



January

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.



**Missed the
meeting?
Catch it
again online**

Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Historic District Commission and Conservation Commission meetings on Channels 22, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

Simply visit the City website [here](#) to begin watching

Boards & Committee Meetings this Month

City Council Meeting [view agenda](#)

Monday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Goal Setting Session

Monday, January 23 at 5:30 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Joint Commission of Council & School Board [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Planning Board [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, January 4 at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 11 at 10:30 a.m.

School Board [view agenda](#)

Tuesday, January 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m.

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The Mayor's Corner

Let the Dream Continue

On August 28th, 1963 Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech. The speech would come at the height of the civil rights movement and would call upon every American to remember the foundational pillars this nation was built upon; creating a society where all would be celebrated, respected and honored, insuring that every American would never be deprived of the inalienable rights we are entitled too.

Since our founding in 1729, the Hilltop City has continued to be a beacon of equality. Within our 10 square mile boundaries, the key to Somersworth’s success has been embedded in the values of our Hilltopper spirit; neighbor helping neighbor, honoring and celebrating our rich cultural diversity and its vast array of families. Hilltoppers are aware that we are all linked together, that regardless of one’s socioeconomic background, ethnicity, gender, religion or sexual orientation, we are all keepers of each



other. The prosperity for each of us is linked to the values of the base of our humanity and the promise to continue on the journey towards fulfillment of the American creed.

For 247 years, we have walked together as a nation towards reaching the self-determined destiny guided by our founders. We continue towards the goals of building a nation which honors the values of hard work, and economic equality for each citizen, who dedicates themselves towards democratic values. Today in 2020, we have inched closer to the goals outlined by our founders on July 4, 1776 and reiterated by Martin Luther King in 1963. Here in Somersworth the light of hope and honoring each other will continue to shine towards each person who wishes to call this great city home. Each January under the guidelines of city ordinance, our community rededicates itself towards the values of equality by proclaiming the month as diversity month. Throughout the month Hilltoppers, schools and government reflects upon how our rich cultural diversity has equated to our “Proud Past” and will continue to build our “Bright Future”. For the month of January, a painting of Martin Luther King Jr. by national renowned artist Rob Surette is on display at City Hall. Let the painting be a reminder of the great work we have done as a nation, and the work each of us still has to do to reach our goals of including all in feeling the warmth and promise of liberty.

**Transcript of speech by
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
August 28, 1963. Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.**

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago a great American in whose symbolic shadow we stand today signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beckoning light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred years later the Negro is still not free. One hundred years later the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination.

One hundred years later the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself in exile in his own land. We all have come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to change racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice ring out for all of God's children. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted citizenship rights.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. And the marvelous new militarism which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers have evidenced by their presence here today that they have come to realize that their destiny is part of our destiny.

So even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation

will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal.' I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its Governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right there in Alabama little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places plains, and the crooked places will be made straight, and before the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the mount with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the genuine discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, pray together; to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom forever, knowing that we will be free one day.

And I say to you today my friends, let freedom ring. From the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire, let freedom ring. From the mighty mountains of New York, let freedom ring. From the mighty Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snow capped Rockies of Colorado!

Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California!

But not only there; let freedom ring from the Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain in Tennessee!

Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill in Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we're free at last!"

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

What's Happening at Somersworth Library

January Events at Somersworth Public Library



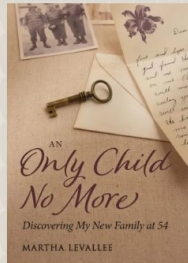
Author Talk:

Local author Martha Levallee will join us to discuss her memoir, *An Only Child No More*. Martha's deceased parents had not shared with her that she had a brother. An unexpected email changed the balance of her life. Her story is both poignant and uplifting. Come meet the subject of this story!

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

AUTHOR TALK:

An Only Child No More by Martha Levallee



**Tuesday, Jan. 17
6pm**

Martha's deceased parents had not shared with her that she had a brother. An unexpected email changed the balance of her life.

"A poignant and uplifting memoir."

