

TOWN OF SUDBURY Town Manager Newsletter April/May 2015

Message from the Town Manager

With Annual Town Meeting underway, staff, committee members and petitioners are putting the finishing touches on their presentations. Months of preparations will culminate in informed discussion and decisions for the coming year and beyond. More information on all of the Town Meeting Articles can be found in the <u>2015 Official Warrant</u>. This will be the first Town Meeting moderated by Michael Fee, who was elected during this year's Annual Town Election. Please take a moment to read over the very informative <u>message</u>. Michael has made available on the Town's website.

Monday, May 4 is the first night of Annual Town Meeting, and Special Town Meeting begins on Tuesday, May 5. Annual Town Meeting will resume after the conclusion of Special Town Meeting, and

continue until all articles have been voted on (however many nights that may take). Residents unable to attend the duration of a meeting night can watch the meeting live or On Demand at <u>Sudbury TV</u>.

Following the final night of Town Meeting, the Town Clerk will swear in town officials elected at the March 30 Annual Town Election. At the election, one Board of Selectmen seat was decided by one vote, serving as an excellent reminder that every vote counts. Because the race was so close, a recount was petitioned and held on April 14. The Town Clerk's office ensured a thorough and transparent recount process, the result of which were the same as the original tally.

The 2014 Annual Town Report is now available on the Town website. The Report is a recap of Town department, board and committee activities from the past year. You can find contact information for elected officials, summaries of public meetings, financial details and even some great photos. The report is easy to navigate via the pdf version of the report on the Town website, just go to the Table of



Contents and click on the section you'd like to view; the document will take you there without any need for flipping pages or scrolling. Hard copies of the Report, for those who need them, are available at the Selectmen's Office, Town Clerk's Office and Goodnow Library.

The Sudbury Listening Project culminated with a <u>Final Report</u> and presentation on Sunday, May 3. Seanan Fong and Jiayun Ho of the Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program spent two months conducting interviews, focus groups, and surveys in order to "explore and understand the state of



public discourse on town matters in Sudbury." The report offers valuable insights and tools aimed at helping facilitate communication.

Earlier in April, The Town of Sudbury was awarded the <u>Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in</u> <u>Financial Reporting</u> by the Government Finance Officers Association for the <u>FY13 Comprehensive</u> <u>Annual Financial Report</u>. The certificate is awarded to those governments that "go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure" – quite a distinction! Congratulations to the Finance department for this impressive achievement.

Sincerely, Maryanne Bilodeau, Interim Town Manager

From the Selectmen's Office

Much of the business of Board of Selectmen meetings in April revolved around Town Meeting preparation – hearing from staff and committees to determine the Board's position on articles, assigning presentations, discussing petition articles, signing the warrant and other actions pertaining to both the Annual and Special Town Meetings.

On March 24, in addition to Town Meeting matters, the Board signed a proclamation acknowledging May as Military Appreciation Month, voted to approve to continue offering the Opt-Out Incentive Program through 6/30/17 and approved several special events occurring in Sudbury, including American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Patriots Day Parade, and Boston Brain Tumor Ride.

Members were appointed to newly formed Town Hall Blue Ribbon Committee at both the April 7 and 14 meetings, and the Sudbury Housing Trust had a new member appointed on April 7. Public Hearings for the Erica's Restaurant application for an All Alcohol Restaurant License were held on April 7 and 28. On April 17, the Board voted to meet with Town Manager search firms on May 13, 2015 and to apply for a grant to offset costs for construction of a left turn lane on Hudson Road entering the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge.



Show Right: April 30, 2015 was proclaimed Harold R. Cutler Day in Sudbury. Selectmen Len Simon, Bob Haarde and Pat Brown; Retiring Call Firefighter Hal Cutler, Chairman Chuck Woodard and Fire Chief Bill Miles at the April 28, 2015 Board of Selectmen meeting when the proclamation was made.

Please note: The above description reflects the agenda items that received the most time at Board meetings. They are not meant to be exhaustive of materials received by the Board or all comments on agenda items. For further meeting details, please go to SudburyTV.org to replay the meeting or view the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes, found at https://sudbury.ma.us.



