



*March 2024*

## **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.

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## **Boards & Committee Meetings this Month**

**City Council Meeting**

Monday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.

**Economic Development  
Committee**

Monday, March 4 at 6:00 p.m.

**Site Review Technical  
Committee**

Wednesday, March 6 at 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, March 13 at 10:00  
a.m.

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00  
p.m.

Meeting Cancelled this Month

**Conservation Commission**

Wednesday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m.

**Eyes on 30**

Monday, March 18 at 5:00 p.m.

**School Board Meeting**

Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Board**

Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.

**Historic District Commission**

Wednesday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

## The Mayor's Corner

March is often regarded by many New Englanders as the worst month. It's an awful mix of winter's worst characteristics: cold, stormy, muddy, and volatile. And it comes at a time when most New Englanders are fed up with every last bit of winter and desperate for the smallest crocus bloom or 50-degree day. Call me an idealist, but this is exactly why I love March. These hints of spring are often enough to seduce me into overlooking March's many downsides and remembering that we made it through the worst of winter and that spring is just around the corner. March beckons in many positive things: the days get longer and the sun begins to set after 7:00 PM, the air starts to smells like spring, early spring flowers bloom, birds return, maple syrup is boiled, and we have as many warm spring days as we have cold gross ones! I find myself motivated to be outside once again, to clean my garden, take walks through the neighborhood, pick up trash, rake autumn's leftover leaves, and hunt down every small spring bud that's started to poke up through the soil. These small tasks keep me busy enough until spring truly begins.



When I tell others of my March-loving affliction I rarely get a sympathetic response. More often than not I hear "Are you serious?! March is the worst!" But I can't help but try to encourage others to share in my love. Far too often, especially as New Englanders, we steep ourselves in the doldrums. Winter certainly makes this easier. But when presented with true signs of change, real examples of spring's awakening, why not choose optimism?

So I enter into this March with a sense of excitement, opportunity, and optimism,

and I ask that you do the same. Whichever winter stressors have frozen you, they will soon thaw. Whatever darkness has crept in and stagnated, brightness and warmth are nearly here. So grab a rake, shovel, trash bag, pen, pencil, walking shoes, book – whatever tools you use best to bide your time – and chip away at some small tasks while you wait. Make lemonade out of March’s lemons, because before you know it, we’ll have summer to start wishing away.

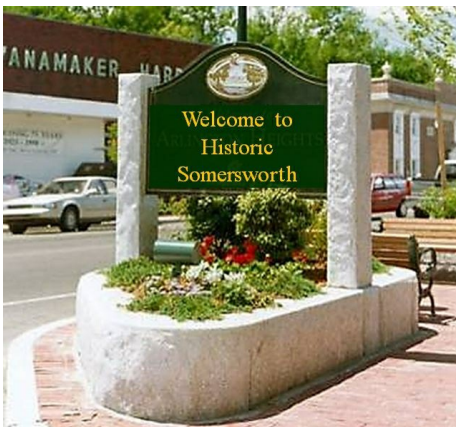
Over the next month or so, there are a number of important dates to keep in mind:

- Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM, in City Hall – Superintendent Community Forum
- Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM, in City Hall – State of the City Address
- Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, in City Hall – 2024-2025 City Budget Introduced to Somersworth City Council
- Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM, in City Hall – 2024-2025 City Budget Presentation by the City Manager
- Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM, in City Hall – 2024-2025 City Budget Workshop for the City Council

Please reach out if you have any questions about these events! As the City Council begins working on the 2024-2025 City Budget, it is important that you communicate your wishes and concerns either in-person or electronically. Contact information for myself and the members of the Somersworth City Council can be found [HERE](#). And remember, like with all things this March, I encourage you to lead with excitement, opportunity, and optimism.