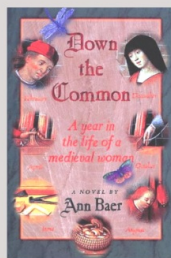
25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library



SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

DISCUSSION GROUPS

BOOK GROUP



Tuesday, January 10 • 5:30 PM

Down the Common
by Ann Baer

SHORT STORY GROUP



Friday, January 20 • 2 PM

The Thirteenth Day
by T. Coraghessan Boyle

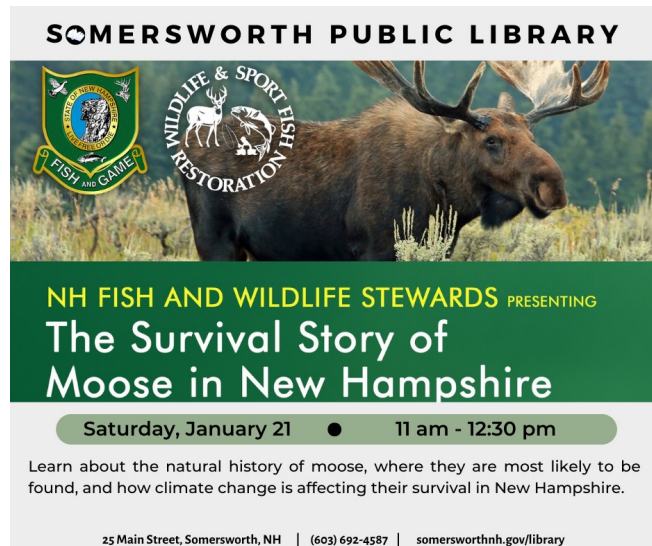
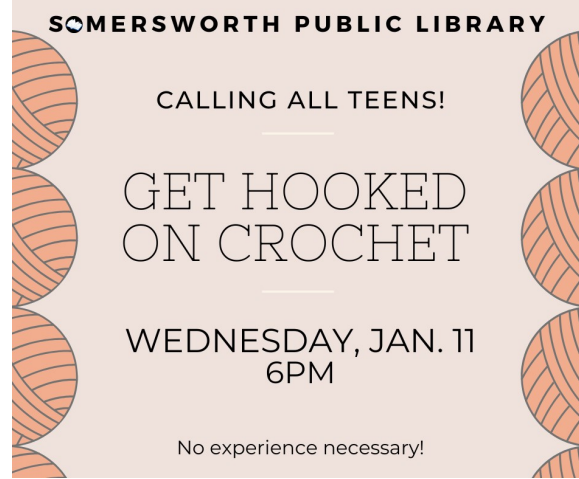
Discussion Groups:

We offer our patrons the opportunity to join our monthly discussion groups. The book discussion group meets the second Tuesday of the month, while the Short Story Discussion group meets the third Friday of the month. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a copy of this month's reads!

Teen Crochet Night

Teens are invited to an Introduction to

Crochet program here at the library, where we will be making crocheted bookmarks as our first project!



Moose Talk

Learn about the natural history of moose, where they are most likely to be found, how climate change is affecting their survival in New Hampshire, and what you can do to ensure their survival.

Library Explorer Program (for kids 12 and under)

Get to know your library this winter and discover all it has to offer! Complete our Library Explorer program, return your completed booklet by March 15th, and receive your own Library Explorer Badge. We'll even have an Explorer wrap-up celebration with ice cream for all of our participants. Open to children of all ages.



Weekly Children's Programs

We offer a variety of programs for children at the library, including:

Story Time - Tuesdays at 10:30am

Stories, songs, games and play! This is a great opportunity for kids under 5 to practice social and pre-literacy skills.

STEAM & Play - Wednesdays at 4pm

Bring your problem solving skills and join us to create, build, and play.
Recommended for ages 5-12.

Lego Engineers - Saturdays at 11am

Come to the library for LEGO-building fun. Build your own Lego creation or collaborate with new friends. LEGOs provided! Recommended for all ages.

Check out the Library's monthly newsletter [here](#)



Somersworth Police Department





6th Annual Shop with a Cop

The 6th Annual Somersworth Police Department Shop with a Cop is in the history books this was our biggest and we believe the best we have ever had. Shop with a Cop is an event where Cops take their “buddy” shopping for gifts for their family and then wrap them up while enjoying pizza and goodies at a Pizza Party. Our shoppers are selected by our SRO and issued an invitation. This year we had a record number of children as the need was so great.

