



Town of Sudbury  
Town Manager Newsletter  
January 2013

**Message from the Town Manager**

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Here we are in 2013, and we have all survived the flu that has hit our offices pretty hard, as well as our many boards and committee members.

For us in Town government, January is the month when we focus intensively on preparations for the Annual Town Meeting. In a city form of government, the City Council can perform their legislation functions at nearly any time during the year. But in a Town, those legislation functions of appropriating funds, making zoning changes and enacting bylaw changes can only happen at Town Meeting. It takes a fair amount of time for committees to deliberate, conduct hearings and study potential articles, and for staff of the Town and Schools to finalize and present their budgets for consideration. The Selectmen have a number of articles they may be submitting for Town Meeting consideration, as do other Town boards and committees. And citizens may submit articles as well – please contact my office to find the procedure. All articles are due to the Selectmen’s office by 5:00 pm on Thursday, January 31, 2013.

I want to provide an update on the status of the legislative bill that would increase the size of the Board of Selectmen from three to five. The Governor signed the legislation into law, and the question of changing the Town’s charter to increase the number of Selectmen from three to five will be put to the voters at the Annual Election on Monday, March 25, 2013.

Finally, one very sad note: The Town lost one of its hardest working residents with the passing of John Sklenak, chairman of the Conservation Commission. John had a rare talent for being able to take up complicated and challenging issues while always being calm, professional and gentlemanly. We will miss him very, very much.

**Notes on Selectmen’s Meetings**

The Board met on Thursday, December 6, 2012. Aside from dealing with typical issues such as site plan, approving contracts awarded by the Town Manager, and committee appointments, they dealt with three high priority items. First they held the annual tax classification hearing, where they meet with the Board of Assessors, and decide how much of the property tax levy will be shifted, as allowed by state law, to the commercial, industrial, and personal property (CIP) and away from the residential class of property. The Board continued the pattern of maintaining a shift that increases the taxes on the average valued parcel by the same amount for both the CIP and the residential class. Next, they approved the conservation restriction for the Pantry Brook Farm, and they approved the winning bids for two bonds issues in connection with this purchase of the restriction. All of these are post-Town Meeting action steps necessary to finalize the permanent protection of this beautiful property as open space. Finally, they engaged in discussions with the Finance Committee, Sudbury Public School Committee and Lincoln-Sudbury School Committee regarding developing strategies for three major financial issues facing the town: reaching the appropriate level of financial reserves, addressing the unfunded liability for retiree health insurance (OPEB obligations) and funding the backlog of capital and infrastructure projects. As an outcome of that discussion staff from the Town, SPS and L-S will work together to develop a report to policy makers with a list of options for an overall strategic financial plan.

On December 18, the Board's meeting consisted primarily of consideration of a number of license applications and public hearings, following the very happy awarding of a proclamation for SrA Thomas McNabb, who returned home safely from his deployment in the United Arab Emirates with the United States Air Force.

The Board of Selectmen has also met in Executive Session before regular meetings for the past few months so that Assistant Town Manager/HR Director and the Town Manager can discuss the status of collective bargaining efforts with the Town's unions. The Board has approved new three year agreements reached with two bargaining groups – the Sudbury Police Officers, and the Supervisory Association. These can be found on the Town's website, on the Human Resources page. Bargaining continues with the public safety dispatchers, the DPW laborers, the engineering union, and the firefighters union.

Sincerely, *Maureen G. Valente, Town Manager*

### Selectmen's Office

The focus of Office attention this month is two-fold: receipt of Town Reports and receipt of Annual Town Meeting Articles.

The receipt of Annual Town Meeting Articles is required by Town Bylaw (Art. 2, Government of Town Meeting. The Warrant for each Annual Town Meeting shall be closed January 31 preceding the Annual Town Meeting in each year (which shall begin on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> this year). No article, including articles consisting of resolutions, shall be taken up at Town Meeting unless it appears in the printed warrant. The preceding sentence shall not apply to resolutions memorializing townspeople and town employees.

Further details of these two Town Bylaw articles can be read in full under the Town Clerk's website <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/clerk>.

Receipt and reporting of *Town Reports* is also required by Town Bylaw (Art. 3, Town Affairs). All Town Boards and officials, whether appointed or elected, and all committees having had any financial transactions during the preceding financial year, shall make a written report in detail, which report shall be delivered to the Town Accountant on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Town Accountant shall audit these reports and deliver them to the Selectmen's Office not later than January 10<sup>th</sup>.

