



Freedom Rings on the Common

By BELLA CAGGIANO

The original mission of the Juneteenth holiday is to commemorate and educate the freedom of slaves in America. It is also a time to celebrate diverse cultures that were brought to or reside in the United States and rejoice in their music, food, and traditions. And in true Norwood fashion, this collective event has grown over three years, thanks to local residents and businesses, and initial organizer, Norwood Police Officer Geoffrey Ba-

guma, and his committee, Jua Robinson, Recreation Director Sam White, Morrill Memorial Library Director Clayton Cheever, and Leshia Karasik.

"It's an excellent opportunity for the town to come together and learn together while celebrating the federal holiday of Juneteenth," Officer Baguma said.

The Norwood Town Common will again be filled with eating, dancing, and singing, for the 4th Annual Juneteenth cel-

ebration on Saturday, June 14, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Bring comfortable shoes, chairs, and an appetite as the fun-filled afternoon for all ages. With many new acts this year, the afternoon will include many musical and tasteful options, such as Further Notice, Caleb McCoy, DJ Beez (Derrick Beasley), talented Norwood High School and Coakley Middle students, and much more! There will also be a vari-

JUNETEENTH

continued on page 2

Market Season Blooms June 17

By BELLA CAGGIANO

Farmers markets are popping up in many towns, but by local consensus and feedback from residents outside of Norwood's borders, the Norwood Farmers Market (NFM) surpasses them

the kids? According to Norwood shoppers, all of the above and much more!

The ongoing success and expansion of the NFM starts with the commitment of Norwood residents supporting local, indepen-



all! Could it be the diversity of stands? Or maybe the helpfulness of the vendors? What about its unique picturesque location on the town common with the option to enjoy a taste of the market on the Central Ave. picnic site? Maybe it's entertainment? Activities for

dent farms and businesses. With its return in 2022 after a Covid hiatus, the market was small but mighty, but has actually grown

FARMERS MARKET

continued on page 3

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JUNETEENTH

continued from page 1

ety of fare to try from Rincon Caribeno, Between the Bunz, Oasis Caribbean Cuisine, Crazy Tacos, Simple Sweets, and a Lewis’ beer garden!

“The event is always family friendly and will include activities: a basketball hoop area which will be run by the NHS girls basketball team coach, an inflatable obstacle course, Henna and face painting, and a ball pit for a few examples,” Officer Baguma said.

Juneteenth, short for June 19, the day of the liberation,



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 important and historic event for this year and future years, contribute to the Juneteenth Venmo account at [handle/account@Norwood-Juneteenth](https://venmo.com/handle/account/Norwood-Juneteenth). One hundred percent of donations go towards the event which can only be possible through the generosity of Norwood neighbors.

“This year should be the best celebration year yet,” Officer Baguma said. “If you would like to become a volunteer, please reach out to the Norwood June-



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,” Officer 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 understanding of each other, we can then celebrate our new found connection.

As in previous years, members of the Norwood community will also be recognized with the



Norwood 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.

teenth Committee at [Norwood-juneteenth@gmail.com](mailto:norwoodjuneteenth@gmail.com).”

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commemorates the date 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

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FARMERS MARKET

continued from page 1

bigger than ever with vendor participation and shoppers each year. And according to NFM Organizer Peter McFarland and Market Manager Michele

familiar faces vendors, entertainment, and activities in the 2025 season, but also many new ones, keeping the market fresh with produce, homemade items, and fun for the entire family. The presence of NFM organizer Peter McFarland and market manager Michele Taranto will not change,



Taranto, the common will be filled with activity throughout the season!

The Norwood Farmers Market will again be open for 18 weeks this season, Tuesdays, June 17-Oct. 14, 2-6 p.m., (Aug. 5, 12-4 p.m.), Norwood Town Common.

Market patrons who visited the past few years will see many

however, and both will be present to assist and guide vendors and shoppers throughout the afternoon. and while the lineup of fruits, vegetables, homemade food and crafts, was still being finalized, fan favorites, such as, Riverdale Farm, Wild Willy's Sports Cards, Barbosa Farm, Ally's Cookies, Jordan's Seafood, and many more will be on the common June 17th at the ribbon-cutting ceremony June 17, 2 p.m.

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, the market offers outdoor games, but there will also be specialty-themed events, such as Opening Day, Pet Day, Independence Celebration, National Farmers Market Day, the Apple Orchard (new!) and Pumpkinfest! Musical guests and the Walpole Robotics Club will also be returning.



spread through many areas: high school volunteers are essential to the efficient set up and breakdown of vendor tents, but as with any thriving farm, there are also many seedlings that help the market flourish: McFarland and Taranto are available to answer questions and ensure a fluid, efficient, educational, and fun experience, Market sponsors provide funding for staples and supplies, and the Norwood DPW and Norwood Town Hall aide with communication assistance

Ave. picnic area, crowds visit to enjoy and take in entertainment, music, 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."



The Norwood Farmer's Market is a collaboration with the Friends of Norwood Center with its primary initiative to buy local, eat healthy, and build community. Credit to the market's success is

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

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 norwoodmafmm@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.

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Eric MacLean



OBITUARY

Hannelore Amelia Pacheco (Kuhlmann), 95, formerly of Holbrook, known affectionately as Hanna to her friends and family, passed away peacefully of natural causes on May 1, 2025, in Raynham, Massachusetts. Born on December 8, 1929, in Mecklenburg, Germany, she was a beacon of adventurous spirit, generosity, and captivating charm throughout her 95 years.

Hanna’s early years in Germany were marked by an appreciation for the great outdoors, a passion that only grew as she did. Her love for ice skating, skiing, and hiking was matched by her talent in each, and became an integral part of her life. Her melodious voice found a home at The Boylston Schul-Verein, Walpole, a German Club, where she joined the singing choir, and she sang with gusto and joy, sharing her culture and zest for life with all those around her.

A master of the garden, Hanna cultivated beauty and life in the soil of her home in Holbrook, creating an oasis that reflected the care and attention she gave to every aspect of her life. Her gardens were a symbol of her nurturing soul, a

trait that extended into her relationships with her loved ones.

