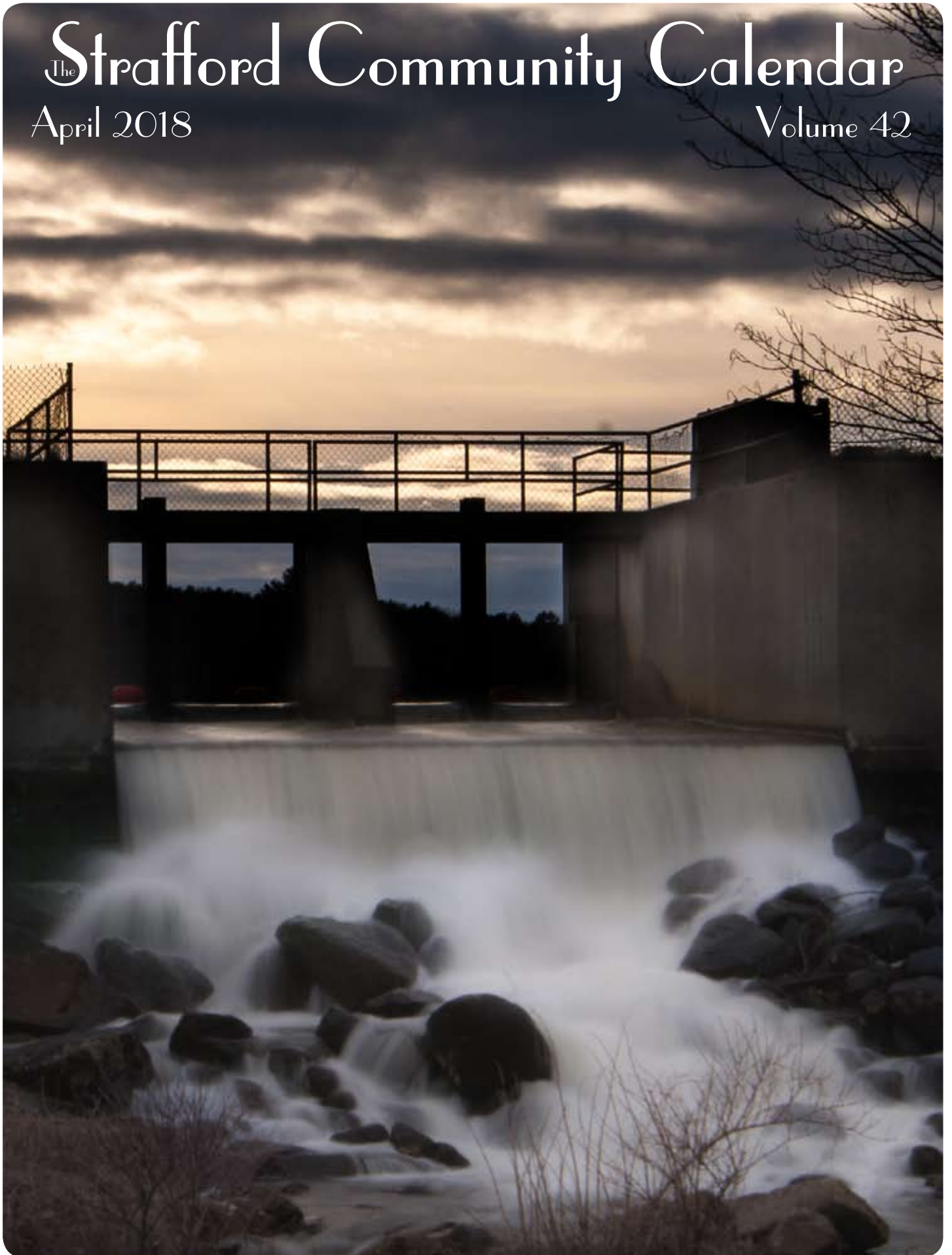


The *Strafford Community Calendar*

April 2018

Volume 42



**DEADLINE for the MAY Issue of
The Strafford Community Calendar is APRIL 15**

**STRAFFORD COMMUNITY CALENDAR
STAFF OF VOLUNTEERS**

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Visit Us on the Web

Log on to www.straffordcommunitycalendar.com to see the
online version of the Strafford Community Calendar

HOW TO SUBMIT ADS

Please email ads in Microsoft Word format (file name ends with .docx or .doc) or PDF format (file name ends with .pdf) to staff@straffordcommunitycalendar.com and your payment to SCC, P.O. Box 341, Strafford, NH 03884 by the 15th of the month before publication (e.g., July 15 for inclusion in the August issue). See Ad Rates & Sizes (below) on page 2 of every issue.

If you want us to design your ad, send us an idea of what you want included, along with your payment and the phone number where you can be reached with questions, to the SCC address above. Email any further questions to staff@straffordcommunitycalendar.com or call 942-8164.

WHERE TO FIND

THE STRAFFORD COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Here are the locations where you can find a copy of the *Strafford Community Calendar*: Elf's; Hill Library; Post Office; Strafford Town Hall; Strafford School; Isinglass Store; K & J's Diner; Uncle George's Store, Nippo Lake Golf Club; Northwood Garage; Northwood Physical Therapy; and online. The online version is posted in PDF format, complete with ads and working links on our website. Go to straffordcommunitycalendar.com; Click on **Download Current Issue** or **Download Previous Issue**; Save to your computer.

PHOTO CREDITS

*Many thanks to Kendall Chance for this month's cover photo.
Thank you all!*

Check out the online version of the Strafford Community Calendar to see all of these photos in magnificent color!

Send your photos to staff@straffordcommunitycalendar.com.

HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES

Please send articles to staff@straffordcommunitycalendar.com in Microsoft Word format (File name ends with .docx or .doc) or RTF format (File name ends with .rtf). Otherwise, place the text of your article directly into the message section of your email. (See guidelines below to submit photos with your article.) Place the name of your organization or article topic on the subject line. Include your name, email address, and phone number(s) on all submissions. We do not accept anonymous submittals.

