# City Connection

# Proud Past, Bright Future



#### October 2018

October Meetings in Council Chambers

#### **City Council Monthly Meetings**

Monday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. Monday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m.

**Zoning Board of Adjustment** Wednesday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.

School Board Meeting Tuesday, October 9 at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m.

**Conservation Commission** Wednesday, October 10 at 7:00 p m.

**Planning Board** Wednesday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee Wednesday, October 3 at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 10 at 10:30 a.m.

**Traffic Safety Committee** Wednesday, October 17 at 2:00 p.m.

**Historic District Commission** Wednesday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Please note meeting Calendar is subject to change.



# SAVE THE DATE! Somersworth Celebrates 125 years as a City

Come out and help us celebrate the City of Somersworth's 125th Birthday.

The Somersworth 125th Commission is busy putting together a Birthday Bash that will include great music, food and buckets full of Hilltopper fun. The only thing that is missing is you!

So come and join in the fun on Saturday November 10, 2018 at the historic Somersworth 1899 Ballroom which is located at the Somersworth VFW, 43

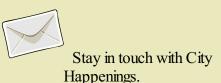
To view Agendas of City Council meetings please visit City website www.somersworth.com/calendar/



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

<u>City Hall Hours:</u> Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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



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

Join our mailing list

High Street, Somersworth between 7:00 and 10:00 pm.

This beautiful ballroom will provide the perfect setting for this Birthday Bash which will feature music by the one and only Mike Pomp of WTSN radio. He will be taking us on a music trip down the decades since Somersworth became a city in 1893. Light fare will be served as well as a cash bar.

There will be plenty of blue and white featured throughout the evening and we would love to see you wear your Hilltopper pride as well but we won't judge if you don't!

Tickets are just \$12.50 and can be purchased online H E R E : <u>https://www.eventbrite.com/e/somersworth-125th-celebration-tickets-50453139699</u>

Or you can purchase your ticket from The Gathering Place located on High Street in Somersworth.



The Mayor's Corner

# Inspiration\_

Our success is often rooted in inspiration. We are all inspired and influenced by something. Some find inspiration in nature: first light slowly overcoming darkness and announcing a new day, the serenity of the ocean with calming elements of waves absorbing into the shoreline, or the sense of attainment after reaching a mountain summit with the accompanied view of the landscape stretching into the earth. For others, inspiration comes from words of scripture, or a famous author's guiding prose empowering us on a snowy day in front of our fireplace. Inspiration can also be discovered. It may be decades of repeating our daily routines before we become enlightened to the forces of influence which have helped to develop and shape our values.

My story of influence is similar to most Hilltoppers throughout our great City. It does not come from the actions of a great figures of history, or an enlightened person like Buddha or Christ, it comes from those whose hands have guided me through my youth and whose influence still reaches into my adulthood. The recognition of this inspiration came to me slowly, through years of reflection of my own evolution and how I see the world and the blessing we call life.

For my work ethic, I have my *parents to thank*. Years of seeing my father's soaked t-shirts from performing his maintenance duties for the Somersworth Housing Authority, helped me to develop the Yankee work ethic I subscribe too. My mother had an equal influence upon my work ethic evolution, with the years of observing her philosophy as a bank teller of "you do not miss work unless you are bleeding from the head". That same philosophy was instilled in me and my siblings in regards to school attendance. Therefore, sick days were a rarity in the Hilliard household. I also have both of my parents to thank for their sense of loyalty to community, and their willingness to serve others. All of us can recall a teacher who had both a positive and negative effect upon our educational experiences and development. I have two educators whom I have to thank for helping me grow into the adult I have become.

*Karolina Bodner* and *Donna Blessing*, helped shape my sense of compassion and understanding towards everything that shares the home we call Earth. Through their guidance, the connection all of us share became understood as I developed a greater insight into humanity and myself. The belief they had in my potential, drove me to not only become an educator, but to also commit to serving the community which invested in me.

