



From left, Michael Glushchenko, Finn Hughes, Matt Snow of Hometown Arcade

From Homework to Hardware

5th graders turn passion for tech into real world success

By JENNIFER RUSSO

When many fifth-grade boys are busy mastering levels and obtaining virtual items in video games, two very business-minded kids took it upon themselves to go on a real-life quest instead. Michael Glushchenko and Finn Hughes are students at St. Catherine's

School in Norwood, and have been great friends for some time, both sharing a love for technology and an ambition for business ideas. After building a couple of gaming computers completely from scratch and selling them to Hometown Arcade, they can now say they are business

partners too.

"Michael has always been very entrepreneurial," Glushchenko's mother Rodie said. "He and Finn tried to start a snow shoveling business a few years ago, at 8-9 years old, and he also sold tomato plant seedlings one summer. We really support his curiosity and endeavors!"

ARCADE

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Finish Norwood Hospital Task Force Tours Construction Site, Holds Press Conference



Norwood General Manager Tony Mazzucco and the Finish Norwood Hospital Task Force toured the construction site and spoke to the media on Friday, April 18. (Photo Courtesy Town of Norwood)

Norwood General Manager Tony Mazzucco and the Finish Norwood Hospital Task Force welcomed media members to a Norwood Hospital site tour and

HOSPITAL

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Norwood’s Memorial Day Schedule

The Town of Norwood will be hosting activities dedicated to celebrating Memorial Day on Saturday, May 24 and Monday, May 26. All Norwood residents are invited to the events to help remember those who died in active military service.

The Norwood Department of Veteran Services coordinates the Memorial Day weekend ceremonies, beginning with placing the American flags on the graves of

Norwood Veterans on Saturday, May 24, at Highland Cemetery. Volunteers are welcome to assist in the effort and can receive more information from Director of Veteran Services office at 781-762-1240.

The ceremonies on Memorial Day, May 26, will begin with a memorial service at Saint Catherine of Siena Church. The American flag on the Town Common will then be placed at half-staff.



Ceremonies will be held at the Old Parish Cemetery, followed by

the Memorial Day parade which will end at Highland Cemetery for a commemorative ceremony.

Saturday, May 24
Decorate the graves of Norwoods Veterans with American flags at 8 a.m., at Highland Cemetery

Monday, May 26
Memorial service at 8 a.m., at St. Catherine of Siena Church
Flag raising at 9:30 a.m., at

Norwood Town Common. Flags placed at half mast

Parade groups muster at 9:30 a.m., at Old Parish Cemetery (the rear of 480 Washington Street)

Parade steps off at 10 a.m., at the corner of Washington and Howard Streets to Highland Cemetery

Ceremonies and observances at 11 a.m., Highland Cemetery following the parade

ARCADE

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What impressive planning taken on by these ambitious young men. Inspired by online videos of people building computers, the boys needed to do some research to understand what materials they needed, create a budget, find and purchase the parts, and locate a potential buyer. While this was a lot of work, the boys were committed to the task, and determined to see it succeed. When they ran into obstacles, they pushed through and learned a lot in the process.

“One of the challenges we had was installing some parts of the computer, like the IO shield and the CPU cooler, but we kept trying and realized what we had to do,” Glushchenko said.

“With the first model, when we tried to power it on, it didn’t work!” Hughes said. “We thought the cables were the problem, so we spent time fixing them and that solved the issue.”

Like any business venture, it required some upfront capital funds, and the boys invested money they had saved from events like birthdays and holidays to purchase the parts they needed.

“At first, I was apprehensive because he was asking to in-

vest his own money, but I am so proud of them!” Hughes mother Maura said. “I love that they did this independently, investing their own money, doing a bunch of research, watching videos on computer building, and spending a lot of time problem solving and marketing.”

When they were done building the computer, they posted it on Facebook Marketplace and were thrilled to see that there was a huge amount of interest. The owner of Hometown Arcade, Matt Snow, bought it and was very impressed.

“We needed a pretty powerful gaming computer for one of the arcade games and found the listing,” Snow said. “The price was almost too good to

be true given the specs of the machine (and unfortunately, you need to be worried about the large number of scammers out there). However, after talking with one of the boy’s dads, we worked out a deal and they brought the PC by our arcade in Norwood later that day. The machine exceeded our expectations and has been great for us. We ended up needing another PC for our location in NJ and the boys put a second one together for us. They really know what they’re doing from a tech standpoint and are pretty savvy entrepreneurs as well! We are super happy and lucky to have found them, and we will definitely be buying more machines from them in the future. Just great kids all around.”

Glushchenko shared that his favorite part of the experience was seeing the computer turn on and work after building it for a while, and Hughes said the best part for him was learning how to build a computer and seeing how all the parts work together. Both boys are very goal-oriented and interested in continuing to pursue entrepreneurship in the future

and have some advice for other kids who want to try something like this themselves.

“I would highly recommend it, but do a lot of research before buying anything,” Glushchenko advised.

“It’s hard, but if you do the research and are committed, then hard work can pay off,” Hughes shared.

And for these two ambitious and determined students, the work certainly did pay off in a big way. Now their homebuilt computers are running games for the whole community to enjoy, and as their machines hum away inside the arcade, they can start considering their next project. It’s truly amazing what can be achieved when young minds are driven by exploration, teamwork, and the simple belief that it can be done. It’s also a great reminder that when we encourage kids to pursue their ideas and dreams, we shape an even brighter and more innovative future.

Editor’s Note: Just after deadline, Snow put in a third order for another computer!

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HOSPITAL

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press conference on Friday, April 18, as part of the Finish Norwood Hospital campaign.



"There's a lot of construction that still has to happen," Mazzucco said. "But there's interest, and there's certainly a need. Beyond the critical need for health care and reasonable EMS response times, this region is growing at an incredible pace. In the core of Norfolk County, over the last five years, there have been more than 3,500 housing units constructed. There's another 3 or 4,000 on the way in the next couple years."

In 2019, Norwood Hospital served 126,000 patients during its last full year of operation. The hospital turned a \$11.2 million profit in 2018 and a \$25 million profit in 2019. That same year, 42,705 people visited the emergency room, and the average length of stay for admitted patients was 5.3 days.

At the direction of Gov. Maura Healey, Mazzucco has been leading the task force in a review of the health care needs

of the communities previously served by Norwood Hospital, which was closed by Steward Health Care after a 2020 flood.

The Finish Norwood Hospital Task Force includes regional health care providers, public

health officials, labor leaders, emergency service providers, community and business leaders, and elected and local government officials.

Task force members, including President of the Massachusetts Building and Trades Union Frank Callahan, Massachusetts Nurses Association Executive Director Julie Pinkham, and state Rep. John Rogers, joined media members on a site tour, followed by a press conference and brief Q&A session on Friday afternoon.