*Thank you again for everything you do for our City!*  
*Mayor Matt Gerding*

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## CONNECT WITH US

**City Property or Code Issue:**  
[Contact Code](#)

**City Hall Directory:**  
[City Department Telephone Directory](#)

**City Hall's Online Services:**  
[Property Tax, Utility Bills, Dog Licenses and more.....](#)

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# ELECTION OFFICIALS NEEDED

**The City of Somersworth needs your help.** Election Officials are critical to the success of an election.

☐ **WARD 2 IS SEEKING:**

☐ 1 WARD MODERATOR

☐ 3 SELECTMAN

☐ **WARD 3 IS SEEKING:**

☐ 1 SELECTMAN

**Selectman (aka Ballot Clerks)** – primary duty during an election is to maintain the Voter Checklist, checking Voters in, and to assist with counting of ballots at the end of the evening.

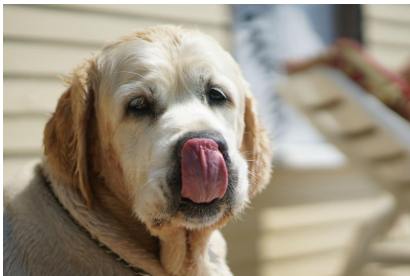
**Moderator** – is the Chief election officer and in charge of the polls ensuring the correctness of the election procedure is followed.

***Training, Breakfast & Lunch, and Stipends provided***

Candidates must be duly qualified voters in the City of Somersworth and live within the respective Ward.

Those interested in seeking office, please contact the City Clerk's Office for more information.

**Contact the City Clerk's Office for More Information at  
603-692-9511 or [klapanne@somersworthnh.gov](mailto:klapanne@somersworthnh.gov)**



## Time to Renew Dog Licenses

Dog licenses for 2024 are now available. All dogs must be licensed by April 30, 2024, to avoid a late fee. The cost for a male or female dog is \$10, a neutered male or spayed female dog is \$7.50 and puppies (3-7 months) are \$7.50 for first licensing.

Dog licenses can be renewed at the City Clerk's office at City Hall, by mail or online. Rabies vaccinations must be Up-to-date.

To renew online, [click here](#).

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-692-9512

## What Happening in Development Services

### Don't Overload the Code Initiative

On Oct. 31, 2023, Gov. Chris Sununu established by executive order the Don't Overload the Code Initiative to extend New Hampshire's 603 area code and to prepare businesses for the eventuality an additional area code will be assigned to the state.



The Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) is now conducting

a [survey](#) to assess the potential impact an additional New Hampshire area code would have on the state's businesses.

BEA would like to hear from businesses and organizations statewide to fully assess any impact. The survey is open until **March 25, 2024**. Please contact [Karen Immel](#) Business Resource Specialist with any questions.

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### **Discharge in Public Ways**

The Code Compliance Office would like to remind residential and commercial property owners that the City Ordinance prohibits anyone from discharging water onto City sidewalks. While the weather is trending warmer, this prohibited activity creates a slip hazard when the discharge water freezes during the cold evening temperatures. This activity inhibits pedestrians from safely accessing those City sidewalks, forcing them to walk in the streets, which is an unsafe situation.



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## **Natural Resources & Land Use Chapter**

### **Master Plan Update**

In the new year, Planning staff and partners from the [Strafford Regional Planning Commission](#) began kicking off updates to the City's Land Use and Natural Resource Master Plan chapters, through a project funded by a grant from the [Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership](#). Through March, the project team will work with the Planning Board and Conservation Commission to gain insight on implementation progress toward existing actions in the plan, generate new goals, and craft a vision for the future. The [current Master Plan](#) hasn't seen an update since 2010, and the last update to the city's [Natural Resource Inventory](#) occurred in 2016. This project seeks to generate an engaged planning process to identify and characterize critical natural resources, build consensus among community members around management approaches, and create an ambitious but achievable and measurable implementation plan that balances community interests, integrates local and regional goals, and is based on the most up to date and best available science. Stay tuned for opportunities to participate in the project process and use your voice to create a sustainable future for Somersworth!

