

localtownpages 1 Norwood

Vol. 16 No. 11

Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

June 1, 2026

Soccer's Biggest Stage Comes to Foxboro

By MAUREEN SULLIVAN

The town of Foxboro is about to go international with the World Cup arriving this month to take the field. Gillette Stadium, now referred to as the Boston Stadium for the tournament, will host seven games over the next several weeks.

How can residents join in the fun? What an exciting time to showcase what



SOCCER
continued on page 2



Celebrating Freedom and Community at Norwood Juneteenth

By MICHELE TARANTO

The Norwood Town Common will once again come alive with music, food, entertainment, and community spirit during the 5th

Annual Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 13, from 12–3 p.m. The free, family-friendly

JUNETEENTH
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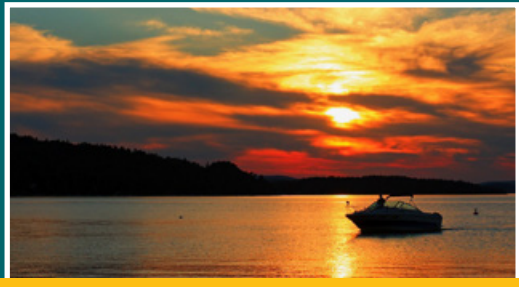
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Full tribute in our July issue

SOCCER

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makes this town so special. Norwood's Economic Development Department has compiled a list of what to know and how to help. Also, more information can be found on the Town of Norwood website at www.norwoodma.gov/departments/economic_development.php.

"The World Cup is a great opportunity for Norwood residents and businesses to participate in this global event, while also allowing Norwood and our neighbors to showcase what makes this region so special to a global audience,"

Norwood Economic Development Director Joseph Collins said.

Collins said he's been busy tracking opportunities and recommendations for residents and local businesses to take advantage of them, as well as to make the community aware of challenges (transportation, etc.) the World Cup may bring, not only to Foxboro, but its surrounding communities.

The Neponset Chamber of Commerce is also on side when it comes to helping locals connect to the World Cup. For details, visit <https://www.nrrchamber.com/fifa-world-cup-info.html>

According to the FIFA Bos-

ton 26 website, applications for volunteers have closed, and the deadline to appear in the Cultural Showcase on June 12 at City Hall Plaza has passed. However, local businesses may still apply for sponsorship opportunities, especially in the fields of hospitality, event services and logistics. For details, visit <https://bostonfwc26.com/>

Planning a watch party or other World Cup event? The Economic Development Department would like to know; fill out a survey available on the department's web page. The department plans to market local events and opportunities through the town's social media channels, newsletters and other channels.

The Neponset Chamber of Commerce is also collecting information on watch parties.

Here's the schedule of World Cup games:

June 13, 9 p.m. – Group C, Haiti vs. Scotland

June 16, 6 p.m. – Group I, Iraq vs. Norway

June 19, 6 p.m. – Group C, Scotland vs. Morocco

June 23, 4 p.m. – Group L, England vs. Ghana

June 26, 3 p.m. – Group I, Norway vs. France

June 29, 4:30 p.m. – Round of 32

July 9, 4 p.m. – Quarterfinals

State officials and transportation services have addressed traffic concerns surrounding the stadium, and getting to and from, especially with many of the spectators unfamiliar with the area. The Boston Stadium Express, a dedicated direct bus service capable to accommodate 10,000 fans for each of the World Cup matches. The service will feature more than 20 strategically located pickup points across Greater Boston and the surrounding region, including the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence and Boston Logan International Airport. For details on the Stadium Express and other 26 FIFA Boston news, visit <https://bostonfwc26.com/newsroom>. The MBTA will also be providing train service to the Foxboro station on match days. All train tickets must be paid for in advance and riders must have a valid match ticket to board. For more information, visit www.mbta.com/schedules/bostonstadium

According to Officer Andrew Jurewich of the Police Department, efforts to support security at the World Cup could be similar to the support provided for New England Patriots games. He said officers may support Foxborough Police at Boston Stadium through MetroLEC assets such as SWAT (Special

Weapons and Tactics), mountain bike patrols, and detail officers.

Boston Stadium joined the World Cup stage back in 2018 when it became part of a joint bid to host games in North America, according to a story from WCVB-TV. The stadium is home to the New England Revolution pro soccer team. Revolution President Brian Bilello was chair of the Boston portion for the bid; Robert Kraft was honorary chairman of the committee behind the coalition bid.

Earlier in 2026, the town of Foxborough, which is home to the stadium, objected to paying more than \$8 million in security costs. The dispute could have led to canceling the games, however, FIFA, the organization overseeing the World Cup, and the Kraft Group agreed to foot the bill for security.

Whether residents are attending matches in Foxborough, hosting watch parties at home, or simply enjoying the excitement from local restaurants and businesses, the arrival of the World Cup offers a unique opportunity for the region to come together and welcome the world to Massachusetts. Town officials encourage residents to plan ahead, support local establishments, and embrace the energy and cultural spirit the international tournament will bring to the area over the coming weeks.



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JUNETEENTH

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event continues to grow each year, bringing residents together to celebrate freedom, culture, education, and inclusion.

and learn together while celebrating the federal holiday of Juneteenth,” Officer Baguma said.

As part of the event, members of the Norwood community will once again be recognized



Originally organized by Norwood Police Officer Geoffrey Baguma, the celebration has become a collaborative community effort with support from committee members including Jua Robinson, Sam White, Clayton Cheever, and Leshia Karasik.

“Our time is precious and limited. Officer Baguma said. “Learn together. Grow together. Live better together.”

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, comfortable shoes, and an appetite for an afternoon filled with live performances, activities, (obstacle course and gage ball pit) and a wide variety of food vendors: Oasis Caribbean Cuisine, Crazy Tacos, Between the Bunz, and Simple Sweets. Castle Island Brewing Co. will also be on the common with a beer garden!

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, the day federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to enforce the freedom of enslaved people more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation had been signed. The tribute officially became a federal holiday on June 17, 2021.

“It’s an excellent opportunity for the town to come together

through the Norwood Juneteenth Honors, celebrating individuals who have made meaningful contributions toward inclusion, diversity, and education within the community.

We are still accepting nominations for the 2026 Norwood Juneteenth Honors Awards,” Officer Baguma said. “People considered will be those who have created or are helping to create a more inclusive town. We will also consider people who are increasing awareness of African American History, at any level, or are helping others do so. The person does not need to be a certified teacher. We will so consideration to all age groups.

Community organizations and vendors will also be on hand throughout the afternoon to share resources and information. Businesses and residents interested in participating or volunteering still have time to get involved by contacting the Juneteenth committee at norwoodjuneteenth@gmail.com. Contributions can be made through the Norwood Juneteenth Venmo account @ Norwood-Juneteenth, with all

proceeds supporting the event.

“We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and break down the event,” Officer Baguma said. “A couple of face painters would also be appreciated. Contact with the committee can be made by emailing NorwoodJuneteenth@gmail.com.”

Last year, several hundred people gathered on the Town Common to celebrate Juneteenth, and organizers expect this year’s event to draw an even larger crowd as community support and enthusiasm continue to grow.

“This year should be the best celebration yet,” Officer Baguma said.



