park Show and Sale! Categories will include oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, mixed media, photography and drawing. Also included in the event will be vendor tables with textile, art, glasswork, pottery, sculpture, jewelry and wood art. There will also be a bin work around the gazebo with unframed originals, photographs, and prints. For more information on the organization, visit norwoodartassociation.com.

June 24

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St.
1-6 p.m.

Monday Movie Matinee: 'Devotion'
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

American Navy fighter pilots Lieutenant Tom Hudner and Ensign Jesse Brown worked together during the Korean War to protect their country. Brown, who be-

June 25

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 infor-

June 26

True Crime Authors K. Ramsland & T. Ullman on "The Serial Killer's Apprentice"
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

This Zoom Q&A with true crime authors Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman, who co-wrote *The Serial Killer's Apprentice: The True Story of How Houston's Deadliest Murderer Turned a Kid Into a Killing Machine*. Fans of true crime are invited to dive deep into the psychology of a serial killer and his apprentice. Join authors Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman as they discuss their most recent book, *The Serial Killer's Apprentice*, a psychological examination of the blurred line between victim and accomplice--and how a killer can be created. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 27

True Crime Authors K. Ramsland & T. Ullman on "The Serial Killer's Apprentice"
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

This Zoom Q&A with true crime authors Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman, who co-wrote *The Serial Killer's Apprentice: The True Story of How Houston's Deadliest Murderer Turned a Kid Into a Killing Machine*. Fans of true crime are invited to dive deep into the psychology of a serial killer and his apprentice. Join authors Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman as they discuss their most recent book, *The Serial Killer's Apprentice*, a psychological examination of the blurred line between victim and accomplice--and how a killer can be created. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

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Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
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Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
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CALENDAR

continued on page 16

CALENDAR

continued from page 15

mation about the organization, call 781-799-7068, or email wbnofnorwood@gmail.com.

Norwood Farmers Market
Town Common
2-6 p.m.

The Norwood Farmers Market is already in full swing! Don't miss out on an afternoon of shopping, music, games for the kids, and more! The town common will be hopping with even more vendors than last year,

including farm stands, bakeries, fish, meat, baseball cards, non-profit organizations, specialty foods, artisans, and more! Purchase all the ingredients for Tuesday's dinner, and ingredients for the entire week!

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

The June title was yet to be announced at press time. Copies of the book will be available to pick up at the library's Reference desk. The ebook and audiobook are instantly available through

Libby. Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. We go in for stories that are shaken, not stirred, and we don't mind taking our 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.

June 26

Summer Craft-a-Palooza
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.-12 noon
Ages 3-10
Drop-in Program

Join on Wednesdays to work on a weekly fun summer craft in the children's program room. Crafts are usually geared toward early elementary school aged kids and take about 20 minutes to complete. Some children will require adult assistance. No registration required.

June 27

Sensory-friendly Lego Club for Adults
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with the L.E.A.D. program affiliated with Norwood High School to host a Sensory-friendly Lego Club for Adults. 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 different levels of abilities. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrill

calendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Drum Circle with Otha Day
Bond Street Tot Lot
2 p.m.

Join an outdoor drum circle experience with drum facilitator Otha Day! Otha will provide drums for people of all ages and sizes. He will teach us basic rhythms and how to drum in unison as a group. This program is perfect music lovers and kids of all ages. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Deepfakes and AI Media
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

This is an informative Zoom presentation about deepfakes and AI media by Bard College film professor Joshua Glick. This will be a wide-ranging conversation about artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on contemporary media. The talk will include how these technologies are shaping the film and TV industry as well as the proliferation of "deepfakes"--AI-enabled videos that depict people doing or saying things they never did or said. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

June 28

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

The Morrill Memorial Library and Norwood-based Lifeworks Inc. partners to bring a series of art classes called Sensory-friendly Art Classes for

Adults to the library. This is a program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities and guides participants to create one-of-a-kind art projects, often utilizing recycled/repurposed materials and items found in nature. Free and open to ages 18+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Sensory-Friendly Friday Movie
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library and Lifeworks Inc of Norwood are bringing this program series to the Norwood community. The June movie in the Sensory-friendly Friday movie series is Warner Bros. Space Jam: A new legacy, rated PG. This event is recommended for attendees aged 18 and up. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 30

Movie Showing: 'Red, White & Royal Blue'
Morrill Memorial Library
2 p.m.