Our greatest gift is not only life, but the opportunity we have each day to inspire and guide others. The power we hold as individuals to advance humanity, and change lives, is immeasurable. Honor those who have inspired you by not only acknowledging them, and thanking them, but by continuing the universal circle of inspiring others.

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

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana Hilliard

#### Mayor's Fall & Winter Office Hours Start in September

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.



### **City Manager Notes**

The City Gets a Newly Refurbished Sign "Jules Bisson Park"

Thank you Gerri Cannon~Your Restoration of the Jules Bisson Park Sign Rocks!



<u>City Manager Reports - Click here to view</u>

# SAVE THE DATE







6:30 p.m. City Council Chambers, Somersworth City Hall Sponsored by the The Falls Chamber of Commerce

Ask the important questions BEFORE Election Day Tuesday, November 6th

From the Desk of the Economic Development Manager

#### Somersworth High School Internship Program Partners with Somersworth Business

The City's Economic Development Department is working in partnership with the Somersworth High School Career Technical Center (CTC) to reinvent their internship program.

The short-term vision is to add an academic component to internships. The long term vision is a comprehensive review of how our High School is structured in consideration of new programming that will include ( along with traditional academic paths to graduation ) alternative paths to graduation too. This vision may include Adult Recovery Credits, an Adult High School, and a Night High School.

At the core of concepts around reinventing the value proposition of High School is that it will better benefit students by insuring they are well suited for business, are confidant and capable employees, and prepared for higher education opportunities too. A strong and progressive internship program is a terrific tool to provide knowledge as well as practical and applicable experience. In early conversations, a plan for a 3 year Internship Program that includes numerous elements of providing a path to jobs, a career, and higher education, is the right kind of internship, that provides the right students, experiential academic credits.

Recently we agreed that we should have a conversation with leaders of the business community to assist us in shaping our direction and vision of the final product. We want to create an internship program that local businesses want to participate with, and we want to teach students the skills that business tells us are essential to be considered for employment. Most important is that the student is learning and raising their academic capabilities by hands-on experience. So we have decided to hold a roundtable with Somersworth business leaders to cooperate and collaborate to create the best possible program for our students that will insure business participation too.

More directly, if you are a local business owner, who would like to join us as an advisor, at the CTC for a *Business Leader Roundtable*, to explain to us how an internship program may work best for you and your business, we welcome your participation. We would like to know what would have to happen, how it would happen, and what it would look like, for a Somersworth business to participate in a CTC internship program. We will develop our new program largely based on the information we gather at the roundtable meeting.

Please reach out to our Somersworth Economic Development Manager, <u>Robin</u> <u>Comstock</u> or Our Somersworth Dean of School Operation's and Career Technical Center, <u>Katelyn Carrington</u> if you would like to participate in the roundtable, the internship program, or simply share your thoughts on what makes an internship possible from your perspective as a business leader. Please join us!

Robin A. Comstock Economic Development Manager One Government Way Somersworth, New Hampshire 03878 rcomstock@somersworth.com 603-692-9516



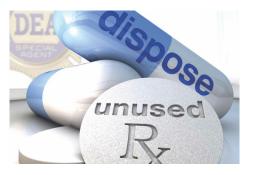
Coffee with a Cop



We will be celebrating "National Coffee with a Cop" on Wednesday, October 3 from 7:00 am until 9:00 am at the Dunkin Donuts on Route 108.

Come join us for some good conversation and meet our Officers!

# Drug Take Back Day Saturday, October 27 10:00 am until 2:00 pm



Bring your unwanted/no longer needed prescriptions to Somersworth Police Department 12 Lilac Lane, Somersworth

If you miss Drug Take Back Day....we have locked medication drop box in our station lobby that you can put your unused or expired medications in at any time, day or night

# Hilltop Chevrolet Halloween Hoot!!

Somersworth Police will be at the Hilltop Chevrolet Halloween Hoot on Saturday, October 20 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We will be doing Finger Printing and DNA Swab Testing.



Come join in the fun!