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Fresh Finds Return to the Norwood Common

BY BELLA CAGGIANO

Fresh produce, homemade treats, live entertainment, and community spirit will once again fill the Norwood Town Common as the Norwood Farmers Market returns for another vibrant season this summer. Over the past few years (five since COVID), the market has become more than just a place to shop for fresh produce home-made goods, and handmade items. Tuesday afternoons have evolved into one of the Norwood's favorite weekly gatherings.

The Norwood Farmers Market will run for 19 weeks this season (added bonus day in June), every Tuesday, June 16 through Oct. 20, 2-6 p.m. on the Town Common, with a special 12-4 p.m. schedule on Aug. 5. Opening Day festivities and a ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place June 16, at 2 p.m.

Since the Covid shutdown, the market has consistently

expanded into a lively destination featuring local farms, artisans, specialty foods, nonprofit education, entertainment, and activities for the entire family. Organizers say the continued growth is largely due to the strong support from residents who value shopping local and supporting independent businesses.

"This market has really become a community gathering place," said market organizer Peter McFarland. "People come not only to shop, but to stay, enjoy the Common, listen to music, meet neighbors, and spend time together."

Shoppers can expect to see returning favorites alongside new vendors throughout the season. Familiar names expected back this year include: Riverdale Farm, Barbosa Family Farm, Ally's Cookies, Wild Willy's Sports Cards, Bittersweet Bakery, Eight Bells Weaving, and many others offering fresh produce, baked goods, handmade products, specialty items, and prepared foods. As in every year, the market is growing and some newcomers will be lining the

sidewalks: Aaronap Cellars (wine), Hale Bone Broth, Man'oushe Sisters (Middle Eastern bakery), More Than Before Co. (organic mushrooms), Pinci Foods Lasagneria (homemade lasagna), Puren Tea, Streetpops (gourmet ice pops), Zaatar & Dips, and many more food and artisan vendors!



In addition to shopping, the market will once again feature live music, outdoor games, demonstrations, and themed

events throughout the season. Planned specialty days include Pet Day, Soccer Comes to Town, Christmas in July, National Farmers Market Day, Carnival Day at the Market, Bushels of Apples, and of course, the return of Pumpkinfest.

"We want the market to be more than just a place to shop," McFarland said. "It's about creating a welcoming community

space where families can gather, local businesses can thrive, and people of all ages can enjoy everything Norwood has to offer."

The market is a collaboration with the Friends of Norwood Center and relies on the efforts volunteers, sponsors, local businesses, and town departments to operate each season. High school volunteers

assist with vendor setup and breakdown, while the Norwood DPW and Town Hall help support communication, signage, and logistics.

Another feature that continues to enhance the market atmosphere is the closure of Central Avenue near the Common during market hours. The expanded pedestrian-friendly space has created additional

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by Tim Jones



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A Little off the Top

Spacin' out in outer space

BY STUART GREEN

DAY 1

Dear Diary: I can't believe how excited I am to be this excited. I feel like I'm floating on air... which I am. Imagine, the first astronaut to go solo in outer space for an entire year! I know I'll miss my friends, my wife, my kids and, needless to say, Netflix. I hope my yearly subscription doesn't expire in a year. Wait a minute - oh-oh.

DAY 2

Dear Diary: What a day it's been. Or at least I think it's been. A day, I mean. It's hard to tell when one day ends and another begins, what with no sunrise and all. But nothing much celestial to report - other than a couple of shooting comets, a meteorite or two, and maybe a dwarf star ending its cycle and imploding on itself. I mean, nothing meaningful - like if the Sox won.

DAY 3

Dear Diary: The capsule is making those clanking noises my

old Plymouth used to make, the third rocket engine is squealing, and the chrome red paint job with the flames and little hearts is peeling. If only Joe the astro-cha-nic were here. But it'll take forever to make an appointment to bring this in - although my annual 800,000-mile check-up is around the corner. If there only was a corner.

DAY 4

Dear Diary: Right! Amazon says they deliver anywhere. Well, Mr. 'We'll get it there anywhere, anytime' - I've got news for you. I'm still waiting for my double-extra warm pair of lined mittens. And don't give me that excuse of there was nowhere to park.

DAY 5

Dear Diary: Major custodial problem in the capsule, will need to consult central command about possible alternatives and solutions, pending appropriate overriding systems and operations according to proper procedures. Referencing the current dilemma that must

be thoroughly analyzed and a professional solution that must be found is as follows: Run out of quarters for the washing machine. And my other spacesuit is in the dry cleaners.

DAY 17

Dear Diary: I think I missed a few days of writing here. I must have slept in for, oh, 13 days or so. I must have really been zonked out because I heard there was a major solar burst, and a couple of space particles caused minimal damage to the capsule's hood ornament. Will have to get in touch with insurance when I get back.

DAY 42

Dear Diary: Completely lost track of time, dimensions, and my senses. My fingers have turned into a purple octopus, the rotor blades are a variation

of vanilla fudge, and my mind is out for a drive.

DAY 364

Dear Diary: Can hardly wait to get back to earth tomorrow after an entire year. I'm sure things will be normal.

DAY 365

Dear Diary: Just had a good look around earth. I'm heading back to space.

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

MARKET

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room for picnic tables, entertainment, and community gathering areas.

"Having Central Street closed enhances the entire feel of the Common," McFarland said. "It has transformed the space into a place where people truly want to spend time."

Vendor applications and volunteers are still being accepted for the 2026 season. Businesses, farms, artisans, and nonprofit organizations interested in participating can email norwoodmafim@gmail.com for more information. Residents can also follow the "Norwood MA Farmers Market" Facebook page for updates, entertainment schedules, and weekly vendor information.

As another season begins on the Town Common, organizers hope residents will continue embracing the importance of buying local and supporting the farms, artisans, and small businesses that help strengthen local and state communities. From fresh produce and homemade specialties to handcrafted goods

and local services, every purchase made at the market helps sustain independent businesses while keeping dollars invested in the local economy. More than just a weekly shopping destination, the Norwood Farmers Market has become a celebration of community connection and healthy living.

Event Days:

- June 16: Opening Day
- June 23: Soccer Comes to Town
- June 30: Pet Day
- July 21: Christmas in July
- August 11: Farmers Market Day
- September 1: Carnival Day at the Market
- September 8: It's Kickoff Time
- September 22: Wellness Day
- September 29: Bushels of Apples
- October 13: Pumpkinfest

Photos courtesy of Michele Taranto



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Community Food Bank Swap Program

The Bay State Animal Cooperative continues its ongoing community efforts through its food bank swap program located at 115 Codman Rd.,

helping local pet owners access needed food and supplies during difficult times. In addition, the organization continues to assist with spay and neuter services while also providing dedicated long-term care to many of its rescued cats — a commitment that is often challenging, but deeply rewarding for volunteers and foster families alike.



An old photo from the early days of the food bank swap — featuring the original donation bin and sign — serves as a reminder of how far the program has come and the continued generosity of the community that keeps it going.

Residents are also reminded to contact info@baystateanimals.org if they have prescription pet food they would like to donate. Because many animals in foster care have specialized

medical needs, the organization asks that prescription foods be set aside so they can be distributed directly to the appropriate foster homes and caretakers.

The Bay State Animal Cooperative is giving a huge THANK YOU to Tyler for thinking about our organization and donating to us through his can collecting efforts.

