

Norwood

localtownpages

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Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

November 1, 2026

From Leftovers to Lights!

Norwood Wraps Up Thanksgiving Weekend with Holiday Magic

By MICHELE TARANTO

The turkey has been carved, the leftovers are packed away, the Black Friday bargains have been bought (and for those ambitious shoppers, maybe even wrapped). It's official. The holiday season has begun! But before Thanksgiving weekend comes to a close, Norwood has one more tradition to celebrate, and it might just be the most magical one of all!

On Sunday, November 29, the Norwood Town Common will once again be transformed into a festive gathering place as families, friends, and neighbors come together for the town's



annual Holiday Tree Lighting celebration.

Hosted by the Norwood Recreation Department, this much-loved community tradition is the perfect way to trade in the Thanksgiving turkey for a little Christmas magic. Best of all, the afternoon is free and filled with activities for the entire family.

The festivities begin at 2 p.m. with the popular Reindeer Dash, giving Norwood's youngest residents an opportunity to burn off some of that Thanksgiving weekend energy! Runners will be divided into age groups for a friendly race

HOLIDAYS
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Too many mittens & gloves?

WIB celebrates keeping communities warm with its 11th Annual Mitten & Winter Accessories Drive!

By MICHELE TARANTO

What began as a simple idea to help neighbors stay warm during New England's chilly winters has grown into a beloved community tradition. This November, Women in Business of MA (WIB), formerly the Women's Business Network of Norwood, just surpassed a special milestone with its 11th Annual Mitten & Winter Accessories Drive.

When the drive first launched in 2015, members hoped to collect a few bags of mittens, gloves, and scarves for local families in need. Over a decade later, those few bags have turned into truckloads of donations each year, thanks to the generosity of residents, businesses, and community organizations throughout Norwood and



surrounding towns.

Some residents even knit throughout the year in anticipation

DRIVE
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Holiday Guide

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Rojo Car Wash..... 99 Boston Providence Hwy	Lustra Cleaners..... 157 Central St.	Pam's Market.....210 Pleasant St.	John's Barber Shop.....520 Washington St.	Salon Mirra Bella 500 Washington St.
Salon Mada 428 Boston Providence Hwy	Dedham Saving Bank..... 185 Central St.	Norfolk Adult Day Health.....595 Pleasant St.	Sunrise Breakfast 528 Washington St.	Canton Bank ATM..... 1237 Washington St.
Acapulco's 500 Boston Providence Hwy	Norwood Light Dept.....136 Access Rd.	Oldham School 165 Prospect St.	Norwood Town Hall.....566 Washington St.	Sam's Appliances 1232 Washington St.
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Newbury Comics 859 Boston Providence Hwy	Lewis Restaurant..... Cottage / Central St.	Norwood School Admin Office 275 Prospect St.	California Nails 649 Washington St.	Convenient Mart..... 1237 Washington St.
Citgo Gas 960 Boston Providence Hwy	Cedar Market 13 Cottage St.	Senior Center.....275 Prospect St.	Norwood Convenience and News683 Washington St.	Minas Café Steakhouse 1241 Washington St.
1947 Norwood 997 Boston Providence Hwy	Sharp Hair Studio.....55 East Cottage St.	Boch Toyota.....277 Providence Hwy	Bank of America 699 Washington St.	South Norwood Laundromat . 1239 Washington St.
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Savaria Dance Studio .1275 Boston Providence Hwy	Blue Hills Bank 114 Lenox St.	Prescott School 66 Richland Rd.	Gus's Barber Shop 877 Washington St.	Norwood Housing Authority ...40 William Shyne Cir.
Bank of America 1415 Boston Providence Hwy	Norwood Public Works 1 Lyman Pl.	Courtyard Marriot 300 River Ridge Dr.	Salon Divoe 884 Washington St.	Norwood Elks 152 Winslow Ave.
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Stop & Shop.....1415 Boston Providence Hwy	Nahatan Village Community.....86 Nahatan St.	Sharon Credit Union 14 Union St.	Nick's Restaurant 1066 Washington St.	Sarva Little Venice 1086 Washington St.
Dellaria Salon 20 Broadway	Citizen Bank 134 Nahatan St.	Norwood Library.....33 Walpole St.	Chris & Sam's Barber Shop 1076 Washington St.	Broadway Pizzeria 75 Cottage St.
District Convenience 20 Broadway	Town Square Diner.....164 Nahatan St.	Gilooly Funeral Home.....126 Walpole St.	Thrift Shop 1091 Washington St.	Broadway Collision & Repair 100 Broadway
Town Pizza 20 Broadway	Norwood Recreation Dept. 165 Nahatan St.	Ajay's Market.....166 Walpole St.	Central Hair Salon.....1095 Washington St.	Shiva Bazaar Market 111 Lenox St.
Broadway Liquors 50 Broadway	D&G Deli.....301 Nahatan St.	Charwell House.....305 Walpole St.	Q'sabor Latino Market 1101 Washington St.	Interstate All Battery Center 51 Morgan Dr.
Pizzazz Salon.....52 Broadway	Shurfine Market 448 Nahatan St.	CFM Variety 492 Walpole St.	Café International 1105 Washington St.	Yamato Hibachi & Sushi Bar 1200 Boston Providence Hwy
Pizzeria Bruno's Norwood 56 Broadway	Bank of America 134 Nahatan St.	1A Pizza 494 Walpole St.	Brothers Bakery Central 1140 Washington St.	Yankee Spirits.....950 Boston Providence Hwy
Murphy's 58 Broadway	CVS Pharmacy 136 Nahatan St.	Bank of America 434 Walpole St.	La Casita 1147 Washington St.	Sam Package Store 262 Main St., Walpole
Broadway Citco 145 Broadway	Norwood Police Station.....137 Nahatan St.	Coakley Middle School 1315 Washington St.	Café Fresh Bagel 1155 Washington St.	East Walpole Market & Deli 198 Washington St., Walpole
Norwood Housing Authority 10 Brookview Cir.	Shaw's Entrance 134 Nahatan St.	Kellie's Family Day Care 169 Washington St.	ACE Laundromat 1175 Washington St.	Wegmans..... 169 University Ave., Westwood
Norwood Bank..... 11 Central St.	Shaw's Exit 134 Nahatan St.	Roche Bros.Supermarket 338 Washington St.	Baldh Elementary School 1170 Washington St.	
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DRIVE
continued from page 1

tion of the annual collection, creating handmade hats, mittens, and scarves that offer something extra special: warmth from caring hands. According to representatives from the Norwood Food Pantry, many clients eagerly look forward to receiving these winter essentials as temperatures



begin to drop. The drive is carefully timed to make a difference when it matters most. Donations are collected throughout November and distributed the following week, helping families prepare for the cold winter months while also providing thoughtful and affordable holiday gift options for loved ones. One of the most heartwarming aspects of the

annual campaign is the involvement of students from the League School for Autism in Walpole, and in previous years, the May Institute in Norwood. Each year, students spend hours transforming ordinary collection boxes into colorful, festive displays that brighten participating locations and encourage donations. Their creativity and

enthusiasm have become an important part of the drive's success. The 11th Annual WIB Mitten & Winter Accessories Drive will run November 1–30. Donations of new, handmade, or gently used winter accessories are welcome, including mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, earmuffs, headbands, and other items to help

keep neighbors cozy throughout the season. WIB extends a special thank-you to the local businesses and organizations generously hosting collection boxes this year: Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect St., Norwood

DRIVE
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HOLIDAYS
continued from page 2

perhaps enjoy a meal at one of Norwood's many restaurants.

Thanksgiving Weekend Schedule

Friday, Nov. 27
Black Friday

Saturday, Nov. 28
Small Business Saturday
Don't forget to support Norwood's local businesses

Sunday, November 29
Norwood Town Common | 2–4 p.m.
2 p.m. | Reindeer Dash

The guests of honor make their grand entrance to "Light Up Norwood" and officially welcome the holiday season. Schedule is subject to change depending on weather conditions. A Tradition Worth Celebrating There's something special about a New England town coming together during the holidays. The familiar faces, the children's excitement, the music, and the glow of the lights all create memories that last long after the decorations have been packed away. Norwood has never been a town that needs much of an

Children will be divided into age groups for a fun race along Central Street. Participants will receive reindeer antlers.

