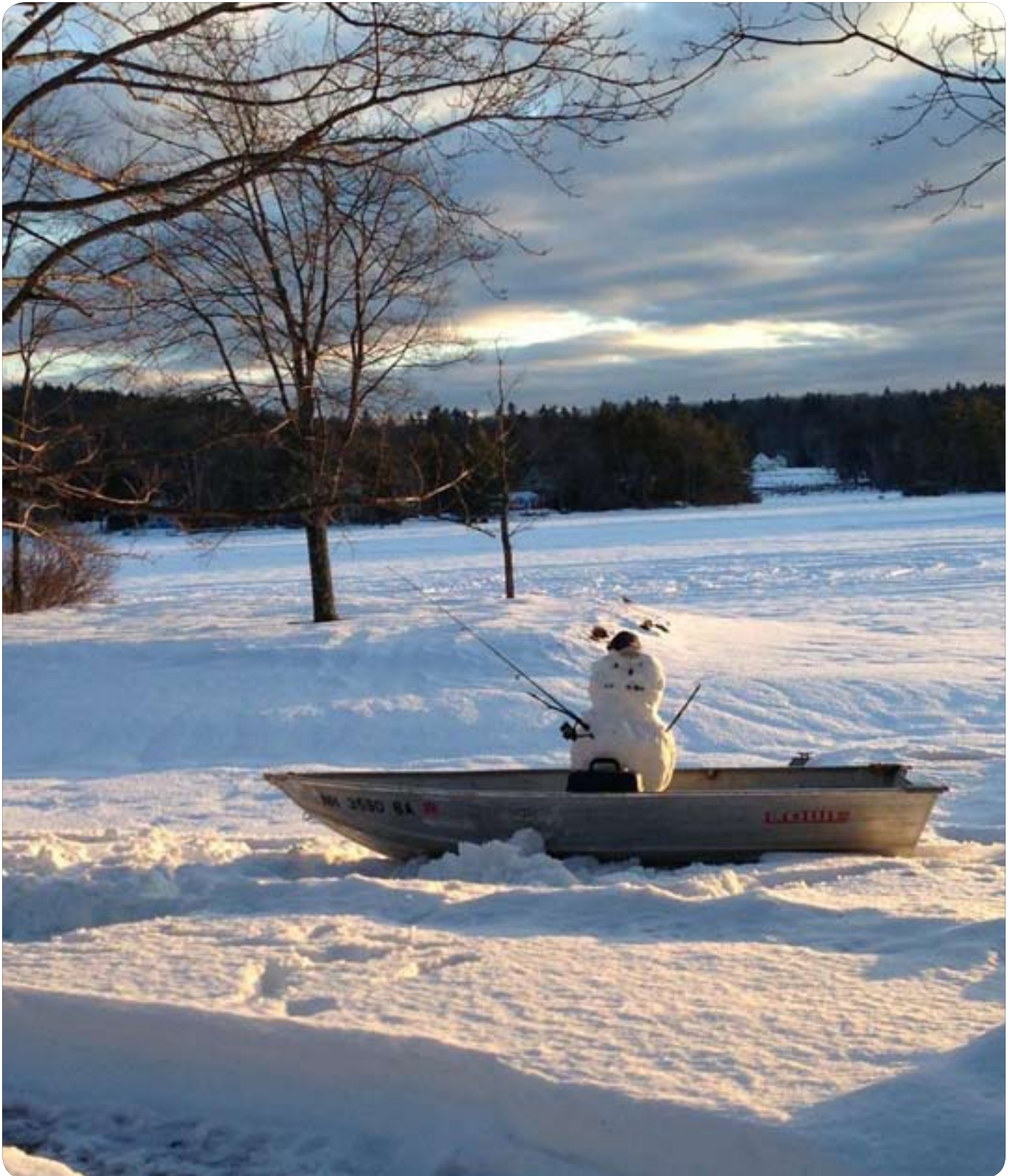


The Strafford Community Calendar

March 2018

Volume 42



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

**STRAFFORD COMMUNITY CALENDAR
STAFF OF VOLUNTEERS**

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Circulation Staff..... Carolyn Page, Shirley Brownell,
Mary Lou Lambert, Winnie Fracassi and Cynthia Bennett