Board of Health

Tick Tips

Tick-borne illness is becoming more prevalent, especially in this part of the country. Ticks may carry germs that cause disease. Ticks are generally found in wooded brushy habitats, near the ground. Spring,

summer, and fall are the seasons of high Protect yourself, your family, and pets outdoors. Remember you don't have to it can happen in your own backyard.



risk for tick bites and transmission of disease. by taking a few precautions while enjoying the be walking in the woods to be bitten by a tick,

- Check yourself for ticks daily. It can take 24 hours for an infected tick to spread disease.
- Use repellents that contain DEET on exposed skin.
- Stick to main paths that are brush and tall grass free.
- Wear long sleeve and light colored clothing, tuck socks into pants to make it easier to spot ticks.
- Remove ticks attached at once.

If you suspect you have a tick-borne disease, consult your physician immediately. For more information, go to: www.mass.gov/dph/tick

Submitted by: Phyllis Schilp, RN

Home Repairs for Properties Affected by Ice Dams

Hundreds of insurance claims have been made as a result of ice dams and water infiltration due to the severe weather this past winter. Homeowners often ask what is the proper way to repair the damage and eliminate mold growth.



The Environmental Protection Agency provides a document for schools and

commercial buildings that can easy be applied to residential homes. These are guidelines, not regulations or requirements. All work performed by homeowners and contractors should adhere to current building codes and regulations. To view the guidelines, please visit: http://www.epa.gov/mold/table2.html Submitted by: William Murphy, Health Director

Building Department

Well, it's finally starting to warm up after such a record breaking winter. With spring, the Building Department spends time on the annual inspections for the houses of worship and the daycares in town. We also see more activity in building and renovation projects. Dudley Brook Preserve project on Tall Pine Drive is close to 80% complete, while the Arboretum Way subdivision is gearing up for a busy summer with all of the lots committed for construction. The Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School solar canopy structures (show right) are erected and the solar panels will be installed soon.

Submitted by: Mark Herweck, Inspector of Buildings





Department of Public Works

Street Sweeping

It's a sure sign of spring when we the sweeper is out cleaning intersections and parking lots. We begin the season by sweeping the sidewalks. Town and school parking lots are swept during the week of school vacation. We will begin sweeping the streets in South Sudbury then head in a northerly direction.



You may have noticed that dig safe has been out marking the utilities in the town center in anticipation of the intersection reconstruction. The next step will be the installation of the erosion control materials around the wetland areas before the drainage construction can begin.

Submitted by: Bill Place, Director of Public Works



Facilities Department

What should the Town do with the old Police Station?

Once the new police station is complete later this year, the Town must decide what should be done with the current station at 415 Boston Post Road. The Board of Selectmen over the next few months will begin collecting ideas on how best to move forward and they need your input. The Planning and Community Development Department requested comments and recommendations on what to do with the old police station at 415 Boston

Post Road once the new one is complete. A survey was posted on the Town's website asking residents for their opinions.

Results of the survey are available at <u>https://sudbury.ma.us/pcd/wp-</u> content/uploads/sites/326/2015/04/Old-Police-Station-Reuse-Survey-Final-Results.pdf

Submitted by: Jim Kelly, Combined Facilities Director



Fire Department

Call Firefighter Harold R. Cutler's Retirement

The unofficial start of Harold Cutler's firefighting career came in April of 1965 when Hal and his brother Charlie helped put out a brush fire on Wayside Inn Road. After commending Hal for his actions at that fire and realizing Hal was hooked, Chief Albert St Germain appointed Hal as an Auxiliary Firefighter on May 29, 1966, and as a Call Firefighter on February 9, 1967. When Hal retired early this year, he was in his 50th year of service with us.

It is difficult to describe each and every contribution Hal has made to the citizens of our town. Hal was one of the earliest **Emergency Medical Technicians** in the State, so along with responding to fire calls, he helped out on all kinds of medical emergencies. Using the skills of his "day job" as a Fire Protection Engineer, he not only helped us put the fires out, but was often called upon to help us determine the cause and origin of the fire. It should be noted that in addition to helping us at the exciting incidents, Hal donated countless hours when the tasks were not so exciting, such as standing by when stations needed to be covered while our on duty personnel were deployed at incidents.

