City Connection



Proud Past, Bright Future

August 2018

August Meetings in Council Chambers at City Hall

City Council Monthly Meeting Monday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment Wednesday, August 1 at 7:00 p.m.

School Board Meeting Tuesday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation CommissionWednesday, August 8 at 7:00 p m.

Planning BoardWednesday, August 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee

Wednesday, August 1 at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 8 at 10:30 a.m.

Traffic Safety CommitteeWednesday, August 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Please note meeting Calendar is subject to change.

Council meetings please visit
City website
www.somersworth.com/calendar/

To view Agendas of City

Beautiful Somersworth Salmon Falls River

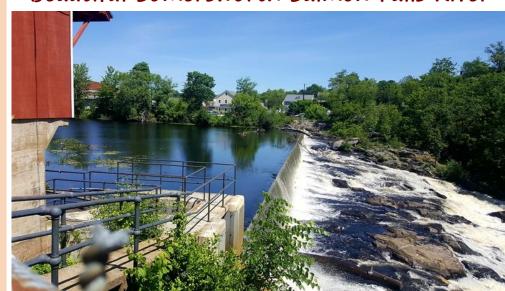


Photo courtesy of Jenne Holmes



City of Somersworth City Hall **One Government Way** Somersworth, NH 03878 (603) 692-9555

City Hall Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday City Hall is open until 6:00 p.m.

> Stay in touch with City Happenings.

- **Business Email List**
- City e-Newsletter
- Recreation Department

Join our mailing list

Labor Day Trash & Recycle

Holiday Curbside Trash and Recycle Collection Modified Schedule Due to the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 1, 2018, there will be a one (1) day delay in the collection of trash and recycling, as follows:

Monday's collection will occur on Tuesday, September 2, 2018 Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday, September 3, 2018 Wednesday's collection will occur on Thursday, September 4, 2018

Please call Public Works with questions 603-692-4266 inalley@somersworth.com with questions.



The Mayor's Corner

The Journey Continues

Life is a magical journey, at every turn, at every intersection we are reminder of the joys, sorrows and challenges which encompass our existence. Each moment is to be celebrated, each moment cherished, each experience both positive and negative honored for what they are, part of the circle we call life.

Our journey is not independent but interdependent, each step we take along the journey will be woven with the threads of others, adding to the cosmic universal web of life. Each positive action will in turn foster positive effects. Each negative action will in turn harbor negative results. It is the intern connects and solace of walking through this journey as a partnership which we most cherish in life.

On June 27, 2015 the United States Supreme Court ruled marriage equality for the LBGT community Constitutional, confirming the right from all LBGT community members to continue their journey in life as a partnership that others had enjoyed from centuries in our nation. On Thursday July 12, 2018 my partner and I (Sean Peschel) after 16 years of walking together on this journey confirmed to each other a commitment in marriage to continue. The sharing of that journey and the common bond all things in the universe share, was the theme on that day. Below is an excerpt from inspirational and spiritual message written and delivered by Matthew Thornton, a dear friend of ours who married us. Read more...

We are a community! We are achieving progress and greatness!

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana Hilliard

Mayor's Summer Office Hours

Wednesday: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during these times. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email <u>Brenda</u>.



THE STATE PRIMARY VOTING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Residents may register to vote or update information at the City Clerk's Office or during the Supervisors of the Checklist Sessions. Please note, June 5, 2018 was the deadline for a voter to change party affiliation or to become unaffiliated with a party for voting in the September 11, 2018, State Primary Election. See news release from the Secretary of State here

Special Municipal Election Tuesday, September 11

The City of Somersworth will be holding a Special Municipal Election on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, to fill the **Ward 5 City Council** seat for the remainder of the term to expire in January 2020.

FILING PERIOD

In Accordance with RSA 669:16, the filing period for Declaration of Candidacy for the Ward 5 City Council Seat will open on July 25, 2018 and close on August 3, 2018.

Persons wishing to be a candidate in the September 11th Special Municipal Election must file a Declaration of Candidacy in the Office of the City Clerk during the filing period. A \$5.00 filing fee is due at the time of filing. In lieu of paying the fee, a candidate may elect to file 25 notarized petitions.

Candidates must be qualified voters residing in Ward 5 in the City of Somersworth. Names of all candidates will be placed on the ballot in order pursuant to RSA 656:5-a.