"I will tell you this much, most of the hospitals in Massachusetts are absolutely overwhelmed ... they're literally stacking up patients in the hallways," Pinkham said.

"As of our last site visit, we see less of a construction site," Rep. Rogers said. "We see a hospital."

As part of the Finish Norwood Hospital campaign, the Town of Norwood has also launched

a website dedicated to the campaign: FinishtheJobNorwood.com. On the website, visitors can access information about the new working group, view the history of Norwood Hospital, review a timeline of the closure, and get involved in advocacy efforts by signing letters to state officials.

"To those who say there are too many hospital beds in Massachusetts, that's just not true," Callahan said.

Norwood Hospital was operating as an acute care facility with 130-plus beds and an emergency room with a catheterization lab.

By census population, the catchment area includes 12 towns and 250,000 residents.

The cascading effect of transports to other hospitals is impacting towns outside of the catchment area, creating devastating regional impacts for emergency medical services.

Rep. Rogers said reopening Norwood Hospital is "critically necessary."

On Aug. 30, 2021, DPH issued the emergency DoN to rebuild Norwood Hospital. Medical Properties Trust (MPT) has

been rebuilding the hospital, but the Department of Public Health revoked the DoN for Norwood Hospital in the fall of 2024, citing Steward's closure. Norwood and its surrounding communities need the state to reconsider that revocation.

"I don't think it's a question of if we open Norwood Hospital, but when," Pinkham said.

To follow the Finish Norwood Hospital campaign, visit the finishthejobnorwood.com or the campaign's social media platforms (Facebook, X, Instagram, and LinkedIn).

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Mailing it Forward

The Annual Letter Carriers’ food drive is Saturday, May 10

BY BELLA CAGGIANO

Drivers on the streets of Norwood may see an unusual number of packages by many mailboxes, and no, they will not be from an extraordinary Amazon sale. On the second Saturday of May each year, rain or shine, Norwood residents leave marked bags of non-perishable food by their mailbox in the morning and mail carriers pick up the packages during their regular delivery routes for the 32nd Annual Letter Carriers’ Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Once gathered together, they transport them to the Norwood Food Pantry. This event is the largest one-day food drive in the country, and Norwood residents can directly be a part of this national campaign

The timing of the second

Saturday in May is no accident. Local food banks and pantries best benefit by a mid-spring surge to replenish their diminishing shelves from the influx of donations received during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons.

Top 10 Most Needed Items Requested Now:

Canned Soups (Vegetable and Chicken types, Tomato, Mushroom, etc.)

Cereals: Cold (small 11-14 ounce sizes) Frosted Flakes, Fruity Pebbles, Raisin Bran, Honey Bunches of Oats, Fruit Loops, Cheerios, etc.

Canned Fruit (Fruit Cocktail, Peaches, Pears, Mixed, etc.)

Canned Beef Stew, Hash, Chili with Meat, SPAM)

White Rice (instant – small boxes)

Teas: Regular, Decaf, Herbal, Green and Decaf Coffee (Instant and Ground types)

Boxed Rice Mixes (Rice Pilaf, Near East, Rice a Roni, any store brand etc.)

Macaroni and Cheese

Cocoa Mix (small boxes of 6 – 8 packets)

Spaghetti Sauce (small jars 24 -25-ounce)

Other “Always Needed” Popular Items

Canned White Albacore Tuna in water

Boxed Pasta (ziti, penne, rigatoni, macaroni, shells, spaghetti, etc.)

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Chunky Peanut Butter (small jars)

Canned Beans (Black, Red, Chick, White, Baked, etc.)

Canned Pasta (Beefaroni, Beef Ravioli, any brand)

Canned Vegetables (Peas, Carrots, Corn, etc.)

Jams/Jellies: Raspberry, Marmalade, Grape, Strawberry, etc.

Crackers: Ritz, Townhouse, Saltines, Graham Crackers

Cookies/Snacks (Oreos, Chocolate Chip, Granola Bars)



Instant Pudding Mix (chocolate or vanilla) and Gelatin (Strawberry, Cherry, Orange)

Canned Chicken (5-ounce cans or small pouches)

Pet Food: Dry cat or dog food (small 3-5 pounds). Canned food is also welcome.

Hygiene Items (#6 Diapers, small dish/laundry detergent, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste) are also gratefully accepted.

11 million pounds of food was collected; a one-day record in the United States!

Any donation, large or small is greatly appreciated. All it takes is a quick scan of your pantry or cupboard to collect a few items, and place them in a marked bag by the mailbox the morning of Saturday, May 10. In the three decades of this event, approximately 1.9 billion pounds of food has been collected for those in need through the generosity of neighbors, just one can at a time.

Contributing to those with food insecurities is as easy in May as mailing a letter...from the comfort of your own home.

The Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry is located behind the Grace Episcopal, 150 Chapel St. Direct donations can be made Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-12 noon or inside the Norwood Stop & Shop. For more information on Stamp Out Hunger, visit www.facebook.com/StampOutHunger or the Norwood Food Pantry, visit www.norwoodpantry.org/.



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Campagna Steps up for 40 Years

By MICHELE TARANTO

Forty years. Anyone would likely agree that is a long time to commit to any action, habit, or cause. Norwood resident Nicholas Campagna, however, hasn't missed a beat or a step the last

fail. Since he began lacing up his sneakers for the challenge, Campagna has raised more than \$100,000 through his tireless efforts to help place food on families' tables who needed assistance. "Growing up we never had a

Walk for Hunger as I am always inspired by the crowds of people united in their commitment to help those in need."

Campagna has lived in Norwood for over 50 years and first learned about Project Bread's Walk for Hunger from members of his church who had participated in the event and found it to be a rewarding experience. About 15 years ago, Campagna formed a Norwood Food Pantry team to give back to Project Bread for the support they provided to the pantry in its early years. Even during the pandemic, he and his team remained vigilant to the cause and walked virtually around Norwood. This year also, he won't be able to walk with his team due to travel plans, but again, he will perform a simulated walk on his own. The best part is, this is not a race; and the finish line? A personal goal!

On May 4, over 3,500 individuals will step up for Project Bread's 57th Walk for Hunger, both in-person and virtually, to walk the three-mile loop around the Boston Common, in their own neighborhoods, or in Cam-

pagna's case, in a more leisurely setting. The one-day community event will raise more than \$1 million to support and ensure food access for all children and families in Massachusetts. The event will also feature family-friendly activities, food, and entertainment on

Massachusetts' famous Boston Common!