On a personal note, I would add that Harold always conducted himself as a perfect gentleman around the firehouse. Sometimes the tasks were difficult and not



very glamorous, yet he always struck a positive note. He always helped.

Public service can take many forms, but the Sudbury Fire Department and the citizens of Sudbury have witnessed an incredible display of public service at its finest. The Sudbury Fire Department and the Board of Selectmen recognized the service of Call Firefighter Harold R. Cutler during the Selectmen's meeting on the evening of April 28, 2015, proclaiming April 30, 2015 as Harold R. Cutler Day in Sudbury.

Submitted by: William L. Miles, Fire Chief



Goodnow Library

Goodnow Library: The Best Deal in Town?

As we draw near to Annual Town Meeting, our thoughts turn to the value of the service provided for our tax dollars. You may not realize it, but the library is a great deal, not only in the free services we provide, the many thousands of books, movies and music we loan, and the warm and welcoming space that anyone in the community can enjoy, but we do it all "on a dime." Did you know that library expenses equal about 1.3% of the town's total operating budget, or approximately \$280 a year per household? Compare that with the value you and your family gets from Goodnow. If you borrow one book and one movie a month and borrow 5 museum passes, in one year the value of that is \$436 and you have gotten twice what you have put in. If you are like many people, you borrow much more than that and use other services. We are proud to be your community resource for free learning, inexpensive entertainment alternatives, inspirational working space, and social gathering place.

Every Child Ready To Read

Did you know that our children's programs are designed to develop early literacy skills that help your child build a foundation for academic excellence? Because they serve children for years before they begin

school, public libraries have many opportunities to provide early literacy and learning experiences. The American Library Association's Every Child Ready To Read program is an excellent, research-based toolkit for librarians, teachers and parents that clearly express the need for early literacy practice and skill-building from birth, and how easy it is to adapt these things into everyday life. Children's reading success in school starts with positive language and literacy experiences beginning at birth. If children develop pre-reading skills before they start kindergarten, they can focus on learning to read once they begin school. Children who start kindergarten ready to learn to read have greater success throughout their school years. They are more likely to read at or above grade level by the end of 2nd grade. Children who read at or above grade level by the end of 4th grade are much more likely to graduate from high school and be successful readers and learners throughout their life. In January, our children's department staff

launched a 12 month ECRR curriculum in conjunction with story time. If you would like to learn more about this program, visit www.everychildreadytoread.org.

May Events at the Library

The library will continue to celebrate the Town's 375th on Saturday May 31 at 2:00 PM with a program by authors Bill and Mary Lewis, authors of the historical travel guides Through the Heartland on U.S. 20, will discuss their travels and the places of significance off this scenic route through Massachusetts, part of a coast-to-coast journey on U.S. Route 20. The discussion will be followed by a book-signing and is free and open to the public.

Submitted by: Esmé Green, Library Director







Park and Recreation

Spring 2015 Programs & Upcoming Registrations

Our brochure is now available! Go online to download your own copy <u>Program Brochure</u>! <u>https://sudbury.ma.us/recreation/wp-content/uploads/sites/335/2015/03/Spring-2015-for-web.pdf</u>

Recreation Registration: Wednesday, April 1 at 9:00 AM

Pool Registration: Pool Members: Tuesday, April 14 at 9:00 AM Non-Members: Thursday, April 16 at 9:00 AM

NEW Spring Programs

Preschool Programs: Beginner Gymnastics, Kids Rock Music Class, Micro Wheels, Mini Movers, Art in the Afternoon, Creative Movement, US Sports T-ball Squirts, Science and Nature Exploration, US Sports Golf Squirts

Youth Programs: Empow Studios Video Game Design, Empow Studios Lego Engineering, Lower and Upper Primary Drama Kids, F.A.S.T. Super Sports, US Sports First Play Lacrosse, F.A.S.T. Flag Football, Jazz Dance, NiteHawks Track & Field



Tweens and Teens Programs: NiteHawks Track, Empow Studios Lego Robotics, Empow Studios Video Game Design, Teen Yoga, Art Exploration

Adult Programs: Applied Pilates, Outdoor Yoga, Dodgeball Nights, Guitar Class for Beginners

Summer Camps and Clinics

Registration for all of our summer camps and clinics is in full swing. We have openings in lots of great programs! Go to the town website to download the <u>Summer Camps and Clinics brochure</u>. Please note: If a program is full, we urge you to add your child to the wait list in the event that openings do become available.