We and cats we care for, feel honored to be chosen!



Foster of the Month

One of those special cats is Pete, a long-time foster cat who currently resides with the president of the Bay State Animal

Cooperative. Pete is a senior cat who is medically compromised and currently receiving palliative care to keep him comfortable and maintain his quality of life.

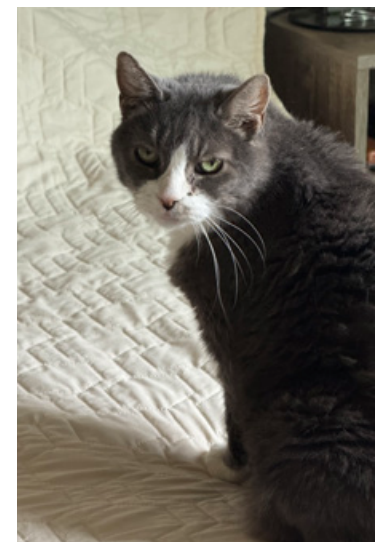
Cats like Pete represent the heart of rescue work, animals who may never be adopted, but he has and will continue to feel safe, and receive compassion, medical care, and love for the remainder of his life.

The Bay State Animal Cooperative continues to care for many long-term foster and senior cats whose medical and daily needs require constant attention and funding. While adoption fees and donations help, the reality is that many rescued cats come with ongoing medical conditions that require extensive and costly care.

The organization estimates it needs a minimum of \$3,000 per cat to help cover unexpected emergency veterinary visits as well as everyday care, including medications, exams, diagnostics, and daily supplies. In addition, funding is continually needed for litter, special prescription foods, periodic testing, and senior wellness screenings that help keep these cats comfortable and healthy

for as long as possible.

For many of these felines, foster care is not temporary — it becomes their lifelong safe haven. The commitment made by volunteers and foster families is extraordinary, but community support remains essential to continue providing the level of care these animals deserve. Donations of prescription food, supplies, and monetary contributions all help make that mission possible.



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A Message from the Norwood Police Dept. & Impact Norwood

What Parents Should Know About Social Hosting Laws

As graduation season and summer celebrations begin, this is an important reminder for all parents and caregivers to understand Massachusetts Social Hosting Laws.

In Massachusetts, it is illegal for anyone to knowingly provide alcohol to a person under 21 years old or allow underage drinking to occur on property they control. Parents and adults can face serious legal consequences - including criminal charges, fines, and civil liability- if minors consume alcohol in their home or at gatherings they host.

Beyond the legal consequences, there are real physical and emotional risks tied to underage drinking. One poor decision can lead to injuries,

impaired driving, alcohol poisoning, damaged friendships, broken trust between families, and lifelong consequences for young people and parents alike. Our kids deserve safe spaces where they can simply be kids - laughing, celebrating milestones, building lifelong friendships, and making memories without the pressure or danger of alcohol and other substances.

This summer, let's commit to creating substance-free environments where youth feel supported, safe, and connected. Your example, your boundaries, and your willingness to say "no" matter more than you know.



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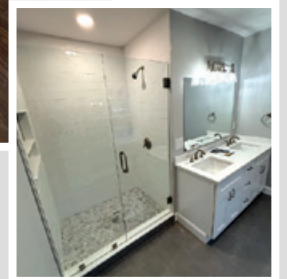
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Norwood's Kate Sibbing-Dunn Named Food Pantry Director

Longtime civic leader and food pantry advocate brings operational, financial, and community-building experience to the role

The Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood is pleased to announce the appointment of Kate Sibbing-Dunn as its new Executive Director. Sibbing-Dunn, a Norwood resident with extensive experience in the community's civic life, brings a diverse background in operations, financial administration, fundraising, and communications to the position.

Sibbing-Dunn comes to the Pantry with professional experience spanning bookkeeping, event production, and program coordination. Most recently, she worked as an Administrative Assistant at Amalie George CPA in Needham, where she managed client records and supported client needs and data systems. As a Bookkeeping Assistant at TRACS, Inc. in Waltham, she processed payroll, tracked invoices, and supported month-end reconciliations. Earlier in her career, she was the Coordinator for Legal Writing and Appellate Advocacy Programs at Boston University School of Law and prior to that spent four years as a Producer at Second City Communications in Chicago, overseeing customized programs for more than 200 clients and managing budgets of

up to \$400,000.

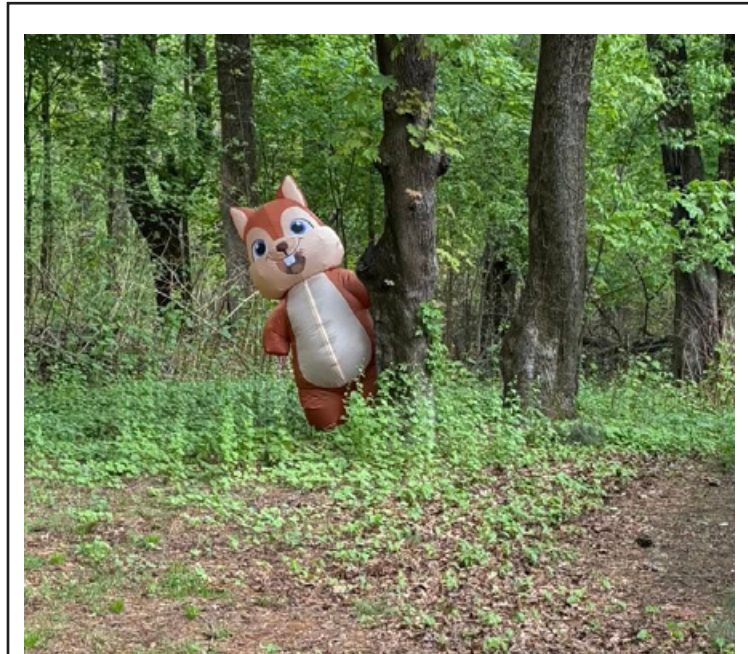
"Fighting food insecurity is deeply important to me," Sibbing-Dunn said. "I was raised volunteering at the soup kitchen my father ran in Dayton, Ohio, and I later served on the board of the Roslindale Food Pantry before moving to Norwood. I am committed to serving every client of this pantry with the dignity and respect they deserve."

In addition to her professional experience, Sibbing-Dunn has been an active figure in Norwood's public life. She served three years as an elected

Norwood School Committee Member, where she co-led the Superintendent Search and the redistricting study. As Chair of the Norwood Cultural Council, she managed annual grant cycles and championed community programming. As Chair of the Norwood 150th Cultural Committee, she produced the 2022 Norwood Arts and Cultural Festival. Kate also served as Communications Lead for the One Norwood override campaign and is a co-founder

FOOD PANTRY

continued on page 11



Norwood residents are advised not to feed the oversized squirrels this summer. Photo courtesy of Norwood Animal Control



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On the Beat with Mustang Sally



Mustang Sally stole the spotlight while SROs Rooney and Baguma also looked sharp attending the Norwood High School Prom on May 15.

No official reports yet if Norwood's favorite canine hit the dance floor!