Further information on filing a Declaration of Candidacy may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk at 692-9511 or 692-9512.



City Manager Notes



Somersworth gets \$200k EPA Grant

EPA New England Administrator Alexandra Dunn was in Somersworth to publicly announced the awarding of \$700,000 worth of Brownfield's Grant to New Hampshire. The \$200,000 Somersworth received will allow the City to remove the remaining contaminated soil from the grounds at 1 Winter Street, and then return the land to the tax rolls. Mayor Dana Hilliard said at the presentation that the award demonstrates "the good that government can do when it works collaboratively".

Before Breton's Cleaners, the Winter Street property was owned by Prime Tanning from 1974 to 1982, which also owned a leather tanning mill across the river in Berwick, Maine. From 1850's to 1974, the 6-acre parcel served as a railroad freight depot owned by the Boston and Maine Railroad.

City Manager Bob Belmore stated "last year the City was awarded \$178,000 Grant from the NH Department of Environmental Serves. The City used this to remediate and demolish the former building on the site. This Brownfield's Grant will allow us to bring life back to a prime piece of property located at a gateway to our downtown adjacent to the Salmon Falls River".

- <u>City Manager Reports Click here to view</u>
- 2018 Water Quality Report



From the Desk of the Economic Development Manager "Branding your Business"

Business signs and advertising signs are one of the most efficient and effective means of communication. Signs help people find you; they reach people who are passing by your establishment; they present an image of your business. In short, signs tell people who you are and what you are selling.

The power of something as simple as a sign also creates a tremendous opportunity. The sign is a direct way of conveying a message about your business; and it allows you to tell your business's story. The quality of your sign, your font, and color choices all make an impression. The simplicity of your company sign is the first step in creating a public impression. Your company name, your logo, and your image, as well as your stylistic approach to the products and services you provide are all represented in your sign. Signs can build an image for your business and help you identify with the market segment you are trying to reach.

In Somersworth different signs are allowed in different zoning districts and the size of the sign allowed is contingent on the size and type of your building. The two major commercial zones are: High Street /Rte 108 and Downtown/Main Street.

- **Downtown and Main Street**: Signs attached to buildings are limited in area so that the sign shall not exceed 10% of the total area of the front wall (face) of the building. In the case of a multi-story building, the sign shall not be more than 10% of the face of the first story. One freestanding sign per lot is permitted. The size of the freestanding sign shall not exceed 20 square feet in surface area on each of two sides for a total of 40 feet. Please refer to ordinance section 19.20.D.2 for a complete list of rules pertaining to the zoning districts Downtown and Millyard zones.
- **High Street and Route 108**: For a single business the permitted sign area per lot will not exceed 50 square feet, plus 1 additional square foot of

sign shall be allowed for each additional linear foot of principle building frontage in excess of 50 linear feet, to a maximum of 100 square feet. For a multi business, one free standing sign shall be allowed for a multi-business building or shopping center. The maximum sign area allowed shall be 48 feet plus an additional 4 square feet for each business to a maximum of 72 square feet. Please refer to ordinance section 19.20.D.4 for complete list of rules pertaining to the zoning districts along High Street and Route 108 including the Residential & Commercial Districts (R/C) the Residential/Office (R/O) District and the Commercial/Industrial District.

There are many more Zoning Districts in the City. Each District may have its own set of rules and regulations, so please make sure to call Robin Comstock at 603-692-9516 or rcomstock@somersworth.com when you first start planning your sign.

For the purpose of this article, know that regardless of whether a business is located in a residence or in a commercial structure, a permit is required for signs. The process to obtain a permit is very simple. (1) Contact the Department of Development Services (603-692-9516) to find out the zoning district of the property where the sign will be placed and to obtain a sign application. Applications are also available online http://www.somersworth.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Sign-Permit-Application.pdf) (2) Complete the application and provide dimensions and a drawing of the proposed sign, as well a photograph (or drawing) of the structure and its distance from the street, with an image of what the proposed sign will look like on its structure (3) the Somersworth Sign Committee will review the application (4) You will be contacted with the conclusions of the committee within 14 days. http://www.somersworth.com/wp-content/uploads/Chapter-19-Zoning-2.pdf for more information on the sign ordinance. Sign Regulations are found in - Section 20 of the Somersworth Zoning Ordinance.



