

Little Free Library Workshop Brings Community Together

BY SEAN SULLIVAN

A recent transplant from Boston, Natick resident Amanda Formica was looking to establish pathways of connection with her newly adopted town. And while attending Natick Days last year, the spark of an idea was inspired.

That event's random and diverse stations showcase the town's resources, the talents of its residents, and something of the energy on display translated into a project that Formica was keen to take on.

Natick's Little Free Library workshop was the result.

Touted as the world's largest free book-sharing movement, The LFL specializes in creating stations throughout communities where a resident can take a book that catches her eye. The cabinets are a cross between mailbox and birdhouse, with a see-through door that discloses its contents and purpose to passersby.

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Resilient Waldron Sets Lofty Goals For NHS Eleven

BY KEN HAMWEY
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Drew Waldron relies on some dynamic attributes that have enabled him to excel in football and outdoor track.

A Natick High senior, the 6-foot-1, 170-pounder, who'll be a captain in both sports during the 2022-23 school year, is mentally tough, has a high football and track IQ, is instinctive and athletic, knows how to lead, has speed and quickness and he's coachable.

But, the one attribute that puts him in the "special" category is mental toughness, which leads to his resiliency and his knack for bouncing back quickly from adversity.

After a freshman season of football starting at both wide receiver and cornerback, he was eager to get his varsity career underway. A fractured ankle, however, ended a sophomore season that never materialized.

"I suffered the injury in pre-season practice a day before



Drew Waldron is a National Honor Society student who has a 4.2 GPA.

our first scrimmage," Waldron said. "I was in a boot, on crutches, and in a brace. After eight weeks of rehab, I was healthy but that season (fall 2) was shortened to five games and I missed the entire campaign."

Waldron's recovery was a dynamic display of mental tough-

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LIBRARIES

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Most LFLs are outside, and so feature a slanted roof to keep the elements from infiltrating the pages of that potential summer read. The cabinets also serve as receptacles for reading material, places where books can just as readily be dropped off.

According to the Little Free Library’s literature, there are about 150,000 of the book boxes worldwide.

“I’d been looking for ways to get involved in the community,” said Formica. “We wanted to support literacy. This is kind of the idea that we came up with.”

She started reaching out to community stakeholders to get the project going, with Natick’s Morse Institute Library being a good start. Library staff embraced the effort, and offered space a few weeks ago for residents to gather and assemble the cabinets. The library stipulated that the resource must remain free to residents.

“I took that as a challenge to find funding for the project,” said Formica.

The Natick Center Cultural District partnered on logistics and



fundraising, with Mathworks and Eversource signing on as sponsors for the project.

Yet while there’s no fee to give or grab a book, the boxes themselves come with a cost. Component kits for each cabinet were handcrafted by Amish artisans in Wisconsin, purchased for about \$220 each, and came unassembled.

Formica drew on community labor when assembling the cabinets, turning the event into a workshop where more than a dozen families were shown how to put the boxes together and learn some woodworking skills to boot.

“And provide an opportunity for people to have fun,” added Formica.

Where the Natick residents lacked the know-how to assemble the cabinets, Farid Quraishi was

on hand to lend some expertise. A longtime-friend of Formica, he is a carpenter and educator who journeyed from his Burlington, Vermont home to assist in the project.

Quraishi went from table to table during the July 9 workshop at the Morse library, dispensing tips on woodcraft. Participants also learned how they could use their new LFL boxes as doorways to greater community connection and engagement.

When finished, the Morse library filled each with a collection of books to jumpstart each little outpost of the circular lending economy.

Fourteen Little Free Library boxes resulted from the workshop, and most will be located streetside on the property of residents who constructed them. Hosts of the LFL boxes pledged to have theirs installed by the end of last month, and an official tour touting the project is planned for October.

Each cabinet can be registered with the Little Free Library organization, and an app is available that puts a digital pin on a map for every book box nearby the user. The LFL has cabinets in countries throughout the world.



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ness and resiliency. Another example of his intense mental approach showed in Natick’s 28-27 loss to Milford last year. The loss was difficult but Waldron displayed talent and skill as a kickoff and punt returner, running back a kick 87 yards for a touchdown that kept Natick in the game. “I got great lead blocking and turned on the speed for that TD,” Waldron noted. “We had a chance to win the game on a two-point conversion but it failed. That game, nevertheless, showed that we handled defeat well because we bounced back and won our next six games.”