[Click Here](#) for an update on the **Housing Chapter: Living in Somersworth Project**

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## What's Happening at Somersworth Library

**JOIN OUR TEAM**

**BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY!**



We are seeking members of the public to form a Friends of the Library Group - specifically for major roles such as President, Secretary, & Treasurer. The Friends Group will help the library fundraise for services and programs that otherwise would not be available. Friends also help to advocate for and support the library's presence within the community. If you are interested in being a member and would like more information on how to help get this group started, please reach out to let us know!

### MASTER GARDENER SERIES

#### Invasive Plants

Tuesday, March 12 • 6pm

#### Go Native: Gardening with Native Plants

Tuesday, March 26 • 6pm

Our Master Gardener Series continues with Two new exciting program in March, both presented by Master Gardener Jane Raymond.

#### **Tuesday, March 12 • 6pm: INVASIVE PLANTS**

Attendees will learn the official definition of invasive species and what differentiates an invasive species from a native species. The concerns surrounding invasive plants and the ecological characteristics common to invasive plants will be discussed. To assist attendees that have invasive plant issues, a number of



practical control strategies will be presented, including helpful resources.

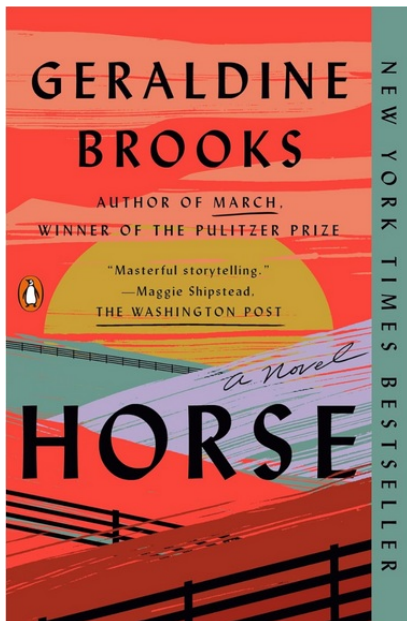
**Tuesday, March 26 • 6pm: GO NATIVE!**

Learn what native plants are and why they are important to add to your landscapes. Photos of native plants appropriate for various growing conditions will be shown as well as photos of native garden examples. Attendees will learn where to buy natives and how to use them successfully in their new and existing gardens. Ideas for creating a container native garden will be discussed. The instructor hopes to inspire the attendees to make small changes in their gardens with native plants.

The Master Gardener Series is presented by Somersworth Community Gardens in conjunction with the UNH Masters Gardeners Program.

Looking for some St. Patrick's Day fun? Come down to the library and enjoy a special musical performance by Pat Boyle and Gerry Corr, two talented local musicians who have been playing traditional Irish and Scottish music for over thirty years. Their music is a unique blend of Ceol agus Craic (song and fun) and has been enjoyed throughout the Seacoast and beyond. Best of all, it's free family fun – so don't miss it!

**BEYOND BAGPIPES**  
**Traditional Irish Music**  
**with Pat Boyle & Gerry Corr**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 15 • 11AM**



**Book Discussion Group**  
**"NEW DATE"**

**Tuesday, March 19 at 5:30 p.m.**

Book Group is open to all local residents who love to read. Join us for a fun and lively discussion.

Book vary in genre and theme to keep things interesting.

This months selected book is Horse by Geraldine Brooks.

**Join us for Adult Cookbook Club!**

To join, simply pick up a copy of

this month's cookbook at the circulation desk. Then, make and bring a dish to share with others and let us know which recipe you used. This month's featured cookbook is *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Come and Get It!* by Ree Drummond.

## COOKBOOK CLUB

Saturday, March 23rd at 11 am

*The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Come and Get It!*

by Ree Drummond



Adults, join us on Fridays at 2pm for a showing of a great movie! In March we'll be showing the following Oscar-nominated movies:

- March 1: Barbie
- March 8: Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny
- March 15: Black Panther: Wakanda Forever
- March 22: Avatar: The Way of the Water
- March 29: The Fabelmans



Families are invited to join us for a fun Eclipsed-themed celebration at the Library on Saturday, April 6. Attendees who pre-register can reserve a set of Solar Glasses to bring home with them for use during the total Solar Eclipse on April 8.