The editors of this newsletter reserve the right to make any such corrections, additions, and/or deletions as needed in material submitted in accordance with established editorial practice. Opinions expressed in the *Strafford Community Calendar* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff. The staff is not responsible for changes in function dates, times, or locations; errors; omissions; or cancellations. All materials must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue. Thank you for your cooperation.

HOW TO SUBMIT PHOTOS

Email photos in .jpg or .png format to staff@straffordcommunitycalendar.com. Attach them to your email and include the photographer's name and the photo location(s) in your email, along with a statement of permission to print your photo(s). Send photos separately from your article; do not embed them into a Microsoft Word document.

**THE STRAFFORD COMMUNITY CALENDAR
AD RATES & SIZES**

Regular Ads:

- 1-inch ad for 1 month: \$12.25; 3 3/4 in. wide x 1 in. high
- 1-inch ad for 6 months: \$68.50
- 1-inch ad for 1 year: \$117.00

- 2-inch ad for 1 month: \$24.50; 3 3/4 in. wide x 2 in. high
- 2-inch ad for 6 months: \$137.00
- 2-inch ad for 1 year: \$237.00

- 1/4-page ad for 1 month: \$30.00; 3 3/4 in. wide x 5 in. high
- 1/4-page ad for 6 months: \$170.00
- 1/4-page ad for 1 year: \$330.00

Inserts:

- \$70 (After our review of your insert, you provide 1000 copies delivered to Lilac Printing, Rochester, NH by the 15th of the month before publication; e.g., May 15th for the June issue). A handling fee may be charged for more than one 8 1/2 x 11 page.

Please remember:

1. Inserts in the *Strafford Community Calendar* must be approved by the editors on or before the deadline.
2. Inserts and ads are prepaid.

THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

Third Baptist Church will be hosting a Son Rise Service at 6:30 AM with a breakfast to follow on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018.

Marjorie Stiles, a member of Third Baptist, will be celebrating her **100th birthday** on Sunday April 8, 2018. Happy Birthday, Marjorie!!!

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 21, as a Coffee House will be held from 6:30-8:30 PM. There will be music, readings, skits and plenty of delicious snacks and coffee. Everyone is invited.

For more information, please call Pastor Muzzey at 664-7750.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN AT THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

The Community Kitchen at Third Baptist Church in Center Strafford (junction of Routes 126 and 202A) welcomes you to a FREE homemade dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Come and enjoy this fine meal brought to you by our wonderful team of volunteers and meet some of your neighbors. Dinner is served in the Christian Education Building directly behind the Church. All are welcome.

HISTORICAL NOTES

There will be a planning meeting for this year's Renaissance Faire on April 21 at the Old Waldron Store at 6:30 PM. All are welcome. For any questions, please phone JoAnn Brown at 664-2225. The next Historical Society meeting is the Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper at Austin Hall in May. The Society has a variety of activities planned for the summer months, including a tea to be held at Austin Hall on June 10. Please watch the *Calendar* for more information about event dates and times and think 'Bicentennial'—2020 is coming quickly and we want to be prepared for a festive celebration.

SPECIAL AUTHOR TO VISIT HILL LIBRARY

Thanks to our Rural Library Grant from the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF), author/illustrator Jim Arnosky is coming to our Town Library this month. Mr. Arnosky, who lives in Vermont, has created over 130 books for children about wildlife and their habitats. He has been presented with many National awards for his outstanding works in natural science. He will speak at 11 AM on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. As part of the CLiF grant, children in attendance may choose two new books to take home after the presentation. Please join us.



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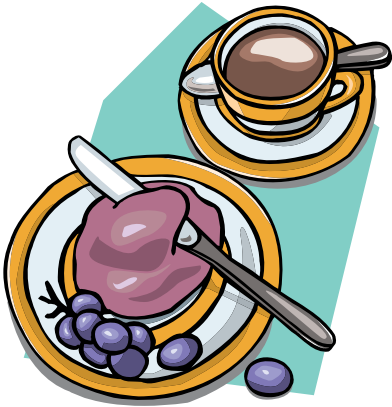
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KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION

It's time to think about Kindergarten registration. If you have a child who will be age 5 by September 30, please contact the School to start the Kindergarten registration process. Please call 603-942-1290 or email aroy@strafford.k12.nh.us.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

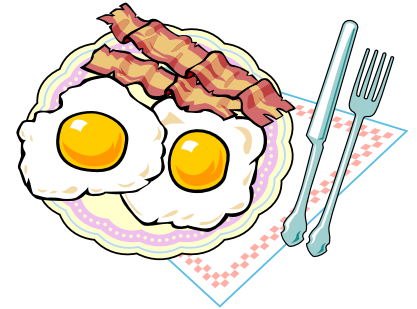
The Bow Lake Church invites all community women to join us for a potluck breakfast on Saturday April 7, 2018 from 9 to 10 AM in the Idlepines Room at the Bow Lake Church. The speakers will be Dawna Belanger, Louise Matteson, and Sue Patteson on Young Life. They will explain the mission and methods of Young Life and the positive impact it can have on our children. If you want to hear about something wonderful happening in our community and what we can do to foster its growth, come join us! Everyone bring something "brunchie" to share, we provide the coffee, and then a brief speaker. Hope to see you on the 7th.



BREAKFAST IN THE BARN FOR BEAR-PAW

Don't use up a fifty-cent stamp to send in your next gift to the Bear-Paw mission—come to the Kitz barn instead and get a wonderful breakfast with your latest support of Bear-Paw's land conservation work! Yes, Bear-Paw is once again putting on a Breakfast in the Barn feast. We'll gather supplies from our region's farms, and local chef Randy Brisson will take those potatoes, sausages, bacon, and eggs and create wonderful fare served family style at the Kitz Barn on Saturday, April 28, from 9 to 11:30 AM. There'll be the food and some entertainment followed by the chance for all of us to make a gift for land conservation.