And, when Waldron’s junior season of football ended, he had 20 receptions, 2 TDs on returns, and 27 tackles and one fumble recovery on defense.

“Drew is very explosive and instinctive,” said Natick coach Mark Mortarelli. “He had some terrific kick returns for us in big moments. Drew is also tremendous in track. A quiet captain, he leads by example. Our coaching staff was really impressed with him before the ankle injury. But,

he came back strong and had a great junior season. He’s also an excellent student and should have many college opportunities.”

Track is a sport that requires its participants to be mentally tough and the 17-year-old Waldron often displayed that trait.

A Bay State Conference all-star, he was on two relay teams that set Natick records (long jump relay and sprint medley relay). That sprint medley squad went to the nationals and finished sixth. And, as for Natick High’s outdoor track history, Waldron owns the third fastest time in the 400-meter run (50.1 seconds) and he has the third-best distance in the long jump (21 feet, 2½ inches). He also competes in the 200-meter run.

“I was new to track, and doing so many events so quickly put a strain on my body,” Waldron said. “Playing football, I was used to pushing through pain and injury, but in track I had to learn that being fully healthy is important to team and individual success, and I had to listen to my body and my coaches to make sure I was fully rested for each meet.

“I sat out the conference championship meet due to a



Relying on mental toughness, Natick’s Drew Waldron (4) is a top-notch defensive back.

hamstring injury to be healthy for Division 2 states where I placed second overall in the 400-meter and eighth overall in the long jump to help the team place fourth overall.”

Waldron, who played a year of varsity basketball at shooting

guard, also exhibits lots of mental discipline in the academic arena. A National Honor Society student and vice president of the Future Business Leaders of America Club, he has a 4.2 GPA and hopes to major in pre-law or business. “If I go to a Division 1

college, I’ll probably just focus on track, but if I choose a Division 2 or 3 school, I might try both football and track,” he offered.

Passionate about football, however, Waldron likes playing as a wideout and a cornerback. “A wide receiver can change the outcome of a game on one play,” he said. I enjoy trying to get open and beating a defender. On defense, I like the one-on-one matchup. Defense requires being instinctive and the key is to read your opponents’ moves.”

Aggressive on offense, Waldron tends to rely on finesse when playing safety or cornerback. “Defense is more mental,” he said, “and it’s like being a mind-reader.”

Natick had success in Waldron’s first varsity year but its playoff run ended when it lost for a second time to Milford after the Redhawks had beaten North Andover.

“My team goals this year are to focus on one game at a time, win the Carey Division of the Bay State Conference, qualify for the playoffs, then strive to

WALDRON
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Natick PorchFest Sept. 24

Signups for PorchFest 2022 hosts and bands are now open! The event is hosted by Music Go Round and will occur on Sept. 24 from 2-6 pm.

Visit <https://natickporchfest.org> to register.



WALDRON

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win the Super Bowl,” Waldron said. “Individually, I want to be the best captain and player I can be. I’d like to become a BSC all-star and build a foundation for our younger players. Improving my stats really doesn’t matter because it’s all about winning consistently.”

Four teammates Waldron believes will be prime contributors this season are Natick’s other senior captains — linebacker Henry O’Connor, center Jack Hubbard, tight end Jack McCarthy and receiver/defensive back Louie Linton.

“All are captains who’ll lead

effectively and be role models on and off the field and in the classroom,” Waldron said. “They’re all talented and skilled at the positions they play.”

Calling Mortarelli “a strong motivator,” Waldron admires his knowledge of football and his tactical know-how. “Coach Mortarelli allows us to have fun but we also know when the moment is serious,” he offered. “He runs the team as if it were a college-level squad.”

A captain who leads by example, Waldron also will be supportive of his teammates and vocal when the need arises. His play in Natick’s home opener last year against Walpole was an early indication that he had leadership ability. “I had two pass break-ups and made three tackles,” Waldron recalled. “We won in overtime, 13-7. It was an exciting game, played on a Friday night in front of a pack crowd.”

Calling his parents (Dave and Kimberly) role models for their support and encouragement, Waldron also is a fan of his twin sister Zoe, who’ll be a three-sport captain this year in cross-country and indoor and outdoor track. “She was a BSC all-star in outdoor track,” he said.

