



August

The Monthly Hilltopper News & Happenings



City of Somersworth City Hall

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

City Hall Hours

***Monday - Friday**
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

***Wednesday**
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Boards & Committee Meetings this Month

City Council Meeting

Monday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

**Site Review Technical
Committee**

Wednesday, August 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Wednesday, August 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Wednesday, August 9 at 6:00 p.m.

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 15 at 7:00

p.m.

Tuesday, August 29 at 7:00

p.m.

Planning Board

Wednesday, August 16 at 6:30

p.m.

Historic District Commission

Wednesday, August 23 at 7:00

p.m.

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The Mayor's Corner

Our Hilltopper Spirit was recently put to the test. While our history and character are embedded with diversity, we are not immune from acts which will test the strength or attempt to tear the fabric, which holds us all together.

The foundation of the Hilltop City and nation is built upon the vast diversity of citizens from which it draws its strength. We are a Community of different ethnicities, religions and sexual orientations. When one member of our Community is attacked, all members of our Community are attacked. The Hilltopper Spirit of neighbor helping neighbor will continue to shine its light and overpower any darkness, prejudice or act of hate that attempt to erode the character of who we truly are.

Somersworth stands with William Poole and his husband Loren and will do everything it can to help our fellow citizens and ensure that justice is brought against the assailants.

The ugly face of hate continues to raise its head in all 50 states and is gaining strength through the open assault on all minorities and members of the LGBTQ+ Community, by elected officials who are validating actions of discrimination, hate, and assault through the narrative of intolerance they continue to spread. Together as a united community, we reaffirm our commitment to celebrating all, to standing with our neighbors William and Loren, and to continue the journey of all who have stood before hate, to create the City and nation we promised to the world we would, places where all are protected and celebrated. Hate has never and will never have a place in Somersworth or America.



For Somersworth we are "On the Move"! and our "Future is Now"
" We are a Community" " We are Achieving Progress and Greatness" "Let our Journey
Continue" as we Venture Forward United as Hilltoppers!

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard



The City of Somersworth Jumpstarts Housing Planning

The Somersworth Planning Office is working with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission to create a new plan for housing in Somersworth. As part of our City's Master Plan update, this work will span from June until November.

The City will be engaging the residents and businesses in Somersworth throughout the project, including a survey in early summer, a community event in September, and a Planning Board workshop to finalize goals and actions in October. This work is being funded through a grant from the InvestNH Municipal Planning & Zoning Grant Program.

Please stay tuned as we launch a webpage and finalize the Steering Committee to guide our work. For more information on this project, please contact Michelle Mears at mmears@somersworthnh.gov

What's Happening at Somersworth Library



We've kicked off our 2023 Summer Reading Program, but there's still plenty of time for you to join! Open to the entire Community, the All Together Now Summer Reading Program offers participants of all ages the opportunity to engage in reading challenges, attend library programs, and embrace this year's theme of togetherness, friendship, and community. For more information about the program, including the full schedule of events, please visit our [website](https://somersworthnh.gov/library).



As part of our **All Together Now Summer Reading Program**, we've been featuring a different Community Helper Storytime on various Fridays throughout the

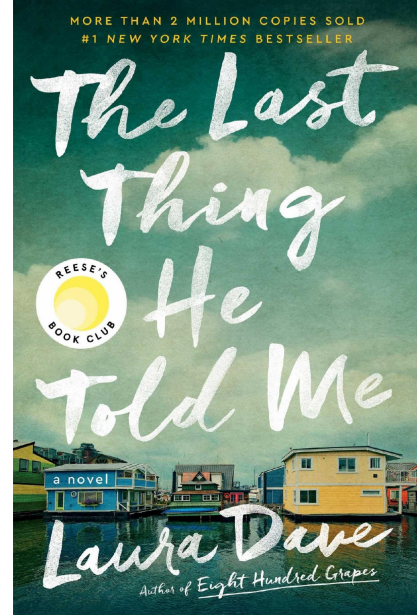
summer. These storytimes are geared towards children aged 10 and under and help expose children to the different ways in which our community works together to keep people safe, informed, and healthy. On Friday, August 4th, we'll have local teacher Angela Ficco here at the library to dazzle us with her fantastic storytelling abilities and to talk about what it's like to be an elementary school teacher.

Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, August 8 • 5:30pm

August Book Group will discuss *"The Last Thing He Told Me"* by Laura Dave. An exhilarating suspense novel about a woman who thinks she's found her true love.....until he disappears.

We are always looking for new members who can offer their unique perspectives during our discussion groups! If you are interested in joining, stop by the circulation desk to pick up a copy of this month's book.



Tie Dye with Soul Shine Fridays, August 11 • 10:30am

The Sumer Reading Program is winding down, but we've got some fun programs up our sleeve. children and teens are invited to join Meredith, owner of Soul Shine Tie Dye, for a morning filled with color and creativity/ Soul Shine will provide all materials and instruction for each

participant to twist and dye an amazing colorful creation of their own. Drop-ins are welcomed, but those who pre-register will be able to reserve their t-shirt size in advance. To pre-register and select shirt sizes visit [here](#)

Robots Movie Night Tuesday, August 15 • 5pm

Join us for a movie night here at the Library! Children will enjoy building with Magformers and creating domino chains while watching the Robots movie. Rated PG, this animated movie features a young robot with dreams of being an inventor who must take on a corrupt corporation headfirst.



Summer Reading Celebration Saturday, August 19 11am - 1pm

All of our Summer Reading participants are welcome to join us in celebrating the conclusion of the Summer Reading

Program. We'll have an Ice Cream Sundae Bar as well as games and activities for kids and adults alike.

*Reminder: all Summer Reading forms must be turned in no later than 1pm on August 19. Prize winners will be notified on Tuesday, August 22.

Find that Gnome

Beezly, pictured above, is the mascot for our Summer Reading Program. This bee gnome is a bit mischievous and has decided to go adventuring around town on

his own. We're hoping you can help us keep track of him this summer. He's likely to be found in the windowfront of a downtown shop in Somersworth center.

Between June 24 and August 15, take a walk downtown and see if you can spot him! If you find Beezly, stop by the library to report your sighting and be entered into a raffle to bring him home to keep at the end of the summer!





Story Time

Tuesdays • 10:30am

Our weekly story time is geared towards children ages 1-5, and features songs, movement, and of course, wonderful stories. Story time teaches children important pre-literacy skills, while encouraging a natural and organic love for reading. It also creates an opportunity for children to learn valuable life and social skills by participating in a group story time. No registration is required, and all are welcome

Baby Play Group

Thursdays • 10:30am

Baby Play Group is an informal program to encourage play and social interaction between parents, care givers, and babies. Little ones can enjoy age-appropriate toys such as a ball pit, crawling tunnel, infant climber and activity table. Recommended for ages 2 and under.



Lego Engineers

Saturdays • 11am

Lego Engineers is a great club for young builders to show off their building prowess! Whether it's creating a unique Lego structure, or completing one of our Lego challenges, kids

are sure to have a fun time building and creating together. This group meets in the Children's Room every Saturday at 11.

Find That Gnome!

Beezly, pictured above, is the mascot for our Summer Reading Program. This bee gnome is a bit mischievous and has decided to go adventuring around town on his own. We're hoping you



can help us keep track of him this summer. He's likely to be found in the windowfront of a downtown shop in Somersworth center. Between June 24th and August 15, take a walk downtown and see if you can spot him! If you find Beezly, stop by the Library to report your sighting and be entered into a raffle to bring him home to keep at the end of the summer!

New Technology!

Patrons are now able to check out an iPad (four available), check out a hotspot wi-fi device, use one of five new laptops in the library, and experience virtual reality with the Meta Quest 2 VR headset. Stop by the circulation desk to learn more about these great new additions to our library's collection!