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Senior Corner

By MICHELE TARANTO

While the end of the school calendar often brings thoughts of kids riding bikes, swimming, and spending long days at the park, summer fun is meant to be enjoyed at every age, and Norwood seniors have plenty of opportunities to stay active, social, and engaged. The Norwood Council on Aging is determined to keep their clients busy (and, young at heart), by offering a wide variety of educational programs, social opportunities, day trips, and community resources. From historical presentations and cooking classes to safety initiatives and celebratory events, the coming months are filled with opportunities for Norwood seniors to stay active, informed, and connected. And stay tuned, June is only the beginning!

Events

Cooking at Powisset Farm

Those looking to sharpen their culinary skills can enjoy a Mediterranean-themed cooking class at Powisset Farm on Tuesday, June 2, at 11 a.m. Participants will learn to prepare fresh seasonal dishes inspired by Mediterranean cuisine. The cost is \$25 per person.

Deborah Sampson's Secret

History comes alive on Friday, June 5, at 1 p.m., with "Deborah Sampson's Secret," a fascinating presentation about the Massachusetts woman who disguised herself as a man and secretly served in George Washington's

Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Deborah Sampson remains the only known woman to successfully serve in the army without being discovered during her service.

Happy Birthday America Trip

In celebration of America's 250th anniversary, the Senior Center is planning a special trip to the Danversport Yacht Club on Wednesday, June 17. The event includes lunch and a performance by the Patriot Five and Drum Duo. The cost is \$129 per person.

Lighthouses and Lobster Adventure

A summertime trip to the Maine coast is planned for Friday, Aug. 7. Travelers will visit both Boone Island Lighthouse and the famous Nubble Lighthouse in York, Maine, followed by a traditional lobster dinner at Foster's. The day concludes with shopping at Stonewall Kitchen. The trip cost is \$139 per person.

Norwood Alert Form Helps Protect Vulnerable Residents

The Senior Center recently reminded residents about the importance of the Norwood Alert Form program. The program assists authorities in locating missing persons living with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other cognitive impairments who may be at risk of wandering.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, warning signs can

include forgetting familiar locations, restlessness, confusion, or repeatedly asking to "go home." Families are encouraged to complete a Norwood Alert



form that includes demographic information, a physical description, and a current photograph of their loved one. Completed forms are shared

with on-duty officers in the event a person is reported missing, helping first responders act quickly and effectively. Forms

SENIOR CORNER

continued on page 11

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LIVING HEALTHY

In Focus: Astigmatism

By GRAHAM R. STETSON, OD, MS

Have you ever noticed headlights stretching into long streaks at night or road signs appearing fuzzy? Does your child often squint or struggle with their schoolwork? Astigmatism may be the reason.

The term may sound intimidating, but astigmatism is one of the most common problems eye doctors treat. Like nearsightedness and farsightedness, it is a refractive error that affects how the eye focuses light. Fortunately, astigmatism is very treatable and correcting it can make a big difference in everyday life.

What it is?

Astigmatism occurs when the cornea (front of the eye) or the lens (inside the eye) has an irregular shape. Instead of being curved evenly, like a basketball, the cornea or lens is shaped more like a football, with one curve steeper than another. Be-

cause of this, light entering the eye does not focus at a single point on the retina (back of the



eye), causing vision to appear blurry or distorted.

Astigmatism is very common. Most people have at least a small amount. Mild astigmatism may not cause noticeable symptoms,

while higher amounts can blur both distance and near vision. It often occurs along with near-

sightedness or farsightedness, requiring a prescription that corrects more than one focusing problems.

Larger amounts of astigmatism are especially important

to address, particularly for children. Left uncorrected, it can cause amblyopia, a condition where ongoing blurry vision weakens the connection between the eye and brain, leading to long-term visual problems.

How It Affects Vision

People with astigmatism may notice blurry or distorted vision. Others experience headaches, eye strain, frequent squinting, or fatigue while reading, doing computer work, or using a phone.

Children with uncorrected astigmatism may struggle with schoolwork or complain of tired eyes. Many do not realize their vision is abnormal since that is all they have known.

Night driving can also be challenging, with headlights and streetlights appearing stretched or starburst-shaped. In dim lighting, reduced contrast can make signs and lane markings harder to see.

Because symptoms can be subtle, many people simply put up with astigmatism, not realizing how much clearer and more comfortable their vision could be.

What Can Be Done

Fortunately, astigmatism is easy to correct. Eyeglasses and contact lenses use different corrective powers to compensate for the uneven curvature of the eye and bring light into focus. Some patients may also be candidates for orthokeratology (Ortho-K) or refractive surgery, such as LASIK.

Regular, comprehensive eye exams are essential for detecting and monitoring astigmatism, especially in children. Clear, comfortable vision can improve learning, work, driving, screen use, and the simple enjoyment of seeing the world clearly.

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LIVING HEALTHY

Twisting the day away

As the fresh air comes and the sun starts to shine a bit more, finding the “perfect swing” on the golf course may come with some unwanted repercussions. The golf swing is an unnatural motion for the body to make, placing immense stress on the lumbar spine and the rotator cuff. While this sport is played by all ages, and may seem low-impact in appearance, this level of repetitive movement can turn a leisurely weekend activity into a source of chronic discomfort.

Danny, a 28 year old male, presented to our office com-



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

chiropractic care, including chiropractic adjustments, at-home stretches, and increased hydration, Danny’s symptoms have greatly improved and he is happy to be back on the course pain-free.

If you are experiencing these symptoms and are ready to start on your journey to health, call THE HOLISTIC CENTER AT BRISTOL SQUARE located at 1426 Main Street, Walpole. Call (508) 660-2722 to schedule your appointment today.

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plainting of right shoulder pain and stiffness across his lower back following a weekend of golfing with friends. He has been an avid golfer for multiple years, but has never experienced this level of symptoms. After starting a traditional course of

tive initiative designed to raise awareness about scams targeting older adults and vulnerable populations.

The task force focuses on educating residents about common scams involving phone calls, banking, lottery winnings, charities, and gift cards, while also working to reduce the stigma often associated with fraud victimization.

Officials stress that anyone can become the victim of a scam and encourage residents to seek help immediately if

they suspect fraudulent activity. Residents who believe they may have been scammed are encouraged to contact the Norwood Police Department at 781-440-5100.

Additional scam prevention resources are available through the Federal Trade Commission, United States Postal Inspection Service, and Consumer.gov. Residents may also contact the Norwood Anti-Scam Task Force directly at NASTF@norwoodma.gov.

SENIOR CORNER

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are available at the Norwood Police Department, the Senior Center, or online through the town website at www.norwoodma.gov.

Anti-Scam Task Force Focuses on Awareness and Protection

Town officials are continuing efforts to educate residents through the Norwood Anti-Scam Task Force, a collabora-

FOOD PANTRY

continued from page 8

of Progress Norwood, a community organization focused on local civic and social engagement.

Sibbing-Dunn holds a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Affairs and Public Administration from Wright State University.

Deb Devine, previous Executive Director, is now stepping back into a regular volunteer

position. She plans on spending more time with family and enjoying her well-earned time off.

The Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood provides food and essential goods to families and individuals in need within the Norwood and Westwood area, operating through a dedicated network of community volunteers. For more information on the Norwood Food Pantry, visit www.norwoodpantry.org.

