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For May 2022

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Norwood's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Spotlights Salute to Veterans***

Every year, Norwood recognizes and appreciates its veterans on Memorial Day weekend. This year, as part of the town's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, several major events have been added, creating a week-long salute to Norwood veterans.

On Sunday, May 22, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Norwood's Veteran Tribute will kick off at four locations. At the Senior Center (275 Prospect Street) and Memorial Hall in Town Hall (566 Washington Street), memorabilia on loan from Norwood veterans will be on display. At the Senior Center and the Civic Center (165 Nahatan Street), there will be storyboards depicting Norwood veterans' experiences, including some designed and researched by students at the Coakley Middle School. The Civic Center will also offer information on veterans benefits and America's Vet Dogs. Greeters at Memorial Hall will also tell visitors about the history of Memorial Hall and offer tributes to Norwood veterans of World War I. Meanwhile, reenactments of World War I, the Civil War, and the Revolutionary War will be provided on the Town Common by the Colonial Boys. A shuttle will run between the Senior Center and the Common.

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Free tickets will be distributed, and volunteers will validate attendance at each of the four locations, setting up a prize drawing for people who go to all four of the stops.

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For more information, contact Anne Haley at [anne@norwoodma150.gov](mailto:anne@norwoodma150.gov).

The Tribute moves to Norwood High School at 3:00 pm, where the Parkway Concert Orchestra will deliver a celebration of Norwood through music. In addition to famous and familiar scores by Sergei Rachmaninoff, Edward Elgar, Georges Bizet, and Aaron Copland, the event will salute veterans with a special performance of Richard Rodgers's *Victory at Sea*.

Based in Norwood, the Parkway Concert Orchestra was founded by West Roxbury music teacher Ferdinand Fassnacht in 1945 and continues to this day under the direction of Thomas G. Kociela, who is also the music director of the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra. Orchestra members reside in Norwood and surrounding communities and range in age from their teens to their eighties. For more information, visit the orchestra's website at [www.ParkwayConcertOrchestra.org](http://www.ParkwayConcertOrchestra.org).

This concert is sponsored by the Norwood 150 Committee and is supported in part by a grant from the Norwood Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

On Saturday, May 28, at 8:00 am, flags will be placed on veterans' graves at Highland Cemetery, 320 Winter Street. At 3:00 pm, the new Vietnam Veterans' Memorial will be dedicated at the corner of East Hoyle Street and Washington Street. The black granite bench will be inscribed with the names of the nine Norwood men who died during the war. The keynote speaker at the dedication will be retired Navy Captain Thomas G. Kelley from South Boston, a winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

On Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day), activities will begin with a memorial service at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 549 Washington Street, at 8:00 am. At 9:00 am, the American flag on the Town Common will be raised and flown at half-staff. Ceremonies will then be held at the Old Parish Cemetery, 480 Washington Street, at 9:30 am.

Participants in the Memorial Day parade will then muster across the street at the corner of Washington and Howard Streets, and the parade will step off at 10:00 am.

The parade will feature Police and Fire Honor Guards, Norwood veterans, the Norwood High School Marching Band, the Colonial Boys Fife and Drum Band, the Colonial Pipers Bagpipe Band, and the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Brownies.

The parade will conclude at Highland Cemetery, where the final ceremonies of the day's event will take place at 11:00 am. For more information, contact Norwood's Veterans' Services Director Ted Mulvehill at [tmulvehill@norwoodma.gov](mailto:tmulvehill@norwoodma.gov).

The tributes of this week naturally emphasize those who have served comparatively recently. Norwood also has many signs, plaques, statues, and other objects that honor Norwood veterans of all eras and are available year-round.

The attachment to this press release and the references cited below list and link to information on these many sites honoring Norwood veterans. Between the veterans tribute activities on May 22 and the Memorial Day weekend activities on May 28-30, you would have time to tour the scores of year-round sites. The website [www.norwoodthenandnow.com/honoring-norwoods-veterans](http://www.norwoodthenandnow.com/honoring-norwoods-veterans) has a long article on these sites of honor. The attachment to this press release lists the sites as well as veterans organizations and agencies and when they were created. The website [www.norwoodthenandnow.com/honoring-norwoods-veterans](http://www.norwoodthenandnow.com/honoring-norwoods-veterans) has a long article

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The Norwood Historical Society's on-line archive of includes a number of relevant stories and can be located at <https://norwoodhistoricalsociety.org/category/military>. Earlier in May, other important Norwood 150<sup>th</sup> events will take place. First, on Saturday, May 7, the Norwood Evening Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale at Hawes Pool Park, 1269 Washington Street, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. For more information, contact [webmaster@norwoodeveninggardenclub.com](mailto:webmaster@norwoodeveninggardenclub.com).

On Tuesday, May 17, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, the Norwood Historical Society will present a book discussion event on Patricia Fanning's *Influenza and Inequality*. This will be an on-line event. Learn more or register at [info@norwoodhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@norwoodhistoricalsociety.org).

