

Norfolk Community Day Returns

BY GRACE ALLEN

Norfolk's biggest celebration of the year is set to return this month after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Community Day will take place on Saturday, June 11 at the Holmes Bus Complex on Myrtle Street starting at 11 a.m. Sponsored by the Norfolk Lions Club, the family-friendly event includes participation by area groups and organizations, along with food and entertainment in an old-time, country fair environment. Parking is \$5.



Event highlights this year will include a children's art contest, touch-a-DPW truck, a golf ball drop 50/50 raffle, and a sports obstacle course, among other amusements.

Entertainment will include a number of local groups, some of which have participated in Community Day for the last 25 years. Also back by popular demand is Mike Piazza, dubbed the Number 1 K-9 frisbee performer in the world, and his Flying High Frisbee Dogs, performing a variety of frisbee tricks.

Community Day attendees can browse booths sponsored by local community organizations. More information about these groups and their activities will be available.

Also during the day, the Norfolk Lions will hold a food drive. The group notes that food pantry supplies run low during the summer months, and suggests donations of cereal, soup, coffee, children's snacks, juice, pasta sauce, tuna, and baked beans.

Organizers hope the return of the popular event will encourage people to come

out, visit with neighbors and friends, and kick off the more laid-back summer season in town.

Community Day, according to the Lions, is a town-wide effort made up of many volunteers, including the Norfolk Police and Fire Departments, Norfolk Recreation, and community groups and organizations including the Emmanuel Baptist Church and King Philip High School's KP Leos, KP Cares, and DECA.

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Wrentham 2030 Master Plan: Facing a Time of Change

BY ANGIE FITTON

In November of 2021, town residents received a survey regarding their opinion on the importance of preservation of artifacts, local history and culture, as well as the needs of the town and the services it provides.

There were nearly 800 responses to the survey, providing feedback that can be used to develop goals and strategies as part of Wrentham's master plan, being developed with the help of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC).

What Wrentham Residents Deemed Important

Residents voted that the town center, including the town common and Sweatt Park, most define the history and culture of Wrentham. Also toward the top of the list were the state forest, Joe's Rock, and local lakes. When asked about preserving, promoting and interpreting Wrentham's history and heritage, of most importance were preserving open spaces, protecting the town's working farms,

and preservation of historical and cultural sites such as the Wampum House.

As a result of the feedback received, the Master Plan will emphasize preserving, adding to, and protecting the historic character and cultural resources of Wrentham. Community events were deemed important, as well as recognizing the importance of stories in Wrentham's history around underrepresented groups such as people of color, women, lower income families and the LGBTQ+ community.

Aging infrastructure and the fact that many facilities are in need of modernization were noted in the survey. The town also has a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in place. The CIP is reviewed and updated yearly, but it has been discovered that it also needs a platform allowing the public to voice their comments and concerns.

Survey responses also revealed that residents thought the town

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For more information about the Norfolk Lions or Community Day, visit www.norfolkmalions.org or email norfolkcommunityday@gmail.com.

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The Norfolk Lions Club is a non-profit organization made up of men and women dedicated to serving the community of Norfolk and promoting the mission of Lions Club International. The Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.4 million members in approximately 46,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the world.

Norfolk Community Day Schedule of Events

On the Main Stage

- Inspiration Performing Troupe 11 to 11:45 a.m.
Exhale A School of Dance and Ivy Music Noon to 1 p.m.
Kids games & contests (musical chairs & balloon toss) 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.
High Flying Frisbee Dogs 2:15 p.m.
Pie eating contest & golf ball drop 3 p.m.

On the Dining Area Stage

- Good Tymes Banjo Band 11:45 to 12:45 p.m.
Jeri's Balloons 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.
King Philip Steel Drum Band 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.
Megalodon Tooth Hunt All Day
Meet the GOFI Dogs (Dog Kissing Booth) All Day
Airbrush tattoos All Day
Children's amusements All Day
Touch-a-Truck All Day
Antique fire engine, hay wagon and train rides All Day
Caricaturist All Day
Foam Fun with Norfolk Fire Department 3:15 p.m.

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Norfolk Farmers Market Opens this Month

By GRACE ALLEN

Norfolk Farmers Market is set to open its 2022 season on June 8 and will be held every Wednesday from 3 to 6 p.m. on the town's common, weather permitting.

The market will offer fresh produce, locally raised meats, cut flowers, specialty baked goods, handmade crafts, and more. The market will run through September 28.

Farms include Zeigler's Market Garden in Norfolk, which grows organic vegetables; Elmhurst Farm in Norfolk, a producer of eggs, pork, beef, and chicken; and Fairmount Fruit Farm in Franklin, growers of seasonal fruits and vegetables.

Other local vendors participating this season are MAY Hosta Collection, Sweet Honey Treats, Medway Community Farm, A Cookie Guy, Gabby Bears Creation, Pure Haven, Touchstone Crystal by Swarovski, NEC Solar, Heirloom Café, Art Cronin's Cut Flowers, and Fat Bottomed Bees Honey.

The grassroots Norfolk Farmers Market was established in 2016, and except for a brief hiatus due to COVID, has operated each summer since.

"We have built a great community of vendors and regular weekly customers," said Zach Ziegler, the market coordinator. "It has been amazing to see the interest in buying local and connecting with the area's farmers, bakers, and unique makers."



One of the market's goals is to provide fresh food for all income levels. Ziegler's Market Garden participates in the Massachusetts Farmers Market Nutrition Program, which provides coupons to eligible seniors and families to purchase vegetables and fruits grown and sold by local farmers at farmers markets. Medway Community Farm, which will attend the farmers market every other week, accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/EBT cards.

The typical spring weather this year means the produce is looking good, noted Ziegler.

"The fields are filling up fast and we will have lots of fresh veggies like lettuce, radishes, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and eggplants ready soon for the market," he said.

Each season, a couple of local musical acts perform at the market, and there is always entertainment like cornhole and other games for children. When the weather warms up, Norfolk-based C & C Ice Cream Truck will visit, too. The goal, according to Ziegler, is to provide a place of social gathering and community activity, in addition to providing access to fresh, local food.

"My favorite aspect of the market is catching up with friends and neighbors each week during the summer, while also being able to pick up great local ingredients for a home-cooked meal," said Ziegler. "This usually includes a nice steak from Elmhurst Farm, our own salad greens, and fresh



fruit or corn from Fairmount Fruit farm. We usually pick up something sweet from one of the many small bakers at the market, because we can't just eat vegetables all the time!"

Ziegler pointed out that the farmers market is indebted to local officials and the Norfolk Public Library for their support, as well as to the Norfolk DPW for maintaining the town's common, helping to provide a pleasant spot to hold the market each summer.

"The market provides an outlet for local farmers, producers, artists, and entrepreneurs to offer fresh agricultural products and locally made goods," Ziegler said. "Our goal is to bring awareness and education about local agriculture and local business while creating a fun and welcoming gathering space for the community each week. It's a relaxed shopping experience where you can visit your local farmers, support small businesses, and get out to meet all the great people who make Norfolk such a nice place to live."

The Norfolk Farmers Market is still accepting new vendors. Participation can be weekly, bi-weekly, or for a few select dates only. For more information, email NorfolkMAFarmersMarket@gmail.com. Follow the market on Facebook for updates and weather-related closures.



MASTER PLAN

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should provide better response time to fixing potholes, road maintenance, plowing, and fixing streetlight outages. Being able to go online to pay property or excise taxes, obtain dog licenses, and make appointments with municipal staff were also considered important. In addition, there is a great desire to provide children in grades 7-12 with more subject selections and extracurricular activities.

Sixty percent of residents who responded to the survey want to improve and protect the town's water supply. Another goal is to create transfer stations for extra solid waste disposal and recycling.

Residents also want better communication from within town government to the public, including more transparency of town processes.

Addressing Climate-Related Issues

Future needs and challenges include cutting energy costs and

greenhouse gases while preparing for the effects of climate change. A useful tool citizens can utilize is Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE). The town is eligible for Green Community designation, so new policies for energy efficiency should be addressed.

The toughest climate-related challenge in Wrentham is inland flooding. Other local climate impact concerns are drought and heat waves. The priority here is to increase the energy efficiency and sustainability of town facilities and infrastructures while trying to reduce environmental impacts.

Wrentham residents can check out the Master Plan process, including links to forums already held, online at mapc.org (search for Wrentham). Folks should also sign up for occasional email updates about the process on the project website and participate in things such as the recent survey to help with the refinement of goals and development strategies to guide the town as it looks to the future.

How Do Students Make a Balanced College List and Why Is It More Important Than Ever?

“Research has shown that high school GPAs can be a stronger indicator of college success than standardized exams,” says John Ambrose, Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Michigan State University. In fact, 5 times more likely.

Test-optional colleges are becoming the norm in 2022, which has resulted in a record number of college applications at many of the “elite” universities or colleges this past year—Harvard, NYU, Tufts, UVA, to name a few. The headlines are touting how acceptance rates at these schools have plummeted to single digits. BUT the good news is that the majority of colleges are still admitting over 68% of their applicants. So, when a student asks, “Where should I apply - will I get in?” Our answer is to reject the urge to apply to 25 elite schools, but instead be more deliberate with your choices and create a well-balanced college list.

A few tips on creating a balanced college list:

- **What does a well-balanced college list look like?**
 - Approximately 9 right-fit colleges
 - Imagine 3 or 4 buckets filled with likely, probable, and reach colleges, with possibly 1 or 2 wildcard colleges.
 - Your list should include 3 likely schools (student’s academic profile is stronger than the middle 50% of the typical admitted students); 4 probable schools (students’ academic profile is the middle 50%); 2 reach schools (student’s profile is not as strong as the middle 50%. OR, the student may qualify academically, but the acceptance rate is less than 35%);

and wildcard schools which have acceptance rates less than 20%. You could be academically qualified, but the chances of ANYONE being admitted is very low. If you apply to any wildcards - they should be in addition to the 9.

Super Tip: It is important that you want to attend all of the schools on your list, especially the likely schools. Worst case scenario - you may only get into one school and if it is your likely - you want to love it!

• Visit

Visiting campuses is essential! You can experience the campus vibe, see if your “people” are there, and check out programs that you may be interested in exploring. It is the best way to imagine if you could call this place home for the next 4 years. In-person visits are ideal, but if it is not possible then take a deep dive into virtual tours, YouTube college videos, and student opinion sites - like Niche or College Scoops. Research is key! FREE resources (email us).

Super Tip: Look for the hidden gems colleges which are colleges that are not on the top 150 US elite colleges list. Hidden gems are less well-known so less challenging to get into and could result in more merit.

• Self-Reflection & Assessment

Think about what you want from your college experience. If a high-pressure environment would cause too much stress, then an Ivy league school is probably not the right academic or emotional fit for you, no matter how exciting it seems at first. If affordability is a non-negotiable factor, there are plenty of colleges that are known for providing good merit and financial aid. If you like to have the city as your campus, then attending a school in rural America will not be the right social fit. Searching for the right fit college is an evolving process - keep reflecting and assessing.