Weekly Children's Programs

Family Story Time

Tuesdays • 10:30am

Join our Children's Librarian for a morning filled with stories, songs, crafts and plenty of play time. *Recommended for ages 4 and under.*

Baby Play Hour

Thursdays • 10:30am

Informal playgroup to encourage play and social interaction between parents, caregivers, and babies. *Recommended for ages 2 and under.*

Lego Engineers

Saturdays • 11am

Build your own Lego creation or collaborate with new friends. A new Lego challenge is offered each week. Legos provided! *Recommended for all ages.*

Somersworth Police Department



Swearing In: On Monday, July 10 the Somersworth Police Department welcomed its newest Police Officer to its ranks. Jake Jacques was sworn in today in front of his family, friends, and members of the agency. Jake is a recent graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor's Degree in Homeland Security and Safety Justice Studies.

Jake and our other newest officer Aidan MacDougall are scheduled to attend the New Hampshire Police Full-Time Academy at the end of July. Jake will be starting his Field Training Program immediately and becoming acquainted with the agency. If you happen to see Jake in the City, please join us in welcoming him to the community.



Field Training Completion: Police Officer Bryce Cantin completed his Field Training Program with the Somersworth Police Department and was released for solo patrol. Chief McLin is seen here presenting Cantin with his collar brass that signifies the completion of the program.

Congratulations Police Officer Cantin and we would like to acknowledge all of the FTO Staff that assisted him with his accomplishment.



Staff Sergeant Geary: The Somersworth Police Department would like to congratulate Sgt. Joseph Geary who has reached the milestone designation of Staff Sergeant (SSgt.) with our agency. This is the highest level that can be obtained by a Sergeant within the department and it is designated on their uniform by three chevrons with a rocker underneath.

SSgt. Geary is currently assigned as a Shift Supervisor to the Patrol Division and if you see him on the road, please join us in congratulating him on reaching this milestone in his career. Thank you for all that you do SSgt Geary.



Hanging Out – Reading and Playing Games at the Library: On June 30, Officer Grand Ontiley was at the Library where he took some time out to read to the kids at the Somersworth Library. He also enjoyed playing some games and explaining to all what it is like to be a Somersworth Police Officer. Thank you to the Somersworth Library for inviting us to participate in their community programs.



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.



Somersworth Police Facebook Page

Check out Somersworth Police Department's Facebook page. We use it to let 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/>



Somersworth Crime Line: You can leave crime tips or anonymous information at 603-692-9111

**Somersworth Fire Department &
Emergency Management**



Sirius-ly Hot - A Safety Message from the Fire Chief's Office

During the dog days of summer, the brightest star in the sky – Sirius, otherwise known as the dog star is high in the day time sky. Ancient Greeks and Romans believed that the heat from the incredibly bright Sirius – the dog star - combined with the sun to produce the high heat during the most sweltering days of summer – hence the term the dog days of summer. We now know that the high heat is a result of the titling of the earth's polar axis relative to the sun. In any event, August can be incredibly hot. Here are a few safety tips to consider as you enjoy the last full month of summer:

- Avoid being outdoors during peak hours from 10am to 2pm.
- Avoid direct sunlight – children, the elderly, and dogs are especially vulnerable.
- Before walking your dog, touch the pavement with your hand. If you can't keep your hand there for five seconds, it's too hot for your dog to walk on. Stick to the shade, walk on the grass when you can, and carry water for your dog.
- Remember that pool chemicals can be dangerous when they become wet or are mixed with other chemicals. Mixing chemicals can lead to a chemical reaction that may generate temperatures high enough to ignite nearby combustible materials. Mixing can also lead to the release of highly toxic chlorine gas.
- Do not dispose of old pool chemicals in the trash or down the drain. Rather, dispose of old pool chemicals during household hazardous waste collection opportunities.
- When thunder roars, go indoors. If you hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike you. Therefore, stop all outdoor activities, seek shelter in a substantial building or hard top vehicle, do not touch anything metal, and wait 30 minutes after the storm passes to resume outdoor activities.
- Look before you lock. Never leave a child or dog locked in a car. The inside of a car is like an oven at this time of year and gets drastically hotter than the outside temperature in a matter of minutes.