Register [here](#)





Quality Time is a new initiative offered by local seasoned teacher, Diana Metreud. This program offers a unique approach to exploring social-

emotional concepts. Each session is designed to encourage children to develop positive character traits and promote strong family bonds. Quality Time will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm. Upcoming sessions include:

- March 5: Unconditional Love
- April 2: Superhero Helping Qualities
- May 7: Making Choices

Registration for this program is required and limited to 10 families per session. Sign your family up for one or more sessions at the circulation desk today!

One of the library's most popular children's programs is Kids Club. This program runs in monthly sessions and allows elementary-aged children to enjoy various group projects in a fun and relaxed setting. The March session will focus on creating animal crafts. The March session still has a few



spots remaining, and we are also accepting sign-ups for the April session, where kids will enjoy participating in various games and challenges. To register your child for Kids Club, give us a call or stop by the circulation desk.



### Story Time

**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

Our weekly story time is geared towards children ages 2-5, 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

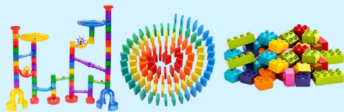
**Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.**

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

# BABY PLAY GROUP



## WEEKEND BUILDERS



### Weekend Builders

**Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.**

Children are invited to build and create together every Saturday in the children's Room. Various materials such as legos, blocks, dominoes and magformers will be available to use. Recommended for ages 12 and under

## POPULAR SERVICES



**The Library offers its patrons many services that you may not be aware of. Some of these include:**

- Access to Libby, a free app where you can enjoy e-books, digital audiobooks, and magazines using your library card
- Access to Hoopla, a free media streaming platform for audiobooks, comics, e-books, movies, music, and TV
- Access to NHAIS, the library's interlibrary lending system which allows patrons to borrow materials from all over the state
- Access to ABCMouse, a digital education program for children ages 2–8, which can be used on any computer within the library
- Laptops for in-library use
- 4 iPads available for checkout by any Somersworth Public Library patron
- Wii gaming system, which is always available for use in our Young Adult section

- Seed Library and Plant Propagation station, giving patrons access to a living library of items at no cost



STRAWBERY BANKE MUSEUM

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### **Discounted Museum Passes**


Did you know we have discounted museum passes available for our patrons? We offer passes to Strawbery Banke Museum, Seacoast Science Center, the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, and starting this month, we offer a discounted Zoo New England pass. You can reserve the passes ahead of time so that you're well prepared for your excursion. Ask us for more details at the circulation desk!



**SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY**




**1000  
BOOKS**  
BEFORE KINDERGARTEN



Help your child develop strong literacy skills at an early age! One thousand books may seem like a lot, but if you read just one book a day, you'll reach your goal in less than three years.

Each child who meets their goal before Kindergarten earns a free book from the library!



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

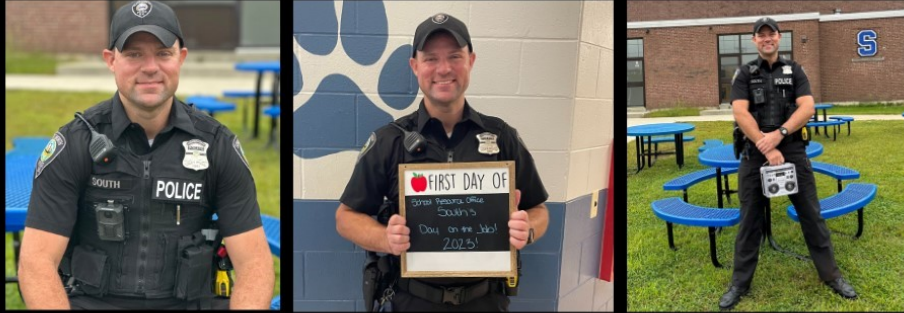
If you have a young child at home, be sure to take advantage of the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten program at the Library. Reading aloud to your child will help strengthen their language skills, build vocabulary and foster a lifelong love of reading. Children who participate in the program receive milestone stickers as well as free book upon completion of their goal. Stop by the Library to sign your child up today. Recommended for ages 0-5

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**Somersworth Police Department**



# Thank you!



## SRO South

NATIONAL SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DAY  
THURSDAY 2/15!

