

This City of Portsmouth Community Newsletter includes information about City-sponsored events, projects and special announcements. Visit www.cityofportsmouth.com to join the distribution list, or be removed. – *City Manager John P. Bohenko*

GRADUATIONS

Portsmouth High School graduation is Friday (June 11) at 5:30 p.m. The graduation will be taped for broadcast at 7 p.m. Saturday (June 12), as well as replayed at the same time on June 19 and 26. Middle School graduation is next Thursday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. at Portsmouth High School's Stone Gymnasium. The last day of school for Grades K–11 is Monday, June 21, and it will be a half-day.

JOIN THE CORPS

The Greater Portsmouth Region Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is being formed and is seeking medical and nonmedical volunteers interested in helping to protect the health of our community. MRC units are community-based groups that can be activated to assist during emergencies and public health events. Training is provided. To learn more, see www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/mrc.htm, email mrc@cityofportsmouth.com or call 610-7302.

CYBERBULLYING AND INTERNET SAFETY

Concerned about what your child is doing online? You can get information to help keep kids safe at a Cyberbullying and Internet Safety program next Monday (June 14) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Portsmouth High School's Little Theater. Police Captain Corey MacDonald and Community Diversion Program Director Jackie Valley will make presentations and take questions from the audience. The program sponsored by Positive Pathways to Prevention is open to parents, students and community members. To learn more about this Seacoast initiative, see <http://positivepathwaystoprevention.ning.com> or call 617-0085.

ISLINGTON TRAFFIC INTERRUPTIONS

Nighttime traffic along Islington Street may be detoured or shifted to another lane near the intersection with Bartlett Street as crews install new water, sewer and drainage pipes in the area between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. on weekdays. Normal traffic patterns will resume during the daytime and full access to businesses will continue to be maintained throughout the duration of the project, which is part of the City's comprehensive effort to separate stormwater from the sanitary sewer and to repair the City's aging sewer system. Construction updates are posted at www.cityofportsmouth.com. Contact: 766-1413.

MARKET SQUARE DAY

Market Square Day is Saturday (June 12) and much of downtown Portsmouth will be vehicle-free and pedestrian-friendly. No parking will be allowed on several downtown streets between 4 a.m. and approximately 6 p.m. A \$5 flat-rate parking fee will be collected from each vehicle entering the High-Hanover Parking Facility between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m., and a \$3 rate will be collected from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Access the garage by turning from Market Street onto Hanover. Payment upon entry to the facility is expected to reduce delays for those leaving after the Market Square Day events. Free shuttle bus service will be available from the Festival's parking overflow lot at Fox Run Mall. Event details are at porportsmouth.org.

MARKET SQUARE DAY CLOSURES

The following streets will be closed from 4 a.m. until approximately 6 p.m. on Saturday (June 12) for Market Square Day: Congress Street; Pleasant Street from State Street to Market Square; Market Street from Bow Street to Market Square; Daniel Street from Chapel/Penhallow Streets to Market Square; Fleet Street; Ladd Street; Chestnut Street; Porter Street; Church Street; Penhallow Street; Ceres Street from Bow Street to Private Way; High Street from Congress Street to Ladd Street; and Hanover Street between Market Street and Maplewood Avenue except for access to the Parking Garage by turning from Market onto Hanover.

MSD RACE TRAFFIC INTERRUPTIONS

The Market Square 10K Road Race, which begins promptly at 9 a.m. on Saturday (June 12), may cause periodic and significant traffic interruptions. There are 2,000 racers registered. The race begins at the North Church, travels up Congress to Islington, to Summer to State to Bow to Market to Hanover to Maplewood to Dennett to

Woodbury to Bartlett to Islington to Essex to Middle to South to Middle to Miller to South to Marcy. A map of the route may be found at www.proportsmouth.org/MSDRoadRace.cfm.

WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN DRAFT

The City's draft Wastewater Master Plan (WMP) submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), as required by a consent decree with the federal agency, can be viewed online at www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/wwmp-draftjune2010.htm. Copies also are available at the Library and City Clerk's Office at City Hall. The WMP's preferred alternative is to expand the Pease Wastewater Treatment Plan in phases and convert the Peirce Island plant to a "wet weather" facility to deal with excess stormwater. Following feedback on the draft from EPA and the State, the City must submit a final version for review by Sept. 1, 2010. It would not become final until the City Council accepts it.