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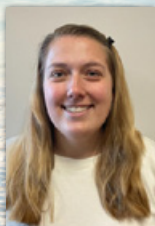
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NORWOOD SPORTS

Norwood Girls Tennis Continuing to Improve

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Playing in the ever-tough Tri-Valley League is always an adventure, but over the past few years the Norwood girls tennis team has had a rather unsympathetic time on the courts. There are a lot of talented teams in the TVL and Norwood usually finds themselves in the middle near the lower half of the tier. Although this year the team currently only has two wins (at press time), they are playing much better tennis; 4 or 5 wins would be a big improvement building upon last year.

“Already having 2 wins is good for us and we are looking for a few more before the season comes to an end,” Norwood girls tennis coach Lisa Tucker said. “This is a growing year and we are growing in the right direction.”

Not only have the Mustangs been improving their skills on the courts, they are also improving their numbers. Norwood

has attracted a lot of new girls to the program this spring and is currently carrying 6 seniors, 3 juniors, and 13 sophomores. All are trying hard and bringing a great attitude to the game, which Tucker believes is a major plus.

Senior Riley Barnett is one of three Norwood captains to lead the team on and off the courts this year. Along with the other captains, Tuvker is looking for them to move the team in a positive direction while supporting all the newer players and helping them to get better.

Barnett will be holding down the number one singles position for the Mustangs. She has been playing well in her second year as the top dog. Although having a tough beginning facing a lot of good schools, she has been leveling off and is now playing much better.

Sitting just below Barnett in the pecking order playing second singles is sophomore Maia D’Annunzio, another extremely



Photo courtesy of Coach Lisa Tucker

hard-working individual who runs all over the court expelling a lot of energy. She is a dedicated tennis player and takes lessons allowing her to keep pace with the older athletes she goes up against.

Diya Bhandira, another Norwood captain, is playing third singles for Tucker, and according to the coach, she has already won 4 matches for the Mustangs this season (at press time).

“Diya is a consistent, all-around player that brings a positive atmosphere to the courts,” Tucker said. “She is very good at making her opponents move around the court.”

The final captain, Isabella Gallo, is paired with sophomore Angelina Giovangelo at first doubles. The duo, after Barnett, are the next two best players on the Mustang squad. As a team, they communicate well and when they first got put together last year, they meshed really quickly to eventually form a formidable duo on the courts.

Rounding out the starters at second doubles are sophomores Aaradhya Sivakumar and Maryana Watsa. Sivakumar saw a little bit of action playing doubles last year, while Watsa only hit the court during exhibition matches.

“Thus far they are doing ok but are still getting use to one another,” Tucker said. “They both bring a court presence and if they can work more cohesively then they will become a good doubles team.”

With a good number of teams on their schedule that are much higher than the Mustangs, the coach knows this will be a good challenge for her team.

“Having a lot of sophomores on our team this year is good for the future,” Tucker said. “If they continue to keep playing and practicing, they will improve and come next season we should have a good year.”

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The Bob Evatts Tennis Courts by the Coakley Middle School Reopen After Reconstruction!
Photo courtesy of the Norwood Recreation Department

NORWOOD SPORTS

Young But Improving

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

As the Norwood boys volleyball team surpasses the midway point of the season, the team has yet to record a win (at press time), but despite not breaking into the win column Coach Paul Nimblett is not all that worried. Having no seniors gracing the Mustang roster, the Norwood coach likes what he has seen from the underclassmen.

“This is one of the youngest teams that I have ever had,” Nimblett said. “It is definitely a rebuilding year, but they are getting better as the year progresses. Although an inexperienced team, we are playing close sets and just recently they took a set from Norton, who is playing with nine seniors.”

Coming into the season, Nimblett knew that Norwood was going to be a young team and although the team has not been able to secure a win as of yet, he is very optimistic with the progress they have been making. During the first half of the season, Norwood has already gone up against a majority of the teams that they will see again later in the season.

“We have gone up against a lot of senior laden teams and have taken our lumps,” the Norwood coach said. “Hopefully come the second half of the season, we will be able to win some sets against these teams.”

Nimblett will be relying heavily on his three juniors to help lead the team into the future. Nathan Karvitz and Akeem Cohen are both three-year players who have improved their game over the years. Karvitz was a hitter last year, but the coach was in need of a setter this spring, so the junior made the move. Unfortunately, he was out for the team’s first four games with an ankle injury, but since his return Norwood had been playing a lot better.

Cohen, an outside hitter, the team’s strongest attacker,

possesses a good serve and can play all around for the Mustangs. The third junior is Dejvi Caushllari, a very athletic

Another sophomore middle hitter who has performed well had been Cyril Randall. Playing along side Fleming, Nim-



Photo courtesy of Coach Paul Nimblett

individual but new to the sport of volleyball. According to Nimblett, he has been playing libero and not only has he been getting better on a daily basis, he has impressed the coach with his quick learning of the game.

Following the juniors, the Mustangs have a number of sophomores who have shown incredible potential on the court. Luke Fleming, who comes from a volleyball family, opened the season as the team’s setter while Karvitz was sidelined and although he performed well, he is much better suited as a hitter. During the Norton game, he had eight kills for the Mustangs.

blett is looking for big things from the two.

“Last year as freshman they were both part of our rotation and were getting more playing time than most freshman would normally get,” the coach said. “They are both basketball players and I am hoping for bigger things this year as sophomores.”

One other sophomore who has stepped up their game from last year is Sambhav Niraula. Freshmen John Connell has made a name for himself on the court during his first season while James Cushing has seen some playing time as well. Sophomore Brayden Jenkins

will also see some action on the court for the Mustangs.

Knowing that the team’s numbers were going to be relatively low this spring, Nimblett applied and was granted a waiver for eighth graders to take part in the sport this spring.

“Having a few eighth graders learn the game on the varsity level this year will bring experience next year,” Nimblett said. “The experience of playing against top quality competition will help their game in the long run.”

Three eighth graders have joined the team this season and should be improved by the time they get to high school next fall. Yeiden Perez-Camacho, Gavin Londergan, and Ben Baranowski, who is 6’ 3”, will bring future height to the team. The trio are getting playing time and reps in practice and hopefully will be able to help get Norwood moving in the right direction come next year.

“The future of Norwood volleyball is bright if they all stick with the game,” the Mustang coach said. “They are young but are all hard workers and want to improve. They enjoy the game even though we have not been winning, but they all believe in what we are trying to do here.”

Having no seniors on this year’s squad Nimblett will be returning his entire team next year, which would bode well for the program, especially as a lot of their opposition will be graduating a large number of senior players.

“I told this team early on that the season is a process and journey and even though we are not winning right now we are getting better playing against good teams,” Nimblett said. “They are all getting playing time and gaining confidence while playing for a varsity team. They are soaking it in and want to get better.”

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 3

**Benchmark Senior Living
Summer Storytime
Benchmark Senior Living, 40
Clapboardtree St.
10 a.m.**

Families are invited to enjoy sunny stories and happy songs that encourage children and caregivers to laugh, learn, and connect together. After storytime, children can enjoy a fun summer-themed craft and a light snack while spending time with residents and making new friends across generations. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of summer, build community connections, and create sweet memories together. For questions, email CFCE Program Coordinator Liz Hogrell (ehogrell@minlib.net).

June 4

**Children's Museum of Easton Fun
with S.T.E.A.M
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.**

Calling future scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians! Test theories and predictions through a compilation of science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics experiments. Learn to become problem solvers, innovators, creators, and collaborators while having fun! Program includes a free pass for each child to visit the Children's Museum Easton (a \$12 value) as well as an additional activity to do at home.

