

## **A Storm Like No Other**



#### By Donna Lane

I was in the basement cleaning up the mess from my oil tank that had ruptured two days before when I heard sirens screeching. It was late afternoon on June 28. They stopped for a minute or two then screeched again. And again, I wondered what was happening, and thought it must be something big for so many emergency vehicles to be blaring for so long.

It must have something to do with the storm, I reasoned, as I felt my way to the cellar stairs, ankle deep in water. Before the lights went out, I watched as water pushed through the steel door to my basement. I made the mistake of opening it to check that the large drain was open, which it was, and the entire build-up in the cellarway pushed its way in, soaking me in the process. As I gathered my shovel and brooms the lights went out. I

would not learn what happened until the following day.

I was still reeling from all the problems I experienced over the past month - downed trees, plumbing problems and cleanup needed to facilitate the installation of a new oil tank - and was feeling a bit sorry for myself when I learned that the

> **STORM** continued on page 2



## **Summer on Central**

#### BY KARA NICOLE

Early on in the summer, residents began to see changes to Norwood Center with sidewalks blocked off for outdoor dining, but the real change came when Central St. was blocked off from vehicle traffic and a cozy pedestrian zone was created. The Norwood community was clued in on the new landscape from a town announcement.

"We will be shutting down a portion of Central Street (between Cottage St. E. and Nahatan St.) for communal dining and pedestrian access. Summer on Central will provide residents a great, safe place to socialize, meet friends and enjoy summertime in downtown Norwood."

> **CENTRAL** continued on base 4





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#### STORM

continued from page 1

sirens were emergency vehicles brought in to transport patients from Norwood Hospital to other facilities. I saw photographs of cars floating in the hospital parking lot and learned that the entire basement that housed all of the electrical and mechanical systems was under water and no longer usable. I learned quite quickly that there were many people worse off than me.

Two trapped employees were rescued by Norwood firefighters from Ladder 1. Fire departments from Canton, Sharon, Westwood, Foxboro, Stoughton, Needham, Randolph, Walpole, Norfolk, Millis, Mansfield, Hanson, Abington, Whitman, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Hansen, and Norwell were all called in to help with evacuation efforts. The Lorusso Building suffered the most damage, but the entire hospital had to be evacuated - in all, more than 150 patients, 100 that evening and the rest the following day. An inspection was made and it was determined that the hospital was not fit for occupancy and temporarily closed.

While the hospital was the hardest hit, it was by no means the only one. The Heritage Baptist Church on Washington Street sustained considerable damage. The flooding originated from the back parking lot behind the building. Heritage Pastor Thomas Krampert said that the pressure was so strong that it broke the glass doors in the back, flooded into the building and the entire basement was submerged from floor to ceiling.

A number of other businesses experienced flood damage as did many homeowners. In a video address to the townspeople, Town Manager Tony Mazzucco said that business damage was still being reported and some homeowners were reporting damages of \$50,000 or more. As I listened to Mazzucco's video, I heard another sweet sweeper working on our street. In the 50-plus years I've lived here, they have seldom visited our little street more than once a year. It was the third day in a row they were here.

I spoke with Mark Ryan, Norwood Town Engineer and Director of Public Works (DPW), and asked what role the DPW played in helping with the aftermath of the storm. He said their efforts were intense.

"Sewer and drain crews were dispatched to assist flooded areas," Ryan said. "The roads were littered with a lot of debris – rocks, stone, mulch and the like, and we needed to get the roads so they were passable." The day after the storm, the DPW cleared the 'heavy stuff' with the street sweepers. Ryan said that because of the amount of cleanup required, the town had to hire a sweeper company to provide additional sweepers. A crew was also sent to Norwood Hospital with a high-capacity pump on Monday. Even the barricades that were set up for downtown dining floated away and had to be rescued and repositioned.

My street suffered incredible damage. Large pieces of pavement were carried away as the water rushed downhill. I wondered how many other streets in town had similar damage.

"Anywhere the pavement was compromised is being worked on, especially those that have created unsafe conditions on the roads or drainage structures," Ryan said.

He said if we continue to have major thunderstorms such as this one, the town may need to revisit the 2004 Meadowbrook Drainage Study which addressed the flooding problems on Central, East, Vernon and Nahatan Streets.

We are seeing an increase in heavy rain events because of climate change. I read somewhere that according to data kept by Blue Hills since the 1800s, the number of 2-inch-plus rainfalls have jumped from an average of



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one per year to three per year.

Ryan explained that the drain systems in Massachusetts were designed to accommodate 4.6 inches of rain in a 24-hour period – not 90 minutes, which is what Norwood experienced. (Overall, we had nearly 6 inches of rain that day.)

"There is no storm water system in this world that can handle that volume in that amount of time," Ryan said.

He suggested that we may have to make an investment in our drain system. That certainly put the inefficiency of my small drains into perspective.

Jim Collins, Superintendent of Norwood Light, said that three sections of Town lost power the night of the storm – 4,000 customers of the 16,000 – due to lightning strikes and downed trees.

It's been my experience that power outages are usually restored less than an hour after they occur and I wondered why it took several hours that evening.

"Trying to get around was difficult because so many people were stuck on the roads," Collins explained. "I never saw so much water in places where I never saw water before!"

Fortunately, the new building did not suffer any water damage and all power was restored to residents within three hours.

Two days after the storm, Norwood's Board of Selectmen approved the establishment of an emergency residential assistance program for residents who are suffering from major property damage due to the storm. Through this emergency program, \$180,000 in funding will be made available to those affected by the storm. An additional \$320,000 was transferred from the town's Light Department to the grant program. Individual homeowners who meet the income requirements can receive grants of up to \$5,000 in aid.



Norwood declared a State of Emergency at the beginning of July and is looking to obtain additional resources from state and federal officials to further assist the community.

Asked to comment on the economic impact of the storm, Neponset River Regional Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Tom O'Rourke gave his outlook.

"The economic impact on the town is inestimable," O'Rourke said. "Norwood Hospital is a significant economic driver for the region ... it's tough to put a price tag on it. But considering it's the largest employer in Norwood with 1400 employees, that it purchases products from many area businesses and its employees do business with local restaurants and merchants ... the impact will be significant."

Mazzucco has estimated damages to homes could cost \$1.5 million and at least the same amount to businesses and non-profits. He said the hospital will likely incur 'tens of millions of dollars in damage' and indicated that the town would work with the hospital however it could to get the hospital operational as quickly as possible because 'one-quarter million people in the region rely on Norwood Hospital.'

Mazzucco said the hospital will open in phases. In Phase 1, the Emergency Room will be up and running – hopefully in 45 to 60 days. In Phase 2, many of the hospital's services will be brought back, although not at the level they were prior to the flood. Phase 3 will involve major reconstruction of the Lorusso Building, and that may take as much as three years.