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

Thank you, Pat Sims for your cover photo, "Waiting for Spring," and to your husband for making the snowman! Shawn Barry took the photo on page 11 on Province Road and Cindy Lavigne took the photo on page 14. 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:

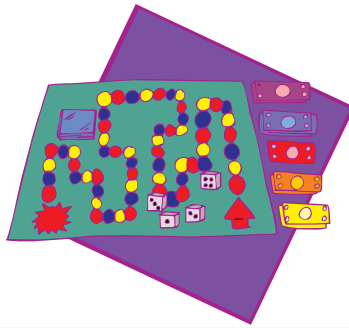
- \$70 (After our review of your insert, you provide 1000 copies delivered to Lilac Printing, Rochester, NH by the 15th of the month before publication; e.g., May 15th for the June issue). A handling fee may be charged for more than one 8 1/2 x 11 page.

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.

FESTIVAL OF GAMES AT THIRD BAPTIST

Have you heard of board game cafes? They are places where a person can come by, pick up a coffee, a bite to eat, and then pick out their favorite board game to play with friends and others. This year Third Baptist Church's annual Festival of Games will be held in the style of a board game cafe. There will be plenty of delicious goodies to eat while you enjoy a large assortment of games, enough that we fill three tables with them all. We'll have games for all ages. Candy Land for the young ones and the young at heart as well as more complicated games like Settlers of Catan. There will also be some video games to enjoy like Mario Kart 8 on the Nintendo Switch. So get your thumbs ready for a video game workout. A Festival of Games favorite is a jigsaw puzzle to put together. If you're interested in a different kind of puzzle, I will be gathering a group together to join me in a treasure hunt VIA the card game Unlock (think Escape Room but in card game format). If you'd like further information, contact Andrew Bascom at abascom08@yahoo.com. So if anything mentioned above sounds like a good time to you, then come to Third Baptist Church between 12 noon and 5:00 pm on March 24, 2018. Trust me, you won't be bored.

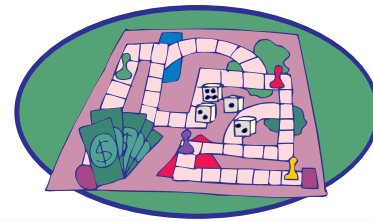


SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The last day for addition of new voters and corrections of address and/or party registration before the School District Meeting, March 10, 2018, will be March 3, 11:00-11:30am, RSA 654:28; 669:5; 669:12; 654:8,II. Supervisors of the Strafford Checklist will be sitting at the Town Office on Saturday, March 3, 2018 between 11:00-11:30am for this purpose. Registrations will also be accepted on Town Election Day, March 13, 8:00am-7:00pm. This is the last day for addition of new voters and corrections of address and/or party registration before the Town Meeting, March 17, 2018. If you are registering as a new voter, a photo ID, proof of citizenship, age and residency in Strafford needs to be provided.

HISTORICAL NOTES

Please watch for advertised meeting dates for the Strafford Historical Society and the Bicentennial Planning Committee; and please think 'Bicentennial'—2020 will be here before we know it!



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STRAFFORD WOMEN'S CLUB

The Strafford Women's Club March meeting will be held on Monday, March 26, at 12:30 pm, at the Bow Lake Baptist Church. This first meeting of 2018 features a potluck lunch for members and interested guests. Please bring a dish to share and your own setups. Beverages and cups will be provided. And don't forget a donation for the food pantry. Please join us to learn more about our community endeavors and plans for this year. Call Lucinda at 664-9200 if you would like to learn more.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

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.

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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STRAFFORD TOWN REPUBLICANS

The Strafford Town Republican Committee Roundtable will meet on the first Wednesday in March due to a scheduling conflict. We will still meet at Hill Library from 6:30 to 8:00.

