

City Connection

Proud Past, Bright Future



May 2018

May Meetings in Council Chambers at City Hall

City Council Monthly Meetings

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

Workshop Re: School Fiscal Year
18 Budget at 6:15 p.m.

Public Hearing Re: Ordinance No.
9-18 at 6:45 p.m.

Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Wednesday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Historic District Commission

Wednesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board

Wednesday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee

Wednesday, May 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 9 at 10:30 a.m.

Traffic Safety Committee

Wednesday, May 16 at 2:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

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

School Board Meetings

Tuesday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayors Community Forum

Saturday, May 12 -9:00-10:30

a.m. Ward 4 Councilor, Jonathan

FlowersTrying so hard to Grow!



Photo Courtesy of Jenne Holmes of "Somersworth Now"

Please note meeting Calendar is
subject to change.

To view Agendas of City
Council meetings please visit
City website

www.somersworth.com/calendar/



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

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

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



Stay in touch with City
Happenings.

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



The Mayor's Corner

Lessons from a Child

As the guardians of the next generation, we often fail to see the lessons which can be learned by those we teach. Somewhere, somehow, through the process of our own growth, our own education, we lose the ability to see the world as we once understood it; beautiful, magical, exciting, unrestricted, filled with promise.

We move from the sandbox and playground where all are welcome and the air is filled with energy and laughter to isolation and classifying our former playmates. We abandon looking at each other and smiling, saying hello and wishing peaceful gestures and instead gaze past into a hopeless, isolated existence. We so often break all the rules we lecture our youth on; be polite, hold the door, say please and thank you, be grateful, don't judge, be giving, share and be kind. Instead, we justify our actions as part of a rite of adulthood and are then strangely dumbfounded by the reflection of the world that we have created.

Recently I was worshiping at my home parish St. Ignatius of Loyola (St. Martins, for those of us who are old school, like me). I arrived at the four o'clock mass, the one I have always preferred, mostly for convenience I must admit. That afternoon the church was packed and I found myself searching for a seat. After a cocktail of frustration and anxiety I finally found my home seat for the next hour. Seated in front of me was the poster child Irish boy, less concerned about the rituals to be performed or words about to be spoken, yet highly engaged with the toys which had been brought for him to ensure compliance and obedience throughout the service.

As the services began I found myself like the boy unfocused and uncaring of what was going on around me. All of us have had those times, when the stress of our existence seems more important than the fact that we exist. When the mundane blocks our ability to find or be guided towards peace.

I sat, unmoved and allowed my mind to wander and continue to become overwhelmed by the internal list of life tasks I was creating. Not a word, not a song, not a movement, seemed to be able to reach me that afternoon at St. Ignatius (St. Martins). Then the guidance came, the hope, the faith, and the reminder of what I have dedicated myself too. For that afternoon as I wandered out of my own mind and back to being part of the mass I was attending, I suddenly found myself the student of a young Irish boy.

As the congregation stood to re-commit themselves to one other, through the sign of peace, I felt my faith in humanity restored. The young boy quickly abandoned his toys, for a brief moment and stood, before working his way to each person who surrounded him and reciting to each "peace be with you". As he turned and faced me with a smile, his hand extended and the words "peace be with you" left his lips came the restoration of my own belief that we as humans can create a

world where all are accepted, valued and cared for. Then with the innocence of a child he quickly returned to his toys.

I was reminded that afternoon that as an educator of 17 years, that this Principal, this Mayor still has a lot he can learn from his students and the youth of our society. Thank you young man for restoring my hope and faith when I most needed it.

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

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana Hilliard



**Mayor's Community Forum
Saturday, May 12
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers**

Please join the Mayor, Ward 4 City Councilor, Jonathan McCallion, and Ward 4 School Board Member, Kyla Yoder. Come discuss Community issues and voice your concerns.

The purpose of the forums are to foster dialog and ideas, in a non-formal setting to continue to move our Community forward. All members of the Community are welcome to attend.

**Mayor's Winter
Office Hours**

Monday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during these times. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email [Brenda](#).

