

# TOWN OF SUDBURY

## Town Manager Newsletter

### July 2015

#### Message from the Town Manager

##### Welcome Andrew Vanni

I am pleased to announce that, after a lengthy search and recruitment process, Andrew Vanni of Medford has been appointed Finance Director/Treasurer Collector for the Town of Sudbury. Andrew has most recently served as Finance Director for the City of Haverhill and previously as Chief Financial Officer for the Town of Middleton. Mr. Vanni comes with extensive experience and expertise in municipal finance and his skills and knowledge concerning financial matters will be immediately put to use to benefit the citizens and the Town of Sudbury.

##### Summer Schedule in August

Like last year, many offices will be following a summer schedule of work hours for a four-day compressed workweek this August. Employees will work the same number of hours each week by working extended hours Monday through Thursday.

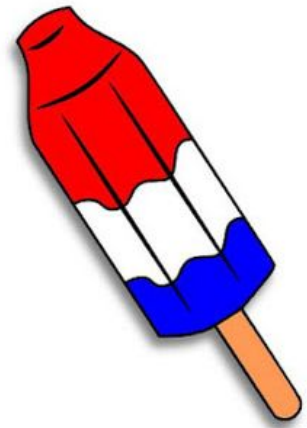
The revised schedule will begin Monday, August 3, 2015, and will only affect offices in Town Hall and the Flynn Building. All offices in these two buildings will be closed on Friday, August 7, 14, 21, 28. Offices will be open to serve the public as follows: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Friday closed. Currently, most of the offices in these buildings open for business at 8:30 a.m. and close to the public at 4:00 p.m.

The following Town departments will be following this compressed schedule: Assessor, Human Resources, Planning and Community Development, Selectmen/Town Manager, Tax Collector/Treasurer, Town Accountant, Town Clerk, Veteran's Agent

The following offices will NOT be observing the summer schedule and will be operating on regular hours: Atkinson Pool, Board of Health, Building Department, Conservation, Council on Aging, Engineering, Fire Department, Goodnow Library, Highway Department, Police Department and Recreation Department.

All offices will return to their regular Monday - Friday schedule beginning Monday, August 31st.

*Sincerely, Maryanne Bilodeau, Interim Town Manager*





## From the Selectmen's Office

At the [June 23 Board meeting](#), the Board voted to decrease the professional liability insurance aggregate amount of the agreement with Municipal Resources, Inc; to add the Town of Burlington as an "Additional Community" to the Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Regional Housing Services Office and to begin the process of finding a qualified environmental engineering firm to report on the status of the Sperry Rand/Unisys contamination and its impact on the Melone property. Other votes included Release of a Town Counsel opinion, approving the roles of Board of Selectmen Chair and Vice Chair and rescheduling the August 18 meeting to August 20 as well as designating Len Simon as Acting Board Chairman for August 9-11, to accommodate Board members' schedules.

In response to recommendations from the [Sudbury Listening Project Spring 2015 Report](#), the Board met with Jon Wortmann on [June 29](#). The goal of the meeting (and future meetings with Wortmann) is to provide tools to enable Board members to argue and disagree while continuing to work together as "teammates." This was the first of four meetings in which the Board will take part. The cost of the meetings is funded by a grant from the Sudbury Foundation.

On [July 14](#), the Board approved Chili Basil's application to change to a Wine, Malt & Cordials Only License (they currently hold an All Alcohol License). The Board voted to submit an application for a PARC grant for renovations to Davis Field. If the grant is awarded, a condition of receiving the funds is approval of the project at the next Town Meeting. The interest rate for senior tax deferral was set as 2% for FY16 (the same as the FY15 rate). Municipal Resources, Inc. was asked to present the Board with candidates for Town Manager, with input from an interview panel. A resolution opposing the proposed Minuteman High School Building Project and proposed District-wide election was also voted.

The upcoming summer meetings for the Board are July 28 and August 20.

*Please note: The above description reflects some of the agenda items discussed at recent 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](http://SudburyTV.org) to replay the meeting or view the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes, found at:*

*<https://sudbury.ma.us/boardofselectmen/meetings/>.*



### ***Scenes from the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade***

*Left: Selectmen Simon, Brown and Iuliano (left to right) taking part in the parade.*

*Middle: A float reflecting the "Sudbury Goes Hawaiian" theme*

*Right: A colonial-style fife & drum band*

*All photos courtesy of resident Debbie Keeney*



## Building Inspection Department

July has been a very busy month for building permits and inspections. We have received many applications for repairs after the record-breaking winter.