She is reunited in eternity with her husband, Manuel Costa Pacheco, her mother Dora Becker, and her sister, Ursula Clark, whom she cherished deeply. Hannelore leaves behind a legacy of love carried on by her children Bruce Pacheco and wife Beth, Mark Pacheco and wife Linda, and Michelle McSherry and husband George, her grandchildren Jonathan, Lauren, Emily, Hannah, Katelyn, Shane and Joshua and her great-grandchildren Evelyn and Kellan. Each family member carries forward a piece of Hanna’s extraordinary legacy through their own lives.

Those who knew Hanna will remember her as a woman who embraced life’s challenges with a remarkable blend of strength and grace. Her generous nature knew no bounds, and she was always the first to offer help to anyone in need. Her life was a tapestry of experiences that made her one of the most interesting and engaging individuals to be around.

Hanna’s passing leaves a void in the hearts of all



who loved her, but her spirit remains a guiding light. Her adventurous tales, her laughter in the chorus, and the beauty of her gardens will continue to inspire and comfort her family and friends. Hannelore Amelia Pacheco’s life was one well-lived, full of passion and kindness, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A private memorial service honoring her life was held at Cartwright funeral followed by her burial at Blue Hills cemetery.

The family would like to thank Old Colony Hospice of West Bridgewater for their compassionate care. Memorial contributions may be sent in lieu of flowers to Old Colony Hospice, 321 Manley St. West Bridgewater, MA 02379.

www.oldcolonyhospice.org

Bark of the Town!

Each month, learn a little something of what Mustang Sally has been up to around Norwood!

In April, Sally helped two separate Norwood students who showed up at school with their parents with a lot of anxiety and did not want to go into the school building. Adults deal with the Sunday scaries at times, dreading to come into work on Monday, and so did both of these individual kids after a long school break.



Fortunately, these students love Sally! They got to pet and hug her and just have a special moment, which calmed down their anxiety. Each student then got the honor of Sally escorting them into school. Both students stayed till the end of the school and had a great day. Not one word was needed, just a fluffy friend named Sally!

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A Little off the Top

Further following of the Founding Fathers

By STUART GREEN

“Hello, all you post-Revolutionaries, and welcome to the first Founding Fathers’ Day, dedicated to all you fathers who helped find this new country, which seemed to be lost for all these many years – or eons, as we say in the parlor. My name is Aaron Guild of South Dedham, a quirky name for a town that we hope to change someday to something modern and catchy – like South of Dedham.

“Anyway, I know a little something about fathers as I’ve done that bit 10 times over. You think starting a country is tough, you should try loading a musket in the middle of the night with three kids looking for their breeches and a couple of daughters arguing about whose turn it is to use the silver knitting needles and brother’s been in that outhouse for such a long time now. And me, just trying to get out of the door to attend to my hobbies, like feeding my oxen some hay and dying a few Redcoats a lovely shade of Colonial Blue.

“Back to this occasion quite auspicious and not a bit suspicious. We have some great Patriots lined up who have conquered Concord, muscle-flexed in Lexington, and hit the Dorchester Heights. First, fresh off his horse from his copper mill down the street, let’s give a big outlaw applause to Paul Revere.”

“Thanks, just got a minute on this great day in June. I’m off to the northern end of ye Olde Boston for some business, sire a few more children, and pick up some pastry, giving rise to the great saying, ‘Leave the musket, take the cannoli.’ It’s great to be standing here today; actually, it’s great to be out of that saddle for a while and standing anywhere. I’d like to thank my children for making me the Founding Father that I am today, even if some say I was merely a foot Minuteman. I’ll leave you all with this, something I tell my kids every night: “Listen my children and you shall hear, the man named for the beach, yes, Paul Revere.”

“Thanks, or as we like say in

the Aaron Guild house, ‘When word of war came to Aaron, up like a shot he sprang from the Tavern. Quick as a deer, wise as a fox, he only had time to say good-bye to his ox.’

“Out next speaker couldn’t be with us, giving an excuse about as being elected as president or some such thing. But he did send a letter in his best quillmanship, arriving only four months after he posted it. To be fair, he had to wait a few weeks for US stamps to be issued, and another week for his likeness to be air-brushed to his liking. Anyhow, I’ll read a few words from G. Washington:

“Thank-you for the invitation to the first Founding Fathers Day. I was glad to help find this great country of ours, but hope to move out the executive mansions of New York and Philadelphia someday and find a city not claimed by any state. And, in all modesty, I do hope Congress will consider naming it after my leadership in the war and as president, and call it, ahem, George. May this Founding Fathers Day find its way into your heart. (See I can write, too. Take that, Jefferson!)”

“Now to close out Founding Fathers Day, we’ve asked John Adams to say a word. And, knowing how Mr. Adams loves to extend his time in front of a crowd, we’ve told him that when we say a word, we mean just that – a word. All yours, John.”

“Fourscore.”

“Thanks, Mr. Adams. That’s all we have time for. Maybe another dignitary can build on that someday.”

Stuart Green is a freelance columnist. He can be reached at sagreen115@aol.com.



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Living Healthy

Finding The Perfect Fit

By: GRAHAM STETSON, OD, MS

When it comes to selecting eyeglasses, fashion and function go hand in hand. Beyond style preferences, a great-fitting frame enhances comfort, complements facial features, and improves overall appearance while communicating an individual's style/aesthetic. A skilled optician can guide patients through the selection process by considering a host of factors, most importantly the width of the face, facial propor-

tions, the curvature of the eyebrows, and the angle and height of the cheekbones.

Facial Width

The width of the face is the foundation of proper frame selection. A frame that is too wide can overwhelm the face and make the eyes look crossed, while one that is too narrow may feel tight and look disproportionate. Ideally, the eyes should be a small amount closer to the bridge than to the

temporal lens edge. To achieve a pleasing oversized look, a frame wider than normal, but relatively tall from top to bottom, should be selected. Sunglasses should be fitted differently, with the frame about the width of the face.

Facial Proportions

Facial proportions help determine which frame styles will be most flattering. Longer faces generally look better in frames that are taller top to bottom,



while faces with more equal proportions look better in shallower frames. Facial proportions will be exaggerated when frames don't balance the features of the face. To ensure a comfortable fit, it is important to consider how the frame fits on the bridge of your nose. Finding the right fit will also ensure the glasses are positioned properly in front of your eyes.

Eyebrows

The curvature of the eyebrows helps define the top line of the frame. Ideally, the upper rim of the glasses should follow the natural brow line, most especially at the middle and temporal part of the lens. Frames that sit too far above or below the brow tend to be less complimentary, however, it is more acceptable for sunglasses to cover the eyebrows. Arched brows typically look great

with softly curved frames, while straighter brows are better suited to more angular or flat-topped styles.