STATION 2 OPEN HOUSE

The public is invited to an open house next Saturday (June 19) celebrating the completion of the new Fire Station 2 at 3010 Lafayette Road at the intersection with Ocean Road. The event is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The energy-efficient facility replaces a 42-year-old station building, also along Lafayette Road, and houses Ladder Truck No. 2, Ambulance No. 2, and Tower Truck No. 5.

PRIMARY ELECTION FILING

Friday (June 11) is the deadline to file intent to be a candidate in the State Primary on Sept. 14. The City Clerk's Office at City Hall will accept filings for State Representative and Republican Delegates between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. All other filings are handled by the Secretary of State in Concord. Candidates must designate a fiscal agent. The General Election is Nov. 2. Contact: 610-7245.

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

The Little Clipper Preschool at Portsmouth High School, which is affiliated with the PHS Early Childhood Education program, has openings for the 2010-2011 school year. The preschool enrolls a maximum of 18 children ages 28 months to 5 years. Operating hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., for 33 weeks out of the school year. Tuition is \$65 per week. Contact Beth Melanson in the PHS Career Technical Education Office at 436-7100, Extension 2903.

POLICE AWARDS

The N.H. Police Standards and Training Council recently presented awards to Portsmouth Police Officers Chris Worthington and Chris Kiberd for "Looking beyond the traffic ticket-using police intelligence-city division" related to an investigation into thefts from vehicles from September 2009-January 2010. The officers were responding to a report of a suspicious vehicle when they passed a car that partially matched the description. They stopped the car and interviewed the two occupants separately, uncovering several inconsistencies. The officers eventually solicited a roadside confession from one. After additional efforts by detectives, the Police Department cleared 21 thefts from motor vehicles, two burglaries and a felony level criminal mischief report.

"BRIDGES" PUBLIC ART

Spurred by the recent discussions regarding the condition of the roadways connecting Portsmouth to Kittery, the theme of this year's "Overnight Art" outdoor exhibit is "bridges." Six works of temporary public art are being installed at various locations in Portsmouth and will be available for viewing through early October. The exhibit is sponsored by Art-Speak, the City's Cultural Commission. A downloadable brochure will be available soon at www.art-speak.org. In the meantime, visit www.cityofportsmouth.com/overnightart.htm to learn more.

DOG FEES

If you missed the May 28 deadline to register your dog with the City Clerk's Office, you are subject to a late fee. If you wait much longer, you also could face a civil forfeiture fine of \$25 and a Portsmouth District Court summons if you do not respond within 15 days. Contact: 610-7207.

PEIRCE ISLAND POOL

The Peirce Island Outdoor Pool opens Monday, June 28, and will be open every day for nine weeks. Weekday mornings are reserved for children's swimming lessons but afternoons, weekends, and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings are for everyone. Admission for Portsmouth residents is free for children and \$1 for adults with proof

of residency, and the cost for non-residents is \$1 for kids and \$2 for adults. To learn more, visit www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm.

OUTDOOR POOL LESSONS

Registration for Session One swim lessons at the Peirce Island Outdoor Pool continues during normal hours at the Indoor Pool located next to Portsmouth High School until all classes are filled. Lessons begin the week of June 28 and most run three times a week. Daytime lessons are free for Portsmouth children and \$50 or \$60 for non-residents, depending on the number of lessons. Evening lessons are Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and cost \$20 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. For the registration policy and program details, including what to bring for registration, see www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/PoolSchedule10.pdf or call 427-1546.

MORE REC NEWS

There are still spots available in various Summer Recreation Department programs. Registration continues at the Spinnaker Point Adult Recreation Center. Brochures listing all programs are at Rec Department facilities and online at www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs.htm. Call 766-1483 to see which programs still have openings. Also, non-residents who work in the city or own property here are now eligible for non-resident memberships at Spinnaker Point, which offers an indoor pool, hot tub, steam room, sauna, full-size basketball court, running track, locker rooms with showers, cardio equipment, weight room, aerobics room, fitness and yoga classes, and more. Call 766-1483 or see www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-8.htm.

“MUSIC FROM THE TRADITIONS”

The Library’s “Music from the Traditions” music series concludes Saturday (June 12) with a performance by accomplished and innovative hammered dulcimer player Matthew Abelson. He will perform a variety of music beginning at 2 p.m. in the Levenson Room. To learn more, see www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs.htm or call 427-1540.

ELMO STORY TIME

The beloved Sesame Street character Elmo is coming to the Portsmouth Library for story time next Wednesday, June 16, as part of a statewide initiative emphasizing reading as a fun and recreational activity. After reading the story together beginning at 11 a.m. in the Levenson Room, Elmo and the preschoolers will act it out and play games. All participants will have an opportunity to meet, and have their photos taken, with Elmo. As a reminder, children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult in the library at all times. Contact: 427-1540.