Monthly Activity Statistics

Our monthly run numbers for the most recent reporting period with a comparison to last year.

	June 2023	June 2022
Fire (All Types)	6	8
Overpressure/Overheat (No Fire)	0	0
Rescue - EMS	56	68

Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	5	7
Service Call	20	17
Good Intent Call	20	11
False Alarm / False Call	11	11
Sever WX / Natural Disaster	0	0
Special Incident	1	0
Total	119	122

Note: The categories used to report monthly incidents are those mandated by the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Most categories are self-explanatory. For those categories that are not obvious, the following examples can add clarity: Good Intent Call - a reported fire that turns out to be steam from a dryer vent; Severe WX/Natural Disaster - a lightning strike or tree falling on a house that requires an inspection to ensure there is no fire; and a Special Incident - low frequency event such as a citizen's complaint of an ordinance or code violation.

For the most recent reporting period of May, 2023, Stewart's Ambulance responded to 187 emergency calls in the City, transported on 123 of those calls, and had an average response time of three minutes and fifty-two seconds (03.52). A mutual aid ambulance was required to respond into the City seven (7) times during the reporting period.

Note: The SFD responds with Stewart's on the more serious medical calls and any time a mutual aid ambulance responds into the City. In addition, FD EMTs and AEMTs assist Stewart's with transports when a driver and/or additional EMS providers are required.

Please see the following background photos, safety messages, and pictures of recent SFD activities. Feel free to call the Fire Station if you have questions about any emergency management, fire prevention, or life safety topics.

In the event of an emergency, call 9-1-1 as SFD personnel may be out of the fire station.

Please stay safe, be careful and look out for each other.

Yours in service, George Kramlinger
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director



In the early afternoon on Friday, 14 July, Engine-5 was officially placed in front line service. At approximately 3:00 PM, E-5 made its first solo emergency response to an emergency medical service (EMS) call on Terrascape Parkway. C-Shift on duty. Pictured left to right: FF/EMT Benjamin Hyman, Lt Mathew Moore, FF/AEMT Michael Calabrese, and FF/AEMT Dalton Huestis.



Photo by Robert Nettles

July 21, 2023. A lighting strike at approximately 6:30 pm sparked a house fire on Noble Street. Somersworth firefighters rapidly made an aggressive interior attack to quickly knockdown the bulk of the fire in the basement. This picture shows Somersworth Engine-5 and Truck-1 operating. This is the first fire in the City worked by Engine-5 (the new Pierce Enforcer pumper). Dover, Rochester, Berwick, South Berwick, and Durham Fire Departments responded to the Scene. Newington Fire provided station coverage. Stewarts Ambulance provided standby EMS and the Somersworth Police Department provided traffic and crowd control.



Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services 7am set outs

Residents are asked to set out trash bags and recycling bins during their weekly collections **no later than 7am on the day of collection**. The City's contractor WMI follows the Solid Waste Ordinance which states:

Residents will place their rubbish to be collected along the curbside or street-side where normally the curbing would be, in specially marked bags as defined in Section 7.1 of the Code, on the evening before, or by 7:00 a.m. on their scheduled pickup day. No rubbish will be picked up that is not contained by an approved specially marked bag that is not along the curbside, nor more frequently than once a week for any person, firm or corporation.

Residents are asked to not assume that WMI trucks arrive later in the morning and set out materials after 7am based on past experiences. WMI trucks are assigned daily routes and are subject to starting specific routes at different times due to equipment, traffic and other operational needs. Only constant is they all begin collection on City streets at 7am. Asking WMI to return to missed stops due to late set outs can contribute to cost increases to the City.