Participating Agencies: New Hampshire State Police, Portsmouth Police Department, Durham Police Department, Dover Police Department, Strafford County Sheriff’s Office, Stewarts Ambulance Service and US Army National Guard. Sponsors: Somersworth Walmart went all out for us and welcomed us with the Grinch and provided us with goodies and hand made hot chocolate kits in a snowman and provided wrapping supplies. Villa Pizza, Somersworth House of Pizza, and Old Rail Pizza, Dunkin Doughnuts Rte. 108 provided pizza and hot chocolate and the Somersworth Housing Authority allowed us to use the Flanagan Gym. **Special thanks to:** Mayor Dana Hilliard and Staff, Somersworth City Council, Somersworth SAU 56 and volunteers.

We would also like to acknowledge all of the officers and staff at the Somersworth Police Department that made this event possible (as well as the family members who came to help us out). We absolutely would not be able to do this without your continued support and participation. Thank you all again and we hope you had a great holiday and wish you and yours a very happy, safe 2023.



2023 Alarm Permit Renewal Notices were mailed out in November. If you own a fire alarm or security system alarm, ordinances require you to obtain a permit. This allows us to create a site in our police database that has all of your alarm call backs/ key holders. To renew your permit, the fee is \$10.00 if paid before the end of January, 2023 or \$20.00 after. If the alarm is for a residence and you are 65 or older, your permit is

free. If you have never registered your alarm, the fee is \$25.00 (if you the alarm is not for a residence and you are not 65 or older) and the application can be found at: <https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/forms-applications>
If you have questions, please call Karen at the Somersworth PD at 603-841-2917 or email: kcantrell@somersworthnh.gov



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

A safety message from the Fire Chief's Office

The promise of the New Year brings optimism and renewal. However, this special time of year requires extra vigilance. Consider the following tips to help keep you safe:

- The leading cause of fire in the kitchen is unattended cooking with cooking fires the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. Maintain a presence during your cooking project. Have a lid handy when working on the stovetop. If a fire occurs in the pan and you feel safe doing so, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled. For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the oven door closed. Do not hesitate to evacuate and call 9-1-1 when outside.
- Heating systems are the second leading cause of fires. Consequently, it is imperative that you use your home heating systems – including space heaters – safely. Space heaters can cause fires when combustible materials such as bedding, mattresses, pillows, clothing, or furniture are too close to the heater. When buying a space heater, look for one that has been tested and labeled by a nationally recognized testing company and one that will

automatically turn off if knocked over. Keep the heater 3-feet away from drapes, furniture, or other flammable materials. Place the heater on a level surface away from areas where someone might knock it over or bump into it. If you must use an extension cord, make sure it is a heavy-duty cord marked with a power rating at least as high as that on the label of the heater itself. Never leave a space heater unattended or running while you sleep. Supervise children and pets when a space heater is in use. Keep electric heaters away from water. Never use them near a sink or in the bathroom.

- Fireplaces and solid fuel stoves require special precautions. Have your chimney professionally cleaned every year. Do not use flammable liquids to start the fire. Never leave children unattended near fireplaces and stoves. Check that the damper is open before lighting the fire and do not close the damper until the fire is out and the embers are cold. Failure to do so can result in an accumulation of smoke and carbon monoxide within the home. Keep any combustibles at least three feet away from the fireplace or stove. Use a fireplace screen to prevent embers from falling onto the floor. Ashes cleaned from the stove or fireplace must be shoveled into a metal bucket with a tight-fitting metal lid and placed outside, on the ground, well away from the house, garage, porch, or deck. Do not place ashes in a paper bag or cardboard box. Ashes and embers can stay hot for days and start a fire.
- The foundation of home fire and life safety is functioning smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home, at the bottom of every stairwell, and outside each sleeping area. Replace smoke alarms every ten years. Test alarms regularly and change alkaline batteries when changing the clocks. Consider installing alarms with sealed, 10-year batteries. In addition, practice exit drills in the home (EDITH) to include establishing a meeting place outside and reminding everyone to get out and stay out.
- Carbon Monoxide is a silent killer with heating equipment as the leading source of carbon monoxide (CO) in the home. Don't use your gas stove or oven for heat. Have furnaces and chimneys checked annually by a professional. Keep appliance vents and exhaust pipes clear of drifting snow, bushes, and animal nests. Install carbon monoxide alarms on every habitable level, no more than 10 feet from every bedroom door, and replace every 5-7 years in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- If using a portable generator – especially during a prolonged electrical outage - run it at least 20 feet away from the house – never inside the house, in the garage, in a breezeway, or on a deck. The same goes for a gas or charcoal grill. Point the exhaust of the generator away from the house or garage. As indicated above, carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless killer. Allow your generator to cool before refueling to avoid a flash fire.
- During the winter months, residents may be eager to skate, play hockey, fish, or enjoy other winter activities as lakes, ponds, and streams freeze. However, frozen bodies of water are extremely dangerous. Public

