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January 2022

2021 in Review

BY BELLA CAGGIANO

JANUARY

Small Norwood Fire Reaps Large Consequences

On Tuesday, October 27, the Norwood Fire Department was called to investigate an odor of gas at the Norwood Commerce Center on Endicott Street. The original fire was a small one, and the fire department was able to extinguish it with little difficulty.

The Norwood Commerce Center, however, had more troubles than the fire. The Norwood Fire 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 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 auto-body 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.

“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.”

FEBRUARY

Nomination Papers Now Available for Annual Town Election

Make a difference. That is the opportunity available for Norwood residents who seek to represent their neighbors and run in the 2021 Annual Town Election, which will be held

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See our
Healthy Living Section
Inside...



Tree Planting in Norwood

BY DONNA LANE

According to Town Engineer and Superintendent of Public Works Mark Ryan, the Norwood Department of Public Works (DPW) recently planted 53 trees in 11 different locations in Norwood. Ryan said Norwood has had a tree-planting program in place for a number of years.

Have you ever stopped to think why trees are important? Trees provide many public health benefits. For example, trees produce oxygen, intercept airborne particulates and reduce smog, thereby enhancing our community's respiratory health.

How does this work? Trees get energy from photosynthesis, water, sunlight, and carbon dioxide to make glucose. Then, oxygen is released back into the

air. A single tree produces almost 260 pounds of oxygen every year. Overall, trees produce roughly a third of all of the oxygen in the air. To put that into perspective, two mature trees can give off enough oxygen to keep a family of four people breathing.

Furthermore, trees sequester carbon (CO₂), reducing the overall concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere thereby helping with the climate crisis. They also help to prevent soil erosion and are a crucial habitat for wildlife. If it were not for trees, the rainwater that falls would all directly hit the ground's soil, which would speed up issues like soil erosion and runoff. Instead, the trees

TREE PLANTING
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2021 IN REVIEW

continued from page 1

on Monday, April 5. Interested parties must commit in February to run. In order to compete for these municipal positions, candidates must pull nomination papers from the Town Clerk's office in Town Hall and obtain at least 50 registered Norwood voters to sign the form in their support (the Town Clerk recommends obtaining additional signatures as some supporters may not be registered voters).

New Town Meeting Members must obtain at least 10 signatures in their district. Current Town Meeting Members should have received a letter of intent mailed to their homes in January. To appear on the ballot, a Letter of Intent must be delivered to the Town Clerk's office, in Town Hall by Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

MARCH

Goodbye Norwood's Friend, Bernie Cooper

Norwood Assistant Town Manger Bernard S. Cooper, better known to all as Bernie, passed away on Sunday, January



We said goodbye to Bernie Cooper

24, after a brief bout with cancer. Bernie was a man who took that call of good citizenship to heart every day of his adult life. Born February 24, 1948, Bernie graduated from Norwood High School, Class of 1965, and Tufts University. He served the Town of Norwood, its citizens, and three town managers for 49 years as Assistant Town Manager and Civil Defense Director.

"I am just heartbroken," former Norwood Town Manager John Carroll said. "I was just thinking about Bernie. He was a great husband to Connie, a great father to Sam, Alisha, Josh and Amelia, a great assistant to me – even though I had to get after him about his desk a few times

– and a great friend. He really cared about the town and its people. We had lunch together nearly every day for 39 years. That's over 9000 lunches. You really get close to someone when you eat together that often."

APRIL

Meet Clayton Cheever, New Director for Morrill Memorial Library

On February 8, Clayton Cheever took over the role of Director for Norwood's Morrill Memorial Library. Cheever took what might be considered a circuitous route to this position.



We welcomed Clayton Cheever

After graduating from Vassar College as a geography major, he worked as Assistant Director for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) in Austin, TX, for a short time. He then moved to Denver, CO, where he grew up, and worked for fair housing, directed the Denver Community Reinvestment Association, worked for several lawyers while contemplating law school, served on some nonprofit boards, and joined a start-up medical research company.

In the bio he wrote to introduce himself, Cheever shared how his love and appreciation for public libraries began.

"I came to appreciate the incredible history of public libraries in this country, and the power of public libraries in general after being inspired by a profile of a radical librarian in a magazine I happened to pick up," Cheever explained. "That 'radical' librarian was Sanford (Sandy) Berman, a library cataloger who was challenging the Library of Congress to call people what they want to be called - rather than using names scientifically or arbitrarily assigned to them,"

MAY

Impact Norwood's #WeAreTheNorm Campaign Focuses on the Positive

The town's youth-led Impact Norwood has launched a social norms campaign aimed at correcting misconceptions about youth and substance abuse. The campaign, #WeAreTheNorm, launched April 1, is to educate community members about the true behaviors of youth in town.

Impact Norwood's Program Director Aubrey Ciol, said one of the things the coalition does is collect data and look at it to see where they are seeing a problem as far as youth substance use and what's putting them at risk. The social norms campaign is one of their strategies for combating that problem where instead of focusing on the risky behavior youth are engaging in, they flip it.

"We talk about what the actual norm is," Ciol said. "The actual norm is that the majority of youth in Norwood are not engaging in substance use. By focusing on that we're letting youth know 'hey your peers aren't doing this as much as you think they are.' Especially with the way youth are portrayed in



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media, TV shows, movies with big party scenes. That's not the majority of youths. And it's not only in Norwood but across the state. We want to do something positive to focus on the positive in the community instead of focus on the negative."

JUNE

Downtown Norwood ... A Destination Despite the Pandemic

It's safe to say that people understand that the pandemic has created havoc across the globe. In our state, it has stressed health-care and education professionals, and hurt small businesses in many ways. It's also hampered the ability to socialize and, for many, created financial hardship. Our lives have been altered in many ways – some negatively, others indescribably. In many ways, the pandemic has challenged us to do things differently to adapt to the situations we're facing.

Norwood residents have faced many of the same problems as our sister communities. But the Town of Norwood – from the selectmen, to town manager, department heads, and their support staff, have been working to keep the lines of communication open and to help local businesses during the tough economic times.

Charlotte Walsh, owner of Charles River Running, has been a significant contributor to the Norwood business community for the past nine years. Walsh has been active in supporting all Norwood businesses and is the current president of the Friends of Norwood Center, a non-profit group that connects local businesses, town leadership, and residents. The Friends' stated purpose is "to help support a vibrant community and a thriving local economy."



The Norwood July 4th Parade was planned in only 6 weeks.

Walsh credits the Town for making Norwood a "destination" last year when other towns were still struggling to deal with the fallout of business closings.

"Because the Town was so proactive last spring when things were starting to open up in limited capacity, Norwood was way ahead of every other town around," Walth opined. "As a result ... the day that the state allowed for outdoor dining, our restaurants were ready."

JULY

The 4th is On!

Just six weeks to plan a grand parade; not enough time you say? Plenty of time for Norwood's A team! Yes, Norwood's grand Independence Day Parade will take place this year, with just a few slight changes. First, the event will be held on July 3rd instead of its traditional date on the 4th of July. Also, the parade will begin at 10 a.m., and the Firecracker 5K Road Race will have a starting gun of 9 a.m.

"It was tough with the late notice and competing with other towns [to confirm entertainers]," Norwood Recreation Assistant

Director Catherine Seastedt said. "Also, with 4th of July on a Sunday, there are churches on the route and we wanted to make sure we didn't conflict with that."

The Grand Marshal in the parade this year will be the Cooper family, in honor of the Town's beloved Assistant Town Manager, Bernie Cooper.

"We felt it was important as we want to keep this tradition going," Norwood 4th of July committee member Maria Henry said. "I think it is a huge benefit to the town, especially after the pandemic. Especially after los-

ing Bernie; he loved this parade. He would have been honored we were carrying it on. This is what makes Norwood Norwood."

This year's parade theme is Hometown Heroes. There will be a float designated to many of Norwood's local unsung superstars who worked hard throughout the pandemic to ensure residents' safety and health, and who provided services throughout the difficult year. Representatives will include a doctor, nurse, postal worker, teacher, grocery store worker, and others.

AUGUST

Planning Norwood's 150 Year Anniversary

Interested in helping plan Norwood's birthday? The Norwood 150th Committee has been meeting to plan a year-long series of events to celebrate Norwood's 150th birthday in 2022. They are currently looking for "energized and committed" volunteers to join their team.