At 430 Boston Post Road, the old auto body and repair garage has been removed, making way for the new bank.



Permit applications have been received for the new subdivision on North Road called North Ridge Farm. Numbers 18 and 22 Anthony Drive will be the first homes to be built there.

*Submitted by: Mark Herweck Inspector of Buildings*



*Pictured above: 430 Boston Post Road site*

## Department of Public Works

### Town Center

E.T. & L., the contractor working on the Town Center project, is continuing to install drainage pipe at the town center. Utilities and poor soil conditions have slowed the progress.

Once the Concord Road and Hudson Road drainage is complete, the next steps will be:

- Excavating for fire alarm conduit
- Excavating for the road widening
- Installing conduit for the signal posts
- Installing sloped granite curb
- Repaving the area

The utility companies will play an important role in completing the project by the end of August.



*Pictured Above: Installation of a drain line on Concord Road. This drain line is part of the infrastructure being installed.*



### **Curtis Middle School**

We have started to do the reconstruction work associated with the Curtis Middle School sidewalks, curbing and parking lots. The funding for this project was voted at the 2015 Annual Town meeting in May.

*Submitted by: Bill Place, Director of Public Works*



*Pictured Above: Walkway construction in progress at Curtis Middle School*

## **Facilities Department**

### **Police Station Update**

The new Sudbury Police Station is well underway at its new home next to the Fire Station on Hudson Road. The construction is progressing and the contractors are taking full advantage of the nice summer weather. The project is on schedule and it is anticipated that we will move the police operations in November.

During May and June, wood framing operations were concluded, and was followed by installation of all interior partition walls, both masonry on first floor elevations, as well as light gage metal framed partitions on second floor locations.

Exterior envelope construction continued from last month with the continuation of light gage metal framing on the exterior walls and was followed by building insulation, sheathing and window installation. Currently, the clapboards are being installed and the building is showing off its finished colors. Installation of ice / water shield, roof shingles and associated flashing progressed throughout the month.

Earthwork operations included the preparation of remaining first floor slab on grade areas in the garage and sallyport, including the tight tank at the building exterior and all associated under-slab utilities (plumbing and electrical). Additional site operations included grubbing of Detention Area B, and progression of storm drainage structures at the rear and front of the station.

Concurrent with operations on the exterior and site, interior partitions were constructed at first floor (ground face CMU and light gage metal) and at second floor (light gage metal) locations. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-ins are advancing in all areas. The sheetrock is being installed and the inside is beginning to come together.

Presently, the work is proceeding in accordance with the contractor's planned operations and is forecast to complete November 1st, 2015.

*Submitted by: Jim Kelly, Combined Facilities Director*



*Pictured Above: Exterior of the new police station, photographed in July 2015.*



## Fire Department

The Sudbury Fire Department received a call for a gas leak on Union Avenue at approximately 9:00 am on Wednesday, June 17, 2015. Arriving apparatus found the leak in the parking lot of the old Colonial Auto Service where the new Northern Bank is being constructed. An excavator performing work on the site ruptured a 4 inch plastic gas main and the contents were spewing into the air. The wind was blowing the natural gas in a southerly direction toward Route 20 and the Sudbury Crossing and Sudbury Farms area.

In a quick response by the Sudbury Police Department, the road was shut down and traffic was diverted around the leak. Under the direction of Assistant Fire Chief John Whalen, fire crews set up a water curtain in a fog pattern to disperse the fumes up into the air to lessen the concentration near buildings and their occupants on the ground (*shown below*). Marlboro Engine 1 responded to the scene while Maynard, Concord, and Wayland Fire Departments covered our three stations.



National Grid responded to the scene and determined that the best way to shut off the gas was to dig on either side of the rupture and clamp off the pipe. They determined that the excavation company had notified Dig Safe, but had not waited the required 72 hours before they started to dig. Consequently, the gas line location was not properly marked.

National Grid made the notification of the infraction to the State Department of Public Utilities.

This incident had the potential to be quite dangerous, but a fast and efficient response by the Sudbury Fire and Police Departments, National Grid, and fire department mutual aid companies resulted in a safe conclusion.