While the follow up enforcement will increase for veracity of same day voting affidavits, any person will remain able to vote with no proof of residency and only swearing to this fact. What has been a limp follow up will become more robust to check for and punish cheaters in the months after the election. A bill passed the House increasing registration fees for vehicles that have higher MPG to compensate for the lower gas taxes paid. We discussed the increasing liability of the State Retirement Fund, how the then Democratic Governor and Legislature stopped the 15% agreed upon sharing that started when the State mandated all retirement funds be in their pool. The work requirement in the Medicare expansion is very forgiving allowing things like looking for work and caring for a sick relative. HB1263 is being pushed back by the home school community due to its intrusive nature. Thirty-eight other states have an election or retention election of judges, and there may be consideration of having that in New Hampshire. Please join us on March 7, 2018, at Hill Library.



STRAFFORD TOWN DEMOCRATS

The Town Democratic Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 7:00 pm at Hill Library. Guest speakers will include Democratic candidate for Congress Terence O'Rourke and Democratic Party Chair Raymond Buckley. Please join us and learn more about those running in the crucial mid-term elections this November and how you can get involved. Keep up on committee news at www.strafforddems.org.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

The Bow Lake Baptist Church extends an invitation to all community women to come together on the first Saturday of the month for a potluck breakfast. The next one is Saturday, March 3, 2018, from 9:00-10:30 am in the Idlepines Room of the Bow Lake Church. 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. Our speaker will be Sheila Rainey on the topic "What the Bible Says About Aging." Wondering if there is anything positive about having another birthday? Come and find out!



OPEN to the PUBLIC

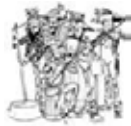
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Friday & Saturday - 11:30am to 10pm

Sunday - 11:30am to 8pm

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LIBRARY LINES

You can now support the Hill Library just by shopping on Amazon. Add us as your charity on Amazon Smile, and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase to the Strafford Library Association. If you want to support the library, check out the Hill Library Wish List—new flagpole, an American Flag, a Welcome Flag. Also, we welcome donations of your newer hardcovers, audios and DVDs. And remember, we have a collection box for End 68 Hours of Hunger. Thank you for your patronage of the library.

We now have a laminator to preserve and protect paper items. We will happily laminate signs and cards for you. The cost is 50 cents for laminating with 3 mil and 75 cents for the thicker 5-mil laminate. In addition to the museum fee reimbursement that the Strafford Library Association offers, please note that the Currier Museum offers free Museum admission for NH residents on the second Saturday of each month from 10 am until noon. NH residents who arrive before noon can stay all day for free!

Check out 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: 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.

Youth Programming—Preschool Story Time is on Mondays at 10:30 and Bouncing Babies is on Thursdays at 11:15. Mondays from 3:30-4:30 will be Crazy 8's Math program for Grades 3-5. Sign up required. 3/5 Toilet Paper Olympics; 3/12 Time of Your Life; 3/19 Let's get Loud! Thursdays at 4 pm in March will include 3/8 Snap Circuit Engineers; 3/15 Leprechauns at the Library; 3/22 Charades; and 3/29 Spy Academy. Space is limited so please come in or call to sign up for these programs. Saturday programs include 3/10 Harry Potter Club from 11 to noon. Join in for games, snacks and all things Harry Potter; and 3/31 Family Story Time at 10:30 am.

Hill Library Trustees—The next Trustees Meeting is Wednesday, March 14, 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—"String Enthusiasts" meet on Tuesdays from 12 -2 pm; bring in a project and join in the creativity. Our Book Club meets March 1 at 6:30 pm and will be discussing *Malice* by Keigo Higashino. The March book choice is *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate. Come by and pick up a copy. Sew & Chat will be Sunday, March 25, from 2-4 pm. Evening of Spoken Word with Skip Manning is March 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 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. 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.

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.