Thinking about it, as bad as things were, they could have been

#### ZILFI, Joanna Lynn, Registered Nurse

Of Norwood, beloved daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Williams) Zilfi, died suddenly of heart failure on June 22, 2020, at the age of 41. She leaves behind her loving sisters and brothers-inlaw, Paul and Karen Murphy of Norwood, Michael and Katherine Lee Gatto, of Cumming, Georgia, Kenneth and Jillian DeMuth of Walpole, and Anthony and Kristen DeLuca, of Walpole and her brother Joseph Zilfi, Jr., of Norwood. She is the niece of Sabri S. Zilfi of Canton, Dr. Madeline Zilfi of College Park, Maryland, and Mary Williams of Gloucester. She was predeceased by her aunt Dee Dee Zilfi Bosch of LaMirada, California and her uncle Robert Williams of Gloucester. She was a loving and doting aunt to Paul, Catherine, Colleen and Patrick Murphy, the late Michael Gatto, Meghan, Matthew and Mikayla Gatto, Kevin, John and Juliet De-Muth, and Karolina, Sophia, and Gianna DeLuca. She also leaves her cousin Billy Margrabe of Manhattan, New York with whom she was especially close. As a child, she performed in the Boston Ballet's The Nutcracker production for several seasons. Joanna graduated from Norwood High School in 1997, graduated from the University



of Massachusetts Boston with a degree in political science and then graduated from the bachelor of nursing program at the University of South Florida. Joanna was a nursing supervisor for the Charlwell House Health and Rehabilitation Center for many years where she was well respected by her colleagues and had just recently become the Assistant Director of Nurses for the Ellis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Joanna loved her family, was a true friend who could always be counted on, and was a fierce proponent of social justice. She cared deeply for animals, especially cats, having rescued many over the years. She derived great joy from the beach. Services will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in her memory to the Norwood Scholarship Foundation, P. O. Box 112, Norwood, MA 02062 (www.norwood. dollarsforscholars.org) where a nursing scholarship has been established in her name.



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#### CENTRAL

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General Manger Tony Mazzucco addressed this new addition to the Common in a Facebook live chat noting "it's been over 100 days since all of this (quarantine) started in Norwood and I don't think we ever would have thought Norwood Center would look this way."

With Central street closed off and picnic tables spread out on an overlay of artificial grass, the set up looks as if it has been a part of the town for years. The area is equipped with portable toilets, hand sanitizer stations, and recycle and trash bins. In fact, the initial thought was to offer this setting on weekends throughout the summer, however, it was clearly a neighborhood favorite and has remained available all week long since it was created.

Patrons of all ages are now seen throughout the day holding meetings, enjoying outdoor family time, catching up with friends, and what a scene once the sun goes down as twinkling lights provide a soft illumination from the evening sky.

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"It is my new favorite part of this town," Norwood resident Amanda Springer said. "I truly enjoy being able to safely meet up with friends I haven't seen in a while, and also be able to support local business in the process. We usually order take out from a restaurant around town and then find a picnic table to sit and chat'

With the new restrictions regarding social distancing, and restaurants offering some outdoor dining and indoor seating at limited capacity, the new picnic tables at the Common have provided a great alternative to Norwood dining while still allowing members of the town to support local businesses. It is also a great option for those who

"I want Norwood to do this every Summer!" Andrew Millin exclaimed.

The town's statement encouraged patrons to "grab a coffee and sit near the historic Norwood Theater on a weekend morning, a slice of pizza for lunch as families picnic and play on the Town Common, or an after dinner dessert in the warm summer air!"



The possibilities are endless when it comes to this new addition to the town, but creating the scene did not happen overnight.

Members from the Norwood Town Managers office, Department of Public Works, and Norwood Police worked together to create the atmosphere for all the members of the town to enjoy.



'Summer on Central' will continue on until September of this year, but with Norwood resident's already buzzing about how much they have enjoyed it so far, it seems this may become a Norwood tradition for years to come. What I am already thinking about is when we get through this

and next summer we get benches out at 10 different places in town. All the restaurants will have the outdoor dining, and we'll have more music and it is going to be a beautiful thing. So think forward to where we are going to be" Mazzucco concluded.

## **Congratulations to** 2020 Norwood High **School graduate Robert Morani-Gillis**

Robert's recognition for his high school achievement was inadvertently not on the list publicized by our paper in the July issue.

Great job Robert and good luck on your future endeavors!!





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#### Page 5

## Next Phase Welcomes Attorney Kevin Fulcher to Team

Next Phase Legal & Dispute Resolution LLC, a domestic relations law firm in Norfolk, is pleased to announce that Attorney Kevin Fulcher recently joined the firm.

Attorney Fulcher has over 16 years of experience and continues to focus on divorce and family law litigation. Most recently, Fulcher operated a solo law practice in Walpole.

Firm owner Stephen Mc-Donough describes Fulcher as "a tenacious litigator that understands the complexities of family law practice, and is committed to helping clients achieve their goals." He appears frequently in the probate and family courts throughout Massachusetts, especially in Norfolk and Bristol Counties.

Fulcher participates in the pro-bono "Lawyer for a Day" program at the Norfolk County Probate and Family court and volunteers in the ARC (Attorneys

There are more than a few

Representing Children) program in Bristol County. As a volunteer attorney, he provides legal advice to individuals and families who are in court without their own representation. Kevin has a history of community service and has been a hotline crisis counselor at the Samaritan's volunteer center.

For more information, please contact Next Phase Legal & Dispute Resolution LLC at (508) 359-4043.

#### STORM

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a lot worse. Lives could have been lost and they weren't.

Buildings and infrastructure can be repaired and replaced, although the cost will be substantial, over and above any insurance payouts or community relief afforded. The loss of jobs by hospital personnel who were furloughed will be difficult, adding to the high unemployment in the state due to COVID-19. beacons of light in this saga. Our outstanding fire department led by Chief George Morrice who, rather than bask in a job well done, credited the strength of the area's mutual aid system in its response to assist Norwood with fire and rescue apparatus, ambulances, equipment and personnel – 60 mutual aid agencies if I counted correctly. Our outstanding police officers led by Chief William Brooks who said he couldn't remember a storm that looked like this since 1998.

Our Town Manager Tony

Mazzucco who has shown strong, compassionate leadership in this emergency. Homeowners can thank him for spearheading the effort to set up the emergency residential assistance program to help blunt some of the financial hardship they will incur because of flood damage. And let us not forget our often unsung heroes of the DPW who work tirelessly on our behalf with whatever they are asked to do.

Twenty-twenty has been a helluva year so far – and it's only August. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings.

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## The Dangers of Do-It-Yourself Wills and Living Trusts

In light of the current pandemic, many Americans are becoming aware of the importance of creating or updating their estate planning documents. If you are considering writing your own will or using an online "do it yourself" (DIY) document creator, there are many reasons why this is one project you shouldn't undertake without the help of a professional.