• Financials

Affordability is a major factor for many families, and you don’t want any surprises in the spring of senior year. Make sure everyone in the family is on the same page



Maryline Michel Kulewicz and Tracy Sullivan of College 101 Admissions Consultants

about what the family can afford. It doesn’t mean not to add “expensive” schools to your list. You never know what you may receive for financial aid or merit. Approximately only 11% of families pay full price for college.

Final super tip: College acceptance rates are the ratio of the number of total applicants to accepted students. Remember, schools with low acceptance rates do not necessarily equate to a right-fit school or a better education. And conversely, likely schools with higher acceptance rates do not equate to an education that is not “good enough.”

Take your time, visit, research, and make sure your final list of colleges has the college criteria that will make you thrive for the next 4 years...and beyond!

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Norfolk Summer Concert Series

Norfolk’s summer concert series begins this month. Concerts are held on the town common at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings unless otherwise noted. Rain dates are scheduled for the following Monday whenever possible (check the Recreation Department’s Facebook page for updates). Children’s performances will be held inside the library if raining.

June 16	Berkshire Valley Boys
June 23	The Reminisants
June 30	Ayla Brown Band
July 7	Music Matters
July 12	Jungle Jim (Tuesday at 5 p.m., for children)
July 14	BC & Company
July 21	Kendo
July 28	Pub Kings
August 2	Toe Jam Puppet Band (Tuesday at 5 p.m., for children)
August 4	Franklin School of the Performing Arts

Your Money, Your Independence

You Can't Always Get What You Want... But If You Try Sometimes...

Markets got you down?

As of May 16th, S&P 500 is -16% for the 2nd worst start in 80+ years.

Wait, there's more.

Tech heavy NASDAQ is -26%, small companies Russell 2000 -20% and "favors the brave" (insert eyeroll) Bitcoin is -39%.

Diversification in developed international -16% and emerging markets -17% is failing.

Good thing there's bonds. Oh wait, US bond market via the BarCap Agg Index -10% is worse start to a year ever.

And cash, true it didn't lose principal but purchasing power decreased -8.3% the last 12 months, and if you've been to a grocery store, auto dealer/service dept, barber or gas station, 8.3% inflation my...

Don't be Torn and Frayed, become Happy about the opportunity to roll your Tumbling Dice.

Yes, Rolling Stones reference to Exile on Main Street celebrating a 50th anniversary. The relevance?

The Stones were on an amazing run of albums - Beggars Banquet, Let It Bleed (headline



Glenn Brown

reference) and personal favorite Sticky Fingers. Yet, they found themselves exiled from Britain due to new 93% wealth tax, broke from a manager who'd stolen from them and sued by their record label. As vagabonds in France and later LA, they recorded what many consider their greatest album and then toured the US as year's top grossing act, a first of record 9 times.

Let me Shine a Light on 3 action steps to consider given down markets:

Roth Conversion - If certain investments you intend to hold for a long period are down -20% or more, then convert those a Roth and pay 20% less tax. Estimate your MAGI prior, as conversion is taxed as income impacting your federal tax bracket and % owed.

Take Tax Losses - Face your mistakes, learn and move on. In taxable accounts selling at a loss builds capital losses to carry and offset capital gains over future years. If you believe the investment will come back, wait 31 days later to avoid wash sales. Remember, every Apple or Amazon from 2000, there's dozens of JDS Uniphases, Lucent, Global Crossings, and CMGIs.

Buy Quality When On Sale - People love sales, except when it comes to risk assets like equities. If not now, then when do you "buy low and sell high"? Sure, the market may go lower, but if you own quality investments you understand at a fair price, over time it will be time that matters most.

Don't overload on commodities, energy, TIPs and cash as this too shall pass on a macro level, since economic cycles rarely skip

stages. Up next will likely be cooling housing values, layoffs disguised as reorgs and deflation via recession or soft landing by Fed's raising of rates.

Eventually a base for economic expansion is created but if you wait to see it, investment values will have adjusted in anticipation and opportunity past.

Had the Stones simply stopped or not built upon their foundations in '71 until all things favorably aligned, one wonders about their legacy or even living to old age, let alone being the top grossing US tour in 2021.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

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Wrentham Concerts on the Common

The 2022 Concerts on the Common series will be held on Sundays at 6 p.m.

June 5	BC & Company
June 12	King Philip Band (at King Philip High School Bus Loop)
June 19	Ayla Brown Band
June 26	Tom Abbott Music
July 10	The Reminisants
July 17	Scott Brown & The Diplomats
July 24	Jack Goddard
July 31	Mad Strummer Dad
August 7	Mike & Joe's Big Band
August 14	Slightly Tooned
August 21	Elastic Five
August 28	Providence Drum Troupe

Norfolk & Wrentham Town News

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Bishop Gayle E. Harris to Visit St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Gayle E Harris, Suffragan Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, will visit St. John's Episcopal Church on Sunday, June 5, the Feast of Pentecost. Bishop Harris will serve as Presider and Preacher for the 10 a.m. Family Service.

Pentecost, fifty days after Easter, is the day that Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, and it's often thought of as the birthday of the Church. Bishop Harris will celebrate the Eucharist and distribute Communion, as well as offer a children's sermon.

After the service, she will host an informal conversation with the congregation during a pot-luck lunch. All are welcome to attend.

St John's Episcopal Church is located at 237 Pleasant Street in Franklin. For more information, call 508-528-2387 or email Admin@StJohnsFranklinMA.org. Visit the church's website at www.stjohnsfranklinma.org or follow St. John's on Facebook.



Roundabout Productions to Present "Be More Chill"

Roundabout Productions will present the popular musical "Be More Chill," based on the novel by Ned Vizzini, later this month.

Directed by Norfolk resident Lori Beck, "Be More Chill" is the high-energy, sci-fi story of Jeremy Heere, a New Jersey teenager struggling with a desire to be popular and still remain true to his authentic self.

The production will be held at the Coelho Middle School, 99 Brown Street, Attleboro. Performances are June 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 & 26. Friday and Saturday shows are at 8 p.m.; Sunday shows are matinees at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at the door or online at www.roundaboutproductions.org/events.

Roundabout Productions is a 501©3 non-profit organization offering performances of classic theater favorites using local actors. For more information, visit www.roundaboutproductions.org or follow the group on Facebook.

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A Hidden Gem Expands its Offerings

Anne's Market feeds the community, one sandwich at a time

One of Norfolk's hidden gems, Anne's Market is expanding its offerings this summer. From custom sandwiches to craft beer to home-baked cookies, Anne's Market is becoming part of the fabric of Norfolk's community.

Christa and Todd Wiggin are the owners of Anne's Market. "We wanted our shop to capture the spark of being in Norfolk," says Christa. "I've lived in Norfolk since I was two. My husband's family has been here since his grandmother arrived from Sweden at age seven. This community is really important to us, and buying this market is one way we can contribute to it."

Tucked away in the residential River's Edge neighborhood, Anne's Market has an old-school feel. The shelves feature an eclectic mix of convenience-store items and higher-end purchases that are sure to make customers smile. From penny candy, to Howie's Spiked Cherries, to unique doggie donut treats from a woman-owned small business, the offerings are varied and often surprising. For example, alongside the register is a display for Ella's Yarn Barn, stuffed animals hand-crocheted by a Norfolk resident.

Christa says, "We've set up a gift section with mugs, canvas bags, and several other items. If someone needs a last minute present, they can stop in for a wine bottle and a wine-sized tote to deliver it."

By and large, the most important part of Anne's Market is the deli. Todd says, "We carry high-end Boar's Head products, and off our everyday menu, you can order twenty-four different sandwiches." The sandwiches range from comfortable standards like a barbecue chicken sub, to interesting and fun ones, like the turkey gobbler, with cranberry sauce and stuffing.

Customers who aren't sure what they want can ask for a recommendation, and the staff takes it as a challenge to match them with the perfect sub. Todd says, "We also offer rotating daily specials, and we'll make breakfast sandwiches anytime."



**Business
spotlight**

The Wiggin family is ever-present in the store. "Todd's often behind the counter, or our daughter Dani," says Christa. "Some of our employees have been with Anne's Market for longer than we have, so between family and long-time friends, it's a really friendly atmosphere."

Christa is involved in the wider Norfolk community, as well. In addition to regular donations to community events, such as the recent Color Fun Run or Norfolk Girls Softball, Anne's Market has helped with food donations to Gilly's House and the Federated Church.

Anne's Market has a thirty-year history, initially founded by Anne Brunelli of Franklin. Anne eventually moved the market to Medway, then sold it. The new owners moved to the Norfolk location in 2019, and then Christa and Todd Wiggin purchased it six months ago.

"It's been a really exciting time, with a huge learning curve," says Christa. "I love talking with the customers, hearing about their lives and learning what they want."

That means stocking some local favorites. In addition to apple tarts and cookies baked right on the premises, Anne's Market also offers My Grandma's Coffee Cakes and Cape Cod Pizzas.

Anne's Market does catering, too. "When people hold graduation parties or summer gatherings, they want to spend time with their guests rather than in front of a stove. We can set them up with sandwich platters, cold cut platters, trays of macaroni and cheese, and salads."



Plans are in motion to expand the prep area so Anne's Market can sell high-quality meat and sausage. "My day job is with Orleans Packing Company," says Christa, "so I already have a relationship with all the best vendors. When we bought the market, I immediately reached out to them, and now they're distributing to us."

This summer, Anne's will begin a reward program for their customers. "We'll use the

Clover app to make every tenth sandwich free," says Christa. "Customers will also be able to opt-in to special offers. Maybe at the end of the day, they're commuting home, exhausted and not wanting to cook—and up on their phone pops a notification for half off Grab-and-Go meals."

Christa knows the welcoming atmosphere, the fun products, and the commitment to community will draw customers back again and again.

"I know it's a little off the beaten path, but we strive for that old-school feeling," says Christa. "I want our customers to feel like everything is family."

To can receive daily specials and promotions, sign up with the Clover app or fill out a form in-store for email or text. Anne's Market is located just off 115 in Norfolk, at 65 Holbrook Street.

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When Quality Matters, Visit Quality Cleaners in Millis

Quality Cleaners, located in downtown Millis, has been a mainstay in the area for decades. Quay Vuong bought the dry cleaning business in 2017 and has grown to love the community.

And the community loves Quay and Quality Cleaners, too. When the pandemic hit, Quay had to quickly pivot to providing contactless pickup and delivery, and his customers stayed with him through the darkest of times.

Quality Cleaners still offers that free, contactless pickup and delivery to towns up to eight miles away (including Norfolk!). They use the most eco-friendly cleaning agents to treat garments with respect and make them last longer. They've eliminated plastic bags. And they continue to provide top-notch service from start to finish, whether it's through pickup and delivery or by visiting their bright, clean storefront.