An Important Reminder from Chief Kretschmar

Just a reminder: School will be starting at the end of August. Please slow down and watch for children, especially near crosswalks.

Community Safety is Everyone's Business!



Coffee with a Cop at 45 Market Street Bakery

Coffee with a Cop was held on July 24th at 45 Market Street Bakery where we were treated to delicious coffee and baked goods. Many Resident stooped in to say hello.

We wish to thank Cheryl and Allison at the Market Street Bakery and Cafe for graciously hosting our event and everyone who stopped in to say hello.



National Night Out
Thursday, August 7 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Jules Bisson Park

Bring your family to the National Night Out that is sponsored by Somersworth Police, Somersworth Prevention Coalition and many other City Partners..

National Night Out is a Community event to promote community awareness in crime prevention partnerships. There will be family activities and prizes.

Please show your Somersworth Pride and join us!

SUBSTANCE MISUSE ASSISTANCE

We have a partnered with Avis Goodwin, Wentworth Douglass Hospital and volunteer Recovery Coaches to offer "Community Access to Recovery" aimed at providing help individuals suffering from misuse disorders. Please walk into the Police Station and we will assist you in making this first important step to a new tomorrow through participation in this program!



LOCKING YOUR CAR DOORS

The safest way to protect your vehicle and the contents in it is to LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS. It only takes a minute.

Somersworth Police Facebook Page

Check out Somersworth Police Department's Facebook page. We use this to inform you know about important community information including crime information, road closures, snow emergencies/ parking bans, and community events. Here is the link:

https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthPoliceDepartment/

We send out Nixle alerts for parking bans and other important information to cell phones and emails. You can sign up for free Nixle at www.Nixle.com





Somers worth Crime Line: You can leave anonymous information at 692-9111



Safety Tips from your Local Fire Department 692-3457

Storms

Many thunderstorms and high winds occur during the summer months. Occasionally there are high winds that accompany the storms. Power loss can occur and electrical wires can be knocked to the ground by fallen trees or branches. It is best to have a plan beforehand to deal with these occurrences:

- Have flashlights easily available in the home
- Have a battery operated radio to get updates about the storm and conditions on the roads
- Enroll your cellphone with NH Reverse 9-1-1 or Nixle for emergency messages
- More information on the City website or <u>ReadyNH.gov</u>

Gas Grills

Summer means outdoor grilling of food, among other things. Grills fueled by LP gas are abundant. Fires sometimes occur when the open flame impinges on rubber hoses delivering the fuel to the grill. Wind driven flames or grills needing cleaning or maintenance often are the cause of fires as well.

- Keep grills away from buildings and combustibles (10 to 15 feet)
- Clean your grill frequently

• Maintain your grill in good condition

Gasoline Usage

Gasoline usage during warm months can be dangerous due to fume discharge and pouring gasoline into lawn mowers and other machinery with hot motors. Remember that gasoline is highly flammable and fumes can travel distances and ignite. Small motors usually dissipate heat quite well but injuries occur every year due to gasoline accidents.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

Everyone should carry a portable fire extinguisher in their car and have at least one located in the home - preferably close to the kitchen.

An A-B-C type should be used as it will extinguish all types of fires except flammable metals. At least a 10 pound unit should be purchased. Only those with metal triggers/nozzle assemblies typically can be recharged. Most dry chemical extinguishers today are disposable (plastic parts) and usually can hold a charge for 10-12 years. As they are mostly disposable there is no way to recharge them if used or the charging agent leaks out.

Information from Public Works 692-4266



Road Improvement Updates:

Road paving bids were released recently to area and interested contractors. Bids were due on July 19th and staff is presenting reviewing the bid results with the City Council Finance Committee and Public Works and Environment Committee. Streets planned for overlay include:

Washington Street (High Street to Main Street)
Tates Brook Road (Maple Street to W. High Street)
Salmon Falls Road (State Line to City Line)
Otis Road (W. High Street to Rocky Hill Road)
Horne Street (High Street to Myrtle Street)
High Street (Blackwater Road to South Street)
Constitutional Way (Washington Street to High Street)

Later this fall, NH DOT will be repaving their portion of West High Street from Rte. 108 to Maple Street and the City will be repaving West High Street from Maple Street to Cemetery Road.