**A Message from Robin Comstock,
Somersworth's Economic Development Manager**



I am pleased to let you know that we are hosting our first Downtown Roundtable on: Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 8:30 am. The meeting will be held in the Somersworth City Council Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall. If you are interested in Downtown Somersworth please join us. Together we will carry Somersworth forward into the future in all the right ways.

Downtown Somersworth is the heartbeat of our community. It is a visible indicator of our priorities, values, and the life style we create - as well as evidence of the vision we have for our future for ourselves and our children. Downtown is also a place of reflection, it is where yesterday collides with today and tomorrow. It lives and breathes our heritage through architecture and foot paths of the past, while our recent Downtown revitalization are a contemporary expression of values for the future. As the core of our City, Downtown is where community comes together to be what and who it is.

Our Downtown is also an important center for employment. The "butcher, baker and candlestick maker" all create jobs and stimulate the economy through their work force, that is also the audience creating a demand as consumers for desirable products and services available in Downtown. 2018 brings with it a new focus to downtown as a center for employers. We hope to successfully attract new businesses to our downtown. Their employees would create demand for new retail, restaurants, and other services that employees want and need during the work day. And, the rise of the creative economy, the value of the arts, dining, and other unique experiences are the major tenants of a desirable and thriving downtown, that employers and employees help establish.

Please feel free to call me at 692-9516 or email me at rcomstock@somersworth.com

*Thank you
Robin*



- [City Manager Reports - Click here to view](#)

- **Spirit Up 10th Annual Clean-up Day**

Please join the Somersworth Youth Connection for the 10th Annual Community Clean-up day scheduled for Saturday, May 5. Come out and show the Hilltopper Blue Spirit as we come together to celebrate and take pride in our community! The clean-up day will kick off at Idlehurst starting at 7:30am as well as at other designated neighborhood locations; Noble Pines, Flanagan Center, Ward 5 Playground and the Willand Pond area on the High Street Somersworth side. These locations are all designated as specific areas one can go to from 7:30-9:30am, to pick up trash bags, gloves and a map of streets before heading out on to various streets and neighborhoods. All volunteers receive a free t-shirt!

- **EPA Brownfield's Grant- City Awarded**

The City received a \$200,000 grant from EPA to finish the clean-up at the Bretons Cleaners site at 1 Winter Street. City Manager Belmore - "I am very pleased and excited about EPA's Brownfield's Grant Award to the City. This Grant will allow us to bring life back to a prime piece of property located at a Gateway to our Downtown adjacent to the Salmon Falls River. We look forward to working collaboratively with EPA on this important City Brownfield's project".

Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce 2018 Annual Awards



The Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce is honored to announce the winners of our 2018 Annual Awards.

Business of the Year: Service Credit Union
Citizen of the Year: Dina Gagnon of The Gathering Place
Educator of the Year: Carol Foley, Idlehurst Elementary School
Non-Profit of the Year: Somersworth Police Department

The public is welcome to join Chamber members and community residents as they honor this year's deserving award winners. Formal award presentations will be held on Friday, May 11th at the Chamber's Annual Dinner and Awards event, "Sail Away". The event takes place at the Spring Hill Event Hall in South Berwick and begins at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Tickets are \$60 each. Please purchase your tickets by May 4th.

This event is generously underwritten by Wentworth Douglass Hospital and D.F. Richard Energy. Our Awards Sponsor is Service Credit Union.

For tickets and more information please visit:
www.somersworthchamber.com/events/annual-dinner-awards

Somersworth Police Department



FROM THE POLICE CHIEF

The Police Department has been named the Non-Profit of the Year by the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce. We are humbled, yet proud to be the recipients of this year's award. It is a result of a true team effort.

Moving forward we will continue to strive to improve on our
Community Policing efforts!



Bicycle Safety Day
Saturday, May 5
12:30 p.m.
Idlehurst Elementary School

Come join the fun and learn about bicycle safety. Bicycle helmets and other safety prizes will be given away.
Bring your bike and any safety equipment you have.