June 5

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

The Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with Norwood-based Lifeworks Inc to bring this series of art classes. Art instructor Stephanie Enloe will run the program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Each week, she 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+.

June 8

**Monday Movie Matinee:
Nightmare Alley**

**Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.**

If you love movies and want to immerse yourself in unforgettable cinematic experiences, Morrill Memorial Library is the place to be! June's movie is **Nightmare Alley (140 mins), Rated R**. Con artist Stan Carlisle finds an unexpected ally in Dr. Lilith Ritter, a psychiatrist, to amp up his scams. However, as Lilith allows Stan to see her for who she truly is, Stan begins to fear his new associate. Based on the novel by William Lindsay Gresham. (Source: Swank)

Cast: Bradley Cooper, Cate Blanchett, Toni Collette, Willem Dafoe, Richard Jenkins

Heated Rivalry: The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly [HYBRID event]

**Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.**

Who's Ilya? Shane? Why are we talking about fictional gay hockey players?

Join a discussion of Heated Rivalry - the book series and the show. Talk will revolved around what's going on in this fictional universe and what our cultural obsession with it says about our universe today. There will be spoilers but hopefully the commentary will make them worthwhile. Come prepared for a fun and lively - maybe even scrappy! - discussion. This fun and informative talk will be led between Prof. Masha Ras-kolnikov and Cashman Kerr Prince, just in time for Pride Month! This event will be a hybrid format; attend in-person or virtually via Zoom.

June 9

**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 or learn about joining, call 781-

799-7068, or email womenin-businessma@gmail.com.

**Norwood Toastmasters Group
Norwood Civic Center
7 p.m.**

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps develop communication and leadership skills for its members and the community at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just it is done! Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. For more information, visit: norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

June 10

**Music with Sarah
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.**

Get ready to sing, dance, and move to the beat in this lively Music with Sarah class! Designed for young children and their caregivers, this interactive program is full of songs, instruments, movement, and musical fun that will have everyone clapping and smiling along.

June 11
**Sensory-Friendly Monthly Movie:
Zootopia 2!
Morrill Memorial Library
11 1.m.**

This event is for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities.

June 13
**Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop
First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

Find your special treasures at the boutique! The list includes clothes for the family and kitchen, household items, jewelry, shoes, books, and lots more. Everything is clean, in excellent condition, and well-priced.

**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 design will be the same.

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.

June 16

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

**Library on the Common
Norwood Town Common
2:30-4:30 p.m.**

Visit the library table from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. at the Norwood Farmers Market! Learn about library services and check out our Friends of the MML book sale. We will have donated books to sell. All proceeds go to the Friends of the Morrill Memorial Library, a non-profit organization that funds many of the library programs. You will get a chance to join the Friends as well. No registration necessary.

**Author Talk: A Trans History of
the Weimar Republic
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.**

In honor of Pride Month, the Morrill Memorial Library welcomes author Milo Todd to present "A Trans History of the Weimar Republic." During the Weimar Republic (1919 to 1933), Berlin was considered the queerest city in the entire world, as well as a trailblazer of transgender healthcare and culture. Join Milo Todd (author of the award-winning novel, *The Lilac People*), as he discusses the era's vibrant trans community and its endless series of documented firsts, including terminology, surgeries, rights, memoirs, and music. The presentation will conclude with a Q&A. Copies of Milo's book will be available for sale and signing at the end of the program.

June 17

Turn the Page Book Group

**Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.**

Connect with Patty Bailey and fellow local readers for a friendly and informal conversation of Ina Garten's memoir, *Be Ready When the Luck Happens*. Ina Garten, the author of thirteen best-selling cookbooks, beloved Food Network personality, Instagram sensation, and the cultural icon whose face has launched a thousand memes, shares her personal story with readers hungry for a seat at her table.

**Community Connections
Morrill Memorial Library
12-2 p.m.**

Community Connections @ the Library is a monthly drop-in gathering hosted by Riverside Community Care on the third Wednesday of each month. Each session highlights new ways to get connected, as well as focused help from a trusted local resource. Community Connections @ the Library is designed to help residents learn about local resources, programs, and opportunities for personal growth and well-being. Meet with a community coach, enjoy friendly conversation, and discover ways to strengthen your connection to the people and supports around you. Drop in, bring your lunch or a coffee, and discover tools in your community that promote balance, resilience, and wellness. All are welcome, and all questions are welcome - regardless of each month's highlighted topic.

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

Connect with Patty Bailey and fellow local readers for a friendly and informal conversation of Ina Garten's memoir, *Be Ready When the Luck Happens*. Ina Garten, the author of thirteen best-selling cookbooks, beloved Food Network personality, Instagram sensation, and the cultural icon whose face has launched a thousand memes, shares her personal story with readers hungry for a seat at her table.

**Artist-in-Residence: Plena Dance
Workshop
First Congregational Church
6:30 p.m.**

Registration is required for Morrill Memorial Library events unless otherwise noted: visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/, or call the reference desk at 781-769-0200, x2.

CALENDAR

continued from page 14

The Morrill Memorial Library, in partnership with First Congregational Church in Norwood, bring the 2026 Artist-in-Residence to the Norwood community. Join Jorge Santiago Arce for a unique exploration and celebration of Puerto Rican and Afro-Caribbean music and culture this Spring in three separate events!

No experience is required for this class made for beginners! Arrive in clothing meant for movement and everything else will be provided. Plena is a traditional Afro-Puerto dance that has been evolving since the beginning of the 20th century. The Plena dance Workshop is a unique opportunity for participants to learn traditional steps of this dance from Puerto Rico in a very friendly and easy fashion. Students will learn to appreciate the connection of this Afro-Puerto Rican dance with contemporary movements like hip-hop. This workshop is recommended for adults and teens.

June 22

Monday Movie Matinee: Touch
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

If you love movies and want to immerse yourself in unforgettable cinematic experiences, Morrill Memorial Library is the place to be! The second June movie is **Touch (161 mins) Rated R**. It centers on a widower's journey to find his first love before time runs out. (Source: Swank). Cast: Yôko Narahashi, Egill Ólafsson, Palmi Kormákur, Masahiro Motoki, Kôki

June 23

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 or learn about joining, call 781-799-7068, or email womenin-businessma@gmail.com.

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

Library on the Common
Norwood Town Common
2:30-4:30 p.m.

Visit the library table from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. at the Norwood Farmers Market! Learn about library services and check out our Friends of the MML book sale. We will have donated books to sell. All proceeds go to the Friends of the Morrill Memorial Library, a non-profit organization that funds many of the library programs. You will get a chance to join the Friends as well. No registration necessary.

Adult Craft Program: Faux Stained Glass
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to welcome veteran crafter Rachelle Toth for a colorful and creative evening of Faux Stained Glass! Using felt and simple crafting techniques, Rachelle will guide attendees in making beautiful "stained glass" art pieces that look stunning and are fun to create. Whether you're a seasoned crafter or trying something new for the first time, this program is perfect for all skill levels — no experience needed! All supplies will be provided.

We Were Always Here: Uncovering Queer History in Every Era
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
6:30 p.m.

