



The Town of Sudbury, Massachusetts
Town Manager's Weekly EMAIL – August 12, 2005

Town staff and committees are constantly working to improve the quality of life in Sudbury. The objective of this weekly email is to share information among our staff and committee members about the many programs and efforts that are underway.



You are invited! - 2nd Annual Volunteer Recognition Event Planned for Sudbury Day – September 17, Town Centre

The Board of Selectmen invites every one serving as an elected or appointed officer of a committee, board or commission of the Town to be recognized and thanked at our second annual Volunteer Recognition Reception, which will be held from 11:30 am to Noon on Sudbury Day. More details will follow, but please reserve this time on your calendar. After the reception, stay and enjoy our wonderful Sudbury Day Festival. See the Town's web site www.town.sudbury.ma.us for more information on the Sudbury Day Festival.

Kirsten Roopenian receives Community Volunteer Award

Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healy presented former Selectman Kirsten Roopenian with a *Community Volunteer Award* recently, recognizing the many ways that Kirsten has served her community, including six years on the Board of Selectmen and currently chair of the Capital Improvement Committee. Kirsten is also one of the key individuals helping *HOPEsudbury* grow into such a thriving and vital humanitarian organization in only four years since its founding. Thanks Kirsten, for caring about Sudbury so much, and thanks to Representative Susan Pope for nominating Kirsten for this award.



Police Department Arrivals and Departures

You are not imagining it if it appears that there are a lot of new faces in the Sudbury Police Department these days. We have hired eight new officers in the past 24 months: Kerriann Fagerquist, Christine Gilbertson, Anthony Goodwin, Nathan Hagglund, Stephanie Howe, Paul Johnston, Ethan Karol and just starting this past Monday, Jim Espinosa. Six retirements (Chief Lembo, Lt. Ron Nix, Sergeant Tony Deldon, Officers Mark Gainer and Wayne Shurling and just last month Officer John Longo) and three transfers to other towns (Officers Alain Basquiat, Roberto Reyes, and Michael Tuomi) created these vacancies. Additionally, Chief Peter Fadgen announced several promotions: to Lieutenant, Richard Glavin and Scott Nix, and to Sergeant, Richard MacLean and John Harris. Finally, two new dispatchers have joined the department: Deborah Griffin and Vanessa Savilonis have replaced Andrew Mancini and John Mitchell, who both resigned to take positions in a different field. Welcome to all the newly hired, congratulations to those promoted, and best of luck to those who gave the Town such dedicated service for so many years.



Red Cross Community Blood Drive



The American Red Cross has asked for assistance in making it known that on Wednesday, August 24, 2005 at Congregation B'nai Torah, between the hours of 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm, they will be holding a blood drive and

are asking for your help in donating blood. To make an appointment, call 1-800 Give Life (1-800-448-3543).

AAA Credit Rating Reaffirmed by Standard & Poor's



On June 14, 2005 Town Treasurer/Collector Andrea Terkelsen was notified by Standard & Poor's that Sudbury's bonds were once again rated AAA with a stable outlook. This is the highest possible credit rating assigned by S & P, and Sudbury is one of 7 communities in Massachusetts whose bonds carry this S & P designation. S & P noted 4 factors underlying Sudbury's strong credit rating, citing particularly the experienced financial management, low debt burden, strong property tax base growth, and high wealth and income factors. A high credit rating translates into savings for Sudbury taxpayers as interest rates on AAA bonds are lower than interest rates on bonds without such a strong rating.

Adding Digital Picture to Assessors' Files



Did you know that the Assessors office is working to add pictures of houses to their property records? Maureen Hafner, Director of Assessing, announced that they are currently photographing houses in Sudbury so they can be downloaded into the assessment file. The result will be a complete package accessible to many town agencies. Police, Fire, and other departments consider this to be a valuable resource in an emergency. And once the Town's GIS mapping system is in place (see last week's email), these photos will become an integral part of its functionality.

Selectmen's Goals Update



From time to time I will be focusing on one of the 17 goals set by the Board of Selectmen for FY06, providing more information about why each goal is important to the Board, sharing some of the ideas we have, and asking if you have any suggestions that could help us achieve this goal. This week, I'd like to highlight *"Develop better communications efforts by Town boards and committees, using the Town web site and public access channel"*. The Board feels strongly that residents of Sudbury should have several options for finding out what is going on in Town government. To achieve this, the Board is asking all Town officials (committees and department staff) to take the following actions: first, begin sending notices of events and meetings to the attention of the access channel. More Sudbury residents are tuning into Channel 8, our cable access channel, now that it is located lower on the channel listings. You can find instructions for sending notice to the cable channel on the Town's website, at the cable television committee's home page. Second, be sure to post to the Town's website notices of public meetings, agendas, minutes, and other documents on a timely basis. We have heard complaints from residents that not all committees are doing this. If you have questions on how to place your information on the Town's website, please contact Mark Thompson at thompsonm@town.sudbury.ma.us. Finally, the Board encourages all committees to try and have their meetings taped for broadcast, especially if the subject matter will be something of widespread interest to residents. Information on how to do this can also be found on the cable television committee's homepage.

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

Thank You