The *2012 Annual Town Report* will be available in print and online at least one week prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

### Assistant Town Manager

**Welcome Home  
Petty Officer Chris Forde  
and  
SrA Thomas McNabb!**

In December we had two soldiers return home from their tours of duty.

**Petty Officer, Chris Forde**, arrived home after serving 5 years in the U.S. Navy.

He trained to be an aviation electrician in San Diego and Jacksonville where he was top of his class for the P3 airplanes. As a member of the VP-45 Pelicans squadron, he was deployed to El Salvador for six months. Chris earned the Global War on Terrorism Award, the Coast Guard Special Operations for Drug War Operations award for preventing millions of dollars of drugs from entering the U.S., the First Sea Service Deployment and the Battle "E" Ribbons for doing joint task force operations with the carrier groups. He was detached to Scotland and Norway for anti-submarine patrol and was deployed Djibouti, Africa for six months where he

earned the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary ribbon for anti-terrorism operations in Africa and maritime patrol in local waters

Petty Officer Forde received a Letter of Commendation from his commanding officer citing his exceptional technical knowledge, his assistance in training 26 plane handlers, his contributions which led to awards being made to the squadron, exceptional professionalism, and selfless devotion to duty which reflected credit upon himself in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. He has been honorably discharged.

Chris, a 2004 graduate of Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, is the son of Sharon and the late John Forde. He is presently enrolled at Florida State Community College.

**SrA Thomas McNabb** graduated from Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School in 2006 then enlisted in the Air Force. After completing basic training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio Texas he had a brief assignment to Fort Leonard Wood in Pulaski Missouri. He received his Civil Engineer training at his current duty station, Ellsworth AFB in Box Elder South Dakota.

SrA McNabb was first deployed in 2008 to the Joint Base at Balad Regional Iraq as support for the Multi-National Forces 555th Engineer Brigade. He has just returned from his second deployment from the United Arab Emirates, in support of the host nation and allied forces during Operation Enduring Freedom.

SrA Thomas McNabb, having grown up in Sudbury, visits as often as he can to enjoy time with his two younger siblings Kelli and Joey, his parents Anne and Dean, and friends.

Welcome Home Chris and Tom!  
Thank You both for your service!!

*Submitted by the Office of the Assistant Town Manager*

### **Board of Health**

As part of the Fiscal Year 2013 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program the Board of Health will be collecting **Sharps Waste** including needles, syringes, blades and needles with attached tubing. They may be dropped off from 8:30 am to 3 pm at the Board of Health office, 275 Old Lancaster Road. It is preferred that the waste be in designated sharps containers but other hard plastic sealed containers can be accepted. New sharps containers will be available at the Board of Health office. Sharps are no longer allowed to be disposed of in household trash. Check the Board of Health website in the near future for additional information as other collection locations and times are being planned or call the office at 978 443-2209 x1379.

*Submitted by: Bob Leupold/Health Director*

### **Conservation Commission**

#### **John Sklenak**

John S. Sklenak, 72, passed away on Jan. 4, 2013. A resident of Sudbury for the past 46 years, John moved here from Michigan after college to join Raytheon. He spent his career there, retiring in 2004 after 42 years as an electrical engineer. John was a sporting enthusiast and loved to fish and hunt. He changed his sport to shooting with a camera and was well-known in the area for his great photography. His photo of the Wayside Inn was the cover for the 2012 Sudbury Annual Report. His photography has been exhibited throughout the area. He was a member of the Sudbury Art Alliance. John was active in the Town of Sudbury serving on the **Conservation Commission**; volunteered as a 'Mr. Fix-It' for the Sudbury Senior Center; and served at his church as a member of the Building and Maintenance Committee. He was also Mr. Fix-It for anyone who asked. He is survived by his wife Deanna and three beloved daughters whom he cherished: Kathryn Dannay and husband Jeff of Northborough, MA, Kristine Marie and her husband George Clemence of Southbridge, MA, and Joan Rubin and

her husband Dan of Wellesley, MA. He is also survived by his grandchildren Samantha and TJ Rubin and a sister Ann Griffith. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to, Christopher's Haven, 1 Emerson Place #2N, Boston, MA02114, or St. Francis Shelter 39, Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116, or Our Lady of Fatima Church in Sudbury. A funeral mass was celebrated Wednesday, January 9, at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 160 Concord Road, Sudbury.

