

Middle School transport an issue

School Com debates losing some stops



Some students near the Coakley may soon be huffing it to school.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood School Committee (NSC) met recently and discussed issues around transportation and the budget.

The Committee has been going through all of its cost centers and fund generation ahead of this year's budget cycle, ostensibly to show the department has been cost-conscious. The Town is looking to ask for an operational override for the Fiscal Year 28 (FY28) or FY29 years, depending on multiple factors, and the school and General Government administrations have been going through their budgets to trim anything they can before resorting to the operational override.

An operational override is when a municipality increases its tax levy over the 2.5 percent

limit propped up by Prop 2.5 – <https://tinyurl.com/m36ud95c> – and the process to do so requires a successful vote at Town Meeting and in a Townwide ballot.

It should be noted that, aside from the specific transportation discussion listed here, Superintendent Timothy Luff did recommend a flat 2 percent fee increase on all user fees throughout the district to align with inflation. That includes transportation, athletics, fine arts, preschool tuition, building use fees, and Chromebook insurance.

In this instance, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Sean Mannion recommended cutting a few stops for the Middle School bus routes, as they are close to capacity. The state requires that any student living over two

miles from their stop be picked up by the district without a fee (aside from the flat administration fee all bus riders pay) and if you live within that radius, you can ask for bus service but it's not guaranteed and there is increased cost.

For the Coakley Middle School, Mannion said the department is recommending cutting several stops in South Norwood on the way to the school within one mile, as it is expected that students will be able to walk to school.

"The increase to 16 buses for regular buses has been wonderful this year: there is no crowding; but we have a lot of students in the middle school (buses) and there is a lot of crowding. We are recommend-

School Buses
Continued on page 5

CPC reverses course on Shattuck repairs

Only \$30K for study and design



Looks like Shattuck is back on the docket for Town Meeting.

PHOTO BY JEFF SULLIVAN

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Community Preservation Committee (CPC) met last week and voted to now allow the proposed study and repair design for the Shattuck Park stone wall to go before Town Meeting.

The vote at the previous meeting – <https://tinyurl.com/63w5d8k2> – came after CPC members had discussed the fact that they had repeatedly asked the proponents of the project to solicit community support and engagement for the wall repair, and none had come. The request had been written in the application itself as well: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhknsr2>

But the CPC returned to this wall for another round, and voted, eventually, to put the

\$32,000 design and feasibility study back on the Town Meeting docket for Town Meeting Members to vote on.

The basic idea of the project is that the wall – facing the Highland Cemetery side of Shattuck Park – is in disrepair, and the stones need to be placed back in their positions to make it an actual wall and not a line of fallen stones. Such walls are common across the newly-grown woods of Massachusetts, as much of what is now forested area was once farmland (farmland that needed to dig up all these stones to make food production feasible).

CPC Member Cheryl Doyle said the first and second times the park was up for repair, they were different projects. In the

Shattuck
Continued on page 7

Residents Help Package Seeds for the Seed Library Ahead of Spring

Hoping to reap the benefit later on

Paulina Duarte
Staff Reporter

Fifteen Norwood residents gathered in the Simoni Room at the Morrill Memorial Library on Saturday, Feb. 21 for a seed packing party, where they filled envelopes with different seeds that will be stored in the seed library for later use.

Norwood Conservation Agent Carly Rocklen, the Morrill Memorial Library's Liz Reed and Darshana Merchant organized the seed packing parties.

Rocklen noted, "Volunteers package the seeds for the seed library," by filling small enve-

Seeds
Continued on page 5



The seed packing party drew a bit of a crowd looking to seal what they're going to sow in the spring.

PHOTO BY PAULINA DUARTE

Hanifin brings home gold

Norwood local helps bring USA Hockey first gold in four decades



Norwood's own Noah Hanifin is now a gold medal recipient.

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

It was a nailbiter of a game on Sunday against Canada when the U.S. Men's Hockey Team was able to snatch a quick overtime victory over Canada to earn the first hockey gold medal since the "Miracle" in Lake Placid.

Norwood's Noah Hanifin was there representing his country and the Town, and helped to bring the team to a 2-1 victory in overtime.

The game itself was fast-paced, with some "extracurricular activities" coming up every so often when the players started getting a bit rough. The U.S. and Canada both had

most, if not all, of their roster from the NHL, and that was reflected in the play. Much of the contest went back and forth throughout the ice, with harrowing saves being made up and down the ice.

The U.S. took the first goal about six minutes with a shot from another Massachusetts native, Minnesota Wild's Matt Boldy, who flipped the puck over the stick of two Canadian defenders to then go one-on-one with goalie Jordan Binnington and backhanded the puck into the net.

U.S. Goalie and Winnipeg Jets player Connor Hellebuyck kept the Canadians at bay most of the match, even with a five-on-three power play in the second period, but Canadian Cale Makar, who plays for the Colorado Avalanche during the regular NHL season, blasted a shot by him with 1:44 minutes left in the second period.

Hellebuyck, Hanifin and the rest of the U.S. defensemen would not let a shot by throughout the third period, but neither would the Canadians. The game went into overtime, but 1:41 into the fourth period, Michigan native and Columbus Blue

Jackets player Zach Werenski got a cross-ice pass to fellow Michigander and New Jersey Devils player Jack Hughes, who made the game-winning goal against Makar.

The close and low score was an outlier for both teams. Canada defeated Czechia 5-0, Switzerland 5-1, France 10-2, Czechia again 4-3 in the quarter finals, and 3-2 against Finland. The U.S. beat Latvia 5-1, Denmark 6-3, Germany 5-1, Sweden 2-1 in overtime, and Slovakia 6-2 before the Canadians.

The Canadians had more shots on goal than the U.S. by a wide margin, 42-28. Quinn Hughes was named the tournament's Best Defender, and Connor Hellebuyck was named the tournament's Best Goaltender.

Hanifin's stats for the last three games were admirable, with one assist against Slovakia, and no penalty minutes throughout the entire six-game series. He had a shot on Sweden as well. He had 10 shifts against Canada, 14 against Slovakia and 12 against Sweden. He had 14 shifts in the first two games against Latvia and Denmark, respectively, and 15 minutes against Germany. He scored one goal against Denmark, going through the legs of both a defenseman and the goalie.

Hanifin also hoisted Hughes on his shoulders with Jack Eichel to celebrate the win.

"This game, in a lot of ways, was an inspiration to our country," said Mike Sullivan, head coach of the U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in an interview with USA Hockey. "These are all terrific players, and a team in the true sense of the word. We were loaded with personality up and down the lineup."

COURTESY PHOTO

Norwood Hospital Task Force and supporters rally on Beacon Hill, weigh in on eminent domain house bill



The Norwood Hospital Task Force gave an update from its visit to the Massachusetts State House last week.

COURTESY PHOTO

Concerned citizens from Norwood and surrounding communities packed a Boston-bound bus last Thursday afternoon. They held onto signs of support, optimism and faith in the legislative process.

They were just a small contingent of die-hard Norwood Hospital supporters set to rendezvous with first responders and elected officials on Beacon Hill, to offer testimony on a bill calling for the eminent domain-taking of the land underneath the closed and partially constructed Norwood Hospital.

The Bill

In January, Norwood state Rep. John H. Rogers, Norwood state Sen. Michael F. Rush and other local leaders quickly turned a local petition into legislation. The measure began as H.D. 5528 and then, after clearing with The House Rules Committee, it was formally renumbered as House Bill 5047.

"The people of the region of the Commonwealth once served by Norwood Hospital are now languishing in a medical desert," Rep. Rogers testified. "The Norwood Hospital closed almost six years ago because of a 500-year catastrophic flood. That flood destroyed a vibrant regional hospital."

H.5047 is a local, land-taking bill that would let the state seize the land underneath the former Norwood Hospital site by eminent domain, on an emergency basis, to protect public health.

In other words, to protect and improve public access to health care, the state's Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) must take ownership of the Norwood Hospital property using eminent domain so it can be rebuilt and protected as a health care facility.

Eminent domain means the government can take private land for public use, provided it follows legal procedures and provides compensation to the owner. The ultimate goal is to bring in a new operator for the site, either through an agreement with the current landlord or by having the state facilitate a sale to a new operator.

"We, on behalf of the people of Massachusetts, can and should exercise powers embedded within our Constitution, take the property by eminent domain whenever the public exigencies require," said Rep. Rogers. "Mr. Chairman, that time is now."

The Hearing

On Feb. 12, a team of concerned citizens, officeholders, the region's town officials and first responders gathered at the Massachusetts State House to testify on the pending legislation. In a bid to "Finish Norwood Hospital," representatives from Norwood, Sharon, Wrentham, Walpole and other surrounding towns attended the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight hearing to discuss Bill H.5047.

"This bill empowers the Commonwealth to take a proactive, strategic role in planning for regional health care infrastructure, rather than leaving these decisions solely to private market forces," said Rep. Rogers. "The emergency preamble reflects the urgency of this public health need and ensures the bill can take effect immediately to prevent further delays in access to care and avoidable loss of life."