Residents should be aware that any type of excavation requires a call to Dig Safe. Whether you are installing a shrub, a mailbox post, or digging a large foundation, please be sure to notify Dig Safe. More information can be found at their web site [www.digsafe.com](http://www.digsafe.com).

Along with the construction at the Sudbury Center intersection, you may have noticed a number of trucks from electrical utility Eversource. They were trying to determine the reason for a few recent power losses in the Town Hall and the Flynn Building. Last week, Eversource crews determined there was a fault in the power line that runs underground from the utility pole in front of the Flynn Building to the grassy area in Sudbury Center. Utility crews were not able to remove the faulty electrical cable to make room for a new one, but had the good fortune to discover an un-used piece of conduit running from that pole to the manhole in the Center.

In a time consuming process, Eversource made a few repairs to the empty conduit and was able to snake three new power lines. In addition, work was done to update the wiring to the pad transformer in front of the Flynn Building. Eversource is confident that the new power lines will eliminate the nagging power loss problems in those two buildings.

*Submitted by: William L. Miles, Fire Chief*



## Goodnow Library

### New Drive-Up Book Drop

At long last, the Library will be getting a drive-up book drop. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Goodnow Library, the Library will be installing a large, drive-through book return. This will allow patrons to return books right from their car!

In order to orient the return on the driver's side and maintain the safety of our patrons and staff, it will be necessary to reverse the direction of the library's driveway. This is a big change to get used to and we want to put safety first! The current "Drop-off" spot at the top of the Library entrance will be converted into the drive-up book return lane. The good news is that this is a perfect opportunity to resurface the aging parking lot. The existing lot will be resurfaced, traffic signs will be moved and parking spaces will be restriped and angled to accommodate the new traffic pattern. We will have the same number of spaces as before. In order to minimize confusion and maximize safety, the town's rolling electric sign board will be out on Concord Road to remind you of the change, and we will add police details if necessary.



Please note, the drive-through book return will be available only during times the library is closed. This is a work intensive service, which must be integrated into our current staffing patterns.

Work starts mid-July. Please note that the parking lot will be unavailable during certain phases of the project. At those times, you may

park in the Salem Five parking lot. Questions? Please contact Esmé Green, Library Director, at 978-440-5515 or [GreenE@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:GreenE@sudbury.ma.us).

We deeply appreciate your patience through this BIG transition!

### Goodnow Wins \$10,600, 2-Year Grant to Improve Service to People with Disabilities

At its July board meeting, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) awarded \$608,100 in 46 grants to public, academic, school, and special libraries and library networks across the Commonwealth under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Approximately \$10,000 of that will come to the Goodnow Library to provide improved access to library materials and services to people with visual and hearing disabilities. By acquiring assistive technology and enhanced materials, the library's goal is to increase communication with members of the Disability community and the provider network through an enhanced website. We'll be adding new large print and high contrast printed materials, and grant funds will be used to train library staff to effectively use new adaptive technology and be sensitive to service issues for people with Disabilities.

Federal funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services is vital to library services in the Commonwealth.

### Goodnow Library Sweeps MA Library Association Public Relations awards

Every other year, Massachusetts libraries are invited to submit their best PR materials to apply for the MA Library Association PR Awards. All categories of PR materials are eligible from all types of libraries. Academic, public, school, and special libraries are invited to participate.



During this year's annual Mass Library Association conference in May, the Goodnow Library swept the Biannual PR Awards! Receiving five awards, Goodnow took first place in three categories, second in one and also garnered the "PR for Pennies" award determined by the judges. Library director Esmé Green was thrilled, "I am so proud of the work we have done over the past two years to improve our PR, and this is the cherry on the sundae."



*Pictured Above: Goodnow Library's Mass Library Association PR Awards*

### **Truck Day, Another Hit**

On July 15, the library held its most successful Truck Day ever, with a record 702 attendees. Amy Stimac, Assistant Head of Children's Services said, "We knew it was going to be busy because we had 300 people arrive in the first half hour." The hundreds of children and adults explored the various vehicles; climbing in the town's new ambulance, taking a "ride" on a police motorcycle and exploring the inside of dump trucks, earth movers and a school bus. The mini train was back again this year, giving rides to the long line of riders.

