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Mid-June 2022

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***Norwood's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Big Events***

Norwood's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary schedule of events is expanding so fast we need two press releases per month to keep pace. This is the mid-June press release.

The Town of Norwood will welcome the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and Conductor Keith Lockhart for a performance in celebration of the town's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The concert will be held on Sunday, June 26, at 4 pm, with gates opening at 1 pm, on the Norwood Town Common, Central Street.

Tickets are free but available to Norwood residents only. Tickets are limited and residents will be allowed only four tickets per household. Tickets can be reserved online beginning Saturday, June 11, at 9 am on the Recreation Department's MyRec site. Residents are encouraged to create a MyRec account or access their existing MyRec site as soon as possible to prevent any delay in reserving tickets. A ticket receipt will be emailed to the address provided, and physical tickets can be picked up at the Morrill Memorial Library, 33 Walpole Street, between noon, Monday, June 13, and 5 pm, Saturday, June 18. Residents must bring the emailed ticket receipt and proof of residency in order to receive the tickets. Tickets not picked up by 5 pm on June 18 may be forfeited. Tickets will be checked at the gates and no entry will be allowed without a physical ticket.

The Norwood Historical Society will conduct seven History Walking Tours, all on Tuesday evenings between 6:00 and 7:30 pm.

- On June 21, the tour of Upper South Norwood will begin at the Balch School, 1170 Washington Street.
- On June 28, the tour of Lower South Norwood will begin at the Morse House, located at 1285 Washington Street.
- On July 12, the tour of Swedeville will begin at the parking lot of the medical building at 95 Chapel Street.
- On July 19, the tour of Germantown will begin at the Little League baseball field at 1315 Washington Street.
- On July 26, the tour of Christian Hill will begin at Day House at 93 Day Street.
- On August 2, the tour of Guild Square will begin at the parking lot of the First Congregational Church at 100 Winter Street.
- On August 9, the tour of Town Common will begin at the parking lot behind Town Hall at 566 Washington Street.

Norwood's 2022 celebration of the Fourth of July will begin at 1:00 pm with the Children's Bicycle, Tricycle, Doll Carriage and Historical Character Parade, running from the First Congregational Church at Walpole and Winter Streets to the Town Common. Participants will decorate their vehicles or themselves as historical characters. The fee to participate is \$1.00. Every participating child will receive a festive t-shirt and participation ribbon. Winners – those judged to have the best decorations on their vehicles or themselves – will be invited to ride in the parade.

At 2:00 pm, the Old Parish Preservation Volunteers (OPPV) and Progress Norwood will sponsor a reading of "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?", a July 1852 speech by abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass. The reading is free and will be presented at the Old Parish Cemetery at Washington and Railroad Streets.

At 2:30 pm, Norwood's Lee Leach and Margaret Angelini from Wellesley College will conduct the Independence Day Carillon Concert. During the concert, tours of the magnificent 50-bell carillon in Memorial Hall will be conducted.

At 5:00 pm, Norwood's annual Firecracker 5K Road Race will take place. Aspiring runners can obtain applications at Town Hall, the Civic Center, or the Library, or on-line at Racewire.com.

After the Road Race, at 5:30 pm, there will be an Eastern Massachusetts Fire Truck Procession, including Antique and Classic Cars and Historic Military Reenactments.

Also after the Road Race and probably after the Procession, Norwood's Fourth of July Parade Spectacular will kick off, featuring more than 14 bands and music and dance groups, including the Colonial Boys, the Colonial Pipers, and the Cycling Murrays, as well as many floats and community groups. Parade participants and veteran parade-watchers will already have taken their positions earlier.

Still upcoming and listed in our first June press release are the following:

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. 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.

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).

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.

On Sunday, June 26, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, the Norwood Challenger Baseball Program will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Challenger Little League versus Alumni game, at Kelley Field, behind the Coakley School, 1315 Washington Street.