Watch the public hearing from Feb. 12 here (starting around minute 21) - <https://tinyurl.com/3wr4x3ya>

"You've heard about emergency departments being overloaded and ambulance times having doubled or tripled," said Norwood General Manager Tony Mazzucco. "I want to speak for a moment about critical care times. Particularly if you were to have a heart attack in Norwood—or Walpole, or Wrentham, or

Hospital

Continued on page 3

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Selectmen pass citizen zoning petition for TM

Public Safety override meeting next week

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Norwood Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday in the Robert Thornton Room of the Memorial Town Hall and voted unanimously to send on all six items of a citizens petition to May Town Meeting.

The six items revolve around zoning, and appear to have their origins in past development proposals in recent history. Town Meeting member Steve Konetchy said after the meeting he had submitted these items for Town Meeting. The items are:

- (1.) CPA Funds Ownership Requirement
- (2.) Reuse of Appropriated Funds
- (3.) Removal of Parking Waiver Provisions from the Zoning Bylaw
- (4.) Apartment Tax Equity
- (5.) Adoption of Residential Exemption (MGL, C.59 §5C)
- (6.) Parking Space Definition and Mechanical Lift Parking Clarification.

The first item likely refers to the 20-unit housing proposal brought to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding in 2024, when many residents were uneasy with appropriating funds to a private organization rather than a project proposed from the Town Government or a resident (there was a similar but smaller debate when the Norwood Historical Society asked for funding to repair one of the Day House's fireplaces).

The second item, reuse of appropriated funds, seems to be just what it sounds like: reviewing or updating the rules around leftover but previously appropriated funds. The third item, the removal of the parking waiver provisions from the Zoning Bylaw, likely refers to several provisions within the Norwood Zoning Bylaw that relax parking restrictions for certain benefits provided by a development project. There are multiple instances of such provisions in the bylaw related to different zoning districts and sub-districts.

The fourth item, apartment

tax equity, appears to want to bring apartment property taxes to a more equal rate with single-family homes.

The fifth item, adoption of residential exemption, would allow parts of properties to be exempt from taxes up to a certain point of their assessed value, as per MGL Chapter 59 Section 5C – <https://tinyurl.com/5epvp6e9>

The last item is almost certainly related to the recent housing proposal at 55 Lenox St., where the Planning Board denied a housing proposal based on its planned use of parking lifts to meet the parking requirement – <https://tinyurl.com/52bzmys9>

This was after it had been denied previously without lifts, asking for a parking waiver based on stormwater and environmental trade-offs.

In other news, the Board voted to meet next week, March 3, at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Town Hall for a special meeting to go over the proposed Public Safety Override Proposal, also for this upcoming Town Meeting.

The Norwood Record's coverage of a workshop based around that proposal earlier this year can be found at – <https://tinyurl.com/39p47s6x>

In short, the Town wants to add several fire and police officers – six police officers (initially, going up to nine possibly) and 14 firefighters to the roster. The original estimate for such a push was originally \$1.8 million, and the override was then estimated to come to about an increase of \$142 in annual property taxes for an average home in Norwood assessed at \$750,000.

Town Manager Tony Mazzucco said at the most recent Board of Selectmen meeting that they have redone their numbers and have reduced that estimated financial impact.

"We've just today provided you with a draft memo that includes some changes that would bring down the cost, pri-



The Norwood Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday and discussed an upcoming meeting on the proposed Public Safety Override.

COURTESY PHOTO

oritize what we're looking at doing, and sort of what could we expect over the next five years with police and fire," he said. "It brings the net impact to the average single-family homeowner to under \$100 – we've been able to get that down to about \$94 for the average homeowner in Norwood."

The Board voted unanimously to meet next week and hash out the final details and possibly take a final vote as to whether or not the Board would move it forward to Town Meeting.

"There is going to need to be a lot of public information sessions before Town Meeting, ballot ordering and everything else that we have to do," Mazzucco said. "At that meeting we would also have the chiefs here, and representatives from the public safety unions as well, for any further or final questions the Board may have."

The Board voted to meet next week on the issue.

In Mazzucco's Managers Update, he commended the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Facilities Department in its response to the snowstorm on Monday, which dropped about two feet of snow in the area.

"DPW and Facilities really knocked it out of the park taking care of roads and buildings," he said. "So just kudos

to them. Hopefully soon they'll get some rest. We're supposed to get a few snowflakes tomorrow and I don't care about what the news says about next week. We're not thinking about that for a few more days. We're entitled to not thinking about the weather. It looks like after tomorrow we're in for a few days of good weather."

Also at the meeting, the Board voted, in its consent agenda, to approve the Matt Brown Foundation 5K Road Race, as well as car washes for the Norwood High School Boys Hockey Team and the Norwood Parents Music Association, road closures for the annual Norwood Little League Baseball and Softball Parade, a sign placement advertising the upcoming Norwood Evening Garden Club "Art in Bloom" event, a banner request from the

National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 742, and the use of the Disabled American Veterans Park off of Walpole Street by the Heritage Baptist Church.

The Board also approved two one-day liquor license permits from Hometown Arcade in its consent agenda, but with the caveat that the arcade list its capacity at 80 persons. Selectman Bill Plasko said that was put in because that number has been jumping around from what the Building Commissioner had originally set it in other related applications.

In other news, the board voted to appoint Diane Mastandrea to the Council on Aging to fill a vacancy there, as well as Cultural Council Candidates Greg Johnson and Megan Govin for that committee.

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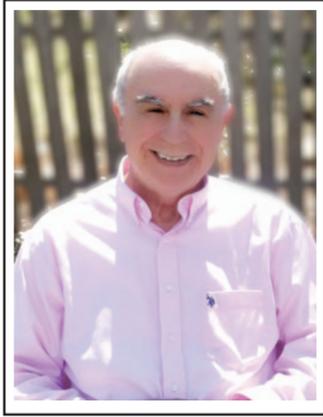
Heartwarming story for a cold day

A great story recently came out of Jeffries Point in East Boston. Even though I'm virtually a lifelong Boston resident, I don't think I even know or have been to that Eastie neighborhood.

As a teenager my friends and I on summer days – when opting out of going to Revere Beach – would ride the Forest Hills-Everett Line (now known as the Orange Line) and transfer at State to the Bowdoin-Wonderland Line (now the Blue Line) to go to Orient Heights Beach and try to blend in with the locals. Not much wave action at Orient Heights and no place to buy an ice cream, but a beach is a beach, even though huge airplanes would not be that far away.

After the snowstorm about three weeks ago and for many previous ones over the decades, I've been blessed with neighbors who reach out to me and, among other things, let me park in their driveways for a spell. But the Jeffries Point story is much more than something like this.

It seems that an East Boston man – fed up with the vandalism happening to cars parked on the street in spaces another person had cleared out – on his own shoveled out a dozen or so spaces on the street on which his neighbors could park. The 31-year-old guy, now a software engineer but originally from a distant suburb, could not stomach to witness the tire-slashings and other forms of vandalism when residents dared park in a space shoveled out by



My Kind of Town/
Joe Galeota

someone else. Consequently, he spent about 48 hours cleaning up the nearby street, long after the city declared a snow emergency – without a snowplow attached to a pick-up truck, without a front-end loader, and without a Bobcat. Moreover, he didn't even have a snowblower to show off: he did it the old-fashioned way – with a shovel.

We are used to hearing from the pulpit the Eight Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemakers, and those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake."

Perhaps there would have been a ninth beatitude in the gospel were it written in modern times and in a different climate: "Blessed are those who shovel out spaces for their car-owning neighbors, for their reward will be great in the next life."

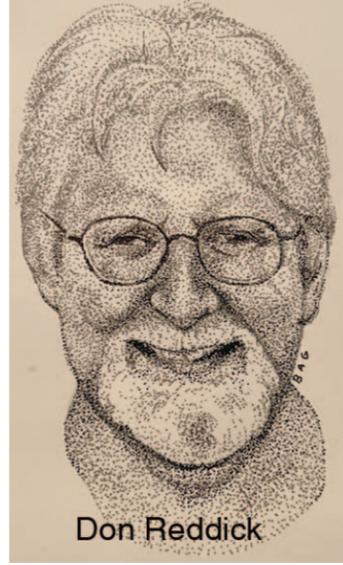
John Steinbeck once addressed the instinctive chasm between stranger and local: "It is some years since I have been alone," he wrote, "nameless, friendless, without any of the safety one gets from family, friends, and accomplices... it is just a very lonely, helpless feeling – a kind of desolate feeling... I soon discovered that if a wayfaring stranger wishes to eavesdrop on a local population, the places for him to slip in and hold his peace are bars and churches."

"It is the wine that leads me on," Homer wrote in *The Odyssey*, "the wild wine that sets the wisest man to sing at the top of his lungs, laugh like a fool – it drives the man to dancing... it even tempts him to blurt out stories better never told." Almost three thousand years later Monique Truong, in *The Book of Salt*, corroborated the theme: "Alcohol, I had learned, was an eloquent if somewhat inaccurate interpreter. I had placed my trust that December night in glass after glass of it, eager not for drink but for a bit of talk."