*Submitted by: Esmé Green, Library Director*



*Pictured Above: Scenes from Truck Day*



## Board of Health

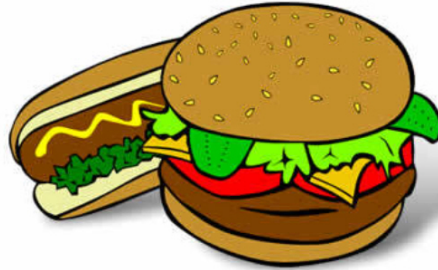
### Food Safety Tips

Picnic and barbecue season offers lots of opportunities for outdoor fun with family and friends. But these warm weather events also present opportunities for foodborne bacteria to thrive. As food heats up in summer temperatures, bacteria multiply rapidly.

To protect yourself, your family, and friends from foodborne illness during warm-weather months, safe food handling when eating outdoors is critical. Click below for the FDA's simple [food safety guidelines](#) for

transporting your food to the picnic site, and preparing and serving it safely once you've arrived:

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/FoodborneIllnessContaminants/UCM239489.pdf>



*Submitted by:  
William Murphy,  
Health Director*

### Cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae) Confirmed at Willis Lake



Testing conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health confirmed the presence of cyanobacteria at Willis Lake. Analysis showed levels significantly above the MDPH guidelines. Preliminary screening for microcystin, the toxin produced by cyanobacteria, was positive. Follow-up quantitative analysis for microcystin is in process.

Based on these results, people and pets should avoid contact with the water at Willis Lake until further notice. Ingesting small amounts of toxin can cause gastrointestinal distress. Symptoms of microcystin poisoning are abdominal pain, diarrhea, and vomiting. Elevated levels of the toxin may cause serious neurological affects. Eye, ear, and skin irritations can also occur. Contact your physician if you experience symptoms.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health will be conducting weekly testing until the results are within acceptable levels. Continue to check the town website for additional information.

**Please be aware that the algae, in addition to a blue green appearance, can also appear brown or red.**





## Park and Recreation

### Sudbury Summer Concert Series

Sudbury Park and Recreation will be offering its 11th annual Summer Concert Series this summer. With the help of contributions from local business, the Park and Recreation Department is able to provide several wonderful nights of family fun throughout the summer. Join us! Bring friends, family, a picnic dinner, a blanket or chairs, and maybe even your dancing shoes! The events are free and will be held on Monday nights at Haskell Field beginning at 7 pm. In the event of rain, all concerts will be held across the street at the Fairbank Community Center Gym. Remaining dates this summer feature:

#### July 20 – Family Fun Night

6:45 – 7:00 p.m. A Performance Presented by Sponsor Dancers Workshop

Dancers Workshop is a place where a star can shine, where friends can meet, where “a team” doesn’t have to include a ball, and where art is respected and loved. They give the opportunity to be on stage to one and all. They thread confidence with camaraderie. They take movement and express themselves through dance.

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Ben Rudnick & Friends – Ben Rudnick & Friends play the hippest family music around. With countless awards to their credit, including SEVEN Parent’s Choice awards, their adventurous, high-energy blend of happy, upbeat acoustic music is guaranteed to entertain the entire family. Bending musical

styles from country to bluegrass, rock to second-line New Orleans, their original songs and fun takes on familiar tunes make you sing, make you dance and make you happy.



#### July 27 – The Nowheremen

Founded in a Cambridge coffee shop during a peace rally in 2007, the Nowheremen will have you dancing and singing! The Nowheremen, Boston’s feistiest Beatles band, have packed a lot of living into their time together. They kicked off 2007 by rocking out Governor Patrick’s Inaugural Ball, and recently played at Ringo Starr’s Harvard Square art gallery opening. John Scotti of Lincoln and Ian

Barber of Lexington play guitars, and Hingham’s Brendan Murray plays drums. Bassist McGregor McGehee lives in Dover.

#### August 3 – Houston Bernard Band

The Houston Bernard Band is a must see! The bad boy of Boston country has assembled a group of musicians that bring vitality and grit to modern country. Their brand of original country music is fresh and hard hitting. Nominated for Country Act of the Year in 2015 and having opened for Jake Owen, Eli Young Band, Josh Thompson, Scotty McCreery, and Pure Prairie League, and performing at colleges, theaters, festivals, fairs, and New England’s most respected country nightclubs, the band is enjoying regional success while gearing up to rock the nation, one town at a time.



