Strafford Community Calendar January 2018 Volume 42



DEADLINE for the FEBRUARY Issue of The Strafford Community Calendar is JANUARY 15

STRAFFORD COMMUNITY CALENDAR STAFF OF VOLUNTEERS

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

This month's cover shot and the photo on page 14 were taken by Pat Sims. The photo of Old Waldron Store on page 7 is by Pam Boyer. The Bow Lake Grange Hall on page 8 was snapped by Rollande Merz. Cindy Lavigne took the photo on page 11. 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 ½ x 11 page.

Please remember:

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

IMPORTANT 2018 TOWN DATES

Please note the changes in this previously announced information. Town Budget Hearing, Tuesday, February 6, at 6 PM in Town Hall Conference Room; Town and School District Election of Officers, Tuesday, March 13, at Town Hall from 8 AM to 7 PM; Town Meeting, Saturday, March 17, at 8:30 AM in Strafford School Gym. For information on the School District Meeting, see the Strafford School website. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Check the Town website for any updates or additional announcements at www.strafford.nh.gov.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Supervisors of the Strafford Checklist will be sitting at Town Hall on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 from 2 to 2:30 pm and on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 from 7 to 7:30 pm for addition of new voters and corrections of address and/or party registration, RSA 669:5. If you are registering as a new voter, a photo ID, proof of citizenship, age and residency in Strafford needs to be provided.

TOWN OF STRAFFORD **ELECTION NOTICE**

In accordance with RSA 669:15, the following offices are open for election on March 13, 2018, at the Annual Town Meeting:

Selectman	3-Year Term
Moderator	2-Year Term
Supervisor of the Checklist	6-Year Term
Trustee of Trust Funds	
Library Trustee	3-Year Term
Road Agent	

Any Strafford resident who is a registered voter may file to be a candidate beginning January 24, 2018 through February 2, 2018. Declarations of Candidacy will be taken by the Town Clerk at the Town Hall during the Town Clerk's regular business hours or on Friday, February 2, 2018 from 3 to 5 pm.

STRAFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT **ELECTION NOTICE**

The following offices are open for election on March 13, 2018:

School Board Member	3-Year Term
School Board Member	1-Year Term
School Board Member	3-Year Term
Strafford School District Moderator	3-Year Term

Any Strafford resident who is a registered voter may file to be a candidate beginning January 24, 2018 through February 2, 2018. Declarations of Candidacy will be taken by the Strafford Town Clerk at the Town Hall during the Town Clerk's regular business hours or on Friday, February 2, 2018 from 3 to 5 pm.

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STRAFFORD YOUTH SOCCER NEWS

The Strafford Recreational Sports department just finished another successful Fall soccer season, with over 110 local children participating in the 2017 program. Every Saturday morning in September and October you found kids on the soccer fields getting great exercise, learning how to play on a team, and having a blast, all while parents and grandparents cheered them on.

None of this happens, of course, without the efforts of our volunteer coaches, who are: Kindergarten: Rob Clark; 1st/2nd Grade: Rob Mulligan, Greg Pickard, Jennifer McKee, Alan Robinson, Rob Clark; 3rd/4th Grade Boys: Tim Taylor; 3rd/4th Grade Girls: Bobbie Kozlowski and Paul Kerivan; 5th/6th Grade Boys: Indra Edmonds; 5th/6th Grade Girls: Justin Meehan, Tony Buckovitch, and Dave Glidden.

And, we can't forget our sponsors: Statix Salon and Spa, Dover NH, 603-749-3886; Shawn Vayda Home Remodeling, Strafford, NH, 603-455-6738; TB Taylor Building and Remodeling, Strafford, NH, 603-609-5015.

The 3rd-6th grade players continue to compete in the Suncook Valley Soccer League, facing off against teams from neighboring towns, including Northwood, Pittsfield, Epsom, Chichester, and Concord. All of the travel teams represented our program well with good sportsmanship and strong play. Specifically, we'd like to recognize Bobbie Kozlowski's 3rd/4th grade girls who battled to a second-place finish in a very competitive league tournament. Go Strafford!

Last, but not least, we'd like to thank our local referees,

Elijah Chamberlain and Carter Ford, for becoming fullycertified NH Soccer Referees and contributing to the success of our local soccer program.

