

Norwood

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Vol. 12 No. 8

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March 2022

More than Glitz and Glam

By DONNA LANE

Have you ever met someone who instantly made you feel like an old friend – welcoming you and making you feel that you are an important part of their lives? Maristela Rapo is that kind of person. She recently won an award from the Boston Arts Academy (BAA), the city's only public high school for the visual and performing arts. The BAA Foundation honored Rapo, founder and president of the non-profit 'Giving the Glam,' as well as Governor Charlie Baker with its Champion Award. Presented annually, this award recognizes individuals who embody the school's commitment to the arts, scholarship and citizenship.

What is Giving the Glam? It's a 501(c)3 organization that provides a once-in-a-lifetime prom experience for underserved urban and suburban high school seniors who couldn't otherwise afford to

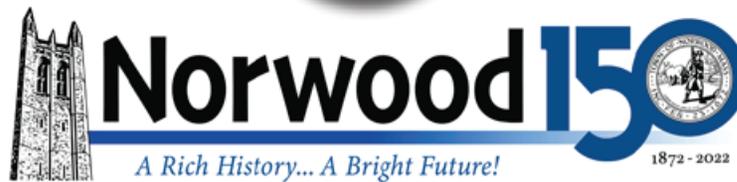
participate in their prom. The organization covers the cost of all attire and accessories, professional hair stylists, nails, photographer, and transportation to the prom venue. The showroom is located on Morse St., in Norwood.

"But we're much more than a prom experience," Rapo said. "We give students hope and a feeling of confidence, which many of them have never experienced before. I want them to know that they are special...and that they truly belong." Rapo



GLITZ

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Happy 150th Norwood!

By BELLA CAGGIANO

Throughout the year, Norwood residents will be celebrating the Norwood's 150th Anniversary. The anticipation of this 12-month celebration has been building for well over a year and 2022 is the time for all to embrace the founding of this wonderful Town. Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who have devoted so much of their time to create 12 months of commemorating Norwood together as a community.

Norwood Local Town Pages will publish a monthly series throughout the year to inform residents of the various events taking place throughout town. There is a wide variety of experiences for every age group and interests for all to enjoy!

The celebration kicked off on First Night (Dec. 31), on the Norwood Town Common.

Sunday, March 6
Commemoration of 150th Anniversary

The Norwood Historical Society commemorates the 150th anniversary of the creation of this wonderful town named Norwood. The event will be held virtually through Norwood Community Media, 1-5 p.m.

It was In 1872 when the citizens of South Dedham voted to secede and form the town of Norwood. The ratification was on March 6 where a celebratory event was held.

Prior to a formal gathering with elected officials of the Commonwealth at Village Hall, Lewis and Anna (Smith) Day welcomed Norwood residents and guests to a reception in their home at 93 Day St. A recreation of the festive event will be hosted by the Norwood Historical Society sans Governor Washburn and Senator Wakefield.

CELEBRATIONS

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GLITZ

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knows of that which she speaks.

Rapo was born in an underserved area of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

“I grew up in the favelas (the slums) of Rio de Janeiro, raised by a single mother, and then when she became ill, by my grandparents who were also raising my siblings and cousins, sometimes 15 of us in the house at a time. I only ever received hand-me-downs, which I was very grateful for, but knew the feeling of joy when I received something new that was just for me.”

She still remembers that feeling very acutely each day.

“I want the students to know that they should not feel shame growing up poor,” Rapo said. “My mother taught me to always respect others. To treat all people with dignity and respect, myself included, and to try to understand what others are going through. I want these students to do the same and I give them this message.”

So, how did she go from the favelas to being the proprietor of two Boston-based high-end fashion boutiques, a philanthropist,

Working with and being trained by world-famous fashion designers from New York, she was finally able to pursue her dream. She became the proprietor of two high-end fashion bou-

Fast forward to 2014 when her daughter Alexis, a student at Dover-Sherborn Regional High School, suggested that Rapo introduce herself to the school’s METCO program coordinator to see if she could help students with her fashion expertise, which she did.

Several weeks later, she was asked to help one of the students who needed assistance getting a dress for prom. The METCO student lived in Dorchester. Her dad had recently died of cancer and she was

ready at her home in Dover. She also arranged for a hair stylist and makeup artist, hired a photographer to record the experience, and a limo to bring her to prom. And Rapo picked up the tab for everything!

About a month later, the coordinator called and told her there were several other students that could use her help the following year. The requests for her help multiplied over the next few years, and by 2016 the number of students had increased to 50. And then 90 the following year! The expenses were adding up.

“By that time, my husband told me, ‘If you’re going to keep doing this, you’d better apply for nonprofit status,’ which I did,” Rapo said. “I knew I wanted each of the kids I was helping to feel special, to feel a sense of belonging. A lot of these kids struggle every day

thinking they’re not good enough or not pretty enough. And some

GLITZ

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wife, mother of four, and fairy-godmother to many high school students?

Her journey is an interesting one. At 18 years old, she left Rio and went to Europe to pursue her dream of working in the world of fashion. On a trip home to visit her family, she met her husband-to-be, an American who was staying at her hotel. Three years later, they were married and made their home in Dover.

tiques, the Wolford in Copley Square and Giuseppe Zanotti footwear in Boston. When the recession hit, she was forced to sell her stores but never lost her love of fashion.

being raised by her mom. Rapo took the girl to find a gown but didn’t stop there. She invited the young girl and her family to get

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CELEBRATIONS

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Stay tuned to the Norwood Historical website (norwood-historicalsociety.org) and social media channels for announcements and changes.

Save the afternoon of Sunday, March 6, to join in the celebration of Norwood becoming a town!

For more information, email info@norwoodhistoricalsociety.org (email) or check Facebook “Norwood (MA) Historical Society” (Facebook) or @NorwoodHistorical (Instagram).

**Saturday, March 12
Second Annual Community Dodgeball Tournament**

Impact Norwood and Norwood Recreation Department have teamed up for the 2nd Annual Community Dodgeball Tournament, 5-7 p.m. This event is for youths in grades 6 through 12 with one or two adults assigned to help. Teams of 5 will compete for the title of CHAMPIONS! Participants can register as an individual or as a group of 5. Gift cards for winning teams, The focus of adults assisting is to help with Impact Norwood’s larger mission to encourage healthy relationships between adults and youths.

Pre-Registration is required with Impact Norwood, please contact Aubrey Ciol: aciol@norwoodma.gov.

[woodma.gov](http://www.woodma.gov).

To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-dodgeball-tournament-tickets-267596778167> and pressing the “Register” button.

**Tuesday, March 15
Norwood Historical Society Book Group**

The Norwood Historical Society Book Group will be hosting a discussion through their Town History Book Group. on ‘Mapping Norwood, An Irish American memoir,’ by C. Fanning. The book chronicles the lives of Norwood citizens from the 1920’s to the 1960’s. These family stories will illustrate Norwood’s Irish community and parallels the author’s experiences and his study of Irish literature and history.

The event will be held at the F. Holland Day House, 93 Day St., 7-8:30 p.m.

Copies of the book can be checked out from Morrill Memorial Library or purchased from the Norwood Historical Society, norwoodhistoricalsociety.org. For more information on Norwood’s rich history or to RSVP for the event, email info@norwoodhistoricalsociety.org.

With the continuing changing health landscape, stay tuned to social media and Norwood Community Media throughout the year for any last minute changes to special events.

GLITZ

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of them have special needs.”

Giving the Glam was awarded non-profit status in 2018. Since then, approximately 200 students have been helped each year. Rapo works with each student one-on-one. She brings each participant to select their prom outfit. The girls come to the showroom in Norwood to select from a dazzling array of gorgeous gowns. She says the gowns range from size 0 to 28 to accommodate both the petite and larger sized girls who she finds are usually very self-conscious. She brings in a seamstress to make sure the gowns fit perfectly.

The boys are brought to Classic Tuxedo on Newbury Street in Boston to select their tuxes. Rapo said she’s grateful to Classic Tuxedo for partnering with her, providing their expertise, and making their beautiful tuxedos available for the program. All students get to keep the clothes they select.

Each person who enters her showroom learns about Rapo’s past via a mural on one wall, and what she calls her present

and future on the opposite wall. The “past” mural depicts her as a youngster in Brazil, with her pet blue macaw named Rio, the favelas which are brightly colored (unlike the actual drab buildings that they are), her as a child in her very own blue skirt and red cowboy boots (her treasured possessions), and the larger than life statue of Christ the Redeemer that overlooks the city.

The opposite wall contains elements of her philanthropy – Giving the Glam with photos of past recipients in all of their splendor and a giant Giving the Glam logo. In the front of the showroom, mannikins are dressed in student-owned attire, to be collected when they have a place for them.

In the past eight years, Rapo said she worked on-average 40 to 60 hours a week preparing students for prom.

“It is a six-month process, and one that I love,” Rapo said. “I am so very proud of these students, who despite all the challenges in life that you can imagine they face, they don’t give up on their education, which would be very easy for them to do. This is what makes me want to do more.”

This year, Rapo is helping 200 students from seven schools: Boston Arts Academy, two METCO schools, Norwood High School, Framingham High School, Boston International Newcomers Academy (BINCA), and for the first time, about 50 students from a high school in South Bronx, NY.

“I truly believe that you don’t have to be rich to give back, and that it’s our job to make a difference by using the gifts we have,” Rapo said.

Rapo was asked how she felt about the recent award she received.

“I am very honored to have received this award and to work with the talented students at the school,” Rapo said. “And even though I don’t do what I do for rewards or recognition, it feels good to be recognized ... especially next to the governor,” (she said with a giggle.)

Rapo is working to gain additional sponsors and donations so she can “help more kids have an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives.” If you would like to help by becoming a sponsor or donating to this uplifting program, visit to givingtheglam.org/.



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Let's Dance!

Dancing with the Norwood Stars is back on the dance floor!

BY BELLA CAGGIANO

It has been three years since Norwood volunteers have hit the dance floor, however, 2022

has a new swing in its step and the music is on! The Circle of Hope 10th Annual Dancing with the Norwood Stars is scheduled

for Friday, April 15, 8 p.m., Four Points Sheraton Ballroom, Norwood. According to COH Volunteer Board Member Carolyn Riccardi, a live audience is hopeful, but with the ever changing health restrictions from the past two years, it is still a wait and see

decision.

“Right now seems good, but tomorrow anything could change,” Riccardi said. “If anything changes, the production will go strictly on-air live. We have tickets to sell and we certainly hope we will be able to fill the hall. In the event we cannot due to capacity restrictions, we will make adjustments as needed.”

This year’s production will also commemorate former board members Kathy St. Cyr and retired Norwood Police Sargent Robert Doccette, who have contributed so much of their time to coordinate fundraisers and facilitate the organization’s efforts to help Norwood residents in need.