Pool News

Click here for the complete pool schedule: Pool Schedule

Springboard Dive Lessons are back!!!! We are offering three different sessions in April, May and June. Sign-ups are underway. All three sessions are being coached by two-time Olympic Medalist Maryellen Clark.

NEW - Individual Stroke Clinics. These are for anyone ages 7 & up. Each week we will focus on a specific stroke or skill in a 45 minute session. Look in the Spring brochure for specific schedules. This is



a great chance to work on and focus on a specific area or weakness. For further information contact John Barrett at 978-443-1092.

The month of May marks the start of our 13th Annual Swimmer Fitness Challenge. Choose one of 5 bodies of water to do a virtual swim. Sign-up, come in and swim and we will do the rest. All you have to do is stop by the Front Desk and record the distance of that day's workout and we will chart it for you and you will be able to see your progress each time you come in. Stop by the front desk for more information and any questions.

Now Hiring

The Atkinson Pool is seeking energetic and enthusiastic certified lifeguards & water safety instructors to join our team! For more information contact John Barrett, Assistant Aquatics Director, at 978-443-1092.

Division 1 State Champions

Congratulations to the Lincoln-Sudbury Girls' Swim & Dive team for winning the Division 1 State Championship during the recently completed swim season. This is the girl's third state championship in the last six years.

What do you want to see at Teen Center?



We are always looking for ways to keep kids interested and remain relevant to the community. We welcome any comments or suggestions you may have. Email: teencenter@sudbury.ma.us.

Submitted by: Nancy McShea, Park, Recreation, and Aquatics Director

Planning and Community Development Department

Police Station Reuse Survey

Below are the final results of the Old Police Station Reuse survey which was conducted on the Town's website from March 24, 2015 to April 21, 2015. During that time, the survey collected 175 responses. Each respondent was allowed to select whether they strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed, strongly disagreed, or had no opinion on the following proposed options for the old police station property:

- The Town should sell to a private buyer for commercial use.
- The Town should lease the building for commercial use and retain ownership.
- The Town should close the building and wait for a new municipal use to be identified.
- The Town should demolish the building and create open space.
- The Town should demolish the building and wait for a new municipal use to be identified.

The charts below illustrates what respondents believe are the best options to proceed with the reuse of this property.



The charts below illustrates what respondents believe is the least attractive option to proceed with the reuse of this property.



STRONGLY DISAGREE TO DISAGREE

Submitted by: James S. Kupfer, Assistant Town Planner



Police Department

DARE Program Reinvented as STARS

Students Thinking and Acting Responsibly in Sudbury (STARS) has replaced the DARE program in the fifth-grade learning plan. STARS was developed through collaboration between Sudbury Public Schools and the Police Department. The program encompasses the aspects of positive decision-making contained within the DARE curriculum while adding, enhancing and updating the lessons for today's issues. For more details, please visit: https://www.schoolsafetyinfo.org/stars.html

Police Station Construction

Construction on the new police station continues. As we all know, the winter was an obstacle for everyone, but Hutter Construction persevered erecting the exterior walls with framing beginning the week March 30th.



Annual Town Meeting

The safety of our children will always be a top priority of our department. To that end we continually reassess how to improve not only the learning environment but also enhance the safety of the school buildings. Combined Facilities Director Jim Kelly and I are presenting a Town Meeting Article surrounding the improvement of building access as well as monitoring the exterior with video surveillance. We look forward to the presentation.

Criminal Investigations Training Program

Police Detective Ken Hanchett attended a Basic Criminal Investigator Training Program from March 16-26, 2015. For more details, please view <u>NEMLEC Police Foundation</u> press release at: <u>http://nemlecfoundation.org/2015/04/02/photos-nemlec-foundation-sponsors-criminal-investigations-training-program/</u>

Acton Woman Convicted Of Distributing "N-Bomb"

The Sudbury Police Department provided assistance in a local drug investigation. For more details, please view <u>US Attorney's Office</u> press release at:

http://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/acton-woman-convicted-distributing-n-bomb

Submitted by: Scott Nix, Chief of Police



Town Clerk's Office

Annual Town Election

The Annual Town Election was held on Monday, March 30. There were 3,293 votes cast, representing about 28% of the Town's 11,915 registered voters. Please see our website for the <u>results</u>.