There are many reasons to celebrate this great town that is drenched in history and exceptional communal support. This couldn't be said better than the

150th committee's mission statement:

To embrace the rich memories and capture the dreams of a bright future for Norwood's citizenry ... yesterday, today, and tomorrow. To engage our families, schools, and businesses in a collaboration of demonstrated and enduring civic pride. To celebrate as one unified community Norwood's rich cultural diversity, unparalleled work ethic, and extraordinary 150 year history as "The Crown Jewel of the Commonwealth".

If you have an idea for a specific event to celebrate Norwood's 150th birthday ... or if you want contribute to existing events ... or you want to help build Norwood's legacy for the times to come, they hope you will apply to volunteer for the Norwood 150th Committee!

SEPTEMBER

Let's Celebrate Norwood!

The 18th Annual Norwood Day Celebration will be Held Saturday, Sept. 18!

2021 IN REVIEW
continued on page 4

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96 Rock St.....\$425,000	14 Jacobsen Dr\$540,000	389 Neponset Street U:E.....\$435,000
199 Ridgewood Dr.....\$455,000	1344 Washington St.....\$610,000	70 Endicott Street U:205.....\$535,500
23 Folan Ave.....\$472,000	62 Plimpton Ave\$605,000	433 Neponset St. U:A.....\$740,000
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2021 IN REVIEW*continued from page 3*

The year 2020 is almost a blur. Most activities were restricted to home and people desperately missed events and traditions they look forward to all year long. The long wait is over Norwood residents, Norwood Day is back in 2021!

This annual celebration brings businesses, organizations, and residents together to share information, goods, and services, but just as importantly, celebrate this wonderful town. The event will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., with vehicle traffic closed from the intersection of Washington and Nahatan Sts., through the split at Washington and Walpole Sts., and all streets surrounding the Town Common.

It's a great scene to take in as downtown Norwood and the Town Common are transformed into a community festival. The streets are filled with thousands of people enjoying live entertainment, games, sporting events, kiddie rides, crafters, food bites from local restaurants, sidewalk sales, and visiting tables of businesses and non-profit groups,

**2021 Welcomed back the Norwood Holiday Tree Lighting**

and town department displays.

The 18th Annual Norwood Day actually launches the evening before, Friday, September 17, with a fireworks display at the Coakley Middle School. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the school field is bustling with games the entire family will enjoy! As darkness approaches, the Norwood skies will light up with fireworks (again generously donated by David Spiegel) as a fitting prequel to the next day's celebration.

On Saturday, September 18, at 9:30 a.m., a parade kicks off the spectacular main event, beginning at the Morrill Memorial Library with the Norwood High School (NHS) marching bands and fall

sports teams proudly strutting their school colors and entertaining spectators. The parade concludes at the town gazebo where the NHS Spirit Club will identify the King and Queen of the Court and the Ann Lydon Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented (the winner is a secret). The prestigious Award recognizes and honors a Norwood resident who has gone above and beyond to help the local community.

OCTOBER**The Norwood Craft Affair Returns for its 27th Year!**

Craft Lovers....it's back!! After two long years of waiting, due to its cancellation in 2020

due to health regulations from COVID-19, the Craft Affair has returned to Norwood!

This event brings together crafters and craft enthusiasts together for one of the largest fall shopping events in the area! The Norwood's infamous 27th Craft Affair, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at Norwood High School.

The 'Affair' has grown to include approximately 80 crafters who travel to Norwood from all over New England to showcase their creative wares. The list is so impressive, and includes: sewn, crocheted, and knitted pieces, there will be chocolate and honey, items for pets, jewelry, holiday decor, wreaths, stained glass, jams and jellies, mirrors, paintings, 3-tiered plates, bags, scarves, soap, wooden toys, painted glass, quilts, ornaments, hats and mittens, cards, plastic canvas, hand towels, hair bows, hen houses, ceramics, puzzle lights, decoupage plates and doll clothes, and much more! The huge assortments of raffles are always a popular corner with chances to win many handmade items, gift certificates and Mustang memorabilia!

NOVEMBER**Holiday Tree Lighting is Back!**

There were so many missed events during 2020 due to COVID-19 health restrictions. One beloved celebration that was cancelled last year was the Norwood Holiday Tree Lighting. As the country adjusts and resumes its traditions, so does the town of Norwood, and this opportunity to resume 'normal' activities will be a breath of fresh (and maybe nippy) air to kick off the holiday season!

It's a perfect long weekend. It launches Thursday with a lavish Thanksgiving meal, followed by masses of opportunities for retail bargains, and delicious leftovers. What could possibly top that? How about some well-deserved down time on Sunday, Nov. 28 to continue the celebration and further family time with a town tree lighting!

Norwood hosts a great afternoon free from the bustle of the crowds to offer an afternoon that has become a favored holiday tradition, The Holiday Tree Lighting! The fun-filled (and FREE) family event will be held on Sun-

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TREE PLANTING

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hold the water like a sponge, regulating the water cycle by absorbing it from the soil into their roots. Water is then moved up through the trunk, serving as food for the leaves and the branches.

In addition to these benefits, trees help to reduce energy costs and cool areas for recreation and relaxation, such as in playgrounds and parks.

“It is not unusual for us to plant trees to create shade and to eliminate heat-sinks – that is, areas with significant asphalt or pavement,” Ryan said.

Trees also help to combat noise pollution. It is said that trees can reduce noise levels by up to 6 decibels, depending on how densely they are planted and their proximity to both the noise source and the person listening to it.

Trees provide such a huge range of benefits for people, wildlife and the environment; they are often called the ‘lungs of the world.’ We in Norwood are fortunate that our Town government recognizes their benefits and has, for many years, had a tree program in place.

Recent plantings include: 10 Linden and Honey Locust trees on Lenox Street; 6 Krauter Vesuvius flowering plum trees at Prospect Ave.; 3 crabapple trees at the Winter and Prospect Street traffic island; 3 crabapple trees at Washington St. and Waban Ave.; 2 crabapple trees at the Lopey Rich Park at the intersection of Washington, Bond and Winter Sts.; a London planetree on Nahatan St. across from St. Catherine’s church; a Honey Locust tree at the Guild and Broadway traffic island; and 5 trees at the Norwood Cemetery including a crab tree, beech and 2 cedar of Lebanon trees.

While Ryan typically selects the trees for most locations, 20 of the trees the DPW planted



New Orchard planting at Mylod St. (right), Krauter Vesuvius ornamental plum tree (above).

were fruit tree replacements for the public orchard at the Mylod St. field. These were selected by Holly Jones, Conservation Planner for the Town. None of the original plantings survived, likely because they were mere saplings grown in a different region and were challenged from the very start. The new trees are several years old and were grown locally, so they have a better chance of survival. Jones said there are ten apple trees, six different varieties; four cherry trees and two each of plum, serviceberry and pawpaw trees. Subsequent to the planting, 12 volunteers composted around the trees, mulched them and caged the smaller ones to prevent deer from snacking on them or rubbing against them.

When asked about maintenance of the newly planted orchard, Jones said that the Conservation Commission has been working with Mark Ne-

group of volunteers together.

“We are hoping to cultivate and sustain this group of volunteers who will work with the Con-

rienced with fruit trees.

“My vision is to hire experts not only to do the pruning and other maintenance tasks but to use this as an educational opportunity as well, such as having pruning and other maintenance workshops at the orchard so there’s a group of volunteers who are building their knowledge of how to do maintenance in a long-term way,” Jones said.

The key purpose of the orchard is to provide fruit for Norwood residents. How it will be distributed has not yet been determined. Right now, the focus is on keeping the trees in the orchard alive so they can produce fruit.

Residents are rooting for the replanting efforts to bear fruit!

servation Subcommittee to make sure these trees are cared for in the long term,” Jones said.