2–3:30 p.m. | Holiday Activities and Entertainment

Horse-drawn hayrides, live performances, face painting, games, arts and crafts, and holiday readings.

3:35 p.m. | Holiday Parade

The parade departs Guild Square and heads toward the Town Common.

3:45 p.m. | Santa and Mrs. Claus Arrive



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25 High St.....	\$825,000	118 Spruce Rd.....	\$675,000
29 Devon Rd.....	\$915,000	130 Dean St.....	\$725,000
35 Brothers Way.....	\$1,705,000	136 Washington St.....	\$619,000
49 Railroad.....	\$345,000	138 Ellis Ave.....	\$540,000
54 Mountain Avenue.....	\$610,000	425 Prospect St.....	\$590,000
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Norwood Veterans' Day Celebration

Wednesday, November 11

8:00 a.m.- Veterans' Mass, St. Catherine's of Siena Church
10:00 a.m.- Parade Units arrive at Aaron Guild Park to stage
10:30 a.m.- Parade step- off, Washington St. to Town Common
10:45 a.m.- Ceremonies and Observances at Town Common
11:00 a.m.- Pause for Bells and moment of silence
11:15 a.m. Conclusion



Norwood Wellness Fair returns for third year

By MICHELE TARANTO

Taking care of your health involves more than just an annual doctor's visit. From physical fitness and mental health, to emotional well-being and community connections, wellness touches nearly every part of our lives.

Norwood residents will have an opportunity to explore these important areas when the 3rd Annual Norwood Wellness Fair returns, Saturday, November 14, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Coakley Middle School.

The event, hosted by the Norwood School Health Council, will bring together local wellness professionals, organizations, and community resources to help

residents learn more about living healthier, happier, and more balanced lives.

The fair will highlight the many dimensions of wellness, including physical and mental health, as well as the importance of staying connected with others. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet local experts, discover available services, ask questions, and explore resources that can benefit themselves and their families.

Whether someone is interested in improving their physical health, learning more about mental wellness, finding community support, or simply discovering what resources are

available locally, the fair offers a convenient opportunity to gather information in one location.

The event also emphasizes an important message: wellness is for everyone. Regardless of age or where someone may be on their personal health journey, there are always opportunities to learn, make positive changes, and connect with others.

Residents are encouraged to stop by, explore the exhibits, and take advantage of the many resources available throughout the community.

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome.

DRIVE

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Morrill Memorial Library,
Norwood
Norwood Civic Center, 165

Nahatan St., Norwood
League School, 300 Boston-
Providence Hwy., Walpole
Clean Remodel, LLC, 46
River St., Dedham
Back in Balance Chiropractic,
59 Pond St., Suite A, Sharon
Mazeri Salon, 4 Guild St.,
Norwood
Rincon2, 111A Lenox St.,
Norwood

During the first week of December, donations will be distributed to individuals and families in the Norwood and Dedham communities through the Norwood Food Pantry, the Blessing Boutique, First Congregational Church of Norwood, and a few senior communities.

Over the past decade, the drive has become much more than a collection of winter clothing. It represents the generosity of neighbors helping



neighbors, the dedication of local businesses, and the difference a community can make when everyone contributes a little something.

Women in Business of MA is a local women's professional networking organization committed to building business relationships, supporting one another, and giving back to

the communities its members serve. Beyond its networking and educational opportunities, WIB is known for its enthusiastic involvement in local events and charitable initiatives. Those familiar pink WIB balloons spotted around town are often a sign that members are lending a helping hand!

Ten years, countless dona-

tions, and thousands of warm hands and hearts later, the mission remains the same for WIB: connecting the warmth of the Norwood community with its neighbors.

So, as you clean out your closets or prepare for the colder weather, consider setting aside a few extra mittens, gloves, or scarves. Something tucked away in your drawer could make a world of difference to someone else this winter.

Collection boxes will be available at the locations listed above throughout November, with donations accepted during regular business hours.

For more information about the Mitten Drive or Women in Business of MA, email wibofnorwood@gmail.com, call 781-799-7068, or visit facebook.com/womeninbusinessma.

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SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones

Letter to the Board of Selectmen

October, 2026
Norwood Board of Selectmen
Norwood Town Hall
566 Washington Street
Norwood, MA 02062

Re: A Heartfelt
Thank You from the
Norwood Farmers
Market

Dear Members of
the Board of Select-
men,
On behalf of the
Norwood Farmers
Market, we would like
to formally express our
sincere appreciation
to the many Town of
Norwood departments,
employees, and offi-
cials who helped make
our 2026 season such a
tremendous success.

While our vendors,
volunteers, and shop-
pers are the heart of the market,
there is an entire team working
behind the scenes whose efforts
often go unnoticed. We want to
make sure those individuals re-
ceive the recognition and thanks
they so richly deserve.

A special thank you goes
to the Department of Public
Works (DPW) for their incred-
ible support throughout the
season. From placing signs and
parking cones each Tuesday
morning to keeping the Town
Common clean and welcoming,
their efforts made an enormous
difference. One particularly
memorable example came
after the September nor'easter
weekend. Despite the storm,
we arrived midday Tuesday to
find the grounds immaculate, as
though nothing had happened!
We are also grateful for the de-

partment providing a mist fan
during some of our extremely
hot market days. It is a much-
needed relief to our vendors
and shoppers.

None of that would be possible
without the cooperation and
generosity of so many people.

The 2026 season was a suc-
cess, thanks to an army of dedi-
cated people behind
us. We are fortunate
to have such a sup-
portive town, and
we never take that
support for granted.

We respectfully
ask that you extend
our heartfelt ap-
preciation to the
departments and
employees who
helped make this
season possible.

We look forward
to making the Nor-
wood Farmers Mar-
ket an even greater
community tradi-
tion in the years
ahead.



We would also like to extend
our sincere appreciation to the
Norwood Recreation Depart-
ment for generously allowing
us to store our Farmers Market
supplies throughout the season.
Having a convenient and secure
location for our equipment
makes an enormous difference
in our weekly setup and break-
down.

Our thanks also go to the
Norwood Light Department,
whose staff is always responsive,
accommodating, and ready to
assist with our electrical needs.

The Norwood Farmers Mar-
ket is about much more than
selling fresh produce, baked
goods, and local products. It is
a place where neighbors gather,
friendships are made, small
businesses are supported, and
our community comes together.

With sincere appreciation,
Peter McFarland
Market Director

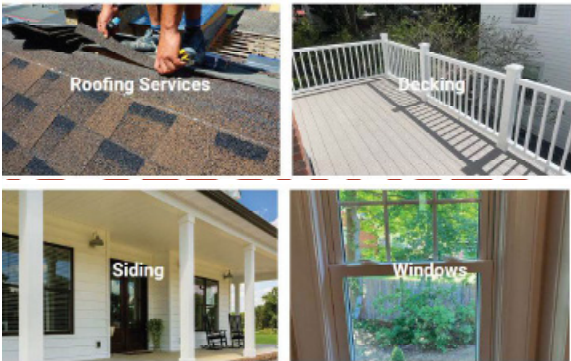
Michele Taranto
Market Manager

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Giving Tuesday: A Day to Give Back

By MICHELE TARANTO

After the shopping rush of Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes a day focused on something a little different: giving back.

Giving Tuesday, celebrated this year on Tuesday, December 1, is a worldwide day of generosity that encourages people to support the organizations and

causes that matter most to them. It can mean making a financial donation, volunteering a few hours, donating needed supplies, or simply helping spread the word about a local organization doing good work.