safety agencies such as the Somersworth Fire Department often receive calls from the public asking if the ice is "safe". Even during the coldest winter weather, ice conditions can vary greatly on the same body of water making the safety of the ice very unpredictable. We ask that parents and responsible adults take an active role in ice safety by talking with their children and teenagers about the hazards of ice. "Children and teenagers can be adventurous and fearless. They often do not fully understand the deadly consequences of playing on the ice or taking a shortcut over what appears to be frozen water." In the end, the best way to stay safe is to stay off the ice.

- Prepare a winter emergency kit for both your home and car.

Feel free to call the Fire Station regarding questions about any emergency management, fire prevention, or life safety topic. The Number is 603-692-3457

Please be safe, happy, and well during the holidays.

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



Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or summer storms can all lead to power outages. Many people turn to a portable generator for a temporary solution without knowing the risks.

- Generators should be used in well ventilated locations outside at least 5 feet (1.5 metres) away from all doors, windows, and vent openings. Measure the 5-foot (1.5 metres) distance from the generator exhaust system to the building.
- Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.
- Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building. The exhaust must be directed away from the building.
- Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot.



- Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

Just Remember...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

FACT

- ! A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2017



The Operations Wing of the new Fire Station begins to take shape as pictured on December 27, 2022.



Off duty Somersworth Fire Department personnel and volunteers pause for a moment just prior to passing out toys on Saturday, December 17, 2022. Orders were filled for 370 children across 157 households bringing Christmas joy to many.



C-Shift conducts vehicle extrication training and evaluates one of four manufactures competing to provide the SFD with battery powered vehicle extrication tools commonly referred to as the “jaws of life”. The City earned a \$50,000 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to purchase state-of-the-art battery powered hydraulic rescue tools and associated equipment.



A-Shit Lt Drakopoulos evaluates a battery powered hydraulic cutter as part of the assessment process to purchase a set of battery powered hydraulic rescue tools through a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The SFD extends appreciation to Chandler's Automotive and Towing of Sanford Me for donating, delivering, and picking up four junked vehicles used in the training and evaluation process.



SFD personnel conduct early season training using the Department's new Imperial ice and cold-water rescue suits (yellow and black). The rescue line is a high strength polypropylene rope that floats.

**Department of Public Works
& Utilities**



Solid Waste, Recycling, Bulky Waste Tips and Highlights

There will be No Change to the regular schedule for residential trash and recycling collection for the New Year's Holiday. Reminder the next Metal/Electronics curbside collection by Public

Works crews will occur on **Tuesday, January 10**. Residents should call the Public Works office at 603-692-4266 by **Friday, January 6** to be placed on the pick-up list. Use of bulky waste/metal waste stickers is required and can be purchased at City Hall, City Clerk office; bulky tags can also be purchased at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane by **check only**.

Christmas Tree Drop Off Program

The Department of Public Works will provide Christmas Tree Drop off and limited collection services during the month of January. Somersworth residents may drop off their Christmas trees at the Department of Public Works Facility located at 18 Lilac Lane. All ornaments and decorations must be removed as Highway personnel grind up the trees for future composting. A designated location within the main parking lot at the Facility will be provided for the drop off.