## Message From The Youth Coordinator

Hello Everyone!

My name is Mark Simmons and I'm the new Youth Coordinator and Teen Center Director for the Town of Sudbury. I recently graduated in May from Western New England University in Springfield, MA with a B.S.B.A degree in Sports Management. I consider it a great honor to be able to start my fulltime Park and Recreation career here in Sudbury, especially serving in the role of Youth Coordinator and Teen Center Director. I began working on June 1st and from day one have jumped into plans for Sudbury Adventure Camp and this coming fall's programs.

Sudbury Adventure Camp is currently in full swing. We have already experienced several exciting trips such as Boston Scavenger Hunt, Laser Tag, Sky Zone, and Canobie Lake. In future sessions, we will be attending several other exciting places such as Water Country, Indoor Rock Gym, and Kimball's Farm, just to name a few. On behalf of the staff, I can confidently say we have truly had a blast working with the kids during these trips and that we look forward to meeting new faces every week. A very limited amount of spaces are still available in sessions III, IV, and V.

To end the summer, we will be offering the "Get On The Bus" program, which runs from Monday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> through Thursday Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. This program is very similar to Sudbury Adventure as it consists of day trips but provides more flexibility because campers can sign up for one day or all four! Pricing and time is individually based per trip. Space is limited to only 30 kids per trip so don't wait to register! The trips include Water Wizz— 8/17, Hampton Beach— 8/18, Cpt. John's Whale Watch—8/19, and Friendly Fire Paint Ball—8/20.

When school starts back up in September, we will be starting our Wild Wednesday trips. Our Wild Wednesdays occur every time Curtis Middle School has a half day on a Wednesday. The trips include Rock Climbing, haunted hayrides, SkyZone, Kayaking and so much more! Pricing and times are individually based per trip. Space is limited to only 30 kids.

For any questions or comments please feel free to contact me via phone (978-639-3227), email [simmonsm@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:simmonsm@sudbury.ma.us) or stop by my office at 40 Fairbank Rd. in the Fairbank Community Center.

Have a safe and happy summer!

-Mark Simmons



## Pool News

The Pool is currently under summer hours, closing at 8pm during the week. There is plenty of time to swim, and quiet summer evenings make this a great time to come and get some lap swims in with the family.

The Fall brochure will be going out soon. Check your mail boxes and expect arrival by mid-August. Be sure to keep an eye out for our annual Halloween 5k and Fun Run, a big hit for the whole family.



### Mini Wild Wednesdays

Come to Park and Recreation every half day during the school year! We'll have free swim each week, dedicated homework time, gym & outdoor games, nature activities, crafts, and special themes & events. A snack will be provided, but please bring a lunch.

Transportation from all elementary schools to Fairbank Community Center is included. Pick up from Fairbank by 6:15pm. Cost: \$45 per day or save \$90 when you sign up for the whole school year at once! These are for the 18 half day early release days at school.

### Space is Still Available

There are plenty of specialty summer camps left to get involved with and participate in, check out our offerings online or give us a call and see what we can recommend.

### Feeley Tennis Courts

This August, we will be resurfacing the Feeley Tennis courts, those should look great and play like brand new courts once we are done.



As always, if you have any questions and/or suggestions please do not hesitate to ask. Thanks and enjoy the summer (978) 443-1092.

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

## Treasurer's Office

### Tax Bill Impact Fiscal 2016

The 1st and 2nd Quarter Preliminary Tax Bills were mailed out just prior to July 1, 2015. The 1st Quarter will be due on Monday, August 3, 2015.

Taxpayers will see an increase this year that is higher than last year. This is due to the fact that last year's tax bill increase was minimal (less

than 1%) because the town did not use the full levy capacity that was available.

The debt in Fiscal 2015 was unusually low, hence the larger than usual impact in this year's Fiscal 2016 tax bills.

The average tax bill increased by 2.71% in Fiscal 2014 and less than 1% (.82%) in Fiscal 2015. We have estimated an increase of 4.94% in Fiscal 2016.

The tax bills reflect the votes at the Annual Town Meeting and at the ballot in May, 2015.

*Submitted by: Melinda Connor, Acting Treasurer/Collector*