"It is becoming more and more difficult for people to afford enough to eat," Erin McAleer, President & CEO of Project

PROJECT BREAD
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four decades helping feed the hungry. Don't bother asking him to attend an event, the first Sunday in May he is always booked! The 82-year-old retired geotechnical engineer first joined Project Bread's Walk for Hunger in 1985, and has continued that streak every year without

lot of money, but we always had food on the table," Campagna said. "My uncle wasn't so fortunate. He was homeless and spent time at Pine Street Inn and the shelter for Veterans on Long Island. These examples remind me how fortunate I am. I look forward to supporting this year's



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Living Healthy

Relief in Sight: Migraine Lenses Offer New Hope

BY GRAHAM STETSON, OD, MS

For the millions of people who suffer from migraines or photophobia (light sensitivity), daily life can feel like a battle against light itself. Bright screens, fluorescent lighting, and even a sunny day can trigger debilitating headaches, nausea, and fatigue. Fortunately, advances in optical technology are providing new ways to manage these symptoms.

Lens Therapy: Symptoms of light sensitivity during a migraine can be improved when certain wavelengths of light are filtered out. Because of this, specialized light-filtering lenses for migraine and light sensitivity can be beneficial for individuals who spend long hours under artificial lighting or in front of screens. They're also helpful for those with conditions like traumatic brain injury, post-concussion syndrome, dry

eye, or blepharospasm, all of which can amplify light sensitivity. There are two specialized light-filtering lenses available for migraine and light sensitivity: FL-41 and Avalux©.

Broad-spectrum Approach: Originally developed as a therapy for blepharospasm (eyelid twitching), FL-41 can provide relief for those with headache disorders and photophobia. They are tinted with a rose or purple hue that filters out spe-



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cific a range of wavelengths from blue to green light that have been shown to aggravate light-sensitive conditions. Studies have shown that FL-41 can significantly reduce migraine frequency and photophobia symptoms in both adults and children. FL-41 lenses can be made in various darknesses, but moderately tinted and darker work best.

Multi-band Approach: A newer innovation, Avalux© lenses are moderately dark, but offer advanced, multi-band light filtering technology. Unlike FL-41's broad-spectrum

approach, Avalux© filters out two bands of light across the visible spectrum that have been clinically linked to migraine triggers.

Prevention and Treatment: Light-filtering lenses can be worn to prevent migraines and in environments where light sensitivity develops. They can also be worn during an attack or when photophobia occurs. Still, it's important to note that while these lenses can alleviate symptoms, they are not a cure. They are most effective when used in combination with other treatments, such as lifestyle changes, medications, and trigger management.

While not a magic bullet, FL-41 or Avalux© lenses offer a promising, drug-free way to manage the daily struggle of migraines and light sensitivity. They may not work for everyone—but for many, these lenses can mean the difference between powering through the day and being sidelined by pain. Talk to your eye care provider or neurologist. With little to lose and plenty to gain, they just might be the clearest path forward.

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There are, however, resources to combat those allergies other than medication. Eighty percent of your immune 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.

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tem such as processed foods, preservatives, and cleaning products, as well as creating a healthy eating plan, boosted his nervous system function and added supportive supplements. Within several weeks Tom noticed a significant difference. He was less congested, his nose stopped running and the cough was greatly reduced. Tom is not worried the 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.

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out to me and scheduled a time for me to meet them and once I saw them, I chose 1 right away, but after some thinking I decided to take 2. During this time, I had been diagnosed with breast cancer and was about to start treatment (on a positive note I am passed it and doing well). I was able to receive Kai and Luna (formerly Peter and Cindy) in my home in early October and these 2 have been by my side as my cancer kitties since.

Having this brother sister duo is really fun! They love each other and spend hours every day either play-

ing or on my lap. They are also partners in crime in getting into things they shouldn't. They are doing so great and have grown so much, I can't wait to see what the next months and years bring!

Having the BSAC team coordinate everything, including getting them fixed and started on their vaccines was very helpful as well as keeping me informed on what kinds of food they were al-

years that January and wasn't sure when I'd be ready to have another animal in my home, but once I saw these adorable kittens that were sadly abandoned with their mother, I knew that at least 1 of them was going to be mine. I followed your Facebook page and patiently waited until the link for adoption was posted and I submitted one the same day. Marcia Leonard reached

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Need service hours? Looking for volunteer opportunities? Love dogs? Or maybe you love washing cars!

The Bay State Animal Cooperative is looking for volunteers for its Annual Dog/Car Wash Fundraiser!

The event is Sunday,

June 22, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Any time slot within those hours will be much appreciated!

The day will also include rabies vaccinations and a microchipping clinic.

For more information or to sign up, email info@baystateanimals.org.

Children under age 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

Have a truck? Two volunteers with trucks are needed to pick up and drop off supplies on the day of the event.

Rabies vaccinations and microchipping clinic.
June 22
9am-2pm
Municipal Parking Lot,
Nahatan Street



Coming up for Adoption

There is a special home waiting for this semi-elderly pair coming up for adoption. Their names are Buddie and Blackie. Sadly, their owner passed away and they were left without a home. BSAC could not say no to accepting these beautiful cats (approx. 12 and 14 years old), and will be seeking a home for

these boys together soon. The will make exceptional companions!

baystateanimals.org

facebook.com/BayStateAnimals

twitter.com/BayStateAnimals

instagram.com/baystateanimals16

SUMMER GUIDE!



Think Summer! Warm weather. Beaches. Golfing. Hiking. Outdoor dining. Are you looking forward to it as much as we are? Then promote your business and events with our annual Summer Guide - jam-packed with things to do this summer. Just add warm weather!

Reach more than 73,000 homes and businesses this June with our Annual Summer Guide. Direct mailed to Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Millbury, Northbridge, Oxford, Sutton, Upton, Uxbridge and Webster!

Reservation Deadline is May 8th! Contact Jen Schofield at 508-570-6544 or by email at jenschofield@localtownpages.com to book your space today!

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localtownpages

FREE PRESS

Senior Corner

By MICHELE TARANTO

Norwood Senior Center News

Norwood Municipal Light Department (NMLD) Rebates

Energy New England, in partnership with NMLD, offers no cost Home Energy Assessments to identify heating, lighting, weatherization and rebate opportunities that can save you money on your utility bills. Call Energy New England at 888-772-4242 to schedule a home energy assessment. NMLD offers rebates on Energy Star-rated appliances (like refrigerators and washing machines) and electric lawn equipment. For more information on the rebates, visit norwoodlight.com/rebates or call Energy New England at 508-698-1225.

NMLD also offers rebates to customers who do not heat with

natural gas, for air source heat pump installations and weatherization rebates for insulation and air sealing.

Customers who do heat with Natural Gas may look on massave.com/nsw for rebates. The Town of Norwood's Energy Advocate, Julie Barbour-Issa, is available to answer questions about Mass Save and she can be reached at (781) 390-9913.

Perkins Library Services

The Perkins Library circulates more than half a million copies of books, newspapers, and publications in braille, large print, and digital audio formats annually. Print disability is defined as: difficulty holding a book, unable to read for long periods of time, vision loss and head trauma. These difficulties can be temporary, such as recovering from surgery or a

permanent condition.

In addition to reading, Perkins has a program called Tele Fun where they can connect people to different activities by phone or online. The activities include Trivia, radio drama stories, audio described movies, book groups, and more.