This is all of us working together to make a difference in our own neighborhoods, and we are closing in on 9000 acres protected since Bear-Paw began just over 20 years ago. All around our 11-town region, however, are conservation opportunities lined up waiting for Bear-Paw's help. Bear-Paw continues to need the resources we all provide to get the work done. Will you come? We need to know ahead of time because the tables are set with name places. Reserve your place at info@bear-paw.org or by calling 603-463-9400.



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**AN OPEN INVITATION FROM
THE STRAFFORD WOMEN'S CLUB**

The U.S. Merchant Marines: "...unsung heroes of WW11, highly educated, skilled, disciplined, courageous..." but, what do you really know about the Merchant Mariner? Are your thoughts those of romance? intrigue? danger? Come, please join us on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 1:30 pm in the Idlepines Room of the Bow Lake Church as we gather to hear the personal side of a Mariner's life at sea during her time in the U.S. Merchant Marine. Presented by way of stories and captivating, often breathtaking pictures, Northwood resident Ansley Womble will describe her early life growing up, way up, in Washington County, Maine, and how her experiences drew her to the lure of the sea at an early age.

Travel with Ansley through her years at the renowned Maine Maritime Academy, graduating with a U.S. Coast Guard 3rd Mate Oceans Unlimited Tonnage License and a Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation Operations. Follow her story in pictures and vivid description working aboard and navigating a scientific research vessel in the North Atlantic. Crossing both the Arctic Circle and Equator, you'll hear about experiences from Greenland to Brazil. Be ready to see different tools used in navigation and wonderful keepsakes from around the world. There will be a Q & A session followed by light refreshments at the close of the program.

The regular April meeting of the Club will begin between 2:45 and 3:00 pm when important plans will be made for the Annual Meeting, and preparation for the summer Ice Cream

Socials will begin. Anyone interested in the Women's Club is welcome to attend. Questions? Call Jane at 664-9202.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

In addition to our two annual scholarships for \$750.00 each, this year the Strafford Women's Club is offering a special one-time scholarship, the Rita M. Kerivan Memorial Scholarship, for \$750. Rita Kerivan earned her teaching credentials at Bridgewater State Teachers College (now known as Bridgewater State University) in 1941. The Rita M. Kerivan Memorial Scholarship is for those planning to major in college courses with a goal towards becoming a teacher.

All three scholarships are open to seniors who attend any area high school, academy, technical school, or are home-schooled; must be residents of Strafford; maintain a 3.0 grade point average; and seek to further their education in a college, university, or institute.

Application forms will be available on February 15, 2018, at Coe-Brown's Guidance Department or mailed to you upon request by calling Marilyn Roderick at 664-2824. All applications must be in our hands by 5 pm on April 30, 2018. Time flies, especially in your senior year, so don't delay.



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LIBRARY LINES

Great News! Our volunteer Tech Guru, Matt, is feeling better. We are again able to offer Tech Help on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. Drop in if you have questions. If you need help with audio and ebooks, bring in your device on Mondays from 12-3 pm or Tuesdays from 4-7 pm. The website nh.overdrive.com lets library patrons download ebooks and audiobooks from NH Downloadable Books Consortium, accessing thousands of titles. And, remember, you can renew your books online from our OPAC. Visit the website to find out how.

This month we receive a new group of about 40 SILC items for the library. SILC is a library cooperative where we share movies and audiobooks. They should be ready for you to borrow the week of April 16. Come in and check out the new media titles.

Want to join with your neighbors in supporting Hill Library? Join the Strafford Library Association! The SLA supports the library by funding programs, purchases, and staff development. Would you like to participate? Individual annual dues start at \$10, and their next meeting is Wednesday, April 18, at 7 pm. The SLA provides patrons with up to \$35 reimbursement of museum admission fees. Also, thanks to the SLA, we now have copies of BookPage available free to any interested patrons. BookPage is a monthly magazine that has book reviews and author interviews. Pick one up here at the library.

Here are some other ways you can support the Hill Library:


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Youth Programming—Preschool Story Time on Mondays at 10:30; Bouncing Babies on Thursdays at 11:15; Thursday, April 5, from 4-5 pm Graphic Novel Book Club *Where's Halmoni* for Grades 2-5; Wednesday, April 11, at 11 am Jim Arnosky visits Strafford and children receive two free books; Thursday, April 12, from 4-5 pm celebrate National Library Week with a Library Scavenger Hunt; Saturday, April 14, at 10:30 am is Library Themed Family Book Time; on Thursday, April 19, from 4-5 pm Snap Circuit Engineers; on Saturday, April 21, 11-12 pm Harry Potter Club; Thursday, April 26, 4-5 pm Magformers Magnetic Building. Space is limited so please come in or call to sign up for these programs.

Hill Library Trustees—The next Trustees Meeting is Thursday, April 12, at 6 pm. If you are interested in information about becoming a Trustee, stop by and talk to our Director. All Trustees meetings are open to the public.

Adult Programming—NH Federal Credit Union will be presenting a Budgeting and Planning workshop from 6:30-8 pm on April 11. "String Enthusiasts" meet on Tuesdays from 12-2 pm; bring in a project, and join in the creativity; and on April 24, students are welcome to join in during vacation and get some help with a project. Our Book Club meets on April 5 at 6:30 pm and will be discussing *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. May's Book Club choice will be *Silver Star* by Jeannette Walls. Come by and pick up a copy. Sew & Chat will be Sunday, April 22, from 2-4 pm. And, remember, you can use our Meeting Room for your programs or meetings. Call for availability. All Hill Library events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise specified. A note on parking at the library—if the library parking lot is full, please continue up the hill and park in the National Guard parking lot on the left. Thank you for your patronage of the library!

CENTER STRAFFORD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Annual Meeting of the Center Strafford Cemetery Association will be held at Austin Hall on Saturday, May 5, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. This meeting is open to all lot owners and families.