It is very easy to overlook important legal and technical planning points that can cause your estate to go to the wrong beneficiaries, or your beneficiaries to pay unnecessary higher taxes and/or expensive fees to attorneys or probate court. What may seem like a great deal could cost your family significantly in the long-run.

A notable case reflecting this is that of a successful Washington businessman who wrote his own Will assuming his assets would be free of estate tax. However, due to the language he used, the IRS interpreted the law differently and claimed all the assets he passed to his wife were subject to \$800,000 in estate tax plus \$130,000 in back interest. His family went to court and eventually won, but lems with do-it-yourself plans is

the lack of personal advice. You

only after nearly ten years of costly litigation and years of turmoil. One of the biggest prob-

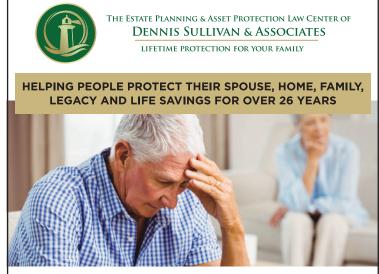
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need a customized plan based on in-depth discussions about your family, their future and your legacy. In fact, many of the do-itvourself resources have a strong disclaimer that says they are not a substitute for legal advice and to consult an attorney for help in understanding how the law may apply to your particular situation.

A comprehensive plan is based on knowing what questions to ask to understand your individual needs. Some examples:

- Owning real estate or a share in a small business
- · Leaving money to your grandchildren separate of your children
- Having children from a previous marriage
- Wishing to arrange long-term care for a disabled beneficiary
- · Having minor children
- · Updates in laws that affect retirement investments
- Protecting beneficiaries from foolish financial decisions
- Potential taxes that will be paid or avoided

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We have had distraught clients come in after they used software. In one case, a grandfather used software he purchased to name his grandchildren as heirs instead of his children. Skipping a generation allowed the IRS to tax his assets twice, and the grandchildren only received 20% of the estate. Even a simple estate plan can run into trouble if not executed properly. For example, Massachusetts requires two witnesses for a Will who must be present at the time the Will is signed. If one of those witnesses is also a beneficiary (like, for example, your spouse), that witness could be disqualified from receiving any assets from your Will or Trust. Some states allow handwritten wills, while others (including Massachusetts) do not recognize them.

Tax planning of your estate is especially complicated. Most people don't know how much money they can pass, without paying taxes. While the 2020, federal estate tax exemption is \$11.58 million, in Massachusetts

it is \$1 million. A married couple does not automatically get \$2 million tax free. Our office has seen too many DIY plans that do not plan for taxes, which can cost your family \$100,000 in unnecessary taxes to Massachusetts. These examples are just the tip of the iceberg of things an estate planning attorney will help you consider. Do-it-yourself kits are simply not designed to cover all possible financial and taxation situations. Every person has their own unique goals and objectives, and an estate plan should reflect that.

An effective estate plan will provide financial stability to your spouse, children, or other beneficiaries, protect your assets for future generations, ensure your wishes are carried out, and protect the privacy of your loved ones. We are currently offering free personal estate planning consultations, call today to schedule yours (781) 237-2815.

This article was provided by the Estate Planning & Asset Protection Law Center of Dennis Sullivan & Associates.

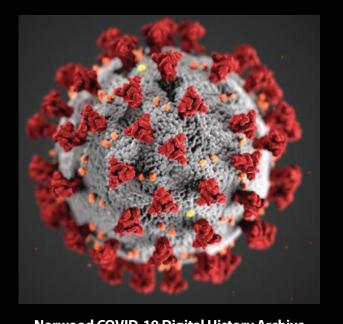
## **Be a Part of Norwood History** and the COVID-19 Crisis

The COVID-19 crisis will be will be written and spoken about for many years and generations. As record keepers of local history, the Norwood Historical Society (NHS) is inviting every member of the community to help document this event and tell their stories.

The NHS is asking individuals, children and adults, to answer a daily question about life during the crisis.

They are also asking individuals to share their own personal story in different ways. This can be done through the use of a written, physical journal, a digital document, or submission of videos or photographs. One hundred years from now people will want to read first-person narratives. They will want to know what life was like for the citizens of Norwood during this health crisis.

To answer the questionnaire or for more information on helping to document Norwood's experiences during COVID-19, visit https:// norwoodhistoricalsociety.org/ covid-19-questionnaire/.



Norwood COVID-19 Digital History Archive

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Secured a \$500,000 grant to repair the bridge on Dean Street which will be completed this summer.



Created the Massachusetts School Building Authority, which saved Norwood Taxpayers \$40 Million to build Norwood High School and will save Norwood taxpayers up to \$36 Million for a brand new Coakley Middle School.



Passed the Hands-Free Driving Law to prevent distracted driving tragedies.

Invented the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit which allows Seniors to stay in their homes and pay less taxes.



Authored the bill to Provide \$50 Million to Norwood homes and businesses destroyed by the June 28, 2020 Super Storm

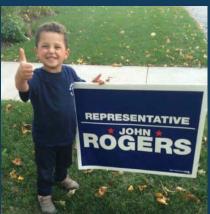
### The **Only** Candidate Working for Norwood.

John is a 2020 Massachusetts Super Lawyer, the father of 3 daughters Abby, Kate, and Lindsay each Norwood Public School Students, a husband and a lifelong Norwood Native.

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The most common symptoms associated with GERD are dyspepsia (indigestion), gas and bloating, sore throat from acid reflux, chronic dry cough, hoarse voice, breathing issues, and vomiting; all occurring principally after eating.

Dorothy M. visited The Holistic Center at Bristol Square complaining of chronic indigestion, gas, bloating after meals, and

There's a New Pharmacy in Town

headaches. She was diagnosed with GERD by her primary care doctor but did not want to go on the suggestion prescription, Omeprazole. She had heard through a friend that symptoms of GERD could be managed holistically and wanted to explore that route before going on medication.

Dorothy was put on a therapeutic diet, which removed the stressors that were aggravating



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her situation. Digestive enzymes were added with each meal to help rest the stomach so it could heal, and specific manual adjustments were performed to aide in closing the valve. After several weeks, Dorothy was already seeing significant results and noticed that her symptoms had decreased in frequency and intensity.

Affinity (

If you are experiencing the symptoms from GERD and are looking for a holistic approach and solution, call The Holistic Center at Bristol Square, (508) 660-2722, 1426 Main St., Walpole, and make an appointment with Dr. Michael Goldstein or Dr. Rochelle Bien today.

Dental





www.movewellptnorwood.com

## Women's Business Network is Seeking Members



The Women's Business Networking Group of Norwood (WBN) is actively seeking new members. The non-profit organization meets the second Tuesday of the month, at 8 a.m. While adhering to social distancing guidelines, meetings are now held outdoors, or in inclement weather, through Zoom.