Celebrate those tax submissions and be a part of this admirable non-profit association by donating, watching, and viewing six local residents take to the ballroom for the highly successful fundraiser. This year’s dancers are:

Tracy Curran

Tracy Curran was born, raised and currently resides in Norwood and is a second-generation Norwood High School Alumni, graduating in 1989. She married John Curran, also a NHS alumni, so she could increase that inner town marriage statistic, among other reasons! Her and John are the proud parents to Maggie, Jack and Caroline who all attend/attended NHS and are very busy in athletics! Maybe someday they will follow in the footsteps of their grandfather James “Monk” Jessick, graduating class of 1961, who was inducted into the NHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017!

Tracy is the co-developer and manager of the Cardiac Fitness Program at Boston Children’s Hospital and is passionate about helping patients with chronic illness become fit both physically and mentally. Some of her favorite hobbies include teaching spin and running with friends and her dog Cooper. Tracy enjoys helping and giving to others and has always been moved by the many Norwood community members who always look to support each other through times of hardship, which was apparent during the recent pandemic. The Norwood Circle of Hope Foundation exemplifies this type of helping and giving.

In 2016, Tracy was shockingly

diagnosed with breast cancer, it was family and friends who came out from everywhere to support her and her family through this difficult time while undergoing cancer treatments. The support and generosity was so overwhelming and heartwarming that it has been her mission to give back ever since. Raising money for this wonderful cause is perfect way to do just that! Tracy is honored for this opportunity and would like to thank everyone for all the support, time, and donations they have contributed towards this outstanding charity since 2020!

Now let’s do this event and STOMP the night away!

Brian Glennon

I moved to Norwood and began working at Lewis’ Bar and Grill in 2005. Being in my mid twenties I was excited for the opportunity to work at this renowned local establishment. At first, I felt a little out of place, considering I was the only employee that was not from Norwood, but that quickly changed. I have had the pleasure of working with and serving some of the greatest people around.

In 2015, I was recruited by Atlantic Commercial Real Estate, LLC which is located at 60 Guild Street; to work with building owners, investors, and local businesses that are in the market to buy, sell, or lease commercial property. This has been a wonderfully rewarding career that has allowed me to expand my knowledge, meet numerous people, and see another side of this great town.

I now am raising a family of my own here in Norwood. My wife Kelly and I welcomed our first child John Joseph “JJ” Glennon into the world at Norwood Hospital 3 years ago. I am looking forward to watching my son grow up in Norwood.

For all the years that I have lived and worked in the center of Norwood, I have witnessed the community come together in triumph and tragedy. This is a town that is overflowing with pride, love, generosity, and kindness that is unmatched anywhere else.

I am extremely grateful to be back on as part of this year’s Dancing with the Norwood Stars

DANCE
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and look forward to the opportunity to give back to the community that has given me so much

Rachael Webber

My name is Rachael Webber and I am a proud resident of Norwood, class of 1992. Being raised and staying in Norwood has allowed me to forge lifelong friendships and stay physically close to my family, both of which means so much to me.

volunteer for Cat Canton Rescue; I serve on committees for Norwood's 150th yearlong celebrations, a Town Meeting member and am involved in various volunteering opportunities.

It is extremely important to me to give back and this is such a wonderful and honorable opportunity to serve my community. Thank you to the Circle of Hope for allowing me to participate in this event; with your continued support, we can assist those that are facing the adversity that can

wood, having attended the Callahan School, Jr. High South, and graduating from NHS in 1990. He then when on to Providence College and really expanded his horizons and social circles by rooming with two other Norwood guys all four years.

Jeff spent many years coaching Norwood Babe Ruth Baseball and Pop Warner. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Friends of St. Nick. He first witnessed the town's generosity back in the early '90s when they

disease. He is extremely grateful to have the opportunity to honor that legacy by participating in this event. And if he gets out of it without pulling a hamstring, that'd be cool as well.

The dancers have made a substantial commitment for the past three months practicing with their professional partners. They will perform their numbers on Friday, April 5, at the Four Points by Sheraton, 1125 Boston-Providence Hgwy, in Norwood, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for the live performance through Lee Kennedy at the Civic Center or by calling 781-762-3549. There will also be three satellite locations where viewers can watch the competition and submit their votes for their favorite competitor: the Old Colonial Cafe, on Nahatan St., Lewis's Restaurant Bar & Grill, on Central St., and the Colonial House, on Savin Ave. Prefer to watch the action at home? Norwood's independent station, Norwood Community

Media, will also be broadcasting the event live on local access tv!

The dancers have also been holding their own fundraisers to raise money for the organization. For each dollar donated, they receive a point which will be added to their dance scores. On performance night, two winners will be crowned: an Overall Winner for the person who raises the most money and the Judges Choice for the best single dance.

Rachael Webber

Holding a 50/50 online raffle with 200 entries and a cash prize of \$5,000 to the winner and \$5,000 as a donation to the Circle of Hope. She is also running different scratch ticket games. For more information, visit her Facebook page at Dancing with the Norwood Stars – Rachael Webber. For those not wishing to use Facebook, email Webber at rchlwbbr@msn.com.

DANCE

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2020 contestants: Kathy Curran, Brian Boudreau, Michelle Sheehan, Marc Saulnier, Jen Murphy-Connolly, and Tom Folan

I enjoy supporting the community when I am not working. I am a board member of the Norwood Junior Woman's Club, a

accompany catastrophic illness. Thank you!

Jeff Mahoney

I was born in raised in Nor-

came together to support young Kevin McNulty's heroic battle against cancer, and then again a few years later when Michelle Kennedy valiantly fought the

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Brown Bros. Roofing Business spotlight

90 years of Keeping a Roof over Your Head

“A roof over your head” is synonymous with having a home. A roof not only protects the house from rain and snow, but it also functions as a part of the home’s ventilation system, and it can add a striking quality to the home’s beauty.

But when a roof starts losing shingles, or granules shower off the downspouts, the roof needs attention. That’s when area homeowners reach out to Brown Brothers, the company that’s been keeping roofs on homes in Dedham, Norwood, Westwood, and many local communities for the past 90 years.

“We also do siding, gutters, gutter guards, windows, and masonry,” says Lisa Nugent, owner of Brown Bros. Roofing, “but roofing is the heart of the company.”

Just as most of a roof’s work goes unseen, most of the work in roof installation goes unseen.



“There are many layers to a good roof,” says Nugent. “Before our guys lay the roof shingles, we take several steps to make sure your roof will provide the best protection. There’s underlayment paper, starter strips, and ice and water shielding. All that happens prior to installing the shingles. Without those unseen layers, the roof isn’t going to last.”

When a homeowner detects signs of a failing roof, the first step is to call Brown Bros. A team member schedules a visit to take measurements and climb onto the roof to assess the shingles and the ventilation, and possibly inspect the roof boards from inside

the attic. They use that information to write a personalized formal estimate. Once the contract is signed, Brown Bros. obtains roofing permits, orders the material, schedules delivery and the project is good to go.

“Our customers know a good roof is more than choosing the color,” says Nugent. “We talk them through the different grades of CertainTeed shingles. I’ve heard contractors claim these steps are unimportant because they’d rather spend the money on a nice fireplace or upgrade the kitchen cabinets, but keep in mind, a roof should last thirty years. We do it right, so we can offer you the best warranty



on the market.”

Customers find peace of mind in knowing their roof is the best possible. Nugent says, “Installing a good roof pays off for the homeowner. It pays off when you don’t have to call back your roofer for leaks. It pays off when proper venting keeps your heating and cooling systems effective.”

Brown Bros. was founded in 1932. Nugent’s grandfather

joined the eponymous Brown Brothers as the first employee in their fledgling business. Years later, Nugent’s father purchased the company from the Browns, and now, three generations later, Lisa Nugent is the owner. She laughs, saying, “I’ve been a part of this company since age sixteen, so you could say roofing is my life. We have a history in this area. Some houses, we’ve gone through three full cycles of roofing. Every few decades, they call, and we go back.”

With eight employees, Brown Bros. feels like a family away from home. “It’s important to be a good team,” says Nugent. “My team members trust one another, and I think that helps our clients trust us. Even better, we have an office in town that you can just walk into. A lot of roofers don’t give an address, but our clients will step inside and say, ‘Hey, can you drop by and check out my gutters?’ It’s important to us that we’re a part of the community.”

Nugent says, “Our customers tell me they keep coming back for peace of mind. At the end of the day, the most important thing is to put on a good roof. We give the customer what they need, and we don’t take shortcuts—and our customers rely on us for that.”

As with a roof, so with the roofing company: the most important parts are the things that aren’t visible from the outside, whether it’s underlayment paper or a ninety-year-long commitment to the community.

You can check out Brown Bros. Roofing at brownbrosroofing.net, on Facebook @ brownbrothersroofing or by calling 781-329-2895.

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DANCE

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Kathleen Ducharme

My name is Kathleen "Kathy" Ducharme. Let me say, I am honored to be a part of 2020 Dancing with the Norwood Stars!

I am a 3rd generation Norwood resident and the proud daughter of Bob and Ellen Cotter. My parents raised 6 children here and 5 of us continue to live in Norwood. My grandmother graduated from Norwood High School in 1920, my mother in 1944 and I graduated with the "school on the hill's" class of 1981. My husband, Greg, and I

bought our family home in Norwood and raised our daughter, Casey, NHS class of 2011, here.

When Greg passed away suddenly on October 3, 2017, our lives changed forever. This town was there for my family in a way we will truly never forget. This community is exceptional. I am proud to say I am a Norwoodite! When I was approached for Dancing with the Norwood Stars, with a push from Casey I quickly realized that I needed to do it. I am honored to pay tribute to Michelle Kennedy. Michelle was a neighbor of mine. My father, sisters and I sat behind her many Sundays at the 11am mass. The

Circle of Hope is such an incredible organization that started with Michelle's passing and I am proud to be a part of it. We all know and have lost loved ones to cancer. My hope is that we all raise as much money as we can for this amazing cause. We are all winners!

The Circle of Hope and I truly appreciate your donation. Please make check payable to Norwood Circle of Hope. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Unfortunately we did not receive Town Manager Tony Mazucco's bio by press deadline.

Daylight Saving Time Begins Sunday, March 13

Don't forget to turn your clocks forward 1 hour on Sunday, March 13, at 2 a.m.!

Sunrise will be a little darker in the morning, but say hello to those later sunsets!



Just Another Day in Downtown Norwood



Walking the Beat. Chief Brooks joined Norwood Police Officers Brooks and LaRoche during their uptown foot patrol and stopped in at Exclusive Barbershop.



BRUINS RAFFLE

Special Bruins Raffle to benefit Andrea Dixon-Lavery and family



Our dear friend Andrea was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 Cancer. She is an amazing wife, mom, sister, daughter and a nurse, who has been at the front lines during the pandemic. She has been there for all of us during hard times, so we want to be there for her when she needs us most!