Cheekbones

The height and angle of the cheekbones influences both fit and aesthetics. Frames look best when the sides of the frame follow the line from the cheekbone to the jawline. Frames with rounder bottoms are generally acceptable on most faces.

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

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

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



Dr. Rochelle Bien, Dr. Molly Rappaport & Dr. Michael Goldstein

exacerbation. She was becoming disillusioned with the idea that she could fix this on her own and decided to call The Holistic Center at Bristol Square and made an appointment to see the doctors.

Upon exam, the swing was noted in Stephanie's jaw as she both opened and closed her mouth, indicating a dysfunction in the biomechanics of her TMJ. After several weeks of treatment, the clicking and popping were gone and the swing in her jaw was stabilized. She no longer

suffers from the TMJ pain and has noticed that the headaches she thought were unrelated had gone away as well.

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

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Where are your volunteers located? What kind of volunteer opportunities do you have if people want to get involved?

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Currently we need able bodies for our annual dog wash/car wash and rabies/microchipping event June 22. Reach out at info@baystateanimals.org.

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Because Every Paw Matters

We've been promoting a lot of upcoming events lately, but today we want to pause and remind you why we do this work. Charley's Angels exists to support pets and their people through some of life's hardest moments.

Behind every fundraiser is a story like Odie and Scooter's. When their mom entered a nursing home and could no longer care for them, a family member took them in and we were honored to help keep them comfortable with the meds they needed. We worked closely with the vet (shoutout to CAPI President Kandi Finch for her persistence!) to get everything sorted so all their family had to do was pick up the prescriptions. It wasn't always easy, but helping families like theirs is at the heart of our mission.

Sadly, Scooter passed first,

and Odie crossed the rainbow bridge the day after Christmas. Their mom followed just a couple months later.



A family member wrote us to say, "It makes me smile to think of the family re-joined and them being healthy again."

We were also asked to help with cremation costs—a hard

but important request.

These aren't the stories that make it into headlines, but they're the ones that matter most. Because when you're struggling to keep your pets fed, healthy, and loved—that is when Charley's Angels shows up. Thank you for making that possible.

Thank you for your continued donations to support families like Odie and Scooter's! To donate or learn more about the organization, visit charleysangelspetinitiative.org or their Facebook page at [CharleysAngelsPet](https://www.facebook.com/CharleysAngelsPet)

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Senior Corner

By MICHELE TARANTO

Enrolling or navigating the Medicare system can be a daunting and complicated experience. The federal government and AARP both offer many resources to aid in the process.

Medicare 101

To learn about the entire program and its benefits, go straight to the source: the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS): [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov).

Medicare Advantage, Part D & Medigap Plans

To find more information, visit [medicare.gov/plan-compare](https://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare).

Medicap Coverage

To understand this program, visit [medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/medigap](https://www.medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/medigap).

Enrollment

To enroll in Medicare online, visit [medicare/sign-up](https://www.medicare.gov/sign-up). You will need an active account with social security. You can also apply by mail, phone, or office visit.

Personalized Information

For guidance and possibly reduce costs, call 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227).

AARP Assistance

Enrollment

Medicare offers an interactive digital enrollment guide with step-by-step directions to help the user make the best situations for their situation. Find the guide at [aarp.org/medicareenrollment](https://www.aarp.org/medicareenrollment).

Medicare Updates

Stay updated on Medicare updates and news at the AARP Medicare Resource Center at [aarp.org/medicare](https://www.aarp.org/medicare).

Common Questions & Answers

AARP's Medicare Question & Answer tool can provide information to common questions. That list can be found at [aarp.org/medicareqa](https://www.aarp.org/medicareqa).

The Book on Medicare

The AARP Medicare for

Dummies book untangles the complex Medicare system. Find it at [aarp.org/medicarefordummies](https://www.aarp.org/medicarefordummies).

Classes on Medicare

AARP offers many webinars on Medicare and Social Security accessible from your own home. To find the webinar schedule, visit [learn.aarp.org](https://www.learn.aarp.org).

For more individual questions and guidance, call 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227) to speak with a CMS representative.

AARP Enrollment Guidance

AARP also offers an interactive tool with step-by-step directions to make decisions that will cater to each individual. To learn more, visit [aarp.org/medicareenrollment](https://www.aarp.org/medicareenrollment).

Medicare Updates & News

Stay up to date on Medicare benefits and policies at [aarp.org/medicare](https://www.aarp.org/medicare). This site offers information on from new developments, coverage changes, cost updates

Norwood Senior Center Trip

Quonset O Club and a Rhode Island Bay Lighthouse & Newport Harbor Cruise

Wednesday, July 23: \$149

You will enjoy a unique 30-minute cruise featuring 10 of the most picturesque lighthouses in Rhode Island.

Menu: New England Baked Scrod or Breaded Chicken Cutlet

A letter from The Norwood Police Department

Beware of Landscaping & Construction Scams!

Warmer months bring an increase in home projects—be on the lookout for shady contractors offering deals that seem too good to be true.

Top Scams to Avoid

"We're working nearby..."

Scammers claim they have leftover materials and offer a quick deal—only if you pay now. Make a Payment, then they van-

ish They ask for a large deposit and never return or leave the job unfinished.

Unlicensed or Uninsured

These "contractors" offer low prices but leave you stuck with legal or repair bills.

Damage Fraud

They claim you have urgent damage. Even faking photos or causing it themselves

How to Protect Yourself

Get multiple quotes

Verify licenses & insurance

Use a written contract

Never pay in full upfront

Research online reviews

Trust your gut—walk away if something feels off or call the Norwood Police!

Norwood Hospital-Get Involved!

Town Manager Tony Mazucco recently conducted a meeting at the Norwood Senior center regarding the status of Norwood Hospital and the organization of a group of community leaders from Norwood and surrounding towns to collaborate with Governor Healey's office to find a viable operator to reopen Norwood Hospital.

Residents can also get involved! Below are steps how to mail letters to the governor's office and other officials advocating for Norwood Hospital's reopening.

If you don't have a computer, the Norwood Senior Center can print copies of the letters.

Visit the website, [finishthejobnorwood.com](https://www.finishthejobnorwood.com). Here you will

find a timeline since the flooding event on June 28, 2020, statistics on how many people Norwood Hospital served, and the participants in the committee to save Norwood Hospital.