On Saturday May 21, the Friends of Visual Arts of Norwood will host a community art-making event, specifically yard art, at the Civic Center, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. (Yard art is when you decorate your yard, front porch, windows and doors.) The May 21 event is an opportunity to find out more about yard art, brainstorm ideas, pick up supplies, or make something for your Yard Art display. The first 25 groups to arrive will receive free yard art kits. (For more information, contact [fovaart4u@gmail.com](mailto:fovaart4u@gmail.com).) You can attend this event to learn how to add "curb appeal" to your own property or specifically to get ideas to enter your own yard in Norwood's Yard Art competition, to be held June 11 and 12.

Register for the competition at <https://forms.gle/toN4TGCFdzNURo4P8>.

Attachment to May Press Release from Norwood 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Veteran Recognition Sites in Norwood and  
Veterans Services Organizations and Agencies

Year	Site, Individual, Group, Organization or Agency	Where Located
Colonial Wars (1636-1774)	Residents from what would become Norwood who served in the war.	Plaque with list of individuals in Town Hall
Revolutionary War (1775-1783)	Residents from what would become Norwood who served in the war.	Plaque with list of individuals in Town Hall
War of 1812 (1812-1814)	Resident from what would become Norwood who served in the war.	Plaque with name of individual in Town Hall
Civil War (1861-1865)  1861  1884  1886 188x  1902  1913	Residents from what would become Norwood who served in the war.  Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services  Grand Army of the Republic, George K. Bird Post #169 George K. Bird, Women's Relief Corps, #78 Sons of Union Veterans, Charles D. Force Camp #66 Sons of Union Veterans, Nelson R. Stevens Camp #47 Daughters of Union Veterans, Mary Holland Tent #55	Plaque with list of individuals in Town Hall
Spanish War 1898	Norwood residents who served in the war.	Plaque with list of individuals in Town Hall

Attachment to May Press Release from Norwood 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (continued)

Veteran Recognition Sites in Norwood and  
Veterans Services Organizations and Agencies

Year	Site, Individual, Group, Organization or Agency	Where Located
<p>World War I (1914-1918)</p> <p>1919</p> <p>March 7, 1917</p>	<p>Norwood residents who served in "The World War."</p> <p>Serving with an army ambulance unit, Norwood's George H. Smith, Jr. receives the French Croix de Guerre.</p> <p>Norwood's Fallen Heroes of World War I In 1918, Private Bert B. Windhal becomes Norwood's first casualty in World War I.</p> <p>Town Meeting passes a resolution calling on President Woodrow Wilson to make "immediate preparations against the contingencies of war."</p>	<p>Plaque with list of individuals in Town Hall</p> <p>Plaque in Town Hall says "They have won the right to be remembered"</p>
<p>1919</p> <p>1921</p> <p>1921</p> <p>1930</p> <p>1932</p>	<p>American Legion and Norwood's Post #70 of the American Legion are both founded.</p> <p>American Legion Auxiliary of Post #70 is founded for mothers, daughters, sisters and wives of members of Post #70.</p> <p>U.S. government founds the Veterans Bureau to administer benefit programs, primarily for veterans of World War I. Renamed Veterans Administration in 1930. Renamed U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in 1989.</p> <p>The Norwood Armory is dedicated. It will later be converted to the Civic Center.</p> <p>Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.A., Norwood Post #2452 and auxiliary (for wives and friends of members) are all founded.</p>	







Attachment to May Press Release from Norwood 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (continued)

Veteran Recognition Sites in Norwood and Veterans Services Organizations and Agencies

Year	Site, Individual, Group, Organization or Agency	Where Located
<p>Street signs and other memorials honoring Norwood natives killed in World War II (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Private First Class Ralph E. Shackley Pleasant &amp; East Cross Sts</li> <li>❖ Private First Class Norman D. Smith Lenox St &amp; Plimpton Ave</li> <li>❖ Midshipman Peter J. Smith St. James Ave &amp; Washington St</li> <li>❖ Private First Class Anthony P. Stasis Upton &amp; Washington Sts</li> <li>❖ Aviation Radioman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Harold F. Stewart Nahatan &amp; Central Sts</li> <li>❖ Sergeant Edward P. Utorka St. Paul Ave &amp; Washington St</li> <li>❖ Private First Class Michael J. Wallace Nahatan &amp; Summit Aves</li> <li>❖ Private Horace G. Webber Railroad Ave &amp; School St</li> <li>❖ Marine Corps Engineer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class John G. Winslow Walpole &amp; Berwick Sts</li> <li>❖ Marine Ensign Eng 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Robert T. Winslow Walpole &amp; Berwick Sts</li> </ul>		
<p>Korean Conflict (1950-1953)</p> <p>1951</p> <p>1953</p>	<p>The Norwood Veterans Council is founded as a resource to help coordinate five Norwood veterans organizations with branches in Norwood – American Legion, VFW, Marine Corps League, Disabled American Veterans, and AMVETS</p> <p>First mention of AMVETS, Norwood Post #153</p>	
<p>Street signs and other memorials honoring Norwood natives killed in the Korean Conflict.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Lloyd Batten (rank not reported) (on a rock) Nichols &amp; Shattuck Park Rds</li> <li>❖ John A. Farren III (rank not reported) (on a rock) Nichols &amp; Shattuck Park Rds</li> <li>❖ Corporal Joseph M. Lamb Prospect &amp; Irving Sts</li> <li>❖ Colonel George T. Lee Nahatan Street Bridge</li> <li>❖ Donald H. Taylor (rank not reported) Pleasant &amp; Neponset Sts</li> </ul>		