On Feb 22 the Somersworth School Board recognized Police Officer Scott South, who serves as the Somersworth Police Department's School Resource Officer (SRO). The School Board recently nominated Scott to be recognized by the New Hampshire Juvenile Police Officers Association on National SRO Day February 15. Maggie Larson, the School Board Chair, read the letter that she submitted in support of Scott. Every member of the board complimented Police Officer South for his commitment to the students, staff, and community of Somersworth. In a room filled with his family, friends, and co-workers Scott thanked everyone for their continued support and commitment to the SRO program. We are so very lucky to have such a committed and caring officer assigned as the SRO. We could go on with numerous accolades for Scott who is an extremely humble person but I think the greatest one we could give is that we appreciate him so much in the role of overseeing and fostering the Department's positive relationships with the youth of Somersworth.



## DID YOU HEAR? SOMERSWORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT IS BRAVING THE COLD, EARNING BRAGGING RIGHTS AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM  
SOMERSWORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT  
WILL ENTER THE ICY WATERS OF LAKE  
WINNIPESAUKEE ON MARCH 9 ALL TO  
SUPPORT NEARLY 3,000 SPECIAL  
OLYMPICS NEW HAMPSHIRE ATHLETES  
ACROSS THE GRANITE STATE!



SCAN OR CLICK  
HERE TO DIRECTLY  
SUPPORT  
SOMERSWORTH POLICE  
DEPARTMENT'S LAW  
ENFORCEMENT DIP  
TEAM!



Special  
Olympics  
New Hampshire



LAW ENFORCEMENT  
TORCH RUN  
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Coca-Cola  
BEVERAGES  
NORTHEAST

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
VISIT [WWW.SONH.ORG](http://WWW.SONH.ORG)



### New Dispatch Consolettes

Dispatcher Joslyn Bald is shown using the long-awaited Dispatch consolettes for our radio system. They allow Dispatchers to communicate more easily and effectively. Our communications center is equipped with two consolettes. We dispatch for Police, Fire and Stewart's Ambulance.

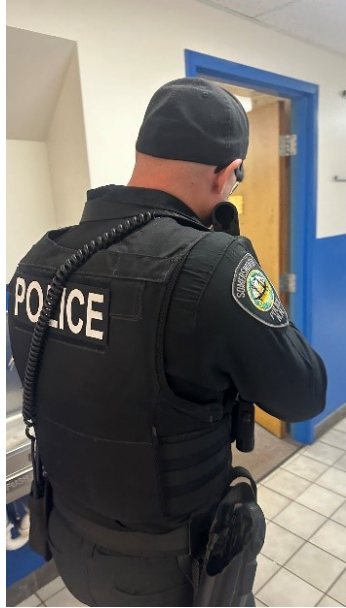


**New Investigations Division Administrative Assistant:** Jessica Harrington replaces a retired assistant in the Investigations Division. Jessica comes to us with a lot of police experience having worked for both Stratham Police and Plymouth Police. Welcome aboard Jessica!



### **Somersworth PD stops in at the Lions Club Skating Rink**

We joined the fun! The weather was cooler and the ice was nice. Officers Ellis, Watts and Chathavong joined the Lions for a little puck action.



### **Somersworth PD Training**

The Somersworth Police Department hosted the SOLO Officer CQB training course from Blue Tier Tactical. This course teaches officers how to safely and effectively clear a structure by themselves when an immediate response is necessary and backup is not available. Whether necessitated by the incident such as an active shooter response, or when the reality of the incident requires them to mitigate the problem alone until backup arrives. Our officers need to have this capability.