Metal Pick-up

The Department of Public Works reminds residents that metal pick up occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. The August collection will occur on Tuesday, August 10 and residents wanting this service are asked to call Public Works **no later than 3:00 pm on Monday, August 7** to be placed on the pickup schedule for August. Participants are reminded to place the proper number of tags on the item when setting the item out on the street for collection. Typical TV's require three (3) stickers - \$12.00 and PC's require one (1) sticker - \$4.00. Residents may also opt to drop off metal and electronic items with proper bulky waste stickers at the Public Works Facility located at 18 Lilac Lane from 7:30am-2:30pm Monday –Friday.

Public Works Offers Food Composting

Did you know food composting is available for Somersworth residents at the Public Works facility? The City of Somersworth has partnered with Mr. Fox Composting to provide residents with a no-cost, composting option to divert waste and tonnage from the solid waste stream



that gets landfilled. The program allows residents to bring their eligible food scrapes to a special Recycling Toter located near the cardboard recycling containers; Mr. Fox Composting will be removing the food scrapes on a weekly basis.

For more information, please contact Public Works and Utilities at 603-692-4266.

Driveway, Obstruction & Trench Opening Permit Reminder

As a reminder, any work done within the Right-Of-Way requires a permit. Examples include resurfacing or rebuilding your driveway, with a new driveway apron connecting to the streets, street openings for utility connections and if occupying a street or sidewalk with staging or roll- off for debris removal /property repairs. If you have questions on the work you intend to complete within the Right-Of-Way, please call the Public Works Department at 692-4266. Permit applications can be located at the City website on the Public Works & Utilities Engineering page. www.somersworthnh.gov

Forrest Glade Cemetery Italianate Well House Roof Replacement.

The new cedar wood roof with a copper top for the Italianate Well House in Forest Glade Cemetery was recently completed. The project was funded by a \$ 25,000 NH Moose Plate Historic Preservation Grant.



City Improvement Project Highlights

TAP Grant –High Street Sidewalk Improvements Substantially Completed

Northeast Earth Mechanics has substantially completed all improvements related to the TAP Grant project. Remaining work includes light poles on High Street and Memorial Drive.



Before



After

CMAQ Traffic Signal Upgrade Project to start

Electric Light Company is beginning work on the six signals on High Street from Kelwyn Drive to Blackwater Road. Work involves replacing the traffic signal equipment, adding pedestrian features to included improved access. Work is expected to have traffic impacts and signal interruptions during construction which is.

Unitil Gas Main Extension on Blackwater Road

Recreation Office Upcoming Programs & Events

- Visit our website for more info on programs & to create your account & register! www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/programs
- **Hilltoppers 50+ Walking/Hiking Program (NEW!)-** register today for this free new program for Somersworth residents ages 50+. The walking locations & schedule is available on our website. Help us spread the word & share with your friends!
- **Tiny Toppers Play Program-** Join us for some fun at the Pines this fall! Free program for children ages 2-4 & their adult caregivers. Adult participation is required for this program.
- **Pee Wee Soccer Program-** This beginner soccer program for children ages 3 & 4 is currently full with a waitlist. Visit our website to create your account or get on the waitlist. We're still in need of volunteer coaches to help run the program! Please contact Rec Supervisor, Kristen Davenport if you're able to become a volunteer coach this season! 603-692-9508

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

TINY TOPPERS

Play Program

SOMERSWORTH CHILDREN AGES 2-4 & ADULT CAREGIVERS

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

9:45-10:30AM

SEPT. 6-27

NOBLE PINES PARK

FREE



- ✓ HAVE FUN OUTSIDE
- ✓ MEET NEW FRIENDS
- ✓ EXPLORE NEW ACTIVITIES
- ✓ GET EXERCISE

SCAN TO CREATE YOUR
ACCOUNT & REGISTER!