If you would like to be connected to the Perkins library, contact Kathleen Rooney, Outreach Coordinator, at 781-762-1201.

FREE Shredding Event

Tuesday, May 20, Norwood Senior Center Parking Lot, 275 Prospect St. - 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Take advantage of this drive-thru, contactless, free shredding event sponsored by the Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey.

PROJECT BREAD

continued from page 5

Bread said. "One in 5 families with kids are worried about where their next meal will come from. The Walk for Hunger is our opportunity to make an immediate difference in the lives of thousands of our neighbors. The people – our walkers, volunteers, and donors – are what make The Walk for Hunger such a powerful event. Together, as a community, we're making

sure people can access food with dignity and choice each day." To donate to Campagna's fundraiser, visit <https://give.projectbread.org/fundraiser/6110075>. To register as a participant for Project Bread's Walk for Hunger, or to support a walker or team with a donation, visit give.projectbread.org/walk. All individual walkers are encouraged to fundraise a minimum of \$25 and teams \$250. Participants who raise \$500 or more are recognized as Heart & Sole walkers and receive access to

personalized fundraising support, exclusive event gear, free breakfast on Walk Day, and invitations to exclusive events.

People experiencing food insecurity should call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline (800-645-8333), which provides confidential, free assistance getting connected to a variety of food resources in 180 languages, and for the hearing impaired. Counselors can pre-screen families and help them to apply for SNAP. Learn more at projectbread.org/get-help.

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508-879-3290

Norwood Sports

New Head Coach Looking To Continue Success

By Christopher Tremblay

Having grown up in nearby Walpole and playing club lacrosse prior to moving onto Worcester State University where she was the starting goalie her junior and senior seasons, Krissy Pessa never thought about becoming a coach after leaving college. Now some years later she is taking the helm of the Norwood girls lacrosse team.

“A friend was looking for some help coaching, so I started helping her out,” the new varsity head coach said. “I eventually hooked up with Norwood as the JV Coach and helped out on the varsity level. I knew that Mike (Lodge) was leaving this year so I acquired about the position and here I am – Norwood’s new head coach.”

Having been with the Mustang programs for the past five years, Pessa knows all about the team and what they are capable of doing. Last year, Norwood went 9-9 and found their way into the Division 2 State Tournament where they played Amherst-Pelham Regional and pulled out a 14-10 preliminary round win. Unfortunately, Norwood would then get blown out by Walpole, who would go all the way to the Championship game where they lost to Notre Dame of Hingham.

“I want to continue having



this team make the playoffs and hopefully win a game or two,” Pessa said. “I also want the girls to learn something that they can take with them throughout their lives; being better human beings

as well as athletes.”

Senior captain Shea Larkee, who will be taking her lacrosse career to Division 1 Cornell University next year, will be the player that the new coach looks to guide the Mustangs into the post-season.

“She is an unbelievable athlete, a once in a lifetime kid,” the Pessa said. “I remember during her freshman year she blew out her knee and continued to come to practice and blast shots at the net. It was totally unbelievable to see her come back after such a devastating injury and play better than ever.”

As the team’s midfielder, Larkee is one that doesn’t like to ever come out of the game at any cost. According to Pessa, she is a coach’s dream player and one that is going to leave an extraordinary large gap on the field next season at Norwood.

Another player that has brought a smile to the coaches face this spring is Aly O’Neil. The Mustang midfielder puts shots on net that totally amazes the coach and she is looking for her to be a big asset on the Norwood attack.

On the back end of the field is sophomore goalie Ally Mannering, another outstanding athlete

that the coach will be looking to have a big impact on the team’s success.

“I can’t wait to watch her to continue to grow over the next three years,” Pessa said. “She is such a great athlete but needs to work on her mental game. She sometimes gets into her own head and just needs to learn to let it go and bounce back.”

Other individuals that Pessa will rely heavily on are senior captains Bridgett Sople and Evann O’Neil, as well as senior Emily Spadorcia.

As she takes the varsity helm for the first time, Pessa knows that she has the talent on the field to get this team back to the tournament.

“One of the biggest things I will be looking for is that the girls have fun,” the Mustang coach said. “Obviously you want to win and go as far as you can in the tournament, but I want the seniors to have a great end of their careers.”

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Norwood Sports

Consistency for the Win

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Last season, first-year coach Caitlin Nottebart got the Norwood softball team into the Division 2 State Tournament after going 10-8. The Mustangs would fall to Doherty Memorial, 6-5, in Nottebart's first-post season game as the head coach. Doherty Memorial would go up 5-0 before Norwood battled back to take the game into extra innings where they eventually came up short.

With a year under her belt, the Norwood skipper is looking to improve upon last year's performance.

"The biggest thing that we are looking for this year is consistency," Nottebart said. "Last year, we found ourselves up big in certain games only to lose by making stupid mistakes. We will also be focusing a lot on the outfield where we will also need to work on our consistency and the mental aspect of the game. The girls know that we'll be working hard on relays and cutoffs while doing our job out there."

Norwood only lost the two corner positions in the infield to graduation; Natalie Gale was stationed at first, while Maddie Collins held down the hot corner for the Mustangs last spring. Taking over the corner positions will be freshman Maureen Larkee at third, and Sarah Randall and Lauryn Salvucci will share time at first.

According to Nottebart, Larkee has been playing solid ball thus far at third, while she has also shown she can hit the ball. Nottebart is hoping to use her bat in the top of the lineup somewhere.

The two first basemen will also see time in the circle during the season. Randall is currently slated as the teams number two hurler, while Salvucci may find herself pitching on occasion. Pauline Cordani will take the ball before either of the other two girls and should see the majority of the work.

"Sarah is a mechanical pitcher while Pauline has better speed and relies on it a lot," Nottebart said. "If things are not going her way or the um-

pires are not giving her the calls, it's going to be a tough day for her. Lauryn has absolutely held her own in the team's varsity scrimmages so far."

In addition to pitching and playing first, Randall will be looked upon as the team's power hitter. Senior Lizzy Helmar, the team's shortstop and sophomore catcher Lilly Cordani will also be relied upon to get the Mustangs offense going.

Cordani is a patient hitter once she steps into the batter's box and earns herself a lot of walks; she uses her ability to find a way to get on base in most situations.

Helmar is another athlete that will reach base on a regular basis for Norwood this spring. According to the coach, she is a smart hitter that knows how to find the gaps, and once on base she is super-fast. The senior is playing in her fourth varsity season with the Mustangs and is an old school type of player who just gets it done. Following high school, Helmar will be attending Curry College, a Division 3 school in Milton, where

she will continue her softball career. Nottebart anticipates the shortstop to make an impact for the Colonels right away.