We wish to thank everyone who participated in our Pump & Serve that benefitted New Hampshire Special Olympics that took place on Saturday, September 10.

A very special thank you to Irving Circle K on High Street for your continued support of this program!

## SUBSTANCE MISUSE ASSISTANCE

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

#### Somersworth Police Facebook Page

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

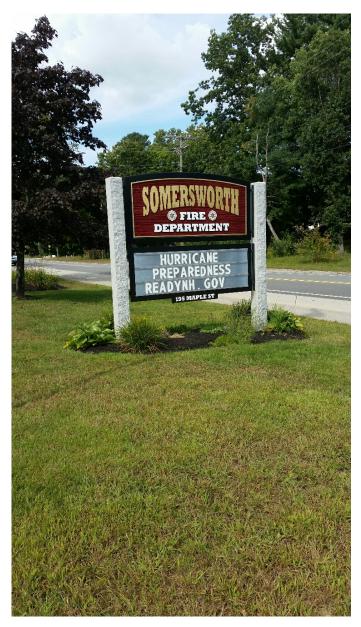
https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthPoliceDepartment/

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



From your Local Fire Department 692-3457

The Fire Department's Annual "Open House" will be on Sat. Oct. 13 from 10am to 2pm. Featuring "Smokey the Bear"; "Ready" - the Preparedness Dog: a cruiser from the Police Department; dump truck from the DPW; and Wentworth Douglas Hospital. There will be an ambulance, handouts and a blood pressure clinic by American Ambulance; handouts from the Recreation Department and fire extinguisher demonstrations by the Fire Department along with the Department's "Fire Safety House". Refreshments including Starbuck's coffee, Papa Gino's pizza, donuts and cider will be served.

- Residents should continue to be prepared for the hurricane season. Information is available on the Fire Department's website or at www.readynh.gov
- The State does not allow the burning of leaves just a reminder as the outdoor burning season continues.

# Information from Public Works 692-4266



# Solid Waste, Recycling, Bulky Waste and Brush Collection Tips and Highlights

Reminder that Residential curbside collection of trash and recycling will run on **its normal schedule during the week of October 8<sup>th</sup>.** 

#### **Metal/Electronics Curbside Collection**

by Public Works crews will occur on October 9, 2018. Residents should call by Monday, October 8, 2018 to be placed on the pick-up list. Use of bulky waste stickers is required and can be purchased at City Hall, City Clerk/Tax Collector's office and at the Somersworth Public Library (cash or check) and at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane (check only).

**Brush pick up**: Public Works Highway crews will start collecting <u>residential</u> <u>brush</u> during the week of October 15th through 19th. Residents need to call by Friday, October 12th to be placed on the pick-up list.

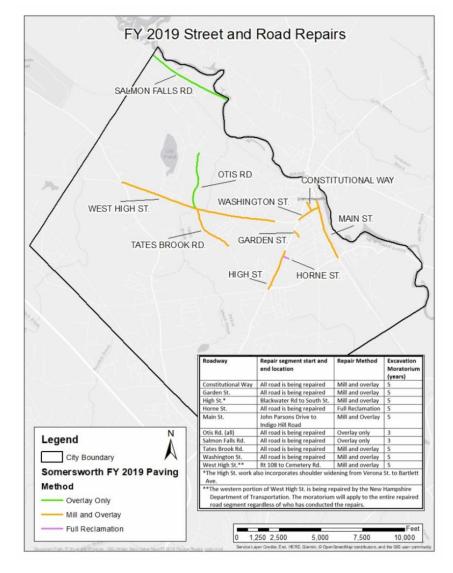
**Bagged Leaves:** Public Works Highway crews will also be collecting **bagged leaves** the week of October 22nd through 26th. Residents should place their bagged leaves curbside on their regular trash pick-up day. The paper leaf bags can be purchased at grocery store chains, hardware stores, Home Depot.