Somersworth Police Officers joined over twenty other officers from around New England for live fire as well as dynamic simulation training. The Somersworth Police Department always strives to provide the best and most up-to-date training to our staff. We are very proud of our long-standing relationship with Blue Tier Tactical and all the other organizations that we have partnered with over the years that bring quality courses of instruction.

# PROTECT YOUR EVERY DAY

If you **see** something,  
**say** something®

**REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

## Call 9-1-1

Somersworth Police Dispatch  
Somersworth Police Crime Line

603-692-3131  
603-692-9111



"If You See Something, Say Something" used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

We send out **Nixle Alerts** for parking bans and



### **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

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## **Department of Public Works & Utilities**



### **Metal Pick-up: 2nd Tuesday of Each Month**

**When:** Curbside Collection: Tuesday, March 12

**How:** Call Public Works no later than 3:00 pm on Monday, March 11, place curbside with the proper number of tags on each item. 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 7:30 am-2:30 pm Monday –Friday. ***Note that winter weather emergencies may delay collection.***

### **Curbside MSW/Household Garbage & Recycling Collection**

City trash bags and recycling containers must be at the curbside no later than 7:00 am & no sooner than the evening before your designated collection day.

### **Reporting Pot Holes - Call (603) 692-4266**

The Public Works Department assigns Highway crews daily to address potholes on primary streets that have been reported and/or observed by the Highway staff.

### **Road Resurfacing Coming this Spring/Summer**

The City will be resurfacing several streets. Weather permitting, work is anticipated to start in late April early May. The following streets are scheduled for



resurfacing:

- Parkview Terrace
- West High St
- Pleasant St
- Fremont St
- Silver St



Want to grow your own veggies but do not have a garden? Why not come and join us at the Somersworth Community Gardens! We are located at Malley Farm and applications are now open for the 2024 growing season. Plots at the gardens are available to all Somersworth residents free of charge who wish to grow their own vegetables from April 1 - November

1 and are given on a first come, first served basis. Applications can be found [HERE](#) and should be completed and returned to Somersworth Public Works by March 29.

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## Recreation Office Upcoming Programs & Events

# SOMERSWORTH RECREATION



## WE ARE HIRING!

**Camp Counselors**  
\$14/Hour (must be 16+)

### *~Program Details~*

June 24-August 16 (No Camp 7/4)

8-Weeks

Monday-Friday

Pre-Camp training in mid-June

We're looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our team as Camp Counselors for the upcoming summer season! Apply today to join our team! The full job posting & employment applications are available at City Hall and on the website below.  
[www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities)

Gain valuable experience  
Make a difference in the community  
Spend the summer outside having fun  
Create lasting memories  
Enjoy weekends off



Questions? Contact Recreation Supervisor, Kristen Davenport  
kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov or call 603-692-9508

## 2024 KIDS CAMP OPTIONS:

RESIDENT REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 11TH FOR 8-WEEK & 4-WEEK OPTION.  
WEEKLY OPTION & NON-RESIDENT REGISTRATION OPENS  
MAY 1ST IF SPACE IS AVAILABLE.

### FULL 8-WEEKS

\$900

RESIDENTS ONLY / NON-REFUNDABLE  
REGISTER BY APRIL 30TH

### 4-WEEKS (SESSION 1 OR 2)

\$500 RESIDENTS / \$650 NON-RESIDENTS

REGISTER/PAY SESSION 1 BY MAY 24TH  
\$100 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT REQUIRED TO HOLD SPOT FOR SESSION 2

### WEEKLY

\$175 RESIDENTS / \$225 NON-RESIDENTS

WEEKLY REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1ST/IF SPACE IS AVAILABLE  
REGISTER/PAY FOR SELECTED WEEKS BY MAY 24TH



## 2024 KIDS CAMP

JUNE 24 - AUGUST 16

(NO CAMP 7/4)

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 8:00-4:00PM

NOBLE PINES PARK

CHILDREN ENTERING GRADES 1-5 IN THE FALL

SESSION 1: JUNE 24 - JULY 19 (NO CAMP 7/4)

SESSION 2: JULY 22 - AUGUST 16

Kid's camp early registration  
opens for Residents March 11 at  
8am for the 8-week & 4-week  
option. Weekly & Non-resident  
registration opens May 1, if space  
is available.