SUMMER CINEMA SERIES

“Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans” starring Nicolas Cage will be shown free at the Library next Thursday (June 17) as part of the “Summer Cinema” series at 7 p.m. in the air-conditioned Levenson Room. Cage plays a rogue detective as devoted to his job as he is at scoring drugs. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina he becomes a high-functioning addict who is a deeply intuitive, fearless detective reigning over the beautiful ruins of New Orleans with authority and abandon. Contact: 427-1540.

POLICE ADVICE

Under New Hampshire law it is illegal to host or facilitate an underage drinking party. Portsmouth Police, Seacoast Crime Stoppers and the state 211 system are all set up to receive reports anonymously. The Portsmouth Police Department has a proactive approach to underage drinking and would rather prevent a crime than respond to one. Also, if you're going away and you have a concern that an underage party might occur in your absence, contact Det. Rochelle Jones at Portsmouth High School (436-7100) or Cpt. Mike Schwartz at 610-7408.

SUMMER SCHOOL

There will be a Portsmouth High Summer School Program registration session Wednesday, June 23, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at PHS for enrichment and remedial courses to be offered in July. To learn more or to download the application, click on the “Summer School 2010” link at www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/index.htm. Applications also are available at PHS during regular hours. Class sizes are limited and students will be accepted on a first come, first paid basis. Contact: Summer School Coordinator Amy Donovan at 436-7100, ext. 2925.

MAKE A SPLASH – READ!

The kickoff for the Library's summer reading program called "Make a Splash -- Read!" is Thursday, June 24 noon to 2 p.m. at Four Tree Island. The rain date is Friday, June 25. Sign up for the Reading Program, go on a "Story Walk," play games, get your face painted, or make a craft. Bring your lunch to this great picnic spot. Light refreshments will be served. The free event will be fun for the entire family and is open to all Portsmouth Public Library cardholders. Contact: 766-1740.

"THE LIGHTNING THIEF"

The newly released DVD of "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" will be shown Thursday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the Levenson Room. The PG-movie is free to Portsmouth Library cardholders. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult in the Library at all times. Contact: 427-1540.

DOWNTOWN TROLLEY

The COAST Trolley Downtown Loop begins summer operations Saturday, June 26, and ends Sunday, Aug. 29. For more information, click on the "COAST" link at www.cityofportsmouth.com/transportation/index.htm.

FIRE PERMIT REMINDER

With the exception of gas and charcoal grilling in above-ground, non-combustible containers, fire permits are required for any outside burning in Portsmouth. This includes chimneys and metal fire pits, which must be at least 25 feet from any structure and should never be installed on combustible surfaces like decks. Seasonal permits for them are available for \$5 at any Fire Station, unless you live in the South End roughly bordered by Pleasant and State Streets where burning is never allowed. Other outside burning requires a permit to be obtained that day, and burning is only allowed from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. unless it's raining. See www.cityofportsmouth.com/fires/firepermit.htm or call 427-1515.

CLOSURE

Pleasant Street will be closed between Porter Street and Market Square on Saturday, June 26, between 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. for Pro Portsmouth's annual Summer in the Street series.

Mark Your Calendar...

- The School Department's Central Office switches to summer hours on Monday, June 28. As of that date, the Central Office will be open from 7 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 7 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Fridays.
- The City's annual fireworks display is Saturday, July 3, at the South Mill Pond, located across from Portsmouth City Hall, beginning at 9:15 pm.

ROADWORK

Work is expected to be completed on the upper portion of Market Street between Bow and Deer Streets this weekend in time for Market Square Day on Saturday (June 12). The block between Deer and Russell Streets will have construction, however, as crews work to make drainage improvements in the area. Pedestrian traffic and access to all businesses will be maintained. Updates on the State Street Reconstruction Project are at www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/9.htm and the latest info on the Bartlett and Islington Area Sewer Improvements project can be found at www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/6.htm. Contact: 766-1411.

BOARD VACANCIES

The most recent list of openings on the City's volunteer boards and commissions can be found at www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.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, or the Meetings Calendar at www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2010/index.htm.

SCHOOL CALENDARS: The School Department's Activities Calendar for all schools is at www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/allschoolactivitiescalendar.htm. A link to the Portsmouth High sports schedule is at www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.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 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Library hours are: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

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