Refer to the City website and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) about additional solid waste, recycling, bulky waste and electronic waste information. <u>www.somersworth.com</u>

<u>Sharps/Needles Disposal:</u> Frisbie Memorial Hospital will be hosting a Sharps disposal event on <u>Wednesday, October 3, 2018 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM</u> on the Ground Floor lobby of the Hospital. Patients and other residents are encouraged to bring their full sharps container and receive a new one. Examples of Sharps: Syringes, Pen and Pump Needles, Lancets.

# **City Road Repair Has Begun**

The City has started Road improvement on several City Streets. Brox Industries will be starting work on Salmon Falls Road from the town line to the State Line, and Otis Road from W. High Street to Rocky Hill Road, with paving to occur in early October. Work on Main Street will also begin in early October. Work activity is weather dependent and schedules may change as a result. The City will provide regular updates to alert the public on the road repair work. Look for advance traffic control signage and electronic message board signs on the streets as well as updates on the City's affected website at www.somersworth.com. All streets repaired and resurfaced will have a moratorium prohibiting utility openings for a period of 3-5 years depending upon treatment method.



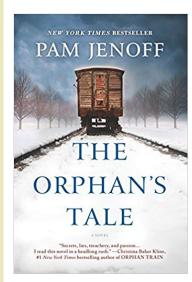
All questions on the City's Road improvements schedule may be directed to the City Manager's office at 603-692-9503 and or the Department of Public Works at (603) 692-4266.

#### **Residents are Reminded to Clear Vegetation from Intersections**

Public Works Highway crews have been working closely with the Police and Fire Departments as well as property owners on identifying and correcting sight distance issues at intersections caused by vegetation including trees and shrubs. If the landscape material belongs to you, our Highway Division asks that you trim back your vegetation to help ensure as much sight distance as possible at those intersections to help avoid accidents. Feel free to contact the Department of Public Works Highway Division at 692-4266 if you are not sure how much to clear, or if vegetation is an issue.

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

# What's Happening at the Library?



What Somersworth is Reading in October "The Orphan's Tale" by Pamela Jenoff

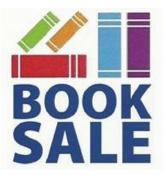
#### MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST

A powerful novel of friendship set in a traveling circus during World War II, *The Orphan's Tale* introduces two extraordinary women and their harrowing stories of sacrifice and survival

Sixteen-year-old Noa has been cast out in disgrace after becoming pregnant by a Nazi soldier

and being forced to give up her baby. She lives above a small rail station, which she cleans in order to earn her keep... When Noa discovers a boxcar containing dozens of Jewish infants bound for a concentration camp, she is reminded of the child that was taken from her. And in a moment that will change the course of her life, she snatches one of the babies and flees into the snowy night.

Noa finds refuge with a German circus, but she must learn the flying trapeze act so she can blend in undetected, spurning the resentment of the lead aerialist, Astrid. At first rivals, Noa and Astrid soon forge a powerful bond. But as the facade that protects them proves increasingly tenuous, Noa and Astrid must decide whether their friendship is enough to save one another-or if the secrets that burn between them will destroy everything.



# Fall Booksale - Starts September 29 through mid October

The Friends of the Somersworth Public Library are holding an adult fiction, nonfiction and DVD sale in the Library. Excellent prices - stop in during Library hours.

# **Story Times**

Story Times are offered Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Friday's at 10:00 a.m. Stort Times will resume on Tuesday September 11th.



Take some time to

read!



We now have passes available to the New England Aquarium. One pass is available per day for reduced admission of \$10 for 4 people. You must be a Somersworth resident to receive a pass. Call or stop by the Library to reserve a pass for the day you plan to attend.

# A Message from the Cemetery Trustees...

Forest Glade Cemetery Restoration Projects



**Italiante Wellhouse** 

The Cemetery Trustees working with the Department of Public Works made arrangements to repaint the Italianate Well House, using paint colors that were appropriate to the 1860's, which is the time period when the wellhouse was built. The Trustees selected the colors following historic research into colors used during the time. The "imitation ashlar masonry" of the wood siding is meant to look like stone. BDR Painting of Somersworth, was the contractor hired to repaint the structure.

