I localtownpages I loca

Vol. 11 No. 6

Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

PRSRT STD ECRWSS U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** PERMIT NO. 142 SPRINGFIELD, MA

Postal Customer Local

January 2021

The Voice of Your Community

2020: What A Year!

Tales of the year 2020 around the world, the country, and right here in Norwood will certainly be remembered and described as 12 months of uncertainty, turmoil, and eventful. The following excerpts are just a taste of what hit our front pages each month. To read the articles in their entirety, visit www.localtownpages/papers/norwood.

January

Norwood Police Collect AAA Traffic Safety Awards

Congratulations to Norwood Police Chief William G. Brooks III and Sgt. Timothy M. McDonagh on their awardsw at the Annual AAA Community Traffic Safety Awards luncheon on November 15, 2019. Chief Brooks was awarded the AAA Northeast Gold Award – its highest award – for the Norwood Police Department's outstanding achievement in traffic safety and continuing efforts to educate and protect the citizens of Norwood. Sgt. McDonagh was awarded the

Traffic Safety Hero of the Year award for his efforts to implement and coordinate various grant programs related to traffic safety.

According to Mark Schieldrop of AAA Northeast, 33 awards were given to local Traffic Safety Heroes and police departments that year.

"The individual award winners are nominated by police chiefs who are asked to nominate officers or community members who show strong commitment to traffic safety issues and have a record of enforcement and community engagement on issues like drunk and impaired driving, pedestrian safety, child passenger safety, speeding, reckless driving and the like," Schieldrop said

February

New Digs for Light Department

When Norwood Municipal Light Department Superintendent James F. Collins, Jr., joined the department, one of the things he said he thought was needed was to "get the trucks indoors," for personnel safety, equipment longevity and faster response time. That was 1976. Today, a brand-spankingnew 29,985 square foot vehicle storage area has made this long-awaited need a reality.

The Norwood Light Department, which serves Norwood with electric, cable, high-speed internet and phone services, has consolidated the majority of its operations to 135 Access Rd. Move-in began on January 17. The only thing that will remain in the old building is the head-end broadband room - the room that houses all of the programming and equipment to service Broadband customers. The new building also centralizes the stock area for both electric light and cable needs in its 12,077 square foot warehouse. The vacated building on Central Ave. will be used by the Town for other needs.

WHAT A YEAR continued on page 2

Small Norwood Fire Reaps Large Consequences



By Donna Lane

On Tuesday, October 27, the Norwood Fire Department was called to investigate an odor of gas at the Norwood Commerce Center on Endicott Street. When they arrived, a tenant told the firefighters there was smoke in the building Sure

enough, the firefighters found heavy smoke on the second floor. The original fire was a small one, and when the fire department located it they were able to extinguish it with little difficulty. According to Norwood Fire Department

FIRE continued on page 3

Jack Madden



MANAGER'S SPECIAL

15% OFF Any Service Work

Up to \$100.00 in savings!

Jack Madden **Tork**

be combined with other specials or offers. Expires 1/31/21. Must present coupon upon arrival.

OIL & FILTER CHANGE includes up to 5 quarts of oil, *plus tax and disposal fee Jack Madden

combined with other specials or offers. Diesels, full synthetics and hybrids extra.

825 PROVICENCE HIGHWAY, NORWOOD, MA - ROUTE 1 - THE AUTOMILE jackmaddenford.com • Call 888-836-1758 for appointment



GILLOOLY Funeral Home

126 Walpole Street, Norwood, MA 02062 Phone: (781) 762-0174 • Fax: (781) 762-2818



Amanda J. LeBlanc - Funeral/Managing Director

A Service Family Affiliate of AFFS and Service Corporation International 206 Winter Street, Fall River, MA 02720 • 508-676-2454

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

from our family to yours...

Register for Our Next FREE Virtual Seminar

January 9 & February 13 at 1 p.m. Please RSVP to (781) 762-0174 by January 7 (for 1/9/2021) and by February 10 (for 1/13/2021)

www.gilloolyfuneralhome.com

WHAT A YEAR

continued from page 1

March

Calling all Norwood Businesses ... We Want To get To Know You!

Norwood has been known as a business-friendly community for many years. In its continuing efforts to promote local businesses, it has initiated Local Business Friday.

Joseph Collins, a relative newcomer to the Town's administrative roster, joined its ranks as a budget and management analyst in mid-July of 2019 by way of North Attleborough's town hall and that of Ashland, Virginia. In addition to his budget and management responsibilities, Collins manages the Town's social media platforms. He conceived the new Local Business Friday initiative in order to further promote Norwood businesses through the Town's multimedia presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

There are over 4,000 businesses in Norwood encompassing a wide variety of products and services. From

localtownpages **W**

Published Monthly
Mailed FREE to every home
in Norwood
Circulation: 14,595
households and businesses

Publisher

Chuck Tashjian

Send Editorial to:

editor@norwoodtownnews.com

Advertising Sales Manager

Jen Schofield 508-570-6544

Production & Layout

Michelle McSherry

Advertising Department

508-570-6544 jenschofield@localtownpages.com

Ad Deadline is the 15th of each month.

Localtownpages assumes
no financial liability for errors or
omissions in printed
advertising and reserves the
right to reject/edit advertising
or editorial submissions.

© Copyright 2021 LocalTownPages

business and professional services, personal care services, legal and financial services, to retail, restaurants, health care, education, arts and entertainment, sports and recreation, transportation, automotive, construction, real estate, home improvement and maintenance services such as carpenters, plumbers, electricians, painters, decorators, landscapers and locksmiths. All of Norwood's businesses, large and small, commercial and industrial, are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Interested? This is how it works. Business owners or branch managers must complete an application which asks that you provide basic information about your business as well as the reasons why you would like to participate. The application can be found on the Town's website at: www.norwoodma. gov/Local%20Business%20 Friday%20Application%20Fillable.pdf. Once Collins receives the application, he will contact the business owner/manager to set up a time for a brief interview. That's all there is to it!

April

Norwood Prepares for Coronavirus

The Town of Norwood is one small slice of the nation working to contain and eliminate the coronavirus (COVID-19), but that part of the pie is essential to its residents to stay healthy while attempting to proceed through life's daily tasks and pleasures. So what has Norwood been doing?

The crisis hit very close to home when Norwood Town Manager was tested positive for the virus on March 9 after being exposed from a local fundraiser. The Norwood school superintendent was also exposed, but as of this writing, no positive test was released.

On March 16, Norwood an-

nounced that Town Hall and municipal services would be closed through March 20.

On March 16, Norwood Public Schools also made an announcement following a mandate from Massachusetts Governor Baker that all Norwood schools would be closed through at least April 7. This is the information available to this newspaper as of this writing on March 17, but for complete up to date reports on local restrictions and closings, and state and national statistics on the coronavirus, visit Norwood's town website at www. norwoodma.gov, www.norwood. k12.ma.us, www.ma.gov, and cdc.gov.

May

Local Businesses React to Covid-19

The world is currently enduring a time of unprecedented challenges due to the emergence of the Covid-19 virus. It continues to affect all ages, nationalities, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

When the virus first emerged in Wuhan, China in 2019, it seemed like a faraway problem. Nevertheless, in early March of 2020, the pandemic hit close to home when 11 of Norwood's town officials were exposed.

On March 31, Governor Baker issued an order for the closure of non-essential businesses and organizations for in-person operations. These businesses span every industry including retail, hospitality, goods and services etc.

Norwood businesses are giving back to the community and staying strong to support one another.

"Ever since closing our doors to be part of the solution, we donated our unused face masks to front line staff and Norwood Hospital," Swan Thang, Sky Spa nail salon owner said. According to an estimate by the Department of Health and Human Services, in the United States alone, fighting the coronavirus will consume 3.5 billion face masks. Still in early March, Alex Azar, secretary of health and human services, testified that there are only about 40 million masks in the stockpile — around 1 percent of the projected national need.

June

Making a Global Difference

Norwood residents heavily rely on the Department of Public Works which manages the Winter Street Recycling Center. Some changes were made in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The hours of operation are still Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for disposal of leaves, brush, and cardboard. No other items will be accepted until further notice.

Textiles to recycle can be dropped them off at the boxes located at all Norwood schools and at the Savage Center at 275 Prospect St. If the school boxes are full, you are asked not to leave your bags on the ground and not to put the items into the regular trash. The simple recycling (pink bags) service for collecting textiles will be resurrected at some point in the future.

Free compost is available at the Recycling Center. This compost is made from the leaf and grass donations made by residents each season. Last year, Norwood implemented a Residential Food Scrap Program to help keep food scraps out of regular trash and support overall recycling objectives.

According to the DPW, trash and recycling collection and disposal costs are determined by the amount of weight we put into our respective carts each week. "Each year, Norwood residents throw away over 1,100 tons of food scraps into the trash costing taxpayers over \$200,000. Every

year!!" That's a lot of waste every year when the money can be better spent on schools, roads, and other necessary programs.

July

Trust & Policing in Norwood

By now, we have all learned about the death of George Floyd at the hands (or knee) of a Minneapolis police officer while three other officers looked on. and the ensuing demonstrations, some of which became violent. As a result, there have been calls for defunding, disbanding, restructuring police departments and removing the special immunity to personal prosecution that police officers are afforded, all of which has been front page news for several weeks displacing news of the COVID-19 pandemic and other high interest news such as the upcoming presidential election.

In light of all this, I interviewed Norwood Police Chief William G. Brooks III to find out what kind of training the Norwood Police Department (NPD) receives and how he felt about recent events.

When I first watched the video of George Floyd's death I wasn't really prepared for just how long it would go," Chief Brooks said. "Watching it on my computer I found myself saying 'get him up, get him up.' There is a procedure for when a handcuffed person becomes compliant, that you first roll him to a sitting position and then roll him into a standing position. Our officers have all been taught how to do that. It made me nauseous to watch the officer keep his knee pressed on Mr. Floyd's neck until he died. And I was appalled by the arrogance he displayed."

Many times, when a use of force event is in the media, it is discussed within the NPD. These discussions take a number of

WHAT A YEAR continued on page 4



For advertising and insert rates, please call Jen at 508-570-6544 or email: jenschofield@localtownpages.com

FIRE

continued from page 1

Chief George T. Morrice, "It was pretty much kept in check by the sprinkler system."