Senior left-fielder Kayra Walsh will help with the offense as she can hit the ball with the best of them and can usually stretch them into extra base hits. Senior captain Colleen Denehy will patrol the opposite corner of the outfield while Cece Becker and Cici Indeck will both be battling it out for the final outfield position in centerfield. Indeck is a catcher by trade but with the stellar play of Cordani behind the plate, she may not be getting too much time there and is willing to play just about anywhere to get herself on the field. Junior Sophia Touma may also see some time in the outfield.

Filling in the last infield spot will be Ava Amato at second base, and while she doesn't have a lot of power, she is a smart player who knows how to get on base and employ those base running skills once there.

Sophomore Jackie Powers will see some time filling in for

Amato at second and will definitely be used as a pinch runner from time to time. Another speedy individual on the base-paths is Allison Grenham, who according to the coach, is tiny but very speedy. At the time of this writing, Grenham was unsure if she wanted to stay with the varsity team or play with her sisters (the trio are triplets).

Rounding out the team is Mariela Abi Elis, who was on the Norwood JV team last spring and Nottebart is looking to get her some reps on the varsity team this year.

As the season gets underway, all the girls know that making the tournament is the team's first priority.

"We really want to get into the tournament and get that first win," the Norwood coach said. "We haven't been able to do that in some time, so it would be something special if we can accomplish it this year."

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Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. **CLOSED** Sunday

Calendar of Events

May 2

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

Come pray for the country on the National Day of Prayer. This is a beautiful opportunity to foster love of God and country and sing favorite patriotic songs. For more information, call Rita Russo at 781-762-4391.

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Friends Only Preview
Morrill Memorial Library
1-4:45 p.m.

Current members of the Friends of the Library are welcome to preview the book sale items before the sale is opened to the public. New members may sign up to become a Friend at the door. For more information about The Friends of the Library and their membership rates visit their page at www.norwoodlibrary.org/friends/.

May 3

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Morrill Memorial Library
9 a.m.

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale: General Admission For more information about The Friends of the Library and their membership rates visit their page at www.norwoodlibrary.org/friends/.

Norwood Early Childhood Education Fair
Balch Elementary School, 1170 Washington St., S. Norwood
10 a.m.

This Morrill Memorial Library and Norwood Cultural Council grant-sponsored event aims to enhance community engagement in early childhood education, provide resources to parents and educators, and foster partnerships between local schools, childcare centers, and families. This FREE event will take place OUTDOORS on the front lawn of the Balch Elementary School (1170 Washington St. Norwood). There will be a performance by the children's band 'Rockabye Beats' during the event. This featured concert will start at 10:30am. This event is recommended for families with children aged birth to 6. If you have any questions, contact CFCE Program Coordinator Liz Hogrell (ehogrell@minlib.net).

VFW Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, 193 Dean St.
2-5 p.m.

The price for each Drawing

is \$2 or a pre-buy during the week for \$20. Ten Drawings are conducted each 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. Open to the public. The Norwood VFW is looking for new members. Veterans of the Gulf War, and personnel who have served overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan are welcome to visit the post at any time or come to one of the monthly meetings which are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month through May (except December).

May 4

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Half Price Day
Morrill Memorial Library
1-4:45 p.m.

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale: All remaining items are 50% off! For more information about The Friends of the Library and their membership rates visit their page at www.norwoodlibrary.org/friends/.

May 7

Music with Sarah
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.

Music with Sarah is a joyful and engaging music class for young children and their caregivers! Little ones will sing, dance, play instruments, and explore rhythm and movement in a fun, welcoming environment. Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers. This class encourages early learning through music, creativity, and connection. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Commit to You: Navigating the Parenting Journey
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Session 2: Values-Based Parenting – Building Daily Intentionality

Identify what truly matters to you as a parent and how to align your everyday choices with those values. Discover how a values-based approach can strengthen communication, increase protective factors, and decrease the likelihood of unhealthy coping behaviors. For parents and caregivers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Norwood Junior Woman's Club Monthly Meeting
Conrad's, Norwood
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. They are an easy-going, fun group, and by joining it doesn't require a big commitment. For more information, email Norwoodjwc@gmail.com or visit their website at Norwoodjwc.org. All welcome to any meeting, bring a friend and see what they are all about!

May 8

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

The May movie in the Sensory-friendly Monthly Movie series is Universal's Madagascar: Europe's Most Wanted, rated PG. This event is recommended for attendees aged 18 and up. Please fill out the form below to register or call 781 769 0200 Ext 2. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 9

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for Sensory-friendly Art Classes for Adults, a program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Each week, 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 www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 10

Norwood Evening Garden Club Plant Sale
Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St.
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

A large variety of locally grown herbs, vegetables, and annuals – including geraniums,

hanging baskets and patio pots – will be offered. Canna roots and dahlia tubers will also be available. Mastercard, Visa and Venmo are accepted. For more information on the Norwood Evening Garden Club, call 781-769-3854 or visit www.norwood-eveninggardenclub.com. Note the new location!

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

What will you find at the Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop? Check out just a sampling of their inventory: kitchen items, tableware, seasonal decorations, jewelry, clothing for the whole family, shoes, books, puzzles, lamps, linens, and more! Great quality and great prices. Come in and take a look!

VFW Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, 193 Dean St.
2-5 p.m.

The price for each Drawing is \$2 or a pre-buy during the week for \$20. Ten Drawings are conducted each 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. Open to the public. The Norwood VFW is looking for new members. Veterans of the Gulf War, and personnel who have served overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan are welcome to visit the post at any time or come to one of the monthly meetings which are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month through May (except December).

Puzzle Race
Morrill Memorial Library
2:30 p.m.

Love doing puzzles? Want to test your speed against others? Join us for a friendly puzzle face-off against other teams!

How does the race work?

Up to 8 teams will compete, with a maximum of 4 people per team. Feel free to name your team! Families are welcome to come as a team; children aged 10+ will count as a team member. One puzzle per team.

Puzzles will be 500 pieces and identical.

Race will kick off at 2:30pm and will end at 4pm. Please plan on arriving by 2:20 pm at the lat-

est, so we can start on time.

The team with the most completed puzzle by the end of the race will be the winner, but everyone gets the bragging rights!

This program is free and open to all, but note that the difficulty level of the puzzle design is most suitable for tweens, teens and adults. Only one team member registers for the whole team.

To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 11

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Grab & Go Kit
Morrill Memorial Library
12 noon-5 p.m.

Inspired by the beloved book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, this kit includes a copy of the book and everything you need for a fun, hands-on activity perfect for children ages 2–5. Families can enjoy reading together and then dive into a creative project that supports early literacy and fine motor skills through playful learning. Only request 1/family. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 12

Monday Movie Matinee: Conclave
1 p.m.

Conclave follows one of the world's most secretive and ancient events – selecting the new Pope. Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked with running this covert process after the unexpected death of the beloved Pope. Once the Catholic Church's most powerful leaders have gathered from around the world and are locked together in the Vatican halls, Lawrence uncovers a trail of deep secrets left in the dead Pope's wake, secrets which could shake the foundations of the Church. Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Jacek Komar, Lucian Msamati, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow. 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.