Look for the Red Banner and click on 'Get Involved.' Enter your name, email address, and town, and hit the submit button. A letter will be sent from you to someone in the Legislative Leadership asking them to finish Norwood Hospital.

On the left side of this page there are sample Norwood Hospital Letters of Support for residents, businesses, medical professionals and housing. Residents can download and print

the Norwood Hospital Letter of Support. You can add a short personal note on how Norwood Hospital has impacted you, your family and/or your community. Sign the letter and mail it to Governor Healey. A second letter titled Norwood Hospital Letter of Urgency can also be downloaded and sent.

This letter should be sent to Secretary Kate Walsh of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

For assistance, contact Kathleen Rooney, 781-762-1201, ext. 3, or krooney@norwoodma.gov.

Norwood Senior Center

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Norwood Sports

From the Screen to the Court

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY,
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Norwood's Sebastian Eugene was flipping through the TV channels one afternoon when he happened to stop upon a volleyball game. It piqued his interest as he sat watching and told his friends that it looked fun. They continually encouraged him to try out for the high school team, until he eventually found himself on the court.

"It looked like a lot of fun and found myself watching the varsity team during my freshman year," Eugene said. "I finally gave in to my friends and tried out for the team my sophomore year. It was weird as I was not even sure what was happening around me and was thinking to myself, I am really bad at this."

Although he was unsure of his ability to play the game at the time, he was sure that if he could make the team, with his offensive skills, he would eventually pick up the basic fundamentals of the sport.

Eugene was named to the varsity team, and while happy and proud for the promotion, he would find himself sitting on the sidelines learning about the game for the first half of the season.

"Sitting on the bench, I was watching to see what my teammates were doing and how I could work it into my game," Eugene said. "When I got the opportunity to play middle hitter it was very cool, but the game was really fast."

For the remainder of the sea-

son, Eugene found his way into the rotation, and although he felt that his first year with the sport went ok, he accepted he had to improve.

"I knew that my defense was

didn't get the opportunity to pick up a volleyball until the beginning of the next season."

Once he got to practice, Eugene would put everything that he had into the sport, focusing on

helping to improve his court skills and positioning when the opposition was making certain shots.

Coach Paul Nimblett noticed the senior's commitment in the off-season.

and wants the ball sent his way in certain situations. He has a killer instinct and puts the ball away when it's needed."

As he entered his final campaign with the Mustangs, he



weak and I needed to improve it, but I had no time during the off-season to work on it," Eugene said. "I was so busy with school, choirs, and voice lessons, and I didn't have any extra time to work on my volleyball skills. I

his passing skills and working on his defense while playing middle and some outside hitter for the Mustangs. Eugene found that he really enjoyed playing the outside hitter position as he got to compete in full rotations and able to also serve.

The more he played, the better he became and the younger teammates were starting to look up to him. He kept them focused on the tasks at hand while staying positive.

Prior to his final year with Norwood, Eugene joined a club team to get into volleyball shape before the start of the high school season. By playing for Southern Alliance, it was a much smoother transition into the Mustang roster and by the time the season arrived, he was ready and charged.

He credits one of the team's liberos (defensive specialist) in

"This year he really came out strong," Nimblett said. "In our first game of the season which went five sets, he had 18 kills, 4 blocks and 5 aces. Now through our first 6 games, he is averaging 10 kills a game. He has really taken off this year and his off-season work had shown his dedication."

Over his three seasons playing for the Norwood coach, the Eugene has seen his progress continue to grow, especially after playing with a club team. Nimblett noted that when Eugene came out for the team his first year he had never played the sport before, but has gotten better though the years.

"He has grown to become a great asset to our program," Nimblett said. "Not only is he a great leader on the court to our younger players, but he has also come into his own as a player

wanted to bring a positive mindset to the team at all times. Although he is not a captain on the squad, the team seems to look up to the senior.

"Volleyball is a mindset," Eugene said. "If I'm down, then the rest of the team is down; we need to stay positive and have fun."

Eugene is bringing his confidence to the court for one last season and is hoping that Norwood can make a final push to get into the state tournament before he heads to Northeastern University to study Computer Science. He is hoping he will still be involved with choir, but it looks as though volleyball has reached the end of the road.

"I don't know what my work load is going to be like," Eugene said. "Volleyball is still a distant possibility, but it is not on my radar at the current time."

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Norwood Sports

Ryan Valeri's Last Season at Lacrosse

By Christopher Tremblay

Norwood's Ryan Valeri is looking to have as much fun as he can in his senior year before he graduates this summer. While hockey is, and always has been, his number one sport, Valeri also enjoys playing lacrosse for the Mustangs. Having picked up a lacrosse stick for the first time around the second grade, the Norwood athlete found the game to be a good replacement for the boring baseball he was playing. This fall, he joined the golf team to have fun with his friends.

"I wasn't liking baseball that much so I quit and started playing lacrosse; it was a much faster game with a lot of running," Valeri said. "As I got older, the game started to get more serious with the competition being better and I was into it."

Coming into high school, he knew that he wanted to try out for the lacrosse team, but as a long stick middie he found an intimidating figure in his way. Kyle Ledger was the current Mustang's long stick middie and the incoming freshman was sure he'd be riding the bench if he made the team.

"With Kyle playing the same position, I knew that I wouldn't see the field all that much but going into tryouts I was still confident in my abilities," Valeri said. "Making the varsity team was sigh of relief. I was thankful and relieved that I had made the varsity team."

During his freshman and sophomore campaigns, Norwood was involved in a co-op with the Dedham team as neither school had the numbers to field their own program. In fact, a lot of the younger varsity athletes would also find themselves suiting up for the junior varsity squad also due to the limited numbers.

Dedwood, as the players called the team, would open the season with a handful of athletes sidelined so Valeri would see a lot more time on the field than he originally expected he would. As the athletes came back, the freshman's playing time slowed down until the end of the season.

As a long stick middie, Valeri gets to wield a stick that ranges in



Photo submitted by Ryan Valeria

length from 52-72 inches, while a regular lacrosse stick is 42 inches. The longer stick is used for checking, picking up ground balls, and guarding attackers while knocking down passes that come their way.

"Long stick middies' goal is to cause havoc on the opposition," the now senior said. "We get the ball off the ground and get it moving into an offensive transition."