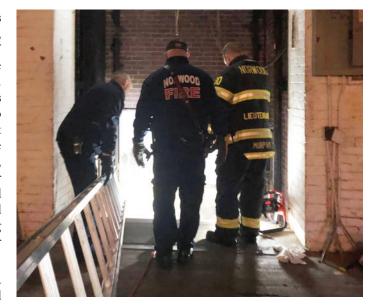
However, the Chief noted that the firefighters had a hard time reaching the fire because of clutter and improper modifications to the building and needed 350-feet of additional hose to get to the fire to put it out. A walk-through the building by the Chief found conditions that didn't meet life safety or building codes and Norwood's Building Commissioner, Matthew Walsh, was called to the scene.

The following day, Walsh went back to the site with the electrical inspector, plumbing inspector, and the fire department, and did a walk-through of buildings 23 through 26 (considered the main building) where numerous building, electric, plumbing, and fire issues were discovered. Chief Morrice and Walsh noted that all of the building issues needed to be addressed before the Center could be opened again and a cease and desist order was issued by Walsh.

Any number of the violations - fire, building, electrical, health, plumbing, and zoning, all of which were found - would have been reason to close the building. One of the most egregious was an autobody repair shop operating out of the basement of the building, housing multiple cars, motorcycles, boats, flammable material, and other paraphernalia. The building had never been permitted or zoned for that purpose and the ceiling of the shop is not fire-rated for storing flammable materials.

Walsh said there was also a 25-seat theater on the second floor of the building that did not meet proper life safety or health requirements; several illegal bathrooms did not have adequate plumbing or ventilation; businesses selling food and alcohol without proper licenses; and several building projects that weren't permitted by the Town that didn't meet code or safety standards.

There were also a number of fire code violations, such as inadequate emergency lights and exit signs; obstructed exit paths, blocked and obstructed exit doors; inadequate and obstructed



fire suppression system; the fire alarm and fire suppression were not code compliant; there was unpermitted electrical work; and there was no record of inspections for multiple fire escapes. Walsh explained that according to the State building code, fire escapes are required to be inspected by a certified, licensed company every five years and there's no record of these inspections ever being done.

The Commerce Center, which is also home to the Winsmith Mill Market, was formerly an old tannery building which was converted into a variety of shops and businesses in 2012. The "building" actually has 14 different, individual structures that are all connected. The 150,000-square foot main structure houses buildings 23 through 26 which was issued the cease and desist order.

On November 14, there was another incident at the Commerce Center, but in a different building. An employee of the management company fell into an elevator shaft and the fire department had to be called. [As



of this date, the man is in rehab and on the road to recovery.]

"We had to bring in technical rescue to excavate the gentleman and then bring him to the hospital," Chief Morrice said. "When we went into that building, we found even more violations."

Once again, Norwood's Building Commissioner was called to investigate. Walking through the building to check that

FIRE continued on page 7





RECENT NORWOOD TRANSACTIONS

112 213 113	
131 ARNOLD ROAD	\$403,000
15 St. James Ave.	\$460,000
28 Lynwood Dr	\$453,000
19 Monroe St	\$425,000
34 Azalea Drive	\$465,000
34 North Ave	\$501,600
728 Neponset St	\$550,000
99 6Th St	\$489,000
11 Arnold Rd	\$525,000
26 Cranmore Road	\$527,500
79 Audubon Rd	\$520,000
64 Devon Rd	\$560,000
299 Railroad Ave	\$545,000
99 Edgehill Rd	\$575,000
84 Bornwood Dr	\$599,000
21 Cushing Road	\$700,000
3 Cushing Rd	\$645,000
53 Pilgrim Drive	\$700,000
333 Dean St	\$684,900
444 Prospect Street	\$699,900
16 Marlboro Street	\$795,000
19 Langdon Rd	\$1,000,000
228 Rock St U:228	\$285,000
27 Saint James Avenue U:1-9	1 /
70 Endicott Street U:1203	\$480,000
70 Endicott Street U:1207	\$509,000
70 Endicott Street U:1602	\$535,000
70 Endicott Street U:1206	\$543,000
70 Endicott U:506	\$534,000
44 Chapel Ct	\$650,000
256 Lenox Street	\$660,000
17-19 Crescent Avenue	\$685,000



BOB STARR

781-762-3701

bob@bobstarrhomes.com



Happy New Year! from our family to yours

Interest rates are at an all time low.
The market is very busy and I'm
here to help if you're thinking
of either buying or selling your
home or Condo

Give me a call anytime!!

Your Norwood Realtor

WHAT A YEAR

continued from page 2

forms. Sometimes a policy is reissued to officers pointing out the aspect of Norwood's policy that would have addressed the event.

"We have discussions within the Command Staff around policy and training issues, and whether we should make adjustments," Chief Brooks explained. "Officers also discuss the incident among themselves. And we bring the issue up at roll call. What our officers recognized was a clear failure to intervene. They know that they have a duty to intervene when they see a use of force that is starting to get unreasonable."

All Norwood officers have also been trained in Procedural Justice. Police misconduct and use of force have come under increasing scrutiny and public attention. The procedural justice model of policing, which emphasizes transparency, explaining policing actions, and responding to community concerns, has been identified as a strategy for decreasing the number of interactions in which

civilians experience disrespectful treatment or the unjustified use of force.

August

A Storm Like No Other

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.

ROOFING WINDOWS SKYLIGHTS SIDING

We won't soak you to keep you warm and dry!

With complete job. Please ask for details.

1st Responders Receive a \$250.00 Amazon Cift Card

MARIO'S QUALITY

ROOFING
SDING WINDOWS

Call 781-344-2420
to set up a consultation!

TELLINE BURGER

MARIO'S QUALITY

ROOFING
SDING WINDOWS

Call 781-344-2420
to set up a consultation!

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 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 50plus 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.

September

The Corner of Cottage and Nichols

He's been called 'Martini Man', 'Cat-man-do' and, 'The Earl of Norwood', but his given name is Steven Paradis. He's been a Norwood resident for 12.5 years and lived in the same house at the corner of Cottage and Nichols the whole time.

His habit of wandering the neighborhood with a martini while walking a cat didn't begin in Norwood. It started years earlier while living in Boston's Back Bay during a particularly stressful time in his life. He said that he and his cat Otter, who is no longer with him, walked up and down the street every afternoon. Paradis is by nature a very gregarious man and thoroughly enjoys meeting and talking with people. During our interview, many passersby waved or called greetings to him.

While sipping and observing on the corner, Paradis said he has gotten to know a lot of Norwood residents. "People stop by all of the time," he said. He especially enjoys the company of a retired physicist in his mid-80s who drops by every 10 days or so and stays to chat for about an hour.

"This corner here is the nicest place in Norwood," Paradis said. "And my neighbors are amazing!"

October

Sirens Active with Summer Heat

The Norwood Fire Department (NFD) has been very busy during the months of July, August, and September. With two weeks to go this month, there have been 29 fires that our NFD firefighters have extinguished. Thirteen of those fires were mulch fires.

"The extremely dry summer season with not a lot of precipitation made conditions conducive to mulch fires this year," Norwood Fire Chief George T. Morrice said.

The other fires involved buildings, vehicles, and a dumpster.

From the end of July to the end of August, there were three house fires and a flames erupted at the Certain Teed Plant on August 29th. According to the department's Facebook page, the process of making roof shingles

is very dangerous and can often start fires. Because of this, the Norwood Fire Department and CertainTeed have formed a close relationship over the years. Once a year, at minimum, they conduct a familiarization tour and preincident planning of the site with site supervisors.

An interesting fact about the plant is they are one of the few factories left that still employ a fire brigade. A majority of these fires can be handled by the CertainTeed Fire Brigade who are both workers at the plant and trained in fire suppression.

"Firefighters have come to know that there are not many false alarms that come from their location at 1077 Pleasant Street," Morrice said. "If an alarm or a phone call is received, there is a fire and it is bigger than the fire brigade can handle. It is for this reason that a full first alarm assignment of two Norwood Engines and Ladder, both ambulances, and a mutual aid Walpole Engine is dispatched on the receipt of a call."

Thankfully, this fire was put out within two hours and there were no injuries.

Asked if the fires seemed to be increasing this year, Chief Morrice looked at the data from the same period of July through September for 2017 through 2020. In 2017 there were 30 fires, in 2018 there were 23 fires, in 2019 there were 21 fires and, as of September 16, 2020 there have been 29 fires. Data was not readily available as to the types of fires for the previous years, but it would appear that the trend is up and that the dry summer season and lack of rain has contributed to this year's increase.

November

Every Day Should be Small Business Saturday

Holiday shopping, already? It always sneaks up on me! You couldn't entice me to shop on Black Friday, nor do I choose to order gifts via the internet on Cyber Monday. But, I would definitely venture out on Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, to do a bit of shopping.

Before you "click to check out" on Amazon, consider the plight of local businesses that

WHAT A YEAR

continued from page 4

were already struggling to compete with Amazon ahead of the lockdown. Consider that they pay local taxes which benefits our community. Does Amazon help our local economy? The answer is a resounding NO! In fact, aside from tax avoidance (they make billions of dollars but paid no federal income tax for two years in a row), Amazon has a dubious track record on many issues including workers' rights and the environment. So, do you really need to make that purchase on Amazon or can you use your money in a way that benefits the community? Shopping locally and early will help secure jobs, too.

If you have not been shopping in downtown Norwood recently, you might want to give it a try. Despite a few empty storefronts, there are a number of vital businesses just waiting to give you the personal service that is missing at the mall and on-line. In fact, there are more than 100 shops within a 16-block radius that would welcome your business.

But holiday shopping is not what sustains a business, and many Norwood businesses are available for your everyday needs such as prescriptions and other pharmacy items offered by the Norwood Pharmacy on Broadway who says that they accept all Medicare-D plans and Masshealth and offer lower prices than CVS or Walgreens, and more specialized services such as the state-of-the art A&E Driving School which is licensed by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and offers driver training for all ages.

Small business owners pride themselves on their personal service. We don't get that at the malls. And we certainly don't get it shopping on line. But, one day of sales is not going to sustain any business. Small Business Saturday is a great idea, but if we want to help our downtown and local businesses grow and thrive, we need to patronize them regularly. So, shop locally and often, not just on Small Business Saturday. It's a win for them and for us when we do!!