Based on the bestselling book of the same name by Casey McQuiston, this movie captured the hearts of the fans from all over the world. *Synopsis:* When the feud between the son of the American President and Britain's prince threatens to drive a wedge in the U.S./British relations, the two are forced into a staged truce that sparks something deeper. Rated R.

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Real Estate Corner

GOOD DEEDS: Spring is here – The Community Preservation Act

BY WILLIAM P. O'DONNELL
Norfolk County Register of Deeds

Dear Friends of the Registry, Registry Stakeholders, and Norfolk County Residents, Spring is here, and as many of us take this opportunity to enjoy the wonderful public spaces that the communities in Norfolk County have to offer, I wanted to take a moment and share with you some history and information about the Community Preservation Act that I think you might find interesting.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is the result of more than two decades of work to create legislation that would provide all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns with a tool to preserve their most unique, natural, community, and physical infrastructures in the face of rapid expansion and development.

The CPA allows cities and towns to establish a Community Preservation Fund to preserve open space, historic preservation, affordable housing, and outdoor recreation. Additionally, the CPA establishes a statewide Community Preservation Trust Fund, which the Department of Revenue (DOR) oversees and which contributes annually to municipalities that have ratified the CPA.

The Community Preservation Act was signed into law on September 14, 2000. Today, with the addition of Amesbury, MA and Shirley,

MA in 2023, there are 196 Massachusetts communities that have adopted this act. Of the 28 communities that make up Norfolk County, 19 communities have adopted the law since it was signed back in 2000. As of December 31, 2019, fees collected for the Community Preservation Act were increased to \$50 for most land documents recorded and \$25 for municipal lien certificates. The Registry of Deeds, at no additional cost to the Commonwealth or local communities, collects these revenues once a land document is recorded and forwards the monies to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue on a monthly basis. The funds forwarded to the Commonwealth are then redistributed back to the communities that have adopted the Community Preservation Act.

The fees for the CPA are set by the State Legislature on land documents recorded here at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds. The following chart provides an illustration of the funds generated by the CPA in your community based on recorded real estate filings for that community during the 2023 calendar year.

| COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT (CPA): SURCHARGES BY TOWN FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023 | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| TOWN | TOTAL | |
| Avon | \$32,275.00 | |
| Bellingham | \$123,950.00 | |
| Braintree | \$186,775.00 | |

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Brookline | \$286,925.00 |
| Canton | \$159,950.00 |
| Cohasset | \$64,325.00 |
| Dedham | \$143,525.00 |
| Dover | \$42,800.00 |
| Foxborough | \$96,050.00 |
| Franklin | \$179,050.00 |
| Holbrook | \$78,900.00 |
| Medfield | \$75,250.00 |
| Medway | \$87,150.00 |
| Millis | \$69,250.00 |
| Milton | \$148,650.00 |
| Needham | \$183,000.00 |
| Norfolk | \$79,875.00 |
| Norwood | \$147,225.00 |
| Plainville | \$49,025.00 |
| Quincy | \$422,175.00 |
| Randolph | \$180,775.00 |
| Sharon | \$92,950.00 |
| Stoughton | \$175,400.00 |
| Walpole | \$155,200.00 |
| Wellesley | \$176,025.00 |
| Westwood | \$93,175.00 |
| Weymouth | \$317,050.00 |
| Wrentham | \$85,375.00 |


I hope you find this data informative and helpful in understanding the impact the Community Preservation Act has in allowing cities and towns to ensure that their unique characteristics and assets are preserved for years to come. In the meantime, if I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at 781-461-6116 or email registerodonnell@norfolk-deeds.org.


To all enjoy your Spring,
William P. O'Donnell
Norfolk County Register of Deeds

THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING?

Did you know for the month of April the average sales price for a single family, townhouse, or condo in Norwood is \$653K, up 5%!

As a lifelong Norwood resident, it would be my pleasure to represent your interest with an exceptional level of service tailored to your needs.

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Real Estate Corner

2024 Home Buying Season Springs to Life in April

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported that Norfolk County recordings for the month of April, 2024, indicate an increase in overall real estate activity, with significant increases in property sales and mortgage activity as compared to April, 2023.