True story: a customer recently said that Quay doesn't merely clean clothes, he manages expectations. When your customers think of you as a partner making their lives better, you're



doing something right!

Quality Cleaners uses cutting-edge technology to make transactions ridiculously easy. The team affixes a tiny bar code to each garment to track it, along with all of the other items in the customer's order, so that everything is ready at the same time. Customers even get a text letting them know that their items are ready for pickup or that their scheduled delivery is on its way.

Dry cleaning isn't done dry; instead, clothes are soaked in a solvent instead of in water. It's the best way to get rid of oils, plus some garments can be harmed by cleaning with water. At Quality Cleaners, the days of using perchloroethylene—"perc"—for dry cleaning are long gone. Instead, they use hydrocarbons, leading-edge additives that are safe and gentle (and excellent at removing oils and stains).



However, natural cleaning agents also increase the need to treat spots and stains before the cleaning. Quay has a dozens of bottles of pre-cleaning stain removal formulations to treat even the harshest of blemishes.

"Take a coffee stain," Quay says. "There are several compo-

Business spotlight

nents in that one stain: coffee, sugar, dairy. Most off-the-shelf spot removers can't handle those complex stains." But Quality Cleaners can.

Other items are wet cleaned—washed with detergents and additives in specialized machinery. Still others, like button-down shirts, are destined for the laundry, while delicate garments are handwashed with dedicated additives and a lot of care and time.

They even have a unique system called ONEcare, designed and developed by Quay himself, with consultation from several chemists and colleagues. ONEcare items are handled separately from other garments and receive intense, individual attention, from spot removal and gentle cleaning to de-pilling and delinting. They're then finished on

hangers to preserve their structure. It might cost a little more, but ONEcare items deserve it.

So: why bring your clothes to Quality Cleaners?

Because they're dedicated, they innovate, they save you time, and they extend the life of your garments. They'll come to you. Your clothes will look way better than if you clean them yourself. They use the most environmentally friendly products on the market. And they'll treat each of your garments—ONEcare or not—with the respect it, and you, deserve.

Quality Cleaners is open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. They deliver on Tuesdays and Fridays and are closed on Sundays. Give them a call at (508) 376-9100, contact them via text at (508) 389-3445, or visit them at www.qualitycleanersmillis.com. Quality Cleaners is located at 969 Main Street in downtown Millis, just a short drive from Norfolk center.

Quality Cleaners is a complete full service cleaner, providing quality work from beginning to end!



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- Household Cleaning
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260 - 5 star google reviews, 49 - 5 star Facebook reviews!

Quality Cleaners has been amazing every single time. Their contactless pick-up & drop-off makes everything so much easier right now and Quay is always so responsive to any customer needs. Each experience with Quality feels very personalized and professional.

- Cassandra Smith

They are great! Great prices and free delivery and pick-up is a life saver. The drivers are friendly and courteous. Quay is so personable, responsive and helpful; he will go out of his way to make sure you get what you need. I'm so satisfied and happy we found them.

- Taliah Won

I have been a customer for years. As a firefighter, I have had an excellent experience with Quality Cleaners Millis. Quay and his staff are friendly, professional, and very responsive. Can't recommend Quality Cleaners Millis enough.

- Gerard Jones

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- Friday: (Delivery) 8 am - 5 pm
- Saturday: 9 am - 3 pm
- Sunday: Closed

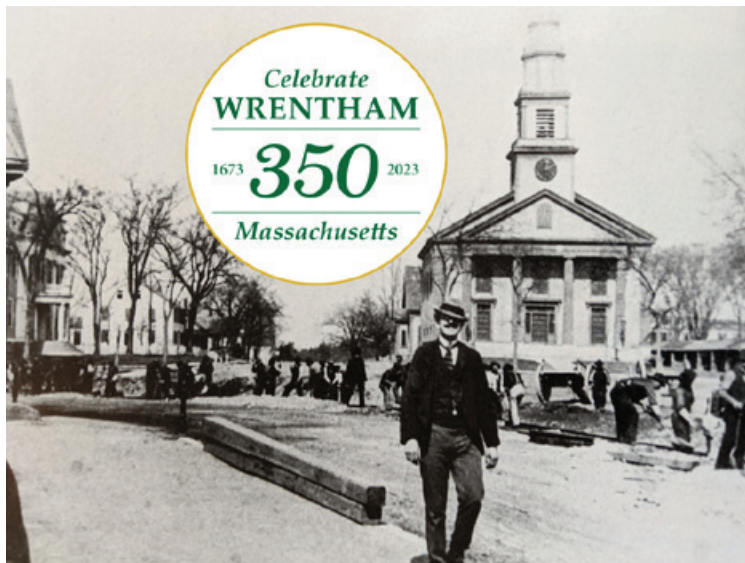
NOTABLE PEOPLE OF WRENTHAM

As part of Wrentham's 350th anniversary celebration in 2023, the committee planning next year's events has asked residents to submit memories of significant people in the town's history. Following is a submission the anniversary committee shared with Local Town Pages.

Bennett Schroeder Bradbury

Bennett Schroeder Bradbury was a nationally-known seascape artist whose seascape paintings of Southern California and Hawaii continue to command more than a thousand dollars on the auction market. And – you guessed it – Bennett was born right here in little old Wrentham on February 23, 1914.

Bennett was born into talent, with his mother being Elfrida Schroder, the lead singer of the Boston Opera Company, and his grandfather being Alwin Schro-



eder, considered at that time as the greatest living cellist.

And...drumroll here please... Bennett's younger brother was none other than internationally acclaimed author Ray Bradbury, of Fahrenheit 451 fame! Ray was not born in Wrentham as the

family had moved by that time.

We have not been able to determine how long Bennett lived in Wrentham, but circumstances suggest it was not too long. For a time, Bradbury left Laguna Beach to spend eight years in Honolulu, where he maintained a studio at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Upon his return to California, Bradbury continued to paint California coastal views in



Bennett Schroeder Bradbury

and around Laguna Beach. He taught painting on the Monterey Peninsula, and in 1970 moved to Carmel, where he lived until his death in 1991.

SUBMITTED BY ED GODDARD, CHAIR OF WRENTHAM 350 COMMITTEE AND TOWN MODERATOR



Signed Bennett Bradbury, 20th C., Seascape






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What to Do If You Haven't Filed an Income Tax Return

Filing a past due return may not be as difficult as you think, and contrary to what some might have expected, this tax season was not extended due to COVID-19. Unlike last year that was extended until the middle of May (and the middle of the summer the year before), this tax season ended with the regular filing deadline in April.

Taxpayers should file all tax returns that are due, regardless of whether full payment can be made with the return. Depending on an individual's circumstances, a taxpayer filing late may qualify for a payment plan. It is important, however, to know that full payment of taxes upfront saves you money.

Here's What to Do When Your Return Is Late

Gather Past Due Return Information

Gather return information and come see us. You should bring any and all information related to income and deductions for the tax years for which a return is required to be filed.

Payment Options - Ways to Make a Payment

There are several different ways to make a payment on your taxes. Payments can be made by credit card, electronic funds transfer, check, money order, cashier's check, or cash.

Payment Options - For Those Who Can't Pay in Full

Taxpayers unable to pay all taxes due on the bill are encouraged to pay as much as possible.



By paying as much as possible now, the amount of interest and penalties owed will be lessened. Based on the circumstances, a taxpayer could qualify for an extension of time to pay, an installment agreement, a temporary delay, or an offer in compromise.

Taxpayers who need more time to pay can set up either a short-term payment extension or a monthly payment plan.

- A short-term extension gives a taxpayer up to 120 days to pay. No fee is charged, but the late-payment penalty plus interest will apply.
- A monthly payment plan or installment agreement gives a taxpayer more time to pay. However, penalties and interest will continue to be charged on the unpaid portion of the debt throughout the duration of the installment agreement/payment plan. In terms of how to pay your tax bill, it is important to review all your options; the interest rate on

a loan or credit card may be lower than the combination of penalties and interest imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. You should pay as much as possible before entering into an installment agreement.

- A user fee will also be charged if the installment agreement is approved. The fees to set up the payment plan range from \$31 to \$225, based on the type of plan you set up. Setting up your plan online with automatic direct debit is the least expensive fee, while applying by phone, mail or in person and making your own payments, rather than having them taken out automatically, carries the most expensive fee.

What Will Happen If You Don't File Your Past Due Return or Contact the IRS

It's important to understand the ramifications of not filing a past due return and the steps that the IRS will take. Taxpayers who continue to not file a required return and fail to respond to IRS requests for a return may be considered for a variety of enforcement actions.

If you haven't filed a tax return yet, please contact us. We're here to help!

Jeffrey Schweitzer can be found at Northeast Financial Strategies Inc (NFS) at Wampum Corner in Wrentham. NFS works with individuals and small businesses providing financial and estate planning, insurance, investments and also offers full service accounting, bookkeeping, payroll, income tax preparation, and notary public services. For more information, stop by the office, call Jeffrey at 800-560-4NFS or visit online - www.nfsnet.com

Guest Column

Before Our Very Eyes

BY G. GREGORY TOOKER

Rome is burning! And yet we sit idle, watching passively as the foundation of our democracy slowly crumbles away. Is it a sense of disbelief that this could be happening or is it that we just don't care anymore? Have the challenges of everyday existence, exacerbated by a pandemic that won't go away, numbed us to the extent that reality cannot penetrate the perpetual mental fog?

In the meantime, those who would willingly bow to an autocrat are busily crossing the moat and entering the city through its battered gate. Their weapons are shattering the integrity of our democratic institutions. The voting district lines are being artfully redrawn. The balloting process is undergoing strangulation. Election officials are physically threatened. The judiciary has lost its independence. Casting one's ballot is considered too dangerous for some minorities.

Time is short. Elections are on the doorstep. Failure to step up to the challenge of preserving our democracy could result in permanent damage to the way of life we carelessly take for granted. Once it is gone, it will take generations to restore. Your writer firmly believes that a voter turnout of 70% will easily defeat democracy's detractors. That level of performance in the classroom barely earns you a C. It's time to do our homework in defense of the American way of life.

Wrentham Businessman Enters Race for Governor

BY ANGIE FITTON

Wrentham resident Chris Doughty announced this past January that he would be running for Governor of Massachusetts. He is a Republican whose running mate is Kate Campanale of Leicester.

With an extensive background in business, Doughty is the President of Capstan Atlantic, a metal gear manufacturer. In 2016, Capstan received the gold medal for job growth and economic expansion from the Massachusetts Economic Council.

Economic expansion is only one of the issues of concern that Doughty plans on addressing



credit: LinkedIn

should he win the election. His platform also includes focusing on the state's cost of living issues, education, jobs, transportation, and public safety.