Relying on an athletic philosophy that focus on having fun, winning and reaching one’s potential, Waldron says that he’s learned valuable life lessons from sports. “A great lesson is learning how to be mentally tough,” he said. “Sports also teach how to be a quality leader and teammate, how to set goals and communicate, to treat all teammates fairly and to manage your time effectively.”

Mortarelli knew early on that Waldron’s blood lines would probably be a plus when he reached varsity status. The reason? Waldron’s father (Dave) and Mortarelli were teammates at Natick in the early 1990s and Dave Waldron was recruited to play football at West Point.

“At Natick, my dad was a receiver and defensive back and coach Mortarelli was a tight end,” the younger Waldron said. “My father said that he and coach Mortarelli enjoyed being teammates and they helped compile a 7-3 record during their 1990 season. My father would have played football at West Point but knee injuries got in the way, so, he played rugby in college.”

The younger Waldron was born in West Point, N.Y., and

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SYLVINIA CURRAN CHAMPA

Sylvinia Curran Champa of Florida, formerly of Natick, MA. Passed away on May 4 2022 after a long illness.

Daughter of the late Elizabeth Crowell Curran and James M Curran. She leaves behind her sister, Ann Curran Schavone of Uxbridge. Granddaughter Allison Champa Schaffer of Daytona, Florida; Grandson Joseph Champa and his wife Sarah Champa, of Port Orange, Florida; her loving aunt, Lorraine Curran of Wellesley, MA and her daughter, Patricia Curran of Wellesley, MA. She leaves behind many more beloved nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her son, Joseph Champa of Port Orange, Florida and her brother, Lawrence “Larry” Curran of Fitchburg, MA. Born June 4, 1943 in Machias, Maine. She moved to Natick in 1944. Graduating Natick High in 1961. She was a Majorette in the high school band. She moved to Florida and opened up a very successful sewing business. She was very talented. She will be missed by her family and many friends. Services were private.

arrived in Natick as an eighth-grader after growing up in 11 different communities. “We moved around because my dad was in the Army for 23 years, finishing his career as a colonel,” Waldron said.

Mortarelli, who no doubt is glad his teammate returned to

Natick, notes that “Dave graduated in 1991 and was a very good football player and an exceptional track athlete.”

Drew Waldron is proof that blood lines matter and that the apple doesn’t fall too far from the tree.

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Gaetano Arria, Owner

Community Ties and a Commitment to Customer Service: Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe you're planning to move and need to clear out the basement and attic before your open house. Maybe you've spent way too much time at home lately and are feeling the need to declutter.

But figuring out who to call can be a pain. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2003. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with ten trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it.

Business spotlight

He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call



Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

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fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the

Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

For more information, contact Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit Affordable Junk Removal online at www.takeawayjunk.com.

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Natick Center Cultural District Celebrates "Multicultural Day"

By ATHENA PANDOLF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NCCD

As part of our expanding program to the community the Natick Center Cultural District celebrates Multicultural Day for the fifth year on Aug. 27, from 11 am – 2 pm, at the Common St. Spiritual Center. This event will celebrate the various food, inspiring music, exciting dance and cultures found within the different ethnicities in our community.

We will be featuring an array of traditional and contemporary music, costume, dance and food from various cultures around the world. From traditional Irish dancing to African drumming rhythms there will be authors, crafts and exhibits on each culture represented. So, come and learn something new about your neighbors!

If you are a part of a group or organization that would like



to be represented please contact: Athena Pandolf, Executive Director, NCCD at info.natick-center@gmail.com or call the office at 508-650-8848.

We are hoping to attract the various cultures of Natick residents that are in town. We would like to have a day and celebrate the variety of cultures that people in our town come from. There will be entertainment, cultural fashion, music and food from various groups.

This annual event celebrates our community and its cultural diversity and vitality!

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Your Money, Your Independence

Overdue Change Coming To Massachusetts Estate Tax Laws

On July 15, the Massachusetts House unanimously passed a \$4.2 billion economic development bill that will have significant impacts on residents' wallets.

Lawmakers put a lot in the bill, including a \$500 million tax relief package which raises the child tax credit to \$310 per child (and eliminating cap), raises the rental deduction cap to \$4,000, and ups the estate tax threshold from \$1 million to \$2 million.

Catch that last part?

Let's review why it's important.

Estate tax is owed on net value of the estate of a deceased person before distribution to non-spousal heirs. Think real estate, investments, IRAs, small business, life insurance proceeds, personal property etc. minus liabilities.