BLUEGRASS GOSPEL & BBQ DINNER SHOW

Come to Northwood Congregational Church on Sunday, April 15, 2018 from 5-8 PM for the award-winning New England Bluegrass Band that has been entertaining audiences in the region for nearly 20 years—playing large and small festivals as well as intimate shows in New England, Europe and beyond. The group has included members who have gone on to international acclaim including this year's Grammy award winning Chris Pandolfi (now with the Infamous Stringdusters). Fronted by a Mississippi native, and backed by a highly respected quartet of instrumentalists, harmony singers, the band's repertoire extends beyond traditional boundaries but stays true to the roots of traditional bluegrass. Song sets inspired with stories of love and loss, instrumentals and bluegrass gospel-spirituals cross age and cultural boundaries in their appeal. The show will open with acoustic duo Lindsay and Lonesome featuring Lindsay O'Neil and Lonesome Dave Kiputh.

Join us for music and a Southern barbecue meal provided by Mr. Sippy's BBQ, with homemade pies provided by the church. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children 12 and under. Email Peggy Kofer at peggkofer@gmail.com for ticket pre-sales. Made possible, in part, by generous donations from Aqua Specialties LLC and UMAMI Farm Fresh Café.

MUSEUM PROGRAM

Have you been to the Children's Museum in Dover? How about the NH History Museum or the Currier Museum of Art in Concord? When was the last time you went to Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth? Well, you could go to any one of these, bring back a receipt for your fee, and present it to the Friends of Hill Library for a family reimbursement of up to \$35 per year. This program allows you to go to any museum and be subsidized for at least part of your cost to visit. If you are a Hill Library patron, you can take advantage of this offer. Just ask at Hill Library's circulation desk or go online for the forms (www.hilllibrary.org). Check out <http://museumsnewengland.org/> to find a wide variety of museums to select from for your next family trip.

CAMP SENTINEL

It is time to start thinking about summer camp! Camp Sentinel is located in the foothills of the Ossipee Mountain range in Tuftonboro, NH. Established in 1949, Camp Sentinel offers a safe, fun, Christian experience for boys and girls ages 7 to 15. For more information, go to www.campsentinel.org. Limited scholarships are available for Strafford residents. Applications for scholarships will be accepted until May 1, 2017. Further scholarship information is available through Lori Shiere from Third Baptist Church (664-6910) or Louise Matteson from the Bow Lake Baptist Church (664-9753).



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CONSERVATION NOTES

A topic of discussion in recent meetings was how to involve residents more in making use of our conservation areas. In particular, we consider them as a tool for educating our youth on nature and the importance of conservation for future generations. The most recent edition of *Forest Notes* (the publication of The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests) features articles devoted to this theme of encouraging youth to take advantage of Conservation Easements throughout the state. My personal experiences with my grandson remind me of how rewarding time spent exploring our outdoors can be. From the time he could walk and talk, the first thing he would say when he came up for a visit was, "Grandpa, let's look for animals." Initially, this was turning over every rock and log. He loved to count the salamanders and insisted on touching everything from worms to insects. One particularly fortunate morning a few years back, we found a bull moose browsing in a logged area off of Pig Lane. It's hard to say who was more excited. Now that he is nearly six, we take longer walks on the Isinglass River Conservation Reserve, and he is fascinated by the beavers and their lodges on the pond and the rushing water at the old Swains Mill. I recall while growing up in Dover a man who grew up here would always refer to Strafford as "God's Country." That always stuck with me. Since moving here in 1986 I have learned what he meant. Teachers at our elementary school might have an interest in day trips with their classes for hiking or exploration and are welcome to speak to us for more information on our conservation lands. The

Boy Scouts have a long-standing appreciation of our outdoors, and individuals have made valuable contributions with kiosks, trail maintenance, and construction of bat houses at the Town Forest. The next meeting of the Conservation Commission is at 7 PM on April 2 at the Town Hall.

STRAFFORD REC SPORTS AND NH THUNDER TEAM UP FOR 9th ANNUAL BOW LAKE 5K

Join us on Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 9:00am for this fun, family-friendly road race along the shore of beautiful Bow Lake! This scenic, part hilly, part flat course is great for serious competitors, casual joggers and walkers. Proceeds of this annual event support Strafford Rec Sports in providing recreation opportunities for children and families in our community and NH Thunder in providing cross-country and track programming. Registration for the race and course map/details can be found online at www.straffordrecsports.org. Pre-registration is only \$20, and race day registration is \$25 starting at 8:00 am. Sign up early to get a complimentary tee shirt! Register a family of 3 or more to receive our family discount! After the race, enjoy refreshments while we announce the overall prize winners, age category prizewinners, and walker prizewinners along with the winners of three amazing gift baskets. Any questions, please contact Sara Pickard at sarapickard@gmail.com. See you at the starting line!

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NOTES FROM THE TOWN CLERK

By the time you read this, the snow may have finally stopped falling for the winter...may have. Thanks to those of you who braved an Election Day snowstorm for the second year in a row—trudging through slush and snow to cast your votes. Over 600 of you voted which is higher than average for a Town Meeting. After the Election Day Blizzard of 2017, there was movement at the State level to address the fact that there was no authority in New Hampshire to postpone elections. As it stands now, only the Secretary of State has that authority, and he chose not to exercise it this year. Stay tuned for more on this in the future.

Our regular business hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 am to 2 pm and Tuesday from 1 to 7 pm.

Please license all dogs by April 30—a reminder that all dogs 4 months and older must be licensed each year between January 1 and April 30. Avoid late fees. See below for details on licensing your dog online.

The Town Hall (including the Town Clerk's Office) will be closed on the following days in May, June, and July: Monday, May 28, 2018 – Memorial Day; and Wednesday, July 4, 2018 – Independence Day.

Online Vehicle Renewals & Dog Licensing—For your convenience, you can renew your vehicle registrations and license your dogs with the Strafford Town Clerk online. Simply follow the instructions on the renewal letters we send or go to www.strafford.nh.gov (our Town website) and click on the red "Online Payments" button. The Strafford Town Clerk will

process your online renewals and mail your registrations/licenses to you. It's easy and convenient. There are extra fees associated with online transactions, which are explained during the online process. Only renewals can be processed online; allow one week for processing; all new vehicles, vehicle transfers, and new dogs must be processed in person at the Town Clerk's office.