Doughty, married to his wife Leslie for 34 years, has 6 children and 4 grandchildren. He graduated from

Brigham Young University as the president of the student body in 1987 with a B.S. in economics. In 1989 he graduated from Harvard Business School with his MBA. He also volunteered for 2 years in Southern Argentina. He is originally from Los Angeles.

Doughty has gathered the required 10,000 signatures from registered voters to get on the ballot.

Also on the GOP ballot are Shiva Ayyadurai and Geoff Diehl. The state primary is scheduled for September 6 and the Democratic candidates are Sonia Chang-Diaz, Orlando Silva and Attorney General Maura Healey.

Should Doughty win the primary, he will be in the general election on November 8.







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Four Eagle Scouts Recognized in Norfolk

BY GRACE ALLEN

Four Boy Scouts from Norfolk Troop 80 were honored last month for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in the Boy Scout program.

On Friday, May 13, Kevin O'Neill, Alexander Stock, Sam Tobar-Fawley, and Samuel Thomas Woodward were recognized at the Eagle Court of Honor ceremony held at the Norfolk Grange. The ceremony was attended by family, friends, and local dignitaries, including State Senator Becca Rausch, State Rep. Shawn Dooley, and Norfolk Select Board member Kevin Kalkut.

The Scouts were presented with citations honoring their achievements from the Massachusetts House of Representatives. The Norfolk Select Board also recognized the boys' accomplishments by presenting them with town proclamations that announced special days of recognition for each Scout.

As they rose through the ranks of Scouting, each boy earned numerous merit badges, performed hours of community service, completed an individual Eagle Scout project, and passed an Eagle Scout Board of Review. Eagle Scout projects must be developed, planned and led by a Scout, and benefit a religious, school, or community organization. Scouts are responsible for fundraising or obtaining material donations for their project. Nationally, only about 5% of Boy Scouts achieve the coveted Eagle rank.

Norfolk's Troop 80 has been active in town for many years, and has a long and proud tradition of producing Eagle Scouts. According to Scoutmaster Adam Cambria, the Troop is structured so that the Scouts have every opportunity to fulfill the many requirements needed to achieve the rank of Eagle.

"I inherited a very well-run and well-organized Troop," explained Cambria. "Our community is filled with Troop 80 Eagle projects, and by the way, we have a lot of fun too."

Here are the community service projects completed by Norfolk's newest Eagle Scouts. Be sure to check them out when you're out and about the area:

Kevin Ryan O'Neill

Kevin O'Neill, a junior at King Philip High School, led the effort to install a flagpole and surrounding garden at Gilly's House, a residential program in Wrentham for young men in recovery from addiction. The circular garden, with its granite cobblestone perimeter and walkway to raise and lower the flag, was landscaped with mulch and purple flowers. Purple is the official color of the recovery movement. In 2018, Kevin's older brother Brandon refurbished the garage at Gilly's House for his Eagle Scout project, and the family remains involved with Gilly's by providing meals and collecting needed items for the residents. Kevin is the son of Kristina and Doug O'Neill.

Alexander Stock

Gilly's House was also the lucky recipient of another Scout's Eagle project. Alex Stock rebuilt and refreshed the front landscaping at Gilly's after the home's foundation plantings were removed during the structure's repainting in 2020. Alex, a junior at King Philip High School, planted new bushes and mulched the plantings around the foundation. He also replaced the front porch's wooden lattice with more durable, maintenance-free plastic lattice. Alex, the son of Christina and Fred Stock, has continued his volunteer work with Gilly's House even after his project was completed. At the holidays, Alex delivered wreaths to decorate the front of the building, and more recently, he and his brother collected and donated sweatshirts for the residents.

Sam Tobar-Fawley

For his Eagle Scout project, Sam Tobar-Fawley planned and constructed a tiered garden at the rear of the Federated Church of Norfolk. Sam, a senior at King Philip High School, worked with church members and other Scouts to design and build the 25' x 4' wide beds, made of pavers and wood. The project ran into a roadblock when buried tree trunks were discovered on the site, but with the help of Troop 80 adults, the tree trunks were removed and the project continued. After the beds were

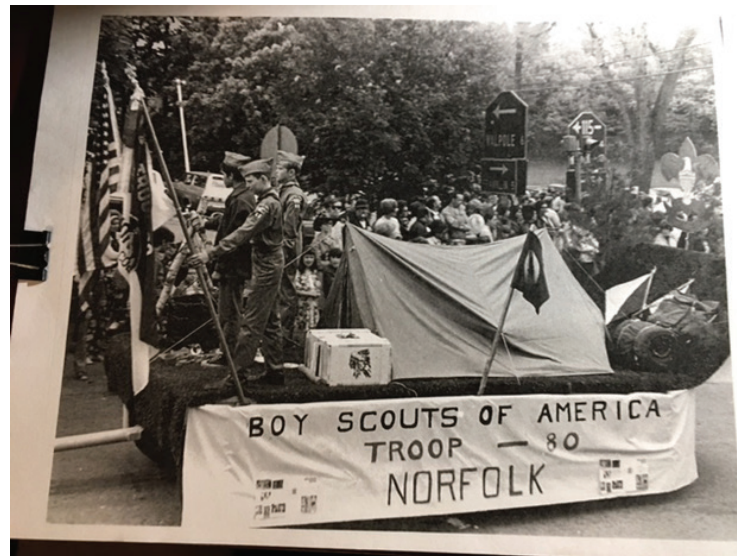
completed, Troop 80 Scouts helped Sam filled in the beds with donated mulch, courtesy of Norfolk's DPW. Sam, the son of Margaret Fawley and Avaro Tobar, will attend DePaul University in the fall.

Samuel Woodward

Under the guidance of the Norfolk Conservation Commission, Sam Woodward built a new, 1/3-mile trail in the Campbell Forest for his Eagle Scout project. The trail connects to the existing loop trail and also provides another entrance point into the town forest. Sam, with the help of other Troop 80 Scouts, also built three bridges along the new trail to



From left, Alex Stock, Kevin O'Neill, Sam Tobar-Fawley, and Sam Woodward at the Eagle Court of Honor Ceremony, held on May 13. (Photo courtesy of Emily Woodward)



Norfolk Troop 80 has been active in town for many years. Troop 80 had a float in the town's 100th anniversary parade, held in 1970. (Photo courtesy of Troop 80/Adam Cambria)

carry walkers across the swampy and wet areas, and a three-step, natural staircase into a hillside. A senior at King Philip High School, Sam made and sold submarine sandwiches to help raise funds for the lumber used in the project. The new trail was completed in the spring of 2020, just when the demand for safe, socially-distanced outdoor recreation areas started to spike. The son of Emily and Tom Woodward, Sam will be matriculating at Miami University of Ohio in the fall.

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Opening Day Returns for Norfolk Baseball

By BRENDAN ZIMMERMAN

The sun shone brightly on April 30. The weather couldn't have been better, or more representative of the spirit of baseball: the sky was sparkling, the air was warm with a soft breeze, and the winter blues felt like a distant memory – it felt like spring baseball again.

After nearly two years without an official opening day for Norfolk baseball, the town finally celebrated America's pastime in person again. The event was filled with many people--families cheering on their kids, coaches readying their teams, and other residents all there to take in the return of youth baseball.

Opening day marks the official start of the baseball and softball season for Norfolk, which runs until late June.

The event began with a parade from the H. Olive Day School to the Freeman-Kennedy School. All teams from age twelve and below in both baseball and softball were invited to walk in the parade, with the route ending on the outfield of the baseball



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The parade itself is a symbol of town cooperation and unity – for example, vehicles are donated from the Norfolk Police Department; the Norfolk Fire Department helps and dedicates their time as well; the local schools must give their permission; and parents volunteer to help with the parade. It truly takes a village.

After the parade's end, Norfolk Baseball Commissioner Barry Zimmerman, with the assistance of the President of Norfolk Baseball, Chris Curry, and the President of Norfolk Softball, Michele St. Laurent, oversaw the event's proceedings and ran the opening ceremony. This opening day will be the last for Zimmerman, who will be stepping down as Commissioner after the end of this season.

The ceremony featured scholarships presented to recipients, a first pitch from Chief Stone of the Norfolk Police Department, and honorary service bats given to volunteers who have positively impacted Norfolk baseball over the years. By the end of the ceremony, those famous first words that start every season blared out over the loudspeaker: "Play ball!"

Baseball holds a special place

in the heart of American culture, being one of the oldest, most popular sports here for centuries. It (and softball as well) serves as one entry point into sports for a lot of kids. For the town of Norfolk, baseball and softball act as a way for communities to form, and for families to come together.

Now, however, there are more sports and activities than ever before for kids to participate in. Sports like lacrosse, and even the options between private and public sports all war for youth participation. Does this mean baseball is losing popularity in favor of these other activities?

For Norfolk, the answer seems to be somewhat neutral for now. According to Commissioner Zimmerman, the number of kids playing youth baseball has remained steady over the years, even as options for activities have increased. He added that the kids are encouraged to pursue what's of interest to them. If that means

playing lacrosse and baseball, they're given encouragement to do so.

Zimmerman also spoke of why baseball matters today for kids and families.

"They get to develop skills, learn things like sportsmanship, get to make friends and form a sense of community. For new families in town, T-Ball may be one of the first activities they participate in and get to know others. It teaches you discipline, self-accountability."

Having an official opening day for Norfolk baseball and softball is a positive development after the last two years. In these complicated, uncertain times it's a welcome change to have something reliable like baseball come back to an in-person celebration for the town, and for kids and families to participate and gather together to start a new season.

Play ball, Norfolk.

The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

TRENDING - Summer 2022

By GINA WOELFEL

Are you looking for summer's trending hairstyles? Look no further! b.LUXE has the hottest styles for Summer 2022! Whether you're looking for something sleek and sophisticated or fun and flirty, our stylists have got you covered!

An increasingly vaccinated population means 2022 will likely see more of us frequenting our favorite hairstylists. There's no better time to freshen up your look like the start of a season!

Maybe it's time to switch up your hair's style or color? A new hairstyle acts like an announcement to both yourself and the outer world that something in you is shifting. With so many of us feeling a bit more social freedom returning to our lives, freshening up our aesthetic feels perfectly timed.

After two years of keeping things low maintenance, people are ready to show more effort and try new looks like sleek, straight styles, tight ponytails, and braids.

We're so excited for this style swing. Although many of our clients are still keeping their looks lived-in and easy, people are shaking off their pandemic hair and trying out bolder, more adventurous trends!

What does summer 2022 have in store for you? Fringe, fros, mullets and bobs! Kinda 70's, kinda 80's, with a little 90's tossed in for good measure. It's all about embracing our natural hair texture and boosting the oomph we've got! These shaggy styles are a definite mix of effortless effort and can be hyper-tailored to your hair type and desired aesthetic.