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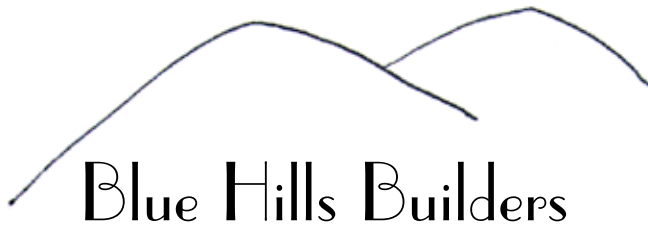
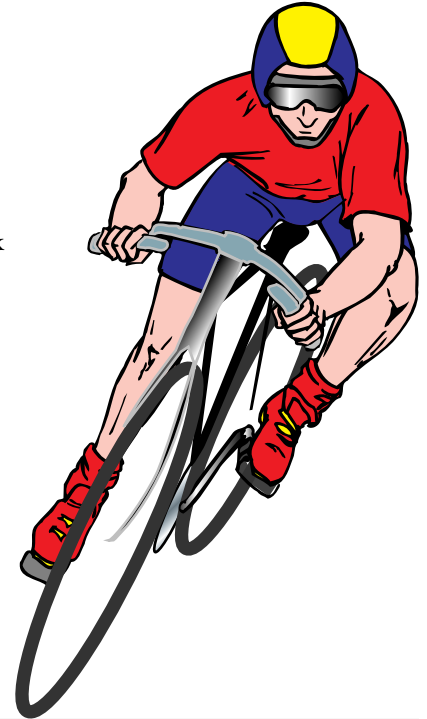
**STRAFFORD REC SPORTS AND NH THUNDER
TEAM UP FOR 9th ANNUAL BOW LAKE 5K**

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@ymail.com. See you at the starting line!



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



THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH

Third Baptist Church will be hosting a Festival of Games entitled "Boardwalk Café" on Saturday, March 24, from 12 noon to 5 pm. Drop by or stay for the entire time. Everyone is invited (all ages). There will be board games, snacks, music and video games. Andy Bascom will once again be your host. Then plan to return on Sunday morning at 10 am (March 25) to be part of the presentation "Road To Resurrection". This is a re-enactment of Holy Week.

Please mark your calendars—Maundy Thursday Service March 29, 7 pm at Bow Lake Church; Good Friday Service March 30, 7 pm at Crown Point Church, and the Son Rise Service April 1, 6:30 am, with breakfast to follow at Third Baptist Church. Everyone is invited (all ages).

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).

HOME FOLKS CONCERT

The Home Folks will be at Third Baptist Church on Saturday, March 17, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The Home Folks are comprised of two couples, Mark and Vicki Whittemore and Harold and Diana Muzzey. The Muzzey's and the Whittemore's have been playing music together as a group for over 20 years. Their style is country gospel with a bluegrass flavor to it. Mark plays guitar and does vocals, Vicki plays clarinet and keeps rhythm with a tambourine or woodblock and sings harmony. Diana plays the stand-up bass and does vocals. Harold plays the lead by backing them up with a violin, banjo or mandolin. Their ministry in music is directed to bringing glory to God, as they allow the Holy Spirit to lead them in singing for their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



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CONSERVATION NOTES

Bear-Paw's Annual Meeting was a big success. The event was held at the Hooksett Public Library. Mike Marchand, the NH Fish and Game Department's Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program Supervisor, gave a presentation on ongoing population studies on turtles, snakes, mammals and birds. Strafford is prime habitat for many of these species, particularly the Blanding's turtle.

The Town of Strafford was well represented at the event. Shirley Brownell received an award of recognition for her service as a passionate conservationist. She participated in the Swim to Save Bennett Island this past summer and successfully completed the course. Shirley was instrumental in raising over \$12,000 along with the other 18 participants.

The Strafford Conservation Commission also received special recognition for our efforts in making the Bennett Island Easement a reality. This award will be proudly displayed in the Strafford Town Hall.

Work has been completed on trimming the undergrowth along the power lines in town. We are pleased to report that care was taken to avoid damage to sensitive wetland areas. Plenty of blueberry, winterberry and junipers were left intact. The deer enjoyed an immediate benefit from the fallen seeds and easier access to browse that was hampered by the heavy and icy crust from winter storms.