Whether you are looking for someplace to eat, shop, or get pampered, there are many goods and services available to you in Norwood. For a list of local businesses, visit the Friends of Norwood Center Facebook page at https://www.norwoodcenter.org/

December

Fallen Soldiers Remembered with Wreaths Across America

Spending time with family and friends during the holidays is what warms the heart. However, many people spend this time remembering those they have lost. Many of those loved ones were in America's armed forces, and what better way to truly embrace the seasonal spirit than to honor the heroes through Wreaths Across America (WAA) who gave up their lives so Americans could continue to live in peace and harmony.

Norwood is paying tribute to those veterans for a third year with Wreaths Across America, a national movement to honor those who are often forgotten. The mission is to REMEMBER fallen U.S. Veterans, HONOR those who serve, and TEACH your children the value of freedom by coordinating wreathlaying ceremonies with Arlington National Cemetery. More than 1,600 locations in all 50 U.S. states participate.

Norwood donations have increased each year and local coordinator Andrea Reed is turning to the local community again to assist with funding to place wreaths of local service men and women's graves at Highland and Old Parish Cemeteries. In past years, there was a public ceremony for the dedication, however, due to COVID restrictions, participation unfortunately is limited. With these constraints, the focus of this year's event is donations. Last year, 195 wreaths were delivered; 45 were donated by Ecolab (local coordinator Andrea Reed's employer), 35 were donated by Grace Baptist Church, and 115 were generous donations!

"We are going to try to live stream the event to include those who would have loved to volunteer so that they are able to participate at home, if they choose," Reed said. "The Colonial Pipers played bagpipes to start and end the event and John Mahoney (Boston Symphony Orchestra) played taps. The whole event was impactful and moving and we are inviting them to play again this year."











It's Never Been More Important or Easier to Create or Update Your Estate Plan

Estate Planning is more important now than ever before, and luckily it's never been easier to implement an estate plan.

Do you know who would make healthcare or financial decisions for you if you lost capacity? Who would care for your children? These are some of the important decisions an estate planning attorney can help you navigate. And for the first time in Massachusetts, you can complete your estate plan with an attorney virtually, from home.

Under emergency orders issued this spring, law firms in Massachusetts have the ability to witness and notarize estate planning documents virtually, so you

can stay warm, safe and healthy and gain the peace of mind that comes with providing guidance, direction and securing your legacy for your family.

After you've reached the age of 18, no one automatically has the authority to make health or financial decisions for you, not even a spouse. It is essential that you have the legal documents in place naming a person or people who can make decisions on your behalf. These disability planning documents, the Durable Power of Attorney, the Health Care Proxy/Living Will, the HIPAA Authorization form an essential part of your estate plan.

Almost half of Americans 55+ don't have a will, and data shows that these Americans are

at the greatest risk for serious complications and death from COVID-19. Younger Americans are less likely to have a will, but because the pandemic has impacted people of all ages, its essentials for everyone to create or update their estate plan, no matter your age. Estate planning is essential whether or not there is a pandemic, but they are critical to have now.

Having a will and or trust in place allows you to control who manages your assets and cares for your loved ones if you lose capacity or pass away. You're able to designate guardianship for minor children and provide guidance for their care.

If you have an estate plan in place, it's essential that you

review it and update it to reflect your current wishes and the current law. 86% of estate plans don't work when you need them to. Common reasons are that the plans are outdated, failing to keep up with the law, or failing to have the right people in positions of authority. If your will or trust is 15 years old, just think about all the things that have changed in your life in the last 15 years! Add to that changes in the law and you're in need of an update for sure.

Our office is offering virtual webinars to learn more about estate planning and how it can help you meet your goals and objectives, protect your legacy and help your family. We also offer virtual (and limited in-person) consultations to understand more about your goals and objectives and implement or update your estate plan.

This is a paid advertisement by Dennis Sullivan & Associates

Part-time Accountant/Bookkeeper Needed

Small privately held company located in Norwood, MA which supplies electrical services to area residential and commercial locations needs a Part-time Accountant/Bookkeeper to assist with the following:

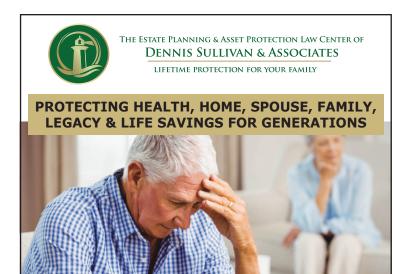
- Record Time Sheets by Job / Location worked
- ■Confirm sum of Job wages equals gross payroll paid
- Prepare weekly payroll journal entries and post to Company's QuickBooks
- Reconcile payroll bank account to QuickBooks payroll cash account
- Post credit card purchases by job / location
- Voucher Credit Card statement totals
- Reconcile credit card liability account to CC statements
- Some invoice filing and record keeping required

Expect to work at least one 8 hour day per week.

An Associate's Degree in Accounting would be useful, but not required.

SPearsonElectric

If interested, please send resume to: stephen@spearsonelectric.com



PROPER PLANNING PREVENTS

- Time & money wasted on probate
- The government controlling decisions for your family
- Public exposure of your personal affairs
- Losing your life savings to nursing home costs
- Completely unnecessary Mass Taxes
- Surprises on the elder care journey

TO RECEIVE YOUR FREE DISCOVERY SESSION AND PERSONALIZED CONSULTATION CALL 781-237-2815

Trust & Estate Planning • Elder Law & Medicaid Probate & Trust Administration



781-237-2815 www.DSullivan.com











Pergolas

Retaining Walls

Water Features

LandscapeDesign &Installation

Lawn Installation

508-376-2815



Grading

Free Estimates • Fully Insured www.WenzelLandscaping.com





Become a Hydrant Hero

A typical fire engine carries just over 700 gallons of water. In a fire, this lasts only a matter of minutes. After that a water supply from a fire hydrant is needed. If that hydrant is buried under a mountain of snow it can delay extinguishment of the fire costing property and even lives.

Become a Norwood Hydrant Hero and adopt the hydrant closest to your house and send us a picture of you "digging in" and be entered to win a Norwood Fire Prize Pack. Drawing will be later in the winter/early spring.



FIRE

continued from page 3

the elevator doors were secured, Walsh noted numerous other code violations in this building.

Accompanied once again by the electrical and plumbing inspectors, the fire department, and a representative from the fire marshal's office, Walsh inspected the remaining buildings on the property on November 17 and 19. Once again, they found numerous code violations and a great deal of unpermitted work that had been done in the building. The group determined that there were so many different violations that another cease and desist order for use and occupancy of the remainder of the buildings on the property was warranted. Walsh issued the order on November 24.

There are over 170 tenants in the Commerce Center which is home to a variety of small businesses, including antique shops, clothiers, photographers, artisans, furniture makers, musicians, and many other types of businesses. It's only open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and before the pan-

ENTERING

NORWOOD

demic did a brisk business on the weekends, drawing people from throughout the region. They had to close for a few months because of the pandemic, so business owners were looking forward to brisk Christmas sales. They are, needless to say, very disappointed.

What progress has been made toward reopening the businesses?

"As part of the cease and desist order, the owner of the Commerce Center is required to provide the building official with a Chapter 34 review (a Statemandated review) of existing conditions on each individual building," Walsh said. "They have done that on two buildings so far. And the owners have indicated that they intend to make the needed repairs to make the buildings code-compliant so their tenants can occupy the buildings again."

It will doubtless be a lengthy

Walsh explained the omission of town permits was the most egregious issues he discovered.

'To be honest, the thing that stood out the most was the amount of work that was being

done with no permits - no building permits, no electrical permits, no plumbing permits," Walsh said. "What they've done is subdivided the spaces that have created such hazardous situations that the fire department stated [and it was one of the bases for serving the cease and desist] that they would not send firemen into the building if there was an emergency because it was so subdivided it created hazardous conditions such that if firemen went in the building they may not get out – they'd get lost inside the building."

Just think. If that small fire and elevator mishap did not happen, people who rented space in the buildings and those who frequented the small businesses were all at risk of something potentially catastrophic happening. There are building, plumbing, electrical, and fire codes for a reason. And there are specialists who can advise on the proper methods for doing things. Pulling a permit may just keep you and your property safe and sound.

Add a Splash of Norwood Memorabilia and

History to Your Home

The Norwood Historical Society (NHS) offers a variety of Norwoodthemed accessories and historical books and items for sale. You can purchase ornaments, face masks, magnets, notecards, books, prints, and more through this local non-profit organization.

To view the NHS shopping site, visit https://norwoodhistoricalsociety.org/ shop/ or call 781-762-9197.





ARE YOUR TREES PROTECTED?

Plant Health Care

- Tree Spraying
- Fertilization
- Pest Management
- Injections

Tree Service

- Large Tree Removal
- Tree Pruning
- Cabling & Bracing
- Stump Grinding
- Crane & Bucket Service
- Storm Damage Clean-Up

24 hour emergency service – fully insured Locally owned and operated

CALL NOW

781-551-8733 www.pathfindertreeservice.com

Living Healthy

It's More Than Just a Click or A Pop!!!

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

of American's suffer from TMJ symptoms.

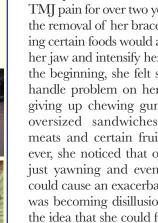
There are many causes of TMJ. These include dental procedures, autoimmune disease, biting into a large sandwich or bagel, injuries to the jaw area and infection. Once the biomechanics of the joint has been altered, the function becomes affected and the pain ensues. Traditional treatments include pain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

Stephanie P. suffered from TMJ pain for over two years since the removal of her braces. Chewing certain foods would aggravate her jaw and intensify her pain. In the beginning, she felt she could handle problem on her own by giving up chewing gum, eating oversized sandwiches, chewy meats and certain fruits. However, she noticed that over time, just yawning and even singing, could cause an exacerbation. She was becoming disillusioned with the idea that she could fix this on her own and decided to call The Holistic Center at Bristol Square and made an appointment with Dr. Goldstein.