From the Friends of Dorothy to Boston marriages, LG-BTQIA+ people have been

living as their authentic queer selves in every era, in every culture. Genderqueer inclusion consultant Ali Kane (she/they) will share queer stories from the 1600s to the 1960s. From these accounts, you will gain a glimpse into queer lives throughout history, as well as explore how these truths were uncovered and strategies for preserving queer history today. Through case studies, you will learn how historians continue to grapple with validating these experiences within 21st Century understanding of identity, gender, and family.

Titles on Tap Book Group
Napper Tandy's Pub, 46 Day St.
7:30 p.m.

The June title had yet to be announced at press time. Copies of the book will be available to pick up at the library's Reference desk. Please contact the library for details on the March book at 781-769-0200. The ebook and audiobook are instantly available through either Libby or hoopla. Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. We go in for stories that are shaken, not stirred, and we don't mind taking our love of lit outside the library walls. Titles on Tap meets once a month in the left-hand bar of Napper Tandy's to eat, drink, be merry, and discuss the latest reading selection.

Norwood Toastmasters Group
Norwood Civic Center
7 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps develop communication and leadership skills for its members and the

community at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just it is done! Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. For more information, visit: norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

June 24

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.

June 25

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.

June 26

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

The Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with Norwood-based Lifeworks Inc to bring this series of art classes. Art instructor Stephanie Enloe will run the program specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Each week, she 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+.

CALENDAR
continued on page 16

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CALENDAR

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June 27

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

Spend a few hours at the boutique! Outfit the entire family and find jewelry to match, decorate the house, pick up things for the kitchen, stock up on summer reading, and browse through all of the other wonderful items offered to anyone looking for a bargain for quality merchandise.

June 29

**Cozy Puzzle Night
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.**

Warm up, get cozy, and hang out with friends and neighbors! The Simoni Room will be full of 300 to 500-piece puzzles waiting to be completed. The library will provide light refreshments and warm drinks, and play lo-fi music to curate a relaxed vibe. Unlike the puzzle races, this event is not competitive! There will be plenty of puzzles available, but feel free to bring any from home to share or trade as well. Reg-

istration is encouraged but not required.

June 30

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

**Library on the Common
Norwood Town Common
2:30-4:30 p.m.**

Visit the library table from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. at the Norwood Farmers Market! Learn about library services and check out our Friends of the MML book sale. We will have donated books to sell. All proceeds go to the Friends of

the Morrill Memorial Library, a non-profit organization that funds many of the library programs. You will get a chance to join the Friends as well. No registration necessary.

**Calm Minds, Creative Lines
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.**

This is a meditation and doodling program called **Calm Minds, Creative Lines** hosted by Dimple Shah and Saswat Mohanty. Calm Minds, Creative Lines is a guided wellness and creativity program that combines accessible meditation with mindful doodling inspired by Zentangle.

Each session begins with a short, beginner-friendly meditation designed to help participants relax, focus, and reduce stress, followed by structured doodling exercises that encourage creative expression in a calm and supportive environment. No prior experience with meditation or art is required. The program promotes mental wellness, introduces simple mindfulness techniques, and provides a quiet, engaging activity. For ages 18+

Summer Event Season Is Here: Get Your Permits in Early

BY MICHELE TARANTO

As Norwood gears up for another busy summer season, residents planning community events are encouraged to start the permitting process early. Whether organizing a neighborhood block party, hosting a charity road race, planning

a festival, or gathering at one of Norwood's beautiful town-owned parks, advance planning is key to securing the desired space and making events run smoothly.

Town officials are reminding residents and organizations that summer calendars fill quickly,

and event requests requiring approval from the Norwood Board of Selectmen should be submitted as soon as possible to avoid scheduling conflicts and delays.

The proposed upcoming meeting dates for event approvals are:

- Tuesday, May 19, 2026
- Tuesday, June 9, 2026
- Tuesday, June 23, 2026
- Tuesday, July 14, 2026
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Applicants should note that all requests and permit applications must be submitted at least one week prior to a scheduled meeting in order to be placed on the agenda. Meeting dates may also be subject to change.

Town officials encourage



residents not to wait until the last minute, especially during the busy summer months when parks, streets, and public spaces are in high demand for community events and celebrations.

Permit applications and additional information can be

found on the Town of Norwood website at:

Town of Norwood Permit Applications

Questions regarding permits or scheduling can be directed to selectmen@norwoodma.gov.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Attend an in-person Orientation
Wednesday, June 3, 2026
1-2:30 p.m.

In-person ESOL tutor training begins June 9, 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.

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Literacy Volunteers at the Morrill Memorial Library

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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 REAL ESTATE CORNER

Strong Real Estate Activity in April

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell released the real estate recording statistics for April, 2026, which indicated strong real estate activity across Norfolk County, particularly in document recordings, deeds, and mortgage activity compared to April, 2025.

The Registry of Deeds recorded 9,468 documents in April, 2026, a 9% increase compared to the 8,671 documents recorded in April, 2025, and a 7% increase from March, 2026.

"April, 2026, demonstrated robust real estate activity, particularly in the number of deeds and mortgages recorded, which make up a significant portion of the documents processed by the Registry," Register O'Donnell said. "These increases suggest that buyers and sellers remain active in the market."

The total number of deeds recorded for April, 2026, representing both commercial and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,424, showing an 8% increase from the 1,322 deeds recorded in April, 2025, and a 21% increase from the previous month of March, 2026. Looking at just real estate sales, 688 properties were sold in April, 2026, an 11% increase compared to April, 2025, and a significant 40% increase from March, 2026.

"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 increased food and fuel costs remain a consideration for many buyers, some improvement in listing activity has contributed to an increase in real estate sales and transfers throughout Norfolk County."

Lending activity also remained strong in April. A total of 1,640 mortgages were recorded in April, 2026, a 14% increase from the 1,443 mortgages recorded in April, 2025, although slightly down 2% from March, 2026.

"The rise in mortgage activity suggests continued interest in property financing," Register O'Donnell said. "While borrowing conditions have improved

slightly from this time last year, broader economic concerns, such as affordability, inflation, and job stability continue to influence how buyers approach long-term investments, particularly first-time homebuyers."

The average sale price of commercial and residential properties for April, 2026, was approximately \$1.15 million, a 17% decrease compared to April, 2025, and a 9% decrease from March, 2026.

"This reduction in overall real estate prices compared to last year may offer some relief to those looking to purchase property in Norfolk County," Register O'Donnell said. "Lower average sale prices could create new opportunities for first-time homebuyers and current homeowners looking to move who were previously priced out of the market. However, purchase prices remain high relative to past years."

The Registry continues to closely monitor foreclosure activity. In April, 2026, there were 5 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, a slight decrease from the 6 recorded in April, 2025. Notices to foreclose, which represent the first step in the foreclosure process, increased to 23 in April, 2026 from 20 in April, 2025.

"Any reduction in foreclosure activity is positive news," Register O'Donnell said. "With that said, we must remember that foreclosure activity has a human impact, 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 at 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 reflects a market that remains active, with steady transaction levels across several key indicators," Register O'Donnell concluded. Norfolk County continues to be a desirable place to live and work, and despite fluctuations in the broader economy, the local real estate market has shown strength through continued property sales, solid mortgage activity, and pricing adjustments that may help improve affordability."