Public Works Highway crews will also collect residential Christmas Trees without ornaments and decorations, during the 2 and 4 week in January following the standard trash and recycling collection services. Set out your tree by 7am which is the same time as you set out your trash and recyclables during this week and Highway personnel will collect and remove. As a reminder those dates are Monday, January 9, Tuesday, January 10, and Wednesday January 11 for the first week; the second week is: Monday January 23, Tuesday January 24, and Wednesday January 25. Please note while these set out dates are firm; delays may occur should our Highway personnel need to respond to a weather emergency.

Winter Parking Ban Alerts

During the winter, parking bans are called typically when snow or ice conditions makes it unsafe for vehicles to park while City winter plow equipment is clearing roads and sidewalks. Call the recorded snow line for winter snow parking ban information at 603-692-9131. Check the City website for current postings on winter emergency parking bans as well at www.somersworthnh.gov

Winter Parking Permit Program

Permitted parking is available during snow emergency parking bans on Noble Street adjacent to the Noble Pines Park, and on River Street adjacent to Jules Bisson Park. Permits to park there during parking bans resulting from a snow emergency are available from November 1 through March 31 at a rate of \$20.00 per month and are available at the Police Department.

Private Snow in Public Ways? NOT ALLOWED!

Residents and commercial property owners are reminded that the City prohibits anyone from depositing ice or snow from private property onto the City streets or sidewalks. Residents and commercial property owners are asked to remind their private snow plow operators that the snow from their driveways or parking lots may not be pushed into the City streets or sidewalks. This activity inhibits pedestrians from safely accessing those City

sidewalks, forcing them to walk in the streets, which is an unsafe situation. Public Works staff will be monitoring compliance throughout the City and will be paying particularly close attention to businesses and retail properties along the High Street corridor.

City Announces 2023 Spring Road Resurfacing Work

Do you live along these streets?

If you live along the following streets, the City plans to resurface them this Spring. Following receipt of bids and City Council approval of the selected paving contractor, work is anticipated to begin in Spring of 2023. Once a street has been resurfaced, there will be a three (3) year pavement moratorium on those streets. The roads being reconstructed will be under a five (5) year moratorium. The moratorium means no trenching or cutting into the new pavement will be allowed from the date of the road resurfacing work. Please make arrangements for any utility work, (replacement of water or sewer service lines, or new natural gas service) that affects the street at your residence ahead of this anticipated work schedule.

The following streets were approved by the City Council for road resurfacing starting in the Spring of 2023.

- Buffumsville Road – Shim/Overlay
- Bourque Street – Shim/Overlay
- Lee Street- Shim/Overlay
- First Street - Reconstruction
- Maloney Street – Reconstruction

A bid alternative is proposed should additional funds be available to resurface the following streets.

- Spence Street – Shim/Overlay
- Coombs Road – Shim/Overlay
- Quarry Road – Shim/Overlay

The City will also be soliciting bids for crack sealing certain streets as part of preventive maintenance. The crack sealing work preserves the pavement condition until the street is a candidate for resurfacing. Streets selected for crack sealing include Maple Street, Hillside Street, Washington Street, Kilda Street, Cecile Street, Blackwater Road, Salmon Falls Road, High Street (Stackpole Rd to Commercial Dr). Following City Council approval, work is anticipated to start in the Spring of 2023.



Maplewood School Art Project linked to a City Plow Truck

Highway Division personnel worked with Maplewood Assistant Principal, Max Ferguson and Art Teacher, Holly Pim on a unique art project involving painting the school logo and signatures on a wing plow on Truck #302. The project was associated with student awareness about how Public Works operations help maintain City

streets particularly in the winter, while highlighting student art skills. Students from Idlehurst Elementary painted their school logo on the wing plow as well. Highway personnel enjoyed working with the staff and students from Maplewood Elementary School as well as Idlehurst Elementary School. Truck 302 was entered in this year's Somersworth-Berwick Christmas Parade which

was held on Saturday December 10.

Recreation Office News

Upcoming Events

Biddy Basketball (Ages 3-6) is currently full. Call the Rec Office at 603 692-9507 to add your child to our Wait List. The program runs for 5 weeks on Saturday mornings from February 25 - March 25.