Complete Streets Design Work Underway

The engineering firm of Wright Pierce is making progress with early design work

for the re-engineering of Main Street, Constitutional Way and Cemetery Road. The design work involves developing specifications for future rebuilding of all three streets and incorporate new water and sewer lines, storm drainage, sidewalks and street landscaping features. Look for announcements in early fall on public meetings presenting preliminary engineering and design plans.

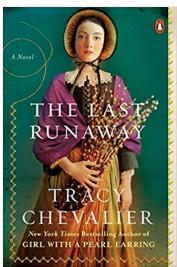
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What's Happening at the Library?



What Somersworth is Reading in August

"The Last Runaway" by Tracy Chevalier Honor Bright, a modest English Quaker, moves to Ohio in 1850--only to find herself alienated and alone in a strange land. Sick from the moment she leaves England, and fleeing personal disappointment, she is forced by family tragedy to unfamiliar relv strangers in on a harsh, landscape. Nineteenth-century America practical, precarious, and unsentimental, and scarred by the continuing injustice of slavery. In her new home Honor discovers that principles count for little, even within a religious community meant

to be committed to human equality.

However, Honor is drawn into the clandestine activities of the Underground Railroad, a network helping runaway slaves escape to freedom, where she befriends two surprising women who embody the remarkable power of defiance. Eventually she must decide if she too can act on what she believes in, whatever the personal costs.

Libraries Rock - Read This Summer

Summer Reading is rocking at the Library with many Somersworth students maintaining their reading skills



over summer break. If your child hasn't already signed up and started to get reading incentives, come in and do so now before it ends August 10th.

Story programs are also available 6:00PM on Tuesday, 11:15 a.m. on Wednesday and 10:00 a.m. on Friday through August 10th and will resume in September. *Take some time to read!*

The Library currently offers Somersworth Residents Free Museum of Science or Reduced Admission Passes to 5 Museums:

- The Childrens Museum in Dover
- Seacoast Science Center in Rye
- Strawbery Banke in Portsmouth
- Boston's Museum of Fine Arts
- Boston's Museum of Science

For more information or to reserve passes come to the Library or call 692-4587.





Creating Connections to Nature Through Personal Experience

Borrow the Library's Museum Pass to the Seacoast Science Center HOURS: Daily 10AM - 5 March - October

PASS ADMITS 2 ADULTS & 4 CHILDREN FOR 50% ADMISSION You must have a library card or prove you are a resident of the city to obtain the pass. The museum pass may be reserved ahead of your visit by calling the library at 692-4587.

www.seacoastsciencecenter.org

REMEMBERLibrary Saturday Hours

Please note the Summer hours for Saturday are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Recreation Department

The Somersworth Splash Pad at Noble Pines Park is open 7 days a week

from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (weather permitting).

Please be sure to check out the Splash Pad rules prior to visiting:

- Splash Pad park hours are 10 am.- 7 pm. daily. The Splash Pad may be closed at any time due to maintenance or other concerns.
- Footwear/sandals are strongly recommended. NO athletic cleats on the Splash Pad.
- NO food or beverages, glass containers, or breakable objects are allowed on the Splash pad.
- NO skateboards, roller blades, bicycles, scooters, or any other type of wheeled vehicle (with the exception of wheelchairs or assistive devices) are allowed on the Splash Pad.
- NO pets are allowed on the Splash Pad.

In the event of an emergency, call 911. The Splash Pad is located at 45 Grand Street.



Recreation UPCOMING Events 2018-2019 Volunteers needed!

Several volunteers are needed to help facilitate all of our special events. Tasks include (but are not limited to) decorating, set-up/break-down, registration, line attendants, replenishing food at tables, face painters, etc. If you have a special skill or interest please share with us as we're always looking for new and creative ways to improve our events. High School students are encouraged to sign-up to help with our special events. If you need volunteer hours signed off you must provide the sheet to the Recreation Supervisor at the end of the event. Please reach out to Kristen Davenport in the Recreation Office to obtain more information and learn how you can get involved. 603-692-9508 or email kdavenport@somersworth.com.