Published in *MetroWest Daily News* on January 7, 2013

*Submitted by: Debbie Dineen, Conservation Coordinator*

### **Finance Department**

The Finance Department is preparing for the start of Sudbury's new Senior Tax Exemption program scheduled to start in fiscal year 2014. The Town can expect perhaps as many as 300 applicants. The Senior Tax Exemption program is the first of its kind in the State. After three years the Legislature may consider using Sudbury's program as the model for a statewide local option for senior tax exemption.

The Finance Director, Andrea Terkelsen, will be presenting information to the Board of Selectmen on January 22, regarding a new Veterans Work-Off program made available as part of the "VALOR Act" signed into law by Governor Deval Patrick in May 2013. The Veterans tax abatement program has been designed to operate very much like the Senior Work-Off program by offering up to \$1,000 tax credit annually to Sudbury's Veteran population in exchange for volunteer services for the Town. The new Veteran's local option program must first be accepted by vote of Town Meeting. It is expected that the Board of Selectmen will submit an article for the 2013 Annual Town Meeting on behalf of an estimated 1,100 plus civilian Veterans residing in Sudbury. Further details of the program will be forthcoming.

The Q3/Q4 real and personal property tax bills were mailed on December 31, 2012. Actual tax bills for the second half contain amounts due for the balance of fiscal year 2013 as adjusted for certified property values and tax rates. Sudbury issued tax bills for fiscal year 2013 for 6,130 real estate and personal property parcels for a total of \$71 million dollars.

### **Public Safety**

#### **Fire Department**

The Sudbury Fire Department was recently presented an opportunity for some hands-on training. The Jones and Bartlett Building on 40 Tall Pine Drive is being razed to make way for new housing, and the owners allowed us to use the premises for forcible entry and overhaul exercises.

Performing these skills requires destruction of doors and walls so it is difficult to replicate these exercises without doing severe damage to a building. During the early stages of a fire, firefighters must sometimes make forcible entry into a structure. Under the direction of Department Training Officer Captain Tim Choate, personnel were able to hone these skills on both inward and outward swinging doors. Techniques such as shocking, setting, gapping, and forcing the doors were reviewed. In addition, overhauling techniques were practiced. This process is needed to systematically and efficiently remove walls and ceilings to chase a running fire from inside a structure. Using the array of tools found on our apparatus, firefighters were able to train under real conditions.

The Sudbury Fire Department thanks the owners of the Jones and Bartlett building for their generosity in providing us with this valuable training opportunity.

We continue to pursue better ways to communicate and interact with NStar during severe storms. On Friday, December 14, I hosted a meeting in my office with the Vice President of Electrical Operations and the Director of Community Relations. NStar has made recent efforts to improve their response and coordination with Sudbury Public Safety Officials. Our experiences during Hurricane Sandy exposed some shortcomings and their need to adjust procedures, especially in the area of communication. The meeting was productive and with continued effort I am hoping to improve the NStar response to the residents of Sudbury..

*Respectfully submitted by  
Bill Miles, Fire Chief*

Police Department

For some time the Sudbury Police Department had received intelligence that a local business in town, Valero Convenient Store, was allegedly selling substances marketed as “bath salts” and “synthetic marijuana,” to include sales to juveniles. Numerous avenues, through various organizations, were sought in an effort to stop the sales. All efforts were unsuccessful given the substances were, at the time, considered legal.

In September of 2012, having no other option than to request voluntary compliance in being a responsible business member of the community, officers spoke with the owner requesting he stop selling the “bath salts” and “synthetic marijuana” while explaining the possible ramifications of ingestion. This included, among a number of incidents, a young Sudbury resident who had overdosed but fortunately recovered as well as a subject who was arrested for disorderly person who fought with police/medical personnel while trying to ensure his wellbeing. The owner, without hesitation, indicated he would immediately stop selling the substances voluntarily.

As of January 1, 2013 the substances contained in substances marketed as “bathsalts” indeed became illegal. Again, intelligence was received indicating the sales were continuing; to include recent information provided by the Framingham Police Department.