Captain Thomas Walduck, in a 1707 letter to his nephew, reflected on English culture.

"Upon all the new settlements the Spaniards make, the first thing they do is build a church, the first thing ye Dutch do upon a new colony is to build them a fort, but the first thing ye English do, be it in the most remote part of ye world, or amongst the most barbarous Indians, is to set up a tavern or

THE TAVERN 732



Don Reddick

you mean Christmas cheer, the stimulating sip that puts a little spring in the step of an elderly gentleman on a frosty morning; if you mean that drink that enables man to magnify his joy, and to forget life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrow, then my friend, I am absolutely, unequivocally in favor of it."

Author William Least Heat-Moon, in his acclaimed *"Blue Highways,"* repeatedly mentions the traveler's salve for loneliness. "Where in hell were the old men who sit on porches and whittle, the ones you're supposed to get directions from when you're in the back of beyond? Since Salt Creek, I'd been working to keep the loneliness down..." He wrote on page 66: "...I'd been looking forward to a conversation in a café or tavern, but the cafés weren't open, and there were no taverns."

Page 67: "...I wished for a corner tavern with neon and a wooden bar, but I would have settled for a concrete block beer joint."

Page 94: "...I looked along Broad Street for a beer to chase the heat and furnish opportunity for conversation."

Page 265: "What does the traveler do at night in a strange town when he wants conversation? In the United States, there's usually a single choice: a tavern."

The fragmented: the word "bar" is a synecdoche, a word

Reddick

Continued on page 9



What drives the internet?
CONTENT
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NPD conducts active shooter drill at the new Coakley



This past school vacation week, all sworn members of the Norwood Police Department participated in active shooter response training at Coakley Middle School. This training was an adaptation of the ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) curriculum — widely recognized as the national standard for active shooter response. The program was structured around ALERRT's research-based principles and focused on preparing first responders to immediately address and stop a threat in team-based scenarios. The training, overseen by Lieutenant Benton and instructed by Officer Caramanica, combined classroom instruction with high-intensity, scenario-based "force-on-force" exercises. Officers trained in critical skills including tactical movements, threshold evaluation, room entry techniques, rescue team tactics, scene management, and response considerations. Although the nature of this training addresses serious and challenging scenarios, it is conducted to ensure our officers are fully prepared to respond to worst-case situations. Our goal is to provide reassurance to our school community that we are committed to readiness, professionalism, and the safety of our students, staff, and residents.

PHOTO BY NPD

School Buses *continued from page 1*

ing eliminating any stops to Coakley that are under a mile. There are a few stops in South Norwood coming up Washington Street. We're accommodating it this year by changing out routes slightly to swoop in and grab people, but it's not ideal; we don't want to add any buses next year but the middle school buses are crowded and we really believe students under a mile can walk that distance."

School Committee member Joan Giblin asked how many students this would affect, and Mannion said about 25-30.

"You picked a bad time of year to talk about kids walking to school for a mile," Giblin said. "I think that's too far for middle school kids, it's too far for – you can shake your head at me all you want but I don't know of anybody in this room who would walk a mile in 3 degree weather."

"My kids have had no option," said member Ann Marie Mazzola. "This has been the norm for quite some time, it just didn't get enforced."

"We're doing whatever we can to not have to add any buses and it's been a struggle this year," Mannion said. "The middle school buses this year are at capacity."

Mannion said at the elementary school level, there aren't really any students who have to walk over a mile after the redistricting, and the limit is currently a mile due to safety concerns. But he said the department felt for middle school students it was acceptable.

Member Teresa Stewart said she felt, despite the financial pressures, providing this kind of transportation was essential to some students, even if it means adding another bus to the roster.

"I don't support eliminating bus stops," she said. "I don't. I think in today's world there are so many safety concerns we have to think about. I think that families would have a very hard time accepting this, which I would completely understand, and it would come back on the School Committee in a very bad way."

Stewart alluded to a decision a few years ago in 2022 (that, to be fair, the committee made over five years worth of deliberations) to switch school start times to allow for a later start for the high school, as well as the location of the Coakley, and pushing back the start time for the Coakley.

"We have made decisions that I 100 percent still stand by over the past couple of years," she said. "with the Coakley, where the Coakley was going to be – that was a huge discussion – and acknowledging that

where that school was going to be, and we also had a lot of public forums and heard feedback about grade 5 going there, and making sure those kids could be bused, and the school start time changes – that I still stand 100 percent behind. We have that school start at a time where parents have said, 'I can't easily drive my kid to school anymore.'"

Giblin asked how much does each bus cost the district each year, since they're contracted from a bus company. Mannion said \$80,000 to \$90,000. It was pointed out that the School Committee went into rebuilding the Coakley at its old location knowing it was on the edge of Town and would be an issue for transportation, since students would have to come in from all over. But Giblin pointed out this will cost at least \$180,000 a year for the next 50 years because of the school's location.

"That's multi-millions of dollars over time," Giblin said.

But Stewart said that, after all that start time debate, the location of the school and the moving of grade 5 to the Coakley, the removal of the bus stops could be too much.

"It's not something I could support at all, and I think if we need to add another bus, we add another bus," she said.

Mannion pointed out that the state's only legal limit for busing, for any school age group, is over two miles.

"If we bused only to the legal limit, we would only need bus 199 students, if we only stuck to the legal limit, that would be fifth and sixth graders," he said.

Stewart pointed out that it's an appearance of favoritism, possibly, because high school buses have the space for students under a mile from school and that limit isn't being enforced. It's only because the middle school doesn't have enough space and not a matter of policy or rules.

"I think that if we say we care about attendance, and I know we care, and being on time, then you can't take buses away from people, because there are a lot of reasons kids need to take a bus and there are a lot of reasons that kids cannot safely, or because of their health, walk to school," she said. "I'm really against this and I think it's really irresponsible. And I think it's not in alignment with the things we talk about."

For more information on all the schools' pickup policies, fees and other issues, go to <https://tinyurl.com/smzc2djv>



Norwood Conservation Agent Carly Rocklen, left, and Norwood resident Dymrna O'Carroll, right, packing up seeds.

PHOTO BY PAULINA DUARTE

lopes with a small number of seeds, 10 in many cases per package, for people to check out.

Additionally, the seed packing parties can be a meaningful activity for members of the community. "We have volunteers with special needs, and this is a great way to help them learn skills," Rocklen noted, "Also, the seeds are used at school gardens," which can help educate students through a hands-on activity.

Dymrna O'Carroll, a local nurse, said she appreciated how this activity was doing a great service for others in the community. "It helps the town's wildlife and native species," she noted, "which leads to others participating in a great outdoor activity that fosters wellbeing and community building." O'Carroll discovered the seed library after learning about it through the Norwood Community Garden.

The seed packing party also attracted Becky "B.W." Westerland and her daughter Zara. They joined the party for a Saturday morning activity. They previously used the seed library for their own special purposes.

"I used milkweed to feed caterpillars so they can turn into butterflies," said Zara, "And some spicy peppers." For one of her teachers, Mr. Quinn, she added. "I'm hoping to grow cherry tomatoes, my son's favorite," replied B.W. "We also plant native flowers and a mix of plants" to help the town's sustainability efforts.

Many of the seeds are planted in the Norwood Community Garden's plots, near the Coakley Middle School and Endean Park. Ann McGrath, a member of the garden's administrative tasks team, noted the seed packing party is one of several initiatives to help new gardeners develop their plots and discover a love of gardening.

"We partner with the

Norwood Fruit Farm [the Norwood Community Orchard] and some of the Norwood High School programs," McGrath noted. "We have work parties [in spring] to prepare the garden for the season."

McGrath also believed that people from "every walk of life can grow a range of things" in the garden.

Reed and Merchant founded the seed library in 2024, after taking inspiration from one at the Concord Free Public Library in Concord, MA, and a suggestion from Ilex Jones, Assistant Director of Community Development for the Town of Norwood and the former Conservation Agent.

"Ilex thought the seed library was a way to address the issues of food security, sustainability and conservation."

Reed noted the seed library was immediately popular thanks to its great variety of seeds for food, pollinator gardens along with seeds showy, native flow-

ers like zinnias and cosmos. However, some other seeds, like beans, are easy to cultivate, and not as popular in the seed library, according to Reed, as those seeds are relatively easy to harvest and collect by gardeners. The library has previously held informational sessions on how to save and sow seeds for native plants to educate gardeners.

The Morrill Memorial Library's seed library is located indoors, just next to the entrance, in a wooden cabinet. In the cabinet are drawers filled with seed packets. Patrons can check out these packets to plant in their own gardens, and they can read instructions to learn how to plant the seeds properly. Also, there are three seed packing parties planned next month, all at 7 p.m. in the Simoni Room, on Monday, March 2, Monday, March 9 and Tuesday, March 17. Learn more about the seed library at <https://norwoodlibrary.org/seed-library/>

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PAINTING FLOWERS W/ DIMPLE SHAH

Morrill Memorial Library welcomes springtime with a flower painting art workshop, led by local artist Dimple Shah, on Wednesday, March 18 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

"Welcome & Celebrate Spring by Painting Flowers" is a warm, creative, beginner-friendly, and hands-on art workshop designed for adults ages 18 and older. Its theme is the celebration of the arrival of spring. Participants will create two small 4"x4" canvas paintings, featuring spring-inspired flowers such as sunflowers and wildflowers. This workshop is suited for adults seeking a creative break, a mindfulness activity, or an introduction to acrylic painting.