May 13

Women in Business Networking

CALENDAR
continued on page 13

CALENDAR

continued from page 12

Meeting
Norwood Civic Center
8 a.m.

The Women’s Business Net-
working (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 provid-
ing referral business, the women
share and support business ideas
and community events/fundrais-
ers. If you would like more infor-
mation about the organization,
call 781-799-7068, or email wb-
nofnorwood@gmail.com.

Strategies to Help Enhance Your
Job Search
Morrill Memorial Library
12 noon

Representatives from AARP
will offer a program, Strategies to
Help Enhance Your Job Search.
Discover how to network effec-
tively, hone your interviewing
skills and search and apply for
great jobs online! You can also
get a profile photo taken to use
on social media and in your job
search, so come dressed for suc-
cess! Topics covered in this ses-
sion will include:

- Exploring the latest job search
websites
- Preparing for tough interview
questions
- Connecting with fellow job
seekers and career search experts
- Age-proofing your resume
- Learning tips to ace your in-
terview

To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Norwood Toastmasters Meeting
Norwood Civic Center, 165
Nahatan St.
6:45 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmas-
ters Club helps develop commu-
nication and leadership skills for
members and the community
at every ability level. Guests are
always welcome to come and
see just how it is done! For more
information, visit norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Be MediaWise: Verifying
Reputable Sources
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.

Tonight, join Adult Services
Librarian Heath Umbreit to
learn about verifying reputable
sources. The event will explore
what lateral reading is and why it
can be helpful in verifying infor-

mation; how to evaluate whether
search results are reputable or
not; and what the difference is
between primary and secondary
sources. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 14

Commit to You: Navigating the
Parenting Journey
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Session 3: Self-Compassion &
Mindfulness for Families

This session focuses on helping
you develop self-compassion in
the face of parenting challenges,
while also learning simple mind-
fulness tools to help both you and
your child regulate emotions, re-
duce stress, and build healthier
coping strategies. For parents and
caregivers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 15

Board Game Night (18+)
Morrill Memorial Library
6 p.m.

If you’ve been looking for
a casual group of fellow board
gamers, the Morrill Memorial
Library is your spot. Games will
be provided, but feel free to bring
any of your own! To register, visit
www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference
desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Know Your Government:
Massachusetts Office on Disability
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Morrill Memorial Library is
partnering with MA Office on
Disability to bring an info session
about the role and function of
MA Office on Disability (MOD)
to the public. MOD is a small
state agency that provides infor-
mation, guidance, and training
on disability-related civil rights
and architectural access. They
help people understand their dis-
ability rights and obligations, how
regulations apply to the specifics
of their situation, and practical
steps they can take to assert their
rights and comply with the law.
There are a lot of state agen-
cies and other organizations that
serve the disability community.
This presentation will help you
navigate the government, have
more successful government in-
teractions, and learn more about
MOD and how they can help
you. It does not include legal in-
formation. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

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

May 16

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

Join art instructor Stephanie
Enloe for Sensory-friendly Art
Classes for Adults, a program
specially designed for adults with
different levels of cognitive abili-
ties. Each week, 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 [www.norwoodli-
brary.org/morrillcalendar/](http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/), or
call the reference desk at 781-
769-0200, x2.

May 17

Wings & Wheels
Norwood Memorial Airport
9-10 a.m. (Group 1)
10-11 a.m. (Group 2)

Meet at the airport for an up-
close experience to planes, heli-
copters, large trucks, and more!

FREE! For all ages.

VFW Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, 193
Dean St.
2-5 p.m.

The price for each Drawing
is \$2 or a pre-buy during the
week for \$20. Ten Drawings are
conducted each 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 in-
clude a 50/50 money raffle. A
separate Winner Takes All Raffle
is conducted at the end for an
additional \$5. Open to the pub-
lic. The Norwood VFW is look-
ing for new members. Veterans
of the Gulf War, and personnel
who have served overseas in Iraq
and Afghanistan are welcome to
visit the post at any time or come
to one of the monthly meetings
which are held on the fourth
Wednesday of each month
through May (except December).

May 21

Turn the Page Book Group: Long
Island
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.

Join Patty Bailey and other
local readers for a friendly
and informal discussion of the
novel *Long Island*, written by Colm
Tóibín.

Twenty years after the events

CALENDAR

continued on page 14

EST 1932

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CALENDAR

continued from page 13

of Brooklyn, Colm returns to the character of Eilis Lacey, who has built a life in New York with her husband, Tony, their two teenage children and his extended Italian American family. Then Eilis learns that Tony has fathered a child with a married woman, whose husband plans to drop the baby on Eilis’s doorstep. Feeling isolated in her adopted country, betrayed by the person who made it feel like home and certain that she does not want to raise another woman’s child, Eilis returns to County Wexford, Ireland, for the first time in two decades. There she reconnects with her mother, brother, widowed friend Nancy and Jim Farrell—the man everyone once thought she would marry. Now, in Long Island, Tóibín’s best known character is offered a second chance at the life she left behind in this story complicated by weighty secrets, thundering silences and the deepest desires of the human heart. New members are always welcome! Copies of the book in regular, large print and audio are available at the circulation desk. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Commit to You: Navigating the Parenting Journey
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Session 4: Using Gratitude & Savoring to Deepen Connection

Explore how daily moments of gratitude and intentional con-

nection can protect against risk factors like substance use and foster a sense of purpose, belonging, and joy in your family life. For parents and caregivers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 21

Turn the Page Book Group: Long Island
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
6:30 p.m.

Join Patty Bailey and other local readers for a friendly and informal discussion of the novel *Long Island*, written by Colm Tóibín.

Twenty years after the events of Brooklyn, Colm returns to the character of Eilis Lacey, who has built a life in New York with her husband, Tony, their two teenage children and his extended Italian American family. Then Eilis learns that Tony has fathered a child with a married woman, whose husband plans to drop the baby on Eilis’s doorstep. Feeling isolated in her adopted country, betrayed by the person who made it feel like home and certain that she does not want to raise another woman’s child, Eilis returns to County Wexford, Ireland, for the first time in two decades. New members are always welcome! Copies of the book in regular, large print and audio are available at the circulation desk. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 22

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 different levels of abilities. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Entrepreneurship 101: Starting and Growing Your Small Business
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Are you somebody thinking of setting up a business, but hesitant to take that first step? Or are you somebody who has a business idea, but would like to know the nuts and bolts of setting up a business? Would you like to learn from local entrepreneurs about their own experiences? The presenter is Tricia White, Small Business Development Officer for NeighborWorks. Join Tricia as she takes the audience through the steps of starting and growing your small business. Topics include,

- Formulating an Idea
- Business Planning
- Market Research
- Legal Structure
- Funding
- Building Your Team
- Product/Service Development
- Marketing/Sales Strategy
- Customer Profiles
- Financial Management
- Mentorship
- Measuring Success

The program is free and open to the public. Recommended for ages 18+. Registration is required. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 23

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for Sensory-friendly Art Classes for Adults, a program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Each week, 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 www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 24

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

Everyone who comes in is so impressed with the quality of the shop’s household items and everything apparel. They even have clothes that have never been worn before, with the tags still on them. Your family can be outfitted for summer in the blink of an eye! Pick up a piece of jewelry, a purse, a pair of sandals or flip-flops for the finishing touch!