Going forward, there will be a need for pruning and other maintenance to be done by those expe-



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Norwood Rallies Again

BY MICHELE TARANTO

Members of the Women's Business Network of Norwood (WBN) are grateful again this year with the donations from their 6th Annual Winter Accessory Drive. This year's fundraiser was again an impressive increase from previous years with approximately 1,022 items donated! Close to 1,000 pieces were donated during COVID in 2020 and a large increase from 2019 where 675 pieces were given to the food pantry and Home for Little Wanderers Thrift Shop. The remarkable 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 the month of November in their establishments: Murph's Place, 58 Broadway, Norwood; the Vanderbilt Club, 45 Vanderbilt Ave., Norwood; As Good As It Gets Café, 1210 Prov.-Hwy. (behind Petco), Norwood; Brookside Café, 1260 Washington St., S. Norwood; the Norwood Senior Center, and Clean Remodel LLC, 50 River St., Dedham. 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, again displayed

their festive creativity decorating each box and printing flyers to promote the campaign.

Each year, the drive is held Nov. 1-30, but from the abundance of homemade items that were donated, it was clear many residents had busy hands throughout the year creating incredibly beautiful knitted pieces in preparation for the event. This year, the boxes were also plentiful with brand new items purchased for the yearly event.

On December 9, the WBN members offered the donations to the Norwood Food Pantry and the Home for Little Wanderers Thrift Shop, in Roslindale. 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 seven years ago and its participants include women who work or live in and around Norwood. Shadowing their tagline, Connect, Refer, and

2021 IN REVIEW

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day, November 28, 1:30-4 p.m., on the Town Common and the Norwood Civic Center. The celebration includes a reindeer dash, horse-drawn hayrides, festive entertainment, holiday readings, face painting, barnyard animals, a parade, and music. The afternoon concludes when Santa and Mrs. Clause make their dramatic entrance and light up the Norwood Town Common!

DECEMBER

Town Birthday Celebrations Launch New Year's Eve!

Norwood will be celebrating its 150th birthday celebration throughout 2022, however, the festivities will begin a day early on January 31 with the Town's own version of First Night! The exciting New Year's Eve event will begin at 3 p.m., and will include a road race, dancers, magic, music, singers, games, and so much more!

The day/evening schedule is jam packed with events geared for all ages. The activities will be both inside and out at the Civic Center, Morrill Memorial Library, Town Hall, Saint Catherine's gymnasium and cafeteria, the First Congregational Church, the F. Holland Day House, and the Town Common. On January, 1, the fun continues with a Comedy Night, at the Norwood Theatre. For up-to-date information, monitor the event website at <http://norwoodma150.gov>.

Contributors: Bella Caggiano, Donna Lane, Elizabeth Taurasi

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WINTER DRIVE

continued from page 6

Support, the members strive to support each other and their businesses through referrals, advice, consultations, linking business



connections, and sharing wisdom. Their chapter also consider it vitally important to give back to the community that supports their businesses throughout the year through

community service projects, such as the mitten drive.

Current WBN members include Michele Taranto, RE/MAX Real Estate Center; Kandi Finch, All Chores Considered;

Wendy Aimola, New York Life Insurance Co.; Ellen Connors, Shamrock Home Loans, Kim Burke, Home Helpers; Catherine Good, Law Office of Catherine Becker Good; Maria Levin, Maria Levin PC; Mencia Quinonez, Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant; Alyssa Koulopoulos, Liberty Mutual Insurance; Carolyn Oliviera, Breaking Free

Chiropractic; Stephanie Trovato, Magical Moments Vacations; Natalie Navatta-Golia, Merry Go Sweets.

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

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2022

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HELP! My Item is too Large for my Weekly Trash Pickup!

By MICHELE TARANTO

Now that 2021 is over and the long winter is ahead, many homebuyers use this extra time at home to clean out, maybe replace big items they said they would last year, or simply starting off the new year with a clean slate. The problem occurs, however, how to dispose of those large pieces?

While the streamlined trash removal is both cost effective and simple, there are many things that no matter how you try, they just will not fit. Or, there are regulations on disposals that cannot be included in that weekly trash pickup. There is an answer.

Norwood residents have the Compost Facility on Winter St. at their 'disposal,' FREE of charge! On Saturdays, the site is available to receive those big items, or, curbside pickup is available. See below for instructions for both options.

Winter St. Compost Facility Instructions

Residents must have a yellow Compost Facility Resident Sticker to enter the facility. To obtain a sticker, please bring your vehicle registration to the DPW office Monday through Friday, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. There is no cost for the sticker and it does not expire.

The facility is open every Saturday year-round from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Residents are limited to three (3) bulky items per week.

An additional attendant is on-site to monitor the disposal of items.

A dumpster is available for most items. Metals and white goods (appliances) are diverted to a separate area.

Curbside Pickup Instructions

Purchase a sticker (\$26 cash only) at the Town Hall payment window (Treasurer's Office) for each item to be picked up.

- Residents are limited to three (3) bulky items per week.
- White goods (appliances), TV's, computer monitors and metal items are picked up on Fridays. All other bulky items are picked up on Mondays.
- Contact the DPW (7 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday) at 781-762-1413 to request the pickup. Calls received by noon on Thursday (for Friday's pickup) or noon on Friday (for Monday's pickup) will be scheduled for the next pickup day.
- Place the stickered item(s) curbside prior to your scheduled pickup date.
- Condominium complexes ARE NOT eligible for curbside pickup of bulky items.

For more information on bulk item pickup, visit http://www.norwoodma.gov/departments/trash_and_recycling/bulk_item_disposal.php.

BULK ITEM DISPOSAL

Item Description
Air conditioner
Baseboard/ductwork (2-bundles 4'L x 2' Diameter)
Bathtub - fiberglass
Bathtub - cast iron
Bedframe - steel
Bike
Boxspring
Bureau
Cabinet - metal
Cabinet - wood
Carpet (cut, rolled & bound - 10" dia. X 6' length)
Cast Iron bathtub, sink, wood stove, etc.
Chairs (kitchen, dining room - up to 6 per stop)
Chairs (metal - up to 6 per stop)
Coal stove
Coffee table
Computer monitor
Couch/sofa
Counter top (4 sections cut into 4 ft lengths)
Crib
Dehumidifier
Desk and chair - metal
Desk and chair - wood
Dishwasher
Door - metal
Door - glass or wood
Dresser
Dryer
Entertainment center
Exercise bike
Exercise machine
Fence - metal (2 bundles - 4 ft x 4 ft with one post)
Fence - wood (2 bundles - 4 ft x 4 ft with one post)
Fiberglass tub, shower stall, etc.
Folding table - metal
Folding table - wood

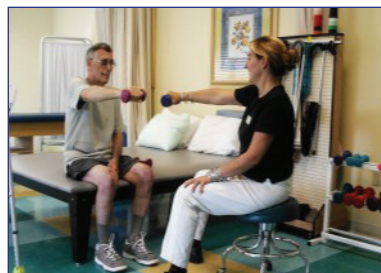
DISPOSAL OPTIONS			
Friday Pickup w/Appliance Sticker (\$26)	Friday Pickup w/Bulk Sticker (Metals) (\$26)	Monday Pickup w/Bulk Sticker (\$26)	Winter St. Compost Facility Drop-off (no fee)
x			not acceptable
	x		x
		x	x
	x		x
	x		x
		x	x
		x	x
	x		x
		x	x
	x		x
	x		x
		x	x
x			not acceptable
		x	x
		x	x
		x	x
x			x
		x	x
		x	x
	x		x
	x		x
		x	x
		x	x
		x	x
	x		x
		x	x

Last update: 8/3/2020



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Norwood Town News
 now has its own Facebook page!

Like Norwood Town News on Facebook to keep up to date with articles, events, giveaways and contest announcements for Norwood!