The Board of Registrars of Voters received a timely, valid petition signed by the requisite number of registered voters seeking to recount the votes cast for the office of Board of Selectmen (3-yr term) at the

March 30, 2015 Annual Town Election. The Board voted to schedule the recount for 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at Sudbury Town Hall.

In addition to the Board of Registrars, present at the recount were the candidates and/or their representatives, the candidates' observers, and workers responsible for the tallying of votes. Each person conducted himself/herself with a high level of decorum, which allowed the recount to proceed at an even pace, making it possible for all involved



Shown above: The recount in progress. Image provided by Ralph Tyler.

to participate, observe, and understand each step of the process. Everyone did an excellent job. Click here for the <u>recount results.</u>

What to Expect When You Get to Town Meeting

As mentioned previously in the newsletter, Annual Town Meeting is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 4, 2015, at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School (L-S). The Town Clerk's Office's primary responsibilities regarding Town Meeting are related to the recording of the meeting, certifying results, reporting to State agencies, submitting bylaw changes to the Attorney General's office, updating bylaws upon approval and publishing the Proceedings for 2015. However, we also coordinate the check-in process for voters and in that capacity would like to share what you can expect upon your arrival.

Upon entering L-S, you will be greeted by a friendly staff who may look familiar to you because they are part of our dedicated crew of trained election workers. The check-in tables are similar to those at an election, organized by precinct, then alphabetically by street name. If you are a registered Sudbury voter (as of Tuesday, April 14), upon checking in, you will be given a colored card for the purposes of voting. We encourage you to hold on to your card tightly as <u>lost cards will not be replaced</u>. You are required to sign-in upon arrival each evening of Town Meeting in order to receive that evening's colored card and to be eligible to vote.

Please allow a few extra minutes for checking in on the second night of Town Meeting, Tuesday, May 5, as you will be guided through the additional check-in procedures associated with the opening of the Special Town Meeting.

Individuals who are not registered voters in Sudbury may attend Town Meeting but will be asked to sit in the back row of the hall and may not vote.



The results of each adjourned session of Town Meeting will be posted the following morning on the Town Website.

Special Town Election

A Special Town Election will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information, including a copy of the specimen ballot and polling locations, please visit our <u>website</u>.

Census & Dogs

There have been more than 6,200 census forms and over 2,290 dog licenses processed since the first mailing was sent out in January. If you have not returned your census form, you are encouraged to do so either by mail or hand-delivering it to one of the drop-off boxes located at Town Hall (322 Concord Road). For information on how to license a dog, including associated fees, please see our <u>website</u>.

Submitted by: Veronica W. Craven, Asst. Town Clerk

Annual Roadside Cleanup Day 2015

Join your friends and neighbors in Sudbury's **Annual Roadside Cleanup** and general beautification of Sudbury roads, public areas and parks. We need everyone's help in this important effort. Each year, Sudbury civic groups, businesses and residents volunteer their time and energy to pick up litter all over town.

This year, Cleanup Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 2015.

This year, a web-based "Adopt a Street" program will be used for sign up. Participants can visit the Town website, click on the "<u>Roadside Cleanup Day - Adopt a Street</u>" link and select their desired location (<u>http://www.mapsonline.net/sudburyma/town_cleanup.html</u>).

With the new program, it will not be necessary to provide assignments on the day of cleanup since a map of all reserved and available spots is already online! **Unlike in past years, there will <u>not</u> be a table at Town Hall for bag distribution on May 9.** We encourage volunteers to please use their own bags – no special type is required. Those who do not wish to use their own may pick up bags beforehand at the

Board of Selectmen's office.

A reminder to high school student (and their friends and relatives), your volunteer hours on Cleanup Day are eligible for Community Service credit.



The Town is grateful for the work of all those who have volunteered and are hoping for another great turnout in 2015!