For 2022, the federal estate tax exemption is \$12.06 million, meaning amounts MORE than \$12.06 million are subject to the federal estate tax unless otherwise excluded (i.e. gifting). For most, there's little concern of having a life's work of earning, planning and saving being taxed upon death by the federal government.

Not the case with Massachusetts.



Glenn Brown

To begin, only 12 states in U.S. have estate taxes, with Oregon and Massachusetts currently at the lowest (worst) thresholds of \$1 million. Consider neighbor Connecticut is \$5.1M. Where Massachusetts currently takes a dubious lead is once an estate is valued over \$1M, the entire amount is subject to a graduated tax rate starting 0.8% up to 16%. For example, at \$1,000,001 an estate is writing Massachu-

setts a ~\$36,500 check, at \$2M ~\$99,600, at \$3M ~\$182,000 and so on.

How quickly can one's net value (assets minus liabilities) estate exceed \$1 million? Consider the median single-family home sale price in Massachusetts hit \$590,000 in May, and it was higher in Middlesex County at \$800,000.

What now?

Given changes were proposed by Governor Baker with bipartisan support in January and now part of a larger bill, it's expected to pass before legislation session ends July 31. More details to come, but we know the new Massachusetts estate threshold will start at \$2,000,001, with first \$2M no longer taxed.

Things to consider:

Know your net worth. While grandma living in a Massachusetts house with no mortgage and a few CDs finally gets a pass, what if she also has investments held for years or a lakehouse?

And what of your net worth? Add up 401ks, life insurance and AD&D proceeds, small business equity, savings, real estate minus liabilities. Are you over \$2 million or will be in time?

Connect with an estate planning attorney. New laws and life events are opportune times to connect as well as provide an updated net worth and review process. Also remember, revocable living trusts bypass probate but not estate tax laws.

Plan to be agile in retirement. Connection to seasons, family and friends can be strong in Massachusetts. However, proper planning can create alternatives for residency in 38 states and no longer deal with state estate tax (or 5% income tax either).

As a fiduciary, it's a responsibility to educate on the possibilities for those interested.

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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August 18 at 7pm via Zoom

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the back to school transition to help children manage stress, promote connection, and develop enduring resilience. ASL Interpretation will be provided at this event.

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Looking to Kindness Week 2022: November 12 - 18th!

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powerful actions. We invite community members, organizations, and businesses to all come together to help us celebrate our 5th annual Kindness Week.

If you would like to participate and learn more about Kindness Week please send a message to our Volunteer and Community Engagement Man-

ager, Elizabeth Nolan Greer at enolangreer@sparkkindness.org. If your business, community group, or non-profit would like to participate and learn more about Kindness Week please send an email to KindnessWeek@SPARKKindness.org.



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Whitney Place at Natick, Morse Institute Library Partner to Bring Arts & Culture to Natick Community

Whitney Place at Natick, a senior living community combining assisted living, memory care, and skilled nursing, is collaborating with Morse Institute Library to create a gallery with artwork created by Whitney Place Residents.

Whitney Place at Natick is working with Morse Institute Library and local artist Suzanne Foxwell to create an ongoing, virtual art display to support local artists and bring arts and culture to the town of Natick in new and creative ways. Whitney Place Director of Business Development, Karen MacDonald, explains, "We already know that creative activities, like painting, support our Resident's overall well-being."

Whitney Place at Natick has hosted painting classes led by local artist Suzanne Foxwell to provide an opportunity for their Residents to express themselves in new, creative, and meaningful ways. They expect this virtual art exhibit at Morse Institute Library will help not only the art creators, but the overall Natick community as a whole.

The virtual gallery will be displayed at Morse Institute Library throughout the Fall, beginning on Thursday, September 1, 2022.

"We're looking forward to the joy it brings to our Residents and preschool children to have their artwork on display in their hometown of Natick," Karen says.

— Brianna Cataldo

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Doughty Best Choice for Governor

Our state is facing some serious problems including high cost of living exacerbated by inflation, an ailing MBTA system, rising crime rates, businesses leaving the state, and declining schools. We need a governor who will put aside politics and put people first. That person is fiscally conservative outsider Chris Doughty.

He is not a professional politician. Chris has spent a lifetime creating jobs, not worrying about the next election. He is the only job creator in the race. For more than three decades he has worked to build businesses that provide good jobs, while



juggling being a hands-on dad for his six children and serving in the community.