ICE FISHING

Be sure you have that fishing license. Purchase your Hunting and Fishing License and Register you OHRV at the Tax Collector's Office. To purchase your Hunting license, you need your expired Hunting license OR a copy of your "Hunter Safety Course Certificate" or "Archery Education Certificate".

Snowmobile Club memberships will save you an extra fee. The Snowmobile Club MUST be affiliated with the NH Snowmobile Association. Our local Strafford Swamp Stompers Snowmobile Club is affiliated. Bring your snowmobile membership number with you. It is not mandatory to belong to a club, but it does save you money.

Also, get your OHRVs, dirt bikes, three- or four-wheelers registration at the Tax Collector's office in Town Hall. If you have not registered it in the past two years, you will need to know all the information about it (including the Vin #)

You can purchase licenses or registrations Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 to 2 and Tuesdays from 1 to 6 or anytime the Tax Collector is in the building.

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NORTHWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Northwood Congregational Church (881 First NH Turnpike, Northwood) Epiphany Arts Festival for 2018 is back by popular demand. The Epiphany Arts Festival visual arts display will return in all its glory on Epiphany Sunday, January 7, and will run through and be taken down directly after worship service on Sunday, February 11, three days before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Epiphany is also known as Three Kings Day and commemorates the day that the three Kings arrived at the birthplace of Baby Jesus after having followed the star in the Eastern sky for many days. They showered the infant Jesus with the gifts they had brought, gold and frankincense and myrrh; and so we, to honor the occasion and celebrate the season of Epiphany, will showcase the artistic gifts of our church family including but not limited to photographs, sculpture, paintings, poetry, jewelry, drawings, wood work, pottery, calligraphy, needlework, knitting, quilting, etc.

To enhance the Epiphany Arts Festival, the church is also hosting a Coffee House on Sunday, January 21. Church family and friends will share their gifts of music and writing from 3-5 pm in the Northwood Congregational Church Fellowship Hall. Coffee, tea, cookies and other snacks will be provided. Donations will be accepted but not necessary.

STRAFFORD TOWN DEMOCRATS

The Strafford Town Democrats enjoyed a sociable evening gathering in December at the home of Roger and Jo Mumper. There will be no meeting in January, so the Committee will meet next on February 6 at 7 pm at Hill Library.

In the meantime, Committee Chair Bob Perry remains active in promoting awareness of legislative efforts to infringe on voting rights guaranteed by the New Hampshire Constitution. He reports that one piece of legislation to watch is House Bill 372, which is intended to make a student's right to vote unequal. Under current law, a student's right to vote is specifically protected by statute. HB 372 would repeal that protection by requiring student voters, and others who do not drive a vehicle, to obtain a NH driver's license anyway. This mixes our fundamental right to vote with completely unrelated motor vehicle laws, and subjects voters to what amounts to a poll tax through required payment of motor vehicle license fees. HB 372 would also have a chilling effect on the voting rights of military personnel, construction workers, family caregivers, and others living in the state on a temporary basis. At the time of this writing, HB 372 had passed the House and is expected to be considered by the State Senate in early January. Perry explains that similar measures have been found unconstitutional in the past, as this bill will likely be if enacted into law.

Mark your calendars for the February 6 meeting of the Town Democrats, and stay in touch online at www. strafforddems.org.



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STATE HOUSE UPDATE

This is the latest State House Update from one of Strafford's State Representatives, Mike Harrington. First, I hope all the folks in Strafford had a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year. I hope you and yours all enjoyed the holiday season.

This November saw a very unusual happening at the State House; the changing of the Speaker of the House in the middle of the session. This has not happened since the 1950s. Former Speaker Jasper resigned after being appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Executive Council to be the Commissioner of Agriculture for NH. This resulted in multiple Representatives striving to replace him as Speaker. Representative Chandler (who had previously been Speaker over 10 years ago) won the Republican Caucus and subsequently was elected Speaker. Speaker Chandler has stated he will only complete this term as Speaker and will not run again in 2018 so there will be another contested election for Speaker next fall.