To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives like them on Facebook at facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds, or follow on X at x.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,

REAL ESTATE

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REAL ESTATE CORNER

Renting Your Home This Summer

By MICHELE TARANTO

As Massachusetts prepares for a summer unlike any other in 2026, Norwood residents may be considering it a good opportunity to supplement their income while renting out their house or driveway. With major international and regional events expected to bring thousands of visitors into the Greater Boston area, local homeowners and commuters could both feel the impact, and perhaps even benefit from it.

The summer calendar is packed with attractions, including World Cup soccer, the return of Sail Boston and the Tall Ships, and celebrations surrounding the nation's 250th anniversary. Tourism officials are already predicting that hotels throughout eastern Massachusetts will be at or near capacity during much of June and July.

For some Norwood homeowners, that could present a unique financial benefit. Below is information provided by the Town of Norwood Economic Development Department.

Residents considering renting out their homes or apartments

on a short-term basis may want to familiarize themselves with what is commonly known as "The Augusta Rule." Officially referred to as Section 280A by the IRS, the rule allows homeowners to rent their homes for up to 14 days per year without having to report the rental income on their federal tax returns. The rule was originally created to benefit residents of Augusta, Georgia, during the Masters Golf Tournament, but it applies nationwide as long as the property is not primarily used as a business.

However, homeowners should remember that state and local tax requirements still apply. Massachusetts short-term rentals may be subject to the state's Room Occupancy Excise Tax and other local regulations. Residents are encouraged to carefully review Massachusetts Department of Revenue guidelines before listing a property for rent.

Transportation will also be a major consideration this summer. With World Cup events and Sail Boston expected to draw massive crowds into the region, traffic congestion is likely to increase significantly on major

travel days. Norwood's proximity to Boston and its three commuter rail stations may make the town especially attractive for visitors looking for convenient access to the city while avoiding downtown hotel prices.

Officials are encouraging commuters and travelers to plan ahead. Updated transportation resources are expected to include special stadium express buses, rideshare options, expanded MBTA commuter rail information, and designated parking areas for event attendees. The MBTA has also created visitor guides for those planning to travel to and from Boston-area venues using public transportation.

For Norwood residents, the summer of 2026 could bring both challenges and opportunities — from heavier traffic to a potential boost for local businesses and homeowners. Whether renting out a spare room, welcoming visiting family, or simply navigating busier roads and trains, planning ahead may help make the most of what promises to be a historic and exciting summer season in Massachusetts.

REAL ESTATE

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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 at (781) 461-6101, or email registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

May 21, 2026

Dear Norfolk County Residents,

It is that time of the year when local budgets in the 28 communities that make up Norfolk County get voted on. If your town is like my town, these are tough budget times. Communities are trying to wrestle with funding budget priorities.

The 28 towns and city that make up Norfolk County are paying almost 8 million dollars to the Norfolk County Commissioners and Norfolk County Government in a yearly tax assessment sent from Norfolk County. It is time for the communities of Norfolk County to examine whether this 8 million dollar county tax is better kept in the local towns to fund their budget priorities.

There has been wasteful costs to the taxpayers as these elected and appointed Norfolk County officials try to justify and defend their illegal and unlawful actions in a number of Massachusetts courts. In Fiscal Year 2024, over \$200,000.00 was spent by the Norfolk County Commissioners on legal fees. Just this Fiscal Year, 2026, over \$159,913.00 has been spent by the Norfolk County Commissioners in legal fees through March 31, 2026, with 3 months to go in the fiscal year. County Director John J. Cronin and the Norfolk County Commissioners have voted and received an additional \$50,000.00 for legal monies with their vote on December 10, 2025, and another separate \$50,000.00 for legal monies on top of this with their vote on May 6, 2026. Is it time the 28 communities investigate wasteful spending and see what the Norfolk County Commissioners are doing and spending the taxpayers' money on? After all, each of the 28 towns and city of Norfolk County are potentially liable for the debts and liabilities of this Norfolk County Government.

The Norfolk County Commissioners accepted in 2023, 10 million dollars for selling the Quincy District Court House. Could your community use any of this 10 (ten) million dollars? After all, it was the communities of Norfolk County that built this court house and maintained all these years this court house. Yet, the Norfolk County Government did not even ask or offer the local communities to share in this 10 million dollars.

There have been negative findings by independent auditors who have examined Norfolk County's financial books. On December 15, 2021, Lynch Marini & Associates Inc. Certified Public Accountants

wrote "...the County funded mandate was deficient in the range of \$197,000.00 to \$282,000.00 for fiscal year 2020". Would your town allow such deficiencies?

The independent auditor Lynch Marini & Associates Inc. Certified Public Accountants reported another audit finding on August 21, 2023 "For the current fiscal year this leaves a potential range of misstatements within the County's financial statements between \$645,000.00 and \$2.3 million between respective fund balances (General Fund and Deeds Excise Fund)." Would your town tolerate any such misstatements within your town's financial statements?

Norfolk County did not like what the certified public accountants Lynch Marini found and reported. However, even the new auditor brought in by the Norfolk County Commissioners, Powers and Sullivan LLC CPAs and Advisors on May 3, 2024, reported a material weakness when they wrote "These large fluctuations indicate that this is a systemic problem in how the accounts are being used and not a one-time error". Would your town tolerate systemic problems in town financial accounts as well as a material weakness audit finding?


It is well documented the various poor decisions the Norfolk County Commissioners and their County Director John J. Cronin have made when it comes to interfering with the Registry of Deeds and its operations. There has been unsound management by Norfolk County General Government that in this day and age should be striving to be efficient, effective and relevant.

The Norfolk County Commissioners and the County Director John J. Cronin have lost in a number of different courts in litigation involving the Registry of Deeds including a loss in the highest state court in Massachusetts, the Supreme Judicial Court. Norfolk County Government has violated a number of Massachusetts state laws by unlawfully interfering with Registry operations and misappropriating taxpayer public monies designated by state law for Registry use. When elected and appointed officials that run Norfolk County General Government make poor decisions, abuse their power, and break the law, that should be a signal to the people who live in the communities of Norfolk County to take a closer look at this layer of government.


Sincerely yours,
Bill O'Donnell
Norfolk County Register of Deeds

Congratulations to Norwood High, Class of 2026!

"Paul was more than helpful. He is a true professional. The property was inherited and unoccupied. Paul not only sold the property but would be there on a regular basis to make sure everything was fine. He priced the house to sell and he worked thru the holidays to make sure it sold. I would recommend Paul because he is attentive and always there for his clients."



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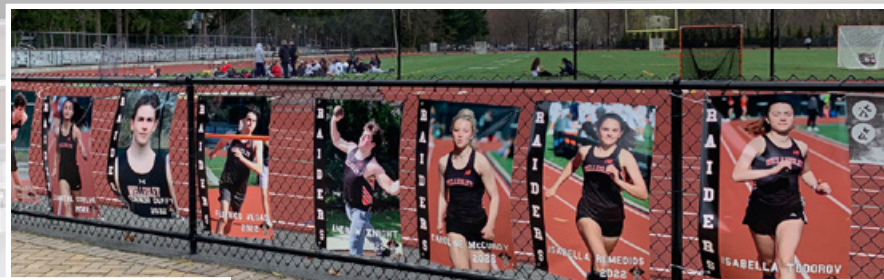


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