On the evening of January 8<sup>th</sup>, an undercover Sudbury officer entered the premises and was able to purchase both products. Returning to the station, detectives field tested a small portion of the alleged contraband which indicated positive for both the chemicals contained in the illegal “bath salts” as well as cocaine. The clerk, Maged Askandar (23) of 49 Nickerson Road in Braintree, MA, was subsequently arrested for the following:

Possession of Class B (Cocaine) w/intent to distribute  
Possession of Class C (Methylenedioxypropylvalerone-MDPV) w/intent to distribute  
Distribution of Class B (Cocaine)  
Distribution of Class C (Methylenedioxypropylvalerone-MDPV)  
Conspiracy to Violate the Controlled Substances Laws  
Selling Drug Paraphernalia  
Trafficking in Cocaine

A search warrant was executed on the premises with the assistance of the METROLEC Computer Crimes Unit yielding an extensive amount of contraband and evidence. The owner of Valero, Ashraf Youssef (50) of 243 West Main Street in Hopkinton, MA, was arrested as well for the following charges:

Possession of Class B (Cocaine)  
Possession of Class C (Methylenedioxypropylvalerone-MDPV)  
Possession of Class B (Cocaine) w/intent to distribute  
Possession of Class C (Methylenedioxypropylvalerone-MDPV) w/intent to distribute  
Distribution of Class B (Cocaine)  
Distribution of Class C (Methylenedioxypropylvalerone-MDPV)  
Conspiracy to Violate the Controlled Substances Laws  
Selling Drug Paraphernalia  
Trafficking in Cocaine

Askandar was held on \$25,000 cash bail and Youssef was held on \$75,000 cash bail. Both were transported to Framingham District Court on the 9<sup>th</sup> for arraignment.



<http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/bath-salts-dea-announces-emergency-ban/story?id=14467134>

*Submitted by: Sudbury Police Dept.*

### **Library**

The Goodnow Library continues to reach out to residents of all ages. Children are invited to Story and Craft Programs, Baby & Me, Imagimotion Kidz, Lego Club, Little Friends Music, Movies, Book Groups and more! Teens can participate in our Teen Advisory Board and tell us what they'd like the Young Adult Program to offer. We also once again welcome L-S- students with extended hours during midterms/finals. Adults and seniors can learn to use their eReaders and find a variety of Book Groups for different interests. To find out more about Goodnow's programs, please check out the [Goodnow Newsletter](#) or our [Event Calendar](#) .

*Submitted by: Karen M. Tobin, Assistant Director*

### **Planning and Community Development**

On December 20, 2012, two conservation restrictions were recorded that permanently protect Sudbury's historic Pantry Brook Farm. At nearly 100 acres, Pantry Brook Farm is the largest undeveloped and unprotected property left in Sudbury, boasting remarkable scenic, historical, and ecological features. This highly visible property, situated on both sides of Concord Road just to the north of Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, evokes the town's agrarian history. On the west side, the farm's antique homestead is perched above Concord Road, on rolling meadows among rambling colonial stone walls. To the east lie the farm's extensive agricultural fields, woodlands, and wetlands, connecting to a large network of protected town, state, and federal lands, rendering the farm's habitat highly valuable for wildlife.

The Town of Sudbury worked closely with the Sudbury Valley Trustees and the Wolfe Family to protect Pantry Brook Farm permanently through purchase of the two conservation restrictions (CR's) - one for each of the two pieces of property that make up the farm. At Sudbury's May 2012 Annual Town Meeting, voters unanimously approved the appropriation of Community Preservation Act funds to purchase the CR's. A generous grant from the Sudbury Foundation provided \$150,000 toward the purchase price, as well as an additional \$25,000 toward a permanent stewardship endowment for the property. Finally, in December of 2012, the Town was awarded a \$400,000 LAND (Local Areas for Natural Diversity) grant, which will offset some of the Town's portion of the purchase price.

“Protecting this magnificent farm has been a long time goal of the Town of Sudbury,” said Director of Planning and Community Development, Jody Kablack, “and since the adoption of the CPA we have been working with the landowners to ensure its preservation. It is a unique property and its permanent protection will ensure that generations of Sudbury residents will have the opportunity to understand the historical roots of this community.” Pantry Brook Farm has been in Carole Wolfe’s family since the 1700’s. These conservation restrictions allow the Wolfe family to retain ownership of their land, while placing limitations on development, including prohibiting residential development. Because agriculture is one of the values protected by the CR, additional farm structures are permitted. The historic farm buildings are also protected, with allowances for restoration and limited renovation.