Here in our own community, there are countless opportunities to make a difference. Local food pantries, animal rescue organizations, senior programs,

youth groups, community organizations, and other nonprofits that depend on the generosity of donations and volunteers today and throughout the year.

And giving does not have to be big to be meaningful. A bag of groceries donated to a food pantry, pet food dropped off for an animal rescue, a warm coat or pair of mittens, or even an hour of volunteer time can have

an impact.

Giving Tuesday is also a good reminder to look close to home when deciding where to help. Supporting local organizations means helping neighbors, families, seniors, animals, and programs right here in the community.

As the holiday season begins, Giving Tuesday offers an opportunity to step away from the



shopping lists for a moment and think about what we can give rather than what we can buy.

Sometimes, a little generosity can go a very long way.

A little off the top

Thanksgiving's got to give a little

By STUART GREEN

"I'd like to call this order to meeting, or rather meet this order, oh meeting to ordering." (OK, you can do this. After all, you were voted the Pilgrim with the most Pull, weren't you?)

"As I was not quite saying, I'd like to commence, begin and downright start the first and perhaps annual meeting

of the Thanksgiving Look Back, Look Ahead, and Look Out Committee, on this November day, 1621.

"As any of you with any recall will recall, last year we inaugurated our very first Thanksgiving bonanza we called '1620: A Year of Hardship, Challenges, and Boiled Yams.' Many of you will remember the delight we found when we first tasted that

delicious, golden corn on the cob. And imagine our surprise when we discovered that it tasted even better when we peeled off the husk.

"But we are not here to revel in the glory of the past and pat ourselves on the back for past accomplishments. We are here to revel in the glory of the present and pat ourselves on the back for present accomplishments.

"Now, what are the concerns or suggestions that our Plantation planters and plebes may have for this year's celebration? Yes, Brother Bart."

"I think the invitations to our new friends in this new land should be personalized and not just say again, 'Hey, tribal members, soup's on next Thursday. Bring Your Own Maze.'"

"Duly noted. Master Michael?"

"I want to pick up on the whole date thing. What's the deal with this Thursday thing? I've got my farm to run, chickens to milk and crops to entertain. Anybody here ever heard of a weekend?"

"I hear you. Anyone else? Well, this is a little unusual, but I see the hand raised of one of our sisters. I will allow you to speak, Spinster Sally."

"I humbly say, with some trepidation, good sir, that

it was only the women who cleaned up the dishes last year. May we possibly consider some men to help out in this endeavor, if it pleases our good fellows in this request?"

"Such bold and arrogant speech. What is our new society coming to? Not only am I ruling you out of order, but I will make a recommendation to exile you back to where we came from - Provincetown.

"I'd like to end this meeting by inviting everyone to a sporting game before the big meal that we're sure will be an annual tradition. Yes, of course we're talking about Wallow in the Mudball. Just bring a ball - we'll supply the mud. What could say Thanksgiving better?"

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

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Holiday Guide

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NTN

Norwood’s Diya Bhandari Receives \$2,500 Scholarship

Diya Bhandari has been selected as the 2026 recipient of the Viola Sastavickas Scholarship from the Morrill Memorial Library. The scholarship, now in its twentieth year, will provide Bhandari with \$2,500 toward her undergraduate education at Northeastern University.

Bhandari will enter Northeastern’s John Martinson Honors Program this fall, where she plans to major in Political Science and Economics.

A graduate of Norwood High School, Bhandari served as president of the school’s Asian Cultural Club for more than three years. During her senior year, she led a partnership between the club and the Massachusetts AAPI Commission’s Youth Council to organize a showcase celebrating AAPI Heritage Month. She also advocated successfully for the addition of AAPI-authored books to Norwood High School’s summer reading curriculum and digital library collection.

Bhandari has said that her experience volunteering at the Morrill Memorial Library



Diya is pictured with Library Director, Clayton Cheever; Sarah Begg, 2026-2027 Chair of the Board, and Lydia Sampson, Assistant Director at the Morrill Memorial Library.

helped inspire and support this work.

“Diya has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to her community and to creating opportunities for others,” said Library Director Clayton Cheever. “We are delighted to support

her as she begins her studies at Northeastern, and especially pleased to do so through a scholarship that honors a family with such a longstanding connection to the library.”

The scholarship was established by the children of Joseph

and Viola Sastavickas following Viola’s death. The Sastavickas family were longtime library users, and in the later years of their lives, Viola and Joseph received library services in their home through the library’s Homebound Delivery Department.

Shortly after Viola’s death, her children made a generous donation to establish a perpetual scholarship in her memory. Additional gifts from the family have increased the award over the years, with a recent donation bringing this year’s scholarship to \$2,500.

According to Viola’s daughter, Kathy Sastavickas, the scholarship is “a fitting tribute to our beautiful mother and to the library and staff who treated her with great respect and affection.”

Bhandari was selected from this year’s applicants by a committee consisting of Sarah Begg, 2026–2027 Chair of the Library Board of Trustees; Kate Tigue, Chapter Chair of the AFSCME Library Unit; and Cheever.

Bhandari was also one of 40 semifinalists selected from more than 100,000 applicants for the highly competitive Stamps Scholarship.

“Being named a semifinalist among more than 100,000 applicants was an extraordinary accomplishment,” Cheever said. “We are very happy that the Sastavickas Scholarship gives the library an opportunity to recognize Diya’s accomplishments and help support her as she begins this next chapter.”

The Morrill Memorial Library congratulates Bhandari and wishes her well as she begins her studies at Northeastern University.

Self Help Fuel Program

The Town of Norwood assists residents with enrollment in the Self Help program. The Self Help program offers qualified Norwood residents financial assistance with home heating costs. Electric, gas, and oil heating systems are included in this program, which runs from No-

vember 1 to April 30 annually. For more information about Self Help, or to see their income eligibility and benefits guidelines, visit selfhelpinc.org/program-services/fuel-energy/. For more information on documentation needed to go with your application, visit [cms5.](http://cms5.revize.com/revize/norwoodma/Manager/Document%20needed%20for%20application.pdf)

revize.com/revize/norwoodma/Manager/Document%20needed%20for%20application.pdf.

Please call the Council on Aging Outreach worker at 781-762-1201 to schedule an appointment.

No All-Night Parking

It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said vehicle for a period of time longer than two (2) hours between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 6:00 AM of any day on any street or in or upon any Town-owned off-street parking facility, from November 15 through April 1, each year without authorization from the Board of Selectmen or their designee.

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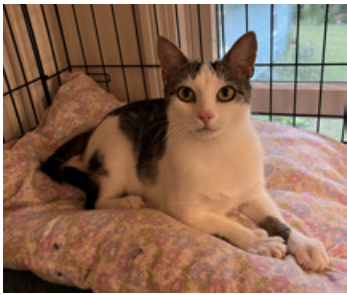
PET CORNER

Meet Sasha — A Sweet Girl Learning to Trust!

Sasha is a beautiful young girl, between 1 and 2 years old, with a sweet personality and a playful spirit!

Born to an outdoor mom that Bay State Animal Cooperative has been watching over and caring for, Sasha is now discovering the comforts of life indoors. She's making wonderful progress in her foster home, slowly learning to trust people and showing just how much she loves to play!

Sasha will be available for adoption soon, and we can't



wait for her to find the loving forever home she deserves. To stay up to date on her progress, email info@baystateanimals.org.

Who knows? Maybe Sasha was outside looking for you all along!

The 2027 BSAC Calendars are almost ready for purchase! Think holiday gifts, grabs, or just a great way to put a smile on your face every day in 2027 with memories of our adopted cats!

The calendars will be ready to order mid-November. Stay tuned to the BSAC website and Facebook page for more information later in the month!

Your calendar purchase will be much appreciated by the animal lovers in your family or circle of friends and will also help the BSAC cover medical, foster, and adoption costs. It's a win, win for all! Especially for the kitties waiting patiently for their furrrever home! Calendars are \$20 each (plus \$3 mailing fee. Free delivery in Norwood).