Doughty has overseen the expansion of Capstan Industries from its initial startup of a few dozen employees to become, at its peak, a large multinational manufacturer. As a business owner and job creator, he dealt with all kinds of challenges — from low-cost international im-



ports to government regulation. He has worked hard to make his company a place people were proud to work.

Doughty graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.S. in economics and received an MBA from Harvard Business School. He is well qualified to be our Governor.

But, what will Doughty do for you? As he likes to say, “You will have more dough with Doughty.”

Doughty was the first candidate to call for the suspension of the gas tax to help ease the pain at the pump. His plan is to suspend the gas tax until the price of gas drops below \$3.70 per gallon.

“The state has the funds, so there is no reason that the State House cannot help the hard working taxpayers by immediately suspending the gas tax. As the next Governor, we will be proactive in responding to crises,” said Doughty.

Doughty wants to end the Commonwealth’s reputation of being “Taxachusetts” and re-



duce taxes more than Bill Weld did as Governor. This will make our state more competitive for attracting new businesses so that we can grow jobs and wages.

Like you, Doughty opposes licenses for illegal immigrants. But, he knows that the true problem is that Massachusetts is a magnet state. As our next Governor, he will strengthen verification of applications for public assistance so only the truly needy and legal residents receive benefits.

As an experienced job creator, Doughty has a small business bill of rights plan to support those who create the majority of new jobs in our state.

“As a business owner, I have worked hard to always comply with new regulations, but it has not been easy. Creating jobs and meeting a payroll is not for the faint of heart. State government should be advocates and partners with our local businesses so the Commonwealth can create more jobs and raise wages. We do that by encouraging entrepreneurship and small

businesses that are the backbone of our economy,” said Doughty.

As a father and grandfather, Chris Doughty knows that education is the heart of our Commonwealth and that we need to provide the best educational opportunities for the next generation. Our state is a national leader in education at all levels but it is often uneven in its availability. Doughty will work to ensure parents can access the very best education for their children. The equation is simple: high expectations, a strong curriculum, excellent teachers, and empowered parents.

We can count on Chris Doughty to make Massachusetts affordable again. To see more details on his small business bill of rights and other issues visit ChrisforMA.com. Chris would be honored to have your vote in the GOP Primary on September 6th.

This article is Paid for by Committee to Elect Chris Doughty

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Calling All Golfers - 4th Annual Golf Tournament

Tee-Off to Support Senior Residents at Nonprofit Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Corp.

Nonprofit Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Corp. looks forward to welcoming golfers for a day of fun and fundraising at its 4th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, September 12, 2002, at the Haven Country Club in Boylston, MA. Proceeds from this special one-day event will go to help purchase new, high-tech pivoting patient beds for senior residents.

“We are excited to be hosting our golf tournament again this year,” says Lisa Kubiak, President & CEO of Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Corp. “It is our one and only fundraising event of the year, and sponsorship donations go to programs,

services, and community improvements that benefit our senior residents, patients, and healthcare clients.” This year, donations will help the organization purchase new, state-of-the-art pivoting beds designed to enable caregivers to move and position patients more safely while providing greater overall comfort.

Event details for the golf tournament, held at the Haven Country Club in Boylston, MA, include the following:

- 8:00AM - Registration, Continental Breakfast, and Bloody Mary Bar

- 9:30AM - Shotgun start on the beautiful championship 18-hole golf course
 - On the course – Appetizers prepared by Mary Ann Morse’s own dueling chefs
 - 2:30PM - Gourmet Buffet Lunch and Live Auction - Bid on fabulous raffle prizes donated by local merchants & businesses
 - Prizes for - Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, and Hole-in-One
- Registration is now open for golfers and sponsors at maryannmorse.org/golf.



About Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Corp.

Nonprofit Mary Ann Morse Healthcare offers a continuum of senior living and healthcare services, and has been a trusted community senior life resource for residents within the MetroWest region for over 30 years. Mary Ann Morse at Heritage offers assisted living, memory care, mental health, and social day programs for today’s seniors. Mary Ann Morse Home Care provides 24/7 Medicare certified skilled nursing and

personal in-home care. Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Center provides outpatient and short-term inpatient rehabilitation, as well as long-term care, including memory, respite, and hospice care. As a nonprofit organization, we are deeply committed to our mission of helping seniors to live their best lives and to embrace healthy aging, no matter where they are on life’s journey. Mary Ann Morse Healthcare Corp. is a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit organization.