Sponsored by:

Somersworth Youth Connection
and Somersworth Police Department

Touch a Truck



Saturday, May 12
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Walmart Superstore
Parking Lot, 59 Walton's Way

Come see Police, Fire, EMS, Construction and Special purpose vehicles!
Food truck vendors will be present.

Sponsored by:
Somersworth Police Department

Fun Happenings in April....

Bicycle Helmets for Head Start

School Resource Officer Colton Deschenes and Captain Russell Timmons met with the children of the Somersworth Head Start Program April 11 to learn about bicycle safety. All the children received helmets that were provided by the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire.

Where did we get all these Bike Helmets?

Somersworth Youth Connection and Somersworth Police collaborated on a Safe and Active Community Grant through Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHAD) through a Kohl's Cares Award. We received 50 bicycle helmets, zipper pulls, reflective vests, reflective tape and bicycle safety literature. As stated above, we also received 17 bicycle helmets generously donated by the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire for the Head Start children. We thank them all for helping us keep our kids safe.

Mock Bedroom: Hiding Drugs and Alcohol

Somersworth Youth Connection and Dover Youth to Youth provided parents of students at Somersworth Middle School the opportunity to learn about where their children hide drugs and alcohol in their bedrooms through a mock exercise on April 10.

Somersworth Police Facebook Page

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

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

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



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

Information from Fire Department
692-3457



1. Fire Permits need to be obtained from the Fire Department for any outside fires to burn brush. This is a State law that is enforced by local Fire Departments and the NH Division of Forests and Lands.
2. Spring clean-up is a good time to discard unwanted combustible materials that have accumulated in garages and basements over the winter months. Good housekeeping is a worthwhile fire prevention tool to limit the spread of fire should the unthinkable occur.
3. The annual Rochester-Somersworth Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day is Saturday May 5 at the Rochester Waste Management. Please note: an ID will be required to show you are a resident.
4. As grass and vegetation season begins, service your lawnmowers and power tools so they are in operable condition and not subject to causing fires. Remember that fueling equipment that has a hot motor with gasoline easily can cause a fire or explosion if you are not careful.

Information from Public Works 692-4266



Prepare for Spring Clean-up!

Malley Farm Facility is now Open

The City of Somersworth is pleased to announce the annual opening of Malley Farm. The Malley Farm Leaf, Brush, and Compost Facility. For more information about Malley Farm, such as hours of operation and what's allowed, click here to view our [flyer](#).

BRUSH PICKUP

The last scheduled pick-up will be the Third Week in May

You must call 692-4266 by Friday, May 18th to be added to the pickup list. Please have your brush curbside no later than 7:00 am on the your trash pickup day the week of May 21. Brush can be up to five (5) inches in diameter and ten (10) feet long. PLEASE NOTE: Brush pickup is limited to 20 minutes per stop. Any remaining brush and cleanup of debris is the responsibility of the property owner.

BAGGED LEAVES PICKUP

The last scheduled pick-up will be the Fourth Week in May

You do not have to call ahead for bagged leaves pickup. Please have leaves curbside no later than 7:00 a.m. on your trash pickup day the week of May 28. Leaves and grass clippings must be in brown paper leaf bags, sold at many local stores.

Street Sweeping - Pavement Markings

Highway crews have started sweeping the City streets on main corridors in preparation for repainting City crosswalks, arrow and travel lanes. Highway personnel have been sweeping during first and second shift hours during mid April to mid May, to ensure the key streets are ready for lane marking work. Repainting traffic markings is set to begin in mid May. Once all of the main corridors are swept, Highway crews will begin sweeping the neighborhood streets.

Road Resurfacing - Road Repairs

The Public Works Director is working with the City Manager on a recommended road paving plan for City Council approval. The City has approximately \$1.2 million in available funding to move forward with the road resurfacing improvements.

Staff has also been working with NHDOT officials on their planned pavement resurfacing of W. High Street (Rte. 236) from Rte. 108 to Maple Street. Work is anticipated to occur during the coming months.