Living Healthy

Norwood Public Health Department
Weekly COVID-19 Data Report
December 16, 2021

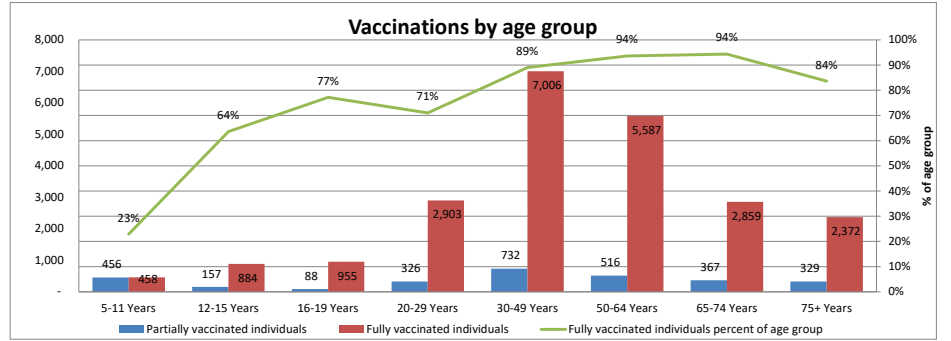
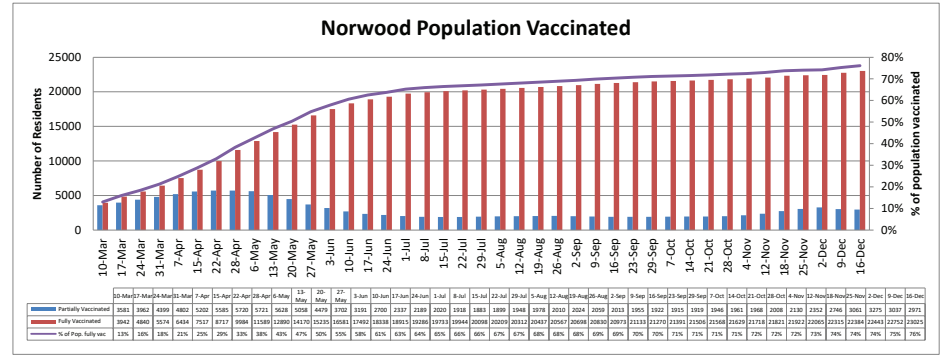
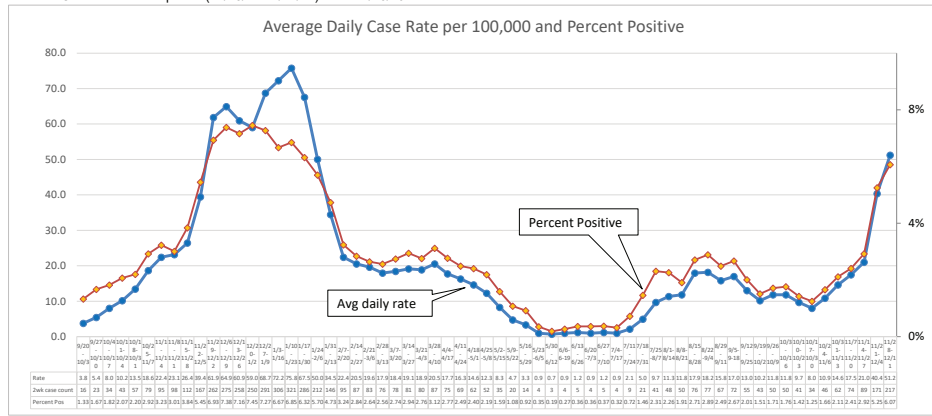
Norwood case & testing data:

- Total Confirmed Case count: 3,672
- Case count in the last 14 days: 217
- Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 (Last 14 days)^: 51.2
- Total tests: 113,083
- Total Test in last two weeks: 3,984
- Total positive tests performed last 14 days: 242
- Percent Positive last 14 days: 6.07%

Vaccine Data as of 12/15/2021

- Residents partially vaccinated: 2,971
- Residents fully vaccinated: 23,024 (76%)
- Residents with 1 or more doses: 25,995 (86%)

^Current two-week period (11/28/21-12/11/21) as of 12/15/2021



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Examples of what we've saved our customers:

Brand Drug	Saved per month
Eliquis® 5mg	\$300
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Dulera® Inhaler	\$90
Lantus® SoloStar Pen	\$300
Januvia® 50mg	\$150

\$10 GIFT CARD

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Norwood Sports

Norwood Senior Cheerleaders Looking for Respect

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Entering Norwood High School four years ago, the six seniors on this year's squad were not all friends; but as they enter their final year on the cheerleading team, they couldn't imagine themselves without one another.

The six seniors; Julia Abruzzese, Emily Gordon, Olivia Connor, Jessica O'Toole, Caitlyn Connolly, and Annie Sisk all tried different sports growing up but found they were not very good at any of them. Gordon always wanted to try cheerleading but her mother was against it, however, in the back of her head she knew she was going to do it in high school no matter what the commitment.

O'Toole watched her older brothers playing football and being one that loved performing she wanted to cheer for the football team. Many were prior gymnasts and cheerleading fit into that mold with the dancing and tumbling, while some had friends that were part of a cheerleading squad and wanted to join in on the fun while trying something new.

While the majority of the girls take part in both the fall and winter cheerleading seasons, a few of them participate in other sports as well. Sisk plays for the Norwood tennis team in the spring, Connolly runs spring track, and O'Toole, the only girl not to take part in both cheer seasons, runs winter and spring track.

"I was always running around and wanted to stay in shape, so I joined the track team," O'Toole

said. "The high jumps and hurdles have helped me with my cheerleading."

Although O'Toole is not with the team for both seasons, she is in their hearts.

"Originally being so close to one another I thought it would

the summer months. Practices usually extend to five to six days a week during the high school season when cheering for the football and basketball teams, and during competition practices they could elevate to that seventh day, possibly two times a day if necessary. With the involvements

that cheerleaders put in, many do not consider them athletes.

"Cheer gets no respect," Sisk said. "I'm not sure what it is, but people like to pick on us. I've been trying to figure it out. Even at home games cheering for our team there are not many fans for us. Not getting the respect that we deserve only makes us stronger."

The other five seniors strongly believe that cheerleading is thought of as a non-sport and the squad doesn't get the respect that they deserve for all they do. They have heard that cheerleading is not competitive and not that hard to prepare for. According to Connolly, they don't really understand how important it is to have the right people in the right positions to perform the stunts they do.

just about anywhere for a football game, but no one really cares about a cheerleading competition. Cheerleading doesn't seem to get the recognition they deserve.

Connor and Sisk are flyers for the team while Abruzzese and O'Toole are the back spots and Gordon and Connolly are the bases on the team. Connolly is versatile and can also back spot if needed. According to Coach Jill Buckman, back spots are an important aspect to keeping the flyers up in the air, and without them you cannot really do much in terms of stunts.

"These girls are really special," Buckman said. "They are really good friends, and you usually don't find that kind of bond in cheer. They formed a friendship in cheer as freshman and four years later they are still all good friends. I feel that when you are that close and have your best friends surrounding you it helps. Their relationship is special, and they are all hard working, dedicated girls."

Being thrown around during their routine the Mustang flyers must have the outmost trust in their backs.

"Being a flyer is nerve racking," Sisk said. "As a sophomore, I received a concussion when my body decided to torpedo straight into the ground head first during a stunt."

Connor noted you are basically in the hands of your back spotters.

"You have to trust your backs 100%," Connor said, "If one of them is moving or higher than another, things can go totally wrong. The routine is important, and the backs can make or break it."

Gordon, who is now a base, tried flying for a short period, but she quickly found that it was not her thing, especially since she is not always confident in herself.

Abruzzese was a base for two years before moving to the back. She found herself growing taller and the team was in need of a back, so she tried it out. Once she got the taste for being responsible for catching the flyers and help-



definitely be sad if we didn't all stick to it together," Abruzzese said. "We have such a strong bond with one another so we're happy that she's [O'Toole] doing what she loves to do although we do miss her."

Cheerleading is an activity in which participants cheer for their team as a form of encouragement. It originated in the United States and remains pre-dominantly in America with an estimated 3.85 million participants.

Cheerleading has become a year-round sport with most squads practicing two hours a day, three times a week during

of elements, such as jumping, tumbling, stunting, pyramids and crowd involvement, cheerleaders have their work cut out for them.

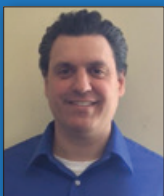
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It wasn't until a recent pep rally that some of the students in the high school really started to understand what cheerleading actually entailed. The Norwood cheerleading team showed the school what they actually do during a competition and got some positive feedback.

The girls continue to promote their competitions, but no one comes to cheer them on. The Norwood student body will go

CHEER

continued on page 11

Norwood Sports

Senior Joey Steeves: Reaching for the Tournament

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Ever since he can remember, Norwood's Joey Steeves has been participating in sports in some aspect, usually with his cousins. However, it wasn't until middle school that he realized that he had a talent. The three-sport athlete (football, basketball, and baseball) is entering his senior season on the basketball court, the sport he believes he excels at better than the other two.