Giving Tuesday: Helping Our Four-Legged Friends

By MICHELE TARANTO

After the shopping frenzy of Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes a day dedicated to giving back!

Giving Tuesday, December 1, is a worldwide celebration of generosity, and it's the perfect opportunity to remember our four-legged friends in need.

Local animal rescues and shelters rely heavily on donations and volunteers to care for home-

less, abandoned, and injured animals. Whether it's a financial contribution, a bag of pet food, blankets, toys, or a few hours of volunteer time, every little bit helps.

Right here in Norwood, three organizations are making a difference:

Bay State Animal Cooperative (BSAC) rescues and cares for cats in need, provides foster care, and supports spay/neuter programs.

Website: www.baystateanimals.org
Email: info@baystateanimals.org

Charley's Angels Pet Initiative (CAPI) helps families experiencing financial difficulties provide food, supplies, and necessary veterinary care for their pets, helping keep animals in the homes where they are loved.

Website: www.charleysangelspetinitiative.org
Email: info@charleysangelspetinitiative.org

Norwood Animal Shelter provides care and assistance to lost, abandoned, and homeless animals while working to reunite pets with their families or find them loving new homes.

Location: 160 Boston Providence Highway, Norwood
Phone: 781-762-3159 (Norwood Animal Control)

As the holiday season begins, consider adding one of these

local organizations to your Giving Tuesday list. Our furry friends may not have shopping lists, but they certainly have needs. Consider these worthy organizations not just for Giving Tuesday, but any Tuesday; their needs are not limited to the holidays.

A little kindness can go a long way, especially when it comes with four paws and a wagging tail!

CAPI's First Pocketbook Bingo a Big Success!

Charley's Angels Pet Initiative (CAPI) had plenty to celebrate with its first-ever Pocketbook Bingo event! The fundraiser was a great success, raising much-needed funds through admission fees while a special pet food raffle helped stock the organization's shelves with donations of

dog and cat food.

CAPI extends a heartfelt thank-you to the generous sponsors who donated raffle prizes, the dedicated CAPI volunteers who helped make the event possible, and Workman Hall for its support.

Missed out on the fun? Don't

worry! Plans are already underway for another Pocketbook Bingo in the spring, just in time to win a fabulous new bag for summer!

Next up, CAPI is getting into the holiday spirit with Pet Photos with Santa, featuring a special appearance by none other



than the Grinch! The event will take place on December 13 at Castle Island Brewing. Watch for more details in next month's edition!

Charley's Angels Pet Initiative
charleysangelspetinitiative.org/

info@charleysangelspetinitiative.org
Bay State Animal Cooperative
baystateanimals.org/
info@baystateanimals.org

Save the Date!

25 Years of Light, Love, and Remembrance

By MICHELE TARANTO

Mark your calendars for one of Norwood's most beautiful and meaningful holiday traditions! This December will mark the 25th year the Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation has invited residents to help light up the Town Common. This year, the event takes place on Saturday, December 5, 4 to 6 p.m., where thousands of glowing luminaries representing life, hope, the holiday season, and remembrance of loved ones will line the common's sidewalks. Last year, more than 2,000 luminaries lit up the Common, creating a breathtaking display of community spirit. For just



\$5, residents can purchase a luminary and include a personal message of hope, celebration, or remembrance. Luminaries may be purchased by mailing payment to Norwood Circle of Hope, P.O. Box 421, Norwood, MA 02062, or by visiting Murph's Place Restaurant, 58 Broadway. Order forms will also be available in November electric bills and online at www.norwoodcoh.org. Founded in 1998 in memory of Norwood resident Michelle Kennedy, who battled leukemia, the Circle of Hope Foundation has provided more than \$1.6 million in assistance to local residents facing catastrophic medical circumstances. Save the date, purchase a luminary, and help keep this heartwarming Norwood tradition shining bright!

Take a Stroll for Art!

Norwood Art Connection is hosting a Gallery Hop! This is one of hopefully many opportunities for residents to view and purchase the works of artists from Norwood and surrounding areas. The event takes place on Friday, November 20, 6 to 8:30 p.m., at Custom Framing, Tax Solutions, and Woodstuff. Visitors will discover works of art, enjoy light refreshments, and participate in raffles to win prizes, all within walking distance in Norwood Center. This is the first public event hosted by Norwood Art Connection, a nonprofit organization,

formed to connect artists, businesses, and the community. It is an opportunity for artists to display their work, businesses to get visibility and new customers, and the community to enjoy art in familiar and comfortable settings. All works on display will be for sale and contact information for the artists will be available. Start your walk at any of the participating locations. Visit all for an opportunity to win a prize! Tax Solutions, 642 Washington St. Custom Art Framing at 45 Central St. Woodstuff Market at 674

Washington St. Businesses and artists interested in participating, contact marypaz@norwoodartconnections.com, marypazstudio@gmail.com, by November 10.



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LIVING HEALTHY

Reprogramming the future of sight

By GRAHAM R. STETSON, OD, MS

For much of medical history, physicians may have been able to recognize familial patterns in eye conditions but could offer little to change the course of disease. Thankfully, that is beginning to shift. Genetics is moving beyond identifying inherited risks toward treatments that address the biological instructions behind disease.

Gene Augmentation

One approach is to deliver a working copy of a gene to cells that lack a functional version. The added copy helps cells produce missing proteins. Clinicians often use a modified virus to carry the genetic material into targeted eye tissues.

It may sound like science fiction, but it's more than a laboratory concept. Luxturna, approved by the FDA in 2017, treats patients with a rare inher-

ited retinal condition caused by variants in the RPE65 gene. It can improve functional vision, particularly in dim lighting; however, it requires enough surviving retinal cells to respond and does not restore normal sight or treat every inherited retinal disorder.

Gene Editing

Rather than supplying another gene copy, CRISPR is a groundbreaking technology that allows scientists to edit DNA at specific locations. In a clinical trial led by Mass Eye and Ear, researchers used CRISPR to treat a rare inherited retinal disorder. Eleven of the 14 participants improved on at least one measure of vision or quality of life. These findings are encouraging, but larger studies and longer follow-up are needed to establish safety and effectiveness.

Gene-Based Drug Production

The possibilities extend beyond rare inherited diseases. Researchers are investigating gene therapies for wet age-related macular degeneration that help eye cells manufacture therapeutic proteins. Rather than relying entirely on repeated medication injections to suppress abnormal blood vessel growth, the goal is to provide a sustained supply within the eye. Whether these treatments can safely provide lasting benefits and consistently reduce the need for injections remains under investigation.

Important obstacles remain. Treatments must reach the correct cells, deliver an appropriate dose, and avoid harmful inflammation or unintended effects. Correcting genetic instructions cannot replace cells already lost. Ultimately, their cost, accessibility, and duration of



benefit will help determine how widely these treatments become available.

Key Takeaways

Even as genetic treatments become available for more eye diseases, regular comprehensive eye examinations remain essential. A thorough eye evaluation can identify changes before symptoms appear and help

determine when specialized testing or referral is appropriate. The future may offer increasingly powerful ways to alter disease, but early detection and informed care remain essential to protecting vision.

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LIVING HEALTHY

Overcoming autumn yard work strain with chiropractic care

As the leaves begin to change and the crisp fall air rolls in, many people are spending more time outdoors raking leaves, cleaning up their yards, and preparing their homes for the colder months ahead. While these seasonal chores may seem harmless, repetitive bending, twisting, lifting heavy bags, and working in awkward positions can place significant stress on the lower back, neck, and shoulders. What starts as a simple afternoon of yard work can quickly turn into lingering pain and stiffness that interferes with everyday activities.

Sarah, a 42-year-old female, presented to our office complaining of lower back pain and stiffness after spending the weekend raking leaves and clearing her yard. Although she regularly stays active and enjoys taking care of her home, she began experiencing



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

discomfort that made it difficult to bend over, twist, and move comfortably. After beginning a course of chiropractic care, including chiropractic adjustments, at-home stretches, and recommendations for proper

lifting mechanics, Sarah experienced significant improvement in her symptoms and was able to return to her daily activities with greater comfort and mobility.