In the meantime, Highway crews will be completing pot hole repairs throughout the City.

Water Main Flushing Work

The Public Works Water Distribution Division will be conducting night time flushing of water mains located along the City's main corridors starting Monday, May 7, 2018 to Thursday May 17, 2018. Flushing operations will be from 7:00 pm.-5:00 am.

Additional flushing will continue during regular business hours until all service areas of the City are completed. This is an annual maintenance program that assists in maintaining good water quality. If possible, please refrain from using water when crews are observed in your area as this flushing may cause a temporary discoloration of your water supply. If you do experience discoloration, run a cold water tap for a short time to clear your water.

The Water Flushing schedule is provided on the City's website www.somersworth.com

Household Hazardous Waste Day

There will be a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, May 5,

2018 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the Turnkey Landfill in Rochester. Residents must bring a photo ID with proof of Somersworth residency.

Please call Public Works with questions at 603-692-4266 or jnalley@somersworth.com with questions.

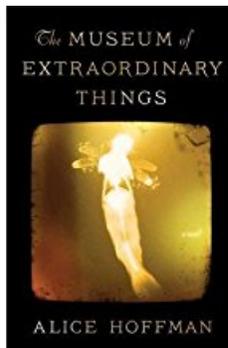
What's Happening at the Library?



Art Exhibit for May and June

Berwick artist and historian, Brian Cincotta will be exhibiting his landscape oil paintings once again for the months of May and June. Brian uses the land around his home as inspiration for his original works set in all four seasons of New England.

Even if you have seen his work in the past, he will be showing new work during this exhibit.



What Somersworth is Reading in May 2018

"The Museum of Extraordinary Things" by Alice Hoffman

Coralie is the daughter of the impresario behind The Museum of Extraordinary Things, a Coney Island boardwalk freak show that thrills the masses. An exceptional swimmer, Coralie appears as the Mermaid in her father's "museum," alongside performers like the Wolfman, and a one-hundred-year-old turtle. One night Coralie stumbles upon photographer Eddie Cohen, an immigrant who has run away from his Lower East Side Orthodox community and his job. When Eddie photographs the devastation following the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, he's embroiled in the suspicious mystery behind a young woman's disappearance. Pick up a copy of the book at the library. Join the group on May 23, at 7PM at the library for an informal and often lively discussion of each month's book. No registration and all are welcome

Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the Somersworth Public Library annual Spring Book Sale will continue through May 12 during regular library hours. There are still hardcover, soft cover and paperback books as well as DVDs and audio books. Beginning May 8, take all you want and make a donation to the Friends. All proceeds will benefit the Somersworth Public Library



LIBRARY Saturday Hours change on June 2nd

Beginning Saturday June 2nd, the Library's hours on Saturday's only will change from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 am - 1:00 p.m.. Please note the Summer early closing time of 1:00 p.m. for Saturday on your calendars.

Saturday on your calendars.

Recreation Activities

TRENDS CAMP SUMMER PROGRAM

Children going into grades 6-9
Monday- Friday; 8:30-4:00 p.m.
Noble Pines Park

Session 1: June 25- July 20 (No Camp 7/4)

Session 2: July 23- August 17

Registration opens March 15th for residents / April 15th non-residents

Early Bird Fee:

Register by May 1st-
(Cost per session- 4 weeks)
\$450 residents / \$550 non-residents

Full 8-Weeks:

Full 8- weeks: Register & pay in full by
May 1st
Non-refundable
\$800 / residents only

Fee:

Registration Deadline is June 1st-
(Cost per session- 4 weeks)
\$500 residents / \$600 non-residents

Weekly Rate:

Register by June 1st-
No daily rate available
\$150 residents / \$175 non-residents

Extended Care Option:

\$100 per session / \$30 per week
Before Care Hours: 7:00-8:30 a.m.
After Care Hours: 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Join us for this exciting and active outdoor summer camp! This program will feature trips to NH State Parks on Tuesdays and Thursdays, special field trips on Fridays, swimming, athletics, games, and lots of other engaging fun events and activities. The cost includes all trips, activities, breakfast & lunch.