**LICENSES/REGISTRATIONS
AVAILABLE AT TOWN HALL**

Purchase your Hunting and Fishing License and register you OHRVs and Snowmobiles 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". Register OHRVs, Dirt Bikes, Three- or Four-wheelers and Snowmobiles at the Tax Collector's Office. If you have not registered it in the past two years, you will need to know all the information about it (including the VIN #). 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. You will also need that snowmobile membership number. It is not mandatory to belong to a club, but it does save you money. As of July 1, 2018, you must have your membership number with you, or I won't be able to register your machines as club members. Licenses and Registrations are available to purchase any time the Tax Collector is in the building.



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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. **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.

STRAFFORD RECREATIONAL SPORTS PRESENTS "THE MOTHER AND SON NIGHT OF FUN"

Because we've had such success with the Father-Daughter dances in Spring, we've decided to roll out something for the rest of the family—not wanting to leave out all those moms and sons! All you Strafford moms out there, grab your son(s), and enjoy a night out with snacks, fun minute-to-win-it games, and wild animals! Yes, wild animals. Wildlife Encounters will provide a wildlife presentation and offer photo opportunities for those brave enough to get up close and personal with the cool critters they bring. For more information on this organization, see <http://weecocenter.com>. When: Friday March 23, 2018, 6-9 pm at the Strafford School gymnasium. Cost is \$20 per family (one mom plus as many sons as you can fit in your minivan, all for \$20). There will be a concession stand for drinks and snacks. Tickets can be purchased in advance on the Strafford Rec website or at the door.



Pediatric Specialist
Dr. Alison Gomes, DMD

General & Cosmetic Dentist
Dr. Anthony Pasquale, DMD



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FROM STRAFFORD SCHOOL BOARD

There are two very important dates in March that all voters and taxpayers need to mark on their calendars. The first, Saturday, March 10, 2018, is when the School District Meeting will be held. It's at the school and will begin at 8 am. During this meeting, the School Board will be presenting the 2018-2019 budget for approval. This budget is almost ten-times the size of the town budget and has a significant impact on the town tax rate. Also during this meeting, a Warrant article proposing minor changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the Strafford Education Association (SEA) and an addition of \$155,500.00 to the budget over a two-year period will be voted on. The language of this Warrant comes from a Fact-Finding report delivered to the Board, which the Board voted not to support 4-1. This warrant is the culmination of almost four years of trying to negotiate with the SEA. Throughout this time frame, the SEA has rejected almost every change to the CBA while demanding increased pay and current benefits. Every proposal brought forth by the Board included a pay raise for the employees, but each was turned down. The SEA feels they should have the authority to make decisions that we pay Administrators for, and they feel the town of Strafford can afford to pay more for their increased demands. I hope you will take the time to attend this important meeting and hear discussion from both sides. Over the past four years, the Board has publicly discussed the CBA issues with the voters during numerous meetings. We have yet to hear the SEA advocate for themselves in public.

The second important date is Tuesday, March 13, 2018. On this day the voters will select 3 members to the School Board. I urge everyone to talk to the candidates and get a better understanding of where they are with the CBA issues and school budget. There are two incumbents running, as well as four newcomers. Please take the time to find out as much as you can about each candidate as these positions have a significant impact on how our school is run and how the budget is formed. This is one of those elections where your vote will really matter, so please don't think that you can't make a difference.



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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.

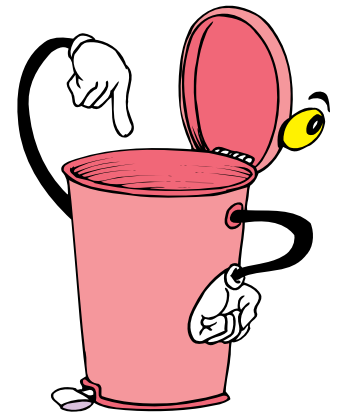
The track program only works if we have interested parents

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.