Entering high school Steeves made the freshman basketball team, and mid-way through the season he was elevated to junior varsity, and by the end of the year he found himself practicing with the varsity squad. Beginning as either a point or shooting guard on the freshman team, Steeves would play wherever the Junior Varsity Coach needed him to play once he moved up. His very first JV game saw him net 20 points against Holliston.

"My first junior varsity game didn't really hit me at first, but after the game when it finally did, I was like I just got moved up and did that," Steeves said. "It was really good for the team to get the win on the road, and I had something to do with it."

Over the next two seasons, the Norwood point guard has averaged about 14 points per game for the Mustangs while continuously working to improve his shot. It was during his sophomore season when varsity head Coach Kristen McDonnell told him that his shot was too slow, and he needed to work on releasing it much quicker. Steeves



took his coaches advice to heart and began doing catch and shoot drills from different places on the floor, and to this day is still putting in the work with those drills.

It wasn't until this past spring that he totally felt confident in his shooting ability. McDonnell has seen that he has worked hard on becoming the best possible player that he can be.

"He is an awesome athlete that does the right things at the right time," the Mustang Coach said. "Through the first few days of practice, we have a compete

board and he is just blowing everyone away. Joey has 12 wins while everyone else only has 2 or 3. He wins everything he does as he is a tough competitor."

McDonnell has seen much improvement in the senior's play on the court over the years and although impressed with his defense, she is looking for more offense from him this winter.

"He is a very gritty defensive player, but I'm hoping that he can be an offensive threat for us this year," McDonnell said. "He's a natural leader and should help us a lot. He doesn't force anything; it just seems to come naturally to him and although he may not believe it, he can do a lot more than he is capable of."

Steeves takes pride in his defensive game and feels that when he is playing good defense, it gets his offense going.

"I am very defensive minded on the court, it's my number one priority," the senior point guard said. "I feel that when I am playing good defensive my offense feeds off of it."

Steeves feels that his team has good good depth and a lot of playmakers and believes that this season could be something special, especially if he gets his offense going.

"Coming into this year, we've already played all these

teams twice over the last two years so we are very comfortable with the way they play," Steeves said. "Having different shots will be huge for us."

With the possibility of a special season forthcoming for the Mustangs, the senior is looking for his teammates to go out and win the Tri-Valley league and then make a run through the tournament. Having no playoffs last year due to Covid and just missing out on a post-season run by one game on the last game of the season the year prior has left Steeves and his teammates driven to make this the year.

Although a 3-sport athlete, Steeves enjoys basketball as it's a sport in which you have the ability to get back and pick yourself up on the very next possession.

Following his high school career, Steeves is hoping to attend college where he has been in contact with a few basketball coaches.

"I've already spoken to the coach at Western New England in addition to a couple of other schools who have reached out to me, but I wasn't interested in them," Steeves said. "At Western New England, I'd be playing basketball, who knows what will happen at other schools. I will try to play basketball or maybe even try to walk onto the football team as a quarterback (his position with the Norwood football team)."

Although his college decisions will be coming in the next few months, right now Steeves and his Norwood teammates will be looking to put together a season in which they can be proud of. Hopefully one which results in a deep run through the tournament.

CHEER

continued from page 10

ing the stunt out, she really came to love the position.

O'Toole also loves the responsibility given to her as a back.

"There is definitely a lot more pressure on us," O'Toole said. "But I love catching – they call me Jessica the Catcher as I have never dropped anyone."

As the girls get ready for the winter season, they are hoping to once again get back to Regionals, especially after losing last season to competitive cheering for the

most part. Last year, they considered the season basically a skills and drills type of year as they were not allowed to cheer at the basketball games and with the switching of the fall season to fall 2, the girls only had a mere three weeks to learn their routine. They are more than excited to getting back on the sidelines for the basketball season this winter even if the students are not supporting them.

Taking part in their senior year the team is looking to go out on a high note. Last year they only got to cheer at four home football games and were only involved in one competition. Masks were also

a hinderance while performing as they made the routines more of a challenge to do while trying to breathe as normally as they could.

The Norwood seniors would love nothing more than to go out on top with a competitive championship, but if that is not something that they can accomplish they are hoping that more people realize that cheerleading is not just waving pom poms during a sporting event. They perform as athletes themselves in an actual competition that takes a lot of time and preparation in putting forth a flawless execution in front of the judges.

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Happy New Year!

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Call for Hours

Calendar of Events

Jan. 3

**Special Town Election
12-8 p.m.**

This election is to fill the Town Selectman vacancy.

Jan. 5

**Calcu-gators: Numbers for Kids
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

A Wednesday morning counting storytime for toddlers and preschoolers. Join Miss Dina for songs, stories, and a fun take-home craft, all while learning our numbers and counting skills! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 6

**TinkerTots Building Club
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

This session will spread out with a few different types of blocks, and then you are free to build! For toddlers and preschoolers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**ArtPlay
Morrill Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.**

Join this new art-based library program for some cool stories and a process art project for toddlers and preschoolers! This is an in-person program held at the library. For ages 2 -5. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**South Norfolk Mental Illness
Family and Friends Support
Group**

**The Grange, 28 Rockwood Road
(Route 115), Norfolk
7-9 p.m.**

Mental illness is a label for a variety of diseases of the brain. Often it strikes in late adolescence, devastating the afflicted person and the family. The South Norfolk Mental Illness Family and Friends Support Group is composed of such families who find mutual support and join together to advocate for their loved ones. All families in the South Norfolk Area who are dealing with mental illness and their loved ones are welcome. Observing the Covid-19 precaution of wearing a mask while indoors during the meeting is appreciated. For more information, call Ray at 508-668-2941.

Jan. 8

**Sewstainability Stash Share
Morrill Memorial Library, 10 a.m.**

At this event, people share with one another rather than having to buy sewing/needle-

work and crafting materials and equipment. Come drop off materials from your personal Stash that don't seem to get used so others can enjoy them. While there, browse to find things you'd like to work with and take them home. Come even if you don't have anything to bring; this is a Share, not an even swap. No registration required: drop in to the event.

**Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, at 193
Dean St., 2-5 p.m.**

EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH MAY

The price for each drawing is only \$2. Ten drawings are conducted each Saturday.

A pre-buy for \$20 is available during the week at the Post. The pre-buy allows for entrance in all 10 drawings conducted on Saturday. The drawings also include 50/50 money raffles.

The Meat Raffle will continue every Saturday through May. The Meat Raffle is open to the public and everyone is welcome. The Norwood VFW is looking for new members.

Jan. 10

**Take + Make Winter Craft
Morrill Memorial Library
All Day**

Families can pick up prepared materials to create a fun, easy craft! Crafts are geared to preschool aged children but are fun for slightly older kids too! Toddlers and Preschoolers. Register for the number of kits you need. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 11

**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.

**All Together Now Story Time
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Story time for families

Join in for stories, songs, movement, and more! Families with kids of all ages are welcome. Space is limited so sign up today

to reserve your spot! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**Norwood Toastmasters
Zoom Meeting
6:45 p.m.**

The Norwood Toastmasters is dedicated to improving public speaking and leadership skills. They are currently meeting online via ZOOM. For log in, contact-3926@toastmastersclubs.org. For more information, visit norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

Jan. 12

**Calcu-gators: Numbers for Kids
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Toddlers and Preschoolers

A Wednesday morning counting storytime for toddlers and preschoolers. Join Miss Dina for songs, stories, and a fun take-home craft, all while learning our numbers and counting skills! Registration is required. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**All Rise - True Crime Accounts
from the Woman Who Reported it
All (Virtual)
Morrill Memorial Library, 7 p.m.**

Have you ever wanted to see inside the daily workings of the Massachusetts Judicial System, to learn what makes it tick? Or wonder what's it like to launch a podcast featuring local stories when the true crime genre already has so many popular shows? Join the hosts of the All Rise podcast and the Morrill Memorial Library to get the inside scoop on local true crime cases, real life inside the court system, and podcasting in the modern era. Court reporter Diane Godfrey takes you on a wild ride through her 30 year career in courthouses throughout the Massachusetts Judicial System. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

Jan. 13

**TinkerTots Building Club
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

This session will spread out with a few different types of blocks, and then you are free to build! For toddlers and preschoolers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**ArtPlay
Morrill Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.**

Join this new art-based library

program for some cool stories and a process art project for toddlers and preschoolers! This is an in-person program held at the library. For ages 2 -5. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 14

**Pirate Party
Civic Center
10:30 a.m.**

What's a pirates favorite letter? RRRR! Join the fun pirate themed party! Guests will have fun playing games, arts and crafts, and enjoying a pirate snack! Hopefully participants will find the treasures hidden around for a fun take home prize! For ages 1.5-5 years old. Fee: \$15.00/person. To sign up, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or at the Norwood Civic Center in person.