Enjoy mud season and get ready for black fly season! For further information or if you have questions, please contact Christine Bane, Strafford Town Clerk, at townclerk@strafford.nh.gov or 664-2192 ext.102.

STRAFFORD TOWN REPUBLICANS

Snow blew in and closed Hill Library when we were to meet in March, and so the news of the Strafford Town Republican Committee will be fresh in April. Tony Fallon, the secretary here, notes the following. I encourage fellow Republicans and citizens curious to attend our monthly round tables. It is a true round table, and we follow what comes up. I organize, publish, and occasionally guide the discussion. We are all politicians in this country, and I leave it to you to initiate what I record for the most part. The hour and a half fills up and flies by with always interesting conversation. We often have our current State Senator John Reagan along with State Reps Wuelper and Harrington. Of course, it is fine if people want to start some proactive activities, too.

Please join us for the monthly round tables on second Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 at Hill Library. See you on April 10th!

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**OHRV, FISHING & HUNTING LICENSES
NEWS FLASH**

Effective May 1, 2018, the fee for annual and 14-month wheeled vehicle registrations will increase by \$30.00 for anyone who is not a member of a New Hampshire off-highway recreational vehicle (OHRV). To receive the discounted member rate, you must show valid proof of current membership in a NH wheeled vehicle club of New Hampshire Off-Highway Vehicle Association (NHOHVA). Purchase your Hunting and Fishing License and register you OHRVs and Snowmobiles at the Tax Collector's Office in Town Hall. Snowmobiling may be over but not the fun times out of doors. If you have not yet registered those OHRV's, dirt bikes, three- and four-wheelers, Getter Done. If they were not registered in the past two years, you will need to know all the information about it, including the VIN #, color, CCs, etc. Maybe you have an older registration you could bring with you that has the needed information.

Fishing season, saltwater and freshwater, is here; get those licenses at Town Hall, too. Your 2018 Digest "Law Books" are available at the Town Hall.

2017 NH "Moose Hunt Lottery" information and applications are available online. The last day to apply is May 25, 2018. Cost to apply is \$15.00. To purchase your Hunting license, you need your expired Hunting license or a copy of your "Hunter Safety Course Certificate" or "Archery Education Certificate."


Spring Turkey season is scheduled for May 3 thru May 31, 2018; make sure your license is updated. Licenses and

Registrations are available to purchase any time the Tax Collector is in the building.

FRIENDS OF HILL LIBRARY


Friends of Hill Library (aka Strafford Library Association aka SLA) will hold their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, at 7 pm at Hill Library. Election of officers, review of prospective programs, etc. are on the agenda. Come see how the Friends group helps support Hill Library. Our museum pass program (see separate article) is ready for your use; check in at the circulation desk for details. For updates on activities at the Library, check out Hill Library's website and Facebook page. Please join us on the 18th; all are welcome.

Help support Strafford Library Association by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com. To learn more go to <http://www.hilllibrary.org/>; you will see AmazonSmile on the left side of the first page; click on "Go to smile.amazon.com"; designate your charity (Strafford Library Association); make a purchase, and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase price to the SLA.



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Dr. Alison Gomes, DMD

General & Cosmetic Dentist
Dr. Anthony Pasquale, DMD



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STRAFFORD TOWN DEMOCRATS

Please join us for the monthly meeting of the Strafford Town Democratic Committee on Tuesday, April 3, at 7 pm at Hill Library. We will continue updates on candidates running in the First Congressional District. Our longtime Congresswoman, Carol Shea-Porter, is not running for re-election this fall. We will miss her and hope to invite Carol to a meeting later in the year to hear her insights on the current political climate.

Planning is underway for our summer Blueberry Festival and Bake-off, so mark your calendars for the afternoon of Saturday, July 28, and start testing those winning blueberry recipes.

The committee's March meeting was devoted to a discussion of local education issues. This reaffirmed a core value of our committee—the importance of quality public education as a foundation for a democratic society. Former State Rep and Committee Chair Bob Perry also provided a short presentation on navigating the General Court website to track bills, their sponsors, legislators' votes, video of session days, and more.

Mindi Messmer, candidate for congressional office in our district (CD-1), running to represent nearly 690,000 New Hampshire residents in Washington, will be our guest for the April meeting. Hear her message and be informed. Keep up on committee news, local issues, and more at www.strafforddems.org.

READY RIDES

Ready Rides is a non-profit organization formed to provide rides for seniors and physically challenged neighbors in Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madbury, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham, and Strafford who need transportation to medical and dental appointments. We recently added Newfields and are looking at other nearby towns to expand this service.

For our last fiscal year ending 9-30-17, Ready Rides completed 2,711 trips and drove almost 68,000 miles for those needing rides. For Strafford, that included 32 residents who used our service for a total of 309 trips. Although Strafford has 13 vetted drivers, those 309 trips were completed by many drivers from our 8 other surrounding towns. Although we don't guarantee that every request will be fulfilled, for this past year we were able to complete 98% of the Strafford trips that were requested.

The success of our program depends on our volunteer drivers. We are always looking for new drivers. Our program works around your schedule and availability; you can do as many or as few rides as you want. Drivers select rides from a list of requested trips to match a driver to a rider. We offer training programs for new drivers and mileage reimbursement. To request information about registering as a rider or volunteering as a driver, please email us at info@readyrides.org or call 603-244-8719.

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BOW LAKE COMMUNITY CLUB NEWS

We had our best-attended candidate event to date. Thank you to all the candidates and office holders who came out and everyone that attended to engage the candidates on the issues that impact us all. All the goodies were pretty enjoyable, too. We plan to do this regularly before town elections, so come on out next time and meet your current and prospective Strafford leadership.

The ever-popular Impersonators of Romance is back! Come out the weekend of April 13-15 and be prepared to have a rollicking good time. Don't wait to check our website (bowlakecc.org) or contact Paula King at lnpbakerhouse@aol.com to reserve your tickets.