If you are suffering from a similar problem give our office a call at 508-660-2722 and make an appointment with Dr. Molly Rappaport or Dr. Michael Goldstein today. We are located at 1426 Main Street Suite #6, Walpole, MA.

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NORWOOD SPORTS

Norwood Volleyball setting up Tournament qualification

By Christopher Tremblay

The Norwood High School volleyball team finished last year with 7 wins and earned themselves a 30 seed in the Division 2 State Tournament where the Mustangs would defeat Putnam Vocational before falling to Longmeadow in the Round of 16. At press time, this fall Norwood has already surpassed last year’s win total as the girls have secured 8 wins against 2 loses.

After defeating Millis for their second four-game winning streak on the year, the Mustangs find themselves a mere win away from an automatic bid to the State Tournament. The Mustangs are currently 6-2 in the Tri-Valley League and ranked fifth in the Division 2 power rankings while continuing to play well.

“Coming into the year, we had a lot of young talent from the year prior,” Norwood Coach Paul Nimblett said. “Last year, we made the tournament and got a home win before losing on the road. Having our two best players back this year gives us a lot of hope for success.”

The Mustangs top two athletes to grace this year’s team are junior captain Brenna Forbes and Zoey Fleming. Forbes is playing the outside for Nimblett and has been a killing machine for the Mustangs this fall. The junior had double digit kills against Millis to hold onto her team-leading numbers, while against Medway earlier in the year she posted 22 total kills. Fleming on the other hand is the



Coach Nimblett achieving his 100th win. Photos courtesy of Coach Nimblett.

team’s setter and behind her in second place with kills.

Along with Forbes, middle hitter Sarah Randall and outside hitter Sophia Michaelidis, both seniors, are the team’s other two captains.

“Beginning in the summer and moving into the preseason, the girl’s leadership skills have been great,” the Norwood coach said. “I knew early, along with the captains leadership skills and the rest of the girls already having a chemistry going because of that leadership, that this team was connected and ready to go. They have supported one another and have promoted Norwood volleyball as a whole; you can’t teach this stuff.”

Nimblett went on to say that as a longtime coach, having a

group like this year’s makes a huge difference and the chemistry has gone all the way down the bench.

Having only been susceptible to only two losses against Hopkinton and Ashland, Norwood is looking forward to playing the two teams again to gain redemption for the earlier losses.

The Mustangs opened the season with a road game at Westwood where they beat the Wolverines 3-0 and would continue shutting out their next three opponents in Medfield, (a team Norwood had not beaten in many years), Holliston and Walpole. Unfortunately, their first four-game winning streak would come to an end with a 3-0 loss to both Hopkinton and Ashland before rolling off another four

wins against Dedham, Sharon, Medway and Millis.

Entering this season, the MIAA had incorporated a new rule where teams can substitute multiple liberos in and out of the game. Luckily, the Mustangs have two great liberos, both who improved drastically in the off season after having played for the junior varsity team last fall. The two senior liberos this season are Nimsy Santiago Colon, a hustler who continues to make saves for the team, and Jaeyllyn Feliciano, a good floor communicator.

According to Nimblett, each libero brings a certain skill to the team while playing off one other providing what the team needs at any given point of the game.

Along with Fleming, freshman Nahla McCarthy will be playing setter this fall allowing Nimblett to go with two setters on the floor at once.

“Having the two setters allows Zoey to swing giving us production from both players, on two ends,” the Mustang coach said. “This gives us a huge dynamic that we did not have last year.”

Junior Liz Sweeney is playing the middle for the Mustangs and has a knack for the ball and net blocking. Other girls that will be helping the team this fall are sophomore Sophia Pereira, server and right-side hitter senior Katherine Gonser, outside hitter sophomore Savannah

Beatty, and junior defensive specialist Shaelyn Coyle.

“This year is different as we have so many pieces and they all seem to pick each other up,” Nimblett said. “They are playing so well together on the court and when they are all clicking, they are so hard to stop.”

Norwood had some tough games coming up on their schedule, but Nimblett feels that they will be an asset and help the team prepare for when the tournament rolls around. In addition to advancing into the State Tournament, the Norwood girls are really looking to capture the Tri-Valley League.

Being able to crack the Division 2 top 10 is a great feeling for the Mustangs and they are totally pumped to have been ranked fifth.

“The sky is the limit for this team and they have been playing good so far, but they’ve got to take it one game at a time and don’t look too far into the future,” the Coach said. “This is a special group of girls and they could make a long tournament run, one further than last year.”

One more win to advance into the State Tournament, but already finding themselves ranked fifth, Norwood is looking not only for a higher ranking, but one that comes with more home games, giving them the opportunity to go deep into the post-season.

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Registry of Deeds Hosts 2026 Holiday Food Drive

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is helping spread holiday cheer again this year while lending a hand to families in need this season.

The Registry will be hosting its Annual Holiday Food Drive, Thursday, November 12, through Thursday, December 17.

The goal? To collect nonperishable food and personal care items to help fight hunger in the Norfolk County communities.

Donations of canned goods, pasta, rice, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, dry or canned beans, cooking oil/olive oil, and other pantry staples are welcome.

The Registry is also collecting diapers, baby wipes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and other personal care essentials.

In the 2025 drive, the registry collected over 100 pounds of food thanks to the generosity of the local community.

Donations can be dropped off at the collection table in the main lobby of the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, located at 649 High St., in Dedham.

All donated food items must have ingredient labels and current expiration dates.

The holiday season is a wonderful time to give back, and even a small donation can make a mean a meaningful difference for a neighbor in need.

Help make the holidays a little brighter for local families!

Fourth annual make-a-wish invitational golf event

The season has been full of excitement for MAKE-A-WISH, but my amazing season will be coming to an end on Halloween nite.

It's October 5, 2026, and the weather for the Golf Event is blue skies with wispy clouds and a bit of a breeze that tells us that fall is in the air; but it did not stop any of the players from having a great time, especially the winners of the event.

Hopkinton Country Club did their usual outstanding job for the 4th straight year by taking care of our total golfing package, which included the reception at the beginning of the event. The lunch and evening meals were well arranged, with delicious choices and plenty of food. The carts were arranged perfectly and the players were escorted out to their respective tees in a military fashion.

The Golf Invitational Chair



2026 Champions l to r: Leigh Martinson, Sean Fitzpatrick, Steve Walsh, and Stephen Thompson. Photo courtesy of Robert Lieberman

was Pete Neal and his staff of dinner and program directors had things well under control. Along with Wish recipient, 10 yr. old Christopher Hohn, who explained in detail about his dealings with his progressive genetic condition that he had to deal with, he got his "WISH" to meet David Ortiz. It was a moment that he will never forget.

David took very good care of him. Chris would be very happy to tell you!

The gathering of sponsors, golfers and guests were present to witness an incredible response from all who attended, which helped record another exciting year of donations; grateful that

number always exceeds the year before totals. The open hearts of the attendees surely proves that the MAKE-A-WISH effort to raise money for these youngsters will never end. There were many smiles on everyone's faces as the evening progressed. All the auctions, the raffles, the putting contests and most of all the "donations," were appreciated by everyone. Another remarkable Invitational Golf Event, comes to an exciting finish.

Lastly, the golfing results were very impressive since there were 36 teams that signed up for the event. The Winners were: Leigh Martinson, Sean Fitzpatrick, Steve Walsh, Stephen Thompson, at 18 under par. Now that's really golfing. WOW !!

In closing, I must say my collection for this year has also surpassed any of my previous collections by bringing in a total of \$6807 from all my supporters this year. That brings my grand total to just over \$675,000. To all my supporters, you deserve another round of applause from me, thank you so very much.

May you all have a wonderful holiday season and more importantly a healthy "2027."

The event will back again in 2027!

Robert Lieberman (The Can Man) (Co-Sponsor)

Gobble, Gobble Go!