As a hockey player, Valeri is a left wing who likes to score, but as a long stick middie he is a defensive player and gets to be more aggressive while whacking the opposition's shorter sticks hoping to knock the ball out. The long stick middies primary role is to cover the opposition top midfielder while getting the ball out of their zone and into transition.

Moving into his sophomore season with Dedwood, Valeri saw more time on the field and was named the Norwood Unsung Hero by his coaches. With the accolades, the young lacrosse player decided to improve his game by developing an off-hand and

worked on getting to the ground balls quicker.

Entering his junior year, Norwood would have enough numbers to break away from the co-op situation and field their own team. Valeri was named one of the team's captains.

"It was defiantly a surprise, especially since it was our first year as Norwood," he said. "Luckily, I had two great senior captains alongside myself. Being part of that group meant a lot to me and now this year as a second-year captain I want to be more vocal and step up my game to help the team and younger players."

Valeri has begun to take his role into a new light for the Mustangs.

"Last year, he started taking on that leadership role," Norwood lacrosse coach John Lochhead said. He knows the game very well and is the focal point of our leadership this year," "He's a phenomenal player that also brings an energy to practice and holds the guys accountable."

The Mustang coach continued to note that in addition to

matching up with the best offensive player, he is the commander of the Norwood defense. While Valeri can also give the team some added scoring at times with his quick shot, he is best suited for the defense. Without him back there in the defensive trenches, Lochhead strongly believes that this team would be in a lot of trouble.

Coming into the season, the senior captain would love nothing more than guiding this team

into the post-season, somewhere the Mustangs haven't been since his freshman season.

"I would love to go out with a tournament appearance," Valeri said. "Being in our second year as Norwood playing in a tough Division 2 would mean a lot."

Tournament or not, when the high school lacrosse season comes to an end, it most likely will be the end of the sport for the Norwood resident.

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June 6

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for 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+. Registration is required. Please fill the form below or call 781 769 0200, x2. To register, visit www.norwood-library.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 7

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

The Norwood Art Association will be hosting their 47th (and final) 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 9

Monday Movie Matinee: 'September 5'
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

During the 1972 Munich Olympics, an American sports broadcasting crew finds itself thrust into covering the hostage crisis involving Israeli athletes. (Source: Swank) Cast: Zinédine Soualem, Peter Sarsgaard, John Magaro, Ben Chaplin. Rated R. Recommended for ages 18+. To register, visit www.norwood-library.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Entrepreneurship 101: Lessons from Local Business Leaders
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Are you thinking of setting up a business, but hesitant to take that first step? Or do you have 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? If the answer to these questions is a yes, then look no further. The broad theme of the talk is their personal entrepreneurial journey. The speakers are: Adam Romanow - Founder and CEO, Castle Island Brewing Company; Punam Mutha - Co-Founder, President/COO, Aurus, Unified Payments Platform; Christina Stetson - Director of Strategy & Marketing, Owner, Modern Eyes. This program is free and open to all. Recommended for ages 16+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 10

Women in Business Networking Meeting
Norwood Civic Center
8 a.m.

Calendar of Events

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

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps develop communication 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 norwoodtoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Be MediaWise: All About Journalism
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.

We live in a world of instant and endless adventure through our access to the internet! The digital landscape is changing quickly, and we have more access to information than ever before. With that, however, comes some potential pitfalls: there is plenty of misleading and even dangerous information out there, too. Learn how to navigate the internet safely and confidently. The evening will talk what journalism is and how journalists work; learn about the practice of "reading upstream" to find original sources of information; define what "pink slime" and "mushroom" sites are, why they exist, and how to spot them. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-

769-0200, x2.

June 11

South Norwood Summer Kickoff
Balch School-Front Lawn
3-4:30 p.m.

There will be plenty for kids to do, including crafts, books, and possibly getting wet! Get ready for summer for this FREE event! Rain date, June 12. For all ages.

Norwood Junior Woman's Club Meeting
Conrads
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 Norwoodjwc.org. All welcome to any meeting, bring a friend and see what they are all about!

June 12

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

The June movie in the Sensory-Friendly Monthly Movie series is Universal's, 'The Wild Robot,' Rated PG. For ages 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.

Teen Silent Book Club
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

A book club for teens without the deadlines or pressure! Meet in the Reading Room on the 2nd floor, where you can pick out a comfy chair to read a book for 45 minutes. Afterwards, meet back up to discuss what we read, offer some book recommendations, and partake in some light refreshments in the YA room downstairs. Teens may bring any book of their own choosing, and we will also provide various YA reading options as well. This event is for teens ages 12 and up. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 13

Morrill Memorial Library closed.

June 14

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!

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 latest, so we can start on time.

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

This program is free and open to all, but 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.

June 16

Borrowing and Credit Scores w/ CFA Society Boston
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Confused about whether to "buy now, pay later" or use a

Zoom with a Law Librarian

Get help finding and using Massachusetts legal information via Zoom

Every weekday from 1-2 p.m., patrons from anywhere in Massachusetts can Zoom one-on-one with a law librarian from the Trial Court Libraries of Massachusetts for legal information about whatever legal situation they may be experiencing - just remember, they can't give legal advice! Like their other reference services, they're happy to share law and case law, court forms and rules, information about court processes if available, and more!

To find Zoom link days and times, visit mass.gov/info-details/zoom-video-chat-with-a-law-librarian.

For more information, visit the Reference Desk, on the second floor of the Morrill Memorial Library.

CALENDAR

continued from page 12

credit card? Wondering how your credit score impacts the interest that you pay? Want to learn how to boost your credit score and save? Join us for an informative session on borrowing and credit scores to gain valuable insights from unbiased financial professionals and make smarter financial choices. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 17

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

The Norwood Farmers Market officially opens for the season! 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!

Beer Garden on the Common
Norwood Common/Central Ave.
5-8 p.m.

The Friends of Norwood Center is sponsoring a Castle Island Beer Garden and the town is invited! Visit the variety of vendors at the Norwood Farmers Market Opening Day and stay to enjoy locally brewed beers, unwind, visit with neighbors, and play some yard games! Must be over 21 to enjoy.

The Edible Salad Garden
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Avid gardener and chef Liz Barbour will take attendees through a slide presentation focusing on her favorite easy to grow salad ingredients. The presentation also includes garden design and recipe ideas. Recommended for ages 16+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 18

Turn the Page Book Group: 'The Berry Pickers'
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.