In addition the City contracted with Beyond the Gravestone to repair five (5) historic grave stones that were damaged due to age and condition. Beyond the Gravestone is a contractor that specializing in restoring old grave stones in historic cemeteries throughout New England. Of the five (5) grave stones repaired, one is the John Straw memorial, who is the first person to be buried at Forest Glade Cemetery in 1851.



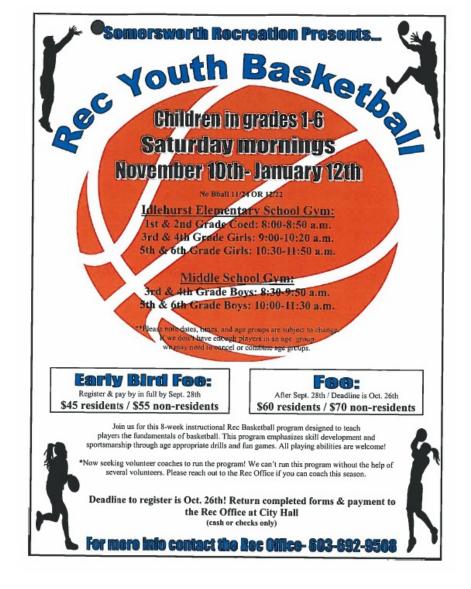
Gravestone Repair

The Cemetery Trustees would like to thank everyone for a fabulous season at the Furber Chapel. We look forward to bringing you more events next year.

Also, the Trusteees are looking for volunteers to assist in weeding that needs to be done at the Chapel. If you would like to help please call Public Works at 692-4266.

#### Recreation Office UPCOMING Events 2018-2019 Volunteers needed!

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



Save the Date



**Ready Set Grow!** 

# Sustainability Ambitions in Somersworth



Maple Wood Elementary started with many changes this year. For half of the kids it was their first steps into

a new school, as district reorganization now designates all Grade 3-5 students will attend Maple Wood. But for ALL the kids, it was the beginning of full cafeteria composting with Mr. Fox. Maple Wood principal Mr. McNelly is a fearless leader on this front, diving into compost bins to retrieve and sort rogue trash and recyclables. No better example than that!

#### Somersworth Goes to MoTown

September's USDA Farm to School Grantee Conference in Detroit launched Farm to School Coordinator Wendy Berkeley and School Board member Maggie

Larson into 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> days in the Motor City, gleaning knowledge on using the \$42,000 Farm to School grant that the district was awarded in June to its fullest potential. Networking with and learning from other grantees around the country was extremely valuable, and Detroit is a truly inspirational model of resilience in the face of adversity.

#### October is national Farm to School Month!

Even more exciting Farm to School events are coming to Somersworth during October. October 10th will mark the 1st of monthly vegetable tastings at all our wonderful schools, with Cafe Services preparing a sample of menu items to come, a "preview" for the wary palate. On October 17th, Farm to School will partner with SYC, PTA, and Title I for the Lights on For Learning/Community Dinner. Free for SAU 56 Community Members, residents, and partnering businesses, local chefs Anna Hafner and Tristan Maher of Smoke and Cream will prepare a fresh, locally sourced dinner at Idlehurst cafeteria from 5:30-7:30. Other partners include the 45 Market St Cafe, Fiddlehead Farms Market, and Mr. Fox Compost Co. Come for the food, and come for the fun, interactive learning activities that will be hosted throughout the building that evening!



#### SAAM Van

SYC's Plant for Growth students participated in their first Farmer's Market, growing and selling produce from their gardens at the Seacoast Area Mobile

Market's(SAMM) Sept 14 Somersworth visit. SAMM made 3 stops on Bartlett Ave. this summer, and based on the outpouring of community support, we hope to see SAMM again next season. Nice work Mr. Asbell, prepping these middle schoolers for a future in science, farming, business, and community engagement. Big thanks also goes out to Deb Evans of Somersworth Housing and Celeste Gingras of Seacoast Eat Local, for helping facilitate this most valuable partnership.

