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The Patriot Ledger

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HAWKS SOAR INTO THE FINAL 4



More inside

'Indescribable' run pushes Hanover boys basketball to Div. 3 semifinal. **1B**

ABOVE: Hanover's Ryan Mutschler hoists the semifinal trophy after a game against Medfield on March 7.

AT LEFT: Hanover's Sebastian Brown signs autographs for young fans after a game against Medfield in the Division 3 Elite Eight at Hanover High School on March 7.

PHOTOS BY JASON SNOW/
THE PATRIOT LEDGER

Rockland nursing home reopens

Firefighters and Webster Park staff honored

Chris Helms

The Enterprise
USA TODAY NETWORK

ROCKLAND — Robert Williams heard the alarm. He poked his head out of the third-floor room he shared with his wife, Virginia. He saw smoke a few doors down.

It was the beginning of the Nov. 29, 2025, evacuation of Webster Park Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center. Soon, he found himself being carried down flights of stairs by Rockland firefighters.

"It was scary," Williams said at a Thursday, March 5 luncheon to honor first responders and nursing home staff who managed to get all 102 patients and residents to safety during the fire.

Rockland Fire Chief Scott Duffey called them "two groups of true heroes that I'm very proud of." He noted that while the firefighters had years of training, protective clothing and air tanks, staffers did not. It made no difference, he said. They worked side-by-side, even in the smoky areas, to clear the nursing home.

"I actually saw one of the staff carrying a patient over their back in a fireman's carry," Duffey said. "Just really heroic stuff."

Nursing home staff were 'relentless'

"The staff here was just relentless," said Rockland Fire Lt. Daniel DelPrete as he gave an account of the five-hour evacuation.

See **STAFF**, Page 2A

St. Patrick's Day parades won't be held in March

Scott Bowdridge

The Patriot Ledger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two of the South Shore's biggest St. Patrick's Day celebrations are being postponed this year because of all the

snow.

These storms are just the gift that keeps on giving. This does not feel like the luck of the Irish.

Annual St. Patrick's Day parades in Abington and Scituate are sure signs each year that winter is starting to lose

its grip on the region and that spring is about to bring its warmth to the South Shore.

But after the conditions South Shore residents have faced this winter — with significant snowfall and prolonged, biting cold — you'll have to wait a little long-

er for these particular signs.

Due to snow piles still plaguing the sides of the parade-route roads in each town, the events that were originally scheduled to be held Sunday, March 15,

See **PARADES**, Page 2A



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