Upon exam, Dr. Goldstein noticed the swing shift in Stephanie's jaw as she both opened and closed

her mouth, indicating a dysfunction in the biomechanics of her TMJ. After several weeks of treatment, the clicking and popping were gone and the swing in her jaw was stabilized. She no longer suffers from the TMJ pain and also noticed that the headaches she thought were unrelated had gone away as well.

If you are suffering from TMJ pain, do not hesitate to contact The Holistic Center at Bristol Square, located at 1426 Main Street, Walpole. Call (508) 660-2722 and make your appointment today. With the assistance from Dr. Goldstein, everyday tasks can be enjoyable again.





Dr. Rochelle Bien & Dr. Michael Goldstein

Speech-Language & Hearing
Associates of Greater Boston

Offering both Center-based and Tele-therapies

Serving the children, adolescents and adults of greater Boston for over 20 years

- Speech-Language Evaluations and Therapies-All ages
- Hearing Tests
- Custom Fit Hearing Aids and Service
- Occupational Therapy

Many of Our Services are Covered by insurance

5 North Meadow Rd, Medfield (508) 359-4532

30 Man-Mar Drive, Plainville (508) 695-6848

Early Intervention Therapy Post-Stroke and Parkinson Therapies **ABA-based Educational Therapy**

Visit our website: www.speechlanguageandhearingassociates.com

Victoria Haven

Exceptional Short Term Rehab!







- Post Surgical Rehab Respite Stays
- On Call Physicians 24 Hr Nursing Coverage

137 Nichols Street, Norwood MA • 781-762-0858 www.rehabassociates.com/victoriahaven

Looking advertise your business or inserts?

Contact Jen:

508 570 6544

Jenschofield@

localtownpages.com

Living Healthy

Senior News

The dedicated staff at the Norwood Senior Center have worked hard throughout the year to service and accommodate Norwood seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Center is open with limited programs but there are still activities and assistance available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The Norwood Senior Center is located at 275 Prospect St. For more information, call 781-762-1201 or visit www. norwoodma.gov/departments/ council_on_aging.

COVID-19 Procedures for the Norwood Senior Center

As we continue to open our doors, it is with great caution and guidance.

· Masks must be worn while indoors, we have plenty if you need one

- Social Distance while walking around the center
- · All socializing needs to be done outdoors at this time
- The Cafe will remain closed, we will provide coffee outdoors when weather
- No card games indoors at this
- No Bingo, line dance or dances allowed at this time:(
- Pre-register for all classes and outdoor programs
- Exercise classes will resume very slowly (see schedule) Max participants 15
- There will be 14 foot spaces marked for individuals to exercise
- The fitness room will be available for one person at a time-please sign up

- The computers will be available for use- 2 people at a time
- Stylus key chains will be provided to use for the My Senior Center Kiosk
- Please call and make an appointment with Trish, walk-ins are not allowed
- · Bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily
- Extra hand sanitizers have been placed around the center for your use
- If you do not feel well, please stay home and take care of vourself
- At any time, the center could close again so please keep in



I know this seems cold and uninviting but believe me it is for your safety. We have worked closely with the Department of Public Health to go over what we can and cannot do. I be-lieve if we practice all the suggested guidelines (wear a mask, social distance, wash your hands and stay home when sick) it will be safe to open our doors. We will do this very slowly and hope that we will be able to move forward at some point.

Affinity

use it or lose it

– don't let your –

insuránce

go to Waste

DECEMBER 31.

45 WALPOLE STREET

NORWOOD, MA 02062

 @affinitydentalma @affinitydentalinc

SUITE #4

(781)255-1100

"ARE YOU OK?"

The Norfolk County Sherriff's Office would like to introduce you to the "Are You Okay?" program. It is a free daily telephone program that checks on the well being of senior citizens or people with disabilities. You will receive a daily call to ask, "Are You Ok?" This pro- gram allows you the comfort and secu- rity needed to maintain independence and give you peace of mind.

Call now to register 1-866-900-7865

Coming soon

Town Meeting has approved an additional vehicle and parttime driver for the Council on Aging for medical appointments that are located in one of our neighboring towns. This service is planned to be up and running in January.

Dental

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 November 1 to April 30 annually.

For more information about Self Help, or to see their income eligibility and benefits guidelines, visit http://www.norwoodma.gov/government/town_manager/self_help_fuel_

If you are under age 60, call the General Mangers Office: 781-762-1240 to schedule an appointment.

If you are over age 60, call the Council on Aging Outreach worker at 781-762-1201 to schedule an appointment.

Our Combined Experience of 98 Years...You are in the Right Hands!









Therapy- 3 yrs







5 Liberty Lane, Norfolk, MA (across from Walgreens)

& Sports Rehab, Inc.

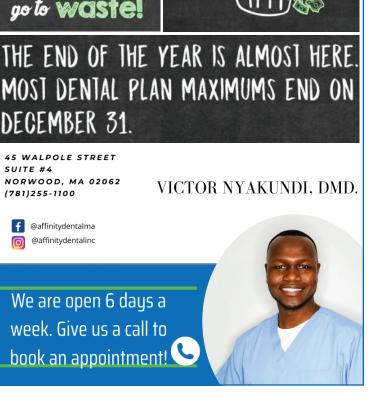
NORWOOD

Guild Medical Center, 825 Washington St., Suite 280, Norwood, MA

Physical Therapy

CALL: 781-769-2040





Donations Surge in Winter Accessories Drive

BY MICHELE TARANTO

The numbers continue to grow each year! In the 5th Annual Women's Business Network of Norwood (WBN) Winter



Clothing Drive, close to 1,000 pieces were donated, up from approximately 675 pieces in the 2019 event. The impressive flood of donations is just one example of why residents can truly call Norwood a community where neighbors come together and the word community is taken to heart.

In addition to the extreme generosity of Norwood residents, WBN members would like to thank the following businesses for hosting a donation box in their establishments: Murph's





Place, 58 Broadway, Norwood; the Vanderbilt Club, 45 Vanderbilt Ave., Norwood; As Good As It Gets Café, 1210 Prov.-Hgwy. (behind Petco), Norwood; Brookside Café, 1260 Washington St., S. Norwood; Clean Remodel LLC, 50 River St., Dedham, and Linda's Loot Antiques, 1121 Washington St., S. Norwood. Contributions were so generous that boxes quickly filled up and multiple trips were required by WBN members to make room for those cold-weather accessories. Also, the students at the League School of Greater Boston, in Walpole, did a tremendous job festively decorating each box and printing flyers to promote the campaign.



The drive was held Nov. 1-Dec. 1, but from the abundance of homemade items that were donated, it was clear many residents were busy throughout the year in preparation for the event, including the crafters at the Norwood Senior Center. This year the boxes were also plentiful with brand new items purchased and donated to this yearly event. To maintain safe COVID guidelines, hundreds of the donations to the Norwood Food Pantry were also individually bagged and tagged by WBN members (and their children) for ease of distribution.

In the first week of December, the WBN members offered their donations to the Norwood Food Pantry and the Home for Little Wanderers Thrift Shop, in Roslindale. Two \$100 checks were also given to present to each non-profit organization by a personal donation. Thanks to the benevolence of so many people, their local neighbors will not have to worry about staying warm during the cold, winter months.

WBN was formed six years ago and its participants include women who work or live in and around Norwood. Shadowing their tagline, Connect, Refer, and Support, the members strive to

support each other and their businesses through referrals, advice, consultations, and linking business connections. Their chapter also consider it vitally important to give back to the community that supports their businesses throughout the year through community service projects.

Current WBN members include Michele Taranto, Real Living Suburban Lifestyle; Beth Levine, Hearing Care Solutions; Kandi Finch, All Chores Considered; Wendy Aimola, New York Life Insurance Co.; Ellen Connors,, Shamrock Financial Corp., Kim Burke, Home Helpers; Catherine Good, Law Office of Catherine Becker Good; Maria Levin, Maria Levin PC; Mencia Quinonez, Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant; Laurie Shea, Cause and Events; Kyeana Jones, Kyeana Jones Photography; and Jen Schofield, Local Town Pages.

WBN is currently accepting members. Only one representative per industry. For more information on WBN, email wb-nofnorwood@gmail.com, or call 781-799-7068.



Deportations • Citizenship • Visas • Petitions
Telephone: 617-874-8563 • Email: crbello@comcast.net
705 Washington Street, Norwood, MA 02062

Llamar antes para su consulta legal. | Call Ahead for your Legal Consultation.

A Public Service Announcement from the Town of Norwood

Fall & Winter Commercial & Residential Pollution Prevention Information

What is Pollution Prevention?

A combination of activities that reduce or eliminate the amount of possible chemical contaminants at the business or residential property from entering the environment of waste system. A successful plan will consider the usage of raw materials, water energy, an d other resources more efficiently. In addition, substitute less harmful substances for more hazardous ones.

Importance of Pollution Prevention

The municipal storm water system was designed to carry runoff water efficiently away from roads and buildings. These systems deliver the runoff to ponds, lakes, and streams. Since our storm drain system does not have a built-in treatment, whatever gets into our storm drains, also gets into our environment, with potential to damage our local ponds and streams.

Benefits

Economic benefits include greater business efficiency, increased competitiveness, and reduced costs for regulatory monitoring and compliance, preventing the generation of waste can reduce or eliminate the long term liabilities, clean-up storage, and disposal costs.

For advertising and insert rates, please call Jen: 508-570-6544 or email: jenschofield@

localtownpages.com

Protect the local environments and everyone's water.

Low Impact Development (L.I.D.)

L.I.D. refers to systems and practices that use or mimic natural processes that result in the infiltration, filtering, storing, evaporating, and detaining of storm water in order to protect water quality and associated aquatic habitat more natural and efficient.

What You Can Do

Preservation: keep as much of the existing soil and vegetation as possible.

Pervious Paving: alternative forms of asphalt and concrete paving allow rainwater to soak through paving rather than flow across to a storm water drain.

Vegetated Rooftop: assist in filtering pollutants and slowing down roof water runoff.

Rainwater Catchment Sys-

tem: installation of a rain barrel next to your home allows to collect rainwater; conserving it for future use in your yard and

Rain Garden: a shallow depression constructed in your yard which uses special soil mix and variety of plants. These gardens

RESIDENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Pet Waste

Pet waste contains harmful bacteria and excess nutrients and must be disposed of property.