Participants may paint one sunflower canvas and one wildflowers canvas, or interpret the theme freely. The small canvas format allows for experimentation while keeping the workshop relaxed and approachable.

Please note: This session is 2 hours long and intended for participants aged 18+.

About the artist: Dimple Shah is a Sharon-based artist who has loved creating art since the age of five! She studied art at Sophia College in Mumbai, India, where an early passion for color and creativity grew into a lifelong journey of artistic exploration. Along with painting, Dimple loves sharing her creativity with others by conducting art workshops and classes for all ages. Teaching and creating bring her the same joy — they're both ways to connect, inspire, and celebrate imagination together. You can find Dimple Shah on Instagram @dimparekh.

Space is limited, so registration is required for this in-person event. Sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar, or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2.

AUTHOR JANIS R. DALY PRESENTS #31TITLESWOMENINHISTORY

In honor of Women's History Month, Morrill Memorial Library is excited to host author Janis Robinson Daly to present "#31titleswomeninhistory — Inspiration, Education, Celebration" on Thursday, March 19 starting at 2:00 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

Join award-winning historical fiction author, Janis Robinson Daly, as she shares a curated list of thirty-

one titles of historical fiction to celebrate Women's History Month. Each book spotlights women in history whose achievements languished in the shadows until authors discovered their stories and wrote them, imagining the women's emotional responses as they strode forward with dreams in their minds and hopes in their hearts. Come share which novels you've read on the list of thirty-one and discover others to add to your To Be Read list.

This program includes a Bingo-styled game with prizes, a book signing, and more. Get ready to add more interesting books to your To Be Read list!

Registration is required for this in-person event. Sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar, or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 x2.

MUSICAL SUNDAYS RETURN: TRIO SPIRITO

Start your Spring on a high note with the Morrill Memorial Library's Spring Musical Sunday's Concert Series. All concerts in this series will start at 3:00 p.m. and are funded by the Library Endowment Fund.

The first concert in our series on Sunday March 29 will be returning favorite, Trio Spirito, performing "A Program of Romanticism & Fiery Drama," featuring arrangements from Brahms B Major Trio and Shostakovich Trio No. 2. Trio Spirito was created when three faculty members from the New School of Music in Cambridge joined forces and talents. The trio has performed widely in the greater Boston area for the better part of a decade with an extensive repertoire of classical music.

Loren Pearson, violinist, spent ten years living in Germany while studying, traveling, and performing in orchestras throughout Europe. Dr. Mary Jane Rupert, acclaimed concert pianist and harpist, tours nationally and internationally, and currently provides musical instruction in the Boston area. Cellist Pamela Ambrose has also toured throughout Europe as well as Russia, has a large following as a cello instructor, and can be heard on a recent recording, Poetic Reflections.

Registration is required for this concert. Please register by visiting the library's online events calendar at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillevents, calling 781-769-0200, x2, or stopping by the library Reference or Information Desk.

MONDAY MOVIE MATINEES

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to continue our Monday Movie Matinee film series. The series will run from February through April, 2026. The films will be shown on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Showtime at 1 p.m.

If you love movies and want to immerse yourself in unforgettable cinematic experiences, Morrill Memorial Library is the place to be! Join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons from January through April to enjoy an eclectic mix of movies.

Movie dates are: 3/9, 3/23, 4/13, 4/27

March movies are:

March 9: Master Gardener (110 mins) - R

March 23: 4:30 Movie (88 mins) - R

Registration is required. Please register separately for each film. To register, visit <https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/> or call the Reference desk at 781-769-0200 / Ext. 2. This event is recommended for attendees aged 18 and up.

SENSORY FRIENDLY ADULT LEGO CLUB

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to partner with the L.E.A.D. program affiliated with Norwood High School to host a Sensory-friendly Lego Club for Adults. Each month we host two Lego Clubs. Our February Lego Club meetings will be held in-person at the library on Thursday, February 26th from

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Please join us on this creative adventure. Just bring your imagination - we will provide the Legos. The Club is free, inclusive, and open to anyone ages 18+. It is specially designed for adults with different levels of cognitive abilities. Registration is required. Sign up at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 / Ext. 2.

PUZZLE RACE

Love doing puzzles? Want to test your speed against others? Come join us for a friendly puzzle face-off against other teams on Saturday March 14, 2026 from 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

How does the race work?

Up to 8 teams will compete, with a maximum of 4 people per team. Feel free to name your team! Families are welcome to come as a team; children aged 10+ will count as a team member.

One puzzle per team. Puzzles will be 500 pieces and design will be the same. The race will kick off at 2:30 p.m. and will end at 4 p.m. Please plan on arriving by 2:20 p.m. at the latest, so we can start on time.

The team with the most completed puzzle by the end of the race will be the winner, but everyone gets the bragging rights!

This program is free and open to all, but please note that the difficulty level of the puzzle design is most suitable for 'twens, teens and adults. Please let only one team member register for the whole team. You will be prompted to enter the number of participants in your team. Please do not register each member of your team separately.

Registration is required. To register, visit <https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/> or call the Refer-

ence Department at 781 769 0200 Ext 2.

We thank the Friends of Morrill Memorial Library for their generous support.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: NAVIGATING LOCAL SUPPORTS

Join us on Wednesday, March 18 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. for Community Connections @ the Library, a monthly drop-in gathering hosted by Riverside Community Care on the third Wednesday of each month in the Morrill Memorial Library's Simoni Room. Each month highlights new ways to get connected, and for our March session we'll focus on identifying and navigating local supports and community resources available to you.

Community Connections @ the Library is designed to help residents learn about local resources, programs, and opportunities for personal growth and well-being. Meet with a community coach, enjoy friendly conversation, and discover ways to strengthen your connection to the people and supports around you. Drop in, bring your lunch or a coffee, and discover tools in your community that promote balance, resilience, and wellness. All are welcome, and all questions are welcome - regardless of each month's highlighted topic.

Connect2Recovery Recovery Coaching Program is a pilot program through the Norfolk County 8 Collaborative, funded by participating communities using settlement funds from opioid manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies.

RECOVERY CITY: SCREENING AND Q&A

In partnership with Impact Norwood, Morrill Memorial Library will offer a screening of the award-winning 2024 documentary Recovery City, followed by a Q&A, on Thursday, February 26 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

Library

Continued on page 7

The Record Book

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL HOSTING FOOD DRIVE

The First Congregational Church in Norwood will sponsor a Community Food Drive on Saturday, March 14. Volunteers will be in front of the church located at 100 Winter Street from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to accept non-perishable food donations. All the food collected will be donated to the Norwood Ecumenical Food Pantry which serves eligible Norwood and Westwood residents.

If you have any questions call 508-668-8776.

VFW MEAT RAFFLE

The Norwood VFW, Post 2452 on Dean Street in Norwood hosts a Meat Raffle every Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Meat Raffle is open to the Public and everyone is welcome. The price for each Drawing is only \$2.00. Ten Drawings are conducted each Saturday.

A Pre-Buy for \$20.00 is available during the week at the Post. This Pre-Buy allows for entrance in all Ten Drawings conducted on Saturday. The winners of the Pre-Buys need not be present to win.

The prizes are delectable, delicious, and generous portions of meat and chicken. An example of the sampling of the prizes include: Sirloin Steak Tips, Sausage, Ground Sirloin Burgers, Center Cut Pork Chops, Whole Chicken or Cut Chicken, Ground Sirloin Burgers, Chicken Wings, and many more offerings. The Drawings also include a 50/50 Money Raffle.

The Norwood VFW is located at 193 Dean Street in Norwood.

The Meat Raffle will continue every Saturday through May.

The Norwood VFW is looking for new members. Veterans of the Gulf War, and personnel who have served overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan are welcome to visit

the post at any time or come to one of the Monthly Meetings which are held on the Fourth Wednesday of each Month from September thru May (Except December).

15TH ANNUAL HESSCO 5K

This is a beautiful 5K race route with a fun start and finish at the Mick Morgan's Irish Pub in Sharon, MA. This race helps raise funds for HESSCO programs such as Meals on Wheels and home care services. HESSCO is the Area Agency on Aging for 12 communities in South Norfolk County. This race is fun, and festive and will kick-off the St. Patrick's Day celebrations and the road race season! For more info, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2s3craxh>

ROTARY COMEDY NIGHT

The Neponset Valley Sunrise Rotary Club will host a Stand-Up Comedy Show on Friday, March 20, 2026, from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at the American Legion, 155 Eastern Avenue, Dedham, MA. The evening promises big laughs for a great cause, with proceeds supporting local Rotary commu-

Calendar

Continued on page 7

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Library *continued from page 6*

'Recovery City' (2024) is an award-winning documentary offering a raw exploration of what it means to be in recovery as seen through the eyes of four women whose lives share a common thread: addiction. In the working class city of Worcester, Massachusetts, Christine fights to regain custody of her young children while grappling with a traumatic past and battling stigma from the very systems that are designed to help her. Bridget, who found recovery while in prison, now facilitates peer-led support meetings for women. On the frontlines, recovery coaches Janis and Rebecca navigate the city's toughest corners offering support and trying to save lives. In this portrait of resilience, grit, and camaraderie, the women use their lived experience to lift up those still struggling while refusing to give up hope. Learn more about the documentary at: twinseasmedia.com/recoverycity.