Join the 40th Norwood Turkey Trot

BY MICHELE TARANTO

For Norwood runners, the crisp, New England air does not mark the end of friendly competition. Sure, Thanksgiving brings a long weekend of lounging, feasting, leftovers, and maybe some spirited shopping, but before the ovens heat up for the biggest meal of the year, the Annual Norwood Turkey Trot offers a chance to keep those legs moving and enjoy a scenic tour of Norwood neighborhoods just before the last of the autumn color fades.

Each year, on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, athletes lace up their sneakers for Norwood's beloved pre-holiday tradition. The 40th Norwood Turkey Trot will be held Sunday, November 22, at 11 a.m., beginning

and ending at Norwood High School, 245 Nichols St. Pre-registration is open until November 21 at 6 p.m., with a \$35 race fee (plus a \$3.10 sign-up fee). Race-day registration is \$40. Sign up at runsignup.com/Race/MA/Norwood/TheNorwoodTurkeyTrot.

The four-mile route is both challenging and charming. The starting gun fires on Peabody Rd., sending runners down Nichols St., through the Willett Parkway neighborhood, and back to cheering crowds at Norwood High. Last year, 552 runners completed the course, many locals touring their hometown streets, some traveling from as far as Cape Cod and northern Massachusetts. Runners of all ages are welcome to join in the fun.



Last year's top three finishers were:

Shane Coffey: 19:46
Jeffrey Seelaus: 20:59
Mike DiTocco: 21:17

Not a runner? Grab a lawn chair and cheer on your local athletes—especially those along the race route! You might just be inspired to train for next year's Trot.

For more information or to register, email wingedfootrunning1@gmail.com or visit runsignup.com/Race/Events/MA/Norwood/TheNorwoodTurkeyTrot

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 4

Sensory-Friendly Movie
Morrill Memorial Library
9:45 a.m.

The November movie in the Sensory-Friendly Wednesday Movie series is Columbia Pictures Industries' *Goat*, rated PG. **Norwood Junior Woman's Club Conrad's, Norwood 7:30 p.m.**

The Norwood Junior Woman's Club is a women's social group that serves the Norwood community by fundraising in order to give back locally to various programs, events, and families in need. They are an easy-going, fun group and joining doesn't require a big commitment. For more information, email Norwoodjwc@gmail.com or visit norwoodjuniorwc.wixsite.com/norwoodjwc. All welcome to any meeting, bring a friend and see what they are all about!

Nov. 5

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

Join the L.E.A.D. students in this creative adventure. Just bring your imagination - they 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. **Reverse Coloring for Adults: Relax and Create**
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

Unwind and tap into your creativity with Reverse Coloring, a fun and relaxing art activity designed for adults! Unlike traditional coloring books, reverse coloring starts with the colors already on the page — your job is to draw the lines. Let the watercolor-style backgrounds inspire your imagination as you add shapes, patterns, or outlines to bring each page to life. Whether you're an experienced artist or just looking for a mindful way to relax, this stress-free program is for you. All materials will be provided. No art skills needed — just bring your imagination! Free and open to all ages 18+.

Nov. 6

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

Join art instructor for a pro-

gram 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+.

Beyond Beginner Mah Jongg
Morrill Memorial Library
2 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library is hosting a weekly Mahjong club designed for intermediate players and accessible to confident beginners. American Mahjong tile sets and game play accessories are provided, but players are expected to bring their own Game Cards. Annual releases of the game card should be acquired directly from the National Mah Jongg League, Inc and not through a third-party seller, as these are often incomplete and inaccurate.

What is Beyond Beginner player?

The player knows all the game rules and is very familiar with the tiles

The player has played Mah Jongg more than handful of times

The player has their own game card

Recommended for ages 18+.

Nov. 7

Fall Work Day at Old Parish Cemetery
Old Parish Cemetery
8:30-10:30 a.m.

The Old Parish Preservation Volunteers are recruiting help on the 4th and last day of fall clean-up!

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

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. An example includes: Sirloin steak tips, sausage, ground sirloin burgers, center cut pork chops, whole or cut chicken, ground sirloin burgers, chicken wings, and much more! The drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle.

Nov. 8

Musical Sundays Concert Series: Popular Music and Veterans
Morrill Memorial Library
3 p.m.

The Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series continues with acoustic duo, Jon and Li Waterman, performing a special concert to veterans. In their program, "Popular Music and Veterans," Jon and Li Waterman supplement their well-received "Roots of American Popular Music" program with an exploration through songs of some of the experiences and sacrifices of veterans throughout American history. The program consists of songs, history, and an accompanying slideshow pertaining to some of the experiences of veterans of World War I, World War II, the Civil War and other conflicts alongside the history of popular music in America.

Nov. 9

Monday Movie Matinee
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

Today's movie is, 'Oranges and Sunshine,' (105 mins), Rated R. The story of social worker Margaret Humphreys, who uncovered the scandal of the systematic deportation of impoverished British children to Australia, and who worked to reunite them with their families. Based on actual events. (Source: Swank) Cast: Emily Watson, Aisling Loftus, Stuart Wolfenden, Lorraine Ashbourne, Federay Holmes
For Grief's Sake
Morrill Memorial Library
6:30 p.m.

The workshop will cover reflections on the writing process alongside an overview of the caregiver role in a care partnership. Ask yourself,

Are you struggling to find the time to write while caregiving?

Are you frustrated by the lack of project progress?

Are you experiencing doubts and second-guessing yourself as a caregiver and a writer?

Are you negotiating for your own voice in the collaborative processes?

Discussion will include sample reflection prompts. Please bring a notebook or journal with you if you would like to



participate in the writing process. This program is free and open to all ages 18+.

Nov. 10

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. **Patriotic Rosary**
1 p.m.
St. Catherine of Siena Church,
547 Washington St.

The public is cordially invited to a recitation of the Patriotic Rosary in honor of Veterans Day. Come pray for the country, veterans, living and dead, active military, police and firefighters, and elected officials. Join in singing all the favorite patriotic songs for an event that honors God and country.
Norwood Woman's Club Meeting
Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St.
12:30 p.m.

Mary King a Celtic harpist will perform with a variety of music, such as Celtic, classics, and contemporary pieces. A light lunch is provided. Guests are welcome. Members are asked to bring items for the Food Pantry: soups, canned meats, chili, oatmeal (variety packages), cereal, etc. For more information, call Trina 781-762-8173.

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

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. This program is free and open to all ages 18+.

Norwood Toastmasters Club
Norwood Civic Center
7 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps members and

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
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CALENDAR

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the community develop communication and leadership skills at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just how it works! For more information, visit norwoodtoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Nov. 11

Old Parish Cemetery Self-Guided Tours
Old Parish Cemetery
1-3 p.m.

In honor of Veteran's Day, the Old Parish Cemetery will be offering self-guided tours.

Nov. 12

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

The November movie in the Sensory-Friendly Thursday Movie series is Columbia Pictures Industries' 'Goat,' Rated PG. This event is recommended for attendees aged 18 and up.

Nov. 13

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

Join art instructor 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+.

Beyond Beginner Mah Jongg
Morrill Memorial Library
2 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library is hosting a weekly Mahjong club designed for intermediate players and accessible to confident beginners. American Mahjong tile sets and game play accessories are provided, but players are expected to bring their own Game Cards. Annual releases of the game card should be acquired directly from the National Mah Jongg League, Inc and not through a third-party seller, as these are often incomplete and inaccurate.

What is Beyond Beginner player?

The player knows all the game rules and is very familiar with the tiles

The player has played Mah Jongg more than handful of times

The player has their own

game card
Recommended for ages 18+.

Nov 14

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

Christmastime has come to the Boutique! They have decorations and decor galore, plus plenty of new items to check off the gift list. Also, jewelry, beautiful clothes for the entire family, and plenty more. Don't miss out!

3rd Annual Norwood Wellness Fair
Coakley Middle School
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Discover Norwood's wellness businesses and organizations, 50+ businesses, organizations, and community groups involved, meet local wellness experts. Free and open to the public.