WBN consists of local businesswomen who have diverse backgrounds, skill sets and who represent a particular business category. Their members either own or work in a business in or surrounding Norwood. There is only one seat per business category in the networking group. The seats currently occupied are: real estate, financial and insurance planning, mortgage lending, home improvement, in-home health care, accounting, hearing specialist, family law, skin & makeup advisor, and catering.

WBN is a networking group so referrals are important. Participants are loyal to their members and refer them whenever possible. Their bimonthly forums also serve to collaborate and share ideas, connect, build relationships, and develop a passage for all to draw inspiration. Through the years, WBN has earned a reputation not only as a referral and resource network, but also for contributing to the local community

For more information on WBN, email mtarantorealty@ gmail, or call 781-799-7068. You can also visit their Facebook page at www.facebook. com/wbnnorwood/. Stay tuned for their new website!

## **Congratulations Officer Baguma!**

Chief Brooks recently announced the promotion of Officer Geoffrey Baguma as the Norwood Police Department's next School Resource Officer (SRO). His assignment will officially begin in January, 2020, when SRO Paul Murphy retires, and will spend some time over the next six months in training.

Officer Baguma is a 14-year veteran of the Department who has most recently been assigned as a motor officer and School Liaison Officer to the Cleveland Elementary



School. Along with SRO Jamie Mahoney, teachers and school department staff, he recently worked on the Greater Boston Food Bank Milk Project obtaining milk for Norwood families during the COVID pan-

#### demic.

He also created the BOND program which, prior to the pandemic, featured a co-ed basketball Open Run for students and police officers. Last fall, he created a Halloween costume donation drive which resulted in free costumes for local families. Officer Baguma holds a bachelor of science degree from Johnson & Wales University.

Everyone at Norwood PD wishes Officer Baguma the very best.





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The calendar was prepared a few weeks before the August 1 publish date. In consideration with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and state and federal quidelines regarding public gatherings, some of these events may have been postponed or cancelled. It is recommended to call to confirm the event status before attending.

## **Calendar of Events**

#### August 2

#### **Carillon Concert**

Norwood Town Common

#### 2 p.m.

Margaret Pan, from Somerville is performing. All concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spots are along the Central St. pedestrian zone, the Town Common, or in the upper parking lot behind the Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

#### August 4

#### Zoom Storytime with Miss Kate Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

10:30 a.m.

Join Miss Kate for this virtual story time where you can participate! Sign up and you will be sent a link to the story time and instructions on what to expect! To sign up, visit www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/.

#### Hidden Treasures of Boston, Part III Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

7 p.m.

Boston tour guide Jay Bazzinotti will present his third and final illustrated "Hidden Treasures of Boston" presentation through Zoom. A member of the First New Hampshire Regiment of Reenactors, Jay will appear in full uniform and talk about even more little known landmarks and monuments in and around Boston. Much of the city's rich and fascinating history is invisible not just to the casual visitor but also to those who have lived here all their lives. Registration is required. To sign up for "Hidden Treasures of Boston, Part II" and receive an email with Zoom access instructions, visit norwoodlibrary.org/ morrillcalendar.

#### Pop Up Library

Cleveland Elementary School, 380 Nichols St.

August 6

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

library card or license and don't forget your mask! For kids and teens.

#### **Virtual Craft Connection**

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 6:30-8 p.m.

Crafters get together to video chat while crafting so they can show off their latest projects and stay in touch, even while apart. Use the Zoom platform, and the link to join below to join in. Sometimes people are prompted to provide a meeting ID, so that is included just in case. There's also a phone number you can use to dial in to join the discussion over the phone, if you're unable to join us on a computer. Please email Liz at lreed@minlib.net with any questions. Join Zoom Meeting: 929-205-6099; US Meeting ID: 893 8239 8201. For more information, visit www. norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

#### August 7

#### **Virtual Story Time with Miss Dina** Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

12:30 p.m.

Join Miss Dina for this virtual story time! We will read a few books and sing a few songs!

Visit the Morrill Memorial Library Facebook page and the live feed will be posted.

#### August 8 **Thrift Shop Sale**

First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St. 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Visit the Blessing Boutique Thrift The library is to you! Bring your Shop! Lots of summer clothes for men, women and children to help you freshen up your wardrobe for these last days of summer. Practically-new shoes for men, sizes 12 and 13. Variety of items to help you organize your home office/school space. And plenty of giftware, kitchen and household items, books, purses, and lots more. Come in and take a look!

#### August 9

**Carillon Concert** Norwood Town Common

2 p.m.

Anton Fleisner, from Beverly is performing. All concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spots are along the Central St. pedestrian zone, the Town Common, or in the upper parking lot behind the Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

#### August 10

#### Understanding Your IRA, 401(k), and other Retirement Savings Plans

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 7 p.m.

Michaell Graff will present "Understanding Your IRA, 401(k), and Other Retirement Savings Plans. Registering more attendees than spaces available; attendees will be placed on a wait list. Registration is required. To register, visit

#### Women's Business Networking Meetina

8 a.m.

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New England Inc.



#### norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar. August 11

The Women's Business Networking (WBN) group is a non-profit organization for women in business or residents of Norwood and surrounding towns. The group meet two mornings per month and in addition to providing referral business, the women share and support business ideas and community events/fundraisers. If you would like more information about the organization, call 781-799-7068, or email wb-

#### Zoom Storytime with Miss Kate

nofnorwood@gmail.com.

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 10:30 a.m.

Join Miss Kate for this virtual story time where you can participate! Sign up and you will be sent a link to the story time and instructions on what to expect! To sign up, visit www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/.

#### August 13

#### Pop Up Library

Norwood High School, 245 Nichols St.

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The library is to you! Bring your library card or license and don't forget your mask! For kids and teens.

#### **Virtual Craft Connection**

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

6:30-8 p.m.

Crafters get together to video chat while crafting so they can show off their latest projects and stay in touch, even while apart. Use the Zoom platform, and the link to join below to join in. Sometimes people are prompted to provide a meeting ID, so that is included just in case. There's also a phone number you can use to dial in to join the discussion over the phone, if you're unable to join us on a computer. Please email Liz at lreed@minlib.net with any questions. Join Zoom Meeting: 929-205-6099; US Meeting ID: 893 8239 8201. For more information, visit www. norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

#### August 14

Virtual Story Time with Miss Dina Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

12:30 p.m.

Join Miss Dina for this virtual story time! We will read a few books and sing a few songs

Visit the Morrill Memorial Library Facebook page and the live feed will be posted.

#### August 16

#### **Carillon Concert**

Norwood Town Common

John Whiteside, from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, in Cohasset is performing. All concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spots are along the Central St. pedestrian zone, the Town Common, or in the upper parking lot behind the Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

#### August 18

**Zoom Storytime with Miss Kate** Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 10:30 a.m.

Join Miss Kate for this virtual story time where you can participate! Sign up and you will be sent a link to the story time and instructions on what to expect! To sign up, visit www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/.