Join Patty Bailey and other local readers for a friendly and informal discussion of the novel *The Berry Pickers*, written by Amanda Peters. It's July 1962. A Mi'kmaq family from

Nova Scotia arrives in Maine to pick blueberries for the summer. Weeks later, four-year-old Ruthie, the family's youngest child, vanishes. In Maine, a young girl named Norma grows up as the only child of an affluent family. Norma is often troubled by recurring dreams and visions that seem more like memories than imagination. As she grows older, Norma slowly comes to realize there is something her parents aren't telling her. Unwilling to abandon her intuition, she will spend decades trying to uncover this family secret. New members are always welcome! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Board Game Night for Adults
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! This Recommended for ages 18+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Turn the Page Book Group: 'The Berry Pickers'
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
6:30 p.m.

Join Patty Bailey and other local readers for a friendly and informal discussion of the novel *The Berry Pickers*, written by Amanda Peters. It's July 1962. A Mi'kmaq family from Nova Scotia arrives in Maine to pick blueberries for the summer. Weeks later, four-year-old Ruthie, the family's youngest child, vanishes. In Maine, a young girl named Norma grows up as the only child of an affluent family. Norma is often troubled by recurring dreams and visions that seem more like memories than imagination. As she grows older, Norma slowly comes to realize there is something her parents aren't telling her. Unwilling to abandon her intuition, she will spend decades trying to uncover this family secret. New members are always welcome! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 19

Morrill Memorial Library closed.

June 20

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for 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+. Registration is required. Please fill the form below or call 781 769 0200, x2. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

Rainbow Storytime
Morrill Memorial Library
3 p.m.

Celebrate families and love at the library with Rainbow Storytime! Join Miss Dina for stories, songs, and a bubble dance party. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 22

Charity Dog/Car Wash/Rabies Clinic
Municipal Parking Lot, Nahatan St.
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Dog/Car Wash, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (\$10)
Microchipping, 10-11:30 a.m. (\$25)
Rabies Clinic, 10-11:30 a.m. (\$20)

Rabies clinic service donated by Dr. Holmes; Holmes Family Veterinary Clinic of Walpole. Dog must be on a lease, cats in carriers. All proceeds donated to the Bay State Animal Cooperative, a non-profit cat rescue group. For more information, email info@baystateanimals.org.

June 23

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

Aisha, a young Nigerian woman seeking asylum in Ireland, is floundering in a maze of social services and bureaucracy. As her situation becomes increasingly dire, Aisha struggles to maintain hope and dignity against the looming threat of deportation. (Source: Swank) Cast: Letitia Wright, Josh O'Connor, Lorcan Cranitch, Denis Conway, Ruth McCabe. Rated: NR. For attendees 18+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

CALENDAR

continued on page 14

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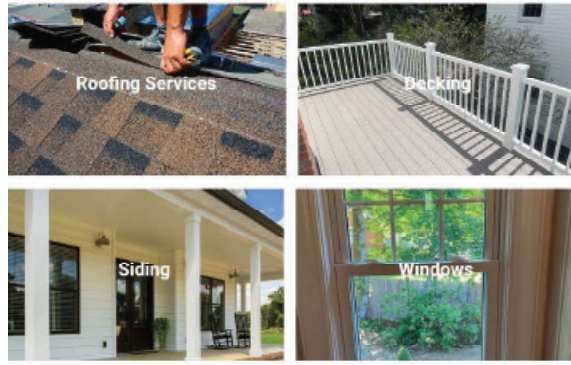


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CALENDAR

continued from page 13

June 24

Women in Business Networking 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 Nor- wood and surrounding towns. The group meet two morn- ings 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 Farmers Market
Town Common
2-6 p.m.

The Norwood Farmers Mar- ket is already in full swing! Don’t

miss out on an afternoon of shopping, music, games for the kids, and more! The town com- mon will be hopping with even more vendors than last year, including farm stands, baker- ies, fish, meat, baseball cards, non-profit organizations, spe- cialty foods, artisans, and more! Purchase all the ingredients for Tuesday’s dinner, and ingredi- ents for the entire week!

Teen Craft Club
Morrill Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.

For ages 12+. No registration necessary.

A Community Conversation on Domestic Violence
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Come join The Second Step for an informational presenta- tion to learn more about domes- tic violence and how it might show up in your life. Domestic violence is an epidemic that isn’t often discussed, yet it is pres- ent in all communities. You can

expect to leave understanding what domestic violence is, how it shows up in the community, what local resources are avail- able, and more. This presenta- tion is not just for survivors or loved ones, all are encouraged to attend! Recommended for ages 18+. 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 norwoodtoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org/.

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

The title this month will be ‘The Death of Vivek Oji,’ by Akwaeke Emezi. Titles on Tap is a social book group for read- ers 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 tak- ing our love of lit outside the li- brary 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 25

Sensory-Friendly Lego Club for Adults
Morrill Memorial Library

10:30 a.m.

Join 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.

June 26

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

Join 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.

Pride Craft-a-Palooza
Morrill Memorial Library
4 p.m.

Celebrate Pride with some fun crafts! Participants can color a rainbow, decorate a personal flag, or make a star jar. Rec- ommended for older children/ teens. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 27

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

Join art instructor Stephanie Enloe for 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 at- tendees aged 18+. Registration is required. Please fill the form below or call 781 769 0200, x2. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

June 30

Teen Craft Movie Night
Morrill Memorial Library
6 p.m.

Love movies? Love crafting? Come to the library to craft with friends and also watch a movie on the big screen! This month we will be ‘The Perks of Being a Wallflower.’ (PG-13), and light refreshments will be provided. This event is BYOC (Bring Your Own Craft). This is an event where some of the lights will be left on in the Simoni Room, and tables will be set up so teens can work on their crafts while enjoy- ing a movie. Subtitles will be left on, and light conversation will be permitted (this will not be a silent movie). This event is for teens ages 13+. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the refer- ence desk at 781-769-0200, x2.



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47th Annual Art in the Park

Join the Norwood Art Association (NAA) for their 47th Annual Art in the Park Show and Sale!

The NAA is so excited to announce that their annual event will be held on Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m., to 3 p.m., and will include a wide range of works by talented local and regional artists.