The House begins meeting again in January. This being a non-budget year (a 2-year budget passed in June) means the session should go a little faster, but it does not mean there won't be major issues. The biggest issue will be Medicaid expansion. The State's Medicaid expansion program is set to expire at the end of 2018 unless it is reauthorized. To complicate matters, the Federal Government has told NH the method we are currently using to fund this program will not be allowed after 2018. Also, the share the Federal Government pays for this program starts going down in 2019. So, as often happens, it will come down to if we want to continue this program, how are we going to pay for it?

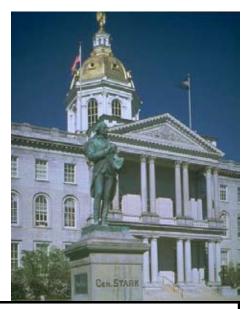
Other major issues will be how to deal with the opioid crisis, funding of full-day kindergarten and changes to Federal Funding. Most everyone is aware of the opioid crisis, but how best to combat this and where the money to do so will come from are not so certain. I think it is time to admit that the war on drugs has been lost, and we need to consider a different approach.

Full-day kindergarten was passed this year with the hope that Keno (a form of gambling that was the proposed funding method when full-day kindergarten was passed) would provide adequate funding in the near future. Right now it is uncertain how many towns will vote to allow Keno and how much money it will raise. Keno is limited to towns that vote it in and can only be played at establishments that have license to serve alcoholic beverages.

Federal grants and transfer make up about 30% of the State's spending; but don't forget it is our money that the Feds get from us first. Changes to the way and amount that these funds are returned to the states could require legislative action.

On a different issue, we all know Strafford (and most of this part of the State) experienced a multi-day power outage recently. I believe the performance of Eversource (aka PSNH) has improved over past outages, but I would like to know what you think. Please let me know what worked well and what they could have done better. As a former Public Utilities Commissioner, I know the right people to pass your comments on to and will make sure they get them.

Of course, this is just a brief summary of State issues. There will be many other issues brought up in the House this session. One last note, I would be happy to meet with any group or club in Strafford to discuss how the State government works and answer any questions that folks might have. Please feel free to contact me on any State issue at: harringt@metrocast.net or 942-8691; Rep. Mike Harrington, 82 Garland Road, Strafford, NH.





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CONSERVATION NOTES

The Winter Edition of New Hampshire Audubon Afield features a photo of a spotted salamander found during vernal pool surveys in Strafford last May. Salamanders are an excellent indicator of the health of the ecosystem. Eastern Red Back Salamanders are the most abundant terrestrial vertebrates in northern hard wood forests as evidenced by a study on the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in NH. Salamander biomass may equal that of small mammals and be twice that of birds. Biomass is the total mass of organisms in a given area or volume. Think of how many salamanders it would take to equal a porcupine, raccoon, or woodchuck and you get the idea. That's a lot! Another "red" species doing quite well is the Red-bellied Woodpecker. This beautiful bird was primarily a southern species but has increased dramatically in expanding its northern range according to Winter Bird Surveys. Put out some suet, and you are likely to attract them.

This is a draft of the mission statement we will be finalizing at this month's meeting: The mission of the Strafford Conservation Commission is to protect and enhance open spaces in order to promote a diversity of habitats and wildlife. The Conservation Commission will work to maintain the rural and agricultural identity of the town, act as an educational resource for conservation practices, and work as an intermediary between the citizens of Strafford and government permitting agencies.

HISTORICAL NOTES

The Strafford Historical Society would like to thank the many people who helped us celebrate the holidays with Christmas in Strafford at the Waldron Store and with the *Impersonators of Romance* Christmas show a week later. Thanks go out to Stacy Paine and family for the beautiful wreaths and to the Garden Club and Strafford Girl Scouts for the kissing balls decorating the Waldron Store porch. Special thanks are sent to Bob Manseau who saved the day by plowing out the Waldron Store driveway for the final Impersonators performance. We also send a warm thank you to Edie Brown for the lovely wreath decorating Austin Hall. Watch for an announcement of the next Bicentennial Committee planning meeting and for upcoming spring Historical Society events. And please do think of us if you find any vintage photographs of Strafford scenes that you would be willing to share with our Bicentennial photo archive. As we begin a new year, we would like to remind you that donations to support the work of the Society and our beautiful

buildings are tax deductible. Happy New Year from all of us to all of you!



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www.accessibilityfornewengland.com

Contact Brian, a Strafford resident, for a free consultation!