#### August 19

#### Virtual Turn the Page Book Group Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library

6:30 p.m.

The title for August discussion will be "Courting Mr. Lincoln," by Louis Bayard. A few copies of the physical book will be available at the library and you may also order a copy to be delivered from another library. The ebook and audiobook versions are available instantly on Hoopla. If you're not able to join Zoom by using a computer, there will be a phone number provided so you can call in to join the book discussion. To receive access details for joining the book discussion, please register at www. norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/. Email Patty Bailey if you have any questions, pbailey@minlib.net.

#### August 20

Pop Up Library Coakley Middle School, 1315 Washington St., S. Norwood

10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The library is to you! Bring your library card or license and don't forget your mask! For kids and teens.

Virtual Craft Connection

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 6:30-8 p.m.

Crafters get together to video chat while crafting so they can show off their latest projects and stay in touch, even while apart. Use the Zoom platform, and the link to join below to join in. Sometimes people are prompted to provide a meeting ID, so that is included just in case. There's also a phone number you can use to dial in to join the discussion over the phone, if you're

unable to join us on a computer. Please email Liz at lreed@minlib.net with any questions. Join Zoom Meeting: 929-205-6099; US Meeting ID: 893 8239 8201. For more information, visit www. norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

#### Norwood Family Flick

Norwood High School, Front Lawn Sundown

Brings chairs, blankets, and even a picnic and enjoy a great family movie under the stars! Parking available at the high school. For all ages. FREE!

#### August 21

#### Virtual Story Time with Miss Dina

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 12:30 p.m.

Join Miss Dina for this virtual story time! We will read a few books and sing a few songs!

Visit the Morrill Memorial Library Facebook page and the live feed will be posted.

## 2 p.m.

<sup>\$500</sup>

**Your next plumbing** 

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Come to

the Pop

Up Library Pach week

& check

out book

for kids!

#### August 23

#### **Carillon Concert**

Norwood Town Common 2 p.m.

George Matthew, Jr., from Middlebury College, Middlebury, in Vermont is performing. All concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spots are along the Central St. pedestrian zone, the Town Common, or in the upper parking lot behind the Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

#### August 25

#### Women's Business Networking Meeting

8 a.m.

The Women's Business Networking (WBN) group is a non-profit organization for women in business or residents of Norwood and surrounding towns. The group meet two mornings per month and in addition to providing referral business, the women share and support business ideas and community events/fundraisers. If you would like more information about the organization, call 781-799-7068, or email wbnofnorwood@gmail.com. Napper Tandy's, 46 Day St.

**Titles on Tap Book Group** 

August title was yet to be announced at press time. 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 don't mind taking their 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. To learn more, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

#### August 27

#### **Virtual Craft Connection**

Virtual, Morrill Memorial Library 6:30-8 p.m.

Crafters get together to video chat while crafting so they can show off their latest projects and stay in touch, even while apart. Use the Zoom platform, and the link to join below to join in. Sometimes people are prompted to provide a meeting ID, so that is included just in case. There's also a phone number you can use to dial in to join

the discussion over the phone, if you're unable to join us on a computer. Please email Liz at lreed@minlib.net with any questions. Join Zoom Meeting: 929-205-6099; US Meeting ID: 893 8239 8201. For more information, visit www. norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.



\*Not valid on trip or diagnostic fees. This offer expires August 31, 2020. Offer code OT-A-50

Carillon Concert Norwood Town Common 2 p.m. Lee B. Leach, of Norwood is performing. All concerts are rain or shine. Best listening spots are along the Central St. pedestrian zone, the Town Common, or in the upper parking lot behind the Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

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#### By Bella Caggiano

There is nothing like browsing through a library. There is something magical about discovering the perfect book to take home, curl up, and let the words tease the imagination. With the closing of libraries across the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many have missed this visit; a trip many took for granted.

Thursday, August 6

Thursday, August 13

Thursday, August 20

POP-UP Kids' Library Bringing The Library To You! Thursday (reatmer rowou! 10 AM - 1 PM 7/16 @ Prescott located at 66 Richland Road in Norwood

The staff at the Morrill Memorial Library has witnessed the faces of children roaming through their shelves and have come up with a way to put those smiles back on their faces and bring their kids and teens collections to the neighborhood!. During August, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., the Morrill Memorial Library continues sponsoring a Pop-Up Kids' Library! It is held every Thursday through August 20, and rotates through the Norwood schools.

Visitors should bring their library cards or license to borrow books. Masks will also be required while browsing.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cleveland Elementary School, 33 George Willet Pkwy.
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Norwood High School, 245 Nichols St.
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Coakley Middle School, 1315 Washington St.



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## Pet Corner



## **Thought for The Month**



"If a dog will not come to you after having looked you in the face, you should go home and examine your conscience." Woodrow Wilson

#### **FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES**

BSAC will continue to collect cat food indefinitely at 47 Windsor Rd. There is a collection can on the front lawn and IF people need food or want to donate food to others please consider this ongoing option!

#### LONG-TERM FOSTER CAT WISH LIST

BSAC Would ALWAYS appreciate the following supplies. Financial donations have been minimal due to recent world events affecting all of us. Our long-term foster cats who require consistent food and specific litter to keep their needs met. All

foods are available on Chewy.com, and BJs and Costco carry litter at a great price. All supplies can be delivered or dropped off directly to BSAC, 47 Windsor Rd., Norwood, MA 02062

Scoop Away Cat Litter- currently using over 500 lbs. a month

\*\*\*Purina One True INSTINCT Grain-free dry cat food. Any flavor.

\*\*\*Purina One Grain-free canned cat food. Any flavor.

\*\*\*American Journey pate grain free wet food



#### **Dear Tabby**

My name is Anderson Cooper. I'm an 8 year old in-shape, active, miniature pinscher/ chihuahua mix. Sometimes my body aches and I cannot chase my tennis ball as fast as usual. In the winter, my bones ache after I've been resting for a bit on the porch and at times, my rapid chase of my kitty sister can be just too much. I hate to complain so I wondered if you could help me write a note to my humans asking them to see if I have Osteoarthritis and look into ways to help relieve some of my pain.

Hate to whimper,

I have intentionally bolded words in the Dear Tabby section

#### Dear Anderson,

Osteoarthritis is a common but misunderstood condition facing more dogs and cats than we all know. Most of our owners don't think that this condition can affect cats and dogs of all ages, breeds, genders and sizes. I'm happy to help you write your note. Ready?

Dear Mom and Dad,

It's me Anderson, I have been a bit painful doing my regular activities and wanted you to consider if I have Osteoarthritis. When time permits, can you please go to oachecklist. com, complete this checklist for a starting point. The results can help you assess my current and potential osteoarthritis status



Anderson

and my current quality of life. Bring this along with me to our veterinarian to further discuss this.