The CR will be co-held by the Town and SVT, with SVT responsible for annual monitoring to ensure that the purposes of the CR are being upheld. Public access is permitted on existing trails on the east side of the property, accessible from the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School parking lot. The Wolfe family plans extensive, historically-appropriate renovations to the farmhouse, barns and outbuildings, most of which retain original features. Guided tours of the west side of the farm and buildings will be scheduled periodically by the Town and SVT.

Christa Collins, SVT Director of Land Protection recognizes the efforts of all those involved. “Our deep appreciation goes to the Wolfe family. We also recognize the Town of Sudbury and the Sudbury Foundation for making this important conservation project possible as well as many donors who contributed to SVT to support our work on the project and our work going forward as co-holder of the CR.”

“The Sudbury Foundation was pleased to play in role in this effort to conserve what has not only been a high priority open space parcel for the Town but also one of the most beautiful tracks of land in Sudbury,” said Marilyn Martino, the Foundation’s Executive Director. “With this restriction, the land will remain undeveloped forever.”

#### Other News

The Selectmen have been reviewing the proposal to construct a new bank building for Northern Bank and Trust Company at the corner of Union Avenue and Route 20. The project includes the demolition of the Colonial Auto building.

A recent proposal by Precourt Stone was approved by the Selectmen to construct a small addition onto the shop building on the site.

The Planning Board is continuing review of the Senior Residential Development located at 40 Tall Pine Drive, which proposes the construction of 26 age-restricted homes. The next hearing date is January 23, 2013 at Town Hall.

The new walkway on Old Framingham Road is under construction, with an expected completion date of Spring 2013.

The Planning Board is considering the revision of the regulations for Stormwater Management Permits on January 23rd. The changes to the regulations follow the bylaw changes approved at the 2012 Annual Town Meeting. The Planning Board is also considering several minor zoning amendments for the 2013 Annual Town Meeting.

The FY14 Community Preservation Act proposals are under review by the CPC, with votes on the projects expected on January 30th. The FY14 proposals can be accessed on the Town’s website at <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CPC> .

*Submitted by: Jody Kablack/Director Planning and Community Development*

### **The Sudbury Senior Center**

#### Opera Class and Trip to Antarctica!

The Sudbury Senior Center is hosting a very popular Opera Series in January with instructor Richard Travers on Friday afternoons. Fifty-five people have registered (the maximum for the room). We are also very excited to

be offering “A Trip to Antarctica”, an armchair trip to Antarctica with Bob Diefenbacher, a Sudbury resident and member of the Council on Aging. Sixty-five people will be in attendance at this event!

#### Hearing Talk

Already, we have had Director of Audiology Leslie McCowan from the Learning Center for the Deaf here to talk about hearing loss, audiology testing, hearing aids, and communication strategies. Ms. McCowan and her colleague, Michelle Blanchard, gave an excellent presentation.

#### Arts Classes

A new Drawing class began on January 9, bringing back popular art teacher Susan Funk, with “One Point Perspective and Beyond”. Along with Drawing, we will offer a new Beginners Watercolor class starting January 17 with our regular, also popular, Watercolors instructor Cynthia Durost.

#### Monthly Health Talks

A new feature in 2013, will be monthly health related talks by our Sudbury Board of Health Nurse Phyllis Schilp. Phyllis, who is a Public Health Nurse from Parmenter Community Health, shared the latest information on High Blood Pressure on Tuesday, January 15. She will follow that talk with “The Heart Truth: Women and Heart Disease” on February 12 at 11:00 AM.

#### New Tai Chi Class

Another addition to our schedule is “Introduction to Tai Chi” with Jon Woodward on Monday afternoons at 2:15 PM. The four week introduction will be followed by an 8 week session of Tai Chi beginning on February 11.

#### Information and Referral

Anne Manning, our Information and Referral Specialist, continues to assist seniors and their family members with questions and concerns relating to home care, mental health, caregiving, and more.

#### Trips

Our Trips Coordinator Carmel O’Connell unwrapped a new list of trips for 2013, including day trips such as The Women of Ireland and Thoroughly Modern Millie, as well as multi-day trips such as the Trains of the Colorado Rockies and the Albuquerque Balloon Festival (which is already full).

#### Senior Tax Exemption

The Sudbury Council on Aging, the nine member committee that oversees the policies, planning and programming of the Senior Center, noted that the new Senior Property Tax Exemption was passed at the last election. This exemption will assist those seniors who have lower income and pay higher than 10% of income toward property tax in Town. The Sudbury Assessors Office expects to have guidelines and an application process available in late spring.