Join us to watch the documentary (run time 96 minutes) and then participate in a Q&A with director and producer Lisa Olivieri and one or more of the women who are featured in the film.

Registration is requested, but not required for this in-person event. Learn more at norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/ or call the Reference Desk at 781-769-0200 / Ext 2.

TALKING MAPS

Morrill Memorial Library is thrilled to host Andrew Middleton, owner of the oldest map store in New England, The Map Center, for an engaging talk called *How Maps Lie* on Thursday March 12, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

Come join Andrew for a fun and informative talk on how maps tell all sorts of stories. Learn how historical and contemporary maps

are designed to convey information and how their design reveals as much information about the author as the place. Andrew will also tell the story of how he became the owner of the oldest map store in New England.

About the presenter: Andrew Middleton is a geographic information systems specialist, consultant, and published cartographer who has been steering the 72-year-old Pawtucket staple back into the limelight with beautiful maps from around the world that challenge us to see the places we love in new ways.

This program is free and open to all. Registration is required. To register, visit <https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/> or call the Reference Department at 781-769-0200 / Ext. 2

We thank the Friends of the Morrill Memorial Library for their generous support in funding this program.

NO HEALTH WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to bring Dr. Shreedhar Paudel to the library for a presentation titled *No Health Without Mental Health* on Tuesday March 31, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

Mental health is an essential component of overall well-being, yet millions of people in the United States continue to struggle with untreated or undertreated mental illnesses. This presentation will cover the current state of mental health and mental healthcare gap in the United States; discuss major types of mental illnesses; discuss the importance of addressing mental illnesses in time and describe different treatment modalities. The 30-minute presentation will be followed by 30 minutes of discus-

The Norwood Record

sion and Q&A.

About the presenter: Dr. Shreedhar Paudel is a medical graduate from the Institute of Medicine, Kathmandu, Nepal. He is a public health professional trained in Global Health, a psychiatrist with specialization in community psychiatry and schizophrenia at Massachusetts General Hospital and an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. Dr. Paudel is the current President and one of the founders of Health Foundation Nepal, USA. His passion is in global mental health and has been a pioneer global health leader through Health Foundation Nepal and other organizations.

This program is free and open to all aged 16+. Registration is required. To register, please visit <https://www.norwoodlibrary.org/morrillcalendar/> or call Reference desk at 781-769-0200 Ex 2.

REVERSE COLORING FOR ADULTS

Morrill Memorial Library is excited to bring to you a relaxing evening of adult coloring, but with a twist.

Please join us for Reverse Coloring for Adults: Relax & Create on Thursday March 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the Simoni Room.

Description: Unwind and tap into your creativity with Reverse Coloring, a fun and relaxing art activity designed for adults! Unlike traditional coloring books, reverse coloring starts with the colors already on the page — your job is to draw the lines. Let the watercolor-style backgrounds inspire your imagination as you add shapes, patterns, or outlines to bring each page to life.

Whether you're an experienced artist or just looking for a mindful way to relax, this stress-free program is for you. All materials will be provided.

No art skills needed — just bring your imagination!

Shattuck *continued from page 1*

first go, the applicants wanted to do a full renovation of the park with lights and benches, and residents came out against this, as the wooded feeling of the park would be lost. In the second go, the Town pitched design, study and construction for the stone wall rehabilitation. The CPC voted not to bring it forward specifically because neighbors hadn't weighed in.

Doyle said she felt like a lot of outreach on the project had been done, simply by the fact it had gone through so many iterations in Town Meeting, the CPC process, and public meetings.

"They have already talked to some of the neighbors as well," she said. "This is the problem I have, because every time an application has come before us regarding Shattuck, it was suggested to the neighbors that they put together a 'Friends of Shattuck Park' group, and they never did it... And then in their email they're saying there's no notification. This Board, along with a lot of the other boards, is constantly posting. It's posted on Norwood Now, it's posted on the Town

website, it's in The Norwood Record, it's all over the place that these are the applications, we're opening our cycle, etc. etc."

And CPC Chair Christine Walsh pointed out they did have a letter regarding Shattuck from one of the neighbors there.

"Joe reached out to them and then they reached out to us," Doyle said. "They don't have a problem with the wall; they have a problem with going into the park and doing what the first application wanted, which was install lights, clear all the undergrowth, and do this and that — basically change the aesthetics of the park. Not the wall."

Doyle pointed out also that many other projects did not necessarily reach out to every neighbor within a given radius of the project and they were heard at Town Meeting, and suggested that Town Meeting is the place for the project to be approved or denied.

CPC Member Julie Barbour-Issa said however she felt while the funds were small, so was the urgency.

"What is the prioritization

of this?" she said. "When I look at this wall, it feels like it was thrown together in a way, 'Well let's propose some projects,' but it's not necessarily [urgent]. This wall isn't falling apart any faster between now and five years from now. I don't know priority-wise, and I know it's not a ton of money, but is this the most efficient use of our open space funds? Is this is what the community going to be getting the most out of? And maybe that is a Town Meeting question."

Doyle showed the thickness of the application, and detailed the history of the wall, the condition, site visits, etc., to argue it wasn't thrown together. Members estimated — based on the rule of thumb that design is usually costing about 15-to-20 percent of the project — that the final wall restoration would come in at \$200,000 (however that's not including any site work that the Department of Public Works could provide).

The Board voted 4-0 to reconsider the vote and voted 3-1 to put it back on the Town Meeting docket, with Walsh voting against.

Calendar *continued from page 6*

nity initiatives.

The show features an outstanding lineup of comedians, including Tony V., Jessica Casciano, and Jimmy Cash, each bringing their own unique style and nationally recognized comedic talent to the stage. Tony V is an actor, writer, and comedian based in Boston. He has been featured on Conan O'Brien, The Town, and The Heat. Jimmy Cash is a national touring comedian who often opens for Bob Marley and has worked with comics such as Shane Gillis, Bill Burr, and Lenny Clarke. He sold out the Wilbur Theater in Boston. Jessica Casciano, the host for the night and a well-known comedienne, has over 15 years in the comedy scene. She is known as a "small package" that delivers big laughs.

Tickets are \$40 online or \$45 at the door, with a table of 10 available for \$350. Attendees can also enjoy raffles and gift baskets, a cash bar, and are welcome to bring their own food.

For tickets and additional information, visit www.nvsrotaryevents.org.

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CAN IMPROVE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The Norwood Toastmasters Club helps develop communication and leadership skills for our members and the community at every ability level. Guests are always welcome to come and see just how we do it! Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. We meet from 6:45 until 8:30 p.m. at the Norwood Civic Center, Willet Room, 165 Nahatan St, Norwood, MA 02062. Please visit our website: <https://norwoodtoastmaster.toastmastersclubs.org/> for additional information.

The upcoming meeting dates are: Tuesday, March 10th, 2026 Tuesday, March 24th, 2026

UPCOMING NORWOOD WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

The Norwood Woman's Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. on March 10, 2026. The Meeting will be held at Knights of Columbus Hall, 572 Nichols Street, Norwood. Johnny Pizzi, Stand Up Comedian, Showman and Magician will provide laughter and amazement for us all. A light lunch is provided. Members are asked to bring items for the Food Pantry, including soups, canned meats, chili, oatmeal (variety packages), cereal, etc. Any Questions call Trina / 781-762-8173.

LMPA NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

LMPA is the public preschool of Norwood Public Schools. This state-regulated integrated program blends children with identified special needs with peer role models. There are no more than 15 children in each class. Our staff includes Certified Special Education Teachers, a Speech and Language Pathologist, an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist, and a licensed school nurse. The program is designed to address all areas of development. We pride ourselves on providing programs that emphasize high quality, developmentally appropriate activities which address self-help skills, social and language skills, fine and gross motor activities.

Children Applying to LMPA as Peer Role Models: Must be 3 years of age by August 31, 2026. Must reside in the Town of Norwood. Should not have any identified special needs. Should be toilet-trained. Must demonstrate strong language and social skills.

BOY SCOUTS CELEBRATED ANNIVERSARY

Troop 42, one of the oldest chartered Boy Scout troops in America, celebrated our 115th anniversary in 2025!

Fall and Winter are here and following our summer bike and camping trips and a week at summer camp, we're gearing up for some fabulous adventures, including camping and hiking trips to Mt. Greylock, Mt. Monadnock, and our Klondike Derby (to name just a few)! If you're a boy between the ages of 11 and 18 and are interested in more information about joining our troop, please stop by our Pancake Breakfast or check out our website at www.troop42norwood.com. No previous experience necessary — just an interest in growing and having fun!