Rec Youth Basketball (Grades 1-6) - The Rec Youth Basketball program is off to a great start!! It's nice to see so many returning players and new players joining us this season! Big thanks to the Somersworth High School Varsity Basketball coaches and players for partnering with us again this year to run the Grades 3-6 Girls and Boys sessions. Shout out to the parent volunteers for donating their time and energy to help run this program. We are looking forward to a fun season!



Our Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt was held on Friday, December 2.

We would like to thank the Interact Club, National Honor Society, and Public Works staff for helping with set up and running the event. Big shout out to the Fire Department for bringing Santa on the fire truck! Thanks to all the families that came out it was our biggest crowd for this event! The kids found thousands of candy canes that were scattered on the football field, enjoyed hot cocoa, cookies, and a visit with Santa.

Save the Date - Somersworth Recreation Valentine's Dance will be held on Thursday, February 9. Tickets go on sale starting January 9.

**Tickets must be purchased in advance
No tickets will be sold at the door.**



2023

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

Valentine's Dance

Thursday, February 9th

Idlehurst Elementary School Cafe

6:30-8:30 pm

\$25 per Couple (1 Adult/Children)
No charge for additional children
\$5 charge per additional Adult

Girls/Boys in Grades K-6 & their special date (Dad, Mom, Step-Parent, Aunt, Uncle, Grandparent, etc.) are invited to a fun filled evening. There will be music, light refreshments, raffle prizes, and a photo booth to capture your special memories. Families are asked to donate a dessert/goodies if you can.

Tickets must be purchased in advance
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Tickets will be on sale January 9th-February 8th in the Rec Office at City Hall. Tickets are limited, please call 603 692-9507 to ensure tickets are still available prior to coming in. Cash or checks only. Checks payable to City of Somersworth.

MUSIC - PHOTO BOOTH - REFRESHMENTS

Fore more information about any of the Recreation Department



Join the Forest Glade Cemetery Trustees!

Somersworth's Cemetery Trustees are seeking a new member. Do you have an interest in local history, with a desire to help continue the preservation of a beautiful historic landmark? If so, you are encouraged to submit a [Boards, Commission and Committee application](#) to the City Clerk's office. The Cemetery Trustees meet monthly to discuss ongoing initiatives relating to Forest Glade and other historic municipal burial grounds. For information please call Department of Public Works staff at 603-692-4266, or contact the City Clerk's office at 603-692-

9511.

ARE YOU BEHIND IN PAYING YOUR MORTGAGE, PROPERTY CHARGES, OR UTILITIES BECAUSE OF COVID-19?



The New Hampshire Homeowner Assistance Fund provides assistance to eligible residents who are past due in paying their home mortgage, property taxes, home insurance, association fees, or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Apply at **HomeHelpNH.org**



The NH Homeowner Assistance Fund program is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR). It is administered by New Hampshire Housing.

THE NH HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND

provides assistance to eligible residents who are past due in paying their home mortgage, property taxes, home insurance, association fees, or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



ELIGIBLE HOMEOWNERS

- Must have experienced a COVID-19 pandemic-related reduction in income or increase in expenses that occurred after January 21, 2020 or began prior to but continued after that date.
- Must own and occupy, as their primary residence, the New Hampshire property for which assistance is requested.
- Must have income(s) of equal to or less than 125% of Area Median Income.

ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

Must be owner-occupied, or in the case of a land contract or contract for deed, occupied by the documented buyer. Eligible properties include:

- Single-family (attached or detached) properties
- Condominium units
- 1-4 unit properties where one of the units is the homeowner's primary residence
- Manufactured/modular homes permanently affixed to real property and taxed as real estate
- Manufactured homes not permanently affixed to real property but with a Title Certificate or Statement of Ownership in the homeowner's name.

CONTACTS

HomeHelpNH.org

For program details and to apply

AHEAD

(603) 444-1377 x1014
HomesAhead.org

For application assistance, financial counseling, and other resources

603 Legal Aid

(603) 224-3333
NHLegalAid.org

For assistance with an immediate threat of foreclosure, tax deed, or sheriff's sale



Apply at **HomeHelpNH.org**



The NH Homeowner Assistance Fund program is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR). It is administered by New Hampshire Housing.



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER!