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

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. An example includes: Sirloin steak tips, sausage, ground sirloin burgers, center cut pork chops, whole or cut chicken, ground sirloin burgers, chicken wings, and much more! The drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle.

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

Love doing puzzles? Want to test your speed against others? Join 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 each design will be unique.

Based on random luck of the draw, teams will get to choose their puzzles.

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

Light up Norwood for the holidays!

Help spread holiday cheer throughout Norwood! Decorate your home for the festive season and enter it in the Town's holiday decorating contest. Friends from the Norwood Senior Center will judge the displays a few days before Christmas, and prizes will be awarded. Want your home included on the map? Contact Marie at the Recreation Department at 781-762-0466 or email mduffykidd@norwoodma.gov. Deadline to be included on the map: December 14.

difficulty level of the puzzle design is most suitable for tweens, teens and adults.

Nov. 17

Adult Trivia Night: The Hunger Games
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.

In the lead up to the newest Hunger Games film release, the Morrill Memorial Library is excited to challenge you to a fun night of Hunger Games trivia! Register as a team of up to 4 people, or test your mettle and play solo. Questions will include trivia about the official Hunger Games books, films, and music, and will increase in difficulty with each new round. Trivia questions are geared toward adults in content and challenge rating. This event is recommended for players 16 and older. Playing will be for bragging rights only. May the odds be ever in your favor!

Nov. 18

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 Hello Beautiful, by Ann Napolitano. Hello Beautiful is a compelling multi-generational family saga based on Little Women that explores themes of sibling love and found family. The Padavanos, a Chicagoan Italian-American family, made up of a mother, Rose, a father, Charlie, and their four daughters, Emeline, Cecilia, Sylvia, and Julia, as they come of age in the 1980s and decades that follow. The story of the Padavano family holds up a mirror to modern family dynamics and gives readers and opportunity to rewrite their own family history.

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

Connect with Patty Bailey and fellow local readers for a virtual friendly and informal conversation of Hello Beautiful, by Ann

Napolitano. Hello Beautiful is a compelling multi-generational family saga based on Little Women that explores themes of sibling love and found family. The Padavanos, a Chicagoan Italian-American family, made up of a mother, Rose, a father, Charlie, and their four daughters, Emeline, Cecilia, Sylvia, and Julia, as they come of age in the 1980s and decades that follow. The story of the Padavano family holds up a mirror to modern family dynamics and gives readers and opportunity to rewrite their own family history.

Nov. 19

Communication Without Limits
Morrill Memorial Library
1:30 p.m.

The Morrill Memorial Library is partnering with Lifeworks, Inc. to launch a unique program for neurodiverse (ND) adults. They will be hosting a monthly 'Communication Without Limits' conversation circle for ND adults. Are you looking for a safe and supportive way to connect with others? Join our group where every voice is heard! Conversations will be light-hearted and friendly. Practice social interactions, express yourself comfortably, and make everlasting friendships. This is a structured and supportive group designed for adults with different levels of abilities. The group is inclusive and adapted for all communication needs (verbal, AAC, supported communication, spellers etc.).

Nov. 20

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

Join art instructor 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+.

Beyond Beginner Mah Jongg
Morrill Memorial Library
2 p.m.

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What is Beyond Beginner player?

The player knows all the game rules and is very familiar with the tiles

The player has played Mah Jongg more than handful of times

The player has their own game card

Recommended for ages 18+.

Gallery Hop
Custom Art Framing, Tax Solutions, Woodstuff
6-8:30 p.m.

Norwood Art Connection is hosting a Gallery Hop! This is one of hopefully many opportunities for residents to view and purchase the works of artists from Norwood and surrounding areas. The event takes place on Friday, November 20, 6 to 8:30 p.m., at Custom Framing, Tax Solutions, and Woodstuff. Visitors will discover works of art, enjoy light refreshments, and participate in raffles to win prizes, all within walking distance in Norwood Center.

Nov. 21

Teen Morning Makerspace
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.

Get crafty and creative at the library with Morning Makerspace for teens! Teens are invited to drop in and use the arts and crafts equipment to work on a current project, or to try something new! The teen librarian, Miss Dina, will be on site to assist teens who might need assistance with crafting or using the library equipment. Some items on hand include: sewing machine, knitting needles and crochet hooks, coloring book, hot glue gun, and more! For grades

CALENDAR

continued from page 15

7-12. Drop in. No registration needed.
VFW Meat Raffle
VFW post 2452, 193 Dean St.
2-5 p.m.

The price for each drawing is \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday. A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win. The prizes are generous portions of meat and chicken. An example includes: Sirloin steak tips, sausage, ground sirloin burgers, center cut pork chops, whole or cut chicken, ground sirloin burgers, chicken wings, and much more! The drawings also include a 50/50 money raffle.

Nov. 23

Monday Movie Matinee
Morrill Memorial Library
1 p.m.

Today’s movie is, ‘Last Breath’ (93 mins), Rated PG. A true story that follows seasoned deep-sea divers as they battle the raging elements to rescue their crew mate trapped hundreds of feet below the ocean’s surface. (Source: Swank). Cast: Woody Harrelson, Simu Liu, Finn Cole, Cliff Curtis, Mark Bonnar

Nov. 24

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 womeninbusinessma@gmail.com.
Norwood Toastmasters Club
Norwood Civic Center
7 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps members and the community develop communication and leadership skills at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just how it works! For more information, visit norwood-toastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

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

The November title was not released at press time. Refer to the library website for more information. Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. They go in for stories that are shaken, not stirred, and 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.

Nov. 25

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

Morrill Memorial Library partners with the L.E.A.D. pro-

gram affiliated with Norwood High School to host a Sensory-Friendly Lego Club for Adults. Just bring your imagination – the library will provide the Legos. The Club is free, inclusive, and open to anyone ages 18+. It is specially designed for adults with different levels of abilities.

Nov. 28

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

Bargains galore are waiting! Shop here first to get your clothes, gifts, jewelry, books, puzzles, baking dishes, dinnerware, etc. Enjoy a complimentary cup of wassail and start small business Saturday off right.

Nov. 29

Holiday Tree Lighting
Norwood Town Common
2-4 p.m.

End the Thanksgiving weekend with Norwood’s kick-off to the holiday season! The afternoon will be filled with games, face painting, and of course, the favorite Reindeer Dash! To end the afternoon, Santa and Mrs. Clause will visit to light up the Town’s Christmas tree! Free for all ages. Stay tuned to the Norwood Recreation Department’s social media for more details as it gets closer to the event.
Musical Sundays Concert Series:
Hiroya Tsukamoto
Morrill Memorial Library
2 p.m.

The Fall Musical Sundays Concert Series concludes with, “A Journey Through Strings and Stories,” by acoustic guitarist, Hiroya Tsukamoto. Tsukamoto brings a blend of masterful fingerstyle guitar and evocative storytelling that transcends cultural barriers. His concerts are not just musical events; they are immersive experiences that weave lyrical narratives with intricate melodies. Recognized for his soulful performances that create an orchestra at his fingertips, he invites audiences into his world of musical exploration and emotional expression.

Nov. 30

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

Hang out on an autumn night with friends and neighbors! The Simoni Room will be full of 300- to 500-piece puzzles waiting to be completed. Light refreshments and drinks will be served with 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. For adults.

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.



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REAL ESTATE CORNER

Thinking About Selling Your Norwood Home in 2027? Start Now

BY MICHELE TARANTO, REALTOR

Spring may seem a long way off, but if selling your Norwood home is somewhere on your 2027 to-do list, November may actually be the perfect time to start planning.

That doesn't mean simply putting a For Sale sign in the yard. In fact, some of the most important preparation happens months before a home ever reaches the market.

Starting early gives homeowners something that is often in short supply once a move gets underway: time.

Take a Fresh Look at Your Home

After living in the same house for years, it can be difficult to see it through a buyer's eyes.