**Kids Night Out
Civic Center, 6-8:30 p.m.**

Parents, take the night off! Kids join Playcamp and Civic staff for a night of fun! We will play group games, watch movies, make crafts, and more! Tonight's theme is soccer. Children must be in grades 1-5 to participate. Fee: \$20/child per night. To sign up, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or at the Norwood Civic Center in person.

Jan. 15

**Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, at 193
Dean St., 2-5 p.m.**

**Wild BBQ!
Norwood Elks #1124, 152
Winslow Ave., 4 p.m.**

Pitmaster Ted Breen & crew will be doing the smoking, which will include pulled pork, Secret Carolina BBQ sauce, homemade baked beans, and home-style slaw. All proceeds to benefit the Ron Marshalsea Scholarship, for Norwood High School graduates entering the trades. Event includes a 50/50 raffle! Tickets \$10.

Jan. 17

**Take + Make Winter Craft
Morrill Memorial Library
All Day**

Families can pick up prepared materials to create a fun, easy craft! Crafts are geared to preschool aged children but are fun for slightly older kids too! Toddlers and Preschoolers. Register for the number of kits you need. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

Jan. 18

**All Together Now Story Time
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Story time for families

Join in for stories, songs, movement, and more! Families with kids of all ages are welcome. Space is limited so sign up today to reserve your spot! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**Snow Globe Workshop
Civic Center
5:15 p.m.**

Learn how to create your very own snow globe! Participants will get to pick out their figurine and create a winter wonderland! For all ages. Cost is \$10. To sign up, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or at the Norwood Civic Center in person.

**Norwood Historical Society Book
Group
F. Holland Day House, 93 Day St.
7 p.m.**

Join the NHS book group to discuss "Norwood, a History" by P. Fanning! A 150th Anniversary sponsored event.

Jan. 19

**Turn the Page Book Group-'The
Dry'
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.**

Please join in for this in-person Turn the Page Book Group Meeting. The group will be discussing "The Dry," a novel written by Jane Harper. Copies of the book in regular, large print and audiobook are available at the circulation desk. Email [Patty Bailey](mailto:pbailey@minlib.net) if you have any questions, pbailey@minlib.net or call 781-443-8864. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**Calcu-gators: Numbers for Kids
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Toddlers and Preschoolers

A Wednesday morning counting storytime for toddlers and preschoolers. Join Miss Dina for songs, stories, and a fun take-home craft, all while learning our numbers and counting skills! Registration is required. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

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

Please join in for this virtual

CALENDAR

continued from page 12

Turn the Page Book Group Meeting. The group will be discussing 'The Dry,' a novel written by Jane Harper. Copies of the book in regular, large print and audiobook are available at the circulation desk. Email Patty Bailey if you have any questions, pbailey@minilib.net or call 781-443-8864. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 20

**TinkerTots Building Club
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

This session will spread out with a few different types of blocks, and then you are free to build! For toddlers and preschoolers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**ArtPlay
Morrill Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.**

Join this new art-based library program for some cool stories and a process art project for toddlers and preschoolers! This is an in-person program held at the library. For ages 2 -5. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

Jan. 21

**Kids Night Out
Civic Center, 6-8:30 p.m.**

Parents, take the night off! Kids join Playcamp and Civic staff for a night of fun! We will play group games, watch movies, make crafts, and more! Tonight's theme is movie night. Children must be in grades 1-5 to participate. Fee: \$20/child per night. To sign up, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or at the Norwood Civic Center in person.

Jan. 22

**Blessings Boutique Thrift Shop
First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10:00 a.m.-noon.**

The thrift shop is back! And they've got everything you need to keep you cozy and warm this winter. See you there!

**Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, at 193
Dean St., 2-5 p.m.**

Jan. 24

**Take + Make Winter Craft
Morrill Memorial Library
All Day
Take-Home Craft Kit**

Families can pick up prepared materials to create a fun, easy craft! Crafts are geared to preschool aged children but are fun for slightly older kids too! Tod-

dlers and Preschoolers. Register for the number of kits you need. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**Alafair Burke and Hank Phillippi Ryan in Conversation (Virtual)
Morrill Memorial Library
7 p.m.**

Start off the New Year with a virtual visit from two favorite authors! Alafair Burke is the New York Times, Edgar Award nominated author of twenty crime novels. Hank Phillippi Ryan is the USA Today bestselling author of 13 thrillers, winning the most prestigious awards in the genre: five Agathas, four Anthonyms, and the coveted Mary Higgins Clark Award. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 25

Women's Business Networking Meeting, 8 a.m.

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

**All Together Now Story Time
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Story time for families

Join in for stories, songs, movement, and more! Families with kids of all ages are welcome. Space is limited so sign up today to reserve your spot! To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Norwood Toastmasters Zoom Meeting, 6:45 p.m.

The Norwood Toastmasters is dedicated to improving public speaking and leadership skills. They are currently meeting online via ZOOM. For log in, contact-3926@toastmastersclubs.org. For more information, visit norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

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

The group (organized by the Morrill Memorial Library) meets at Napper Tandy's in Norwood, in the left-hand-side bar. The January title will be the bestselling nonfiction book, 'The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design,' by Roman Mars. To

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register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 26

**Calcu-gators: Numbers for Kids
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

Toddlers and Preschoolers

A Wednesday morning counting storytime for toddlers and preschoolers. Join Miss Dina for songs, stories, and a fun take-home craft, all while learning our numbers and counting skills! Registration is required. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

Jan. 27

**TinkerTots Building Club
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.**

This session will spread out with a few different types of blocks, and then you are free to build! For toddlers and preschoolers. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**ArtPlay
Morrill Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.**

Join this new art-based library program for some cool stories and a process art project for toddlers and preschoolers! This is an in-person program held at the library. For ages 2 -5. To register, visit <http://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/>.

**An Evening with Spirit: A Mediumship Experience with Dr. Cathy Ripley Greene
Morrill Memorial Library
6 p.m.**

Cathy will spend some time explaining how the process of mediumship works and then she will make connections with spirits for some people in the audience. This is a gallery demonstration and of course this means not everyone will make a connection, but will be an enjoyable evening.

To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Jan. 29

**Meat Raffle
Norwood V.F.W. Post 2452, at 193
Dean St., 2-5 p.m.**

Jan. 31

**Take + Make Winter Craft
Morrill Memorial Library
All Day**

Take-Home Craft Kit

Families can pick up prepared materials to create a fun, easy craft! Crafts are geared to preschool aged children but are fun for slightly older kids too! Toddlers and Preschoolers. Register for the number of kits you need. To register, visit www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

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Pet Corner

Bay State Animal Cooperative

Cats for Adoption

Meet Paul (white and black) and JR (black and white)



This could not have gone better. The boys are thriving in their quiet foster home as the only fur babies. This is the environment they are now seeking for their forever home as the foster sadly can't adopt them. We really don't know their exact ages but we can say they are in their retirement years (not senior). JR

To say these two boys have come a long way would be an understatement. We have had JR and Paul in our care for over 8 years in a group home. Only recently did we feel JR was ready to spread his wings an experience a "real" home setting. However, Paul needed JR to feel safe so it was decided they would take this venture together.

has always sought a head pat but only recently has Paul decided to hog human affection. It's the home they are in that is bringing out the best of these boys!!!

Would your home and life be their next perfect fit? They are ready for their final step in life and promise to bring their love with them. Experienced, patient,

loving pet parents wanted. Let us know if this is you. Looking to get them in their forever home!!!!