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Approx Value: \$1500.00

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On a Mission to Combat Veteran Suicide

By GRACE ALLEN

After three military friends killed themselves in one month, David Campisano knew he had to do something. In April of 2020, the Army veteran and former Norfolk resident started 22Mohawks, a non-profit committed to raising awareness around veteran suicide.

Campisano served his country from 2001 to 2016, and after his honorable discharge he returned home and slipped back into civilian life. He was one of the lucky ones. Since the global War on Terror began in 2001, over 60,000 American soldiers have died in combat. While that number is stunning enough, it's eclipsed by the number of military veterans who have committed suicide in the same time frame. By some accounts, it's close to 120,000. On average, 22 veterans commit suicide each day.

"Veterans are trained not to ask for help," Campisano said. "They're trained to suppress emotions and not show weakness because there's this stigma. You're in the military, you get hurt and you're in pain, but you're not going to tell anyone and you drive on. And that actually works very well when you're in the military. But when you get out, that doesn't work anymore. Some of the most A-type, hard-charging people I know took their own lives."

22Mohawks began with a few events to gather veterans together in an effort to provide support and



From left, David Campisano, the founder and president of 22Mohawks, with Stacey Coyne, the organization's CEO, and Mike McGee, the first veteran to receive a dog through 22Mohawk's Pups for Vets program. Photo courtesy of 22Mohawks.

create community over shared experiences. But after the chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan last year, Campisano was inundated with calls from veterans having difficulty processing the end of the war. He decided to create a website to get more visibility for the organization, and also to announce that he would help veterans get emotional support dogs as quickly as possible. There is a two-year waiting list for a dog

through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

"The website went up and within two days we got a phone call from a veteran asking for a dog," recounted Campisano. "He was in bad shape, so I went to the local shelter, bought a dog, and drove it to his house."

That veteran was Michael McGee.

"22Mohawks sprang into ac-

tion after I reached out to them," McGee, a Marine Corps veteran now living on Cape Cod said. "The days were getting harder and harder to fight through, but because of their intervention, today I feel confident in my ability to keep fighting on. They helped me understand that it's okay to reach out for help and their generosity and selflessness has given me a new outlook on life."

22Mohawks partners with Professional Canine Services in Middleboro to provide free lifetime training for the dogs, which Campisano gets from area shelters. Since September of 2021, 22Mohawks has placed on average one dog a week with veterans through its Pups for Vets program. If a dog is available, any vet that needs one will get it at no cost within 24 hours. (There can be up to a three-week wait if dogs are not available.) Veterans are responsible for the dog's medical bills and food, although 22Mohawks provides the first week of food for free.

Campisano and his team are working with local VA offices to become the first point of contact for veterans returning home after a tour of duty. Their goal is to provide support for vets in any way possible, although suicide awareness and prevention remains the organization's primary focus.

Rachel El Massih, the Public Relations Director for 22Mohawks, said Campisano is always taking phone calls from veterans

he doesn't know, and often they simply want someone to talk to someone who understands what they're going through.

"Dave doesn't have a clinical background," El Massih said. "He's just a fellow veteran and I think that makes a difference for people. And that's what we want veterans to know, that we're just a phone call away, providing peer-to-peer support."

22Mohawks will help veterans navigate the mental health system, too if they want or need more support than the organization can provide. Vets are often referred to a direct contact at Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital program dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of war for service members and veterans of all wars. There is no cost for services provided by Home Base.

There is also no cost for the yearly events 22Mohawks holds for veterans, which include a NASCAR racing experience, a tandem parachute jump, and a firearm safety certification course. Veterans are chosen by lottery to attend.

The goal of the veteran-focused events, according to Stacey Coyne, 22Mohawks' CEO, is to create social connections and camaraderie while providing an outlet for veterans and their families to express themselves.

VETERANS
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VETERANS

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“We are family-based and we encourage veterans to bring their spouses and children,” Coyne said. “Because it’s not just about the veteran. The spouse may not understand what the vet is going through and maybe these events will help them see the challenges their spouse is facing.”



Above, Coyne and Campisano, along with Allyson Shean, right, the Pups for Vets program’s Lead Ambassador, with a pup recipient.



Left, A recipient of the Pups for Vets program with Campisano, Charlie Young (rear), and Patrick Martin. Young and Martin of Professional Canine Services provide life-time training for the dogs. Photos courtesy of 22Mohawks.

“We want veterans to know that there’s a group of people that can be there for them

online shop has gear available for purchase to help raise awareness about the organization and veteran suicide.

for anything,” Campisano said. “If they’re having a bad day, they can call us and we’ll have a conversation and maybe they’ll realize it’s not actually a weakness to reach out. We all get sad and we all get depressed. So let’s talk, because we don’t want anyone else dying by their own hand.”

To contact 22Mohawks, call 1-617-680-9852 or 1-781-251-9212. Campisano can also be reached via email: dave@22mohawks.com.

Visit the group’s website at <https://22mohawks.com> for more information about the organization, including upcoming fundraisers and events for veterans, or to make a donation. Their

22Mohawks also holds fundraisers open to the public, with the proceeds going towards the organization’s Pups for Vets program, as well as to the yearly veteran-focused events. Upcoming fundraisers include an open skate night on March 26, 5 to 8 p.m., at the Skating Club of Boston in Norwood, as well as a trivia night on April 8, 7 to 11 p.m., at the Norwood Elks.

Campisano and his senior leadership at 22Mohawks hail from Millis, Franklin, Walpole, Norwood, and Wrentham. And while the organization is currently Massachusetts-based, Campisano will try to help any veteran who needs support.

Coakley Project Launches Website

The Town of Norwood recently announced the launch of a new website for the proposed Coakley Middle School Project.

The website, newcmsproject.org, will act as an official source of information for Norwood residents as they prepare to vote on the project’s associated Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion at Town Meeting on March 14 and again in a ballot vote on April 4.

The new website features key information about the project, including the current status, upcoming meetings and frequently asked questions. The website also includes important documents related to the project, as well as recordings of past Middle School Building Committee meetings. Several educational videos are available on the site for community members to learn more about the process and background for the project.

A news blog on the website will be regularly updated with the latest information and updates about the project. The site

will also be directly connected to the social media pages of the town and school district in order to efficiently broadcast the latest updates to the public.

Community members are urged to subscribe to the site to receive email alerts when new updates are posted to the website’s news blog.

A tax calculator is also featured on the website for residents to enter their home value and see the current estimated tax impact.

In 2017, the Norwood Public Schools completed a district-wide facility study to review the elementary and middle schools. The Coakley Middle School was identified as the school with the most building deficiencies.

The proposed new Coakley Middle School would open in 2025 for approximately 1,070 middle school students. The town is currently in the Schematic Design Phase of the project which will establish the final Project Scope and Budget.

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Tracy Sullivan and Maryline Michel Kulewicz,
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Wonderful Women of Norwood

In celebration of Norwood's 150th Anniversary, the Norwood Historical Society would like to pay homage to the "wonderful women" of our town's history. These women contributed to the building and formation of Norwood in less visible ways than those of their male counterparts; but their contributions were invaluable. They are the "quiet heroes" of our town.

We at the Historical Society will be celebrating the "wonderful women" of our town's history throughout the sesquicentennial year. We begin with Anna Day, who hosted a celebration of the new town's incorporation at her home on March 6, 1872. We look forward to marking that anniversary this spring, following in the spirit of her generosity, hospitality, and civic-mindedness.

January

Anna Day

By Norwood Historical Society Board Members Laurie Kearney, Linda Rau, & Karen DeNapoli



Anna Day was born in 1836 in South Dedham to Lyman Smith and Melinda (Guild) Smith. She was educated in local schools

along with her brothers Charles and John. Her father, Lyman, and Joseph Day learned and worked in the leather trade in Norwood. Joseph's son, Lewis, and Anna attended the same church and knew each other their entire lives. In 1856 they married; and in 1864, their son Fred was born. In 1859, they moved into their new home—a mansion that Tyler Thayer had built at 93 Day Street called "Bullard Farm". This is the present day site of the Norwood Historical Society. By this time, Lewis was running the Day family business and was one of the wealthiest men in South Dedham. Anna was known as a generous and kind person. She was liberal minded and unprejudiced and had a philanthropic philosophy. She worked at the North End Union and was a trustee of the Westborough Insane Hospital. She also supported many other charitable organizations. Because of their standing in the community and their civic mindedness, the Day Family were at the forefront of significant town events. The 1872 reception commemorating Norwood's founding was held at the Day House. In 1903, the Day Family donated the chapel of St. Gabriel the Archangel in Highland Cemetery as a tomb for their family and as a chapel for the town. The last wishes of Anna were that all of her remaining assets would be used to fund a home for the aged. Although this never came to be, the remaining money

was donated to local institutions for the care of the elderly. Anna died in 1922 and is entombed in St. Gabriels, alongside Lewis, in the chapel they dedicated to their parents.

Sources: Norwood A History, Patricia Fanning. Archives, Norwood Historical Society Memorial Encyclopedia of the State of Massachusetts History of Norfolk County

February

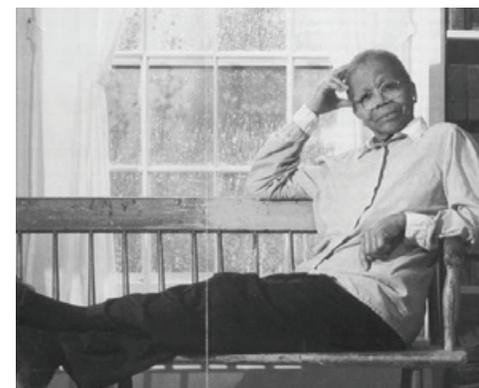
Ann Elizabeth Tanneyhill

By: Norwood Historical Society Board Members Laurie Kearney, Linda Rau, & Karen DeNapoli

To commemorate Black His-

of New England."

In 1906, there were two Black families living in Norwood—the Diggs family and the Tanneyhill family. Mrs. Diggs and Mrs. Tanneyhill were sisters. Anna was born January 19, 1906, in Boston to Adelaide (Grandison) Tanneyhill and Alfred Tanneyhill. She was named for Anna Day and her paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Weems, and chose to be known as "Ann" in her adult life. In 1917, she was a member of the Norunda Camp Fire Girls of Norwood. She grew up and was educated in Norwood—graduating from Norwood High School in 1923. Alfred was a coachman and butler to the Day family. Her mother was a typesetter at the J.S. Cushing Company. Anna's maternal grandfather was one of the first Black trade union members in the country and the first Black to attend Dalhousie College in Halifax.