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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My name is Kerry McMahon. Over the past 7 months I have had the privilege of being a Strafford School board member. I have taken this responsibility very seriously and find the process interesting, worthwhile and extremely important. I have been actively involved in finding innovative solutions to the many challenges facing our district. One of the challenges is the decrease in state funding due to the dwindling school enrollment. This decrease in state funding puts a real strain on the Strafford taxpayers. I personally look for ways to save money while continuously being mindful that the children's education and welfare must always come first. I have visited other schools and talked at length with administrators on how they have met these same challenges. We can always learn from each other. I am constantly in the community interacting with the residents. I listen with an open mind to all comments and concerns. I have been a Strafford resident for over 30 years. My stepchildren and nieces attended Strafford School and Coe Brown and my wife Colleen worked at the school for 24 years. I have a vested interest in continuing to ensure each child receives a quality education while also being a voice for the taxpayers. I have started research on various projects such as a new heating system for the main part of the school and I am also extremely interested in 21st century learning and realize the importance of this concept. I promise to continue to work hard for the district and ask for your vote on March 13th. I am a huge advocate for community involvement and encourage everybody to attend the school district meeting March 10th at 8 am. Thank you very much.

Paid by Kerry McMahon

NOTES FROM THE TOWN CLERK

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

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.

2018 Election Dates—March 13: Town and School Elections at Strafford Town Hall, which is open for voting only. Polls open at 8 am and close at 7 pm. March 10: Annual School District Meeting at 8 am in the Strafford School Gym. March 17: Annual Town Meeting in the Strafford School Gym beginning at 8:30 am.

Voter Registration—Residents may register to vote with the Strafford Town Clerk during regular business hours on or before Thursday, March 1, 2018. Last day to register to vote prior to the School and Town Elections is Saturday, March 3, between 11 and 11:30 am when the Supervisors of the Checklist sit at Town Hall. New voters may also register on Election Day, March 13. Please see the Voter Registration tab on the Town

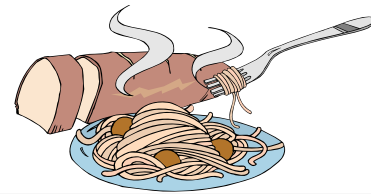
website for instructions. Special Note: If you have not registered to vote by March 3, you will not be eligible to vote at School District Meeting on March 10.

Absentee ballots for both Town and School elections are available for eligible voters; please see the absentee ballot tab on the Town website for instructions.

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.

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.



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BOW LAKE COMMUNITY CLUB NEWS

Temperatures are warming, and we can't wait until the ice is off the lake! March also means the town elections are just around the corner. To help you make an informed decision on the candidates running this year and to learn more about how our town works, your Bow Lake Community Club is sponsoring our third candidate event, an informal Meet and Greet at the Grange Hall on Saturday afternoon, March 3, 2018, from 2 to 4 pm. We've invited candidates and office holders across Strafford to give you the opportunity to talk to them and learn more about the people who are or are seeking to serve our town. Come on out!

Our annual membership drive is kicking off. 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. Joining or renewing is easy – just go to our website at bowlakecc.org and click on the “Membership and Donate” link.

Our meeting in March has been changed to the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm due to town elections. Did you know our meetings are open to the public? Come join us!

Looking forward to April, the ever-popular *Impersonators of Romance* are back for the weekend of April 13-15! Check our website (bowlakecc.org) or contact Paula King at lnpbakerhouse@aol.com to reserve your tickets.

Looking forward, mark June 2 on your calendar and plan to join us for our Annual Ed Gerhard Concert. June will also mark our 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!

TOPS

We are one week into the month that cabin fever starts to set in. We all could benefit from TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) positive outlook on a healthier lifestyle. Why TOPS? A visit to a TOPS meeting is one way to “turbo” charge through the winter doldrums. TOPS is easy on your wallet; you have the choice of what diet you would like to follow; TOPS offers a diet called the exchange for you available; you will have weekly weigh-ins to keep you accountable; contest to keep you motivated; and, most important, a support team to help you reach your goal. Your first meeting is FREE, so what do you have to lose? Why not give TOPS a try and be a healthier you by summer. We meet every Tuesday at the meeting room behind the Strafford Police Department, Roller Coaster Road, Strafford, NH. Time 6:15 pm—weigh in is from 6:15 to 6:30; meeting starts immediately after. Beat those winter doldrums and come give us a try. For more information call 603-343-8606 and ask for Judy; or 603-767-4557 and ask for Marsha.