Trick or Treat at City Hall:

Wednesday, October 31st
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Parade begins in Rec office on 2nd floor
Light refreshments will be served

Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt:

Friday, December 7th
6:30 p.m. start (When Santa arrives) until all candy canes are collected
Somers worth High School football field

Father/Daughter Valentine's Dance:

Thursday, February 7th 6:30-8:30 p.m. Idlehurst Elementary School Café

Somers worth Frosty Basketball Tournament:

Wednesday, February 13- Sunday February 17
Various times TBD
Idlehurst Elementary School, Middle School, High School

Travel Basketball Banquet:

Date TBD 6:30-8:00 p.m. Idlehurst Elementary School Café

Faster Egg-Stravaganza Egg Hunt:

Friday, April 19th
4:30 p.m. until all Easter eggs are collected
Millennium Park

Ready Set Grow!

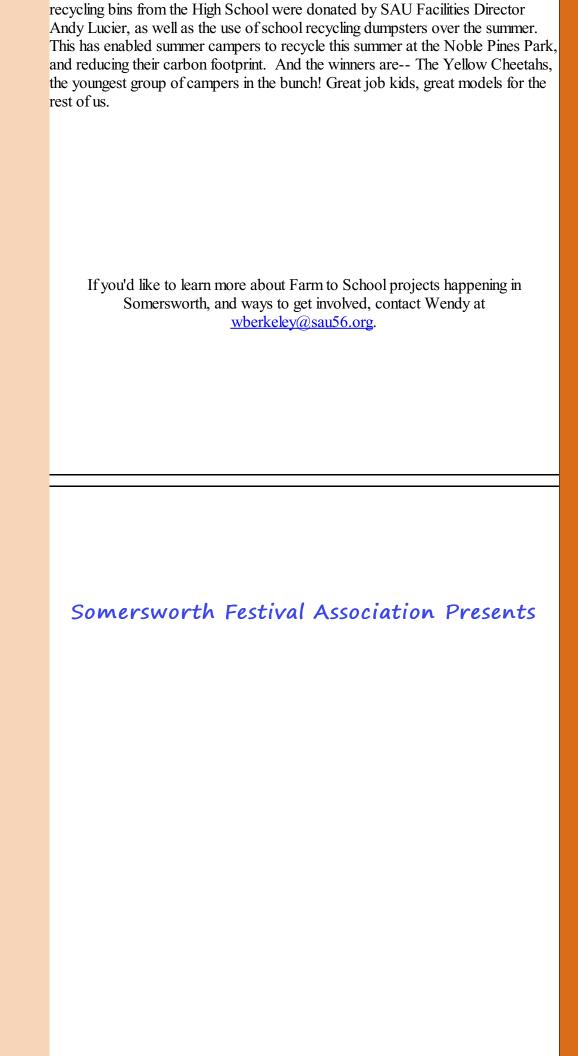
Game On!

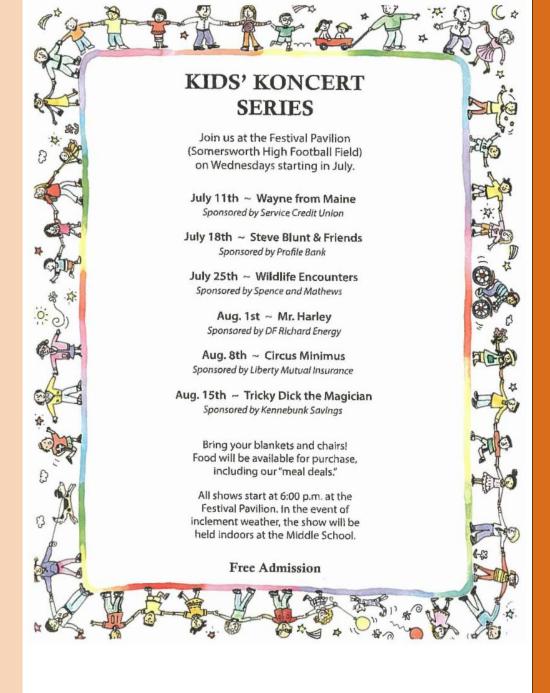
Summer camp is in full swing, and the Recreation Office day-campers showed off their recycling savvy in a





friendly competition, a timed recycling relay race. Four teams raced back and forth on the basketball court littered with trash and recycling, with the goal of putting things in their correct receptacle. A surplus of Waste Management





CEMETERY CORNER

Forest Glade Cemetery Named to National Register of Historic Places

Forest Glade Cemetery in Somersworth has been honored by the United States Secretary of the Interior with placement on the National Register of Historic Places. Forest Glade was developed as the City's primary public cemetery in 1851, after Somersworth and Rollinsford became separate municipalities. Roads, paths and landscape features wind throughout its 22 acres, making it a notable example of the mid-19th century Rural Cemetery Movement begun at Mount

Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Mass.