There are many pain relieving options if Dr Poor thinks I am suffering from Osteoarthritis we could consider. I just want to be the best that I can be because in my eyes, living for today is what it is all about. I'd prefer not to wait for you to have great-grandchildren or for the Coronavirus cure to have pain free days. I live for today.

Sincerely,

Your favorite and cutest pup Andv!

How does that sound Anderson? Hope you didn't mind me referring to you as Andy.

This note you send your humans may start a very important conversation between them and other pet owners about Osteoarthritis. You rock Andy!

Hugs,

**Tabby-CVT** 

#### **Meet Rajah:**



Cute and full of himself is a kind way to describe our most recent long-term foster cat Rajah.

Rajah's story began as a typical backyard kitten rescue. We now know Rajah is anything but typical.

Typical kittens are small and grow little by little into medium sized adults. Rajah is larger than

most adult kitties and at only 6 months he's a mini mountain lion! He has lots of features of a Maine Coon cat or a Norwegian Forrest cat including; his size, energy level, playfulness, assertiveness and sadly, heart disease.

At a very young age Rajah was diagnosed with a heart murmur and he has since seen a cardiologist and has been diagnosed with heart disease.

Currently his disease is not severe and requires nothing more than regular 6 month cardiology exams (\$600 visit) and supervised play times. However, we expect medication therapy as the disease progresses. His prognosis is currently great but his life span cannot be predicted. Heart disease progresses at its own rate within each living being and appropriate support is what is needed to provide a long happy high quality of life.

As a no-kill cat rescue, we will provide just that to Rajah in long term foster care.

Adoption is an option to a qualified home who would agree to continue the necessary 6 month cardiology work ups and all medical care required for him to have a safe, high quality existence for as long as the Kitty gods choose for him to entertain and educate us humans.

#### **CAN'T ADOPT?**

Consider sponsoring a cat like Rajah with a concurrent monthly donation through our website www.baystateanimals.org or sending a check to BSAC, Inc. 47 Windsor Rd., Norwood, MA 02062

BSAC is seeking standby foster homes. If this is your family, please let us know. Though one day we may not have any cat seeking a temporary placement, days later we may have 3.



info@baystateanimals.org. Let us know briefly your interest, experience, limitations and preferences so we can reach out when the need arises.

Thank you in advance.



Please email us at;

#### Page 13

## Norwood Sports

## **Norwood Resident Taking a Virtual Ride This Year**

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

For 40 years, the Pan Mass Challenge's (PMC) mission has been to save lives, with the ultimate goal being a cancer-free world. Every August, thousands of participants get on their bikes to ride the 2-day trek down to Provincetown while securing donations for the fight against cancer. However, with all that has been thrown at us with the Covd-19 Pandemic, PMC Founder and Executive Director Billy Starr had to make a hard decision about the event. On May 1, he delivered a painstakingly tough message to the riders that in order to protect the PMC family there would be no actual ride this summer. Instead, he decided to reimagine the 2020 PMC weekend.

With all the health considerations surrounding Covid-19, Starr felt that it was impossible to deliver a high-quality experience while guaranteeing the safety of the PMC riders. The PMC represents something that is at the core of each and every rider's lifestyle and values; the many months and miles of training along with year-round fundraising efforts are the lifeblood of the Dana Farber Institute.

Norwood's Viki Carrieri is one of those riders. The Norwood native first took to the two-day event back in 2002 when she did the Sturbridge to Provincetown route biking 192 miles over two days in early August. Carrieri would jump aboard her bike once again in 2003 before taking some time off before getting in the fold as a volunteer when her daughter got involved. Last summer, she climbed upon her bike again and pedaled her way down the Cape taking part in the one-day event beginning in Wellesley.

This year, she was once again committed fir the full ride for the Dana Farber Institute and the fight for cancer when everything was shut down.

"I was really excited about it this year, but when it was reimagined it was a bit disappointing,' Carrieri said. "I ride to contribute to the research efforts that give people who have been diagnosed with cancer hope and I hope that some day we will see a cure."

The Norwood native rides for Team Lungstrong, benefiting lung cancer research at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute under the direction of Dr. Pasi Janne. She also rides in memory of Joseph Tafaro and her grandmother Mary Jacobs.

While the PMC riders will not all be participating in the event as they have in past years, they will still be riding on the weekend of August 1 and 2. Riders will have the opportunity to design their own routes while being connected to the Strava app. Strava will track their mileage and pace during the ride as well as their training schedule so people can see what they are doing. There will also be a virtual remote kickoff as well as a recap at the end of both days.

"It will be a little sad that first weekend on August not riding with everyone," Carrieri said. "The PMC is a camaraderie of people all riding together for the same cause. It's not only the riders, but all the supportive people you pass along the route. Seeing these people cheer you on gives you that push to continue."

Carrieri will continue to ride her practice route, which is in the

vicinity of Wellesley to Bourne, much like the PMC route. In riding that route, she has continued to see a lot of other PMC riders in the area training.

Although the training portion of the event is still pretty much the same routine, the experience will be a lot different this year, but it will still have the same effect fundraising for a cure.

"The actual day of the event finds yourself riding along so many people as well as all the supporters you meet along the way fighting for the same cause," Carrieri said. It's special and will defiantly be missed this year."

With everything that was happening in the world due to the pandemic, Carrieri was apprehensive about fundraising this year.

"I really didn't know if I was going to meet my goal of \$5000 this year," Carrieri concluded. "How could I aske people for money with Covid-19 all around us. Unexpectantly, about one month before the PMC weekend I hit my goal. I felt bad because I wasn't sending out letters or asking for donations, but people still managed to go to my page and support me; they are so gener-0118."







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## What a Day; What a Storm!

#### June 28

Norwood Light customers suffered some power outages as Mother Nature unleashed a monstrous rain storm on Sunday, June 29. The extraordinary high winds, hail, and nearly six inches of rain resulted in down power lines, massive street saturation, home and business flooding, including Norwood Hospital which eventually had to be completely evacuated.

#### Norwood Fire Department's Accounting of Storm:

During yesterday's storm Norwood Firefighters responded to over 50 incidents in less than 6 hours. Additional firefighters and dispatchers came in from off duty and staffed every vehicle in the building so that no call went unanswered.

In addition to investigations, fires and car accidents, firefighters assisted with the evacuation of Norwood Hospital. The extrication of critically ill patients from all floors of the hospital without elevator use and the safe transport to area hospitals would



Norwood Light crews responded to multiple outages, including a broken primary cable on George F. Willett Pkwy, downed limbs on Jacobsen Dr & a damaged switch at Walpole Street and Geraldine Drive. A view from the Norwood Police/Fire Station on Nahatan St.

not have been possible without the work of all Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts (PFFM) and private ambulance companies, Norfolk County Control, Massachusetts Department of Fire Services technical rescue team, Norwood Police Department officers and countless other agencies that worked, and continue to work in difficult conditions.