In honor of our former Scoutmaster and Town Selectman David Hajjar, we are collecting food donations for the Norwood Food Pantry. If you are able to bring any non-perishable items along with you, our Scouting for Food drive will collect them and deliver them to the good people at the food pantry to help out those in need of food items at this time of year. Thank you in advance for your support.

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www.DalyFootCare.com

Deaths



Palma Rita (Carchedi) of Norwood passed away peacefully on February 17, 2026, at the age of 95.

Beloved wife of 69 years to Herbert "Chuck" Ciolfi, Palma was a devoted mother to Nancy Gagnon and her husband Steven of Dennis, Marisa Roche and her husband John of Franklin, and John Ciolfi and his wife Christine of Medfield. She was the cherished sister of

Anthony Carchedi and his wife Jan of Clinton, Frank Carchedi and his wife Susan of Plainfield, Indiana, and the late Joseph Carchedi and his wife Mary of Walpole. She was the loving daughter of the late John and Maria (Maiolo) Carchedi.

Palma was a proud and loving grandmother to Michael Anello, Melissa (Anello) Barrile, Joseph (Joey) Anello, Michelle Roche, Kelly Roche, Jennifer (Roche) Hosford, Christopher Roche, Nicole Ciolfi, Alyssa Ciolfi and Kristen Ciolfi, and a treasured great-grandmother to Charles, Tessa, Bella, Amelia, Colby, and Caden. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Born in Filadelfia, Italy, Palma immigrated to the United States in 1946 at the age of 16, following World War II. She made the journey with her mother and younger brother Joseph to reunite with her father, John Carchedi, who had come to America years earlier and served in the U.S. Army. Several years later, Palma was blessed with two younger brothers Anthony and Frank, and she played an important roll in their lives as their dotting older sister. As a young immigrant, Palma faced the challenges of a new language and an unfamiliar culture with remarkable determination. Through self-education, perseverance, and the guidance of her lifelong friend and confidant, Catherine Destito, she built a life defined by strength, resilience, and quiet grace. She became a proud naturalized

citizen and resided in Norwood for most of her life.

Palma worked at the Plympton Press in Norwood for approximately ten years. From 1961 to 1978, she and her family owned and operated "Jenny's Pizza," a beloved small Italian restaurant in South Norwood that became a gathering place for many in the community.

She was a longtime member of the Sons of Italy Ladies Lodge, and the Catholic Women's Club. A phenomenal cook, Palma delighted in preparing elaborate multi-course meals for holidays and family gatherings. Though she was a woman of few words, her quick wit and subtle humor often left those around her smiling. She was highly skilled in sewing, knitting and crocheting, and her beautiful handmade creations remain treasured keepsakes among her family and friends.

Above all, Palma's greatest joy and deepest passion was her family. Her loving marriage to Chuck, her three children, ten grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and her extended family were the center of her world. She cherished every moment spent with them and always with Chuck by her side.

Visiting and funeral services were provided by the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington Street, Norwood, MA 02062. Burial was performed at Highland Cemetery, Norwood.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Palma's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude

Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or at www.stjude.org.

Palma will be remembered for her strength, devotion, quiet humor, and the enduring love she gave so generously to her family and friends. Her legacy will live on in the traditions she created and the lives she touched.

CONCANNON



Peter, age 60, of Melbourne, Florida, formerly of Tyngsboro

passed away on Friday, February 13, 2026, at his home.

Born in Norwood, Peter was one of two children and the only son born to Mary (Folan) Concannon of Norwood and the late Thomas Concannon. Peter was raised in Norwood and graduated from Norwood High School and received his Bachelor's Degree from Boston College.

Peter worked for many years as a sales representative. His career brought him to work for several computer technology companies, most recently Acronis, where he recently retired from, relocating to the warmth of Florida.

Beyond his professional life, Peter was a devoted family man and a cherished friend. He took immense joy in watching his daughters compete in cheerleading competitions, continuously supporting them with enthusiasm. Fishing was not only a hobby but a passion for Peter, he also loved being on the water and outside under

Deaths

Continued on page 9

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Obituary policy

The Norwood Record publishes obituaries from information supplied by funeral homes. Relatives and friends also may supplement information by e-mailing our office at news@norwoodrecord.com by Monday at 1 p.m. Photos also will be accepted.

Hospital continued from page 2

Sharon, or Canton, or Dedham, or Foxborough, or Mansfield—you are 40 minutes from getting the appropriate care."

Norwood Hospital had a cardiac catheterization lab, an essential amenity for a patient suffering a heart attack.

"Eight miles from the greatest medical center in the world, we are 40 minutes if you have a heart attack in any of these communities—residents, visitors or anyone just passing through," Mazzucco told the Joint Committee. "The best hospitals in the world do not matter if patients can't reach them."

To submit additional written testimony, go to <https://tinyurl.com/54c89zu6> and follow instructions.

The Background

In 2025, aiming to reopen the formerly profitable regional medical facility, the Town of Norwood launched the "Finish Norwood Hospital" campaign.

Norwood Hospital was evacuated during flooding in June 2020 and never reopened.

Norwood Hospital had been operating as an acute care facility with 130-plus beds and an emergency room with a catheterization lab. By census population, the catchment area includes 12 towns and 250,000 residents.

In 2019, Norwood Hospital had served 126,000 patients during its last full year of operation. The hospital turned an \$11.2 million profit in 2018 and a \$25 million profit in 2019. That same year, 42,705 people visited Norwood Hospital's emergency room.

The cascading effect of transports to other hospitals is impacting towns outside of the catchment area, creating devastating regional impacts for emergency medical services.

At the direction of Gov. Maura Healey, Mazzucco has been leading the task force in a review of the health care needs of the communities previously served by Norwood Hospital, which was closed by Steward Health Care after the 2020 flood.

The "Finish Norwood Hospital" Task Force includes regional health care providers, public health officials, labor leaders, emergency service providers, community and business leaders, and elected and local government officials.

Task force members, including President of the Massachusetts Building and Trades Union Frank Callahan, former Massachusetts Nurses Association Executive Director Julie Pinkham, and Rep. Rogers, have been lobbying for support to reopen Norwood Hospital.

As part of the "Finish Norwood Hospital" campaign, the Town of Norwood has also launched a website dedicated to the campaign: FinishtheJobNorwood.com.

On the website, visitors can access information about the working group, view the history of Norwood Hospital, review a timeline of the closure, and get involved in advocacy efforts by signing letters to state officials.



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Deaths *continued from page 8*

the sun. He had a fondness for cigars, enjoying them during pleasant evenings with friends and loved ones. Furthermore, Peter was a passionate fan of New England sports teams, often seen cheering for his favorite teams. Above all, Peter was most happy with the time spent and memories made with his devoted family.

In addition to his mother, Peter is survived by his proud and cherished daughters: Caitlin DeRoma and her husband Michael of Walpole, Kaleigh Concannon of Tyngsboro, and Meghan Concannon of Tyngsboro; his loving grandson: Wesley DeRoma of Walpole; his sister: Noreen Connelly and her husband Michael of West Roxbury; his nephew: Ryan Connelly of Dedham; his former spouse: Tammy (McKelvie) Concannon of Tyngsboro; his beloved Cane Corso: Tank; and his first cousins; Bart Folan, Mary Flaherty, & Berna Reed and their families. Also, numerous extended family members and friends.

Visiting hours will be held on WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2026, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home, 1248 Washington Street, Norwood.

Peter's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on THURSDAY, February 26, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Catherine of Siena Parish, 547 Washington Street, Norwood. Please go directly to church, there will be no procession from the funeral home.

Peter will be laid to rest in Highland Cemetery, Winter Street, Norwood.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Peter's memory may be made to either McLean Hospital directly at: <https://giving.mclean.org/> or to Norman's Place directly at: <https://www.normansplace.org/donate>

DeCOURCY



Charles C., of Norwood passed away peacefully on February 18, 2026 at the age of 92 after a period of declining health.

Charlie was an Army veteran and a member of the Norwood DAV. Before he retired, he worked as a Massachusetts laborer and was a member of the Laborers' Union Local 560.

Charlie was an avid classic car enthusiast and belonged to many auto clubs. People could find him at various car shows across the area. He was also a passionate NASCAR and Celtics fan.

Charlie was the beloved husband of the late Patricia DeCourcy. He was a devoted father of Dana and her husband Paul and a cherished grandfather to their son Abraham.

Visiting hours will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026 from 4-7 p.m. at Kraw Kornack Funeral Home 1248 Washington St. Norwood. Services from the funeral home on Friday February 27, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. Funeral mass in St. Timothy Parish 650 Nichols St. Norwood at 10:30 a.m. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery, Norwood, MA.

The family appreciates your love and support and kindly requests no flowers.