Ultra short styles and super long layers are both making an appearance, too! We've definitely seen an uptick in our pixie, buzz cuts, undercuts and clipper art! The "Big Chop" is a thing! People are ready to let it all go and why not! Short hair cools things down for summer's hot, humid weather and adding a graphic

design to your barely-there buzz shows your fun and creative side! A Pixie isn't for everyone, but short hairstyles can be customized to flatter everyone's features and face-shape.

Many of our clients have not had their hair cut for two years and have grown attached to their Rapunzel-like locks. But, extreme length can be a drag for the four hottest months of the year. Consider lightening your one-length-wonder with layers. Adding a few layers to extremely long hair builds volume and texture! With a few strategic snips, long layers frame the face and give hair bounce and play.

The "Bob Haircut" might be "THE" cut of the summer. Popularized by the film stars of the 1920's, it was seen as a shocking statement of independence in young women known as flappers, as older generations were still used to seeing girls in long dresses and heavy Edwardian-style hair. Now roaring its way through this century's second decade, this classic has stood the test of time and with endless versatility, there's a "Bob" for everyone. Previously a pretty straightforward, shoulder-length, blunt cut, now we have the "Long Bob" the "Shaggy Bob", the "Stacked Bob" and even a "Messy Bob". The variations are endless and with bangs or no bangs, this classic is a flattering change for those looking to lighten up and modernize.

Behold the braid revival! (And space buns, too! Ugh.) We LOVE our braid work at b.LUXE! If you have a special event on the books, consider working a braid through your hair. They're fun and best of all, practical. Nothing keeps your style in place through sweaty nights of dancing like a braid. And space buns? Well, whatever. You do you...

Oh, and bangs...SOO many bangs! We're here for the cut and we're here for the grow out. And please, please, please (with sugar on top) don't cut them yourself!



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NO HOME BANG TRIMS, Ladies! We know you're watching all those twist + snip Tik Tok videos and we're here to say that, more often than not, you'll look like your elementary school photo, (you know the one where your mom cut them too short!). Be it fringe, curtain, bottleneck, or wispy, bring your bang requests to the professionals. You're welcome in advance.

We can't wait to hear all about your style desires! Bring your comments on over to our Facebook or Instagram page (scan the QR code above to follow along) For your inspo, our beautiful cuts and colors are posted daily.

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FSPA to Host Open Houses for Prospective Families

The Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA) will hold Open Houses for prospective students and families at 38 Main Street on Tuesday, August 2nd from 3-7 p.m. and Saturday, September 10th 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The community is invited to tour the facilities, observe classes, speak with faculty and staff, and learn more about FSPA programs in music, dance, and drama, whether for recreational enjoyment or serious study.

Additionally, interested families are always welcome to call (508) 528-8668, visit FSPAonline.com, or stop by 38 Main Street to ask questions and learn more about the school.

Proudly serving more than 500 students annually from 45 communities in Massachusetts' Metro West region, the Franklin School for the Performing Arts (FSPA) is committed to quality education in the arts with exceptional curriculum, outstanding professional faculty and unwavering dedication to each and

every student enrolled. Founded in 1985 by Director Raye Lynn Mercer, FSPA is a unique place where students of all ages and levels of ability participate in an array of music, dance, and drama programs with professional instruction and extraordinary performing opportunities. With broad-based and varied curricula, FSPA guides students in the development of technique, creativity, and artistic expression to last a lifetime. FSPA's faculty boasts outstanding professional artists, performers, and teachers. Their impressive credentials are indicative of the excellent instruction available in all programs. FSPA instructors strive to meet the individual needs of each student, working to develop each student's abilities to his or her own potential.

Performance is an integral part of an FSPA education and the school offers unrivaled performing opportunities for students throughout the year. On the calendar annually are student recitals, concerts by



faculty and guest artists, master classes, student showcases, holiday shows, the school's signature Spring Concert, and summer camps and intensives. In addition, for students whose level of interest is more focused, there are special performing ensemble opportunities available by audition. THE BLACK BOX, home of the Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC), a 200-seat flexible theater located behind FSPA, provides a professional venue for FSPA student productions, while FPAC offers opportunities by audition for student performers.

For more information about FSPA and its programs, visit www.FSPAonline.com, call (508) 528-8668, or stop by 38 Main St. in Franklin. You can follow FSPA on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

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KPMS Teacher Recognized as 2022 National STEM Scholar

King Philip Regional Middle School seventh grade STEM teacher Susan Hall has been selected by the National Stem Cell Foundation as a 2022 National STEM Scholar for her influential and innovative work in the STEM field. Those selected as STEM Scholars are invited to participate in a unique professional development program aimed at providing advanced STEM training, national network building and project support for middle school science teachers nationwide.

“Susan has been a staple within our school community for over two decades and has helped shape our STEM curriculum to what it is today,” KP Superintendent Paul Zinni said. “We’re extremely pleased to see her get the recognition she deserves on a national scale and are excited for her to attend this professional development program where she will be able to continue to grow her ideas and work alongside other prominent teachers in the field.”

Created in partnership between the National Stem Cell Foundation and The Gattton Academy of Mathematics and Science at Western Kentucky University (WKU), the National STEM Scholar Program selects ten teachers each year from a national pool of applicants based solely on the description of a “big idea” Challenge Project the applicant would implement if funds were available. Selected projects are chosen for maximum impact in middle school classrooms, where research shows lifelong STEM career decisions are being made.

As part of Hall’s application for the program, she proposed a Hydroponics unit as her “big idea” challenge project. At a workshop at the Kennedy Space Center in the summer of 2018, Hall learned about a program, Growing Beyond Earth, where students collected real data from hydroponic systems for NASA. Hydroponic farming will be necessary to travel to Mars and beneficial to astronauts on the



King Philip Middle School Seventh Grade STEM Teacher, Susan Hall, recognized as a 2022 National STEM Scholar (Photo Courtesy of King Philip Middle School)

International Space Station.

“I’m extremely honored to have been chosen to be a part of this nationally acclaimed program,” said Hall. “Through receiving this honor, not only will I be able to create life-long connections in STEM fields for myself and my students, but I will also receive funding and

resources that would have not normally been available for my students.”

Hall has been a science teacher in the district for 25 years and worked to create and implement the middle school’s STEM curriculum in 2013 at the request of then-Principal Susan Gilson. The middle school’s STEM curriculum focuses on science topics, engineering projects and computer coding.

This year’s STEM Scholars will convene on WKU’s campus in Bowling Green, Kentucky, during the week of May 29-June 4 for a week of advanced STEM training and to finalize their projects with input from their STEM Scholar class colleagues.

A thought leader in STEM education will also attend for a day of interaction with the Scholar class. This year’s speaker will be Michelle Lucas, CEO of Higher Orbits, who spent ten years working at NASA in International Space Station Flight Control Operations Planning

and as an Astronaut Instructor in the Daily Operations Group before founding Higher Orbits to inspire student passion for STEM through spaceflight.

Alongside Hall, educators from Virginia, Georgia, Montana, Missouri, Rhode Island, Maine, and Florida were recognized this year as National Stem Scholars.

Now in its seventh year, there are 70 National STEM Scholars representing middle schools in 32 states. Of those, 90% teach in public schools, 40% teach in mid- to high-poverty schools and 36% teach in communities with a population under 15,000. A unique requirement of the program is the responsibility for STEM Scholars to share lessons learned with colleagues in their home schools, districts or states, magnifying impact over multiple classrooms and years. By June 2023, National STEM Scholars will have directly and indirectly impacted more than 83,000 middle school students in the U.S.

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Wrentham Resident Joins Lifeworks Board of Directors

Lifeworks, a nonprofit human services provider that supports people with intellectual and

developmental disabilities, announced on May 6 the addition of Alan “Moe” Adams to its

Board of Directors. Adams, a Wrentham resident, brings more than four de-

acades of business experience to the Lifeworks board. He is the assistant professor of finance at Dean College in Franklin. Prior to teaching and leading students in higher education, he and his wife, Donna, founded and operated a successful biomedical manufacturing company located in MetroWest.



with these wonderful colleagues and the fine folks who benefit from Lifeworks’ services.”

“We are excited to welcome Moe and his immeasurable experience in business to our board,” said Lifeworks CEO Daniel Burke. “He joins a committed group of community leaders and advocates on our board who are united in their efforts to improve and enrich the lives of our neighbors with intellectual and developmental disabilities.”

Adams has served on the boards of several New England companies and continues to lead a consulting services firm that he founded over 20 years ago. He is a published author whose book, “Business Finance: A Clear View,” is currently in its third edition. He earned an MBA from Bryant University.

“After years of hearing about the benefits and positive deeds that Lifeworks has brought to our communities, it is now my profound and genuine pleasure to be able to give back by service on the board,” said Adams. “I look forward excitedly to working

About Lifeworks

Since 1954, Lifeworks and its predecessors, Lifeworks, Inc. and The Arc of South Norfolk, have served the towns of Norfolk County and beyond by providing support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through advocacy, empowerment and opportunity. The Westwood-based nonprofit organization serves more than 2,300 individuals from communities in the Greater Boston, MetroWest, Norfolk County and Attleboro areas through a wide variety of services and programs, including: employment services; residential, family and community supports; and day programs. For more information, visit www.lifeworksarc.org.

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LOCATION: NORFOLK TOWN HALL AND ZOOM
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EVENT REGISTRATION:
<https://bit.ly/NorfolkSouthwood-6-6-22>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information to join the meeting.



Please join us to discuss the future of the Southwood property!

The Town of Norfolk is working with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to study the potential re-use of the former Southwood Hospital property in order to inform zoning or other recommendations to support opportunities for investment and development by the property owner.

Please join us on June 6th at 7:00 pm either in-person at Town Hall or via Zoom for a brief presentation and a series of facilitated exercises to begin to understand a shared set of priorities, goals, and parameters for the potential re-use of the property. This process is being lead proactively by the Town with funding support from the Commonwealth's Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and the Town of Norfolk.



If you need special assistance or translation services, please contact MAPC at (617) 933-0760 or jfala@mapc.org

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June Program Highlights at the Norfolk Senior Center

Pre-registration is required for all events. RSVP to 508-528-4430 or register at the Norfolk Senior Center, 28 Medway Branch Road, Norfolk.

Wednesday, June 1 at 1:30 p.m. **Normal Aging vs Memory Loss** Presented by Alicia Seaver, VP Bridges by EPOCH. Have you ever walked into a room and forgotten what you came for? Do you ever wonder if you should be worried about being so forgetful? Alicia is a Memory Impairment Specialist certified by the National Institute on Aging and is an expert educator and trainer for Bridges by EPOCH.

Wednesday, June 15 at 10:15 a.m. **Basic First Aid for Seniors** Join Norfolk Fire Dept. Lt. Mike Findlen in learning about Basic First Aid, AED (automatic ex-

ternal defibrillator) use, how to treat cuts, scrapes and bruises, and nosebleeds. Also, how to get yourself up if you've fallen, precautions when taking blood thinners, and the importance of knowing when to seek medical attention. Jeanine Murphy, RN will be on hand to answer any medical questions and check your vital signs.