BOW LAKE COMMUNITY CLUB NEWS

Happy New Year! We hope you were able to enjoy the 28th Annual *Christmas in Strafford* a few weeks ago. The weather was wonderful, and the crowds seemed bigger than ever. We enjoyed brisk business at our lunch counter in the Grange Hall. Thank you to everyone who visited and supported us. Hard to believe it's already 2018, and the next *Christmas in Strafford* is a mere eleven months away.



Announcing our Board members for 2018; we are grateful for the volunteers that serve the Community Club and make sure the Grange Hall remains a vital community hub—President David Murdoch; 1st Vice-President Sue Higgins; 2nd Vice-President Vicky Mowers; Treasurer Donna Fletcher; Recording Secretary Martha English; Corresponding Secretary Suzanne Murdoch.

Our first-ever adult Cabin Fever Social will be at the Grange Hall on Saturday, January 20, from 5 to 8 pm. This is an opportunity for everyone to gather and see your neighbors before the spring thaw. BYOB—we'll provide the music courtesy of Bob Chadbourne on the piano as well as some light refreshments. We hope to see you there!

Still seeking a tap dancer (male) for our upcoming variety show. Rosemary Raynes and her husband David are putting together a special variety show to be put on at the Grange Hall June 22-24 of this year. They have a special routine built around a male tap dancer (18+) and are looking for the right hoofer with the tap shoes to pull it off. If you are interested or know someone, please contact Rosemary at rodadibri@gmail.com for more information.

Looking ahead—Impersonators of Romance will be returning to the Grange Hall April 13-15. Mark it on your calendar and plan to join us.

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Please call/text Deb at 603-978-5116.



STRAFFORD SWAMP STOMPERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

As I write this we've already received some snowfall and the temperature is well below freezing. I'm hoping this is a positive trend. Our trail work has wound down and we're now looking forward to grooming trails and lots of riding. The Club has been busy with some major repairs this Fall including some severe damage to our bridge adjacent to our Park & Ride area just off Rte. 202A. We also had help from Coe Brown senior Maxim Begin who rebuilt another bridge on his own as part of his Senior Project for school. THANK YOU Max Begin!

A few important things to know about when riding in town this Season: The first one is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!! Our Evans Mountain Trail follows Evans Mountain Road down to Bow Lake where it crosses Province Road and then ends at the field near Caswell Cove. Many use this field as access to the lake. Starting this Season there will be NO lake access directly from the field. The trail has been re-routed to run along Fire Road 38. We have tentative permission for this route but it could easily be revoked if the signs are not followed. Please STAY OUT OF THE FIELD.

"I've always gone this way" is not a valid excuse. The re-route will be clearly marked. Please follow the signs. As always, use of the lake is AT YOUR OWN RISK. Educate yourself on the condition of the ice. The Club trails end at the shoreline. The second re-route to note is a small change to avoid the dreaded mud hole encountered by many on the way home from the Club Bonfire last February. Follow the signs and you'll stay clean and dry.

Tentative date for the 2018 Club Annual Bonfire is February 10 or 17 depending on conditions. Please check the website www.straffordswampstompers.org or follow our Facebook page for more details as the season progresses. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month from September through April at Nippo Lake Golf Club in Barrington. See you on the trails. THINK SNOW!!!





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STRAFFORD WOMEN'S CLUB

Remember that we take a break from our monthly business meetings in winter, but don't forget to meet for lunch at Popovers in Epping on Monday, January 22, 2018. If you wish to carpool, we will leave at 11:00 am from the Bow Lake Church parking lot. All are welcome to join us. Please RSVP by January 15 to Alice Saunders at 664-2690 if you plan to attend.

Many thanks to all who visited our booth at the Bow Lake Grange Hall during *Christmas in Strafford* last month. The purchases of our homemade beans, baked goods, and raffle tickets for the Christmas gift basket go a long way to help support our scholarship fund and select community projects. The lucky winner of the basket was Tylee Schraufnagel, who happens to have been the recipient of our 8th grade award in 2005 and winner of one of our college scholarships in 2009—Congratulations!



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

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 homeschooled; 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.