About Paul

CHARACTERISTICS

Protective, Curious, Quiet

COAT LENGTH

Short

HOUSE-TRAINED

Yes

HEALTH

Vaccinations up to date, spayed / neutered.

If you still want to adopt, you can complete a non-commitment application on our website www.baystateanimals.org

In the application, please list in the section that asks what cat you are interested in, that you are interested in JR and Paul. \$175 adoption fee includes; both neutered cats, age appropriate vaccines, feline leukemia test, FIV test if over 6 months of age, microchip, flea treatment and roundworm treatment as needed, additional treatments as deemed necessary.

Thank you again and if you do not hear from one of our volunteers in a reasonable amount of time please do not hesitate to reach back out to us!

About JR

CHARACTERISTICS

Smart, Independent, Quiet

COAT LENGTH

Short

HOUSE-TRAINED

Yes

HEALTH

Vaccinations up to date, spayed / neutered.

Meet Tiger Lily

Tiger Lily is seeking a VERY special forever foster home. Yup we said foster because she needs our financial and advisory support



for her best life moving forward. Tiger Lily was rescued from the streets several years ago and has struggled with medical concerns ever since. She is on a long term steroid treatment to help her thrive. She prefers human attention to the company of other cats. However, she requires minimal pampering and would let you know once you have gone beyond her tolerance. Tiger Lily is seeking a patient cat friendly human who understands and reads her queue's. She's simple and just needs to be supported to live her best life. Reach out if you think you are her match!

From her current foster mom... "She does love attention but she lets you know when enough is enough, but also I think she just likes knowing there is someone close by who loves her and cares for her. She's not the type that will invade your space, like some cats that need to be cuddled or be by your side at all times, she's content to be in her space, and she likes to control the amount of

PET CORNER

continued on page 15

Check us out on social media:

www.baystateanimals.org

 www.facebook.com/BSAC09

 www.instagram.com/baystateanimals16

 www.twitter.com/BayStateAnimals

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Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. CLOSED Sunday**

PET CORNER

continued from page 14

affection that she needs, but yes, she loves attention.”

Have Cat Food? Need Cat Food?

Bay State Animal Cooperative continues to host a food swap collection bin for felines. The bin has been relocated, but continue to coordinate this community service.



The idea is to collect ANY kind of cat food to share with other community members and their cats in need.

We also use food to help local cat caretakers in the community.

Please consider donating and don't hesitate to grab food if you truly need some.

Reach out to others as we would love to share!

Drop off anytime at 115 Codman Rd., Norwood. Bin in front yard.

Order Your 2022 BSAC Calendar Today!

There are still a few 2022 Baystate Animal Cooperative calendars available!

Each year, we build our calendar with pictures of successful adoptions, our foster cats and felines we nurture and care for permanently throughout their lives.

Turn the page each month and enjoy a view of our beautiful cats as a reminder why your donations are an integral part to keep the BSAC funded to care for these temporary and eternal homeless animals.

The calendars are \$16 for hand delivered in Norwood or \$18.50, which includes shipping (required outside of Norwood). To order, visit baystateanimals.org.



The Norwood Art Association Showcase

The NORWOOD ART ASSOCIATION is excited to announce it will be showcasing the work of 25+ of their members in January at the Walpole Public Library. The show will run from January 6 – 31.

A variety of media will be exhibited, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, photography, mixed media, and wood. Works will be on display and available

for sale by contacting the artists directly. Come and support our local artists!

Enjoy the creativity of emerging as well as established artists. See the creativity that has sustained us through the pandemic.

Work will be on display in both the community room and the lobby gallery during regular library business hours.

The Norwood Art Association was founded in the 1970's and has continued to thrive and grow its membership through the years. Interested in becoming a member? Please contact the Norwood Art Association at norwoodartassociation@gmail.com, or visit their website norwoodartassociation.com, or on Facebook.

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Norwood Recreation Pre-School Prep had a surprise visit on their walk December 16!
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Norwood Recreation Department has completed another CPC project! Murphy Field at the corner of Pleasant Street and Lenox Ave has a resurfaced basketball court, new bench, and a new ADA accessible trail from the parking area down to the basketball court & playground.

Norwood Recreation recognizes the hard work of the DPW and the Community Preservation Committee for selecting this project, and the town for approving!



Norwood's Town Hall at night. Truly a representation of the Commonwealth's Crown Jewel!

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CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
Docket Number: N021 C0408CA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021
(781) 830-1200

In the Matter of:
Bianca Aleca Lakia Austin

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Bianca Aleca Lakia Austin of Norwood MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: BellaBianca Aleca La'Kia Austin.

Important Notice
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Norfolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/05/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Patricia Gorman,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 06, 2021.

Colleen M. Brierley,
Register of Probate

Norwood Housing Sales Continue to Rise

By MICHELE TARANTO

While total housing sold in Norwood dipped in 2020, which was likely attributed to the confinements and health concerns of COVID-19, the Norwood real estate market continues to experience steady growth.

This past year, total sold, average sales, list price, and market volume have shown significant increases for both single family homes and condominiums in all categories. Houses are quickly jumping off market this year, likely due to continued lack of inventory with only an average 12

days to an accepted offer.

With nationwide inflation, rising interest rates are projected slowly throughout 2022, however, if available inventory remains a challenge, Norwood home sellers could still expect positive numbers with appropriate pricing.

	2021	2020	2019
Total Homes Sold	249	195	227
Ave. Sale Price	\$620,480	\$562,834	\$498,147
Ave. Days to Offer	12	15	23
Ave. List Price	\$596,358	\$555,396	\$497,711
Total Market Volume	\$154,499,514	\$109,752,660	\$113,079,260
Total Condos Sold	121	73	86
Ave. Sale Price	\$449,611	\$417,554	\$397,756
Ave. Days to Offer	32	34	30
Ave. List Price	\$446,747	\$419,534	\$399,917
Total Market Volume	\$54,402,950	\$30,481,445	\$34,207,050

Per MLS, 12/28/21



Last month, while on foot patrol uptown, Officer Landry met local resident, Chris Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff was impressed to see an officer walking the beat and expressed his support of local law enforcement. Great work Officer Landry and thank you for the support Mr. Woodruff.

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*City of Boston Credit Union will provide you the complimentary Auto Advantage Plan, from AssurancePlus. The Auto Advantage Plan includes an Auto Deductible Reimbursement (ADR) benefit, Personal ID Restoration Consulting service and Warranty Vault™ storage service. The ADR benefit Pays up to five hundred dollars (\$500) per Loss (limit of two losses per year) when a Loss is filed and paid by your Auto Insurance Company for the Covered Auto the Member owns AND insures under an Auto Insurance Policy designating the Member as the Named Insured. Covered Auto refers to the Specific Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) for which the Member was provided the Auto Advantage Plan. Coverage is effective upon date of enrollment and will continue for one (1) year. Full details at cityofbostoncu.com.



Library Eliminates Fines for Overdue Materials

Overdue fines were made history by an unanimous vote of the Trustees of the Morrill Memorial Library when they approved a revised borrowing policy at their meeting this past Tuesday evening, December 14. This policy change removes barriers and increases access to the library's resources.

"We are proud to join the national movement to eliminate library late fines and the equity imbalance they can create," said

Library Trustee Chair Sarah Begg. "The Morrill Memorial Library provides vital resources to the Norwood community. By removing this barrier to access, we are ensuring that these are accessible to everyone."

At the beginning of the Covid-pandemic the Morrill Memorial Library stopped collecting overdue fines. For many years Norwood's senior citizens have enjoyed fine-exempt status. Many other libraries in the Minuteman

Library Network have also eliminated overdue fines for all borrowers, as have the Boston Public Library, the New York Public Library, and many others.

"I have to be honest, I have already been a beneficiary of the program during its trial period and I am thrilled Morrill Memorial Library is making this change permanent," Norwood General Manager Tony Mazzucco proudly shared.

Historically less than one percent of the library's annual revenue came from overdue fines. In recent years this has been more than offset by the library's revenue from passport fees, which the Federal Government mandates be collected. The library is very happy to be an official U.S. Passport Application Service Center and make these services available in a friendly and welcoming environment that is open at hours when other passport service centers typically are closed.