Our annual membership drive is underway. Don't wait to receive our mailer. Joining or renewing is easy to do online; just go to our website at bowlakecc.org and click on the "Membership and Donate" link. We are so thankful for the generous support of the community that enables us to keep our historic Bow Lake Grange Hall as an active community hub.

If you haven't reserved June 2 on your calendar to join us for our Annual Ed Gerhard Concert, you're missing a very special evening. We'll also be hosting Strafford's first annual Variety Show directed by our very own Rosemary and David Raynes (June 22-24). Check future issues and our website (bowlakecc.org) for details.

STRAFFORD SUMMER ARTS CAMP 2018

For one magical week during the summer, perhaps you have heard the heart-pounding rhythms of African drumming wafting from Strafford School. Or maybe you have passed through the hallways and heard the arresting voices of young actors. Or, just maybe, you have peeked in the gym and seen incredible hand-painted scenery.



These sounds and sights are the products of Strafford Summer Arts—a week-long day camp from July 16 through July 20, 2018, from 9 AM to 3 PM (with a Friday evening performance for the community at 6:30 PM), during which students ages 8–14 explore art, music, and theatre under the guidance of professionals—including the 2017 winner of the Governor's Award for Arts Education, Mr. Randy Armstrong! The cost is \$350 (\$275 for residents of Strafford). A \$125 deposit is due at time of registration with balance due July 1, 2018. Randy brings a wide variety—a huge vanload—of world instruments from his own personal collection. During the camp, students learn to play multicultural music, as well as sound effects. No prior experience is necessary.

In addition, we are honoured that Strafford Summer Arts will be headed by none other than New Hampshire Theatre Project (NHTP) Director Genevieve Aichele. A giant in New Hampshire theatre, Genevieve has been an inspiration to countless numbers of students in Strafford and across the state. During the camp, Genevieve leads students in dramatic theatre and movement, storytelling, costume design, and set decoration/setup. We also have amazing Coe-Brown interns who bring great energy and enthusiasm to the program.

The emphasis of the camp is on collaboration, gaining self-confidence, and developing an appreciation for world cultures through theatre, art, and music. And, of course, fun!

Please email info@nhtheatreproject.org or call 603-431-6644 x4 with questions or to enroll for camp. Local community coordinator, Angela Smith, is also available to answer questions at straffordsummerarts@gmail.com. You may also visit the NHTP website for more information or to register at <https://www.nhtheatreproject.org/campdetail/strafford-summer-arts-camp-3947048>.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR TRASH IS?

Unsecured trash has a tendency to fly out of the back of trucks and land in yards and on roadways on your route to the Recycling Center. **PLEASE** take the time and make the effort to avoid being guilty of this unintentional littering by closing bags tightly and tying down the load. Let's all help out and keep litter in its appropriate place.

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STRAFFORD GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Ah, April. Spring. As I am writing this article (March 15), I am looking out the window at a foot of snow. I want Spring. Now. The sights, sounds and smell of Spring are yearning within me. I can't wait for the return of those things absent during the Fall and Winter months like buds on the trees, new leaves unfolding, sprouting daffodils and tulips. I will welcome with glee the smell of fresh clean air and the spring in my step (no pun intended) as I walk the town roads for exercise. I can't wait to hear birds and peepers chirping.

The coming of Spring also means that the Strafford Garden Club gets back to the swing of things. We were not dormant during the Fall and Winter months as we pulled plants from the barrels in town and inserted winter greens in them. We continued our Welcome to Strafford Initiative by delivering colorful welcome gifts to new residents in town. We made and decorated kissing balls for the Grange Hall and the Waldron Store. We cleaned up trash and debris on the sides of our town roads. We had a few wonderful lunch trips at nearby restaurants and attended the Orchid Show in Nashua.

There are lots more activities being planned for the upcoming months, and you are welcome to join us. Our Annual Potluck Luncheon will be held at 50 Ricky Nelson Road in Strafford on April 9, 2018, beginning at noon. If you are not a member of the Club and are interested in attending, please know that you are invited. Contact pboyer@metrocast.net for more information.

Also, be sure to mark your calendar and save the date for

our Annual Plant Sale scheduled for May 26 from 8 to 11 AM at the Grange Hall. The price and variety of our plants can't be beat anywhere!

Looking forward, you will notice new plants in the barrels at the Post Office, Fire Station, Police Station, Grange Hall, the garden across from Uncle George's, the Dam, and at AMI. We will host monthly trips and luncheons to interesting nurseries and gardens throughout our State. We will continue our efforts to complete and beautify Gwen's Garden, and we will host our Annual Blueberry Pancake Breakfast in July.

As a reminder, membership in the Strafford Garden Club is open to men, women, and the young and old alike. Join us for fun and friendship. Contact Beverly Nemetz at b.nemetz@snhu.edu for more information.

BICYCLE RACE NOTIFICATION

The UNH Cycling Team will be hosting a bicycle race through Strafford, Northwood, and Barrington on Sunday, April 15, 2018, from 8 am to 4 pm. The time trial course is from 8 to 10 am and runs from Bow Lake Village to Province Road East past Nippo to Rte. 126 North with a left just before Hill Library, by Strafford School and back to Bow Lake. The road course is from 10 am to 4 pm and includes the time trial course plus Bow Lake Village to Province Road West and continues around the Lake and back to Bow Lake Village. Please use caution when driving these roads on April 15th.

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STATE HOUSE UPDATE

This is the State House update from one of your State Representatives, Mike Harrington. I am writing this in the middle of the 3/13 snowstorm. I hope by the time you are reading this it looks more like spring.

At the State House we are approaching Crossover Day (3/22) which is the last day to act on all House Bills. Bills can be passed and sent to the Senate (Ought to Pass or OTP), defeated (Inappropriate to Legislate or ITL) Tabled (another word for defeated) or sent to study (which in the second year of a session usually means defeated). After 3/22 the House will begin reviewing bills passed by the Senate and the Senate the same with those passed by the House. The session is scheduled to end on 5/24.