Serving the Strafford Community:

JANUARY 15

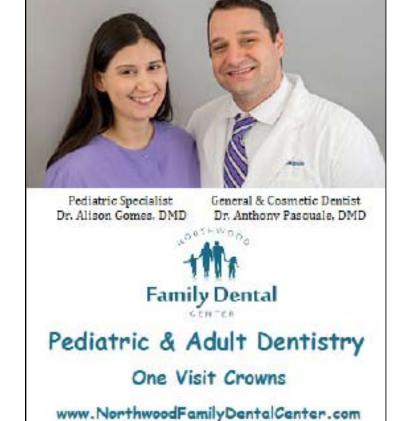
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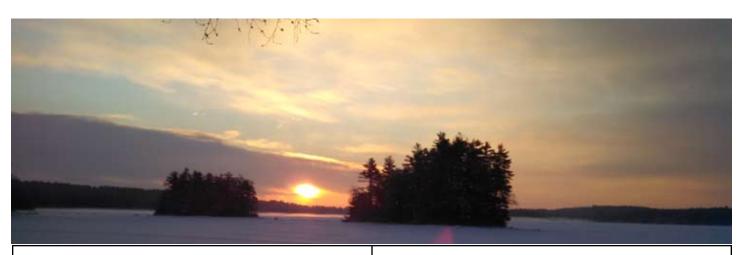
The Strafford Garden Club is offering a \$1000.00 scholarship to a college bound high school senior or student already enrolled in a college, technical school, or graduate school. Students will need a 3.0 grade point average to be eligible. This scholarship is offered to students who live in Strafford and Northwood or are relatives of Strafford Garden Club members. Any student may apply, but those enrolled in or planning to major in courses relating to plants, ecology, environment, or agricultural studies, etc. may be given preference. Applications are available at the Coe-Brown guidance office or by contacting Dolly Theriault 942-8163 or gardenclubscholarship@gmail.com. Former winners may reapply. The deadline for application is March 15, 2018.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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

The Town Hall (including the Town Clerk's office) will be closed on the following days: Monday, January 1, New Year's Day; Monday, January 15, Martin Luther King Jr./Civil Rights Day; Monday, February 19, Presidents' Day; and Tuesday, March 13, Town Election Day—open for voting only.

For further information or if you have questions, please contact Christine Bane, Strafford Town Clerk, at 664-2192 ext.102.



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LIBRARY LINES

Help support your local library when you shop at Hannaford in Northwood. For the month of January ONLY, every blue "karma" re-usable shopping bag you purchase will directly benefit Hill Library. Thank you for supporting us! Also, we will soon have an Amazon Smiles account. More information next month. Everyone at the library extends a hearty "Thank You" to the anonymous donor of our new printer. The library now has a color printer/copier/fax/scanner, and patrons have commented on its ease of use. Thank you again for your generosity.

Welcome the winter weather with a good book, movie, puzzle or audio from Hill Library. Come by and check out what's new in the library. Look on our website, www. HillLibrary.org, and our Facebook page, Hill Library, for our new titles and program offerings. Also follow us on Instagram @ Hilllibrarystraffordnh. A note on parking at the library—we share our driveway with the National Guard, and they have large vehicles that need to be able to get through. If the library parking lot is full, please continue up the hill and park in the Guard parking lot on the left. Thank you.

Hill Library Wish List—we could use paper towels, cleaning wipes and Kleenex for the winter months. Thank you! Also, we welcome donations of your newer hardcovers, audios and DVDs. Remember, we have a donation collection box for End 68 Hours of Hunger. Also, we will be closed January 1, New Year's Day, and January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr Day. Youth Programming—Preschool Story Time on Mondays

at 10:30; Bouncing Babies on Thursdays at 11:15; on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 will be Crazy 8's Math; on Thursdays from 4 to 5 pm in January will include on January 4 Board Game Night, on January 11 Snap Circuit Engineers, on January 18 Minute to Win-It, on January 25 BrushBots. Space is limited so please come in or call to sign up for these programs. On Saturday, January 20, from 11 am-12 pm will be the monthly meeting of the Harry Potter Club. Join in for games, snacks and Harry Potter talk.

Hill Library Trustees—The next Trustees Meeting is Wednesday, January 10, at 6 pm. All Trustees meetings are open to the public. Stop by or call for more information, 664-2800.