With close to 100 pieces of artwork expected to be judged, categories include oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, mixed media, photography, and drawings. Also included in the event will be artisan tables with textile, glasswork, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, clothing, artwork and wood items. At the gazebo, visitors can view the very popular bin work including unframed originals, photographs, and prints created by the artists. NAA artwork and bin work will be for sale and can be purchased with cash or check only.

Admission is FREE to the public and the show will be judged by a professional artist, with ribbons awarded in each category and the coveted Best of Show.

In addition, the NAA is happy to add that this year they will be

joined by artists participating in the Norwood Art Walk's ART! These artists will be displaying their work in various mediums alongside members of the NAA. Please contact marypaz at nor-



woodartwalk@gmail.com for more information. The Norwood Town Common will be filled and overflowing with artists and their work this year!

To entertain and encourage tomorrow's artists, there will be a Kids' Table with projects and

face painting. In addition, folks will have a chance to meet the winner of the NAA's Inez Reardon Memorial Scholarship in honor of the late Inez Reardon, one of the founding members

of the Norwood Art Association. This scholarship is presented annually to a graduating Norwood High School student furthering their education in the Arts. The presentation will take place around noon.

Since its inception in the



1970's, the Norwood Art Association has been a cultural asset for the Town of Norwood, with the support of town officials, the public, and grants from the Boch Fund and the Mass. and Norwood Cultural Councils. An invitation is extended to all who love the arts to join the group. One does not need to be an artist or even reside in Norwood to become a member, just have an interest in the arts and being a part of the growing and thriving Norwood artist community. The NAA is always in need of volunteers of all kinds to assist with

planning, setting up, and carrying out of the many important duties and fun activities throughout the year. Please visit their website at norwoodartassociation.com or check visit Meta (Facebook) and Instagram for additional information, or contact francesadj@aol.com .

The NAA is hoping for sunny skies and lots of art lovers, browsers and buyers to help celebrate the 47th anniversary of this annual occasion! Please note that there will not be a rain date this year due to scheduling conflicts.

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Friends Hosting a Beer Garden!

By Christina Stetson

Kick off your Summer with fresh produce and artisan goods at the Norwood Farmers Market (NFM) Opening Day, and stick around as the seasonal festivities continue at the Friends of Norwood Center's Beer Garden! To help celebrate the launch of the season on June 17, the Friends of Norwood Center is hosting pop-up libations on Central Ave., in front of the Norwood Theatre, 5-8 p.m. It's everything you love

about Norwood and more, all in one place!

The Beer Garden will feature local brews from Norwood's own Castle Island Brewing. Folks can unwind with refreshments, meet with neighbors and friends, and play classic lawn games—all while soaking up the vibrant community atmosphere.

Whether you're shopping for groceries, meeting friends after work, or just enjoying the summer sun, the Norwood Farmers

Market is the place to be. Come hungry, come curious, and come ready to support the hardworking hands that grow, craft, and nourish the Norwood community.

Rooted in a mission to buy locally, eat healthy, and build community, each year the Market brings together local farmers, food producers, and artisan vendors offering the season's freshest produce, small-batch jams, breads, flowers, handmade treasures, and live music. This vibrant, outdoor gathering occurs every Tuesday from 2-6 PM on the Norwood Town Common (550 Washington Street). There is ample parking, and it is just a short walk from both the Norwood Central and Norwood Depot train stations, making it an easy part of your weekly routine.

The 2025 Farmers Market runs every Tuesday from June 17 through mid-October, 2-6 p.m., but there's only one Open-



building meaningful bonds with residents in the heart of Norwood. For more information or to learn how to be a part of the action, visit www.norwoodcenter.org.



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Attend an in-person Orientation

Wednesday, June 11, 2025
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

In-person ESOL tutor training begins in September, call for details or to learn about other orientation dates.

If you have the time and desire to help adult learners improve their literacy skills, we have an opportunity for you. All you need is a high school diploma and sensitivity to the struggles of adult students. Join us for the orientation session to learn more about this opportunity.

COMMITMENT

- One orientation session and 18 hours of training.
- Meet with your student 2 hours per week for a year.

LOCATION

Orientation and training will be held in person.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Literacy Volunteers at the Morrill Memorial Library

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

781-769-4599 email: lvamml@minlib.net

State Fire Marshal Highlights Summer Fire Safety

Grilling, Gasoline, and Smoking Among Outdoor Fire Hazards

As Massachusetts approaches the start of summer, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine is asking residents to practice outdoor fire safety in the weeks and months ahead.

"As the weather gets warmer and we start spending more time outside, outdoor fires also start to increase," State Fire Marshal Davine said. "Unfortunately, many of these fires cause serious injuries and property damage – but

almost all of them can be prevented."

Outdoor burning is prohibited in Massachusetts from May 1 to January 15. While regulations allow exceptions for fires that are used for cooking, local fire chiefs and municipalities may prohibit or impose additional restrictions on these fires, including the use of fire pits and chimineas. Even where allowed, an adult must always be present with the tools

necessary to extinguish such a fire immediately because of the inherent risk.

"We saw last fall just how quickly brush and wildland fires can grow to sizes that require a large response by local and regional fire departments," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "These fires strain our resources and make it harder to respond to other emergencies. If you see an outdoor fire, please call 9-1-1 to report it as soon as possible."

Visit norwoodtownnews.com for a full list of safety recommendations.

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Real Estate Corner

April Real Estate on the Rise/Foreclosure Notices Down

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell released the real estate recording statistics for April, 2025, which indicate a continued increase in overall real estate activity compared to April, 2024.

The Registry of Deeds recorded 8,671 documents in April, 2025, an increase of 4% compared to the 8,312 documents recorded in April, 2024, and an increase of 15% from March, 2025.

"April, 2025, demonstrated robust real estate activity, particularly in both the number of mortgages and deeds recorded, which represent a majority of the documents recorded at the Registry of Deeds," Register O'Donnell said. "While we are seeing movement in the real estate market, economic factors continue to play a role and we will be monitoring how trends evolve in the months ahead."

The total number of deeds recorded for April, 2025, representing both commercial and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,322, showing a 6% increase from the 1,250 deeds recorded in April, 2024, and a 17% increase from the previous month of March, 2025.

"The data from April suggests a more active start to this year's homebuying season compared to last year," Register O'Donnell stated. "While economic factors, such as interest rates and inflation, continue to play a role in buyer decisions, Norfolk County continues to see regular real estate sales and transfers."