As a young girl, Ann worked with Fred Holland Day collecting material for a genealogical study of the Day family and a history of Nor-

wood. She attended Simmons College on the advice of and with tuition assistance from Fred Holland Day and graduated in 1928. Her first job was with the Urban League (UL) in Spring-

wood. She attended Simmons College on the advice of and with tuition assistance from Fred Holland Day and graduated in 1928. Her first job was with the Urban League (UL) in Spring-

WOMEN

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WOMEN

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field. Ann started working at the UL in New York and began her master's degree in vocational guidance and personnel administration at Columbia University. In 1938, she was the first Black to receive this degree and the first woman at the UL to acquire professional status.

From 1931-1946, Ann directed the Vocational Opportunity Campaign for Young Blacks. She felt that Black boys and girls should be encouraged to enter any field they have the interest, aptitude, and ability for. Ann wrote booklets, speeches, radio scripts, and organized seminars. She worked for Black employment on the subways, the Telephone Company, and the defense industry during WWII. In the 1960's Ann continued to work and bring pressure on various industries—particularly in the insurance field. In 1961, she was appointed Assistant Director for Public Relations.

During her 50-year career, Ann was a mentor to thousands of Black students and teachers. One of these young students

was Coretta Scott who became the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ann served on the board of the National Vocational and Guidance Assoc. where she fought to abolish the segregated chapters. In 1970, the Ann Tanneyhill Award was established by the UL; and in 1971, she received the Simmons College Alumnae Award. In 1971, Ann retired from the UL but continued on as a special assistant.

Ann retired to Mashpee where she lived next door to her sister, Gertrude. She and her brother, William, operated a service station and general store in town. She was chairwoman of the Mashpee Historical Commission where she collected material and artifacts on the American Indians. The present-day collection is named in her honor. Ann (Anna) Elizabeth Tanneyhill passed on May 15, 2001, in her 95th year.

Sources: "Black Women Oral History Project" Harvard University Patriot Ledger, 1922 Boston Herald, 4-21-1925 Springfield Union, 10-30-54 Cape Cod Times, 5-19-01 The New York Times, 5-20-01

You can learn more about the Tanneyhill and Diggs families and find additional resources about Ann Tanneyhill on the Norwood Historical Society website as part of our online exhibit: <https://norwoodhistoricalsociety.org/the-tanneyhill-diggs-families/>

March

Clara Wentworth (Rich) Berwick Walker

By: Norwood Historical Society Board Members Laurie Kearney, Linda Rau, & Karen DeNapoli

The Norwood Historical Society would like to highlight the life of Clara Wentworth (Rich) Berwick Walker, one of Norwood's Wonderful Women who was responsible to contributing to the growth of our town. Clara was a very unusual woman for her day. For approximately thirty years, from 1917 to around 1947, she was the president of Berwick & Smith, the printing department of the Norwood Press. This position was not a traditional role for a woman at that time, and yet, Clara did not hesitate to leave her socialite life

behind and do something very unconventional for a woman – to be the president of a large company.

Clara Wentworth Rich was born April 26, 1873 in Cohasset, Massachusetts. She was the first-born child of Charles H. Rich and Clara Bourne Pratt, and was the sister of Martha (Rich) Fleming, wife of Charles Fleming, President of E. Fleming & Co., part of the Norwood Press. The Rich family moved to Cot-

Norwood's public schools, and then attended Boston University's School of Business Administration. She was married first to Walter Jones Berwick, October 2, 1895, in Norwood. He was the son of James Berwick, owner of Berwick & Smith. Walter worked for his father as the treasurer of the company. Early records show the couple lived with her parents on Cottage Street. This couple had been married for over twenty-three years when Walter died. They had no children.

Clara, as the wife of one of Norwood's important businessmen, did not work outside of the home. She was a housewife. In that role, she would have hosted many gatherings for some of Norwood's elite residents. Her name appears as a member of several organizations. She was one of the founding members of the Norwood Historical Society and the

Norwood Women's Club, and she formed an association, the Massachusetts Protective Associ-



tage Street around 1875, and were part of Norwood's growing middle-class. Charles was a foreman mechanic at the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad car shops. Clara was educated in

WOMEN

continued on page 12

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WOMEN

continued from page 11

ation for Horses, and served on its board. They actively petitioned the state to make streets safer

for horses as newly tarred roads were slippery, especially in the winter. She even enjoyed golfing with family and friends. In 1911, Clara and Walter bought a large lot of land behind the Rev. Jabez Chickering house and it was here where they build their new home. Clara seems to have led the kind of life a well-connected woman of that time would have led—quiet and involved in philanthropic endeavors.

Clara's husband, Walter Berwick, died unexpectedly in 1917. Her father-in-law had died the

year before. So Clara took over the running of Berwick and Smith. It was a position she held for approximately thirty years. In the 1920 census, she lists her job as a "manager at a printing co," and in Norwood's local directories throughout the 1930s and 1940s, as well as in professional directories, she is listed as the President of Berwick & Smith.

Clara remarried June 10, 1919 to John Jacob Walker, in Livingston, South Dakota. Walker was eighteen years younger than Clara. This couple enjoyed leisure time at their retreat in Orland, Maine. They also enjoyed traveling abroad. Over the years they visited Europe, Asia, China, Japan, Alaska, and Africa. During their travels, Clara began collecting art and antiques, eventually amassing a very impressive collection. In 1933, she was a charter member of The Early American Glass Club, a branch of a national glass collectors club, in Boston. In 1945, John Walker left the family home, moving to New York. Soon after he left, he sent a letter to Clara demanding \$200,000 to "regain his self-respect." Eventually some sort of settlement was agreed upon, and a divorce was granted in 1950.

Clara was a collector of fine art and by the 1950s she began donating her collections to museums and universities. In 1952,

she exhibited a part of her silk oriental rug collection, which was part of an art collection she gave to Brandeis College in Waltham, MA. In 1958, she donated her collection of 170 glass items to the Smithsonian. This collection included a rare grouping of early American Glass from Stiegel, Amelung, and Sandwich. In 1959, she donated her collection of 100 rare ivory pieces to Trinity College. In the 1960s she donated more art to the Smithsonian including : seven oriental rugs, some robes and ceramic pieces, seventy-four pieces of rare early American glass, and twenty-two European and Asian ivories. When her estate was auctioned off in 1965, the auctioneer stated he was selling antique, Victorian, and other furniture, as well as china and glass from the Berwick estate.

Clara Wentworth (Rich) Berwick Walker died December 28, 1964 in Norwood, just a few months shy of 92 years old. She led an incredible life, yet when one searches for information on it, very little can be found. Growing up in a middle-class family and then becoming one of Norwood's socialites, after her first husband died, she put that traditional life style behind her to run the family business, a large printing company with clients all over the world. She held this position for approximately thirty years before retiring, but what can be found on her are snippets of her social life and her philanthropic donations. There is nothing on her professional life except for listings in directories. This really speaks to how professional women were viewed at the time. Silently.

Photo credit: Pamela Butler from FindAGrave.com

Sources: Ancestry.com genealogical database. Archives, Norwood Historical Society.

Norwood Historical Society exhibit, The Printing Industry of Norwood. Online at <https://norwoodhistoricalsociety.org/exhibits/the-printing-industry-of-norwood-a-lasting-indelible-ink-mark-in-the-pages-of-norwoods-history/>.

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Dr. Rochelle Bien & Dr. Michael Goldstein

Marla P, was frustrated dealing with her 6 yearold son. He had difficulty finishing his schoolwork and difficulty completing his chores at home. She would ask him repeatedly to get dressed, brush his teeth and put his toys away. He would start but not finish these tasks because he became distracted easily. At first, she thought he was just lazy, but very quickly realized there was something wrong. The behavioral patterns of inability to focus, complete tasks or sit still for any length of time “set off bells” in her head. She realized that some-

thing was not right and he might have ADHD. She didn't want to put him on meds and decided to take a holistic approach. A dear friend suggested she call The Holistic Center at Bristol Square in Walpole.

Within 2 weeks of beginning treatment, Marla noticed that her son could sit to do his homework and complete the assignment without screaming, yelling and tears. Within 4 weeks, he was completing his chores at home and happy to do so. Within 2-3 months, her son was happy

and more confident, because he was finishing his assignments in school as well as at home in a reasonable time frame.

If you or someone you love is suffering from ADD or ADHD don't hesitate to contact Dr Rochelle Bien or Dr Michael Goldstein at the Holistic Center at Bristol Square, 1426 Main Street Ste#6 in Walpole.

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Norwood Sports

Isaiah Grupee Looking to Break Out on the Track

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Isaiah Grupee began his running career while still living in Needham in order to improve his play on the football field. After joining the track team, he found that the sport would not only help him with his football skills, but it was also something that he realized that he could succeed in. With this newfound knowledge, he began taking his new sport more seriously than he had originally planned on.

“I was big into football and around sixth grade I decided to join the track team to help me get better with football,” Grupee said. “When I went undefeated that first year and was invited to take part in the tournament, I knew that this was something I needed to continue with. I didn’t do all that well in the tournament, but I was a sixth grader running against eighth graders and that was a big age gap.”

During his sophomore year, his family left Needham and moved to Norwood where his intentions were to continue playing football, hopefully basketball, and run spring track. Unfortunately, during the football season, the then sophomore dislocated his shoulder and was unable to try out for the basketball team and there would be no track as the Covid pandemic was causing havoc amongst the high school seasons.

“It was rally devastating not being able to take part in track because the year before I was able to take part in the freshman/sophomore meet and I was really

looking forward to showing off my skills in my sophomore season,” Grupee said. “Covid put a stop to that giving us no track season and no tournament, so the next time I got to run was in my junior year and in the moment, I was upset that I couldn’t run in that tournament again.”

Norwood boys track coach Matt Curran was also disappointed that the Norwood fans didn’t get to see the transfer student strut his stuff on the track.

“Unfortunately, his first season would have been the Covid year where the entire season was cancelled so I believe it hurt his development with us and he has such great ability,” the Mustang Coach said. “Isaiah finally got to run for the first time as a junior last year and running a half a second behind Jon Palumbo, it gave us a great 1-2 punch.”

After missing out on spring track his first year at Norwood High School, Grupee decided he was going to only focus on two sports, football, and both winter and spring track. During his first indoor season, he would take part in the 55-meter dash and the 300 for the Mustangs while running against a completely new group of athletes. Although he came into the season confident and in good shape, he was unaware of what he was up against with his new school’s opponents.

Grupee considers himself to be a fast runner but knew that he needed to do some work on his start if he was going to make a run at any of the Norwood records during either the winter or



spring seasons.

“I found that I could be much faster if I worked on my start,” Grupee said. “I needed to focus while perfecting my explosiveness at the start; I need to get myself more power at the beginning. After watching videos of my running, I found that I was too high in my start while all the other runners were much lower to the ground. I had always started off a little behind and then used my speed to run past them.”