Adult Programming—On Wednesday, January 24, at 6:30, we will be presenting an award-winning film called *Ocean Frontiers III*. This is a hopeful film that explores the U.S.'s first regional ocean plans and the intersection of national security, marine commerce, and conservation. The film shows marine life from Virginia to Maine. After the showing, staff from UNH School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering will take questions and lead an informed discussion about marine sustainability. Save the date of February 7 at 6:30 pm for NH on Skis, presented by E. John B. Allen. String Enthusiasts is a group of fiber artists that meet on Tuesdays from 12 -2 pm. Join the January 4 Book Club at 6:30. This month's book is *Mother of Pearl* by Melinda Haynes. The February choice is *Before and After* by Rosellen Brown. Come by and pick up a copy. Evening of Spoken Word with Skip Manning will be Tuesday, January

(Continued next page)





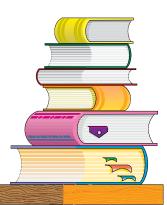
Anytime Fitness

262 1st NH Tpk. Northwood 603-942-6027 anytimefitness.com 24 Hour Member Access Personal Training Group Classes 30, from 5-7 pm. And remember, you can use our new Meeting Room for your programs or meetings. Call for availability. All Hill Library events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise specified.

Have you been thinking about your family tree over the holidays? Do you want to find out more? Today's genealogical research takes many forms, including online databases, digitized media and, yes, historical documents. Here in Strafford, the Hill Library subscribes to the library version of the popular database Ancestry.com, and you can access it using our public computers or our Wi-Fi. If your family has roots in Strafford, we also have a collection of town reports and historical materials.

Stop by for Tech help on Mondays from 12–3 pm or Tuesdays from 4–7 pm. Bring in your device, and we will help you download an audio or ebook. The Overdrive website is nh.overdrive.com and download ebooks 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.



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.

TOPS

It's always a great time to refocus on your personal goals. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets on Tuesday evenings at 6:15 pm at the Strafford Police Station. With the support of others you can reach your goals. Please join us to see what our group can do for you.



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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. This year we will be expanding our ride service to Newfields. 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.

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 Strawbery 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.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

The Bow Lake Church extends an invitation to all community women to come together for a once-a-month potluck breakfast. This gathering is designed for women of all ages to enjoy the fellowship of one another as well as giving the opportunity, through the easy channel of food, to become better acquainted. There is no charge, no homework, no deadline and no lists, but we do ask that everyone bring a dish to pass. Each breakfast features a new (and brief) speaker. Breakfast begins at 9 am on the first Saturday of every month in the Idlepines Room of the Church. Place settings and beverages are provided. Welcome! Come and enjoy.

Contacts

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCI NUM	
Police/Fire/Medical Emergency	
Police Non-Emergency	
Police Business Line	664-7462
Dog Officer	664-5644
Poison Control	1-800-562-8236
All Emergencies	911
Fire Department Business Line	
Town Hall	
Town Clerk's Hours (Ext. 102):	
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday	8:30-2:00
Tuesday	
,	
Tax Collector's Hours (Ext. 103):	
Monday & Wednesday	8:30-2:00
Tuesday	1:00-6:00
Town Office/Selectmen's Hours (Ext. 110	
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	9:00-noon
Building Inspector's Hours (Ext. 104 or b	y appointment):
Tuesday	4:00-7:00
Planning & Zoning (Ext. 105)	
Assessor (Ext. 107)	
Hill Library	664-2800
Monday through Thursday	
Saturday	
,	
Recycling Center Year-Round Hours:	
Wednesday	4:00 p.m7:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday	9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Strafford Post Office	
Monday-Friday:	, octanora, 1111 05001
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Retail Service8:00 a.m. –12:30	
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	
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CHURCH DIRECTORY		
Bow Lake Baptist Church	664-7401	
530 Province Road, Strafford, NH www	w.blfwbc.org	
	Worship Service 10:00 a.m	
3rd Baptist Church of Ctr. Strafford	664-7750	
30 Strafford Rd. www.tbcstrafford.weebl		
	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 Saturd		
Northwood Congregational Church	U.C.C942-7116	
881 First NH Turnpike (Rte. 4), Northy		
•	Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.	
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church	435-7908	
50 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263 w	ww.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 Universalis	t Church679-8400	
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, Durk	nam, NH 03824	
www.stgeorgesdurham.org Sunday	y Services 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.	
Northwood Advent Christian Church834-0863		
113 School St, Northwood, NH	Worship Service 10:00 a.m	