Forest Glade includes a variety of structures and artifacts that chronicle more than 100 years. Funerary art. Classical Revival, Eastlake, Gothic Revival, Greek Revival, Italianate, Victorian Gothic and Rustic styles are all represented among the headstones, obelisks, monuments, tombs, mausoleums and well houses. Of special note is the Furber Memorial Chapel, designed by architect Henry Vaughn to seat up to 70 people and dedicated in 1898.



Forest Glade Cemetery Italianate Well House

City staff have been involved in several specific historic preservation projects over the past few weeks, including completing the repainting of the Italianate Well House in historic period colors, soliciting proposals to restore the Cemetery main entrance gates and granite monuments off of Maple Street in working with a Preservation Consultant to complete a building assessment of the Furber Memorial Chapel. Both the building assessment of the Chapel and the future restoration of the main entrance gates is being funded with State Historic Preservation grant funds. In addition, the City has hired the firm "Beyond the Gravestone" to restore 5 historic grave markers in Forest Glade Cemetery; work on the grave marker restoration is set to occur in mid-August.



Cemetery Board of Trustees Thank You Notes

To the Somersworth Department of Public Works for relocating a rather large rock today. The Rock now holds the plaque that designates Forest Glade as being on the National Historic Registry.

To all Community members who gifted perennials to the Chapel garden. While this is still a work in progress, the garden looks beautiful and will continue to improve over time.

To the Next Level Church who weeded the garden and those from the Be Free Church who are busy painting the iron fence along the Cemeteries perimeter. Without the help of volunteers none of this would have been possible.

Sunday, August 19 ~ 2:00 p.m. Furber Chapel



Artful Noise-String Duet Sally Wituszynski and Gary Hodges

Sally and Gary have enjoyed working through the standard repertoire for viola

favorites. They will be performing at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday August 19th 18th This Duet performs with violins, viola, and a cello.

The Trustee of the Cemetery continue to offer "Summer Sunday Afternoons" at the Cemetery and they look forward to seeing you at these free events.

and cello and are exploring some new music to share at the Furber Chapel series this summer. However the Beethoven and the Albrechstberger duos are still their

Blood Drive City Hall, Somersworth BLOOD IS NEEDED!





Without A, B & O, we can't save anybody. You are the #MissingType we need.

Blood DriveCity of Somersworth

Council Chambers One Government Way Somersworth, NH 03878

Friday, August 10, 2018 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

To register to donate, please visit: www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today.

#MissingType | redcrossblood.org/missingtypes | 1-800-RED CROSS

© 2018 The American National Red Cross | 17180

ToppersRock 2018

Saturday August 11th
3-8pm
Somersworth High Football Field,
Memorial Drive

Featuring the Sounds of ...

\$20 Per Adult. Kids under 12 Free

Tickets Available At:

City Managers Office, Somersworth City Hall
The Gathering Place, 82 High Street, Somersworth
Somecity, 63 High Street, Somersworth
Old Rail Pizza, 440 High Street, Somersworth
Two Doors Down, 369 Rte 108, Somerdsworth
All Proceeds Donated To Somersworth Athletics



Join us for Chamber Night!

@ The Hackmatack Playhouse
Thursday, August 30th

Networking & Refreshments at 7pm Show at 8pm - Tickets \$25

For Ticket Vouchers Visit

The Chamber Office • 58 High Street, Somersworth Spence & Mathews Insurance • 4 Sullivan Street, Berwick Or call 603-692-7175

Host Chamber:



Entertainment Sponsor:



Refreshments Sponsor:



Save the Date... Wednesday, September 5



SOBER SISTERS RECOVERY

Sober Sisters at Malley Farm is committed to promoting the wellness, safety, and dignity of women who seek recovery from substance use disorders.

1st Annual Golf Scramble

The Oaks Golf Club 100 Hide Away Place Somersworth.

You can help in the fight against the substance misuse epidemic. Join us in a great day of golf, fun and food for a great cause.

If you are a business and would like to be a sponsor of this charitable event please call (603) 703-9077or email info@sobersistersrecovery.org.

Quality Service, Quality Schools Quality Somersworth Vision 2020

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future