Thursday, June 30 at 9 a.m. **Steam Train & River Boat Cruise, Essex, CT** Depart on a luxury Silver Fox coach bus from the Norfolk Senior Center on a tour that features fine cuisine, an authentic steam engine train ride, and a riverboat cruise. Tour cost: \$109 per person. Full payment due by June 1 (non-refundable). Please choose entrée at sign-up: baked scrod or stuffed chicken breast.

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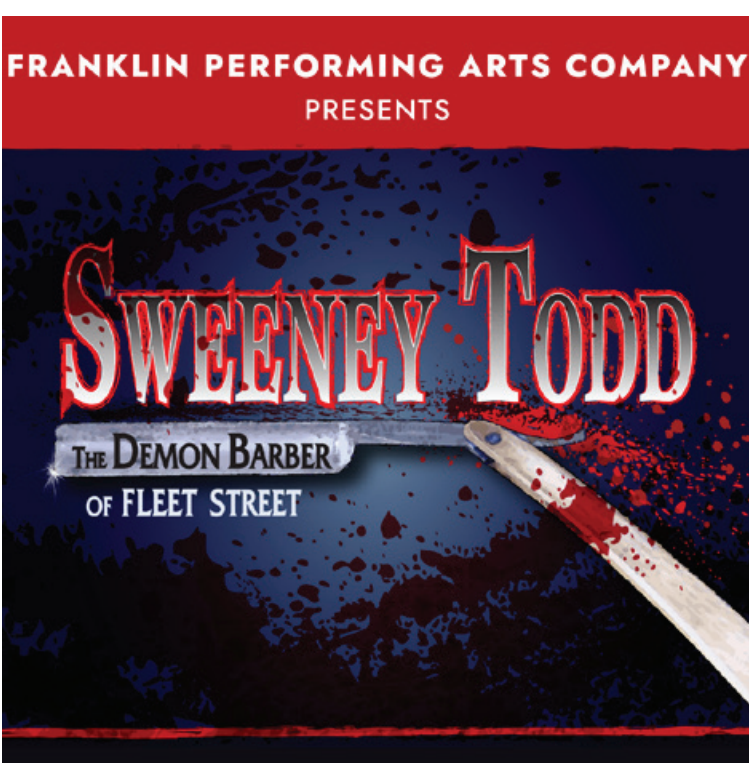
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FPAC to present Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

The Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC), Franklin's own professional theater company, will present Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* June 10-12 at THE BLACK BOX.

Sweeney Todd has become a bloody, worldwide success since being awarded eight Tonys, (including Best Musical), for its Broadway premiere. Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler's tasty, thrilling, theatrical treat has simultaneously shocked, awed, and delighted audiences across the world. An infamous tale, Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to nineteenth century London, seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed him and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett's luck sharply shifts when Todd's thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up.

The cast includes FPAC's Nick Paone as the title character, Kellie Stamp as Mrs. Lovett, Mariko Matsumura as the Beggar Woman, Paul Rescigno



as Pirelli, Robbie Rescigno as Tobias, Audrey Miningham as Johanna, John Fitzhenry as Anthony, and more.

FPAC is an Actors' Equity Small Professional Theater company based at THE BLACK BOX in downtown Franklin. Each season, FPAC produces musicals, plays, ballets, and more featuring Broadway stars, professional actors, local artists, and students of the arts.

THE BLACK BOX is located at 15 W. Central St. in downtown Franklin, MA. For tickets and more information on Sweeney Todd, visit THEBLACKBOX-online.com or call the box office at (508) 528-3370. Follow Franklin Performing Arts Company and THE BLACK BOX on Facebook and Instagram for updates on programming.

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Living Healthy

Eye Care Facts and Myths

BY: ROGER M. KALDAWY, M.D.
MILFORD FRANKLIN EYE CENTER

We have all been told by someone at some time, "You'll hurt your eyes if you do that!" But do you really know what is or is not good for your eyes?

Test yourself with the following true or false statements and see how much you know about your eyes.

"Reading in dim light is harmful to your eyes."

False. Using your eyes in dim light does not damage them. However, good lighting does make reading easier and can prevent eye fatigue.

"Using computers can damage your eyes."

False. Working on computers will not harm your eyes. Often, when using a computer for long periods of time, just as when reading or doing other close work, you blink less often



than normal. This reduced rate of blinking makes your eyes dry, which may lead to the feeling of eyestrain or fatigue.

Try to take regular breaks to look up or across the room. This should relieve the feeling of strain on your eyes. Keep the monitor between 18 to 24 inches from your face and at a slight downward angle. Also consider the use

of artificial tears. If your vision blurs or your eyes tire easily, you should have your eyes examined by an ophthalmologist.

"Wearing the wrong kind of eyeglasses damages your eyes."

False. Eyeglasses are devices used to sharpen your vision. Although correct eyeglasses or contacts help you to see clearly, wearing a pair with the wrong

lenses, or not wearing glasses at all, will not physically damage your eyes. However, children less than eight years old who need eyeglasses should wear their own prescription to prevent the possibility of developing amblyopia or "lazy eye."

"Children outgrow crossed or misaligned eyes."

False. Children do not outgrow crossed eyes. A child whose eyes are misaligned may develop poor vision in one eye because the brain will "turn off" or ignore the image from the misaligned or lazy eye. Children who appear to have misaligned eyes should be examined by an ophthalmologist.

"Learning disabilities are caused by eye problems."

False. Difficulties with reading, mathematics, and other learning problems in children are often referred to as learning disabilities. There is no strong evidence that vision problems cause learning disabilities. Children with learning difficulties often need help from teachers and people with special training. Before such treatment begins, make certain your child is seeing as well as possible.

"Sitting close to the television can damage children's eyes."

False. Children can focus at close distance without eyestrain better than adults. They often develop the habit of holding reading materials close to their eyes or

sitting right in front of the television. There is no evidence that this damages their eyes.

"People with weak eyes should avoid reading fine print."

False. It is said that people with weak eyes or people who wear glasses will "wear out" their eyes sooner if they read fine print or do a lot of detail work. The concept of the eye as a muscle is incorrect. The eye more closely resembles a camera. A camera will not wear out sooner just because it is used to photograph intricate detail.

"Wearing eyeglasses will cause you to become dependent on them."

False. Eyeglasses are used to correct blurry vision. Since clear vision with eyeglasses is preferable to uncorrected vision, you may find that you want to wear your eyeglasses more often. Although it may feel as if you are becoming dependent on your eyeglasses, you are actually just getting used to seeing clearly.

"Older people who gain 'second sight' may be developing cataracts."

True. Older individuals who wear reading eyeglasses sometimes find themselves able to read without their eyeglasses and think their eyesight is improving. The truth is they are becoming

EYES

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Living Healthy

EYES

continued from page 18

more nearsighted, which can be a sign of early cataract development.

"A cataract must be 'ripe' before it is removed."

False. With older surgical techniques, it was thought to be safer to remove a cataract when it was "ripe." With today's modern surgical procedures, a cataract can be removed whenever it begins to interfere with a person's lifestyle.

"Contact lenses can prevent nearsightedness from getting worse."

False. Some people have been led to believe that wearing contact lenses will permanently correct nearsightedness so that eventually they won't need either contacts or eyeglasses. There is no evidence that wearing contact lenses produces an improvement in vision.

"Eyes can be transplanted."

False. Medical science has no way to transplant whole eyes. Our eyes are connected to the brain by the optic nerve. Because of this, the eye is never removed from its socket during surgery. The cornea, the clear front part of the eye, has been successfully transplanted for many years. Corneal transplant is sometimes confused with an eye transplant.

"Laser assisted cataract surgery is the same as traditional cataract surgery."

False. The 5 best rankings Eye Hospitals in America offer

bladeless laser assisted cataract surgery. We do offer exactly the same. Bladeless cataract surgery is all about aiming towards better precision, more safety and excellent outcomes. The laser advanced bladeless precision and ability to correct astigmatism translates into better likelihood of seeing well without glasses following cataract surgery. The same laser used in bladeless cataract surgery breaks up and softens the cloudy cataract so there is less ultrasound needed to remove the cataract. Less ultrasound translates into less energy used inside the eye and clearer corneas, which in turn helps producing better vision on the first day after the surgery. This becomes even more critical if you have a weak cornea or a small eye with a dense cataract.

It is always useful to separate fact from myth in eye care. Our eye center and ophthalmologists have state of the art equipment to diagnose and treat almost any eye problem. At Milford-Franklin Eye Center, we continue to support our communities during this health crisis we are living. We sterilize equipment between patients and screen all patients before they enter the building and before they register. With 2 offices in Franklin and Milford and a dedicated surgery center in Milford, no more need to travel hours for your eye care or surgery. We are the area's leading eye care practice, and we continue to support our communities during this health crisis.

For more details, see our ad on page 18.

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If you are experiencing a health issue that is not resolving and a medical reason can't be identified, call the HOLISTIC CENTER AT BRISTOL SQUARE (508) 660-2722 to

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Sports

KP's Crowther Striving for Success in Tournament

Warriors' Captain a Quality Leader

BY KEN HAMWEY
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Sean Crowther has some unfinished business he'd like to take care of.

Last year, competing as an attackman on King Philip's lacrosse team, the Warriors were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs, losing, 16-2, to Duxbury. That setback was the third straight first-round elimination in Hal Bean's tenure as KP's head coach.

For the 18-year-old Crowther, the Duxbury game was his only tournament appearance in his first three years in the program. He was on the jayvees as a freshman and there were no spring sports his sophomore year because of COVID-19.

Now, as a senior captain who was a Hockomock League honorable-mention all-star last year, he's eager for a return trip to the playoffs that he hopes will produce a deep run.

"My team goals at the start of the season were to beat Franklin, win the Kelly-Rex Division title, qualify for the tourney and get to the Final Four," he said. "That blowout loss to Duxbury left a bitter taste. They dominated us."

The 5-foot-11, 150-pound Crowther, who's helped the War-



Sean Crowther enjoys playing attack because he can manage the game and the tempo.

riors compile a 9-2 record at Local Town Pages deadline, is confident the Warriors will have no trouble qualifying for the tourney. And, Crowther is convinced a Final Four appearance is realistic.

"Our roster is deep, we've got talent, we're well-coached and we play solid defense," he emphasized. "What should help us is the high-quality opponents

we've faced. We should be prepared. What we'll need is to maintain focus, take one game at a time, stay healthy and get some luck. Hopefully, we'll be ready and peaking at the right time."

Crowther had a dynamic season as a junior, scoring 40 goals and getting 10 assists that helped KP to register a 10-3 record before its early playoff exit. At Local Town Pages deadline, he had 30 goals and 19 assists for 49 points.