STRAFFORD LINKS

onunio	LITTIO	
Bow Lake Camp Owners Associate	tion <u>blcoa.org</u>	
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	<u>hilllibrary.org</u>	
Lakeside Players	www.the-lakeside-players.com/	
Strafford Bicentennial	www.Strafford1820-2020	
Strafford Community Calendar		
<u>straffordcommunitycalendar.com</u>		
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 Comi	nittee	
	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	Mon		NEW YEAR'S DAY; No School; Town Hall and Library closed.	
		4:30-5 pm	Free Dinner Interfaith Community Kitchen, St. Joseph's Hall, Northwood (every Monday).	
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Business Meeting.	
2	Tues		No School; teacher workshop.	
		12-2 pm	String Enthusiasts meet at Hill Library (every Tuesday).	
		5:30 pm	Selectmen meeting at Town Hall.	
		6:15 pm	TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at Police Station; see article (every Tuesday).	
3	Wed		Strafford School re-opens.	
		5-6:30 pm	Free Dinner at Community Kitchen, Christian Center, Third Baptist Church (every Wed.)	33
		7:00 pm	Fire Department EMS Training.	27
4	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	Board Game Night at Hill Library.	
		6:30 pm	Book Club meeting at Hill Library.	
		7:30 pm	Planning Board meeting at Town Hall.	
5	Fri	7:30 pm	AA in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Baptist Church (every Friday).	
6	Sat	9:00 am	Women's Breakfast in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Baptist Church.	
7	Sun		See Contacts page for local religious services.	
			Epiphany Arts Festival at Northwood Congregational Church (1/7 to 2/11); see article.	
8	Mon	10:30 am	Preschool Story Time (every Monday).	
		3:30-4:30p	Crazy 8's at Hill Library (every Monday).	
		7:00 pm	Conservation Commission meeting at Town Hall.	
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Training.	7
9	Tues	6:30-8 pm	Strafford Town Republicans meeting at Hill Library.	5
		6:30 pm	Bow Lake Community Club Meeting at Grange Hall; all are welcome.	5
10	Wed	2-2:30 pm	Supervisors of the Checklist sit at Town Hall; see article.	Ć
		6:00 pm	School Board meeting in Strafford School Library.	_
		6:00 pm	Library Trustees meeting at Hill Library; see <i>Library Lines</i> .	
11	Thur	4-5 pm	Snap Circuit Engineers at Hill Library.	
		7:00 pm	Strafford Swamp Stompers Snowmobile Club meeting at Nippo Lake Golf Club.	
15	Mon		DEADLINE for February Strafford Community Calendar.	
			Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; School, Town Hall, and Library closed.	
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Work Session at respective Stations.	
		7:30 pm	Fire Department Officers Meeting.	
16	Tues	5:30 pm	Selectmen meeting at Town Hall.	
18	Thur	4-5 pm	Minute to Win-It at Hill Library.	52
20	Sat	11a-12p	Harry Potter Club meeting at Hill Library.	8
		5-8 pm	Cabin Fever Social at the Bow Lake Grange Hall; adults welcome; see BLCC article.	,
21	Sun	3-5 pm	Coffee House at Northwood Congregational Church; see article.	
22	Mon	Noon	Strafford Women's Club lunch trip; meet at 11 am to carpool; see article for details.	
		6:15 pm	SAU 44 Joint Board meeting.	
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Work Session at respective Stations.	
23	Tues	7-7:30 pm	Supervisors of the Checklist sit at Town Hall; see article.	
24	Wed	6:00 pm	School Board meeting in Strafford School Library.	
25	Thurs	4-5 pm	BrushBots at Hill Library.	
27	Sat	9a-3:30p	Bear-Paw Annual Meeting at Hooksett Public Library; see www.bear-paw.org.	
28	Sun	2-4 pm	Sew & Chat at Hill Library.	
29	Mon	7:00 pm	Fire Department Work Session at respective Stations.	,
30	Tues	5-7 pm	Evening of Spoken Word at Hill Library with Steve Manning; see <i>Library Lines</i> .) \
S	35%	5:30 pm	Selectmen meeting at Town Hall.)
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