MetroWest Chamber of Commerce invites underrepresented businesses to join new guide

The MetroWest Chamber is working to create a guide to underrepresented businesses in MetroWest. If your business is BIPOC-Owned, Woman-Owned, Veteran-Owned, Owned by a member of the LGBTQ+ Community, and/or Disability-Owned, you must publicize your business in their upcoming guide at no cost.

The MetroWest Region is a place where people and businesses thrive, towns and cities filled with promise and opportunity. We have an opportunity to strengthen and support MetroWest businesses which are owned by people from different social and ethnic

backgrounds and of different genders and sexual orientations. The Underrepresented Business Guide for MetroWest will highlight these businesses which are strengthening the social fabric of our MetroWest regions diverse population and gives residents and travelers an easy way to find businesses to support.

To be included in this collection, you must be a MetroWest business that is BIPOC-Owned, Woman-Owned, Veteran-Owned, Owned by a member of the LGBTQ+ Community, and/or Disability-Owned. If you would like to be added to the Guide, com-

plete the application and email to Towma@metrowest.org.

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Redhawk Foundation Donates \$24,000 in Grants to Benefit Natick Youth Organizations

A local nonprofit has donated \$24,000 worth of grants to seven Natick youth organizations.

The Redhawk Foundation donated to the following groups:

- Natick Soccer Club
- Natick Little League Youth Baseball and Softball
- Natick Comets Youth Hockey
- Natick Lacrosse
- SPARK Kindness
- Natick Novas
- PATH

The grants were made possible through the Redhawk Founda-

tion's inaugural golf event "The Redhawk Cup" in August 2021, as well as private and corporate donations from The Allain + Warren Group and the Austin Memorial Foundation.

The mission of The Redhawk Foundation is to provide financial support to youth-focused organizations in Natick to be used toward registration fees, equipment upgrades, and the improvement of fields and facilities.

The Foundation surveyed youth organizations in the town to determine each group's needs, and awarded grants to all.

The Natick youth sports leagues (soccer, baseball, softball, hockey and lacrosse) provide year-

round programming for thousands of school-aged children residing in the town.

SPARK Kindness, launched in 2010 to counter cyberbullying, hosts free programs and resources including speakers, parenting groups, community activities, and support whenever needed.

The Natick Novas is a team of middle schoolers with an interest in STEM, specifically computer science and robotics, that competes in international robotics competitions.

PATH provides funding and support for Camp Arrowhead, a summer camp for kids and adults with disabilities.

"Natick Soccer provides a wide range of soccer programming for approximately 1500 kids of all ages and levels each season," said Reuben Ackerman, current Natick Soccer president. "Support from the Redhawk Foundation enables us to broaden our reach through financial aid and support to keep our programming accessible, so that any child who wants to play soccer in Natick has the opportunity to do so. We are very grateful to partner with the Foundation in our inclusiveness efforts."

efforts."

The Redhawk Foundation, founded by Jessica and Mike Allain and Natalie and Pete Warren, all of Natick, launched in 2021 and has received tremendous community and corporate support.

"We are grateful for the kindness and generosity of the Natick community, our local businesses and beyond," said Redhawk Foundation co-founder Pete Warren. "These types of programs are critical tools for a child's development, not only physically but also on a social and emotional level. I think it's something we all agree on as a community; that every kid should have access to quality youth programs. It's been amazing to see everybody come together and rally behind this idea."

To stay up to date, join the mailing list or follow them on Instagram @redhawkfoundation.

Founded in 2021, The Redhawk Foundation, a donor-advised fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, provides financial support to youth-focused organizations in Natick, MA, through event fundraising and the generous donations from private and

corporate sponsors. The grants are intended to be used toward registration fees, equipment upgrades, and the improvement of fields and facilities. For more information, visit redhawkfoundation.org or follow us on Facebook or Instagram.

The Foundation for MetroWest is a community foundation that improves the quality of life in 30+ MetroWest communities. Since 1995 the Foundation has been providing financial and educational resources to local nonprofit organizations, sharing essential data about the region to inform critical decision making, and partnering with donors to help guide and align their giving with the areas of greatest need in the community. The Foundation is supported by a range of businesses, individuals, and other philanthropic organizations. Currently the Foundation stewards more than \$30 million in charitable assets for immediate needs and future impact.

To learn more, please visit www.foundationmw.org or call 508-647-2260.

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Senior Center News

Visit Mass Horticultural Gardens at Elm Bank, 900 Washington St, Wellesley by borrowing the Member Pass from us!