Lending activity also saw an uptick in April. A total of 1,443 mortgages were recorded in April, 2025, a notable 16% increase from the 1,243 mortgages recorded in April, 2024. According to The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the average mortgage interest rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage in April, 2025, was between 6.62% and 6.83%, a slight decrease compared to April, 2024, when interest rates were between 6.82% and 7.17%.

"The rise in mortgage activity suggests continued interest

in property financing, and while borrowing conditions have improved slightly from this time last year, larger economic concerns, such as affordability, inflation, and job stability are still influencing how buyers approach long-term investments, especially first-time homebuyers," Register O'Donnell said.

The average sale price of commercial and residential properties for April, 2025, was \$1,381,678, a 33% increase compared to April, 2024, and an increase of 18% from March, 2025. The total dollar volume of commercial and residential sales also saw a rise, increasing by 28% to \$859,403,533 in April, 2025, and up 66% from the previous month.

"Norfolk County remains a desirable location to both live and work, thanks to its vibrant communities and the dedicated efforts of municipal staff and leaders," Register O'Donnell remarked. "However, the limited property inventory continues to pose challenges for buyers, particularly those purchasing their first home. This tight availability is one factor in rising sale price and navigating a competitive market can present difficulties, especially for those first-time home buyers."

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds continues its close monitoring of the foreclosure market. In April, 2025, there were 6 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, the same number as in April,

2024. Notices to foreclose, which represent the initial step in the foreclosure process, decreased significantly to 20 in April, 2025, a 53% drop from the 43 recorded in April, 2024.

"The reduction in these notices to foreclose is an encouraging sign," Register O'Donnell said. "With that said, we cannot forget that foreclosure activity has a human face associated with it, and there are still a number of our neighbors who have lost their homes, and even more are dangerously close to losing their homes." "I would urge anyone struggling to pay their mortgage or who knows someone who is struggling to contact one of the non-profit organizations listed on our website, www.norfolkdeeds.org."

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.

"April's real estate activity showed stable growth, with steady increases in key areas," Register O'Donnell concluded. "Norfolk County remains an attractive market for both buyers and sellers. While economic factors such as inflation, interest

rates, and inventory levels will shape future activity, the overall strength of the local market underscores the county's continued appeal as a place to buy a home and live."

To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives, "like" them on Facebook at facebook.com/norfolkdeeds, follow on Twitter and Instagram at [@norfolkdeeds](https://twitter.com/norfolkdeeds).

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, located at 649 High St., Dedham, is the principal office for

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

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Real Estate Corner

First Deeds: 1793-1798

In the spirit of exploring Norfolk County's rich history, Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell has set out to discover some of the earliest deeds recorded from various communities throughout Norfolk County.

Land records at the Registry can shed light on some of the earliest property transactions that occurred in the early years after Norfolk County was established in 1793. These legal recorded documents can offer insight into the origins of landownership in the region. The recorded land documents at the Registry of Deeds reveal all kinds of information, including the names of early settlers

and prominent figures who may have played significant roles in shaping the communities they lived in. "There is a wealth of historic information in the more than 13.1 million land records recorded in 42,366 Registry books dating back to when Norfolk County was created in 1793 and stored at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds and available online at <https://www.norfolkresearch.org>," Register O'Donnell said. "We have also made this research process even easier for you through our History Comes Alive Transcription Program where all the Registry documents written in hard-to-read cursive penmanship from 1793 to

1900 were transcribed into clearly readable print."

This third of a four-part series focuses on real estate transfers that occurred between December 23, 1793 and February 1, 1798, during the County's formative years following Governor John Hancock's signing of the legislation that established Norfolk County on June 20, 1793. Governor John Hancock was the first elected governor the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had. He was also a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The very first document from Bellingham in Book 1, Page 116, was recorded at the Norfolk County

Registry of Deeds on December 23, 1793, and is a deed from Jacob Darling to Richard Darling, who worked as a husbandman (farmer) and had some carpentry skills. The Darlings were some of Bellingham's earliest settlers and helped establish the town's agriculture.

On January 29, 1794, Ichabod and Elizabeth Holbrook sold property to Francis Dana, recorded in Book 1, Page 201. Francis Dana was a graduate of Harvard University, an opponent of British colonial policy, and a leader of the Sons of Liberty. He also accompanied John Adams to Paris as a secretary and later served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts from 1791 to 1806.

Book 1, Page 229, contains a deed from Medway showing the division of land from Henry Harding to his mother, Mary Harding. The deed shows that Henry was a farmer and cider maker. The deed also shows the division of assets on the property, including half the house, barn, and hogs. The deed specifically stipulates that Henry's mother may have access to half of the cider mill and the cider horse with the liberty to improve them. Henry then goes on to transfer to his "Honored Mother" a portion of swamp land and a parcel of land known as Death Meadow.

The first document from Cohasset, recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 2, Page 300, is a deed from Samuel Oakes to Levi Tower. Samuel Oakes was a shipwright, a type of carpenter who builds and repairs ships. Oakes also served on several town committees and was a key participant in town meetings that helped govern the

community of Cohasset.

On October 7, 1794, Joshua and Sarah Nash sold property in Weymouth to Ezra Reed, recorded in Book 2, Page 334. Joshua Nash was the brother of Captain Thomas Nash, who served under General George Washington during the Siege of Boston. Captain Nash was also part of the Continental Army forces that stealthily took Dorchester Heights on March 4, 1776, fortifying the position with a cannon retrieved from Fort Ticonderoga.

Book 1 of the Norfolk County Land Records is not the only treasure trove of interesting land records because in Book 9 on Page 107 is a deed from Daniel and Mary Baker to Abner Guild. Abner Guild is the son of Aaron Guild, a Major in the Massachusetts Militia during the American Revolutionary War, and the Aaron Guild Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is named after him. In addition, Abner Guild, a tanner, is notable in his own right as being the mentor of John Smith, who founded what later became Winslow Brothers & Smith, one of the largest tanneries in the country.

"The primary mission of the Registry of Deeds is always the security, accuracy, and accessibility of our communities' land records and reliable service to the residents of Norfolk County," Register O'Donnell said. "Moreover, these legal documents, beyond their importance in establishing ownership of a property, offer a glimpse into the daily lives of early settlers and preserve the legacy of prominent figures who have shaped Norfolk County from its founding in 1793 to the present.

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— Jennifer G.



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