Household Chemicals

It is necessary to recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil and fluids. Do not pour them into the ground or storm drains.

Reduce/Reuse/Recycle

- Use "green" products to eliminate toxic chemicals which increasing energy ef-
- One company's waste may be another's raw material.
- Compost food scraps, such as egg shells, fruits, vegetables, tea and coffe grinds.

Fall Clean-Up

Fallen leaves are loaded with natural fertilizer which can cause water pollution that harms people and animals.

- Never dump leaves in wetlands or waterways.
- Keep pavement and storm drains clear of leaves.
- Landscapers should properly dispose of waste.

ustice.gov/coronaviru

• Bag leaves in paper bags for disposal...or compost your vard waste.

COMMERCIAL POLLUTION

- Properly maintain any grease traps in your establishment in accordance with Norwood regulations.
- · Do not dispose of cooking oil and grease into sinks, floor drains, catch basins, or onto the ground.
- Wash garbage cans, floor mats, and the kitchen equipment in designated wash areas that drain to the sewer
- · Provide trash receptacles in highly visible locations.
- · Sweep outdoor areas daily for trash and litter control.
- · Keep the area surrounding a dumpster clean and the lid closed.

ROAD SALT PROBLEM

Improperly stored or excessive use of road salt can pollute public and private drinking water supplies.

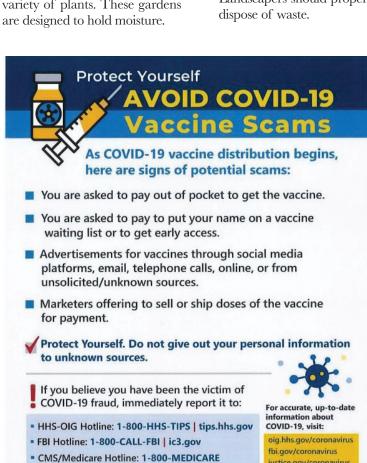
Salt Storage Best Management

- Store salt on a flat site with adequate space.
- Store on a pad (impervious/ paved surface).
- · Storage must have a roof and runoff containment system.

Safer Salt Practices

- Coarse sand is a cheap, more eco-friendly alternative to de-
- A liquid salt brine spreads more evenly, immediately starts working, and is safer for the environment.
- Excess salt will not be effective in de-icing and wash into storm water drains.
- Do not spread salt in rainy weather.

For more information on salt storage, visit www.mass.giv/ guides/guidelines-on-the-roadsalt-storage.





In these changing times, it is comforting to see some things don't change. Santa's elves were dressed as firefighters to put up the iconic sleigh! The Norwood Police & Fire Station always brings cheer to the holiday season!











AFFORDABLE TOWNHOUSE OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- NORFOLK MA -

One Two Bedroom Affordable Home Offered - \$200,000

Unit located at 15 Leland Road, Norfolk, MA 02056

Open House/Informational Session December 17, 2020 @ 7:30PM *masks are required*Z00M Link also available on application or call Susan Jacobson @ 508-440-2812

Applications accepted: Through January 14, 2020

Housing Lottery: January 18, 2021 @ 7PM via Zoom Please call Susan Jacobson @ 508-440-2812 for Zoom Information or see Zoom Links on application

Household of 1 - \$64,700, Household of 2 - \$77,000, Household of 3 - \$86,650, Household of 4 - \$96,250 APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE

Maximum Asset limit for this development \$75,000

Mortgage Pre-Approval Other Restriction Apply

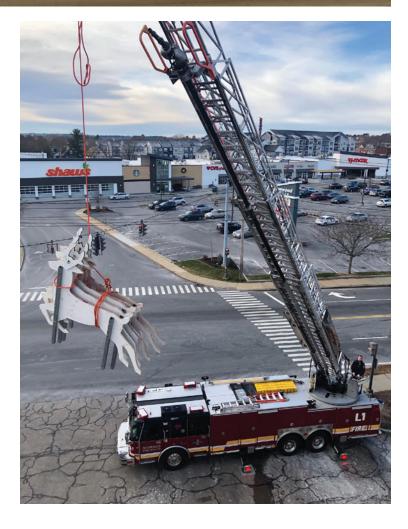
To apply, please contact

Susan Jacobson, Norfolk Municipal Affordable Housing Trust, 508-440-2812

Application can be found at www.norfolk.ma.us, under "What's New"

Application can be sent via scan, fax or can be picked up by contacting Susan Jacobson and making an appointment to pick up at Norfolk Town Hall by appointment only

email contact: sjacobson@norfolk.ma.us
Use and resale restrictions apply



Santa and Mrs. Clause made a special trip from the North Pole to Norwood on Dec. 12!

The annual visit took place at The Skating Club of Boston.

With volunteer photographer Janet Lui donating her time and talent proceeds from the event were donated to Norwood's Circle of Hope Foundation.



The Rezek family



The Clark family







Stop in and see our full line of Home Appliances
WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL



NORWOOD

1015 Washington St. **(781) 769-2446**

NEWTON

244 Needham St. **(617) 558-5500**



15% OFF PARTS

Limit one per customer.
Cannot be combined
with other offers.
In store purchases only.
Coupon must be presented
at purchase.

10% OFF SERVICE CALL

Limit one per customer.
Cannot be combined
with other offers.
In store purchases only.
Coupon must be presented
at purchase.

POIRIERSALES.COM

Read, Watch, Browse, at Home; for FREE!

By Michele Taranto

During these times of social distancing and quarantining, the Morrill Memorial Library has great opportunities to keep you entertained all winter. Their hours for browsing and limited services are Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., (8:30 -9:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays for seniors and at-risk individuals) and curbside pick-up for orders Monday-Saturday, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

For those looking for in-home or streaming solutions, there are many ways to enjoy books, movies, and magazines right in the comfort of your own home!

Hoopla

Hoopla provides Norwood residents free easy access to stream and temporarily download thousands of movies, TV shows, music albums, audiobooks, e-books, and comics. There is no waiting list or reserve process for these titles, and no late fees.

Tips to get started with Hoopla:

You'll need a valid library card and an email address.

Everyone can borrow up to 10 titles per month, and each title will list the exact borrowing time period.

It is recommended to download the hoopla digital app from the iTunes app store or Android market so you can download content on you smartphone or tablet and take it with you.

You can stream content directly to your home computer.

Visit hoopladigital.com and Sign Up to get started!

Have questions? Ask Brian DeFelice, the Technology Librarian, or Liz Reed, Adult Services Librarian, 781-463-0138.

Libby

Libby is a downloadable application that allows Morrill Library cardholders to listen to audiobooks or read e-books on their phone or tablet. You can use your library card to log-in and checkout books like you would with the Libby app. Some popular titles may require you to be put on a waiting list.

Tips to get started with Libby:

You'll need a valid library card and an email address.

Everyone can borrow up to 10 titles per month, and each title will list the exact borrowing time period. If you're also using the Overdrive app, be aware that you get 10 borrows per month between both apps, since they give you access to the same service.

It is recommended to download the Libby app from the iTunes app store or Android market so you can download content on you smartphone or tablet and take it with you.

Download the app, or visit the Libby app website and Sign Up to get started!

Have questions? Ask Brian DeFelice, the Technology Librarian, or Liz Reed, Adult Services Librarian, 781-463-0138.

Overdrive

The Overdrive app offers the same services that the Libby app offers, but Overdrive allows for streaming video, which currently, Libby does not. The Overdrive



app and the Libby app are both produced by Overdrive the company; Libby is their newer release and Overdrive is their older app.

Tips to get started with Overdrive:

You'll need a valid library card and an email address.

Everyone can borrow up to 10 titles per month, and each title will list the exact borrowing time period. If you're also using the Libby app, be aware that you get 10 borrows per month between both apps, since they give you access to the same service.

You can get the Overdrive app from the iTunes app store or Android market to download content on you smartphone or tablet and take it with you.

Download the app, or visit the Overdrive website and Sign Up to get started!

Have questions? Ask Brian DeFelice, the Technology Librarian, or Liz Reed, Adult Services Librarian, 781-463-0138.

Streaming Video On Demand

RB Digital offers an amazing selection of streaming video services for Norwood residents to enjoy! Get access to the best in British television, Spanish Language programming, Independent films, and much more. When you are ready to start watching, grab your library card, set up your account, and enjoy!

What you will need:

- library card
- email address
- internet connection

How it works:

When you select a streaming service by clicking on one of the pictures below, you will be prompted to enter your library card number. Then you will be brought to the RB Digital page. Register for an account using your email address. You can then "check out" a service for 7 days. You can check out a total of three services per 7 day period per library card.

Flipster Digital Magazines

The library is happy to offer Norwood residents access to digital magazines through Flipster. You can read a variety of titles

on your computer, smartphone or tablet.

Download the Flipster App for your iOS device through the Apple App Store or for Android devices through the Google Play

It's Not Too Late to Join Winter BINGO!

The Morrill Memorial Library is again holding Winter BINGO! There's no need to social distance from these literary characters - cuddling up with a few good books is the best way to make it through quarantine. Plus, reading books gives you a chance to win prizes, a win-win!

Reader's BINGO is open to everyone high school-aged or older. Any books you finish this winter can be included on your BINGO sheet, and each book can only be entered in a single box. BINGO goes from December 2020 through March 12, 2021.

BINGO sheets can be submitted to Liz Reed in Reference or email her a scan or photo of your sheet at the end of the contest. Turn them in even if you've only completed one or two rows - you might win!

BINGO sheets are available online at www.norwoodlibrary. org/borrow/winter-readingbingo/. Sheets must be returned by Friday March 12. Please contact Liz with any questions: lreed@minlib.net, 781-463-0137.



Can you guess who the **Grinch** is?

Never a grinch around Town! The guest Grinch is Norwood's one and only Norwood Recreation Superintendent Travis Farley!

Photo credit: Town Manager, Tony Mazzucco

Shade Tree Pruning • Tree Removal Ornamental Tree Pruning Bucket Truck Service

Call the certified arborists at **Destito Tree Services for an evaluation.**

The name you have trusted since 1984.

Massachusetts Certified Arborist - Fully Insured

OPERATED





Nicholas Destito 781-551-0266 508-699-4532

www.destitotreeservices.com

Will Norwood Become the Next High School Quiz Show Champion?