Their hours: Mon-Thurs 10am-7pm; Fri-Sun 10:00am-4:00pm. Gardens close October 1.

One pass admits 2 people.

The pass may be picked up from the Center between 9:00-9:30 am and returned the same day of your visit before 4:00 pm and on Fridays, return before 1:00 pm.

Passes may be reserved in advance by calling Rosa at the Center, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Mon-Thurs and Friday 9:00 am-2:00 pm, 508-647-6540 X 1908.

Sponsored by Whitney Place, Assisted Living and Memory Care, Natick

Visit Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA by borrowing the Member Pass from us!

Their daily hours 10:00 am-5:00 pm, 7 days a week, open year-round.

We have 6 available admissions per day.

Passes may be reserved in advance by calling Rosa at the Center, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Mon-Thurs and Friday 9:00 am-2:00 pm, 508-647-6540 X 1908.

You may reserve this pass in person or by phone; the pass can be picked up or emailed to you.

This extensive 170 acre garden/arboretum has 17 distinct gardens and greenhouses with rotating exhibits, a café for lunch and lots of walking paths to explore.

WALKING GROUP at Wellesley College- **IN PERSON** Tuesday, 9:30-10:30am, free-Drop-In

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Meet us at the Visitor's parking lot in Athletic Fields entrance for our weekly walk around natural landscapes of Wellesley College. This casual walk is a great way to start the day, meet new people, get outside and moving! Please wear sneakers/walking shoes, and any other outdoor stuff you need (ie. sunscreen, hat, water, bug spray etc). Goes rain or shine. Meet in the Visitor's Parking Lot entry is ONE WAY on the right, driving on Rt 135/Central St towards Wellesley Center from Natick COA; signage points to Athletic Fields and follow signs to Visitor Parking and look for Sharon. Call the center and talk to Sharon if you have questions.

Mondays at a Museum- **MOVIES** at 2:00pm- **FREE IN PERSON**

8/1- Renoir (2012) R, 110 minutes. French film, set on the French Riviera in the summer of 1915, Jean Renoir -- son of the Impressionist painter, Pierre-Auguste -- returns home to convalesce after being wounded in

World War I. At his side is Andrée, a young woman who rejuvenates, enchants, and inspires both father and son.

8/8- The Agony and the Ecstasy, (1965) 140 minutes. Based on the novel by Irving Stone, the biographical story of Michelangelo's troubles while painting the Sistine Chapel at the urging of Pope Julius II. Stars Charlton Heston, Rex Harrison.

8/15- Cave of Forgotten Dreams (2010) G 90 minutes. Documentary, directed by Werner Herzog. Werner Herzog gains exclusive access to film inside the Chauvet caves of Southern France and captures the oldest known pictorial creations of humanity.

8/22- Pollock (2000) R, 120 minutes. A film about the life and career of the American painter, Jackson Pollock. Stars Ed Harris and Marcia Gay Harden.

8/29- Frida (2002), R 120 minutes. Directed by Julie Taymor, a biography of artist Frida Kahlo, who channeled the pain of a crippling injury and her tempestuous marriage into her work. Stars Salma Hayek, Geoffrey Rush.

Bookgroup with Karen Mallozzi- Zoom

Friday, August 19, 1:00- 2:00 pm, free

Join avid book reader, Karen Mallozzi for a discussion of Death on the Nile by Agatha Christie. Who doesn't love a good Agatha Christie murder mystery! This classic was recently made into a bestselling movie. Maybe

you had a chance to see it? We'll talk about the book and we can also compare what you thought about the movie as well.

Beyond- Virtual Travel to Portugal- Cascais, Town of Fishermen and Kings- **ZOOM**

Wednesday, August 31, 1:00-2:00pm, free, register call 508-647-6540

We will start our tour near the palace of Condes Castro Guimarães, an astonishing property dating back to 1900, a period when Cascais was the favourite summer destination for our roy-

alty. The heydays of this town did not end with the end of monarchy, as Cascais was very important throughout the 20th century. We will walk along the main road, admiring the House of Santa Maria, the lighthouse and the 17th century fortress that once was key for the defense of the coast of this former fishermen's town.