Research has shown that collecting overdue fines is expensive and ineffective at getting people to return items to the library faster. Libraries that have eliminated fines get materials back at the same rate or even faster. The Morrill Memorial Library will continue to email overdue notices and charge borrowers for items

not returned. When the Salt Lake City Public Library eliminated fines their late-return rate dropped five percent. The average number of days an item was overdue dropped 42% after the Vernon (Illinois) Public Library eliminated fines.

"We know busy parents who have told their children they can't check out books because they don't know when they will be able to return to the library and are afraid of getting charged late fines," reported Library Director Clayton Cheever. "People with limited economic means are most adversely impacted by fines that many of us would consider trivial and insignificant. That's why we've been happy to waive fines for seniors for so long. I'm very grateful our Trustees have voted to eliminate this barrier for everyone."



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Real Estate Corner

Register O'Donnell Reports on Real Estate Activity in Norfolk County

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported that November real estate numbers relative to Norfolk County real estate activity were off, but there were a few aspects of the real estate activity to be hopeful about.

"The Norfolk County real estate market has started to become sluggish entering into the winter months," Register O'Donnell noted. "There were 14,364 documents recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds which is a 15% decrease over last year's November document volume.

The number of deeds which evidence real estate sales and transfers, both commercial and residential, increased a modest 1% in November. The average sales price during the month was \$1,538,528, an impressive 42% increase compared to Novem-

ber, 2020. Total dollar volume of commercial and residential sales also showed solid gains, increasing a whopping 37% to over \$1.4 billion."

Despite the deeds figure holding its own, overall lending activity showed a decrease for the month of November. A total of 3,226 mortgages were recorded during the month, a 25% decrease compared to November 2020.

"Higher interest rates and the prospect of rate increases through the end of the 2021 calendar year are making consumers think twice before borrowing money to pay for high ticket expenses such as home improvements," Register O'Donnell said. "Also, many consumers have previously refinanced given the past low interest rate environment."

In addition, during the month

of November, 2021 the total amount of residential and commercial borrowing decreased by 7% to \$1.7 billion.

One continuing cause for concern, however in Norfolk County, was foreclosures. A moratorium on foreclosures in place during the pandemic in 2020 was lifted on November 17, 2020. This moratorium was in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has been closely watching the foreclosure market.

"During November of 2021, there were 4 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of foreclosure processes taking place in Norfolk County," Register O'Donnell said. "In addition, there were 13 Notices to Foreclosure Mortgages, the first step in the foreclosure process, recorded here in Norfolk County in November

of 2021. A foreclosure recording is very impactful on those being foreclosed on. During November of 2020, there were 3 Foreclosure Deeds and 9 Notices to Foreclosure Mortgages filed. These numbers remind us that some of our neighbors continue to face financial challenges. We will continue to monitor these numbers."

Additionally, for the past several years, the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has partnered with Quincy Community Action Programs, 617-479-8181 x376, and NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, 508-587-0950 to help anyone facing challenges paying their mortgage. Another option for homeowners is to contact the Massachusetts Attorney General's Consumer Advocacy and Response Division (CARD) at 617-727-8400. Register O'Donnell stated, "If you are having diffi-

culty paying your monthly mortgage, please consider contacting one of these non-profit agencies for help and guidance."

Homestead recordings by owners of homes and condominiums decreased this year at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in October. There was a 2% decrease in homestead recordings in November 2021 compared to November 2020.

"A Homestead provides limited protection against the forced sale of an individual's primary residence to satisfy unsecured debt up to \$500,000," Register O'Donnell explained. "It is great to see folks protecting the biggest asset most of us have, our homes. I would urge anyone who has not availed themselves of this

REAL ESTATE
continued on page 22



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Our work has a purpose and is meaningful, Helping and caring for others is what we are all about.

While our "work" may be the foundation of RE/MAX Executive Realty, our heart of our organization is our people. We truly believe our agents and our employees are the heart and soul of our company. We are blessed

with an amazing group of people who create a culture and an environment of honesty, professionalism, collaboration, generosity, and fun! We are so grateful to have and support each other.

After researching and surveying over 80,000 employees in Massachusetts this past year, the Boston Globe along with Energage (an employee research and consulting company) compiled data and information to create a list of the Top Places to Work.

RE/MAX Executive Realty was recognized as the BEST place to work in MA for mid-sized companies. WOW...this



is a truly an amazing recognition for everyone at RE/MAX Executive Realty.

Thank you to our team at RE/MAX Executive Realty, you make extraordinary things happen every day!

REMAX Executive Realty is one of the largest real estate companies in Metrowest. Our award winning professional associates average over 10 years of real estate experience - more than twice the industry average. With

extensive knowledge of the home buying and selling process our associates can help you navigate the real estate market in these challenging times. We have 7 offices in the Metrowest area to serve our clients: Framingham, Franklin, Grafton, Holliston, Hopkinton, Marlborough, and Westborough. Our experience is never far away. To find one of our award winning associates go to our website www.remax-executiverealty-ma.com/

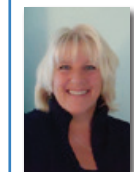
Wishing Everyone a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year!



Call Us To Help With All Your Home Buying and Selling Needs!

Keep Safe and Keep Well.

We Will Continue To Keep You Moving!



Veronica McElaney
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Steve Callahan
Broker/Owner/Realtor®
LAJ Home-S, LLC
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REAL ESTATE

continued from page 21

important consumer protection tool to consider doing so. Please visit the Registry website at www.norfolkdeeds.org to get more information on homestead protection.

Without question, November was a mixed bag month for real estate activity in Norfolk County. Available real estate inventory continues to be a constant source of concern in Norfolk County. It's especially been a problem for first-time homebuyers attempting to crack the mar-

ket. Also, things may be slowing down compared to past real estate indicators. The Registry of Deeds was operational every work day during the pandemic. The Registry of Deeds continues to be open to the public for business, however that is being evaluated as the COVID-19 developments unfold. The drop-off box located at the main entrance of the Registry Building for the time being will continue to be available for use by those members of the public who may not be comfortable in entering the Registry of Deeds Building. Land documents are being recorded electronically for many of our institutional users. We are also receiving documents in person, via regular mail, Federal Express and from those placed in our drop-off box located just outside our main entrance at 649 High Street, Dedham."

To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives, like them at facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds or follow on twitter.com/NorfolkDeeds and [Instagram.com/NorfolkDeeds](https://instagram.com/NorfolkDeeds).

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

Wishing you a Bright and Happy New Year!

Contact me for a **FREE** evaluation
Put my **36+ years** experience to work for you!



"Paul is Mr. Norwood. He certainly understands the area and presents it very well to buyers. Being a Townie has its benefits! Paul made recommendations to me that were extremely valuable to the selling process. Paul was not afraid to roll up his sleeves and help out. Paul took the time to listen to my thoughts, and work together to decide on a price. I'm sure if you use Paul as your real estate agent, you'll have made the right choice."
- R. Smith.

Paul G. Keady
RE/MAX Real Estate Center



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

pkeadyrealestate@gmail.com
www.paulkeady.com

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

New Year - New Home? Either way, cheers to a New Beginning! Welcome 2022!



Jennifer Conley
508-265-3824

Lifelong Norwood Resident
Jen.Conley@CBRealty.com | JenConley.CBInTouch.com
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Happy New Year 2022!

*For each petal on a shamrock
that brings a wish your way
Good Luck
Good Health and Happiness
for Today and Every day.*

*From Your #1 Norwood Realtor®
~ Anne Fahy*



ANNE FAHY
PRESIDENT'S PREMIER ASSOCIATE

617-257-8088
ANNE.FAHY@NEMOVES.COM

Here are just a few of the Norwood homes Anne sold during 2021. Let Anne sell your home 2022.

See the February issue for more!



18 IRVING ST.



26 ANDREWS ST.



26 COUNTRYSIDE LANE



7 SHERWOOD DR.



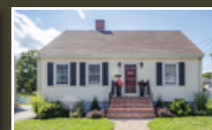
6 EVERGREEN CIRCLE



3 DAY ST.



10 RAILROAD AVE.



16 SAUNDERS ROAD



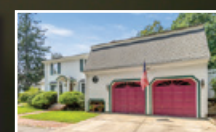
8 SHERWOOD DR.



103 NICHOLS ST.



229 VERNON



97 WILSON ST.



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