*Submitted by: Deb Galloway/Senior Center*

### **Town Clerk**

#### Town Census and Dog Licensing

The 2013 Annual Town Census has been mailed to all residents. Sudbury residents should verify or correct any information, sign and return the census within 10 days of receipt. Census forms received for families no longer residing at a mailing address should be returned to the Town Clerk’s office with new contact information.

The data from the census is used to compile the Sudbury voter list, Sudbury school planning, and other reports required by Massachusetts General Law, therefore all members of the household should be included. If a resident does not receive a census form by January 15, 2013, the Town Clerk’s office should be contacted at 978-639-3351 to have a duplicate form mailed.

Failure to respond to the Annual Town Census will result in the removal from Sudbury’s active voting list and removal from the resident list for any non-registered voters.

The census packet includes a Dog Licensing form. The dog licensing period extends from January 1 through April 2, 2013. The licensing fee is \$15 if the dog is neutered or spayed and \$20 for a dog that is not neutered/spayed. Licensing may be done in person at the Town Clerk’s office, 322 Concord Road, or by mail. When licensing by mail, please include the required evidence indicating up-to-date rabies vaccination and documentation indicating that the animal has been spayed or neutered, if the dog is being licensed in Sudbury for the first time or has recently been altered. Any licensing application received that is missing the rabies

information, a check, or both will be returned. Dog owners are encouraged to license their dogs early to avoid the late penalty fee of \$25 that they will be required to pay for each unlicensed dog, in addition to the regular licensing fee, beginning April 3, 2013. Please include a stamped, self-addressed business size envelope when licensing by mail.

A completed census can be returned by mail or hand delivered to drop-off boxes located outside the Clerk's office (322 Concord Road) and the Flynn Building (278 Old Sudbury Road). For additional information regarding the Annual Town Census or Dog Licensing, call the Town Clerk's office at (978) 639-3351.

#### Annual Town Election March 25, 2013: Positions Available

There will be fifteen official positions open for election at the March 25, 2013 Annual Town Election. Interested candidates must file their intentions on or before Friday, February 1, 2013, and return their nomination papers on or before Tuesday, February 5, 2013. The open positions are:

**Board of Selectmen** - One 3-year term

**Board of Assessors** - One 3-year term

**Goodnow Library Trustee** - Two 3-year terms

**Board of Health** - One 3-year term

**Park & Recreation Commission** - Two 3-year terms

**Park & Recreation Commission** - Two 2-year terms

**Planning Board** - Two 3-year terms

**Sudbury School Committee** - One 3-year term

**Sudbury Housing Authority** - One 5-year term

**Included as part of the Annual Town Election, will be an election of two members for three years each to the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional District School Committee.**

Nomination papers and packets for Town offices are available at the Town Clerk's office for incumbents whose terms are expiring, as well as new candidates. The packets cannot be mailed and must be picked up in person by the candidate. Please call the Town Clerk's office by phone at 978-639-3351 or email at [clerk@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:clerk@sudbury.ma.us) with questions.

Candidates for Lincoln-Sudbury Regional District School Committee may obtain nomination papers at the High School from the District Clerk, Donna Cakert at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, 390 Lincoln Road in Sudbury. Please call the District Clerk at 978-443-9961 x2334 with questions.

*Submitted by: Town Clerk*

### **Park and Recreation Department**

#### Sudbury Parks and Recreation – seeking national accreditation in 2013!

The Teen Center has started a new, student-based group called the Teen Advisory Board (TAB). The goal of TAB is to empower teens to become active and engaged members of the community through the development and implementation of programs and activities that assure continued growth at the Jean Lind Teen Center. These students will assist in event planning, marketing, fundraising, and other teen center goals throughout the school year. This group is open to any 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student (free of charge) who is interested in furthering the mission of the Teen Center, developing their leadership skills, increasing their involvement in the community, and assuring that the Teen Center is a safe, fun, and welcoming environment for all! The group met for the first time on Wednesday January 9<sup>th</sup> and had a very encouraging first meeting! About 15 students were in attendance.