Prepare to enjoy a view over the bay of Cascais, and understand the importance of its geographical location to its history and its connection to the capital of the country, located only a

30-minute drive away. You will be able to admire the fishing boats, learn what varieties of fish we have here, and why the climate is so mild. As we walk down, we will admire the beautiful houses along the road and arrive to the main square, facing the town hall, where the traditional Portuguese decorated sidewalks will dazzle you. We will end our experience walking in the narrow streets and squares of Cascais, getting a sense of orientation of this pleasant town. Zoom LINK is sent out a week in advance.



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5 Deer Path in Natick recently sold for \$2.795 million. Image credit: www.zillow.com

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Real Estate Corner

Recent Home Sales

Date	Natick	Amount
7/18/2022	5 Deer Path	\$2.8 mil
7/15/2022	11 Waring Road	\$1.59 mil
7/15/2022	27 Porter Road	\$565,000
7/15/2022	1 Village Way #6	\$325,000
7/15/2022	1 Quince Street	\$425,000
7/15/2022	1 Craigie Street	\$912,000
7/13/2022	7 Washington Street	\$815,000
7/13/2022	3 Village Rock Lane #4	\$312,000
7/13/2022	67 Everett Street	\$755,000
7/12/2022	4 Hopewell Farm Road	\$860,000
7/11/2022	8 Carter Drive	\$1.75 mil
7/11/2022	58 Beaverdam Road	\$695,000
7/11/2022	6 Clover Lane	\$915,000
7/11/2022	8 Avon Street	\$980,000
7/08/2022	9 Post Oak Lane #16	\$355,000
7/08/2022	3 Allen Street #A	\$719,900
7/08/2022	40 Nouvelle Way #N547	\$520,000
7/07/2022	15 Farwell Street	\$1.16 mil
7/05/2022	16-18 Pearl Street	\$900,000
7/01/2022	14 Huntington Street	\$850,000
7/01/2022	28 Centre Street	\$970,000
7/01/2022	16 Halsey Way	\$1 mil
6/30/2022	76 Speen Street	\$590,000
6/30/2022	6 Buckskin Lane	\$1.6 mil
6/30/2022	55 Rockland Street	\$900,000
6/29/2022	14 Garden Road	\$720,000
6/29/2022	17 Sunshine Avenue	\$595,000
6/29/2022	34 Porter Road	\$855,000
6/29/2022	7 Robinhood Road	\$850,000
6/29/2022	15 Quince Street	\$930,000
6/28/2022	7 Morgan Drive #101	\$625,000
6/28/2022	24 Bacon Street	\$900,000
6/27/2022	4 Chrislin Way	\$599,900
6/27/2022	4 Walkup Court	\$1.05 mil
6/27/2022	9 Yorkshire Drive	\$1.18 mil
6/27/2022	19 Ranger Road	\$1.65 mil
6/27/2022	12 S Lincoln Street #1	\$975,000
6/27/2022	26 Algonquian Drive	\$1.70 mil
6/27/2022	14 Overbrook Terrace	\$415,000
6/27/2022	16 Border Road	\$830,000
6/24/2022	50 Charles Street	\$631,000
6/24/2022	7 Florence Street	\$905,000
6/23/2022	19 Laconia Road	\$540,000
6/23/2022	1 Parker Court	\$1.02 mil
6/23/2022	173 N Main Street	\$700,000
6/23/2022	3 Dwight Avenue	\$1.52 mil
6/22/2022	28 Walden Drive #19	\$375,000
6/21/2022	7 Garfield Street	\$1.08 mil
6/17/2022	7 Morgan Drive #203	\$599,900
6/17/2022	72 Oakland Street Ext	\$1.04 mil
6/17/2022	12 Apple Ridge Drive	\$1.83 mil

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



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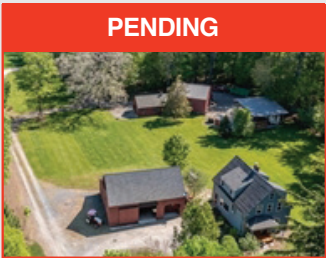
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8 Wild Meadow Lane, Natick
5 BD | 3F 1H BA




17 School Street, Unit 17, Natick
2 BD | 1F 1H BA




19 Nottingham Drive, Natick
4 BD | 3F 1H BA



164 Boden Lane, Natick
4 BD | 3 BA




4 Spring Street, Natick
4 BD | 3F 2H BA



94 West Central Street, Natick
5 BD | 2F 2H BA

#1 in Natick in Homes Sold

SINCE 2018



AW
ALLAIN + WARREN
GROUP

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