REGISTER BY AUGUST 23RD

VISIT OUR WEBSITE BELOW FOR MORE INFO

WWW.SOMERSWORTHNH.GOV/PARKS-RECREATION/PAGES/YOUTH-PROGRAMS

Tiny Toppers Play Program Program – registration opens July 1st for the fall session and the deadline to register is August 23rd. The program runs from September 6-27 Wednesday mornings 9:45-10:30 am. Visit our website at www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation to register. Space is limited



SOMERSWORTH RECREATION
PEE WEE SOCCER

Saturday Mornings: Sept. 9- Oct. 21
Children ages 3 & 4
Noble Pines Park
9:00-9:45am

Early Bird Fee: Register by July 9th
\$45 Residents/ \$55 Non-residents

Fee: After July 9th/Deadline to register is Aug. 13th
\$60 Residents/ \$70 Non-residents

Volunteer Coaches needed!

We rely on volunteers to help run our youth programs. Please contact us if you can coach or be a field attendant! kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov/603-692-9508

New Registration Process!

All customers registering for programs will need to set up an individual & family profile on our new Registration Portal. Scan the QR code or visit our website below to create your account at any time. Visit our website below for more info on how to create your account & register.

NEW-Online Registration: Scan the QR code or visit our website below to **create your RecDesk account & register**

Online payments must be made with a credit card* at time of registration

In-Person: Visit the Rec Office at City Hall

You'll need to have an account already set up in RecDesk or you may create your account when you come in to register. We accept credit cards*, cash, or checks (Made out to City of Somersworth)

**All credit cards will be charged a 2.99% transaction fee + an additional \$0.50*

www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/programs



Pee Wee Soccer – registration is open and we have limited space available. Early bird fee ends July 9 and the deadline to register is August 13. The program runs September 9 through October 21 on Saturday mornings 9:00-9:45 am. Visit our website at www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation to register.

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

HILLTOPPERS 50+

WALKING/HIKING PROGRAM

NEW! Somersworth Residents Ages 50+
Thursdays; Sept. 7th- Oct. 12th
10:00am
Free/Registration is required



Join our Recreation Supervisor this fall for some fresh air & exercise as we explore our beautiful local trails and downtown area! This program is for Somersworth residents ages 50+ looking to get some exercise and meet new friends. Walks will be approximately 1-2 miles depending on the location. This program is weather dependent. Registration is required.



WALKING LOCATIONS/SCHEDULE:

****Please meet at the walking locations 5-10 minutes prior to start time for check-in. An email will be sent if we need to cancel for the day. Walks will begin at 10am. Visit our website below for more info on walking route descriptions.**

Sept. 7th & Sept. 28th- Downtown

Meet in the City Hall Parking Lot on 1 Government Way

Sept. 14th & Oct. 5th- Willand Pond Trail

Meet in the parking lot across from the Market Basket Plaza in Somersworth

Sept. 21st & Oct. 12th- Mast Point Dam Trail

Meet in the parking lot off of Salmon Falls Rd



REGISTER BY SEPT. 1ST

SCAN TO CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT & REGISTER

www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/programs



NEW Hilltoppers 50+ Walking/Hiking Program - Calling all Somersworth residents ages 50+! Join our Recreation Supervisor this fall for some fresh air & exercise as we explore our beautiful local trails and downtown area! This free program is for Somersworth residents ages 50+ looking to get some exercise and meet new friends. Walks will be approximately 1-2 miles depending on the location. This program is weather dependent & registration is required. Registration opens July 1st, please share with your friends!

Visit our website at www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation to register.



Splash Pad at Noble Pines is open 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily - Weather Permitting

Recreation Volunteer Opportunities

Did you know we rely on volunteers to help run most of our programs & special events!? We're looking for volunteer coaches & field attendants for the upcoming Pee Wee Soccer program. Please contact the Rec Office for more details or if you can volunteer this season. 603-602-9508. All volunteers are required to complete a background check form & Volunteer Service Agreement.

Fore more information about any of the Recreation Department Programs please call (603) 692-9507 or (603) 692-9508.