May 27

Women in 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.

Titles on Tap Book Group
Napper Tandy’s (sponsored by the Morrill Memorial Library)
7:30 p.m.

The title this month will be ‘The Death of Vivek Oji,’ by Akwaeke Emezi. 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. 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.

May 28

Sensory-Friendly Lego Club for Adults
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 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 different levels of abilities. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Romantic Reads Book Tasting
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.

Join Head of Borrower Services Michael Roderick and Youth Services Librarian Dina Delic for MML’s second “Book Tasting” event! This time they will be focusing on the genre of Romance and Romantic Reads. Michael and Dina will give brief overviews of different tropes and subgenres of romances, and share several examples of books you can borrow from each topic discussed. After the presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, share their own recommendations, and socialize with one another.

May 29

Enchanted Plants: An Exploration of Common & Uncommon Plants in Folklore & Magic
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.

From the tangled forest to the garden hedge, join folklorist, rotten botanist, and author Varla Ventura for an exploration of some of the world’s most enchanted plants. The discussion will start in the queen’s garden of cultivars, then to the cottage garden where ordinary plants offer extraordinary stories. From the ordinary apple to the fabulous foxglove, discover plants that have played a significant role in fairy tales, folklore, and history. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

May 30

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for Sensory-friendly Art Classes for Adults, a program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Each week, 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 www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Norwood Evening Garden Club’s Annual Plant Sale

The Norwood Evening Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 10, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This year’s sale will be held at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Street, rain or shine. Note the new location!

As in past years, perennials from member gardens will be offered at reasonable prices. A large variety of locally grown herbs, vegetables, and annuals – including geraniums, hanging baskets and patio pots – will be offered. Canna roots and dahlia tubers will also be available. Mastercard, Visa and Venmo are accepted.

Bring your questions to the sale! Many club members are also Massachusetts Master Gardeners who will be happy to answer your gardening questions.

Proceeds from the Plant Sale are used for the club’s many civic beautification and education projects throughout Norwood and Walpole.

For information about the Norwood Evening Garden Club, call 781-769-3854 or visit www.NorwoodEveningGardenClub.com.

2024 Norwood Election results

	DIST 1	DIST 2	DIST 3	DIST 4	DIST 5	DIST 6	DIST 7	DIST 8	DIST 9	TOTALS
SELECTMEN - 2 (3 YEARS)										
Robert G. Donnelly	218	238	220	373	111	102	194	216	187	1859
Amanda Grow	181	219	194	268	78	74	168	180	151	1513
Cheryl Lynn Doyle	90	105	121	149	63	85	95	100	94	902
Stephen P. Konetchy	109	120	126	244	69	67	109	109	101	1054
Blanks	55	63	61	112	31	39	56	52	59	5287
Write-Ins	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	6
Scattering										0
Total Vote	654	746	722	1148	352	368	622	658	592	5862
MODERATOR - 1 (1 YEAR)										
Gerri S. Slater	232	249	248	396	124	113	216	235	195	2008
Blanks	94	121	113	178	52	70	95	91	99	913
Wite-ins	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	10
Scattering										0
Total Vote	327	372	361	574	176	184	311	329	296	2931
MEMBER OF BOARD OF HEALTH - 1 (3 YEARS)										
Carolyn Ann Riccardi	185	207	212	359	96	113	180	185	145	1682
Kathryn Kinzel Ahnger-Pier	125	148	128	179	68	51	108	127	132	1066
Blanks	17	17	21	36	12	20	23	17	19	182
Write-ins	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Scattering										0
Total Vote	327	373	361	574	176	184	311	329	286	2931
MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE - 2 (3 YEARS)										
Joan Elizabeth Giblin	211	225	223	352	114	104	206	206	183	1824
Judith E. Bromley	198	212	223	325	97	98	187	215	172	1727
Blanks	241	306	276	470	141	160	226	229	235	2284
Write-ins	4	3	0	1	0	6	3	8	2	27
Scattering										0
Total Vote	654	746	722	1148	352	368	622	658	592	5862
MEMBER OF FINANCE COMMISSION - 2 (3 YEARS)										
Anne Marie Haley	225	238	238	360	118	110	211	228	183	1911
Alan D. Slater	213	224	238	371	106	108	206	221	187	1874
Blanks	216	282	244	413	128	150	205	209	220	2067
Write-ins	0	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	2	10
Scattering										0
Total Vote	654	746	722	1148	352	368	622	658	592	5862
LIBRARY TRUSTEES - 2 (3 YEARS)										
Sheri Ann McLeish	225	252	235	373	115	111	214	230	182	1937
Donna Rae Montgomery	218	221	230	343	116	113	203	223	174	1841
Blanks	210	270	255	431	121	144	205	205	235	2076
Write-ins	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
Scattering										0
Total Vote	654	746	722	1148	352	368	622	658	592	5862
MEMBER TOWN PLANNING BOARD - 1 (5 YEARS)										
Robert J. Bamber	225	242	257	373	124	115	216	230	195	1977
Blanks	100	129	104	199	51	69	95	99	99	945
Write-ins	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	2	9
Scattering										0
Total Votes	327	373	361	574	176	184	311	329	296	2931
MEMBER NORWOOD HOUSING AUTHORITY - 1 (5 YEARS)										
Jennifer M. Polito	223	245	245	366	125	113	217	230	193	1957
Blanks	104	126	114	206	51	71	94	99	102	967
Write-ins	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	7
Scattering										0
Total Vote	327	372	361	574	176	184	311	329	296	2931
CONSTABLE - 1 (3 YEARS)										
Daniel Paul Williams	213	230	246	351	119	113	214	230	191	1925
Blanks	96	141	114	220	57	71	97	99	104	999
Write-ins	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	7
Scattering										0
Total Vote	327	373	361	574	176	184	311	329	296	2931



The Norwood Woman's Club strives to help their neighbors by their impressive delivery to the Norwood Food Pantry, on April 8.