In addition to figuring out what he needed to work on, he also noticed that during the indoor season he was faster than Palumbo but come the spring it was the opposite. Palumbo had adjusted his footing and was now

faster than Grupee. Needless to say, Grupee got Palumbo to teach him how to improve his running as well during that spring season.

“Last year Isaiah was a little overshadowed by Jon, who was a really good sprinter in front of him,” Curran said. “This year I am hoping that he steps up his game and improves upon his times. He is a leader of the team with a great personality.”

Thus far this season, his final with Norwood, Grupee had been undefeated in his races until recently when during his stretching and pre-game war-ups he didn’t feel right but decided to still give it his best for the team. Unfortunately, he couldn’t quite muster up enough power to capture the win.

With the rest of the winter season still ahead of him, the senior is looking to grab a spot in Norwood history in the 55 and 300. Currently Grupee has posted a 37.6 in the 300 behind Solomon King’s 36.84 record setting time and is currently sitting with a time of 6.84 seconds in the 55 with the record being 6.61. During the spring he will also be looking to etch his name in the record books for the 100 and 200. The 200 being his best chance as he is sitting on a time of 22.8 seconds, just short of the record time of 22.4. The 100 record is 10.8

seconds with Grupee’s best time 11.0

“I am really looking forward to the tournament this year that will give me the chance to run in the 55 and 300 and hopefully a shot at the high school record,” Grupee said.

While he would like to put his name in the Norwood record book, Grupee is hoping that he can help the rest of the team with his knowledge and get them into the State Tournament. As one of the Mustang leaders, Grupee is hoping that his natural leadership ability and charismatic attitude helps get the team to where they want to be come the end of the season.

According to Curran, Grupee not only has the ability to place in the Divisional Meet and become one of the top sprinters in the Tri-Valley League, but is also a big part of the future of the team although this is his final season.

“Isaiah’s times have been good this year and he has the potential to earn himself a spot as one of Norwood’s top 5 sprinters in history,” the Norwood Coach said. “Although he will not be here next year, he is still trying to recruit kids to join the program. His times are a big part of his talking.”

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Norwood Sports

Basketball is in Erin Reen's Blood

By CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY

Growing up the fifth of six children, Erin Reen had a long line of basketball players to follow in her families' footsteps. With three older sisters and one older brother who all played basketball for Norwood, Reen had a lot of knowledge that she could tap into to improve her game. She also has a handful of cousins who also play the game.

According to Reen, basketball has been in her family for a long, long time; not only did her uncles participate in the sport, but her father coached all of his children through youth basketball.

"I grew up around the sport and have always played," Reen said. "We even have a half court in our yard so we could play; but as nice as it was to have a court in our yard, I preferred going to the elementary schools playing on their outside courts."

Having played for the greater part of her life, it wasn't until the fourth grade when Reen started to play actual games. Between the fourth and eighth grades, she played AAU basketball for MPC out of Mansfield and then transitioned to Nex Elite (Braintree) up until the present time.

With her height at a disadvantage for a basketball player, she gravitated toward point guard, a position she knew what she was capable of doing on the court. Although she found her way onto the varsity team, she knew that in order to be competitive she would have to improve her game; that's where her older siblings came in handy.

Meghan, who is about four years older, was a great ball handler and Erin knew that was something that she lacked.

"I watched her and her ability to handle the ball was amazing," Reen said. "It was a skill that I needed to perfect and she taught me a lot."

In addition to Meghan teaching her ball handling, Erin also picked up something from each of her older siblings. Shannon, the oldest of the Reen children, was a post player with a lot of energy; Kaylin was a great shooter, and Stephen was a leader who possessed an attitude on the

court. Learning from her brother and sisters Erin has turned into a well-rounded basketball player for the Mustangs.

Being the fifth of six children left Lauren, a sophomore who plays basketball as well, as the youngest Reen to step on the court. Although having four older siblings, Erin was never able to play on the same high school team with any of them until this year where she'll suit up with Lauren. She will also be playing with her senior cousin Samantha this year.

"This is the first time that I get to play with one of my siblings on the high school level," Reen said. "Lauren and I have a really good connection with one another. We are both point guards and we read one another well on the court. It has been real fun playing with her so far."

As a four-year player and three-year All-Star, Reen is one that not only loves the game of basketball but seems to absorb everything that her coach tells her, which leads to her ability on the court.

"As a freshman, she was always one of the hardest workers on the court," Norwood girls basketball coach Amy Quinn said. "She knows what to do, where to go on the floor and why we are doing it. Now as a senior, she just knows and I really don't have to tell her a thing. She is an amazing individual and one of those kids that is a delight for a coach. She has put everyone on her back, has such a leadership quality to her and the girls love her."

Quinn continued to say that Reen never comes off the court unless she is hurt or in foul trouble and that is a rare occurrence. She is also a player that doesn't seem to get the recognition that she deserves. In fact, people have told the Norwood coach that Reen is a special player and is worth the price of admission to watch how hard she plays the game.

During her sophomore season, Reen realized that despite being a very young group the Norwood team had something special going on. In addition to being connected, the team had a great chemistry. The Mustangs went 19-1 that season and were

awarded the number one seed in the Division 2 South Tournament. Norwood was able to take out Hanover (52-46 in overtime), and Nauset (57-33) in the first two rounds of the tournament but lost a heart breaker to Hingham (62-57) in the semi-finals.

While the Hingham loss was tough, Reen and her teammates knew that they'd be back the following year. Unfortunately, Covid was a big issue that year and the junior and her teammates were hit with an abbreviated season of 10 games and no tournament play. Norwood went 8-2 during the shortened season, which hurt even more.

"At first we were all bummed out, but eventually came to the realization that this was going to be the best that we were going to get so we might as well take it as it is and have some sort of a season," Reen said. "A lot of people were focusing on the negative affect with Covid that year, but we decided to go out and play our game. We ended the season with a positive attitude after going 8-2 and looked forward to this season being back to normal."

After having their season cut short and no chance to avenge themselves in the tournament, Norwood found themselves more than ready to play this year.

"Before our year began, everyone already seemed to be committed and believed in the season' they all came in ready to play," the Norwood captain said. "Everyone knew our potential coming into the season and knew that we could do something special this year. It was great to see everyone on the same page and wanting to do well."

At the time of this writing, the Mustangs were undefeated, but Reen and her teammates knew that this was possible.

"Prior to the season, we looked at our schedule and saw that we should be in control of a good number of our games," Reen said. "There were a few difficult games on our schedule (Walpole, Medfield and Hopkinton). If we could be competitive against those teams, then we'd be right where we hoped to be."

Norwood will get to play all three squads one more time be-



fore the regular season comes to an end, but two (Walpole and Hopkinton) of the three would be on the Mustang's home court.

"This senior class knows how special this team can be," the Norwood coach said. "They are focused and Erin has been great at keeping the team chemistry going. She is a true leader and will not let the team get too anxious."

In the beginning of her career, Reen was more of a facilitator at the guard position, but as she's gotten older, she has grown ac-

customed to also trying to score for the better of the team.

"During my first two years, I was primarily a passer, but the coach wanted me to start shooting more to give us some scoring depth," the senior said. "While I am now attacking the basket much more, I still love getting the ball to our post players and watching them score."

Although basketball has always been in her blood, Reen

REEN

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Norwood Sports

Norwood High School Athletic Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

The Norwood High School Athletic Hall of Fame is looking for nominations for the 2022 Class.

Student-athletes, teams, coaches, and special contributors are eligible. Candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Student-athletes must have graduated from Norwood High School
- Attended NHS for more than two years
- Has been 10 years since their class graduated
- Coaches must have worked at Norwood High for at least seven years and have completed their coaching career
- Teams must have achieved a significant accomplishment.
- Special contributors are individuals who have made a considerable contribution of

time and energy to Norwood High School Athletics.

The Hall recently inducted the Class of 2021 - Chuck Hopkins 1974, John Balerna 1978, Mike Pedroli 1995, Patty Robinson 1997, Jackie Demling 2000, Mike Young 2006 and Coach, Sharon Steih 1971 – 2005.

For more information and nomination forms, visit the Norwood High School Athletic Department website, www.norwoodmustangs.com or call Athletic Director, Jonathan Longley at 781 352 3529. The enshrinement ceremony will be held November 26, 2022.

Nominations must be submitted in writing to the Norwood Hall of Fame Committee, 245 Nichols St., Norwood, MA 02062. The deadline for nominations is April 29, 2022.

REEN

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also grew up playing town soccer and during her freshman and sophomore years, played on the volleyball team. This being her senior season, she decided to go back to soccer for one final year.

“During my junior year, I decided to quit volleyball because of Covid and focus on my AAU basketball as I didn’t want to get hurt,” Reen said. “I also thought it would be a good idea to go back to soccer to be with my friends one final year before graduation.”

As the varsity season moves along, Reen, who will be playing basketball for Western New England University in Springfield next winter, is hoping that the team continues to play at a high level and earn a position in the Division 2 South Tournament once again. In order to do this, they plan on staying focused and taking things game by game without looking too far ahead. This team has the talent and would love nothing more than getting back to the tournament and finish what they started two years earlier.

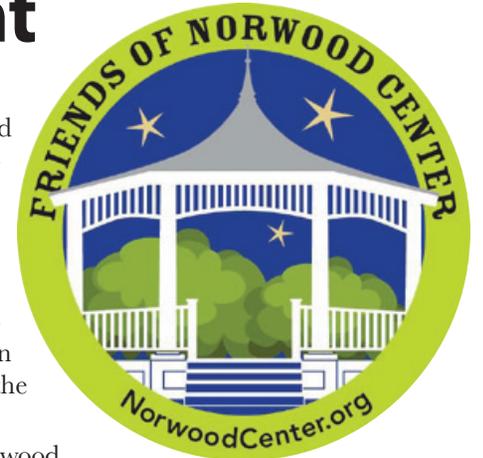
Friends of Norwood Center Elects New President

Friends of Norwood Center elected a new President at its annual meeting held in December at Emerald City Plant Shop, in Norwood Center. John Carbone received unanimous FNC Board election to serve as President for the upcoming calendar year.

Carbone has been a Norwood resident for more than a decade and has served on FNC’s Board of Directors since 2017 and as its secretary for the last several years. A health service systems analyst by profession, Carbone believes a town’s downtown is its lifeblood and wants to do all he can to help and ensure that Norwood Center becomes more vibrant and thriving now and in the future.

Carbone praised outgoing FNC President Charlotte Walsh and acknowledged tremendous strides that FNC made in the last two years, particularly in light of the pandemic.