Boston public media producer GBH's High School Quiz Show today announced Season 12 of the popular academic competition series while also introducing new digital features to the fan experience, including an interactive play-along stream of Season 5 on Twitch and an Alexa skill voiced by High School Quiz Show host Billy Costa. The broadcast of Season 12 will air on GBH 2 and GBH's YouTube channel, while the innovative experiences on Twitch and Amazon Alexa devices provide opportunities for local, national, and international High School Quiz Show fans to engage with the show more interactively than ever before, including the chance to compete with other fans and past contestants.

High School Quiz Show is a bracket-style academic competition for teams of Massachusetts high school students, broadcast annually on GBH 2. Aside from Jeopardy!, High School Quiz Show is the most popular academic quiz show on American television. Over eleven previous seasons, more than 700 students from over 70 schools across the state have competed on the broadcast.

"As students across the Commonwealth and across the country have had to adjust to at-home learning this year, we are excited to introduce innovative ways to celebrate knowledge and include new audiences," said Jon Abbott, president and CEO of GBH. "This year, students and families will have the opportunity to test what they know against High School Quiz Show veterans in a fast-paced Twitch game week by week."

High School Quiz Show's Season 12 will kick off with the annual Super Sunday event, which will be held virtually on January 24th, 2021. Schools from across

the state will field teams of four students, tasked with taking an online quiz that covers a range of subjects, from literature and science to math, history and culture. The top 17 teams will move forward in Season 12, premiering on Saturday, April 3 at 6pm on GBH 2.

"High School Quiz Show is now a highly anticipated annual event for Massachusetts schools and communities to celebrate and showcase the academic prowess of their students," said GBH Executive Producer and Director of Youth Media Hillary Wells. "In a year in which the majority of academic and athletic competitions available to students have been compromised, delayed or cancelled, we are committed to rewarding existing and newly formed teams for their passion, dedication and teamwork. As High School Quiz Show coaches across the Commonwealth have stated in support of their students, 'the show must go on!'."

In addition to this year's televised tournament, High School Quiz Show has adapted the television broadcast of Season 5 for an interactive streaming experience on the GBH Twitch channel, which began on December 10th. Viewers everywhere are invited to participate and play along, allowing players to test themselves against peers and the Season 5 contestants as the broadcast streams. The multiple-choice games are streaming Mondays and Thursdays starting at 5pm ET at twitch.tv/gbhmedia.

Fans also will be able to play along from Amazon Alexa devices beginning in January by prompting a brand new Alexa skill, which will feature a new five-question category each week of the year, voiced by Costa.

For advertising and insert rates, please call Jen at 508-570-6544 or email: jenschofield@localtownpages.com



The deadline for Massachusetts high schools to register for Super Sunday is Friday, January 15. Schools interested in participating can register online at https://www.wgbh.org/quizshow/register.

High School Quiz Show is endorsed by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and the

Massachusetts PTA. Questions on the show are aligned with the Massachusetts high school curriculum standards in subjects that include literature, history, civics, science and math, as well as current events, and general knowledge. Major funding for *High School Quiz Show* is provided by Safety Insurance. Additional funding is provided by the Mu-

seum of Science, Massachusetts Teachers Association, XFINITY from Comcast, Eastern Bank, Emerson College and Subaru of New England.

For more information, visit highschoolquizshow.org and twitch.tv/gbhmedia and follow the show on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Happy New Year!

Contact me for a FREE evaluation

Put my 36+ years experience to work for you!



"As a long time real estate broker, I felt very confident in hiring Paul Keady to sell our home. His professionalism, his knowledge of the business and being there when we needed him, led to a quick sale and easy closing." – John C.

Paul G. Keady RE/MAX Real Estate Center

781-762-1945 Office **781-799-5099** Cell

pkeadyrealestate@gmail.com www.paulkeady.com The calendar was prepared a few weeks before the January 1 publish date. In consideration with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and state and federal guidelines 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

The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group will NOT hold its January monthly meeting. The tighter procedures governing the uptick in reported COVID-19 cases make it very difficult for us to comply. All families in the South Norfolk Area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones are welcome for future meetings. For further information call Ray at 508-668-2941.

January 1

Norwood schools and municipalities closed for the New Year's holiday.

January 2

Winter Street Recycling Facility 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Things to know before you go: Practice social distancing; Wear mask when outside of vehicle; Self - unload materials into proper container or front end loader; Leave area immediately. For information on obtaining a sticker, call 781-762-1413 or visit www.norwoodma.gov/departments/public_works/.

January 4

Norwood Schools Closed

Norwood schools closed for professional development day.

January 7

Virtual Craft Connection

Morrill Memorial Library-Zoom

7 p.m.

The Virtual Craft Connection now meets twice per month, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Get together to video chat while crafting and show off your latest projects and stay in touch. www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/. For more information, email Liz at Ireed@ minlib.net, or call 781-769-0200, X2.

January 9

Winter Street Recycling Facility

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Things to know before you go: Practice social distancing; Wear mask when outside of vehicle; Self - unload materials into proper container or front end loader; Leave area immediately. For information on obtaining a

NTN

sticker, call 781-762-1413 or visit www.norwoodma.gov/departments/public_works/.

January 11

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St.

1-6 p.m.

Donations Needed: Power Red: A Power Red donation collects the red cells but returns most of the plasma and platelets to the donor. These donors must meet specific eligibility requirements and have type A Neg, B Neg, or O blood.

Blood: The most common type of donation, during which approximately a pint of 'whole blood' is given. This type of blood donation usually takes about an hour.

January 12

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.

January 13

Norwood School Committee Meeting-Remote

7 p.m.

January 16

Winter Street Recycling Facility

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Things to know before you go: Practice social distancing; Wear mask when outside of vehicle; Self - unload materials into proper container or front end loader; Leave area immediately. For information on obtaining a sticker, call 781-762-1413 or visit www.norwoodma.gov/departments/public_works/.

January 18

Norwood Schools Closed

Norwood schools closed for the Martin Luther King Day holiday.

January 20

Virtual Turn the Page Book Group: "Inheritance"

Morrill Memorial Library-Virtual

6:30 p.m.

Turn the Page Book Group will be reading "Inheritance" by Dani Shapiro. The group will meet virtually via Zoom. Copies of the book in regular print and large print are available to pick up at the Circulation Desk. The book is also available through ebook and audio book through Overdrive/Libby. To receive access details for joining the book discussion, visit and register at www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/. For questions, email Patty Bailey at phailey@ minlib.net.

January 21

Virtual Craft Connection

Morrill Memorial Library-Zoom

7 p.m.

The Virtual Craft Connection now meets twice per month, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Get together to video chat while crafting and show off your latest projects and stay in touch. www.norwoodlibrary. org/morrillcalendar/. For more information, email Liz at lreed@minlib.net, or call 781-769-0200, X2.

January 23

Blessing Boutique

First Baptist Church Thrift Shop, 71 Bond St.

10 a.m.-noon

The Blessing Boutique offers great bargains on purses, shoes, books, glassware, dishes, household items, and more. It also has new and very gently used clothing at terrific prices. Pants, jeans, sweaters, blouses, and vests for only \$4, outdoor jackets for \$5, and children's clothes for \$2. for example? Take a look!

Winter Street Recycling Facility

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Things to know before you go: Practice social distancing; Wear mask when outside of vehicle; Self - unload materials into proper container or front end loader; Leave area immediately. For information on obtaining a sticker, call 781-762-1413 or visit www.norwoodma.gov/departments/public_works/.



NORWOOD BOTTLED GAS

305 Providence Highway, Norwood (Next to Boch HONDA)

781-762-2330 • 781-762-2331

Advertise With Us!

Contact Jen at 508-570-6544

or email jenschofield@localtownpages.com

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER

Call or Email

Jen - 508-570-6544 *or* **jenschofield@localtownpages.com**

_ _ _ _ Clip and save this coupon _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

\$50 OFF

Your next plumbing or heating repair*

Visit our website for more coupons and special offers on heating system installations.

RODENHISER

PLUMBING - HEATING - A/C - ELECTRIC

'Nice people...great service''® since 1928

800-633-PIPE www.rodenhiser.com

*Not valid on trip or diagnostic fees. This offer expires January 31, 2021. Offer code OT-A-50

NI.

January 26

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.

Titles on Tap Book Group

Morrill Memorial Library-Virtual

7:30 p.m.

Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. At press time, the book title was not announced. For more information, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

January 27

Norwood School Committee Meeting-Remote

7 p.m.

January 30

Winter Street Recycling Facility

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Things to know before you go: Practice social distancing; Wear mask when outside of vehicle; Self - unload materials into proper container or front end loader; Leave area immediately. For information on obtaining a sticker, call 781-762-1413 or visit www.norwoodma.gov/departments/public_works/.

Student Advisory Council to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education Celebrates Inclusion of Part-Time Student Representation

Budget signed by Governor Baker allows part-time college and university students to represent peers on campus Boards of Trustees

On Friday, December 11, Governor Charlie Baker signed the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget into law, making a change in state law that will allow the growing number of part-time students on public college and university campuses to serve as representatives of their student bodies. The outside section removed the requirement that students must be enrolled full-time to run for the elected position of student trustee, and this change creates new flexibility for public higher education institutions and the

Department of Higher Education (DHE).

The change, championed by the Student Advisory Council (SAC) to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, will ensure equitable representation of student bodies, especially at the Commonwealth's 15 community colleges where nearly 70% of students attend part-time.

"This change to the Massachusetts General Laws is a remarkable achievement for the Student Advisory Council and for the public higher education students of the Commonwealth," Jorgo Gushi, Chair of the Student Advisory Council and Community Colleges Segmental Advisor to the Board of

Higher Education said. "Parttime students, coming from diverse backgrounds, bring a wealth of experience that other members of the board of trustees might not have. Their input will help institutions and the BHE shape policies and programs that can better reflect and address the changing nature of the student population. Our students' leadership is not related to their enrollment status."

"I want to congratulate the Student Advisory Council for taking on this issue and succeeding in their efforts to advocate for this change," Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner of Higher Education said. "SAC's hard work will be enormously beneficial in the years ahead, as it will allow a much broader population of students to become civically engaged in their college communities."