**NO CAMP JULY 4!**

### Adventure Awaits!

Get ready for a summer full of fun!  
Our Camp is mostly held outdoors  
at Noble Pines Park and will  
feature sports, arts & crafts, field  
games, team building activities,  
special events, NH State Park field  
trips, and more!

## Somersworth Recreation

### GRANITE STATE TRACK & FIELD

Somersworth Children Ages 9-14

\*\*\* must be ages 9-14 as of Dec. 31st 2024



#### Practices:

Mondays & Wednesdays;

May 8th- June 5th

(No practice 5/27)

3:45 - 4:45 PM



Idlehurst Elementary School Track

Meet Date- TBD

#### ~ Registration ~

\*\*Open to Residents Only

Early Bird Fee- \$45

Register by March 22nd

Fee After March 22nd- \$60

Deadline is April 10th



Space is limited. First come first serve.

Scan the QR code or visit our  
website to register online.

Volunteers are always needed!

Please contact the Rec office if  
you are able to help.

For further information please contact [kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov](mailto:kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov),  
call 603-692-9508 or visit our website

[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs/](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs/)

Registration Opens  
March 4

Space is Limited!



Somersworth Recreation is partnering up with Somersworth Youth Connection for an amazing fun filled afternoon. The event is free for residents ages 50+.

Join Staff and SYC students for this St. Patrick's Day Celebration that includes themed activities, light refreshments, raffles, and more!

Somersworth Recreation &  
Somersworth Youth Connection

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY SOCIAL



**Thursday, March 14th**  
**4pm – 5pm**  
**Flanagan Center Gym**  
25 Bartlett Ave, Somersworth

Residents ages 50+  
are invited to join staff and SYC  
Students for this new free event with  
themed activities, raffles, &  
refreshments! Guests are encouraged to  
wear green!

**Please RSVP by March 8th**

Please RSVP by calling the Recreation office at 603-692-9507  
or email Manu Slankard at [mslankard@somersworthnh.gov](mailto:mslankard@somersworthnh.gov)

**SOMERSWORTH  
RECREATION**

## EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA EGG HUNT

**FRIDAY MARCH 29TH**  
**EGG HUNT KICKS OFF AT**  
**4.30PM AT JULES BISSON PARK**  
**AGES 3-12**

JOIN SOMERSWORTH RECREATION  
FOR OUR ANNUAL EGG HUNT &  
POP-UP STORYWALK PRESENTED  
BY SOMERSWORTH LIBRARY

Bring a bag or bucket to help collect candy filled  
eggs. There will be a photo opportunity with the  
Easter Bunny. All children must be accompanied by an  
adult

[WWW.SOMERSWORTH.GOV/PARKS-RECREATION/PAGES/SPECIAL-EVENTS](http://WWW.SOMERSWORTH.GOV/PARKS-RECREATION/PAGES/SPECIAL-EVENTS)

Got Plastic Easter Eggs?  
We can reuse them! A collection  
box will be at the event & in the  
Rec office April 1 - 5.

**Free  
Event**



This event is free for Somersworth children ages 3-12. No registration required.

We recommend arriving early, the hunt will start at 4:30pm sharp!

There will be a photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny. Bring a bag or bucket to help collect the eggs!

If you are a Somersworth resident ages 50+, looking to stay active, meet friends, and enjoy the outdoors, our spring walking/hiking program is the perfect opportunity! Registration opens March 4!

Join our Recreation Supervisor, Kristen Davenport for this free weekly program starting April 18.