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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.

Cornerstone VNA.....603-332-1133

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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

March 2018

1	Thur	8-10 am	Strafford School winter vacation continues through March 2, 2018. Food Pantry at Christian Center, Third Baptist Church (every Thursday).
		11:15 am	Bouncing Babies Lapsit at Hill Library (every Thursday).
		6:30 pm	Book Club meets at Hill Library.
		7:30 pm	Planning Board meets at Town Hall.
2	Fri	7:30 pm	AA in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Church (every Friday).
3	Sat	9:00 am	Women's Breakfast at Bow Lake Church; see article.
		10:30 am	Family Book Time at Hill Library.
		11-11:30a	Supervisors of the Checklist sit at Town Hall.
		2-4 pm	Candidate Meet and Greet, Bow Lake Grange Hall.
4	Sun		See Church Directory on <i>Contacts</i> page for religious services.
5	Mon	10:30 am	Preschool Story Time at Hill Library (every Monday).
		3:30-4:30p	Crazy 8s at Hill Library (every Monday).
		4:30-5 pm	Free Dinner @ Interfaith Community Kitchen, St. Joseph's Parish Hall (every Monday).
		7:00 pm	Conservation Commission meets at Town Hall.
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Business Meeting.
6	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).
		6:30 pm	Bow Lake Community Club Board Meeting at Grange Hall, public welcome (note date change due to Town/School elections.)
		7:00 pm	Strafford Town Democrats meet at Hill Library.
7	Wed	5-6:30 pm	Free Dinner @ Community Kitchen, Christian Center, Third Baptist Church (every Wed.)
		6:30 pm	Strafford Town Republicans meet at Hill Library; see article.
		7:00 pm	Fire Department EMS training.
8	Thur	4-5 pm	Snap Circuit Engineers at Hill Library.
		7:00 pm	Strafford Swamp Stompers Snowmobile Club meets at Nippo Lake Golf Club.
10	Sat	8:00 am	Strafford School District Meeting in Strafford School gym (snow date 3/14 @ 6 pm).
		11a-12p	Harry Potter Club meets at Hill Library.
11	Sun	2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time Begins – spring forward!
12	Mon	7:00 pm	Fire Department Training.
13	Tues	8am-7pm	VOTE. Town/School Election Day—Polls open in Town Hall (voting only).
14	Wed	6:00 pm	School Board meets in Strafford School Library.
		6-8 pm	Hill Library Trustees meet at Hill Library.
15	Thur		Deadline for April Strafford Community Calendar.
		4-5 pm	Leprechauns at Hill Library.
17	Sat		Happy St. Patrick's Day.
		8:30 am	Town Meeting in Strafford School gym.
		6:30-7:30p	Home Folks Concert at Third Baptist Church; see article.
19	Mon	7:00 pm	Fire Department Work Session at respective stations.
		7:30 pm	Fire Department Officers Meeting.
20	Tues		Welcome Spring!
22	Thur	4-5 pm	Charades at Hill Library.
23	Fri		No School; Teacher Workshop day.
		6-9 pm	Strafford Rec Sports Mother/Son Night of Fun at Strafford School; see article.
24	Sat	Noon-5	Festival of Games at Third Baptist Church; see article.
25	Sun	2-4 pm	Sew & Chat at Hill Library.
26	Mon	12:30 pm	Strafford Women's Club pot luck lunch in Idlepines Room, Bow Lake Church; see article.
		6:15 pm	SAU 44 Joint Board meeting at SAU office.
		7:00 pm	Fire Department Work Session at respective Stations.
27	Tues	5:30 pm	Selectmen meet at Town Hall.
		5:30 pm	Evening of Spoken Word at Hill Library; see <i>Library Lines</i> .
28	Wed	6:00 pm	School Board meets in Strafford School Library.
29	Thur	4-5 pm	Spy Academy at Hill Library; see <i>Library Lines</i> .
31	Sat	10:30 am	Family Story Time at Hill Library.