The Senate has passed an extension of the expanded Medicaid Program that is scheduled to expire at the end of the year. It proposes using profits from the State Liquor Stores to fund the state portion of this program. This bill will now come to the House where it will require at least two positive House votes to pass. This is because bills like this, which spend large amounts of money, first go to a policy committee that provides a recommendation (e.g. OTP, ITL) and then sends it to the House. If the House votes OTP, it will be sent to the Finance Committee to determine how it is going to be paid for and how it fits into the existing budget. They, in turn, will provide a recommendation (they may or may not amend the bill) and send it back to the House for another vote. So you can see there is still a long way to go on this bill.

Another issue with major financial impact is the Family Leave Bill. This bill would establish a new State department of about 45 people to administer a family leave program that would allow employees to take multiple weeks off from work and still receive 60% of their pay for qualifying events. The program would be like ones in other states in that it would be voluntary. Those who choose to join would pay a small percentage of their salary into a fund. The problem is, if it is voluntary, those most likely to use the benefit are the ones who will sign up for the program. This leaves the potential for the state to be liable for making the payments if enough folks who do not plan on using the benefits do not sign up for the program. This bill is now in Finance, and it appears some major changes are being proposed.

As a reminder, you can see how I or any other State Rep or Senator voted on any roll call votes at <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/>. Remember, the vote is based on the committee's recommendation. For example, if the committee recommendation is ITL on a bill I think ought to pass, I would vote no that is against the committee recommendation. If the no's win, a motion would be made that the bill ought to pass and I would vote yes on that

On a more local issue, we just had our School District Meeting which approved spending of over \$10 million. There are over 3,200 registered voters in Strafford, and only 178 showed up for this Saturday morning meeting. For many folks in Strafford, their property tax is the largest amount of taxes they pay. You can make a difference by showing up. As little as 50 additional folks showing up could have changed the

outcomes of the three secret ballots.

As always, feel free to contact me on any state issue. I do have to ask one favor and also offer an apology. I have always said I would get back to Strafford residents who contact me, but I am sure I have missed a few. The amount of emails I receive is now in the hundreds per week. At least 90% of these are from people not in my district; many are from folks outside of NH. It has become impossible just to open them all to determine where the sender is from. For this reason, I ask that you put "Strafford Resident" as the subject of the email. I will do my best to open, read, and respond to all emails with this in the subject line. Please feel free to contact me, Rep. Mike Harrington, on any State issue at: harringt@metrocast.net or 942-8691. Spring is coming (some day).

NH THUNDER TRACK & FIELD

The NH Thunder Track & Field Program is currently taking registrations for the 2018 Track & Field season. More information and online registration is available on our website, www.nhthunder.com; or you can print out and return the registration form with the program fee of \$50.00, which includes new uniforms this year and meet fees—made payable to NH Thunder, PO Box 173, Strafford, NH 03884. Early Bird Registration is by March 31, 2018; after that the fee changes to \$55.00. Registrations will also be taken the first night of practice. The program will begin Monday, April 16, 2018, and run through the end of May. The Track & Field program is open to boys and girls between the ages of 6-15 years as of December 31, 2018.

Practices will be Mondays and Thursdays from 5:15-6:45 pm with three track meets throughout the season. Practices are held at the Coe-Brown Northwood Academy Track. The meets will also be held at Coe-Brown. Times will be subject to change due to High School meets and availability of CBNA athletes. There will also be optional meets during the season that we will encourage you to go to.

The Track & Field program is USATF certified. This is a great opportunity to participate in any, and all, track and field events you may be interested in, such as shot put, javelin, high jump, long jump, discus, running events, and hurdles. Events will be chosen by the guidance of the coaches and athletes together.

The track program only works if we have interested parents to volunteer to help with measuring, timing and supervising the different age groups. No experience is necessary. The Coe-Brown athletes also help to make this program a success.

We are excited to continue to build our NH Thunder running program; our emphasis is completely on fun and participation. We are looking forward to another great year. Please call Karyn Fisher at 664-6993 or email 5fishers@metrocast.net with questions or concerns.

Contacts

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Medical Emergency.....	911
Police Non-Emergency.....	664-5644
Police Business Line	664-7462
Dog Officer.....	664-5644
Poison Control.....	1-800-562-8236
All Emergencies.....	911
Fire Department Business Line	664-6863

Town Hall.....664-2192

Town Clerk's Hours (Ext. 102):

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday.....	8:30–2:00
Tuesday.....	1:00–7:00

Tax Collector's Hours (Ext. 103):

Monday & Wednesday.....	8:30–2:00
Tuesday.....	1:00–6:00

Town Office/Selectmen's Hours (Ext. 110 or 101):

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	9:00–noon
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Building Inspector's Hours (Ext. 104 or by appointment):

Tuesday.....	4:00–7:00
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Planning & Zoning (Ext. 105)

Assessor (Ext. 107)

Hill Library.....	664-2800
Monday through Thursday.....	11:00–7:00
Saturday.....	10:00–2:00

Recycling Center Year-Round Hours:

Wednesday.....	4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday.....	9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Strafford Post Office.....664-2118
1079 Parker Mountain Road (Rt. 126), Strafford, NH 03884

Monday–Friday:

Retail Service.....	8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Lobby & Post Office Box Access	6:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday:

Retail Service.....	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Lobby & Post Office Box Access	6:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Bow Lake Baptist Church.....664-7401
530 Province Road, Strafford, NH www.blfwbc.org
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

3rd Baptist Church of Ctr. Strafford.....664-7750
30 Strafford Rd. www.tbcstrafford.weebly.com.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Crown Point Baptist Church.....509-2224
274 First Crown Point Rd. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church.....435-6242
Rte. 4, Northwood..... Saturday 6:00p.m. & Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Northwood Congregational Church U.C.C.....942-7116
881 First NH Turnpike (Rte. 4), Northwood, NH 03261
Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.....435-7908
50 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263 www.ststephenspittsfieldnh.org
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.