Register now~ space is limited!



For more information please contact the Recreation office- 603-692-9508 or
kdavenport@somersworth.com

KIDS CAMP SUMMER PROGRAM



Children going into grades K-5
Kindergarten is Half Day Camp Only
Monday- Friday; 8:30-4:00 p.m.
Noble Pines Park



Session 1: June 25- July 20 (No Camp 7/4)

Session 2: July 23- August 17

Registration opens March 15th for residents / April 15th non-residents

Early Bird Fee:

Register by May 1st-
(Cost per session- 4 weeks)
\$350 residents / \$450 non-residents

Full 8-Weeks:

Full 8- weeks: Register & pay in full by
May 1st
Non-refundable
\$600 / residents only

Fee:

Registration Deadline is June 1st-
(Cost per session- 4 weeks)
\$400 residents / \$500 non-residents

Half Day Camp:

M,W,F 8:30-12:00 p.m.
\$150 residents / \$200 non-residents

Weekly Rate:

Register by June 1st-
No daily rate available
\$125 residents / \$150 non-residents

Extended Care Option:

\$100 per session / \$30 per week
Before Care Hours: 7:00-8:30 a.m.
After Care Hours: 4:00-5:30 p.m.

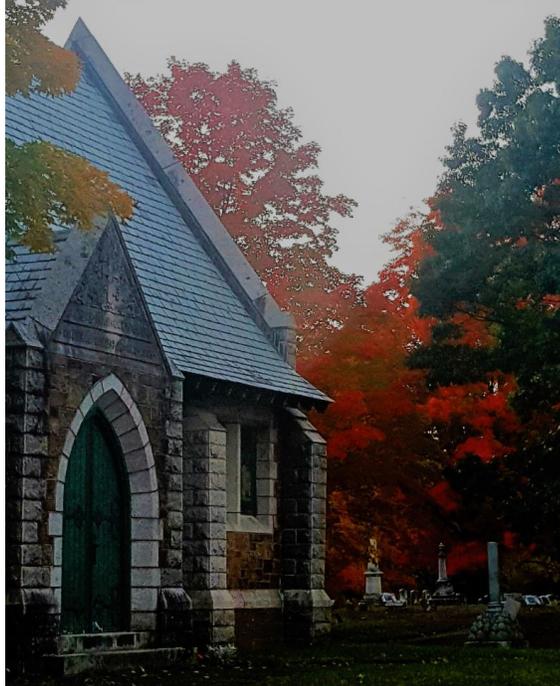
Enjoy this active, outdoor, and exciting summer camp filled with fun activities and field trips. Activities include arts & crafts, games, swimming, special events, athletics, and more. Field trips are on Tuesdays and Thursdays to various NH State Parks. The cost of camp includes breakfast, lunch, two weekly state park trips, special field trips, arts & crafts materials, and a camp T-shirt.

Register now~ space is limited!



For more information please contact the Recreation office- 603-692-9508 or
kdavenport@somersworth.com

CEMETERY CORNER



Photos courtesy of Jenne Holmes

Somersworth Cemetery Trustees cordially invite the community to the historic Furber Chapel located within Forest Glade Cemetery on Monday, May 28 from 1-3pm. The Furber Chapel was designed by Henry Vaughn and built in 1898. Please join us for a brief history as well as share any artifacts that you may have collected.

You will also be introduced to Zach Andrews, an Eagle Scout, who mapped the Forest Glade Cemetery to pin point the veterans' graves.



Upcoming Events Coming to the Chapel:

June 10 @ 2pm- Peter Michaud:
Overview of the Garden Cemetery Movement

July 29 @ 2pm- The Funky Divas Gospel

August 19 @ 2pm- Artful Noise String Quartet

Sept 9 @ 2pm- Liz Ahl: Author & Poet

Ready Set Grow!

7th grade Science teacher Chris Asbell will be ramping



up his classroom hydroponics growing this year. Cafe Services donated this beauty of a system to Mr. Asbell and soon enough middle schoolers will get to eat what comes from it. More hyper-local foods coming to SMS!