290th Annual Meeting at First Congregational Church

Members celebrate rich history

First Congregational Church (UCC) in Norwood recently held its 290th Annual Meeting. As a Congregational church, FCC Norwood is autonomous, self-governing, and independent, rather than controlled by a higher hierarchical authority. We use each Annual Meeting as a time for fellowship, remembering members who have died, reviewing the past year, and planning for the coming year. The 290th Annual Meeting was led by Church Moderator Katherine Light.

The reports by Pastor Rev. Michele Bagby Allan and by each of the various Boards illustrate how well First Congregational Church is succeeding in serving its 270 members and the community.

The Church welcomed 8 new members during 2025. The Church continues to support many programs of community, national, and international involvement, including Annie's Closet, Generic Ministry, New Life Furniture Bank, Cradles to Crayons, WCC Thrift Shop, Norwood Ecumenical Food

Pantry, Christian World Service disaster relief, OneLocalBank Giving Tree, Martin Luther King Day of Service, and the Walk for Hunger.

First Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) is an Open & Affirming congregation welcoming all. We are located at the corner of Route 1A and Winter Street in Norwood. The regular Sunday morning worship service is at 10 AM. Worship services are conducted in person, live-streamed during the worship service, and posted to the FCC Norwood YouTube channel afterwards (<https://www.youtube.com/@fccnorwood>). Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. Sunday School classes are held for children in grades Pre-K through 8 mid-September through mid-June. Our Pastor, Rev. Michele Bagby Allan, is glad to extend pastoral support. For more information, please visit the church web site (<https://www.fccnorwood.org>) or call the church office at (781)762-3320.

Reddick *continued from page 4*

in which a part refers to the whole. Dylan Thomas once defined an alcoholic as, "Somebody you don't like who drinks as much as you do." And Georg Trakl confirmed, "For whoever is lonely there is a tavern."

As a road guy, I confirm the veracity of this all, but add one caveat: the quality of acquaintance found and conversation thus en-

gaged is never guaranteed, which to some increases the lure. In Gallup, New Mexico, the sheriff showed up the first day of the press installation and instructed visiting installers which barrooms in town to avoid. The toughest and most dangerous, he warned, was the bar in the Eldorado Hotel.

I visited it the first chance I got.

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Obituary policy

The Norwood Record publishes obituaries from information supplied by funeral homes. Relatives and friends also may supplement information by e-mailing to news@bulletinnewspapers.com by Monday at 1 p.m. Photos also will be accepted.

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Monday, February 16

0942 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Taken/Referred to Other Agency Location/Address: Bos-Prov Hwy + University Ave Caller reports MV weaving in and out of traffic, throwing trash out of the window. Heading NB towards Westwood. Westwood PD notified.

1510 Other - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Austin St MAPC 2MYL39 repossessed by New England Adjustment Bureau.

26-31676 1622 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Gone on arrival Call Taker: Dispatcher COURTNEY M DOTOLI Call Source: 911 Location/Address: [NWD 3166] MOBILITY WORKS - BOS-PROV HWY

1627 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Checked and Spoke with Location/Address: Adams St 911 caller thinks there were children in the crawlspace in her home. She says she's noticed items from her home that have gone missing, ongoing issue. Caller did not want to provide any further info, disconnected. Checked the crawlspace and it checks clear. Solid foundation all the way around. Party was advised.

1906 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Arrest(s) Made Vicinity of: BMW Gallery - Bos-Prov Hwy MVST MA Reg 5LYE24 RO. 661 requesting a second unit. Tow requested to HQ, 1 female party in custody. Arrest: Chapman, Autumn Starr Address: 26 Goldenwood Dr Norton, MA Age: 49 Charges: Turn, Improper * OUI-Liquor Or .08%

2054 Phone - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/Address: Conrads - Washington St Female party reportedly refused to pay her tab and is seated outside the store, bothering staff and patrons. Party has paid her tab and has left the facility. PD clear.

Tuesday, February 17

0105 Initiated - PD-Suspicious Activity Sent On Way Location/Address: Planet Fitness - Walpole St 662 checking on group of juveniles in front of PF. Parties advised all businesses are closed at this time and sent on their way. PD clear.

0501 Other - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Upland Woods Cir MA REG. 4DYJ67

0544 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Wickham Way Hears someone throwing something at her bedroom window. Party is currently in the living room Checked area, unfounded. PD clear.

0621 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Norwood

Post Office - Central St Call on 911 reporting car parked in the wrong direction across the street from the post office. Someone inside. Grey sedan. Unknown make or model. Unable to see license plate. RP would like it checked out. Vehicle is DMV, party is waiting for private tow. PD clear.

1151 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Report Follows Location/Address: Cottage St Caller stated an individual stole his outdoor camera at 0208 hours on 2/17 from his backyard. Caller stated nothing else is missing from his yard. Caller has video footage before individual took the camera.

1930 Initiated - PD-Suspicious Activity Arrest(s) Made Location/Address: - Central St NWD 676 reports possibly out with male party with positive WMS. Confirmed positive WMS. Arrest: Shea, Luke Kirby Address: Homeless Homeless, MA Age: 32 Charges: Default Warrant

2013 Other - PD-Lost/Found Property Services Rendered Location/Address: Nahatan St Found wallet. Message left for owner.

2248 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: East Vernon St 911 caller reports a female party outside of his home, acting disrespectful and belligerent towards him, has happened before in the past and does not want it to continue. Caller states she may be a friend of a resident next door. White female, Hoodie Spoke to both parties, advised. Party was upset smoke getting into her room. 2255 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Howard St MA PC 6RAZ28.

2329 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Spoke With Location/Address: Lansdowne Way Caller reports an Acura sedan that has been in alarm for one hour. Spoke with RO.

Wednesday, February 18

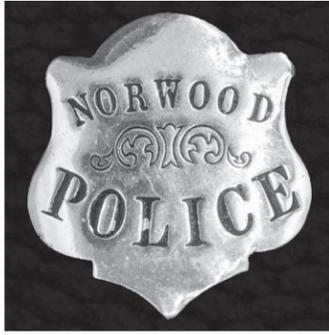
0507 Phone - PD-Trespassing Vehicle Towed Location/Address - Upland Woods Cir Negoshians towing towed MA Reg.5ABA43.

1621 911 - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: The Panini Press - Chapel St Caller on 911 reporting 60 y/o white female being verbally aggressive and hitting the door.

1945 911 - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/Address: Washington St 911 caller reports a female customer, black jacket, jeans, black boots, hoodie with stars, blond hair, keeps coming into the store and yelling, not ordering anything. Female party also called on 911 and was advised to leave the store and wait out front for the officer.

The Norwood Record

Police Logs



Thursday, February 19

0011 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Logged Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA Reg: 4VFP96 towed by Negoshians Towing. 0051 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Wickham Way Caller reports bass thumping through the building from an unknown apartment. Requests an officer to investigate it. Units clear, did not hear anything. 0056 Phone - PD-Repossessed MV/Private Tow Logged Location/Address: Windsor Gardens - Walpole St MA reg: 5FSH81 towed by Negoshians Towing. 1214 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Report Follows Location/Address: Pond Ave + St George Ave Call on business line from DPW for a car in the parking lot near the Balch school with no license plate. There is a plate on the front seat, 783GF2. 664 requesting next in line. Center Auto Body en route 1241 911 - PD-Disturbance Services Rendered Location/Address: Atrius Health - Bos-Prov Hwy 911- caller reports the front desk person who is located on second floor, is verbally assaultive/harassment. Spoke with party she has been advised and left without issues She will follow up patient relations

1611 Phone - PD-Assist Public Services Rendered Location/Address: Shaws Supermarket - Nahatan St Employee reports 2 black males 1 wearing a red sweatshirt under a black jacket, the second was light skinned with dreads. One of the parties attempted to steal items when approached he gave the items back and they both left the store. Both parties wearing all black, one had a red hood. Left possibly heading towards Avalon or behind Shaws. Units checked the area with negative results. Received pictures and will be working on identification for a trespass order. Clear Two juveniles identified and Shaw's has issued a verbal trespass. They will be issuing a formal letter of disinvite. Parents have been spoken to as well.

2236 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Village Rd W Caller reports loud music outside coming from two individuals, one near her window. Parties agreed to turn the music down, clear. 2322 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Village Rd W Loud music. Parties spoken to and agreed to turn music off. Clear. 2323 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Arrest(s) Made Vicinity of: Washington St + Prospect St Illinois FF11734 Caller on 911 reporting an erratic driver Units off w/ the vehicle @ 65 Winslow. One male party in custody. Center auto en route. The appropriate consulate was notified, no response from them. Arrest: Sharifov, Ilkhom Address: 1601 N Ocean Blvd Pompano Beach, FL Age: 38 Charges: Marked Lanes Violation OUI-Liquor Or .08% Resist Arrest

Friday, February 20

0241 Phone - PD-Shoplifting Report Follows Location/Address: CVS Pharmacy - Nahatan St Call on the business line reporting a white female stole eye lashes from the store. Reports a white SUV with a possible MA REG of 5JLJ55 was waiting outside. They picked up another fe-

male party outside of the station. Last seen on Nahatan St. heading towards center of town.

