



The Town of Sudbury, Massachusetts
Town Manager's EMAIL Newsletter – December 16, 2005

Town staff and committees are constantly working to improve the quality of life in Sudbury. This email is designed to share information with Town staff and committee members about the many programs and efforts that are underway.

New Office Manager Appointed

I am very pleased to announce that I have appointed Rosemary Harvell as the new Office Manager in the Selectmen/Town Manager's office. Rosemary will take over from Mary Daniels, beginning Monday, December 19, 2005. We had several great candidates for the position, but Rosemary's background and positive attitude impressed all of us. She has a bachelor's degree in education from Boston College, and extensive experience both in office management and customer service – the two primary aspects of this position. If Rosemary's last name sounds familiar, it's because her husband Peter is the Town's Veterans' Agent. Rosemary and Peter are Sudbury residents and we are delighted she has joined our team. Stop by and say hi to Rosemary soon.

DPW and Police Department Help Get the Kids Home!

I want to recognize the incredible job performed by the Town's Public Works and Police Departments during that mid-day storm with white out conditions on Friday, December 9th. This storm produced incredible challenges for the school bus drivers, who needed a lot of help and cooperation from the DPW and the Police Departments to get all the school children home safely. As the weather deteriorated, an increasing number of buses became stuck, some repeatedly, and required Public Works equipment and manpower to get them going again. Police Chief Fadgen put out extra officers to assist as well, and they were able to escort some children home when the buses just weren't going to be able to make it on some of the more challenging roads in Town. The need to get the school buses moving pulled the DPW crews off the primary and secondary roads, leading to delays in getting those roads plowed and treated and creating a very long day into a very long night for our employees. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard, keeping the public, especially the children, safe and protected at all times.



Capital Projects Report



Fire Chief Ken MacLean reports that the new bucket truck, known as F8, was delivered last week to the Sudbury Fire Department. Funds for this vehicle were approved through the Capital Budget by the 2004 and 2005 (Article 11) Town Meeting. The Chief reports that work still needs to be done on it before it is ready for operational use, as the radio and other equipment have to be transferred from the old bucket truck, and the Town's seal and lettering are still to be applied. Station

3 will be permanent base for F8. This vehicle is used to maintain the alarm system throughout the Town. The old bucket truck was not safe any longer for working on utility poles on busy roads, and was requiring expensive repairs to keep it at operational readiness. The old bucket truck will go down to the Public Works Department, who will try to get a few more years of useful life out of it.

All Terrain Vehicle Arrives

I had mentioned a few weeks ago that the Town received Homeland Security funds to purchase an all terrain vehicle for response to calls from off roads areas within Town. Chief MacLean reports that the Polaris ATV has arrived and is at Station 3. It is on a trailer and will be stored that way to allow for fast deployment. As an example of the need for such equipment, last week in Concord a woman called for assistance while out cross country skiing in one of Concord's conservation area, and she was brought out using the Concord Fire Department's ATV. Sudbury is fortunate to have many acres of undeveloped land where the public can go hiking or cross country skiing, so it is important we have the right equipment to reach all areas of the Town should the need arrive.



Senior Center News

Thanks to Kris Kiesel and the Sudbury Council on Aging for inviting me to join them at their Holiday lunch and show last Wednesday. What a treat! Over 140 Sudbury seniors enjoyed a lovely lunch and were provided with great entertainment from the Sudbury Strutters and Tappers, with music to dine by from Janet Alford and Frank Frisselle. The Senior Center is always such a "happening" place. They are now offering a new game/activity called Pickle Ball. Pickle-ball is an import from Florida, where it is the latest word in active fun. The game uses light-weight wood paddles and a plastic perforated ball for a tennis or badminton-like game with an emphasis on coordination, patience, and strategy rather than strength or brute power. Played on a smaller court than tennis, Pickle-ball can be played in a singles or doubles format, using a low net. Points are scored on volleys only, and like ping-pong, can be learned quickly and has a lot of action. It is an aerobic activity, and a perfect way to tackle the post-holiday waistline. If you want to learn more, the Senior Center will offer Pickle-ball on Thursday afternoons, beginning January 19, from 12:30-3:00 in the Fairbank gym. Council on Aging President Joe Bausk will be on hand to help people learn the simple rules. There is no cost to play, but Kris asks that you call the Senior Center at (978) 443-3055 to let them know you are coming.

Where to go for the Best Treats



Where do you go when you just have to have a treat during the day? If you need chocolate when you're in the Flynn Building, you can't beat the Planning Office, where a container of miniature candy bars attracts a steady stream of visitors. But if you have a dog, the Treasurer/Collector's office is the place to stop by to get a dog treat at the counter. Just be sure not to confuse the container of people candy with the one of puppy sweets!

My thanks to all the staff and volunteers who work hard to make these good things happen. You make Sudbury great! Maureen Valente, Town Manager