The Adaptive Sports and Recreation Program has been organizing and running therapeutic recreation programs with the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School REACH Program on Wednesday mornings throughout the school year as part of their Community Day excursions. The group works in the Sudbury Food Pantry and at the

Goodnow Library before heading over the Recreation Department for some recreation-based fun! This fall, the group of 6 students worked with Anna Wood, CTRS, in the therapeutic garden program at the Fairbank Community Center. It was here that the students learned about horticulture while caring for the accessible, raised garden beds and herb barrels. Each week, the students picked fresh flowers that were made into bouquets for the Atkinson Pool and Council on Aging's front desks. Additionally, the students spent lots of time harvesting and drying flowers and herbs. The lavender and mint that was dried was used to create colorful and aromatic sachets that were later sold at the Council on Aging's craft bazaar! More recently, the students braved the chilly New England air with Anna as they went on their first ever snowshoe hike! The group utilized the Recreation Department's free snowshoe loan program and plan to do so again this winter as they continue to strengthen their snowshoeing skills!



In the spring, our Preschool Department offers many exciting and enriching classes for young children. We run daily morning classes for 2-year olds (Terrific Twos) and 3-year olds (Kreative Kids). These classes provide engaging and interactive fun in a drop off setting. We also offer an hour long Caregiver and Tot class for children 15 months to 2.5 years (Jump, Roll & Sing). Music, movement and fun are the goals in this class. Our school vacation programs, Childhood Adventures, are themed-based crafts, games and activities for the 3.5 to 6 year old age groups.

### **Department of Public Works**

As the winter months progress, it is important to be informed about certain procedures relative to snow removal and plowing procedures. As this article was presented last month, the weather has prompted a repetition for Sudbury residents who may have not seen this before. Please use caution when driving in poor weather conditions.

### **Snowplowing and Snow Removal Procedures**

This information is to provide residents of the Town of Sudbury a general overview of the plan of operation that the Department of Public Works puts into place when we have a snowstorm. Hopefully this will answer questions you may have regarding the DPW snow policy.

#### **Snow Plowing Operations**

*When the snow starts falling*, sanding and salting operations begin first with the major roadways, schools and Town facilities. Anti-icing is an important phase in dealing with snowfall. It prevents the snow from becoming compacted and frozen to the road surface.

*When the snowfall continues* and three inches of snow has accumulated, the plowing operations begin — again with the major roadways, secondary roads, schools and Town facilities. The main objective is to keep the roads passable during a storm.

Public Works Department personnel are well trained and dedicated to work “around-the-clock” if necessary to keep all roadways

*When the snow stops*, crews plow spots and drifting snow. The snow is pushed back at necessary.

Every storm is different. The more the resources are taxed, equipment, and, of course,



open and passable.

continue to monitor roads for icy sidewalks around school zones are different intersections if

longer the duration of the storm, This includes salt, sand, employees.

With your assistance and patience, the DPW will be able to provide the Town with important functions of our winter maintenance operation.

### **Plow Damage**

The Town is not responsible for damaged lawns, sprinkler heads, fences, steps, trees, shrubs or other private property, i.e., basketball hoops, that are located within the Town’s right-of-way which is approximately 10-12’ back from edge of road pavement.

The Town will only be responsible for mailboxes that are physically hit by a plow. Mailboxes pushed over from the force of plowed snow are not covered.

Town plows cannot be hired or requested by residents to clear driveways or walkways.

### **Winter Tips**

Pay close attention to weather forecasts. Remember: freezing rain and wet snow cause dangerous road conditions. Motorists are advised to stay off the roadways if possible until DPW crews get the pavement treated. Drive cautiously.

On-street parking is prohibited during snow and ice storms and snow and ice removal operations.

The DPW director is authorized to have any vehicle removed during snow or ice operations. Owners are liable for costs of removal/storage and subject to a \$50 daily fine.

### **How You Can Be of Assistance**

- Check your mailbox to make sure it and the post are in good condition.
- Please observe the on-street parking snow ban which is in effect during snow and ice storms when plowing and sanding operations are taking place. The on-street parking ban starts in November and ends in April.
- Reduce your speed and drive carefully.
- Do not attempt to pass a sander or plow. These units weigh over 40,000 lbs. and are not easily maneuvered.
- Do not allow children to make snow forts at the edge of the road.
- Do not plow, blow or throw snow into the roadway. There is a \$50 penalty fee for violation of this Town Bylaw. Make sure your contractor is aware of this policy.
- For your own safety, please shovel out the fire hydrant located nearest to your house.
- Keep nearby catch basins clear of snow or ice to prevent street flooding during snow melting periods.

And last, but not least, please be patient. Snow plowing is a time-consuming and laborious job covering approximately 140 miles of roadway in the Town of Sudbury.