- New light pole flags and banners
- Assistance to businesses for grant applications
- Lead assistance for businesses’ social media and promotion for Norwood’s Rapid Recovery program
- Enhanced social media promotion of local businesses’ changing hours of operation
- Worked in successful partnership with the Town of Norwood and Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Norwood Feeds the Frontlines



- Successful First annual Fall Crawl, bringing one hundred people into four local establishments
- Charlotte Walsh, proprietor of Charles River Running and FNC President in 2020 and 2021, will remain on the board and spearhead all social media initiatives.

Marci Pastorio, owner of the Juice Bar and Quontay Turner, owner of Emerald City Plant Shop were elected to the FNC Board. Carbone acknowledged the outstanding efforts of outgoing board members, Kim Weineck, Sara Coy-Lanard, Jeff Lanard and Elizabeth Sczerenie, owner of Structural Wellness Chiropractic & Wellness.

The FNC board is an active volunteer board that seeks new members who are able to join us sustaining and growing the vitality of Norwood Center as a dining and shopping destination. If you are interested in joining, please contact Friends of Norwood Center at norwoodcenter@gmail.com

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CAMP GUIDE

How to handle the summer camp questions in the pandemic era

Children make cherished memories at summer camp, where many youngsters first discover passions and hobbies they will enjoy for the rest of their lives.

Summer 2020 was a camp season unlike any other. Some camps closed their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic, while others downsized their offerings in an effort to keep campers safe while still providing them with a much-needed outlet. As the 2021 summer camp season approaches,

parents may be a little less hesitant about sending their kids to camp than they were a year ago. The rollout of COVID-19 vaccines has helped millions of people return to some semblance of normalcy, and that rollout has put summer camp back in play for families.

Choosing a summer camp is not always so easy, and it might be especially tricky as the world slowly

continued on next page

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CAMP QUESTIONS

continued from previous page

emerges from the pandemic. The following are some tips for parents as they consider if camp is a good idea this summer.

- Consider your comfort level. It's understandable if parents are hesitant about sending their youngsters to camp this summer. In fact, some camps may still be closed while others may only offer limited day camps this summer. Parents should consider their comfort levels before enrolling kids in camp. Vaccines have proven effective, but COVID-19 hasn't gone away, and some regions have yet to vaccinate teenagers. Vaccines also have yet to be offered to children under 16. Parents can ask themselves how comfortable they are sending kids to camp, and if they're hesitant to do so they can explore their alternatives.
- Ask children if they want to go to camp. Everyone is experiencing some measure

of pandemic-related burnout, and that includes kids. Kids may be sick of wearing masks at school all day and, even if they have loved camp in the past, may not be looking forward to wearing masks all day at camp this summer. Others might not be experiencing such burnout and may see camp as a way to quell boredom at a time when boredom has seemingly lingered over every day. Either way, solicit kids' input and let them know their feelings matter regardless of which side of the fence they're on.

- Inquire about safety protocols. When researching summer camps, ask about the safety protocols each camp will have in place. Will masks be mandatory for both campers and staff? How much direct interaction will campers have with each other? Have staff members been vaccinated? What measures are being taken to keep kids safe? Camps should have detailed protocols and share those protocols with parents upon request.



- Ask about alternatives. If parents and/or children are hesitant about attending camp in person, ask camp officials if there will be any virtual events or programs this summer. Some camps may be organizing activities like craft projects online, and that can help kids overcome the boredom of being stuck at home all summer.

Summer camps may not be fully back to normal in 2021. However, families likely won't have to go without access to summer camps for the second consecutive summer.

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5 reasons why summer camp is a good choice for kids

Summer vacation offers students a respite from lessons and the routine of school. Children might once have eagerly awaited those final days of classes so they could lounge poolside, skip rocks across ponds and spend the long days



of the season playing with friends. But many of today's youngsters spend much of their summer vacations indoors playing with their digital devices.

Perhaps that's why one of the last vestiges of the classic summer vacation escape — summer camp — remains such a viable option for parents who want their children to get outdoors once the school year ends.

Although kids needn't be in camp all summer long, a week or two can benefit campers of all ages. The following are five reasons why summer camp might be the right fit this year.

- 1. Explore talents.** Summer camps help young people explore their unique interests and talents. Under an organized, yet often easygoing, camp schedule, kids can dabble in sports, arts and crafts, leadership, community support, and so many other activities that may not be fully available to them elsewhere.
- 2. Physical activity:** Lots of camps build their itineraries around physical activities that takes place outdoors. Campers may spend their time swimming, running, hiking, playing sports, climbing, and so much more. This can be a welcome change for kids accustomed to living sedentary lifestyles. Regular physical activity has many health benefits and can set a foundation for healthy habits as an adult.
- 3. Gain confidence.** Day and sleepaway camps offer campers the opportunity to get comfortable in their own skin. Camps can foster activities in self-esteem by removing the academic measures of success and fill in with noncompetitive opportunities to succeed. Campers learn independence, decision-making skills and the ability to thrive outside of the shadow of their parents, siblings or other students.

- 4. Try new things.** Camp gives children the chance to try new things, whether that's learning to cook, exploring new environments or embracing a new sport or leisure activity. Opening oneself up to new opportunities can build character and prove enlightening for children.
- 5. Make new friends.** Camp is a great place to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Campers flood in from areas near and far. This provides kids with a chance to expand their social circles beyond their immediate neighborhoods and schools.

Camps benefit children in a variety of ways. Lessons learned in camp can strengthen values, build confidence, develop coping mechanisms when adversity strikes, and enable campers to make lifelong friends.

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Factors to consider before choosing a summer camp

Adults often look back fondly on their childhood experiences at summer camp. Camps can provide the opportunity to form lifelong friendships and discover rewarding hobbies that can enrich campers' lives for decades to come.

Choosing a summer camp is no small task, as the options at families' disposal range from overnight camps to weekday afternoon camps to camps that specialize in certain programs, such as music or dance. Cost also is likely to factor into families' decisions, as the American Camp Association notes that cost can vary greatly depending on which camp families choose. For example, the ACA notes that the average daily fee at a resident camp is \$85, while the same fee at a day camp is \$43.

When looking for a summer camp for kids, families should make the decision together. Kids should be involved in the selection process, as they're more likely to have an enjoyable camp experience if they had a say in where they will be

spending their summers. The following are some factors families should consider as they look for summer camps, courtesy of the ACA.

Kids' interests

The ACA urges parents to consider the child's interests and personality before choosing a summer camp. Parents might want their children to attend the same summer camp they visited as youngsters, but each child is different. Just because mom and dad liked a particular camp does not mean their children will. The ACA notes that summer camps should align with children's interests and maturity level.

Locale

Locale may only be a consideration for families considering overnight camps. Kids will likely be familiar with the locations of local day camps, but overnight camps might be set in mountain ranges, near the ocean or environments less



familiar to youngsters. Kids who love the ocean might benefit from oceanfront camps that focus on marine biology, boating or other activities involving

the water. In the same vein, youngsters who like camping and hiking might be more likely to embrace camps located in mountainous regions.

Session length

Camps may last as little as one week or up to a couple of months. Session length should be considered by families looking at both local day camps and overnight resident camps. Parents who want their children to enjoy a largely schedule-free summer might not want

to commit their children to lengthy camp sessions, even if those sessions are close to home. If parents think their children can benefit from the same structure they're accustomed to during the school year, then an overnight camp that stretches for several weeks might be what they're looking for.

Summer camps give kids a chance to make memories that will last a lifetime. Choosing the right camp is an important decision that parents and kids should make together.

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Pet Corner

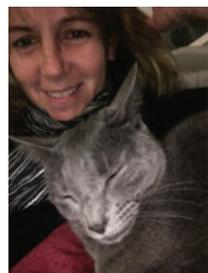
Bay State Animal Cooperative

Meet the Bay State Animal Cooperative Board Members!

Norwood residents read these pages and are so helpful and generous with their donations, offers of volunteering, and oftentimes, opening up their homes to foster or adopt the Bay State Animal Cooperative's (BSAC) cats. There are many generous volunteers, who, without them, the BSAC could not proceed to protect and advocate for the welfare of homeless and helpless cats. While there are too many volunteers to thank in this short space provided, heartfelt thanks are continually given by the following Bay State Animal Cooperative Board Members.

Marcia Motta, Founder & President

I founded the Bay State Animal Cooperative, a 501(c)3 animal rescue organization in 2009 and proudly serve as the volunteer President,



foster caregiver, treasurer and trapper. As an animal advocate since childhood, I am proud to stand by other passionate volunteers and directors that help mold this organization. I have supported a no-kill philosophy since as long as I can remember and it is the back-bone of my everyday life with animals.

Animal rescue, advocacy, support and welfare has been my destiny and I have actively pursued this passion since the early 1980's, though it all began in 1964, a small town in NH where I raised with an array of rodents, rabbits, dogs, reptiles and great "human" family support. I currently share my home with two dogs, Bailey and Anderson, and my cat, Talia, in addition to several long-term foster cats.

I have two grown independent daughters and a son who all share their lives with adopted cats and dogs. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Emmanuel College. I have completed many animal science and veterinary technician courses. In 2017, I passed the Veterinary Technician National Exam and am a Massachusetts

Certified Veterinary Technician. Additionally, I have held many roles over the years involving animals including; TNR specialist, executive director of another no-kill rescue group, member of the Mass Animal Coalition, and partner with animal control officers, rescues, businesses and schools to educate and assist with feline rescue and adoption.

As a professional pet sitter and dog walker, I feel lucky to be able to share every day with animals while assisting pet owners. The coordination of many past and present part-time professions has allowed me to rescue, care for, adopt and spay/neuter thousands of felines over the past 20 years of my life while experiencing many memories with my friends and family. Though life is hectic and a bit overwhelming at times, I wouldn't have it any other way.

Rita Crowell, Vice President



I am a retired high school science department director

Restaurant Fundraiser!

Enjoy a meal at the Chateau in Norwood and support BSAC!

Thursday, March 17, all day, eat in and take out. The Chateau will generously donate 20% to help us provide for the cats and kittens we care for.

When you order, ask to flag your check for the fundraiser. Ordering online? Add item "Fundraiser" to your cart and enter BSAC as a special Instruction.

www.chateaurrestaurant.com/locations/norwood



with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Master's Degree. I taught for 30 years and have had various volunteer experiences throughout that time.

My experience with BSAC has grown by stages. BSAC was the group that I first encountered as a result of kitten visitors in my yard. I needed help and BSAC had suggestions and advice. After a short time, my interest in cats, the attitude of the public towards cats, and how I could help to make the lives of cats and kittens better sent me in a new direction. Educating individuals to help themselves and the cats in their

neighborhoods are important to me. BSAC provided the framework for my interests and a way to move forward to provide that help. The goals of the organization are core values that I can support. As a result, I became the BSAC shelter manager at a place where myself, and many volunteers would house and care for cats and kittens that were waiting for forever homes.