The student trustee is a representative of the student body, elected annually, who serves on a public higher education institution's board of trustees and helps make important decisions, including those pertaining to budget and personnel, which impact students and the community as a whole. Previously, a student hoping to run for the elected position was required to be a full-time undergraduate student. These part-time students were neither eligible to run for student trustee nor able to continue serving in their role

if they dropped a course and were no longer enrolled fulltime. Full-time status is 12 credits, or four courses on average.

"As a working mother and a student leader who was denied the opportunity to run for student trustee this fall due to part-time status, I am immensely proud to be part of this progressive action," Monica Bliss, Secretary and Public Relations Chair of the Student Advisory Council and President of Berkshire Community College's Student Government Association said. "Women can be wonderful mothers and successful student leaders. I am proof of that."

Norwood Sports

Cam McDonough: Pressed Through Tough Teams to Finish Strong

By Christopher Tremblay

Many high school athletes like to participate in different sports each season giving them diversity throughout the school year. However, there are those who totally enjoy taking part in one and only one sport all year long; Norwood's Cam McDonough is one of those athletes. The senior considers himself to be a one-sport athlete playing basketball year-round.

It was around fifth grade while he was playing with a neighbor's driveway when his friend's father, who happened to play basketball in college, told McDonough he should try out for the town team. Liking the concept of the game and having the skill needed to play the game, he took his advice, and the rest is history.

"I really enjoyed the sport and after playing for the town I decided to turn my focus strictly on basketball to make myself better; that meant dropping football," McDonough said. "In the sixth grade, the Dedham AAU Coach asked me to play for him. AAU is a community of athletes that pretty much only play basketball and the competition is much harder than anything I've ever encountered."

McDonough continued to play AAU basketball knowing that he was going to have to get better to keep up with the kids he was playing with and against. By the eighth grade, his town team went undefeated



and captured the championship. It was here that the Norwood resident realized that his talent was improving, and he could play the game on a high level.

"Originally, I noticed that I needed to pick up my game because the kids I was playing against were really good," McDonough said. "I thought that I was good but when we started traveling, I realized I wasn't as good as I thought I was, so I began training a lot. I started going to the gym regularly, had a ball in my hands every day, and worked on increasing my quickness and speed."

McDonough's hard work and determination paid off as well as his playing AAU with older kids by the time he reached high



school. Going in, he thought that he had a shot at making the team, especially after former Norwood basketball Coach JJ Oliver asked him to take part in the summer league in which the high school team participated in.

"My first year in high school I tried out for the freshman team, but after the tryouts Coach Oliver came up to me and told me to come back to the varsity tryouts," McDonough recalled. "I made the team but realized that I was now a little fish in a big pond playing in a very tough Bay State League with some talented athletes."

During that initial season, the Norwood point guard played anywhere from 6 to 15 minutes per game, bringing the ball up court while learning to play on the varsity level. McDonough soon realized that taking the step up to play varsity basketball was a reality check and that as good as he was, he still needed too improve upon just about every part of his game, while putting on some weight and getting stronger.

There was a bit of a setback during his sophomore campaign when during the Mustang's first scrimmage he received a concussion. Eventually, he found his way back on the court, and following the season he focused on his game and played every moment that he could to be ready for his junior year.

Under first-year coach Kristen McDonnell, the Mustangs had one of their best season's in some time, going 9-11, and McDonough found that he was named to the Tri-Valley League (TVL) All Star team.

"That year, Coach McDonnell gave me the confidence in my ability to go out and score my best game came against Holliston when I scored 29 points; I also had a couple of 15-point games," the now senior said. "Moving to the TVL also made a big difference in my game. The TVL is still a good league, but the Bay State League had more athleticism and was much a much faster game."

The Norwood Coach may have nudged McDonough in the right direction, but he already had the ability within him.

"Cam may be somewhat of a quiet kid, but he has a high basketball IQ and does everything right," McDonnell said. "He may not have a flashy game, so his game is sometimes overlooked, but as our point guard he makes us tick. He knows the game and was someone that not only stepped up his game, but he has also managed to keep the team positive and moving in the right direction."

Coming into this season, things on the court will be a little different due to the COVID-

19 pandemic, but the senior is optimistic about the abbreviated season. This winter, Norwood will continue to play two games a week (against the same team) against the likes of Medfield, Holliston, Hopkinton, Ashland, and Westwood.

"I really believe that we are in a really good spot coming into this year, despite it being different," McDonough said. "We are going to take what we are give and run with it. I'm hoping that we go 10-0 and win all of our games. I strongly believe that this a doable goal with this team."

Individually, McDonough wants to be the best leader possible and guide his teammates down the right path to be successful and he is rather confident in his abilities. When this limited season concludes, the senior is planning on attending college and would like to play basketball on some level but at this time, he has not really thought too much about it.

"I definitely want to continue to play basketball – if not on the college team then at least on a college club team, but that will be determined much later," McDonough said.

For the meantime, McDonough will concentrate fully on Norwood's 2020-21 season and capturing that undefeated season he sees in the Mustangs future.



Norwood Sports

Olivia Beaudet, Setting Records

By Christopher Tremblay

In mid-November, despite all the uncertainty of what was going around due to the pandemic, Olivia Beaudet signed a letter of content to run cross country as well as track for Division 1 Merrimack College out of North Andover, MA. It was an institution that the Norwood High School (NHS) senior felt comfortable with.

"I had visited the campus before all the quarantining started in early March and really liked the campus and the smaller class rooms," Beaudet said. "I had previously run at the college during the outdoor track State Tournament and like the track, so when they reached out to me, I didn't hesitate."

Mustang cross-country Coach Aimee Worcester has no doubts in her mind that Beaudet can take her running to the next level.

"She can absolutely run for a Division 1 college team," the Coach said. "Olivia is a hardworking individual; in fact, she is probably the hardest worker that I have ever coached."

The Norwood resident was first introduced to the sport when she attended middle school where she ran for the intramural cross-country team. Although it wasn't a competitive program, she was able to become familiar with the high school course which was on the middle school grounds.



In the eighth grade, she began running road races and with the help of her mom, the two would locate as many races as they could for her to compete in. First, she was winning her age group, but when she was the first female to cross the finish line Beaudet realized that she could be successful running.

Not only did she believe that she could take running to the next level, a NHS took notice of her potential.

"The high school came out to watch us (the middle school) run and I was told that I should definitely come out for the cross-country team when I got to high school," Beaudet recalled.

Being on the shy side, the



incoming NHS freshman kept to herself in the beginning, but quickly found herself running with the boys and keeping up with them. Now she knew that she had a talent.

During that freshman campaign, the first-year runner broke the course record; something she would do again in her sophomore and junior season's as well. Beaudet was also the first girl from Norwood to make it all the way to the States for the first time since 2002.

Although she prefers crosscountry to track because of the ability to run different courses while being outside, she is as talented a track runner as she is cross-country. In addition to holding the cross-country course record with a time of 19:00, the now senior has a personal best of 5:26 in the one mile. Beaudet has qualified for the All-States in cross country for three years, is a division medalist in both track and cross-country, and has been named to three All-Star teams in each sport.

Unfortunately, do to Covid-19, this year's cross-country season was one in which she had never had to deal with in terms of all the adjustments, but she still took to the course with determination.

"It was a little different having to wear masks, but you get used to it," Beaudet said. "The one thing that was intimidating was you are usually running against a ton of girls, but this year they sent us out



in heats of 10, so basically I was running by myself which takes a toll on you mentally. It's tough as you're trying to push yourself with no one around you."

Not only were the meets different, so where the team practices, which were only held three times a week and the team couldn't get together the night before a meet to enjoy their traditional pasta dinners.

Usually the indoor track season would begin in December, but this year it has been pushed off until February, which Beaudet sees as a good thing with what is happen around us at this time. "It's a good thing that they moved track; I don't think that it would have been good with everyone packed into the Reggie Lewis Center," the Norwood runner said. "With the delayed start, I'm just going to ease into my training and work at increasing my endurance. When the season does start up, I'm hoping that it's closer to normal than what we have experienced."

Once the track season does begin in February, the senior is looking to surpass her personal best in the mile, while getting as close to the school record as she possibly can, if not break it.



Local Financial Advice & Solutions You Can Trust

Retirement, Income & College Savings Plans

- Mutual Funds
- Stocks
- Bonds
- Annuities
- Life & Long Term Care Insurance



Phil Swan: 781-440-4234 • pswan@infinexgroup.com



nvestment and insurance products and services are offered through INFINEX INVESTMENTS, INC Wember FINRK/SIPC. Norwood Financial Services is a trade name of the bank Infinex and the bank have a serviced and the services and the services in a trade in the services are not a surried by the FDIC or any other agency of the United States and are not deposits or obligations of nor guaranteed or nsured by any bank or bank affiliate. These products are subject to investment risk, including the processible loss of value.

Real Estate Corner

Register O'Donnell Announces 38,000th Book Printed at Registry of Deeds

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell recently announced a significant milestone as the Registry completed printing its 38,000th book of recorded land documents.

"During the COVID-19 state of emergency which began in Massachusetts on March 10, 2020, the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds, although closed to the public, has remained fully operational," Register O'Donnell noted. "Through the work of our dedicated employees, we have been able to continue Registry operations without missing a beat. Documents have been getting recorded, scanned into our online computer system so they can be viewed online via our website www.norfolkdeeds.org,

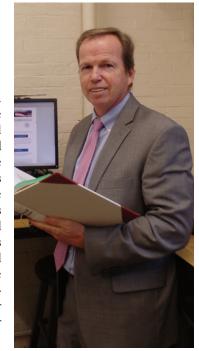
and verified to ensure accuracy. Additionally, we continue to print documents. Our 38,000th book, which includes land documents such as, deeds, homesteads, mortgages, and mortgage discharges, is an important milestone in the history of the Registry and a true testament to the volume of work completed each and every business day here at the Registry of Deeds. The printing of books provides a link to the Registry's rich history which dates back to its founding in 1793."

While the Registry continues to print books, it should be noted the Registry also continues to embrace and utilize state-of-theart technologies, allowing us to record land documents instantaneously. Documents are scanned and available for viewing within 24 business hours of recording at www.norfolkdeeds.org.