LEARN, GROW & THRIVE

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT PROGRAM Somersworth Ready Together | YMCA of Strafford County

The Early Childhood Enrichment Program is returning to the Somersworth Ready Together Family Room at Idlehurst Elementary School. We are accepting registrations for children ages 3 - 5 who live in Somersworth. The YMCA of Strafford County and the Somersworth Ready Together (SRT) Coalition are offering this enrichment program because we know that these early years are so important for healthy brain growth and development. We want to provide a safe, positive, happy learning space that will help Somersworth children thrive!

During this enrichment experience, children will participate in playtime, songs, stories, art projects, and socializing with friends. Children must be potty trained in order to enroll. Parents/guardians must pack a lunch and are responsible for transportation. This program is for children only, it is not a parent/guardian and child group.

REGISTER & LEARN MORE

Families may register by scanning the QR code above or by visiting www.graniteymca.org/ecep. Having trouble registering? Stop by the YMCA of Strafford County during one of our registration events:

Wednesday, October 12
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Thursday, October 13
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please contact Laura Dubois at 603.994.4113 or ldubois@graniteymca.org.

COST

This program is **FREE**, but registration is required.

PARTICIPANTS

Open to children ages 3 - 5 that live in Somersworth. Children must be potty trained.

DATES & TIME

October 24 - June 9, 2023
This program will run from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays.

LOCATION

Somersworth Ready Together
Family Room
Idlehurst Elementary School
46 Stackpole Rd, Somersworth, NH

YMCA OF STRAFFORD COUNTY | 35 Industrial Way, Rochester, NH | www.graniteymca.org



Read and write with us at the Community Literacy Center!

Ongoing Youth Programming:

- **1-1 literacy support** (gr. K-12, T/Th). Work with a UNH student on reading and writing goals through research-based activities and games. More info and registration:
 - in-person: <https://tinyurl.com/LSIPF21>
 - remote: <https://tinyurl.com/yra6fckf>
- **Write Free** (gr. 5-12, W). Spark your imagination with freewrites and develop your writing skills with a supportive group of writers. More info and registration: <https://tinyurl.com/RMWFF21>

Spring 2023 Youth Programming (registration coming soon!):

- **Pageturners - 1 Day Camp** (gr. K-5): Have to work but the kids don't have school? Send the kids to the CLC for a day of books, art, creating, and fun! Date: 1/23.
- **Book to Art** (gr. K-4, W) Read books! Make art! Dates: 2/8, 2/15, 3/1, 3/8, 3/22, 3/29
- **Superstar Writers** (gr. 3-4, Th) Dates: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 3/2, 3/9, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 5/4

**For more information and registration for
Ongoing Youth Programming:**

In-Person please [see here](#)

Remote [see here](#)

Emergency Willand Warming Center of Strafford County

The Warming Center of Strafford County at 30 Willand Drive in Somersworth, NH will activate, as needed through winter from November 25 to March 31, 2023.

Reservations/pre-registrations aren't required. Access is walk-in only.

The two nearest COAST bus stops to the Willand Warming Center are High Street: Holy Trinity/Bernier (Route 1) and Route 108 Midway Buick/Coastal Neurology (Route 12). Riders will need a bus ticket or bus pass for all COAST transportation. Bus tickets are available at SOS - Dover (4 Broadway) & SOS - Rochester (14 Signal Street).

Questions can be directed to the Willand facility at 603-742-2709 or 603-969-1305 or via direct message to the facility Facebook page 'Warming Center of Strafford County' (#warmingcenterofsc).

To get text notifications for Warming Center Activations, please text 'Willand' to 855-970-3280.

Anyone experiencing housing insecurity at any time can call 211 for support.

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

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Planning Secretary

\$41,308.40 (\$19.86 hr.) - \$54,350.40 (\$26.13 hr.)

POLICE

Dispatcher

\$39,956.80 (\$19.21 hr.) - \$52,374.40 (\$25.18 hr.)

Patrol Officer

\$50,772.80 (\$24.41 hr.) to \$66,518.40 (\$31.98)

More Information: [Somersworth Police Department Job Opportunities](https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/job-opportunities)

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



**City Hall will be closed on
Monday, January 2 for the New
Year Holiday
and Monday, January 16 for
Martin Luther King Day**



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