Crowther started playing lacrosse as a seven-year-old and he's competed at the club level for the last seven years. His style and approach are what obviously earned him all-star honors.

"I like playing attack because you can manage the game and the tempo," he noted. "I like to score but playing attack also involves passing and being creative. I like going behind my back to pass or shoot. Protecting the ball, limiting turnovers and passing effectively are the keys to be successful on attack."

An aggressive player, Crowther excels at getting into position for his shots.

"Sean has incredible instincts," said Bean. "His shots are accurate, he passes well and he's a good communicator who leads by example. His field vision makes him creative because



Sean Crowther had a dynamic season as a junior, scoring 40 goals and getting 10 assists.

it enables him to know where his teammates are. He's very capable at creating space and that leads to him being effective on offense."

A native of Albany, N.Y., Crowther's personal goals are to help his teammates improve and succeed, strive to be a league all-star again and to increase his goals and assist totals.

The best game of his career arrived early. KP faced North Attleboro last year in its home opener and Crowther was a prime factor in the 15-8 victory. "A large crowd was on hand and I scored six goals and had an assist," he recalled. "It seemed like everything I did was effective and the win set the tone for the season."

Crowther knows that KP's other captains have played a key role in setting an upbeat tone. He's bullish on senior defenseman Will Weiblen and junior goalie James Boldy.

"Both are top-notch leaders," Crowther said. "Will is strong and athletic, he communicates well and is great on defense. James is like a brick wall. Instinctive and smart, he's the heart and soul of our defense."

Crowther also admires the way his coach runs the lacrosse program. "Coach Bean is very supportive and his knowledge of the game is extensive," he said. "He's a tremendous motivator who gets the most out of his players."

Getting Crowther's best is easy because his leadership skills were evident in ice hockey where he played two varsity seasons at forward, was a captain and a two-time all-star. And, what makes him a special competitor are a variety of strengths that include a high lacrosse IQ, experience, mental toughness and perseverance.

Crowther, who lives in Wrentham, is also special in the academic arena. He's a National Honor Society student whose GPA is 4.03. Also a member of the student council, he's been accepted at Michigan State where he plans on majoring in finance. "Michigan State doesn't have lacrosse, so I'll just be a fan of all their sports teams," he said.

Calling his father (John) his role model, Crowther learned a lot about lacrosse from him. His dad played the sport at Michigan State. And, Crowther's sisters also know a few things about the sport.

"My twin sister (Colleen) is a captain for the Franklin girls team and my older sister (Katie) is a captain at Southern New Hampshire University," Crowther noted.

Crowther's style as a captain focuses on positive reinforcement, communication and leading by example. "I was honored to be selected by my teammates," he said. "I'm glad I've earned their respect."

When it comes time for KP to start its tourney run, Crowther will show every opponent plenty of respect. He wants to finish strong in his last go-round wearing green and gold.

"As seniors, we want to finish up feeling good about ourselves," he said. "This is the last time we'll be representing KP. I'm looking forward to this time in the playoffs but I'm also looking forward to a new chapter of my life in college. For the present, however, it's all about being prepared and focused."

Sean Crowther is a team-first player who could easily be the poster child for commitment, dedication and devotion to the task.

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Sports

Tri-County RVTHS' Athletic Director Receives "Ted" Damko Award

Five years ago, Sara Martin accepted the position of Athletic Director (AD) at Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School. Martin has been a history teacher for more than 20 years at Tri-County and coached girls soccer, girls basketball, and track and field before her AD appointment.

Martin's passion and dedication is being recognized as she has been selected for the Theodore "Ted" Damko Award from the Massachusetts' Secondary Schools Athletic Directors Associations (MSSADA). This award is presented annually to an athletic administrator with 3-5 years of experience who has exemplified the highest standards of their profession and has made significant contributions to their school and community.

"Sara is a dedicated and passionate athletic director. She is constantly supporting and cheering on our athletes," said Julie Caffrey, coach and Special Education teacher. "She is engaged with our athletes during and outside of games, always committed to their well-being. As a coach, I appreciate her support during the seasons. She makes sure that we always have what we need. She is always brainstorming new ideas to bring in culture to our athletic program. The athletes appreciate her support of them."

Martin was a three-sport athlete at North Smithfield High School in Rhode Island and a graduate of Providence College. Her dedication to the students' well-being both on and off the field speaks volumes about her character. She feels that education and sports go hand-and-hand.

"Sports are an extension of the classroom. The things that students are learning in the classroom, they can take with them out on the field," remarked Martin.

One of the biggest challenges Martin has faced is the uncertainty of the pandemic. With games being canceled and attendance restricted, Martin and Tri-County coaches had to adapt and meet the challenge with passion.

"Kids aren't going to remember the scores, wins and losses. They are going to remember the memories that they make with their teammates," Martin said.

This mindset helped the Athletic Department persevere, so the students could continue participating in the activities they love.

"Sara is unafraid to try new things in order to create opportunities for our teams. She communicates in an organized and professional manner. All of the coaches and Sara share a common vision, centered around the success and development of our student athletes. Put simply, Sara is certainly deserving of all of the accolades she receives," remarked Steven LaPlante, coach and English teacher.

"I'd like to recognize the herculean efforts of my coaching staff before, during, and after the pandemic," said Martin. "They have worked tirelessly to keep kids engaged over the last two years. The amount of time and energy they invest in their athletes and helping them be the best versions of themselves goes unrecognized. They embody the values of the Tri-County Community and the mission of the Athletic Department."



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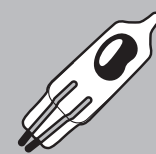
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May Performance “a Triumph” for Local Community Chorus

By JUDITH DORATO O’GARA

When it presented its spring concert “American Roadtrip” on May 1, the Greater Milford Community Chorus finally performed a repertoire it planned to perform before the pandemic shut it down a couple years ago.

“It’s nice to be able to bring that back,” said the chorus director Mark Schiapucci. “This concert is the concert we were getting ready for when COVID struck. It’s something triumphant, to dust it off and pull it off a shelf and finally perform this concert we’ve been thinking about for two years now.”

The Greater Milford Community Chorus (GMCC) was organized in April 1973. The nonprofit draws from communities all around Milford. Would-be singers are invited to join in on one of three open audition events at the beginning of each season, which includes a holiday concert and a springtime concert each year.

“We actually have singers from all around the area,” says Schiapucci, although right now membership is

down. “In a pre-COVID year that number would have been about 40, but it’s enough to get our concert together and carry on.”

The volunteer group is open to anybody over 18 with a rudimentary understanding of reading music.

“Though this is my first year participating, I have found it fun and very rewarding so far to be a part of something like this where likeminded singers and music lovers come together to perform,” says chorus member Jenn Russo, of Bellingham. “I have loved that there are members representing all ages and backgrounds. Mark has been amazing – very talented and with a wonderful sense of humor as he guides us to be our best.”

“I’m so relieved and excited that we can get back into the concert hall,” says Schiapucci, himself a Milford High graduate, who brought the chorus back to the concert hall just this past holiday season. “It’s been an interesting couple of years for live music,” he says. “There are enough challenges, in preparing music, without having to do all these other things. It’s

enough to get together in the same room with a piano and to make music. There’s not really a substitute for that.”

The group, says Schiapucci, was able to “think outside the box” during the lockdown, with a virtual concert project during the holiday season, in which members recorded themselves at home and those clips were edited and merged, and then last spring, with an outdoor socially distanced concert.

“I was very proud, that even in the lockdown year, we were able to keep music going and the group active, which was a big priority for me, especially a group like this, where singers aren’t paid. If you don’t keep up momentum you risk the program falling apart,” says Schiapucci, who laughingly notes, “I don’t miss rehearsing over Zoom, I’ll tell you that. It just really goes to prove how much people love and are devoted to music in their lives.”

For more information on joining the Greater Milford Community Chorus, visit www.greatermilfordcommunitychorus.org



The Wrentham Fire Department held its first in-person swearing-in and promotion ceremony since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. (Photo courtesy Joe Gianni, WFD photographer)

Wrentham Fire Department Swears in Several Firefighters Promotions Announced During Ceremony

On Saturday, April 30 at 11 a.m., the Wrentham Fire Department hosted a ceremony at the fire headquarters in Wrentham to swear in and promote several firefighters.

In attendance was Town Administrator Kevin Sweet and Board of Selectmen Chairman Joseph F. Botaish II alongside Board of Selectmen members Christopher Gallo, Bill Harrington and James Anderson. Town Clerk Cynthia Thompson swore in the firefighters and recited their oaths at the ceremony.

During the ceremony, Fire Chief Antonio Marino presented the following candidates to be sworn in as firefighters: Alex Acorroni, Brendan Black, Michael Bourque, Paul Dwelly, Michael Falter, Tyler Gover, Renae Mansfield, Jeremy Prairie, Peter Rowe and Albert Tranquillino.

Numerous firefighters were also promoted during the ceremony including Mitchell Herrick and Mathew Levine who were promoted to fire lieutenants and Robert Holst and Patrick McMorrow who were promoted to fire captains.

“We are extremely proud of all the men and women who were sworn in to their new roles within the Wrentham Fire Department,” said Town Administrator Kevin Sweet. “Each and every one of these firefighters deserved this ceremony to highlight their accomplishments and welcome them into their new roles. I’m extremely happy it was able to be held and I hope that you all join me in congratulating them.”

Also in attendance at the ceremony were the firefighters’ family and friends.

Commemorating National Police Week, Peace Officers Memorial Day

Last month, Chief Charles Stone and the Norfolk Police Department honored law enforcement officers across the country during National Police Week.

In 1962, President John F.

Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. It was established by a joint resolution of Congress

in the same year and honors law enforcement officers across the country, paying special recognition to those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

In honor of Peace Officers

Memorial Day on Sunday, May 15, Norfolk Police joined agencies nationwide in flying its flags at half-staff to honor officers who have given their lives in service to their communities.

“With each shift they work, police officers put their lives on the line while protecting and serving their communities,” Chief Stone said. “During National Police Week, we would like to take a moment to remember those who have given their lives in the line of duty and recognize others who have been disabled due to a line of duty injury.”

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, there were 617 law enforcement line of duty deaths in the U.S. in 2021, 439 of which are attributed to COVID-19. So far in 2022, 105 line of duty deaths have been recorded.

Each year, hundreds of names of officers killed in the line of duty are engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the names are read aloud during a Candlelight Vigil. This year, the names of 619 fallen officers were added to the Memorial, including 472 officers who died in 2021 and an additional 147 officers who died in years before 2021. The 34th Annual Candlelight Vigil took place on Friday, May 13.

Thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world gather in Washington, D.C. during National Police Week to pay their respects to fallen officers through a number of scheduled events. The week also honors the family members, friends and fellow officers of fallen officers.