We would also like to remind everyone the Norwood Hospital, including the Emergency Department, is closed. Call 911 for any medical emergency and seek routine care at other facilities.

Thank you to everyone who responded!

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts (PFFM)International Association of Fire Fighters Westwood Fire Walpole Firefighters IAFF Local 2464 Canton MA Fire Department Foxborough Fire Department Sharon Fire-Rescue Wrentham Fire Department Friends Of Stoughton Fire Hanson Fire-Rescue Somer-

> **NORWOOD LIGHT** continued on page 15

## Joe Shea is <u>OUR</u> Norfolk County Commissioner



The last few months have been challenging to say the least, but as we have in the past **we come together** now to support one another and our communities. This spirit, the backbone of our region, makes me proud to continue my efforts as one of your Norfolk County Commissioners.

I have dedicated my life to public service and providing **trusted leadership** at every step of the way as an elected official Together, we have put practices in place to ensure that Norfolk County continues as a **cost-effective, inclusive and transparent** regional entity, including efforts to:

- Initiate a plan to modernize the County's financial and capital planning pactices.
- Make significant investments at the Norfolk County Agricultural High School.
- · Prioritize capital improvement and preservation efforts in our county courthouses.
- Lead a grant initiative to create more regional, public health, nursing services between the towns of Avon, Holbrook and Randolph; a model for future regional efforts.

Helping people, promoting good government and serving the County for the last five years has been my passion. It's clear that we must continue to respond, adapt, and ensure that the County is governed with modern-day practices. I am running for re-election, and I'm honored to ask for your support to continue this work.







## Please Vote to Re-Elect Joe Shea on or before Sept. 1

#### NORWOOD LIGHT

continued from page 14

ville Firefighters Local 76 Brewster Ambulance Service Cataldo Ambulance Service Norwood, Massachusetts Needham Firefighters - Local 1706 Norfolk County Technical Rescue Team Randolph Fire Randolph Firefighters Local 1268 Whitman Firefighters Local 1769 Special Signal Fire Association / Providence Canteen Kingston Fire & Emergency Management Rockland Firefighters Dedham Firefighters IAFF Local #1735 Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Emergency Communications Center and all other agencies that responded. Please tag any we missed.

## **Run Around Sue!**

By Bella Caggiano For the past three months, Sue Jacobs-Marshalsea has been 'running around' Norwood collecting donations for her Norwood Food

Pantry Drive in celebration of 125 years in the plumbing industry. The generosity of Norwood neighbors has been impressive! So inspiring that there were too many items to count. From these





photos, however, it is clear that the local community was unwavering in their support. Many who participated also gave monetary donations which will help the pantry supplement their inventory, especially when their shelves begin to diminish.

A grand prize was randomly chosen from all that contributed, but from the plethora of people who participated, it is clear that the intent of their generosity was the end result, not the prize; to help fellow neighbors who have fell on hard times and need some

The Grand Prize Wagon is done! One Winner will be drawn for \$1,000 of toilet, scratch tickets, disposal, faucet, gift certificates, tools, toys, gift basket, games, etc. Thank you to everyone who helped me help the Norwood Food Pantry!

assistance to put food on their tables for their family.

"I cannot thank everyone enough who helped me celebrate being in the family plumbing business for over 125 years," Sue Jacobs-Marshalsea said. "Such an amazing accomplishment. This whole fundraiser was in memory of my sister, Lori."

The Grand Prize and runner's up were chosen on July 16. Congratulations to the winners and for all donators who gave even just a little to help a lot.

## **Bells Ringing on the Common in August**

#### BY BELLA CAGGIANO

Many summer activities have come to a grinding halt this season due to COVID-19 and the restrictions enabled for social distancing. So, are there any local outdoor events to attend this month? Yes, right here in Norwood, and it is FREE!

You've probably heard them while driving or walking around Norwood Town Hall. The sweet, delicate sound of bells. You may have even looked up to the majestic Tilton Memorial Carillon to catch a glimpse of the origin of the music, maybe wondering about the framework of these lovely sounds.

The carillon is a unique musical mechanism composed of at least 23 bells that are systemically arranged to produce a unique harmony with a strike of a keyboard and foot pedal. The greatest concentration of carillon bells is in the low countries of Europe and were first produced during the Bronze Age. While their popularity almost died by the 19th century, they experienced a revival in the 20th century.

According to the Guild of Carillonneurs of North America, the Tilton Memorial Carillon is one of only eight monuments housing this instrument in New England. Another interesting fact and additional gem to our Town is that Norwood is one of only four towns in New England this year that is offering registered carillon recitals.

Why not grab a lawn chair on a beautiful summer night and enjoy the tunes that have traveled across the world. All concerts are held rain or shine. The best listening locations are within the Central St. pedestrian zone, on the Town Common or in the upper parking lot behind Town Hall off Central St. Proper social distancing is encouraged.

#### Carillon Bells Concerts on the Common Schedule

August 2nd 2:00 pm Margaret Pan, Somerville, Massachusetts

August 9th 2:00 pm Anton Fleisner, Beverly, Massachusetts

August 16th 2:00 pm John Whiteside, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Cohasset, Massachusetts

August 23rd 2:00 pm George Matthew, Jr., Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont

August 30th 2:00 pm Lee B. Leach, Norwood, Massachusetts

#### **About Carillons**

The world's greatest concentration of carillons is still in the Low Countries of Europe (Belgium, The Netherlands, northern France and northwest Germany). The art of the carillon has spread worldwide, however, with instruments on every continent except Antarctica. More than 180, of all levels of quality, exist in North America; they are listed in the Tower Directory. Elsewhere in the world, more than 450 exist, and they can also be found through the Tower Directory. All are identified there as "traditional carillons".

An instrument which is like a carillon in terms of the number of bells, but which has only automatic action, is often loosely called a carillon. These can also be found through the Tower Directory, where they are identified as "non-traditional carillons".

An instrument which is like a carillon but has less than 23 bells is called a chime. Several different types of playing mechanism are used in chimes, and the musical capabilities are distinctly less. However, the quality of those bells need not be less, and indeed there have been many instances where good-quality chimes were eventually enlarged to become carillons. Although chimes are found in as many parts of the world as carillons are, there was a uniquely American development of them in the 19th century. About 700 are known in North America, and more than 500 in the rest of the world; they can also be found through the Tower Directory.

Norwood's Fifty-Bell Memorial Carillon was cast by Gillett and Johnston, Bellfounders,

Croydon, England and, together with the Norwood Memorial Building and Tower, was dedicated on Armistice Day, November 11, 1928. The instrument was a gift to his fellow townspeople from the late Walter F. Tilton, a prominent local banker and civic leader.