I am an ardent supporter of animal rights using various internet petition sites, including paid

PET CORNER
continued on page 23

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

PET CORNER

continued from page 22

memberships to many animal support groups.

Michele Taranto, Director

I was introduced to the Bay State Animal Cooperative when I was searching for a companion for my cat Stoney. Cinnamon was a semi-feral cat in Bay State's care and their recommendation was a perfect match! The two could not have been closer had they been litter mates.

That was 20 years ago. I was so impressed with the BSAC,



their mission, and volunteers, I started volunteering right away and eventually became a board member. My duties have ranges from volunteering in fundraisers, managing our shelter volunteers and providing administrative assistance.

The Bay State Animal Cooperative would not be where it is today if not for the volunteers. I am proud to be a part of this worthy organization and help homeless or surrendered cats find new homes, and aid in caring for those to have a better quality of life. In fact, as a Realtor, finding new homes is something I do every day! While it gives me great satisfaction helping my clients move to the next chapters in their lives, it fills my heart to facilitate the road for a cat to find their forever home. I am so grateful to have found a place where I can make a difference, 1 cat at a time.

Jackie Esthus, Director

I first joined BSAC as a volunteer administrative assistant, then as clerk to the board, and finally as a director. I'm proud to work with such a dedicated group of board members and community volunteers.



BSAC enjoys enormous support from a wonderful network of volunteers who assist with everything from marketing and web design to adoption counseling, fostering, TNR, transport, and of course, participation in community fundraising events. We could not offer the services we provide without them. I share my home with 2 senior dogs and 2 senior cats, all of whom are becoming seasoned travelers and RV enthusiasts.

I too support multiple national and international animal charities, and am proud to lend my time and support to such a great local organization.

Norwood Art Association Art Exhibit

Works displayed from Jonathan Fairbanks and his students for March Exhibit

Art has sustained us through the pandemic.

For many years the Norwood Art Association has been blessed to have Jonathan Leo Fairbanks as an active member and teacher.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonathan_Leo_Fairbanks)

The works on display for the month of March at the Walpole Public Library are from the students who have been working with him during Covid. In weekly classes, members focus on their own work and are guided and critiqued.

Work is on display in both the community room and the lobby gallery. Most works on display are available for sale by contacting each artist directly.

Please consider supporting local artists!

The Norwood Art Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1978. Their purpose is educating and enriching all interested in the fine arts. The association has continued to thrive and grow its membership through the years. Interested in becoming a member? Contact the Norwood Art Association at norwood-artassociation@gmail.com or message on Facebook. Membership includes professional and non-professional artists as well as everyone interested in art. Membership is open to all and annual dues are twenty dollars.

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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Calendar of Events

March 1

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 2

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 3

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 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.

March 4

Kids Night Out (Bowling Night)
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. . In person registration at the Civic Center

or visit norwoodma.myrec.com.

March 5

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

March 6

Commemoration of 150th Anniversary
Norwood Community Media
1-5 p.m.

It was In 1872 when the citizens of South Dedham voted to secede and form the town of Norwood. The ratification was on March 6 where a celebratory event was held. This event will be held virtually and aired through Norwood Community Media.

March 7

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

The Life and Times of Saint Patrick
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
6:30 p.m.

Saint Patrick is the most famous person associated with Ireland. He is the Patron saint of Ireland and is recognized as having played a major role in the Christianization of Ireland. There are many myths and legends associated with Patrick. This program will look at the historical record based on available facts and accepted understandings to examine the historical context of his mission in Ireland. This includes a review of the development of Irish society prior to his arrival, an overview of the history of Christianity in England and Ireland, an examination of the

crises in Europe as the Roman Empire collapsed, and how this impacted the situation in Ireland in the fourth and fifth centuries. Registration for this virtual program is required at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 8

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

The Norwood Woman's Club Meeting
Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols St., 12:30 p.m.

The meeting will end with entertainment by Roger Tincknell, 'From Ireland to America.' A light lunch will be served. Guests are welcomed. Any questions, call Trina at 781-762-8173.

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, 3926@toastmastersclubs.org. For more information, visit norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/.

March 9

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Impact Norwood 101
Morrill Memorial Library, 7 p.m.

Impact Norwood 101 will give residents the opportunity to learn more about the work of Norwood's community substance use prevention coalition, Impact Norwood. Attendees will learn the basics of prevention, get a brief overview of current substance use trends in the community, hear from current members about past and upcoming projects, and learn how to become involved in our work. Register at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/. Contact Aubrey Ciol at aciol@norwoodma.gov with questions or for more information.

March 10

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 11

Babysitter Lessons/Safety Training
Civic Center, 3 p.m.

An American Academy of Pediatrics course that covers how to handle the basics of infant and childcare, how to react responsibly to medical emergencies and injuries, perform first aid for common childhood injuries and illnesses, and set up and run your own babysitting business. For ages 11-13. Cost is \$60.00 for residents, \$70 for non residents. To register, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or in person at the Norwood Recreation Department.

Home Alone Safety
Civic Center, 5 p.m.

Children will learn telephone and door answering techniques, internet safety, accident and fire protection and first aid techniques. Also, how to manage your time when you're home alone for short periods of time. The class includes a variety of teaching methods, including a video and role playing. Cost is \$55 for residents, \$65 for non residents. To register, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or in person at the Norwood Recreation Department.

March 11

Superhero Party
Civic Center, 10:30 a.m.

SUPERHERO's of all kinds are called to come to this AWESOME party! There will be arts

and crafts as well as snacks. Don't forget your costume if you have one. For ages 1.5-4. Cost is \$15. To register, visit norwoodma.myrec.com or in person at the Norwood Recreation Department.

March 12

Blessing Boutique
First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10 a.m.-noon.

Spring is right around the corner and the boutique offer some great clothes; men, women, teens, and kids should all find something super to wear. Also name brands teens need to be seen in! There are also good books to read, movies to watch, curtains to hang, and so much more you can't even imagine!

Annual Sewstainability Stash Share
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

At this event people share with one another rather than having to buy sewing/needlework 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, leave things, browse for yourself, and go home ready for productive and pleasant winter days.

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

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

Community Dodgeball Tournament
Civic Center, 5 p.m.

Impact Norwood and Norwood Recreation Department have teamed up for the 2nd Annual Community Dodgeball Tournament. Teams of 5 will compete for the title of CHAMPIONS! Gift cards for winning teams, each team will have to have an adult from the community as part of their team. Pre-Registration is required with Impact Norwood, please contact Aubrey Ciol: aciol@norwoodma.gov. For grades 6 and up.

March 14

Take + Make Winter Craft
Morrill Memorial Library
All Day

CALENDAR

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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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 15

**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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

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

The Norwood Historical Society Book Group will be hosting a discussion on 'Mapping Norwood,' by C. Fanning. This event is in conjunction with the 150th Norwood Anniversary celebrations.

March 16

**Turn the Page Book Group
Morrill Memorial Library
10 a.m./6:30 p.m.**

This month, the group will be discussing Lady Clementine, by Marie Benedict.

Copies of the book in regular, large print are available at the circulation desk. To register for either session, visit norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/. Please email Patty Bailey if you have any questions, pbailey@minlib.net or call 781-443-8864.

March 17

**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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 18

**Kids Night Out (St. Patrick's Night)
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. . In person registration at the Civic Center or visit norwoodma.myrec.com.

March 19

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

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

March 21

**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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

**An Evening with Author Erica Ferencik - 'Girl In Ice'
Morrill Memorial Library, 7 p.m.**

Inspired and informed by a month-long trip to Greenland, Ferencik sets GIRL IN ICE in one of the most unforgiving, unforgettable landscapes imaginable. Successful yet sheltered linguist Val Chesterfield, struggling to understand the apparent suicide of her climate scientist brother Andy, ventures to a remote Arctic outpost to try to unravel what really happened during his final days. And at the same time, she's asked by Andy's research partner Wyatt to help him with a scientific impossibility—he's found a young girl frozen in the ice who thaws out alive, speaking a language that no one understands—and he needs Val to communicate with her. Registration is required at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 22

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**

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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 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, . For more information, visit norwoodtoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org/.

**Critical Disinformation Studies Discussion Series
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.**

Facilitated by Adult Services Librarian Heath Umbreit (they/them), this series will prepare members to critically engage information through a systemic lens and work toward recognizing the ways in which disinformation functions to uphold white supremacist structures. The series will examine information systems through the intersectional frameworks of critical race theories, feminism, gender and sexuality, and decolonization. The overarching goal of the course is to critically examine popular narratives about disinformation, define and explore the concept of epistemic supremacy, and interrogate the ways in which information and disinformation intersect with systemic power differentials in our society. The series, "Critical Disinformation Studies," will meet virtually on eight Tuesdays from March 22 to May 17 at 7:00pm. The group will **not** meet on Tuesday, April 19. Participants should please plan to attend every meeting, as each session builds on the last. Likewise, please plan to read or review all assigned texts for the

week before a given session. Registration is required at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

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

Title yet to be announced at press time. If meeting in-person unworkable due to weather or COVID concerns, the group will meet virtually via Zoom. Please email Liz with any questions, lreed@minlib.net. Titles on Tap is a social book group for readers in their 20s and 30s and for the young at heart. We go in for stories that are shaken, not stirred, and we don't mind taking our love of lit outside the library walls. Titles on Tap meets once a month in the left-hand bar of Napper Tandy's to eat, drink, be merry, and discuss the latest reading selection.

March 23

**Wiggle Worms Story Time
Morrill Memorial Library,
10:30 a.m.**

Toddler and Baby Story Time. The littlest readers can come to this active story time to hear some great stories, sing songs and move around. While this program doesn't require registrations, families will need to come the library before story time in order to receive a ticket for admittance to story time. 15 tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call the library staff at 781-463-0146 or email norchild@minlib.net with questions.

March 24

**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 [\[norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/\]\(http://norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/\).](http://norwoodli-</p>
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March 25

**Kids Night Out (Indiana Jones Night)
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. . In person registration at the Civic Center or visit norwoodma.myrec.com.

March 26

**Blessing Boutique
First Baptist Church, 71 Bond St.
10 a.m.-noon.**

If you've never come in to see the Blessing Boutique, you're missing out! All of the items are new or very slightly used. Clothes for everyone, household goods, purses, books, a little of everything. Save yourself some money and take home some great deals!

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

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

**22Mohawks Fundraiser
Skating Club of Boston, 5 p.m.**

Army veteran David Campisano started a non-profit organization that would help veterans get emotional support dogs as quickly as possible. There is a two-year waiting list for a dog through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). For more information on 22Mohawks or the fundraiser, To contact 22Mohawks, call 617-680-9852 or 781-251-9212, through email at dave@22mohawks.com, or visit 22mohawks.com.