Pictured left to right: Arlene Bonura, Trina Mallet, Diane Mastandrea, Susan Ingles, and Phyllis Spiro

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Alert for Property Owners

The FBI Boston Division warns of rising quit claim deed fraud, where criminals forge documents to transfer property ownership without the owner's

Interested residents can sign up for the Consumer Notification Service from the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds to receive an alert any time a Norfolk County land document is recorded in their name: www.norfolkdeeds.org/services/consumer-notification-service

Read the full article from the FBI Boston Division at www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/boston/news/fbi-boston-warns-quit-claim-deed-fraud-is-on-the-rise

To learn more about Registry of Deed's events and initiatives, like them on Facebook® at facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds or follow on Twitter® at twitter.com/NorfolkDeeds, and Instagram® at instagram.com/NorfolkDeeds.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High St., in Dedham. The Registry is a resource for homeowners, title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities and others with a need for secure, accurate, 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 via telephone at (781) 461-6101 or email us at registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

knowledge. Be cautious of unsolicited offers, and report suspicious activity to the authorities.

Residents should be aware that in Massachusetts a forged deed is not valid and conveys nothing. If a buyer or a lender relies on a forged deed and doesn't do their due diligence on a property's title, they are out of luck. They, not the legitimate property owner, will ultimately lose any money paid to the thief. However, there may still be other actions individuals need to take as a result of the fraud including contacting law enforcement. Visit this website to see a list of contacts for local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies: www.norfolkdeeds.org/wp-content/uploads/Law-Enforcement-Contacts.pdf



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Real Estate Corner

Norfolk County Real Estate Activity Shows Mixed Results in March 2025

Dedham, MA – Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported that Norfolk County recordings for the month of March 2025 indicate a decrease in overall real estate compared to last year, but an increase compared to February 2025.

The Registry of Deeds recorded 7,550 documents in March 2025, a slight decrease of 1% from March 2024, but a 10% increase compared to February 2025.

“Lending activity and property sales and transfers represent a majority of the documents recorded at the Registry of Deeds, and March 2025 showed a slight decrease in both categories compared to last year,” noted Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell. “The slight decrease in real estate activity may be an indication of various economic factors affecting the country as a whole, which are now impacting the local real estate market. However, it is still early in the homebuying season, and this decrease may be a result of potential buyers waiting for more favorable economic conditions.”

The total number of deeds recorded for March 2025, reflecting both commercial and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,132, down 4% from March 2024, but up 9% from February 2025.

“This March was a slower start to the homebuying season than previous years, but we are hopeful that activity will pick up as we move further into the season,” stated Register O'Donnell. “Interest rates, inflation, and employment levels are key factors that influence the real estate market. While interest rates have decreased, encouraging buying, inflation still reduces consumer purchasing power. Employment levels and consumer confidence also play significant roles.”

In March, lending activity showed a slight decrease compared to the same month a year ago. A total of 1,065 mortgages

were recorded in March 2025, down 2% from March 2024, but up 8% from February 2025. According to The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, average mortgage interest rates in March 2025 were between 6.63% and 6.67% compared to March 2024 when interest rates were between 6.74% and 6.88%.

“The mortgage activity in March 2025 may be being impacted by broader economic challenges,” stated Register O'Donnell. “The slight decrease compared to last year suggests that potential buyers may be hesitant due to factors such as af-



fordability issues and economic uncertainty. Even with relatively stable interest rates, inflation and employment concerns can make it difficult for individuals to commit to long-term financial obligations like mortgages. As we move forward, it will be important to watch how changes in the economy and interest rates affect both the lending market and overall real estate activity in Norfolk

County.”

The average sale price of commercial and residential properties for March 2025 was \$1,166,825, a 12% increase compared to March 2024, and a 10% increase from February 2025. However, the total dollar volume of commercial and residential sales decreased by 13% from last year, totaling \$519,237,415, but increased 15% from February 2025.

“Norfolk County remains a desirable location to both live and work, thanks to the vibrant communities and the dedicated efforts of municipal staff and leaders,” remarked Register O'Donnell. “However, the limited property inventory continues to pose challenges for buyers, particularly those purchasing their first home.”

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has been closely monitoring the foreclosure market. In March 2025, there were 7 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, down 42% from the 12 recorded in March 2024. Additionally, there were 29 notices to foreclose, the first step in the foreclosure process, which is a slight increase from the 28 recorded in March 2024.

“Unforeseen events can happen to any of us, and sometimes

these events can have severe emotional and financial impacts. I urge anyone struggling to pay their mortgage, or who knows someone in this situation, to reach out to one of the non-profit organizations listed on our website, www.norfolkdeeds.org,” said Register O'Donnell.

For the past several years, the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has partnered with Quincy Community Action Pro-

grams (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.

REAL ESTATE
continued on page 18

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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 Sheffield, Swampscott, Townsend, and Winchester, MA in 2024, there are 200 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 2024 calendar year.

CANTON	\$164,200.00
COHASSET	\$71,500.00
DEDHAM	\$151,850.00
DOVER	\$51,450.00
FOXBOROUGH	\$117,200.00
FRANKLIN	\$215,600.00
HOLBROOK	\$81,350.00
MEDFIELD	\$95,800.00
MEDWAY	\$95,900.00
MILLIS	\$84,875.00
MILTON	\$165,375.00
NEEDHAM	\$194,600.00
NORFOLK	\$82,675.00
NORWOOD	\$148,075.00
PLAINVILLE	\$55,300.00
QUINCY	\$452,650.00
RANDOLPH	\$191,300.00
SHARON	\$106,175.00
STOUGHTON	\$193,925.00
WALPOLE	\$171,900.00
WELLESLEY	\$207,525.00
WESTWOOD	\$94,450.00
WEYMOUTH	\$371,500.00
WRENTHAM	\$96,775.00

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 by email at registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

To all enjoy your Spring.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT (CPA)	
SURCHARGES BY TOWN FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024	
TOWN	TOTAL
AVON	\$29,925.00
BELLINGHAM	\$141,225.00
BRAINTREE	\$214,975.00
BROOKLINE	\$300,150.00

REAL ESTATE
continued from page 17

Register O'Donnell concluded, "The real estate activity in Norfolk County for March 2025 showed mixed results. While there was a slight decrease in overall recordings compared to March 2024, there was a notable increase from February 2025. Despite challenges like limited property inventory and economic strains, Norfolk County remains a desirable location for both residential and commercial real estate."

To learn more about Registry of Deed's events and initiatives, like us on Facebook® at facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds or follow us

on Twitter® at twitter.com/NorfolkDeeds and Instagram® at instagram.com/NorfolkDeeds.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High Street in Dedham. The Registry is a resource for homeowners, title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities and others with a need for secure, accurate, 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 via telephone at (781) 461-6101 or email us at registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

Ready to Sell?

"Gail was incredibly helpful with the entire process of selling one home and purchasing a new home in another community. She was even able to secure contractors on short notice to make necessary repairs. Her communication is quick and thorough. She has a positive attitude and focused on the right home for us, not on the amount of time it took to find it. I would highly recommend Gail for both sale and purchase of any property!"

— Jennifer G.



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- Harry F.

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