Sunday August 20th, 2023



HILLTOP CLASSIC CAR SHOW Somersworth, NH

157 Main Street, Somersworth, NH.

10AM - 1PM

All Are Welcome

**For More Information Contact:
Jenne Holmes @ 603 - 507 -0065
or
Frank Kennedy @ 603-833-1115**

Hilltop Classic Car Show@gmail.Com

2nd Annual Hilltop Car Show

The 2nd Annual Hilltop car show will take place on Sunday, August 20 from 10 am - 1 pm. Cars, motorbikes, customs and trucks are all welcome to join this event along Main Street from Washington to Fayette street. Registration fee is \$5 per vehicle. Entry to the public is free but donations are gratefully received. This year the show will benefit both the Somersworth Police Association as well as the Somersworth Historical Museum. The show will feature cars, music and food provided by the Somersworth Police Association as well as the Somersworth Lions Club.

Early registration is not required but is strongly recommended and can be done by calling either Jenne Holmes at (603)507-0065 or Frank Kennedy Jr. at (603) 833-1115. Or by emailing: Hilltopclassiccarshow@gmail.com. See you there!



A Message from the Conservation Commission, with material from the University of NH Cooperative Extension

Invasive in the Spotlight: Oriental Bittersweet

Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) is a deciduous, woody, perennial vine native to China, Japan and Korea, that was brought to this

country in the mid-1800s as an ornamental plant. Bittersweet is now considered a serious invasive

species because it poses a significant threat to native plants.

Bittersweet vines have alternate, glossy, round or oval leaves that are 2-5" long. The roots are a distinctive orange color, while the vines are light to medium brown with a white pith. Bittersweet has small, greenish-yellow, five-petaled flowers, which produce green fruit in early summer that ripens to yellow and orange by the fall. The plant's stems and bright fruits are often cut in the fall and used for decoration which can contribute to further spread of this invasive plant. Birds are also quite adept at "planting" new bittersweet vines. Many bird species enjoy eating bittersweet fruit and distribute the seeds to new areas in their droppings.

Oriental Bittersweet can be found in grasslands, woodlands, marsh edges and along road sides. It is often found in open, sunny sites, but its tolerance for shade allows it to invade forested areas as well. It is an extremely aggressive vine that climbs on other vegetation, restricting its host plant's access to sunlight, nutrients and water. The added weight of bittersweet vines also makes trees and other plants more vulnerable to storm damage.

Control

If the bittersweet infestation is light, hand-pulling vines can be effective, especially before the vines have fruited. Place vines in plastic trash bags and dispose of them, or bake the vines in the sun on a tarp or on a paved surface to kill the roots and seeds. Bittersweet often resprouts from root fragments, so use care to remove as many roots as possible to avoid regrowth.

Heavier infestations may be controlled by cutting stems and painting them with an herbicide in early summer through winter.

Always use an Integrated Pest Management Approach.

*Conservation Commission note: Chemical treatments may require application by a licensed professional.

Information on other pervasive invasive plants in New Hampshire is available from the UNH Cooperative Extension site:
Spotlight on NH Invasive Plants <https://extension.unh.edu/resource/spotlight-nh-invasive-plants>



Seacoast Eat Local Educates Somersworth Youth on our Local Food System

In June, Idlehurst students and 3rd graders at Maple Wood participated in the Seacoast Eat Local Mobile Market education series, and this month they get the bonus to that activity— a sample bag of locally grown produce! Each student brought home some combination of collard greens, mixed greens, radishes, cucumbers, kale, mint, garlic scapes, scallions, swiss chard, hakurei turnip(look these up— they're amazing!) or bibb lettuce to share with their families. They opened their bags with enthusiasm similar to that of opening a birthday present, and many could be seen throughout the day snacking on something green and leafy. This was made possible through a USDA Farm to School grant, and we hope to do this in future years. Thank you all who supported and helped organize this, including Idlehurst Principal Liza Cocco, Asst. Principal Kate Gove, Maple Wood Principal Devin McNelley, Maple Wood Asst. Principal Max Ferguson, Farm to School Coordinator Wendy Berkeley, Seacoast Eat Local Education Manager Celeste Gingras, Idlehurst PE teacher Sara Pickard, Idlehurst Health teacher Pete Demeritt, and all the local farmers who grow our food. It's been a ton of fun, and it proves that eating healthy is delicious! Looking forward to more SAMM in our schools next year!





