

This City of Portsmouth Community Newsletter includes information about City-sponsored events, projects and special announcements. Editions are e-mailed every other Wednesday. To join the distribution list, or be removed, go to [www.cityofportsmouth.com](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com). – *City Manager John P. Bohenko*

#### ***WATER-SAVING KITS***

Beginning this week, postcards are being sent to all Portsmouth water system residential customers, offering a free water conservation kit courtesy of the City of Portsmouth. The kits are designed to reduce home water consumption, and could lower your water and sewer bill by at least \$300 annually. The effort is part of a long-term effort to improve the system's efficiency and preserve future water resources. For more info, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/waterkits.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/waterkits.htm). Contact: 427-1530.

#### ***ELECTION TUESDAY***

The polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. for next Tuesday's election for congressional, state and county offices. Two constitutional questions also are on the Nov. 7 ballot. Absentee ballots should be requested now from the City Clerk's Office for residents who will be out of town, or want them due to physical disability or religious observance, but must be returned by 5 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. For more election information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm). Contact: 610-7245.

#### ***ISLINGTON CREEK MEETING***

Transportation and parking concerns in the Islington Creek neighborhood area will be the subject of a public meeting and workshop next Tuesday (Nov. 7) at 7 p.m. in Conference Room A at City Hall. The City is holding the event to gather community input to help develop solutions to resident, business, safety and pedestrian concerns. The neighborhood includes Islington Street and McDonough Street/Sudbury Street/Hanover Street, beginning at Dover Street moving easterly to Bridge Street. Contact: 766-1415.

#### ***VETERANS DAY***

City offices, the Library and Portsmouth public schools will be closed Friday, Nov. 10, in honor of Veteran's Day. However, there is no change to curbside collection of trash and recyclables except that Friday's yard waste will not be picked up until the following Friday. Yard waste also may be taken to the Recycling Center. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/solidwaste-recycle-rc.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/solidwaste-recycle-rc.htm) for hours.

#### ***LIBRARY GALA***

Come celebrate the new Library next weekend before the collection is moved in and it opens to the public! A gala next Saturday night (Nov. 11) from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. will feature musical entertainment, appetizers and a cash bar. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/gala.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/gala.htm) for more information and to download a ticket purchase form, or you can buy tickets at the Library, City Hall reception desk, Spinnaker Point Rec Center, and the High School, Middle School and Little Harbour School main offices. Contact: 427-1540

#### ***PARADE DEADLINE***

The application deadline for the annual Holiday Parade is Friday, Nov. 17. The theme of the Dec. 2 parade is "Portsmouth's Community Spirit." Application forms are at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/index.htm) or by calling the organizer of this year's event, Prescott Park Arts Festival (PPAF), at 436-2848. There's no entry fee for nonprofit or community organizations, but corporate/commercial entries pay \$30. The illuminated parade begins at 6 p.m. Contact: PPAF at 436-2848.

#### ***"FOWL" SHOOT***

Portsmouth boys and girls in grades K-5 are invited to compete in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Shoot basketball "fowl" shooting contest Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Connie Bean Community Center. They'll be divided by grade between 9 a.m. and noon to shoot "fowl" shots to try to win a big turkey. The contest is free, but please bring a non-perishable food item to be given to a less-fortunate area family. Contact: 766-1483.

#### ***FALL CLEANUP***

The City's weekly curbside collection of fall yard waste continues through Nov. 30. Use only paper yard waste bags, plastic yard waste bags specifically labeled "biodegradeable," or plastic barrels clearly labeled as

“yard waste.” None can weigh more than 50 pounds. Loose brush must be tied into bundles no larger than 4 feet in length and 1 foot in diameter. Yard waste pickup is the same day as trash and recycling collection. But you also can bring yard waste to the Recycling Center year-round. For more information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/fallcleanup.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/fallcleanup.htm) or call 427-1530.

### ***RECYCLING CENTER***

For the next two weeks, the Recycling Center is open on Tuesdays until 6:30 p.m. It also is open from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and from 8 a.m. until noon on Saturdays. Contact: 427-1530.

### ***PARKING COUPONS***

Portsmouth residents should obtain free coupons now that will allow them to park at the High-Hanover Parking Facility during snow emergencies for just \$3. Proof of residency is required to obtain the free coupons from the Parking Office at City Hall (open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.). The coupons can be used only by the person to whom they are issued. Residents must present a coupon and show identification to the parking attendant in order to receive the \$3 rate payable upon exiting the garage. Contact: 610-7229.