**SOMERSWORTH RECREATION**  
**HILL TOPPERS 50+**  
**WALKING/HIKING PROGRAM**  
**SPRING 2024**

Somersworth Residents Ages 50+  
Thursdays; 4/18- 5/23  
at 10:00am  
Free/Registration is required

**WALKING LOCATIONS/SCHEDULE:**

4/18 & 5/9 Willand Pond  
4/25 & 5/16 Mast Point Dam  
5/2 & 5/23 Downtown Somersworth

**\*\*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.**

**REGISTER BY APRIL 16TH**  
**SCAN TO CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT & REGISTER**  
[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/programs](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/programs)



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

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## *School News*

# COMMUNITY **MEET & GREET**

**CANDIDATE FOR SUPERINTENDENT**

**JOHN SHEA**

**MARCH 7, 2024 | 6:00 PM  
SOMERSWORTH CITY HALL**

This event is open to the public and will be  
livestreamed online and on Channel 22.



*Candidate questions: Please email [mlarson@sau56.org](mailto:mlarson@sau56.org)*



## **Connecting with our ESOL Families**

After kicking off the school year with a welcome dinner for Somersworth's ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages) families back in September, the district's ESOL team was anxious to find out how the school year was progressing for its families and children.

This time, the group came together in the high school's Mulligan's Grill. The ESOL staff and administrators prepared homemade dishes were a nice touch and added warmth to the event, especially welcomed on this cold and dark winter evening. Having already made it through the first four months of the school year, families seemed more relaxed and several of the children gravitated to their friends, clearly happy to see them outside of class.

The families in attendance heard from Keystone Dental Arts and the Dover Adult



Learning Center, community partners who were on hand to introduce themselves and their services.

As a Title I recipient, Somersworth School District receives federal funds aimed at enhancing children's academic performance. This allows SAU 56 to offer supportive programs for both students and parents, a significant portion of whom are immigrants. □

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## 2024 Family Programs

### Family Morning Out Playgroups

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

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

**Exeter** Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Parks and Rec Building

**Epping** Fridays at 9:30 a.m., SAU Building

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



*For more about these programs, scroll down to see the Family Center calendar.*

**With snow days and holidays approaching, please be sure to check our Family Center calendar for cancellations before attending a program.**

## Family Center Calendar

### Babytime Playgroup

**Ongoing | Weekly**

**Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.**

- A free weekly playgroup in Somersworth for babies 0-1 year and their caregivers.
- Join us for a fun morning out while socializing your little ones and chatting with other adults.
- Held in the Families First classroom at Idlehurst Elementary School.



**Signup not required. Drop-in's welcome!**

## [Learn More About Babytime](#)



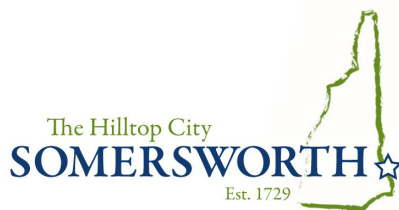
### **10 Surefire Strategies for Parenting a Strong-willed Child**

"Parenting a strong-willed child is anything but easy. There is no quick fix. However, by parenting mindfully and maintaining my children's sense of trust, I can promote their cooperation. Moreover, I can maintain their spirited

nature and continue to raise them into strong leaders who can have a positive impact on the world one day." -Parenting From Heart

Learn more about parenting strong-willed children and dodging power battles with toddlers.

## [Read More on Strong-willed Children](#)



## **Job Openings**

### **POLICE**

**Position Title:** Police Officers  
**Pay Range:** \$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)  
<https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/job-opportunities>

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Position Title:** Equipment Operator  
**Pay Range:** \$48,027.20 (\$23.09 hr.) - \$54,808.00 (26.35 hr.)  
**withovertime opportunities**  
**Closing Date:** Open until Filled

### **RECREATION**

**Position Title:** Camp Counselors(Must be 16+)  
**Full-time 40 hrs.** 5 days – 8 hour shifts  
**Part-time 20 to 24 hrs.** Varies/Flexible  
**Pay Rate:** \$14.00  
**Closing Date:** Open until Filled, Interviews start mid-March

Call Human Resources at 603-692-9529  
Or Visit [City Website](#) to View Openings

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