

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

### ***SNOW BANS***

If a storm drops two inches of snow or more, the City may declare a ban on on-street parking and will announce its start – and completion -- on Cable Channel 22, in a recording on the snow phone at 766-7669 (SNO-SNOW), in announcements in the local media, at [www.cityofportsmouth.com](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com), and on signs at all entrances to the City. Residents may obtain free coupons now to park at the High-Hanover Parking Garage for \$3 during bans. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/snowbanparkinglots.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/snowbanparkinglots.htm) for more information.

### ***SCHOOL'S OUT***

Portsmouth public schools are closed next week beginning February 26 for the winter recess.

### ***FEBRUARY CAMP***

A few spaces remain for the Recreation Department's February school vacation camp for Portsmouth children in Grades K-5. Sign up at the Connie Bean Community Center. The \$100 cost includes all activities and bus transportation. Contact: 766-1483.

### ***READING MOVIES***

There are two more opportunities to enjoy the Library's "How to Read a Movie" workshop led by film critic and discussion facilitator Carol Glaser. Part two takes place next Wednesday (Feb. 28) from 1 to 3 p.m. and part three is March 7 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The workshop is open to members of the Portsmouth Public Library and class size is not limited. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library) to learn more.

### ***POET LAUREATE***

There is a March 1 deadline to nominate yourself or someone else to be Portsmouth's next Poet Laureate. Letters or e-mails of recommendation should briefly describe why a nominee will do well as Portsmouth Poet Laureate. Nominees must live or work in Portsmouth, New Castle, Rye, Greenland or Newington and have a history of sharing their poetry in some way with the public. See [www.pplp.org](http://www.pplp.org) for more info.

### ***ZONING CHANGES***

The Planning Board will hold a work session on Thursday, March 1, at 7 p.m. to discuss proposed changes to the City's Zoning Ordinance. There will not be an opportunity for public input as this is a work session. The items to be considered include a proposed Change in Height Requirements in the Central Business A District, non-residential Planned Unit Development, and continuing work on the new ordinance. The session will be televised live on local government cable Channel 22. Contact: 610-7216.

### ***CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN***

The City's Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2008, which begins July 1 of this year, through FY 2013 will be the subject of a public hearing before the City Council on Monday, March 5, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The proposed plan as approved by the Planning Board can be viewed by clicking on the link at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/planning/index.htm#CIPI](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/planning/index.htm#CIPI).

### ***BUILDING REUSE***

The City-owned Rock Street Garage will be the subject of a March 6 public input session held by the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Building Reuse. It begins at 7 p.m. in the Library's Levenson Room. Sessions on the Plains School and the Creek Athletic Club buildings are postponed to March 27. The session on the South Meeting House will be rescheduled to a later date. Information packets on the sites will be available at the Library and City Hall prior to the respective meeting dates. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/buildingreuse.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/buildingreuse.htm) or contact 610-7220.

### ***INTERNET SAFETY***

There will be a free Internet Safety forum for parents on March 7 at the Portsmouth High School Auditorium. It will be presented by the Police Department and School Department. Residents of Portsmouth, Rye, Greenland, Newington and New Castle are invited to attend. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/press012407.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/press012407.htm) for more info.

### ***FITNESS CLASSES***

New fitness classes are being offered at the Spinnaker Point Adult Recreation Center. Call 766-1483 to learn more. Information about the Center is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-spin.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-spin.htm).

### ***SWIM TIME***

There are plenty of times available at the Indoor Pool for residents of all ages to take a swim. Give the pool a call at 427-1545 or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm).

### ***PHS SPORTS***

The Portsmouth High School boys' hockey game with Souhegan on Saturday (Feb. 24) will be aired Saturday, March 3, at 7 p.m. on local government cable Channel 22. For all PHS athletic schedules, go to [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm) and click on the link.

### ***AUTHOR VISIT***

Dartmouth College professor and author Ernest Hebert will participate in the Library's Adult Book Group discussion of his book "The Old American" on March 13 at 1 p.m. Hebert also has written these other critically acclaimed books with New Hampshire settings: The Dogs of March, Live Free or Die, Mad Boys, and Spoonwood.

### ***BOARD OPENINGS***

The City's Historic District Commission is seeking an alternate member. Other openings on the volunteer boards and commissions are: Portsmouth Housing Authority (1), Planning Board (1 alternate) and Zoning Board of Adjustment (1 alternate). For an application and to learn more, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm).

### ***SUMMER LEAGUE***

The Police Department has announced a Portsmouth Middle School Girls Summer League for girls entering Grades 7, 8 and 9 that will be held at the South Mill Pond Courts on Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. from June 21 through August 9. The league is open to girls from Portsmouth, Rye, Greenland, New Castle and Newington. The cost is \$20. Contact: Detective Kim Sirr, 610-7510 or [KSirr@pd.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:KSirr@pd.cityofportsmouth.com).

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

Motor vehicle accidents are the No. 1 killer of children ages 4 to 14, often because of improper use or a lack of child safety seats and booster seats. The Portsmouth Police Department offers free safety seat inspections by three officers who are certified child passenger safety technicians. Call 610-7KID to schedule one today. Information on the proper types of safety restraints for children as they grow can be found at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/press020807.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/press020807.htm).

**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/2007/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2007/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).*