Our online computer systems are backed up on a nightly and weekly basis. This redundancy allows the Registry to maintain a permanent record of all land document recordings in the event of a disaster affecting our building at 649 High St., Dedham. Additionally, the Registry also microfilms all recorded land documents and ships the microfilm off-site to a secure location where it can be retrieved in the event of a catastrophe."

As indicated previously, the general public and users of the Registry are currently unable to visit the Registry of Deeds due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we cannot provide a time certain when public access will be restored, we are encouraged by news surrounding a viable vaccine. When the Registry does once again open its doors to the general public, residents and users will have options to view land documents by whichever means they are comfortable. Either hard copy via books or on-line by one of our many computer workstations available to the public or from the convenience of their home or work computer.

"During its existence, the core mission of the Registry of Deeds has remained unchanged; recording land documents in a safe, secure and accessible manner." Register O'Donnell concluded. "Part of this charge is to serve as a depository for over 8 million land documents recorded from the Registry's beginning in 1793 right up to the present day. While we have embraced the latest technologies to improve efficiencies, the printing of books allows us to maintain a permanent hard copy record of each recorded land document on-site and continue a tradition that also dates back to the founding of the Registry of Deeds in 1793. Please know that we are hopeful our doors will be



open to one and all sooner than later. Until then, be healthy, be

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



Pennington Crossing

WALPOLE

Model Homes Now Open! Located within walking distance of Walpole's town center and MBTA, Pennington Crossing is a brand-new 55+ Active Adult community featuring 7 spacious layouts in elevator-accessed buildings. Relax on your private balcony, enjoy cooking in a kitchen designed for beauty and function, entertain friends in your expansive living room, retreat to your Owner's Suite. Wherever your day takes you, find the complement to it all at Pennington Crossing.

767 East Street | Walpole, MA 02081 | (508) 658-9371

Open Daily 10am – 5pm | Virtual Appointments Also Available

*©2020 Pulte Homes Illustrations and dimensions are approximate. Features, options, amenities, floor plans, design, materials are subject to change without prior notice. Community Association fees and additional fees me be required. At least one resident must be 55 or better, see community documents for any additional conditions that may apply.





Real Estate Corner

Who is Holding Your Mortgage?

Norfolk Registrar of Deeds working on mortgage transparency legislation.

With the legislative session winding down, Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reiterated the importance he places on pending legislation to promote mortgage transparency here in Massachusetts.

At the beginning of 2019, Register O'Donnell had two bills filed, H.1413 and S.960, which stated that when banks sold their residential mortgages to a different lending institution, that transaction, or assignment, would be required to be recorded with the relevant Massachusetts Registry of Deeds office within 30 days of its execution.

"During the most recent legislative session, both H.1413 and S.960 wound their way through

the legislative process," Register O'Donnell noted. "After both pieces of legislation were filed with the Massachusetts House and Senate Clerks offices by lead sponsors Rep. William Galvin (D-Canton) and Sen. John Keenan (D-Quincy), respectively, and given a docket number, dozens of other state representatives and senators signed up as co-sponsors. The clerks' offices then gave each piece of legislation a bill number (H. 1413 and S.960). Then each bill was assigned to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary for further consideration. A public hearing on the legislation was then held where I provided arguments for supporting the legislation. The joint committee on the Judiciary reported the legislation favorably in early 2020. On February 13, 2020, H.1413, accompanied by S. 960, was ordered to a third reading by the Massachusetts House. Unfortunately,

no further action has taken place on the legislation. Certainly, the members of the legislature have been dealing with many pressing matters including COVID-19 and the fiscal year 2021 State Budget.

My specific arguments for supporting the mortgage transparency legislation included the fact the legislation would eliminate the possibility that a homeowner may not know who the holder of their mortgage is because an assignment was not recorded. Because some banks have gone out of business in previous years or merged with another lending institution, homeowners are in some instances forced to consult with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation website or the Massachusetts Division of Banks

MORTGAGE continued on page 22



Top Listing Agent for November, 2020 Medfield Regional Marketing Center

How can I help you in 2021?



Michele DeFazio Taranto

Your Trusted Norwood Realtor ☆☆☆☆

781-799-7068

mtarantorealty@gmail.com



Looking to advertise?
Contact Jen: 508 570 6544
Jenschofield@localtownpages.com

Much Gratitude to You this Holiday Season!



from

Jill Kelly

STAY SAFE!

Thank you to my family, friends, clients & partners for your collaboration and support in 2020.

I look forward to serving you in 2021 -Jill



BROKERAGE

Jill@JillKellyHomes.com



Call Jill Kelly at 781-726-0447

Real Estate Corner



PLEASE RECYCLE



Wishing Everyone a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year!







gmail.com foundation Steve Callaha Broker/Owner/Realtor LAJ Home-S, LL 781-704-535 Scals@verizon.ne Lije's A Journey built on the foundatio of your dreams and your vision



WHAT A YEAR

continued from page 21

to determine who holds their mortgage. The legislation would make assignments of residential mortgages more transparent to the consumer."

Another argument for the bill's passage was that it created a more level playing field between smaller community banks and larger lending institutions. The smaller community banks tend to hold their mortgages while many larger nationwide banks are not diligent in recording their mortgage assignments.

The need for this legislation hit home recently when the Boston Globe published an article by Sean P. Murphy on December 8, 2020, which highlighted the difficulties that can result when an assignment is not recorded.

"The article spoke about a couple who had found a home in Worcester which needed work," Register O'Donnell explained. "To finance the purchase and remodeling costs, the couple wanted to sell their condo in Easton. However, a title problem developed with the Easton condo due to a mortgage assignment not being properly recorded. Because the assignment was not recorded at the Registry of Deeds, the lending institution who was the current holder of the mortgage lacked the legal authority to discharge the mortgage. A process that should have taken a few days took several weeks as two large lending institutions could not get their act together and solve the title problem by filing the assignment. After several weeks of back and forth, the problem was resolved and the assignment was recorded, but only after the inter-

vention of the Boston Globe.

The assignment legislation that has been filed would have eliminated this problem as an assignment would have been required to be recorded 30 days after the mortgage was transferred, or sold, to another lending institution.

With the legislative session winding down, it is unlikely the legislation, H.1413 and S.960 will advance further. However, I am not giving up the fight to help Massachusetts homeowners. I will once again be filing mortgage transparency legislation in the upcoming 2021-2022 legislative session. I am hopeful our arguments will be persuasive and after years of trying, the legislation will wind its way through the legislative process and onto Governor Baker's desk for his signature."

Single Family Prices Rose in 2020

By Michele Taranto

The good news for Norwood homeowners is that the average price of a Norwood home increased substantially from \$498,070 in 2019, to \$562,878 in 2020. Most of those sales went close to or above asking price.

Norwood housing total sales, however, took a decline in year over year figures. According to the Multiple Listing Service, sales totals dropped from 231 in 2019, to 191 in 2020 (as of Dec. 19, 2020). While there will likely be a few more sales recorded before the end of the year, this reduction is likely the effect of lack of inventory.

The COVID-19 pandemic was also likely an influence in the decrease of available homes for sale as many homeowners were not comfortable with tours of their home and/or the uncertainty of the job/stock market. Although the 2020 volatile economy and unemployment rates prevented many from making a move, remarkably low interest rates did allow homebuyers to qualify for mortgages that may have been out of their reach a few years ago, thus the possible reflect of increased average closing prices.

Condominium sales experienced a drop in total sales from 88 in 2019, to 72 in 2020. These figures could see an uptick in

2021, however, with the arrival of new construction, such as the Washington St. and Nahatan St. townhouses. As with single home sales, condominiums did show a rise in average closing prices, from \$398,989, in 2019, to \$418,284 in 2020.

What is in store for the Norwood housing market in 2021? Many studies predict the familiar scene of evaporating inventory, but a steady stream of buyers will be waiting in the wings. A vaccine, and the return to a comfortable level of personal exposure will hopefully prompt moving schedules and make a favorable contribution in 2021's supply of homes.

Single Family		
Price Range	2020	2019
\$250,000 - \$299,999	1	1
\$300,000 - \$349,999	0	12
\$350,000 - \$399,999	10	24
\$400,000 - \$449,999	19	51
\$450,000 - \$499,999	23	45
\$500,000 - \$599,999	76	59
\$600,000 - \$699,999	37	25
\$700,000 - \$799,999	18	9
\$800,000 - \$899,999	3	5
\$900,000 - \$999,999	3	0
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,9	99 1	0
Total	191	231
Average Sale Price	\$562,878	\$498,070

Condominiums		
Price Range	2020	2019
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1	0
\$150,000 - \$199,999	0	0
\$200,000 - \$249,999	2	8
\$250,000 - \$299,999	7	12
\$300,000 - \$349,999	15	7
\$350,000 - \$399,999	11	14
\$400,000 - \$449,999	3	22
\$450,000 - \$499,999	12	12
\$500,000 - \$599,999	16	11
\$600,000 - \$699,999	5	2
Total	72	88
Average Sale Price	\$418,284	\$398,989

Sold by Norwood's #1 Realtor - Anne Fahy

Dedicated to Customer Service One Sale at a Time **2020 Sold Norwood Homes**

Wishing you a Safe and Happy New Year! Cheers to a better 2021!























































RESIDENT'S PREMIER ASSOCIATE

nne.Fahy@nemoves.com

517-257-808<u>8</u>



Stay Safe During These Times!

Even if you need anything that's not Real Estate related.... let me know if I can be of any help or assistance.

l can accommodate your requests including virtual listing appointments and/or tours, if preferred.

I am Thankful for all my clients! Wishing Everyone





Julie DiSangro Gross, REALTOR® CELL: (781) 801-6369 call or text

EMAIL: julieghomes@gmail.com www.JulieGross.com

Call Julie for a Complimentary Market Analysis or Buyers Consultation ww.JulieGross.com



Come visit our FACTORY and FACTORY SHOWROOM!

131 Morse Street | Foxboro | 508-543-9417 | woodforms.net

Hours: Monday - Thursday: 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Friday: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. CLOSED Sunday

Looking to advertise? Contact Jen: 508 570 6544 | Jenschofield@localtownpages.com

Ove doesn't have to wait.

[NOW SCHEDULING PERSONAL TOURS.]







(781) 255-3159 tiffanyballroom@hobbsbrook.com tiffanyballroom.com