The Registry of Deeds recorded 8,312 documents in April, 2024. This was 9% more than in April, 2023, and an 8% increase compared to March, 2024.

"Spring is the first half of the traditional home-buying season and typically marks the beginning of a busy period for the real estate

market," O'Donnell said. "The rise in property sales and mortgage activity compared to last year reflects a strong demand for housing in Norfolk County."

The total number of deeds recorded for April, 2024, which reflects both commercial and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,250, up 12% from April, 2023, and up 6% from March, 2024. Looking at just commercial and residential real estate sales, the number was up 15% from last year.

"Despite some difficult market conditions, the total number of commercial and residential property sales in April, 2024, showed

a significant increase compared to the previous year," O'Donnell stated. "This may be an indication that March's increase in property listings, while still not enough to counteract the overall lack of available property inventory is beginning to attract more buyers, leading to more property sales."

The average sale price of commercial and residential properties for April, 2024, rose to \$1,036,735, a 12% increase compared to April, 2023, but a decrease of 1% from March, 2024. The total dollar volume of commercial and residential sales is up, increasing 28% from last year and up 13% from last month.

"With a limited supply of available properties on the market, any increase in demand is likely to cause an increase in the average property sales price," O'Donnell said. "Unfortunately, when prices rise without an equivalent rise in inventory, it may result in increased competition among buyers. This makes it harder for homebuyers in general, but especially for first-time homebuyers."

For the month of April, lending activity showed an increase compared to the same month a year ago. A total of 1,243 mortgages were recorded in April, 2024, up 12% from April, 2023, and 14% more than last month.

"The increase in lending activity this month is likely a product of the increase in the number of property transactions compared to 2023," O'Donnell said. "This may suggest that while some homeowners are still hesitant to make moves with average mortgage interest rates above 7%, others are not dissuaded by current interest rates, but time will tell if this trend holds out."

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has been closely monitoring the foreclosure market. In April, 2024, there were six foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, whereas in April, 2023, there were ten recorded. However, in April, 2024, there were 43 notices to foreclose, the first step in the foreclosure process, more than the 30 recorded in April, 2023.

"The substantial increase in the number of these notices is troubling," O'Donnell noted. "It suggests that more of our neighbors may have financial difficulties in the future. If you are having difficulty paying your monthly mortgage, please consider contacting one of these non-profit agencies for help and guidance."

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.

"It is good to see that the increase of property listings in March resulted in an increase in property sales which is an indication that the desire for individuals to live in Norfolk County communities remains strong," O'Donnell concluded. "As we move further into the home buying season we hope to see similar real estate activity."

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SOUTHWICK'S ZOO PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

Thanks to all those who entered! These 12 entries will receive a family four-pack of GA passes to Southwick's Zoo for the 2024 season!

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| PUBLISHER'S PICK  <p>"MACAW!" Submitted by Nate H.</p> | STAFF CHOICE  <p>"Oh what fun ..." Submitted by Bobbie G.</p> | FAMILY  <p>"Family time at the zoo" Submitted by Nancy M.</p> | SOUTHWICK'S SIGN  <p>"Southwick's is our favorite zoo!" Submitted by Rachel R.</p> | KIDS  <p>"A couple of cuties at the zoo" Submitted by Christine H.</p> | HALLOWEEN  <p>"No matter the season ..." Submitted by Emily T.</p> |
| NOSTALGIC  <p>"My daughter meeting Jeff Corwin, 1999" Submitted by Lora D.</p> | RUNNER UP  <p>"We are so goated" Submitted by Agatha D.</p> | RUNNER UP  <p>"Fun for all ages" Submitted by Misty W.</p> | RUNNER UP  <p>"Having a roaring good time!" Submitted by Jillian R.</p> | RUNNER UP  <p>"Yikes! What are these?" Submitted by Brooke M.</p> | ANIMAL  <p>"Oh, Hay There" Submitted by Emily S.</p> |



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


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Based on data from MLS Property Information Network, Inc. for property type(s) single family, townhome, condominium in the price range \$0 - \$999,999.999 for the period January 2024 - April 2024. April 2024 data is compared to previous 3 months' average. Source data is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

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