If you'd like to learn more about Farm to School projects happening in Somersworth, and ways to get involved, contact Wendy at <a href="http://www.wberkeley@sau56.org">wberkeley@sau56.org</a>.



# A Message from the Sustainability Committee

Eight Easy Ways to Reduce Your Plastic Waste By Benji Jones Audubon.org

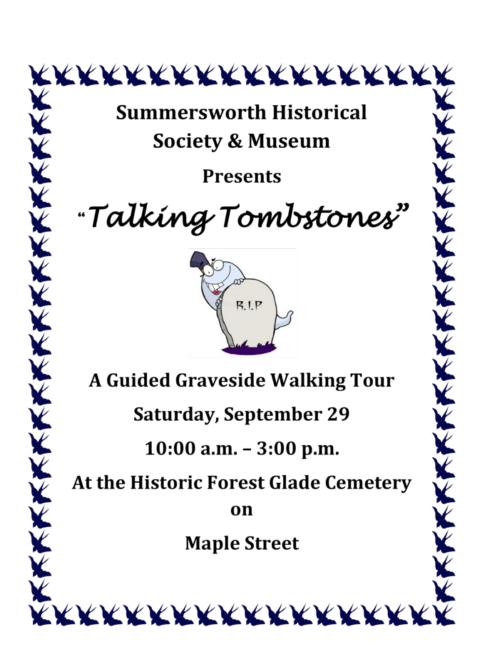
By doing so, you'll be helping birds and other wildlife.

If there's one material we can't seem to live without, it's plastic. And there's a reason for that: It's cheap, durable, and lightweight, making it perfect for everything from iPhones to eyewear.

But what makes plastic so useful for humans is exactly what makes it a nasty environmental contaminate-it spreads easily and takes forever to degrade, finding its way to our lands and oceans where it wreaks havoc on wildlife. To date, at least 700 species of marine animals, including shorebirds, have been entangled by plastic or mistaken it for food. The result is often <u>suffication or starvation</u>.

Since the 1950s, we've generated 8.3 billion metric tons of the stuff, of which a scant nine percent has been recycled. And by 2050, <u>scientists predict</u> the oceans will stock more plastic than fish.

But as problematic and worrisome as all of this is, completely cutting plastic from our lives is impossible at this point. Reducing your plastic use, however, is surprisingly easy and pain-free. You're not going to end the problem overnight, but here are some simple tricks to waste less... Read More to Help with the Environment.





## 16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

#### Saturday, October 13, 2018

#### 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### Located at the Somersworth Plaza on Main Street

Purchase a \$12 bracelet, kids can participate in all the activities. Returning as a special this year, show up at the event in costume and receive \$1.00 off the bracelet price and as always, there is no charge for adults accompanying a child. Don't miss all the events including pumpkin carving, painting, smashing and shooting plus scarecrow making, cookie decorating, storytelling, hay rides, a bouncy house, face painting, a family/child photo and check out the kid's game area and the new target shooter. Also, there will be main stage entertainment, a food court run by local non-profits. At the end of the day, all the kids are invited to join "Jack's Dash" into the nearby downtown area for treats available at participating businesses.

Presented by the Somersworth Festival Association.

# Saturday, October 13 Somerworth Fire Department Open House 10am to 2pm



Featuring "Smokey the Bear"; "Ready" - the Preparedness Dog: a cruiser from the Police Department; dump truck from the DPW; and Wentworth Douglas Hospital. There will be an ambulance, handouts and a blood pressure clinic by American Ambulance; handouts from the Recreation Department and fire extinguisher demonstrations by the Fire Department along with the Department's "Fire Safety House". Refreshments including Starbuck's coffee, Papa Gino's pizza, donuts and cider will be served.

# Wednesday, October 17





# Saturday, October 20 Somersworth High School 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

There will be 150 Crafters showing off their works of art along with food. Come spend the day!



Quality Service, Quality Schools Quality Somersworth Vision 2020

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future