New Hope Church.....285-3533
34 Raymond Rd. (Rte. 156), Nottingham, NH 03290
www.new-hopechurch.com Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

Nottingham Community Universalist Church.....679-8400
106 Church St. (Rt. 156 & Church St.), Nottingham, NH 03290
www.nc_uc@yahoo.com Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

St. George's Episcopal Church.....868-2785
One Park Court at 14 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824
www.stgeorgesdurham.org Sunday Services 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Northwood Advent Christian Church.....834-0863
113 School St, Northwood, NH Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

STRAFFORD LINKS

Bow Lake Camp Owners Association blcoa.org
Bow Lake Community Club www.bowlakecc.org
Bow Lake Yacht Club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BowLakeYachtClub/>

BSA Troop 23 straffordtroop23.webs.com

Coe-Brown Northwood Academy www.coebrown.org

Hill Library hilllibrary.org

Lakeside Players www.the-lakeside-players.com/

Strafford Bicentennial www.Strafford1820-2020

Strafford Community Calendar
straffordcommunitycalendar.com

Strafford Police straffordpolice.org

Strafford Recreational Sports, Inc. straffordrecsports.org

Strafford School strafford.k12.nh.us

Strafford Swamp Stompers Snowmobile Club
straffordswampstompers.org

Strafford Town Democratic Committee
strafforddems.org

Town of Strafford strafford.nh.gov

The Christian Cupboard and USDA emergency food distribution site at the Christian Center continues to serve the Town of Strafford. Persons needing food are invited to come to the Center on Thursdays between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. for confidential emergency food distribution.

Calendar of Events



- | | | |
|----|------|--|
| 1 | Sun | HAPPY EASTER |
| 2 | Mon | 10:30 am Preschool Story Time at Hill Library (every Monday).
4:30-5 pm Free Dinner, Interfaith Community Kitchen; St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Northwood (every Mon.)
7:00 pm Fire Department Business Meeting.
7:00 pm Conservation Commission meets at Town Hall. |
| 3 | Tues | 12-2 pm String Enthusiasts meet at Hill Library (every Tuesday).
6:15 pm TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at Police Station (every Tuesday).
7:00 pm Strafford Town Democrats meet at Hill Library. |
| 4 | Wed | 5-6:30 pm Free Dinner at Community Kitchen, Christian Center, Third Baptist Church (every Wed.).
7:00 pm Fire Department EMS training. |
| 5 | Thur | 8-10 am Food Pantry at Christian Center (every Thursday).
11:15 am Bouncing Babies Lapsit at Hill Library (every Thursday).
4-5 pm Graphic Novel Book Club meets at Hill Library.
6:30 pm Book Club meets at Hill Library.
7:30 pm Planning Board meets at Town Hall. |
| 6 | Fri | 7:30 pm AA in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Church (every Friday). |
| 7 | Sat | 9:00 am Women's Breakfast in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Church; see article. |
| 8 | Sun | 8:00 am Annual SRS Bow Lake 5K; register at 8 am—race at 9 am; see article. |
| 9 | Mon | 12 noon Strafford Garden Club annual potluck lunch; see article.
7:00 pm Fire Department training. |
| 10 | Tue | 5:30 pm Selectmen meet at Town Hall.
6:30 pm Strafford Town Republicans meet at Hill Library.
6:30 pm Bow Lake Community Club Board meeting at Bow Lake Grange Hall; public welcome. |
| 11 | Wed | 11:00 am Visiting Author Jim Arnosky at Hill Library; see article.
6:00 pm Strafford School Board meeting in Strafford School Library.
6:30-8 pm Budgeting & Planning Workshop at Hill Library. |
| 12 | Thur | 4-5 pm Nat'l Library Week Scavenger Hunt at Hill Library.
6:00 pm Library Trustees meet at Hill Library.
6-7 pm Computer Help with Matt at Hill Library.
7:00 pm Strafford Swamp Stompers Snowmobile Club meets at Nippo. |
| 13 | Fri | 7:00 pm Impersonators of Romance VII at Bow Lake Grange Hall; see article. |
| 14 | Sat | 10:30 am Library-Themed Family Story Time at Hill Library.
7:00 pm Impersonators of Romance VII at Bow Lake Grange Hall; see article. |
| 15 | Sun | Deadline for May <i>Strafford Community Calendar</i> .
8a-5p Caution: UNH Bicycle Race on Strafford roadways.
2:00 pm Impersonators of Romance VII at Bow Lake Grange Hall; see article.
5-8 pm Northwood Congregational Church Bluegrass Gospel and BBQ; see article. |
| 16 | Mon | 7:00 pm Fire Department Work Session at respective stations.
7:30 pm Fire Department Officers Meeting. |
| 18 | Wed | 7:00 pm Strafford Library Association meets at Hill Library; see article. |
| 19 | Thur | 4-5 pm Snap Circuit Engineers at Hill Library. |
| 21 | Sat | 11a-12p Harry Potter Club meets at Hill Library.
6:30 pm Strafford Historical Society meeting at Old Waldron Store; see article.
6:30-8:30p Coffee House at Third Baptist Church. |
| 22 | Sun | EARTH DAY
2-4 pm Sew & Chat at Hill Library. |
| 23 | Mon | Strafford School spring vacation; 4/23 through 4/27.
1:30 pm SWC Merchant Marines program & meeting at Bow Lake Church; see article.
7:00 pm Fire Department Work Session at respective stations. |
| 24 | Tue | 5:30 pm Selectmen meet at Town Hall. |
| 25 | Wed | 6:00 pm Strafford School Board meeting in Strafford School Library. |
| 26 | Thur | 4-5 pm Magformers: Magnetic Building at Hill Library.
6-7 pm Computer Help with Matt at Hill Library. |
| 28 | Sat | 9-11:30am Breakfast in the Barn for Bear-Paw; see article. |
| 30 | Mon | 7:00 pm Fire Department Work Session at respective stations. |