CALENDAR

continued from page 25

March 28

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 29

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Critical Disinformation Studies Discussion Series
Morrill Memorial Library (Virtual)
7 p.m.

Facilitated by Adult Ser-

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Registration is required at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

March 30

Wiggle Worms Story Time
Morrill Memorial Library
10:30 a.m.

Toddler and Baby Story Time. The littlest readers can come to this active story time to hear some great stories, sing songs and move around. While this program doesn't require registrations, families will need to come the library before story time in order to receive a ticket for admittance to story time.. 15 tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call the library staff at 781-463-0146 or email norchild@minlib.net with questions.

March 31

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 norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/.

Norwood Woman's Club Donates to Norwood Food Pantry



Phyllis Spiro, president of the Norwood Woman's Club and Sue Inglis were proud to present food drive donations from the members of the Norwood Women's Club to Cynthia Zafft of the Ecumenical Food Pantry, on February 8, 2022.

Summer

GUIDE

Think Summer! Warm weather. Beaches. Golfing. Hiking. Outdoor dining. Are you looking forward to it as much as we are? Then promote your business and events with our inaugural Summer Guide – jam-packed with things to do this summer. Just add warm weather!

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Franklin Senior Center Partners with Mass. Association for the Blind

Low-Vision Program Will Start Back Up on Thursdays this Month

By JUDITH DORATO O'GARA

The Franklin Senior Center will now be working with The Mass. Association for the Blind to run its low-vision program. The program and its services are available to blind and visually impaired seniors in Franklin and surrounding towns, including Norwood. It is made possible through a grant from the Greater Milford Community Health Network (CHNA-6). This same program has been established and is successful in Natick, Brookline, Worcester, Pittsfield, and Harwich.

"We laid a good foundation," said Maggie Gundersen, Social Services Coordinator at Franklin Senior Center, who has been a coordinator for The Stella Jeon Assistive Technology Center, or "Low Vision Center," for about five years, teaching seniors with vision loss about assistive technology there to help them. "We'd taken the program as far as we could, but what I've come to find is that with Mass. Association for the Blind has known all along, visually impaired individuals need to learn technology. Many are resistant, which is understandable, because they didn't grow up with it, but if they don't learn it they will get left behind."

Last month, the Franklin Senior Center welcomed Jerry Feliz, of the Mass. Association for the Blind, who will be an active participant in the new partnership, directly working with seniors who have vision loss.

"Imagine if you're totally blind, you've never used a smart phone before, and you're just new to vision loss. You can't imagine how you're going to be able to read

something," said Feliz. "There is help to navigate those challenging, stormy waters. This is a vibrant, welcoming community, and it's also a platform for persons with visual impairments to learn from people that have visual impairments," said Feliz. "A lot of our volunteer trainers are people who are either totally Blind or have some kind of visual impairment." This creates a safe environment for people just experiencing vision loss, he says.

"A lot of times, people will come into this environment, and there's a lack of hope, because they've lost the ability to read, to write, to navigate their world," said Feliz. "They walk outside, they feel lost, but we give them a lot of hope. If you're willing to learn how to do something a different way, you're able to regain some of the independence you lost."

Assistive technology plays a huge role in transitioning to vision loss, says Feliz, "If you can learn how to use it, it's going to help you to gain a bit more quality of life, in terms of how you access the world," says Feliz. The educator describes Apple's innovation in this area as revolutionary to the Blindness community "without hyperbole," he says. "We've taught people how to use GPS to navigate in their communities, communicate efficiently with their devices via text, to make phone calls and access email with their smart devices, how to use optical character recognition, an app that will read a physical document to you." At least 90% of this training is iOS-based, he says. Clients can also learn how to use gesture-based commands with audio, speech to

text and magnification.

"I will be here to provide training for folks," says Feliz, who says he usually begins with some simple questions and a low vision and CCTV assessment. "We measure the distance you are from the screen as you're reading, what level magnification you're using and check the contrast that you're using, what your functional vision is. (The assessment) is a really helpful tool."

Starting March 10th, Feliz will be at the Franklin Senior Center from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. each Thursday for 1:1 appointments, and he will conduct a Zoom presentation on assistive technology each Thursday from 2-3 p.m. Call the Franklin Senior Center at (508) 520-4945 to get his contact information to schedule an appointment.

"Jerry will be here as frequently as possible, but we're going to add a peer support group once a month, led by a mental health counselor, so you can deal with some of the emotional pieces of vision loss, and we will have a guest speaker program every other Thursday," says Gundersen. "We're putting you in a position where you'll know that every Thursday, (seniors with vision impairment) can come here for something," said Gundersen.

Individual and group Adjustment Counseling is also available through the Massachusetts Association for the Blind for people struggling with the emotions that can accompany vision loss. Appointments can be conducted by phone, usually with counselors who are also visually impaired. Additional information can also be found on the MABVI web site at: www.mabvi.org

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Real Estate Corner

Thank you to Registry's Annual Holiday Food Pantry and Toys for Tots Drives



Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell recently expressed his sincere appreciation to everyone who contributed to the Registry's 2021 Annual Holiday Food Drive and Toys for Tots collection.

"Despite the ongoing pandemic, both our Holiday Food Pantry Drive and Toys for Tots collection were a great success," Register O'Donnell stated. "I am thankful for the generosity of so many Norfolk County residents who took the opportunity to donate and to help make the holi-

day season a little more special for those facing hardships. I'm also grateful to our employees who contributed and helped to organize the drives."

The non-perishable food collected during the drive is dispensed to several pantries throughout Norfolk County and in early December several boxes of toys were delivered to the US Marine Corps Reserve depot at the Convention Center in South Boston.

"While the holiday food drive has ended, it does not stop hun-

ger from affecting many of our neighbors," Register O'Donnell said. "A report done by Project Bread noted that approximately one out of ten households in Massachusetts are considered food insecure and one out of eight Massachusetts children are in the same category. Altogether, there are 266,500 food insecure households in Massachusetts.

I urge residents to continue their generosity by dropping off supplies at their local pantries. Beside food, many pantries are requesting toiletries and paper products. Dropping off a donation at your local food pantry can make a world of difference to a struggling family, especially in the winter months when the cost of fuel can play havoc with a family's budget."

For a list of food pantries, visit the Registry of Deeds website at www.norfolkdeeds.org. To learn more about these and other Registry of Deeds events and initiatives, like them on facebook.com/NorfolkDeeds or follow on Twitter.com/NorfolkDeeds and Instagram.com/NorfolkDeeds.

January Real Estate Activity Dipped in Norfolk County

Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell reported that January real estate numbers relative to Norfolk County real estate activity continue to trend down.

"The Norfolk County real estate market has continued to slow entering into 2022, which is not uncommon for this time of year," Register O'Donnell said. "January is typically one of the slowest months for real estate transactions."

There were 11,622 documents recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in January, a 25% decrease over last year's January document volume and a 21% decrease from December.

"The number of deeds for January, 2022, which reflect real

estate sales and transfers, both commercial and residential, decreased by 4% from January, 2021, and by 30% from December," Register O'Donnell said. "However, the average sales price during the month was \$1,439,472, an impressive 51% increase compared to January, 2021, and only slightly down from December. Total dollar volume of commercial and residential sales also showed solid gains from one year ago, increasing 57% to over \$1.05 billion,"

Overall lending activity showed a decrease again for the month of January. A total of 2,325 mortgages were recorded during the month, a 44% decrease compared to a year ago and a decrease of 22% from De-

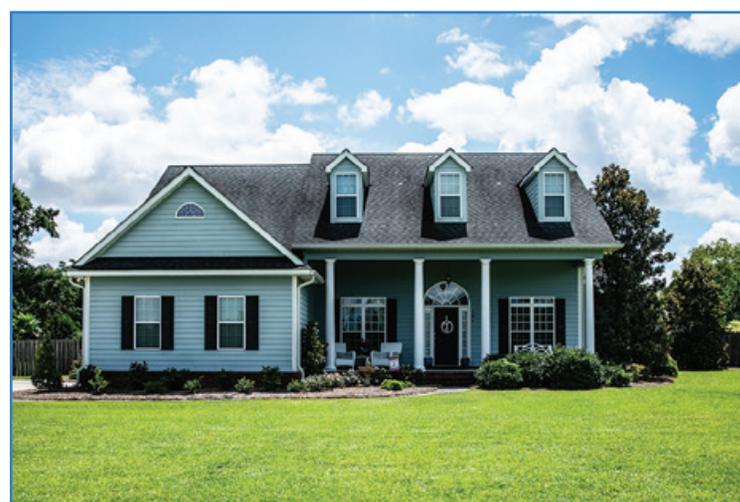
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continued on page 30

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Real Estate Corner

REAL ESTATE

continued from page 29

ember's number.

"It appears that many consumers have already refinanced given the past low interest rate environment," Register O'Donnell noted.

A cause for concern in Norfolk County, however, is the increase in foreclosures. A moratorium

on foreclosures enacted on April 20, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, expired on October 17, 2020. The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has been closely watching the foreclosure market. During January, as in December, there were seven foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County. In addition, there were 18 Notices to Foreclose, the first step in the

foreclosure process, recorded in Norfolk County in January. In January, 2021, there was only one Foreclosure Deed and nine Notices to Foreclosure Mortgages filed.

"The increase in these numbers remind us that some of our neighbors continue to face financial challenges," Register O'Donnell said. "We will continue to monitor these numbers."

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.

"If you are having difficulty paying your monthly mortgage, please consider contacting one of these non-profit agencies for help and guidance," Register O'Donnell said.

Homestead recordings by owners of homes and condominiums decreased slightly this year at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds. There was a 1% decrease in homestead recordings in January, 2022, compared to January, 2021, but a decrease of 25% from December.

"A recorded Declaration of



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

"January real estate activity slowed in Norfolk County but again, that is fairly typical for this time of year. We see available real estate inventory as continuing to be a source of concern in Norfolk County. It's especially a problem for first-time homebuyers attempting to crack the market. Nothing we see in the numbers indicates any change in that sector of the market."

The Registry of Deeds continues to be open to the public for business. Registry personnel are processing in-person recordings while vigilantly maintaining Covid related protocols. The drop-off box located at the main entrance of the Registry building

will continue to be available for use by those members of the public who may not be comfortable entering the Registry of Deeds Building. The volume of documents recorded electronically for many of our institutional users continues to increase. We are also receiving documents in person, regular mail, Federal Express, UPS, and from our drop-off box located just outside our main entrance at 649 High St., 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 Registry is a resource for homeowners, title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities and others with a need for secure, accurate, accessible land record information. All land record research information can be found on the Registry's website www.norfolkdeeds.org. Residents in need of assistance can contact the Registry of Deeds Customer Service Center at (781) 461-6101, or email registerodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

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