The blank slates on the Idlehurst lawn won't look that way for long. The week before April break, several Idlehurst staff and students cleaned out the 13 garden beds, filled with soil and compost, and then seeded all but two with greens, herbs, pollinating flowers, and root vegetables.

The greens will be harvested and enjoyed by students this spring, and the roots they can look forward to tasting next fall!



Farm to School Hydroponic System

Maple Wood now has two new gardens, thanks to Master Gardener volunteer Stacey Purslow who built them, and Somersworth Home Depot's Jason Sterry, who donated soil to fill them. The ADA bed built by Girl Scout Troop 12325 last August will be filled with cool season vegetables, and the two new beds will supplement 3rd-4th grade curriculum as a 3 Sisters Garden.

Thanks also to Jenna Tousignant for getting in her play clothes and helping prep the new gardens. If you want to help with the Idlehurst gardens, want to know more about 3 Sisters Gardening at Maple Wood, or have interest in Farm to School projects at Somersworth's other schools, contact Wendy at



wberkeley@sau56.org

A Night with Chris Herren



A substance prevention presentation

Tuesday, May 1

Doors @ 5:30 PM

Somersworth High School Cafetorium
11 Memorial Drive

"The path you take is up to you. Make good choices, dream big, it is never too late."

- Chris Herren

Presentation to all 9-12th grade students during school-day assembly

Free Open to all

Prevention, treatment, and recovery program booths before and after the presentation

All parents, families, and community members are invited to watch the former NBA basketball player, person in recovery, and motivational speaker Chris Herren. Hear about his journey through addiction.

Chris hopes to touch the lives of others by telling his story.



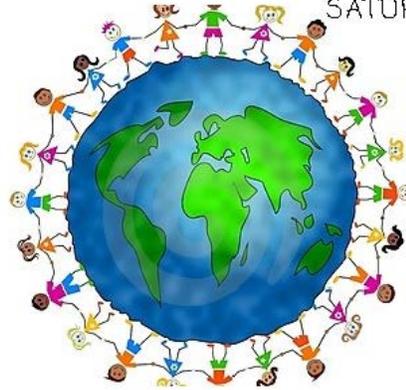
For more information contact

Maureen Jackman
mjackman@sau56.org
603-692-2126



JOIN SYC AND THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH FOR THE 10TH ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY!

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH



SIGN UP YOUR FAMILY, GROUP, ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS

New this year! Pick up your supplies at any of our neighborhood locations including:

- Jules Bisson Park**
- Willand Pond (Somersworth Side)**
- Idlehurst Elementary**
- Flanagan Center**
- Noble Pines Park**

**KICK-OFF AT 7:30 AM
IDLEHURST
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WITH COFFEE AND
PASTRIES!**

7:30- 12:00: City wide Cleanup

11:30-1:00: Displays, Vendors, Demos & Touch a Truck

12:00: All Volunteers welcome for drinks, lunch and desert

raffle prizes

12:30: Bike Safety Day!

Join Our Somersworth Cares Campaign!

Look For More info!

For more information contact Maureen Jackman at Mjackman@SAU56.org or 692-2126



**Somersworth Festival
Association
Spring Craft Fair**

Saturday, May 5

**Somersworth High School
Memorial Drive
9:00 am-3:00 pm**



- **locally grown** annuals, herbs, perennials, trees
- **free** 'ask a master gardener' table for your garden questions
- **soil testing** info
- proceeds benefit community gardens and **education**



UNH Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer. UNH, Us Department of Agriculture and NH Counties cooperating



Did you know?

Nearly 25% of teens would prefer to have conversations about drugs and alcohol over e-mail or text message.

Research Source: Partnership for a Drug Free America



Somerset Prevention Coalition
Tip of the Month

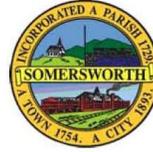


With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day.

**Quality Service, Quality Schools
Quality Somersworth
Vision 2020**

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future