Kids' Concerts 2023



6:00 p.m., Festival Pavilion, Somersworth High School Football Field
Food available for purchase. Great raffles! Show will be moved inside if it rains.

August 2nd

*McDonough-Grimes
Irish Dancers*

and

*Lindsay and Her
Puppet Pals*



August 9th

Wildlife Encounters



Save the Dates!

Pumpkin Festival (Somersworth Plaza)

October 14th

Harvest Craft Fair (Somersworth High School)

October 21st

Penny Sale (Somersworth High School)

November 19th

Holiday Craft Fair (Somersworth High School)

December 2nd

Somersworth Festival Association www.nhfestivals.org 603-692-5869
Visit us on Facebook!



Join us as we lace up our sneakers to
CELEBRATE, SUPPORT, and remember to STRETCH!

CELEBRATE Lydia Valdez's heavenly Birthday!

SUPPORT Lydia's House of Hope in Somersworth, NH

STRETCH our minds, bodies, and limits as we walk or run for a great cause!

Date: September 10th, 2023

Time: 10am

Location: Tri City Subaru & CDJR on Route 108 in Somersworth

Cost: \$20 to register

**CLICK OR SCAN
THE QR CODE TO
REGISTER OR
DONATE!**



Lydia's House of Hope - 21 Grand St Somersworth NH - lydiashousenh.org

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

Goodwin
Community Health

Families
First

Lilac City
Pediatrics

2023 Family Programs

Parenting Classes

Communication is Key Online, Wed
Aug 16 at 5:30 p.m.

[New] Developmental Talk & Play
Families First, Mon Jul 10 at 10 a.m.

Support Groups

The Families We Make, Coffee &

Company 2nd Tuesday at Idlehurst School, Somersworth, 4 Tuesday online at 9:30 a.m.

Parents & Caregivers of Children with an Incarcerated Parent Online, last Mondays at 7 p.m.

Family Morning Out Playgroups

Babytime Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Idlehurst School, Somersworth

Portsmouth Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Families First

Exeter Breaking for summer, will resume in Fall

Epping Breaking for summer, will resume in Fall

Somersworth Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Idlehurst School



[Detail & Program Signup](#)

New Developmental Talk & Play Series

Join us for an Hour of Play with a Pediatric Specialist

An hour of play in our children's room where parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to hear from a pediatric specialist how to help your child learn and grow, with time for an open Q & A. At Families First in Portsmouth



August 14: 10-11:00 a.m.

Pediatric Speech with a focus on speech and communication development



Sept 11: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Pediatric Occupational Therapist with a focus on fine-motor development

[Sign up for PT Development Talk & Play](#)

**City of Somersworth
Employment Opportunities**

Finalists must complete pre-employment screening to include: physical, drug test &

background check. Detailed postings available online at:

<https://www.somersworth.com/human-resources/page/employment-opportunities>

A completed City of Somersworth Employment [Application](#) is

required for all job openings.

For more information please call Linda Corriveau at (603) 692-9529 or email [Linda](#)

RECREATION

Recreation Clerk

Starting Pay: \$16.68 - \$21.98

Closing Date: Reviewed as Received, Open until Filled

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

Summer Seasonal (40 hours a week / July - Sept) \$17.00 - \$20.00hr.

Closing Date: Reviewed as Received, Open Until Filled

WASTEWATER

Wastewater Treatment Mechanic

\$48,755.20 (\$23.44) to \$64,168.00

Closing Date: Reviewed as Received, Open Until Filled

POLICE

Patrol Officers

\$54,329.60 (\$26.12 hr.) to \$74,339.20 (\$35.74 hr.)

More Information: [Somersworth Police Department Job Opportunities](#)

<https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/job-opportunities>



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