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KP DECA Members Earn Recognition at Conference

King Philip DECA members earned the organization's highest honors at DECA's annual International Career Development Conference, held April 23-27 in Atlanta, Georgia.

A group of 55 King Philip DECA members attended the conference, participating in competitive events to test their professional skills. The students qualified for the competition after placing in state and regional competitions designed to simulate real-life business scenarios and test students' academic understanding and skills development earlier this year.

The DECA International Career Development Conference was the pinnacle of competition where nearly 18,000 students vied for international honors. Over \$300,000 in scholarships and awards were presented to students and teachers for their achievements.

At the conference, the following KP DECA students received recognitions: Laura Gelsomini (first place in Business Solutions Project); Sydney O'Shea (first place in Business Growth Plan); Jeff Bourque, Noah Hurd and John Pfeiffer (fourth place in Franchise Business Plan); Sarah Lehan-Allen (fifth place in Franchise Business Plan); Ben Simmons and Caden Heslin (sixth place in International Business Plan); Declan Breen, Niko Canning and Nico Calderone (sixth place in Buying and Merchandising Operations Research);



Sydney O'Shea received first place in Business Growth Plan at DECA's 2022 ICDC. (Photo courtesy King Philip Regional High School)

Samantha Asprelli and Isabella Fraone (Top 10 International Finalists in Community Awareness); Grace Clyde (Top 10 International Finalist in Career Development); Trinjan Kaur (Top 10 International Finalist in Start-Up Business Plan); Jack McCreedy, Jack Curran and James Hickey (Top 10 International Finalists in International Business Plan); and Jared Curran and Finn Meroski (Top 10 International Finalists in School-Based Enterprise).

"Coming back to an in-person ICDC validated KP DECA's process. Our hard work was put to the test on an international stage in the relentless perseverance of KP DECA. I am so proud of everyone and KP DECA's return to ICDC," said KP DECA President Sam Asprelli, who was recognized at ICDC.



KP DECA outside the Mercedes-Benz Stadium, home of DECA's 2022 ICDC in Atlanta, Georgia. (Photo courtesy of King Philip Regional High School)

In addition to the career-based competition, DECA members also engaged in leadership academies and networking

opportunities with over 70 internationally-recognized businesses and universities.

KP DECA had the most students qualify for this conference throughout Massachusetts and had the most students earn international recognition on stage in Atlanta in MASS-DECA. KP DECA also had the honor of being the only chapter in the state to earn two first-place glass trophies, DECA's highest competitive honor.

"On behalf of the entire King Philip community, I would like to congratulate all of our KP DECA members for their immense success this year and those that attended the International Career Development Conference," KP Superintendent Paul Zinni said. "At the conference, those who participated showcased their knowledge and abilities and represented the King Philip community exceptionally well."

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Real Estate Corner

April Real Estate Activity in Norfolk County

April numbers relative to Norfolk County show a continuing decrease in real estate activity compared to April 2021 and even compared to the March 2022 numbers.

According to Norfolk County Register of Deeds, William P. O'Donnell, "Data indicates that the Norfolk County real estate numbers in April indicate a continued slowdown in the market compared to 2021 and, except for a slight increase in sales, when compared to the overall numbers from last month. There were

11,179 documents recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in April, a 37% decrease from April, 2021 and a decrease of 10% from March of 2022."

The number of deeds for April 2022, which reflect real estate sales and transfers both commercial and residential, decreased by 16% from April 2021 but did increase by 3% from March. However, sale prices continue to surge. The average sale price in April was \$1,534,065, a 32% increase compared to April 2021. Total dollar volume of

commercial and residential sales also showed gains from one year ago, increasing 11% and are up 41% from last month.

Overall lending activity show a continued trend downward for the month of April. A total of 2,210 mortgages were recorded during the month, a significant decrease of 48% compared to a year ago and down 8% from last month.

"It appears that interest rate increases and the fact that many consumers have already refinanced may be impacting the numbers," noted O'Donnell.

A continuing cause for concern in Norfolk County is the number of pending foreclosures. The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds has been closely watching the foreclosure market. During April, there were 4 foreclosure deeds recorded as a result of mortgage foreclosures taking place in Norfolk County, two less than in April, 2021 and one less



than in March. However, there were 22 Notices to Foreclose, the first step in the foreclosure process, recorded in April, up significantly from 4 recorded in April 2021, and up from 11 recorded last month.

"The dramatic increase in the number of these notices is alarming. It indicates that more of our neighbors are facing financial challenges going forward," said O'Donnell. "We will continue to monitor these numbers."

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Recent Home Sales in Norfolk

Date	Address	Amount
April 27	89 Leland Road	\$560,000
April 27	14 Avery Way	\$718,604
April 28	13 Boyde's Crossing	\$790,000
April 29	140 Red Maple Run	\$630,000
April 29	133 Farrington Avenue	\$1.1M
May 2	27 King Street	\$575,000
May 2	50 Meetinghouse Road	\$675,000
May 3	37 Mirror Lake Avenue	\$415,000
May 3	73 Meetinghouse Road	\$610,000
May 9	75 North Street	\$390,000
May 12	32 Berkshire Street	\$1.55M

Source: www.zillow.com
 Compiled by Local Town Pages

Real Estate Corner

Recent Home Sales in Wrentham

Date	Address	Amount
April 15	70 Comstock Drive	\$899,900
April 22	10 Field Circle	\$125,400
April 22	13 Field Circle	\$299,900
April 22	17 Field Circle	\$299,900
April 22	21 Amber Drive	\$299,900
April 22	12 Field Circle	\$299,900
April 27	20 Weber Farm Road	\$763,060
April 28	50 Dana Drive	\$811,000
April 28	9 Weber Farm Road	\$893,644
April 28	2 Vine Street	\$360,000
April 29	42 Weber Farm Road	\$786,972
May 2	213 Thurston Street	\$540,000
May 2	22 Archer Street	\$613,000
May 5	450 Taunton Street	\$725,000
May 6	55 Riverside Drive	\$552,000
May 11	80 Clark Road #1	\$375,000

Source: www.zillow.com

Compiled by Local Town Pages

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Arielle Diplacido Joins the Kim Williams Team of Gibson Sotheby's International Realty

The Kim Williams Team of Gibson Sotheby's International Realty is thrilled to announce that Arielle Diplacido has joined their team. Having grown up immersed in her family's development company, real estate was an intuitive next step and one that Arielle has been dedicated to since 2012. She is thrilled to bring her wealth of experience and creative thinking to the team. Specializing in residential real estate throughout Medfield, Westwood, Wrentham, Walpole and Norfolk, the Kim Williams Team excels at full-service real estate offerings—including staging, digital marketing, pricing strategies, market analysis and negotiations.



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Danielle Rochefort Earns Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices' Prestigious Five-Year Legend Award

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty is pleased to announce that Danielle Rochefort has been honored with the prestigious LEGEND AWARD for 2021 at the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' annual Sales Convention, held in Louisville, KY.

Rochefort was recognized for achieving the five-year milestone

of consecutively winning the Legend Award. As a Legend Award recipient, she joins a select group of network agents nationwide who have consistently ranked in the top tier of sales professionals in the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices' network.

In addition, Rochefort was recently awarded the 1st QUARTER 2022 award for

placing among the Top 3 Agents in Massachusetts for the total number of residential homes sold. Danielle's tireless effort and dedication to the needs of her clients have propelled her to the top of her field, as she is consistently placed in the TOP 1% of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices agents nationwide.

"Danielle has an unbeliev-

able drive for success. This drive has made her a top-producer in our region, and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network, year after year," said Ellen Rao, Broker/Owner, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Page Realty. "While Danielle has received many awards and accolades for her work in real estate, it is her commitment to her clients of which she is most proud." Danielle can be reached at (508) 954-7690 or at danielle@BHHSpagerealty.com.



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Real Estate Corner

2022 First Quarter Real Estate Activity Report

First quarter (January-March 2022) real estate stats showed an uptick in residential and commercial sales and sale prices, while overall numbers indicate a downturn, reported Norfolk County Register of Deeds William P. O'Donnell.

The average Norfolk County real estate sales price, both residential and commercial, increased 38% to \$1,261,018. Total real estate volume, both residential and commercial, was \$2.56 billion, a 53% increase year over the same period in 2021.

"The lack of inventory and new construction have continued to push prices up," noted Register O'Donnell. "It remains to be seen if this trend continues as overall activity is starting to slow."

For the first quarter of 2022, the number of land documents recorded (such as deeds, mortgages, homesteads, mortgage discharges, etc.) was 34,315, a 33% decline from the first quarter of 2021.

"This figure tells us there is still a healthy real estate market, however we are not seeing the volume we saw in 2020 and 2021," said O'Donnell.

There were 6,664 mortgages recorded at the Registry during the first quarter of the calendar

year 2022 compared to 14,001 for the same time period in 2021, a 52% decrease. However, total mortgage borrowing was \$7.5 billion for January through March compared to \$5.7 billion during the same period in 2021.

"With the increase in interest rates, consumers seem to be less inclined to borrow," Register O'Donnell stated. "The discrepancy between the decrease in the number of mortgages and the increase in the amount of mortgage indebtedness is due in part to some substantial mortgage loans on a few commercial properties."

Norfolk County homeowners continued to benefit from the Homestead Act. A total of 2,378 declarations of homestead were recorded during the first half of the calendar year, a 12% decrease over the same period a year ago. The Homestead law provides limited protection against the forced sale of an individual's primary residence to satisfy unsecured debt up to \$500,000.

A sharp increase in foreclosure activity in Norfolk County is a cause for concern. A total of 20 foreclosure deeds were recorded in the first quarter versus only 6 filed during the first quarter of 2021. In addition, there was a significant 81% increase in the

number of Notice to Foreclose Mortgage recordings, the first step in the foreclosure process.

While the Eastern Massachusetts economy remains on a solid footing, there are still those in Norfolk County experiencing economic hardship, in many cases through no fault of their own, explained O'Donnell. The Registry continues to work with Quincy Community Action Programs, (617-479-8181 x376),

and NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, (508-587-0950) to help homeowners who have received a Notice to Foreclose Mortgage document. A third option is to contact the Massachusetts Attorney General's Consumer Advocacy and Response Division (CARD) at 617-727-8400.

The Norfolk County Registry of Deeds is located at 649 High Street in Dedham. The Registry is a resource for homeowners,

title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipalities, and others with a need for secure, accurate, accessible land record information. All land record research information can be found on the Registry's website www.norfolkdeeds.org. Residents in need of assistance can contact the Registry of Deeds Customer Service Center via telephone at (781) 461-6101 or email at register-odonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.



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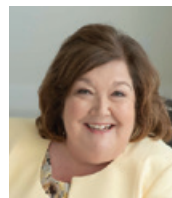


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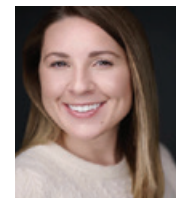
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