The Carillon Concert Series is sponsored by the Town of Norwood and by special gifts from the Norwood Women's Community Committee and from the family of Betsy Dobson, and by private donations to the Town's Carillon Fund.

Visit the The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America (GCNA) to learn more about Norwood's unique musical treasure.





## **Register O'Donnell Reports Mortgage Lending Continues Strong Showing in June**

Continuing a trend seen over the past several months, Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported a significant increase in mortgage lending in Norfolk County during the month of June 2020.

"The month of June saw 4,192 mortgages recorded, a 68% increase year over year," Register O'Donnell noted. "Additionally, total mortgage borrowing rose 20% to \$1.5 billion. These strong numbers reflect homeowners and businesses alike taking advantage of low interest rates to not only buy property but refinance existing mortgages. With interest rates remaining at historically low levels, I do not see this level of mortgage activity dropping in the short term."

In contrast to the impressive lending numbers seen in Norfolk County, real estate sales, both residential and commercial, fell 15% during the month. Also, the average real estate sales price fell 4% to \$795,240. Additionally, total dollar real estate sales decreased 27% to \$757 million.

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"The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a negative impact on the real estate sales numbers seen in Norfolk County," Register O'Donnell said. "However, with the economy reopening and some of those economically impacted returning to work, I am hopeful we will see an uptick in real estate sales activity."

The month of June saw six foreclosure deeds recorded against Norfolk County property. However, due to a statewide moratorium placed on initiation of foreclosures and evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, there were 0 Notice to Foreclose Mortgages, the first step in the foreclosure process, recorded during the month.

"While the majority of foreclosure activity has been suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, we at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds are proud to partner with two nonprofit organizations that counsel and assist those struggling with foreclosure," Register O'Donnell said. "The groups are Quincy Community Action Programs, 617-479-8181, x376, and NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, 508-587-0950. These organizations are available to help anyone who has received a Notice to Foreclose Mortgage from a lender or is struggling to make mortgage payments. Another option is to contact the Massachusetts Attorney General's Consumer Advocacy and Response Division (CARD) at 617-727-8400. Each of these programs are staffed by knowledgeable professionals. Anyone who is facing a foreclosure issue would be wise to avail themselves of these excellent programs."

During June, a total of 1,048 Homesteads were recorded, a 20% decrease from June, 2019. Register O'Donnell continues to reflect the importance he places on homeowners having a Homestead recorded against their primary residence.

"The Homestead law provides limited protection against the forced sale of a homeowner's primary residence to satisfy unsecured debt up to \$500,000," Register O'Donnell explained. "I urge Norfolk County homeowners to consider this important consumer protection tool."

"Having the Registry of Deeds remain open for business during the COVID-19 pandemic has allowed the Norfolk County real estate market to stay viable,' Register O'Donnell said. "While our building has remained closed to the general public, Registry staff, by utilizing social distancing, working split shifts, and in some cases working remotely, has been able to continue the important work of recording land documents. This has allowed impacted homeowners to buy and sell property and lending institutions to provide needed funds to homeowners and businesses alike. Recording fees and deeds excise monies collected have been used by state, county and local governments to help fund many critical programs including education and health care.

We urge our institutional users to continue utilizing electronic recording. Please note we also continue to receive land documents for recording from both regular mail and Federal Express. Additionally, a drop-off box in front of our main entrance at 649 High St., Dedham, continues to be available for those individuals who want to bring their land documents to the Registry for recording.

> **REGISTER** tinued on page 17

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<sup>66</sup>Paul was extremely helpful in helping us find and purchase our first home. As a young couple, Paul knew when to give us space to make our decisions and when to step in and play the dad card. When asking to see certain properties, he often would suggest additional comps that we should look at, some of which hadn't even hit the market yet, which is how we found our new property.

Paul was always quick to respond to all of our numerous questions and walked us through the whole process from start to finish. I'm sure we will use him again when we look for our next home.!<sup>27</sup> – Jen R

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#### REGISTER

continued from page 16

A review of land document recording data during the month of June tells us how critical low interest rates have been in the increase of mortgage recordings seen in Norfolk County. There is no indication interest rates will be rising anytime soon. If a successful reopening of the Massachusetts economy can be completed during the next few months, I believe there are some who will again consider entering the real estate market to buy or sell property.

Please know I am proud of the work done by the Registry of Deeds employees. This work has allowed the Norfolk County real estate economy to remain open for business. I also know our work could not be done without the patience and cooperation of Norfolk County residents and our users while this pandemic has been ongoing. We are confident we can continue our important work during the pandemic and are hopeful for a brighter future. Be healthy. Be safe."

To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives, like them at facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds or follow on twitter.com/Norfolk-Deeds and/or Instagram.com/ NorfolkDeeds.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High St., Dedham. The Registry is a resource for homeowners, title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities and others with a need for secure, accurate, accessible land record information. All land record research information can be found on the Registry's website www.norfolkdeeds.org. Residents in need of assistance can contact the Registry of Deeds Customer Service Center at (781) 461-6101, or email registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.



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## Have You Even Noticed?

#### By Bella Caggiano

We pay them every month. These colorful envelopes are enclosed with our monthly water/ sewer, electrical, and cable bills. If you are like many people, you likely pay them at different times of the month, so, who has given any thought to the different colored envelopes?

Each service is designated by colored envelope: green for

water/sewer, blue for electric, and yellow for Norwood Light Broadband. While the hues are festive, there is a strategy behind the process. All payments are circulated through Norwood Light Broadband (NLB), and according to NLB Superintendent Tim Collins, these envelopes are sent in bulk directly to the bank and this process helps in streamlining payments directly to the proper departments.

These self-addressed payments can be mailed through the post office, or, residents can use the convenient drop-off box located in the parking lot behind Town Hall on Central St. This option was initiated in 2014 and can receive utility bills as well as property and excise tax payments. No need for postage when utilizing this option, which also adds up if residents mail three bills per month!

The 'Town Mailbox' is easily accessible at the inner circle of the parking lot and has a drive-up shoot to allow easy depositing directly from the car. No parking at Town Hall? Simply use the box. Pouring rain with kids in the car? Simply use the box!

Payment options are still available in person at Town Hall or at the NLB office which recently relocated to 136 Access Rd. Residents need to remember is that this service is for Norwood-related payments only and cannot be used to mail items intended for the United States Postal Ser-



vice, which is why no stamp is required. It is emptied every morning by town personnel daily. An important note: if a bill is due that same day, residents must make their payments personally or they will incur a late fee. A bill is not considered paid until it is received and processed.

Even those who traditionally pay their bills online may find this service very helpful. It's prob-



ably happened to everyone where the bill is due but there are just not enough days available to pay it on time. With this service, residents can drop off their payment on their way to work and forget it....and still save the cost of that stamp!



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