1201 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Location/Address: Coventry Lane Caller on 911 states a man is trying to get into her apartment. Description provided is a man in a hoodie. While on the phone CP spoke w/ the party who stated he was the plumber.

1459 Other - PD-Abandoned MV Vehicle Towed Location/Address: Nucar Hyundai - Bos-Prov Hwy 2016 Toyota Corolla Vin# 2T1BURHE0GC656040 towed by CHuay LLC Belmont NH

2202 Phone - PD-Disturbance Spoke With Location/Address: Residence Inn By Marriott - Norwood Park S Supervisor of the hotel reports parties in room are causing a disturbance and would like them to leave. Parties were escorted out of room officer states the front desk receptionist has allowed the parties to remain in the lobby as they wait for their Uber. All units cleared.

Saturday, February 21

0245 Initiated - PD-Parking Violation Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Surrey Rd 2 parking tickets issued to the following vehicles: 1. MA COM REG W82921 2. MA REG 3VVV74

0911 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Animal Control Notified Location/Address: Mill Pond Lane Caller reports coyote with an injured leg. ACO notified and responding.

1227 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Animal Control Notified Location/Address: By The Cemetery - Winter St Call on business line for two dogs wandering down the street - described as a boxer and a German shepherd. Unknown if they have collars. ACO advised and en route. 1815 Phone - PD-Disturbance Peace Restored Location/Address: Washington St Caller on 911 states her neighbor came up to her apartment threatening her complaining of water dripping through his ceiling. No reported weapons, verbal in nature. Spoke w/ all parties. Verbal argument over a civil issue. Landlord on scene as well. All parties advised of their options. Clear.

2236 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Village Rd W Caller reports loud music outside coming from two individuals, one near her window. Parties agreed to turn the music down, clear.

2322 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Village Rd W Loud music. Parties spoken to and agreed to turn music off. Clear.

2323 Phone - PD-Motor Vehicle Complaint Arrest(s) Made Vicinity of: Washington St + Prospect St Illinois FF11734 Caller on 911 reporting an erratic driver Units off w/ the vehicle @ 65 Winslow. One male party in custody. Center auto en route. The appropriate consulate was notified, no response from them. Ar-

rest: Sharifov, Ilkhom Address: 1601 N Ocean Blvd Pompano Beach, FL Age: 38 Charges: Marked Lanes Violation OUI-Liquor Or .08% Resist Arrest

Sunday, February 22

0330 Initiated - PD-Parking Violation Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Howard St 4 parking tickets issued.

0514 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Peace Restored Location/Address: Bubbles-Up Laundromat - Central St Caller on the business line reporting a person sleeping inside the laundromat. The female party left without issue but refused to identify herself. Clear.

1119 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Animal Control Notified Location/Address: Elks - Winslow Ave Caller reports loose dog running around lower lot. ACO notified and responding.

1136 Initiated - PD-Parking Violation Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Atwood Ave Two vehicles blocking road way for emergency personnel MA Reg 6BTH93 and MA Comm W85149 FD will need to access the road from Katie's way and unit will be clear.

1231 Phone - PD-Suspicious Activity Gone on arrival Location/Address: Chipotle - Bos-Prov Hwy Call on business line for a man and daughter following people around the parking lot asking for money. White male, mid 60s, with a younger female. They were in a red vehicle when approaching callers daughter. Vehicle and parties were gone on arrival and unit will be clear.

1356 Phone - PD-Animal Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Coventry Lane 668 reports anonymous report of a dog that has been left outside for an extended period of time. Units unable to reach anyone at the address. Dog is no longer outside however there is evidence the dog was outside for an extended period of time. Unit to advise the ACO. Units clear.

1356 Walk-In - PD-Lost/Found Property Services Rendered Location/Address: TJ Maxx - Nahatan St Party turns in wallet. Owner notified, will pick up.

1533 911 - PD-Suspicious Activity Services Rendered Vicinity of: - University Ave + Bos-Prov Hwy 911- gray Ford for sale facing intersection, male party is trying to break into it. corner facing intersection, male driving a white jeep

1800 Initiated - PD-Motor Vehicle Stop Citation/Warning Issued Location/Address: Fulton St + Prospect St Off with a moped.

1926 Phone - PD-Unwanted Party Services Rendered Location/Address: Hampton Inn - Bos-Prov Hwy Manager of the hotel would like a female party escorted off Of the property.

2329 Phone - PD-Noise Complaint Services Rendered Location/Address: Buckminster Dr caller in states neighbor in is blasting loud music.

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what you
think with a
Letter To
The Editor



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Norwood in the Blizzard of '26



The Town of Norwood saw about two feet of snow on Monday in what people have already dubbed, "The Blizzard of '26." Though residents might want to keep in mind, winter is not done yet and it might only have been A blizzard of '26 and not THE blizzard of '26. Regardless, the weather dumped a heap of wind and snow on Norwood, but the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Facilities Department did not report trouble in dealing with the white out: "HUGE THANKS to the DPW crew for their incredible (ongoing) cleanup of the Blizzard '26. Because of you, the roads are clear enough for us to go grab an iced coffee in 20 degree weather like a true local. We see the long hours and the freezing shifts. THANK YOU for keeping the Town of Norwood moving!" However, if you're regular trash day is Friday, you'll have to wait until next Friday. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/5cywvnu> for a full notice of pickup changes. Also, the Norwood Fire Department wants to remind residents to clear up the fire hydrants, as Josh from Lenox Street has demonstrated above.

PHOTOS BY TOWN OF NORWOOD, DPW, AND THE NFD

MBTA Commuter Rail returns to regular schedule Wednesday

All Commuter Rail Lines to Operate on a Normal Weekday Schedule Tomorrow, Wednesday February 25 Except for the Fall River/New Bedford Line

The Fall River/New Bedford Line will operate on a modified severe weather schedule to ensure reliability after area was hit hardest by winter storm.

The MBTA and Keolis Commuter Services (Keolis), the MBTA's operations and maintenance partner for Commuter Rail, announced today that all Commuter Rail lines will return to a normal weekday schedule on Wednesday, February 24 except for the Fall River/New Bedford Line. The Fall River/

New Bedford Line will operate on modified severe weather schedule after the South Coast area was hit the hardest by the latest winter storm. The schedule for the Fall River/New Bedford Line is available here.

The MBTA and Keolis closely monitor weather forecasts to assess expected and real-time conditions related to scheduled service and operations. Reduced service due to weather conditions is designed to meet ridership demand and provide travel options to essential workers while limiting the exposure of Commuter Rail trains to storm conditions and providing adequate access to storm clean-up crews. Passengers should plan extra time for their travel and use caution on platforms, in parking lots, and when boarding or exiting a train.

MBTA and Keolis personnel have been deployed across the Commuter Rail network to clear snow, apply sand and salt to passenger areas, and respond to incidents. Crews were pre-positioned at key facilities and infrastructure (switches, signals, etc.) to help ensure safe operations throughout the storm. Switch heaters and snow jets have also been activated across the network to ensure normal flow of train traffic.

Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts, download the MBTA Go app, and follow the MBTA on X @MBTA, @MBTA_CR, and @MBTA_CR_Alerts for up-to-date service information on individual trains.

Legal Notices

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

The **NORWOOD HOUSING AUTHORITY**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Asphalt Shingle Roof Replacement at 40 William Shyne Circle in Norwood, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **ANDREW M. BROCKWAY & ASSOCIATES**.

The Project consists of but not limited to: Removal and replacement of asphalt shingle roofing systems and gutters and downspouts at multiple buildings in one development.

The work is estimated to cost **\$184,000.00**.

Bids are subject to M.G.L.c.149§44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L.c.149§§26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at **www.biddocs.com** and received no later than the date and time specified.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, Roofing, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **18 March 2026 at 12:00PM EDT** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates), and made payable to the **NORWOOD HOUSING AUTHORITY**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at **www.biddocs.com** (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE/SITE VISIT:

Date and Time: 03/05/2026 at 10:00AM EST
Address: 40 William Shyne Circle, Norwood, MA 02062
Instructions: Meet at the Housing Authority office

The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at:

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Norwood Record:
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NORWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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FY2027 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

The Norwood School Committee will hold a **Public Budget Hearing on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 7:05 P.M.** at the James R. Savage Education Center, 275 Prospect Street, Norwood, MA 02062.

Public can access the hearing in person at the Savage Center or live via NCM on cable and online as it is live-streamed. For the cable channel guide and online link, please visit: <https://norwoodcommunitymedia.org/>.

Public participation for the public hearing can be accessed in two ways: (1) In person at the hearing (sign up in advance through Superintendent's Office by noon the day of the hearing to pre-register, or sign in at the hearing); and (2) Call the Superintendent's Office at 781.762.6804 by noon on the day of the hearing to register and receive a hearing link that will be accessible for public hearing only.

A copy of the proposed FY2027 budget will be available for the public to review no later than 48hrs prior to the hearing on the Norwood Public School website at www.norwood.k12.ma.us as prescribed in Chapter 71, §38N of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The public is invited to participate.

Norwood Record: 2/26/2026