That loose doorknob you've ignored for five years? You probably don't notice it anymore. The buyer walking through your home will.

November is a good time to make a list of those little projects. Touch up peeling paint, repair dripping faucets, replace broken fixtures and take care of the minor maintenance items that have accumulated.

This not mean renovating the entire house. In fact, homeowners sometimes spend money on improvements before selling that they never needed to make.

Before undertaking an expensive renovation specifically for resale, reach out to a trusted Realtor to find out whether this adjustment will be a significant return on investment.

Start Decluttering Before You Have To

As we all know, this great town is the place where people place roots for a very long time. It is a hard place to leave. But once the decision is made, moving can feel overwhelming when you look at decades of belongings all at once. It becomes much more manageable when you start months ahead.

One closet, one cabinet, or one room at a time is plenty.

Decide what you want to keep, donate, give to family

members or discard. By spring, you may be surprised by how much you have accomplished without the stress of trying to do everything in a few weeks.

Gather Information About Your House

Do you remember when you replaced the roof? How old is the heating system? When were the windows installed? Was the kitchen renovated in 2012 or 2015?

Start gathering receipts, warranties, permits and information about improvements you've made. Buyers often ask these questions, and having the information readily available makes the selling process easier and shows buyers this home was cared for through the years.

Find Out What Your Home Is Worth

You don't need to be ready to sell to learn what your home may be worth.

Understanding its approximate market value can help with planning. It may affect where you want to move, how much you can spend on your next home, and even whether moving makes financial sense right now.

Remember that an online estimate today does not reflect a listing price in the future. While

Norwood continues to have a firm hold on residential purchases, the market continues to sway monthly, seasonally, yearly.

Think About Where You're Going

Homeowners understandably spend a lot of time thinking about selling their current home, but there is another equally important question: Where will you go?

Are you buying another home? Downsizing? Moving closer to family? Looking for one-floor living? Leaving Massachusetts?

The answer can affect the timing and structure of your sale.

You Don't Have to Decide Today

Perhaps the most important part of starting early is that you don't have to make an immediate decision.

Planning is not the same thing as committing to sell.

You may decide spring, 2027 is the right time. You may decide to wait another year. Either way, you will have a better understanding of your home's condition, its potential value and what would be involved in making a move.

And when spring finally arrives, you'll be glad you started in November!

MAY YOUR STUFFING BE TASTY
MAY YOUR TURKEY BE PLUMP
MAY YOUR POTATOES & GRAVY
HAVE NARY A LUMP

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DELICIOUS AND YOUR
PECAN PIE TOO ...

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 REAL ESTATE CORNER

Norfolk County housing market holds firm despite challenges

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell recently released the real estate recording statistics for September, 2026, which showed increases in property sales, property values, and overall sales volume compared to September, 2025, demonstrating continued stability in the Norfolk County real estate market despite ongoing affordability challenges.

The Registry of Deeds recorded 9,166 documents in September, 2026, a 4% decrease compared to the 9,511 documents recorded in September, 2025, and a 10% decrease from August, 2026.

"September's recording activity reflects a Norfolk County real estate market that continues to adapt to ongoing economic conditions while maintaining overall stability," Register O'Donnell noted. "Although many key market indicators suggest continued confidence in Norfolk County real estate and underscore the enduring desire of individuals, families, and businesses to live, work, and invest in Norfolk County, buyers continue to navigate affordability challenges and limited inventory. Economic factors like rising interest rates will affect the economy and

individuals trying to navigate the real estate market in Norfolk County."

The total number of deeds recorded for September, 2026, representing both commercial and residential real estate sales and transfers, was 1,439, a 3% increase from the 1,396 deeds recorded in September, 2025, but down 6% from August, 2026. Looking at just real estate sales, 714 properties were sold in September, 2026, a 4% increase compared to the 684 properties sold in September, 2025.

"The increase in both deeds recorded and property sales compared to September of last year is a positive indicator but the downward trend from August of 2026 should be concerning," Register O'Donnell said.

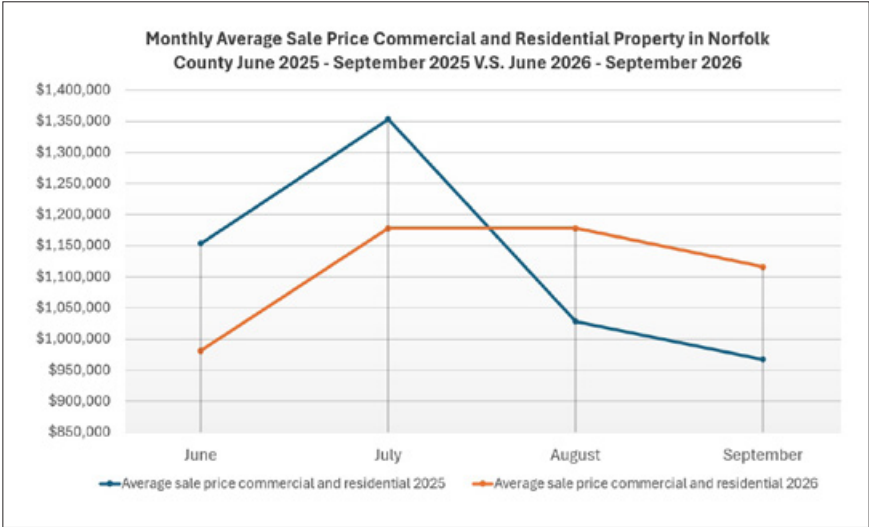
The average sale price for both commercial and residential real estate in September, 2026 was \$1,115,833, a 15% increase compared to September, 2025, and a 5% decrease from August, 2026. The total value of commercial and residential sales recorded in September, 2026 was approximately \$797 million, a 20% increase from the approximately \$662 million recorded in September, 2025.

"The double-digit gains in

both average price and overall sales volume compared to September of 2025 show there is a demand to live in Norfolk County," Register O'Donnell said. "While higher interest rates affect what buyers can afford, the lack of available homes for sale remains a major factor in property prices across our communities."

Lending activity remained relatively stable compared to the same month last year. A total of 1,443 mortgages were recorded in September, 2026, a 2% decrease from the 1,469 mortgages recorded in September, 2025, and a 4% decrease from August, 2026. According to The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the average mortgage interest rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage during September, 2025 ranged between 6.26% and 6.5%, while rates during September, 2026, ranged between 6.71% and 7.03%.

"The modest decrease in mortgage activity compared to September of last year reflects the continued impact of higher interest rates on the real estate



market," Register O'Donnell stated. "Despite these borrowing challenges, lending activity remains relatively steady, demonstrating that individuals and businesses continue to pursue real estate opportunities throughout Norfolk County. However, these broader lending trends and interest rate movements bear watching."

The Registry continues to closely monitor foreclosure activity. In September, 2026, there were 9 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, compared to 6 foreclosure deeds recorded in September, 2025. Notices to foreclose, which represent the first step in the foreclosure process, increased to 35 in September, 2026 from 23 in September, 2025.

"Although foreclosure activity remains relatively low by historical standards, increases in both foreclosure deeds and notices to foreclose warrant continued attention," Register O'Donnell said. "Economic pressures, including housing costs, household expenses, and other financial obligations, can create challenges for some homeowners. We encourage anyone experiencing difficulty meeting their mortgage obligations to seek assistance as early as possible."

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.

"September's real estate activity reflects a market that remains fundamentally sound," Register O'Donnell concluded. "While some categories showed modest declines, year-over-year increases in property sales, average sale prices, and total sales volume demonstrate confidence in Norfolk County real estate. Norfolk County remains a desirable destination for homeowners, businesses, and investors. However, challenges do appear to be on the horizon."

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

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- Ellis M

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Grateful ...

During this time of year especially, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude and thanks to all of my clients, colleagues, friends and family for making 2026 a wonderful year! Your referrals and recommendations have all been greatly appreciated. Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Holiday Season ahead.
All my best, Your Local Realtor™

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