### ***TELEVISED EVENTS***

Local government access cable Channel 22 will broadcast the Oct. 31 PHS volleyball semifinal game against Gilford on Saturday (Nov. 4) at 7 p.m. The Oct. 21 band festival held at Portsmouth High will be broadcast the following Saturday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m.

### ***VOLUNTEER BOARDS***

The City of Portsmouth wants you.... to volunteer to serve on the City’s volunteer Boards and Commissions. Current vacancies are Board of Library Trustees (2); Conservation Commission (1); Portsmouth Housing Authority (1); and Cable Television and Communications Commission (1 alternate). For more information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm) or contact: 610-7207.

### ***REC NEWS***

A few openings remain in the ski program for grades 1-5. Contact: 766-1483. The next Middle School Dance is Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30-10 p.m. at the Connie Bean Center. Spinnaker Point Adult Center, open seven days a week, provides many programs and classes for adults. Contact: 766-1483. Call the Indoor Pool at 427-1547 for programs of all ages. Also see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/index.htm) for Rec program info.

### ***MORE ADULT SOCCER***

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the Tuesday evening pick-up co-ed soccer games for adults 18 and older on Leary Field, the free Rec Department program will continue at 6:30-8:30 p.m. through November. Bring shinguards. No scores are kept. Contact: 766-1483.

### ***ROADWORK***

Crews working on Crescent Way hope to complete streetscape improvements, including concrete sidewalks, loam and seed, street trees, and final paving, over the next two weeks. Also, portions of the New Castle Avenue seawall will be demolished, and new sections installed. Police will direct traffic. Crews plan to rebuild a section of Mirona Road and repave an area of Banfield Road. Information on City road projects is at [www.CityofPortsmouth.com/projects/index.htm](http://www.CityofPortsmouth.com/projects/index.htm). Weather may cause schedule delays. Contact: 427-1530.

### ***ZONING AUDIT***

Earlier this year the Portsmouth Planning Board began the 18-month plus process of translating the goals and policies outlined in the City’s recently adopted Master Plan into changes to the City’s Zoning Ordinance and land use regulations. The relatively long time frame for the regulatory revision process is driven, in large part, by the desire to insure many opportunities for public input and review. The Planning Board will focus first on the Zoning Ordinance and, ultimately, recommend zoning revisions to the City Council. Taintor & Associates, the firm hired to assist the City in this process, completed a Zoning Ordinance Audit Report last month, which contains preliminary findings and recommendations for discussion and consideration by the Planning Board, and as a starting point to develop recommended revisions to the Zoning Ordinance. The Audit Report is available at the Portsmouth Public Library, Planning Department and on line

at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/planning/index.htm#zoning](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/planning/index.htm#zoning). Following the development of a revised Zoning Ordinance, the public hearing process will begin late next Spring.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

A free workshop to learn lead-safe renovation and remodeling methods will be held at City Hall on Jan. 18, 2007, and is sponsored by the NH Dept. of Health and Human Services. Pre-registration is required. For more information, see: [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm) or call 1-800-897-LEAD.

### ***Did you know...?***

There are simple ways to protect yourself, your families and co-workers during the upcoming flu season. The City's Health Department says steps you can take include covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing. Also, wash your hands often, particularly after touching public surfaces and before preparing or eating foods. Talk to your doctor about getting a flu shot. Visit [www.cdc.gov/cleanhands](http://www.cdc.gov/cleanhands) for more info.

**MEETINGS:** To see a list of upcoming City-related meetings, agendas for future meetings and minutes of past meetings, always check the City's Web site, [www.CityofPortsmouth.com](http://www.CityofPortsmouth.com), or the Meetings Calendar at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2006/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2006/index.htm).

**HOURS:** Portsmouth City Hall (431-2000) is open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The School Department Central Office (431-5080) is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Library hours are: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; and closed Sunday.

*The City of Portsmouth Community Newsletter is published by the City of Portsmouth. It is not intended to provide legal advice. It is a compilation of the best available information at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change without notice in the time between publication of this e-newsletter and the actual event. Whenever possible, changes will be posted on [www.cityofportsmouth.com](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com) or on the local government cable channel Channel 22. To join the distribution list, or be removed, go to [www.cityofportsmouth.com](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com).*