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Norwood 150th Committee

For June 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Norwood's 150th Anniversary Celebrates the Cultural Diversity and Lives of Our Children

On Friday, June 10, Norwood residents age 60 or older are invited to a banquet celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Norwood Council on Aging. The banquet will be held at the Sheraton Four Points, 1125 Boston-Providence Turnpike, between 4:00 and 8:00 pm and will include a full-course sit-down dinner and dancing to the music of Dave Valerio, Buy tickets (\$20) at the Norwood Senior Center, 275 Prospect Center, where Executive Director Kerri McCarthy can also answer any questions you may have or e-mail her at kmccarthy@norwoodma.gov.

The week of June 13 through 16 will feature seven events celebrating cultural diversity as reflected in music, dance and food.

- **Thomas Balch Elementary School** (1170 Washington Street, opened in 1867, rebuilt and reopened in 1913), Monday, June 13, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Students will present poster boards on "My Norwood Story," with family histories of why their families came to Norwood, based on interviews with their parents.
- **Charles J. Prescott Elementary School** (66 Richland Road, opened in 1958), Monday, June 13, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Students and teachers will present a history of the school.

- **Frederick A. Cleveland Elementary School** (33 George Willett Parkway, opened in 1959), Wednesday, June 15, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Three local restaurants will offer food and recipes. A quilt will be displayed.
- **John P. Oldham Elementary School** (165 Prospect Street, opened in 1963), Wednesday, June 15, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Fifth graders will conduct a campus tour. Local artists will perform. Family-friendly stations will include face painting.
- **Cornelius M. Callahan Elementary School** (90 Garfield Avenue, opened in 1930), Thursday, June 16, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. The history of the school and town will be presented on a "story walk." Fifth graders will sing "Happy Birthday Norwood." Visitors will be invited to play games including town trivia tests.
- **Philip O. Coakley Middle School** (1315 Washington Street, opened in 2004 as a conversion of the Junior High School; the building dates back to 1919), Thursday, June 16, 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Memorabilia of the school and its predecessors will be displayed as part of a "Spring Celebration" of carnival fair activities. Poster boards and story boards will provide other information displays.
- **St. Catherine of Siena Elementary and Middle School** (549 Washington Street, opened in 1926, Thursday, June 16, 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Kindergarten teacher Joan Sullivan will describe working with the school's founders. Students and alumni will share memories of their school experiences. Tours of the campus will be available.

Norwood will conduct its first celebration of Juneteenth, the date in 1865 when Union troops arrived at Galveston Bay, Texas, and announced that the roughly 250,000 enslaved African-Americans in Texas were freed by executive decree. This was the last part of the United States to be formally emancipated. Juneteenth is June 19, but Norwood has opted to avoid a conflict with Father's Day by moving the celebration for this year to Saturday, June 18, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on the Town Common. For more information, contact

NorwoodJuneteenth@gmail.com.

Also on June 19, an Antique Classic Car Show will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Municipal Car Park between the Norwood Civic Center (165 Nahatan Street) and the Norwood Sports Center (65 Cottage Street East). For more information, contact streetcarrealty@verizon.net or, after June 1, call or text 781-690-6570.

On the last two Tuesdays of the month, June 21 and June 28, the Norwood Historical Society will conduct its first two History Walking Tours of the year. On June 21, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, the tour of Upper South Norwood will begin at the Balch School, 1170 Washington Street. On June 28, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, the tour of Lower South Norwood will begin at the Morse House, located at 1285 Washington Street.

Norwood Historical Society President says these tours "will continue on Tuesdays through August 9 as we explore the vibrant communities that make up the Norwood of today." The July and August tours will be included in Norwood 150th press releases for July and August. For more information on these and other Norwood Historical Society events, go to

info@norwoodhistoricalsociety.org.

On Wednesday, June 22, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm, at Memorial Hall, 566 Washington Street, Bill O'Donnell, Norfolk County Register of Deeds, will look at notable people, places and properties of Norwood through Norfolk County's land records. At that event retired Massachusetts State Trooper Dan Clark – known as the Singing Trooper – will sing. For more information, contact wodonnell@norfolkdeeds.org.

On Sunday, June 26, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, the Norwood Challenger Baseball Program will celebrate its 30th anniversary with a Challenger Little League versus Alumni game, at Kelley Field, behind the Coakley School, 1315 Washington Street. For more information, contact rwsmith131@gmail.com.