

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

### **WASTEWATER UPDATE SESSION--TONIGHT**

The City will hold a public update session at 6:30 p.m. tonight (Wednesday, June 23) to review the draft Wastewater Master Plan and Long-Term Control Plan it recently submitted to State and Federal regulatory agencies. The session is a continuation of the City's efforts to keep the public informed on the complex issue, and will provide citizens with an opportunity to learn more about the City's preferred alternative: a phased expansion of the Pease facility to serve as the primary Wastewater Treatment facility and the conversion of the existing Peirce Island plant to a wet weather facility to deal with excess stormwater. The Draft Wastewater Master Plan can be viewed at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/wwmp.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/wwmp.htm).

### **OVERNIGHT ART RECEPTION**

Art-Speak, the City's cultural commission, invites the public to tomorrow night's (June 24) Overnight Art opening reception from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel's Grand Ballroom. Come and meet the artists and view a slide show of the public art installations. Hors D'Oeuvres will be provided with a cash bar. The Sheraton is sponsoring the event but RSVP to 610-7222 or [scobler@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:scobler@cityofportsmouth.com). Overnight Art is a public art competition resulting in a summer-long exhibit of commissioned outdoor art with the theme of "bridges" at various Portsmouth locations. For more info on the exhibit, see [www.art-speak.org](http://www.art-speak.org).

### **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PLANNING**

There will be an informational meeting next Monday (June 28) to plan this year's National Night Out in Portsmouth in August. NNO is an annual nationwide event, scheduled this year for Aug. 3, to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate participation in local anticrime programs, and send criminals a message that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. The Portsmouth planning meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Police Department. Contact: 610-7408.

### **VITAL RECORDS FEE INCREASE**

Due to changes made by the New Hampshire Legislature in the State Budget, City Clerk's Office fees for marriage licenses and certified copies of vital records will increase July 1. Marriage license applications will now be \$50; the first copy of a birth, death, marriage or divorce record will be \$15 and a second requested at the same time would be \$10. Any vital records requests received in the mail beginning July 1 must have the correct fee to be processed. Contact: 610-7245.

### **PEIRCE ISLAND POOL**

The Peirce Island Outdoor Pool opens next Monday (June 28) and will remain open daily through Aug. 29. Weekday mornings are reserved for children's swimming lessons but afternoons, weekends, and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings until 7:15 p.m. are for everyone. Peirce Island Pool admission for Portsmouth residents is free for children and \$1 for adults with proof of residency, and for non-residents is \$1 for kids and \$2 for adults. The schedule is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/PoolSchedule10.pdf](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/PoolSchedule10.pdf). Contact: 427-0717. The Indoor Pool will be closed for the summer as of 9 p.m. Friday, June 25.

### **SWIM LESSONS**

There are still a limited number of spaces in the first session of summer swim lessons at the Peirce Island Outdoor Pool. Call the Indoor Pool at 427-1546 before 9 p.m. Friday (June 25) or as of Monday (June 28), contact the Peirce Island Outdoor Pool at 427-0717 for more info. Registration for Session Two of free daytime outdoor pool swim lessons for Portsmouth children opens Thursday, July 1, between 5:30-7:30 p.m. and continues at the Peirce Island Pool until all classes are filled. Session 2 lessons run three days per week for four weeks beginning July 26 and ending Aug. 20. Lessons are free for Portsmouth children and taught by certified Red Cross instructors. For registration policy and program details, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm) or call 427-1546.

## ***SUMMER IN THE STREET***

With the return of Pro Portsmouth's "Summer in the Street" downtown music program, part of Pleasant Street near Market Square will be closed on select Saturdays from 5 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. The first closure is Saturday night (June 26) and the next one will be July 10. No vehicular traffic or parking will be allowed on Pleasant Street from Porter Street to Market Square. For program information, see [www.proportsmouth.org](http://www.proportsmouth.org).

## ***JULY 4th CLOSURES***

City Hall, the Library and the Connie Bean Rec Center are closed Monday, July 5, for the July 4th holiday. The Recycling Center is always closed on Monday. Spinnaker Point will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 4 and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, July 5. Monday's curbside collection of trash and recycling will occur on Tuesday. Monday's yard waste collection will not take place until the following week.

## ***FIREWORKS***

The City's annual fireworks display is Saturday, July 3, at the South Mill Pond, located across from Portsmouth City Hall. The fireworks display starts at 9:15 pm. The rain date is Monday, July 5. Police want to remind everyone that City Ordinance prohibits personal fireworks, including Class C sparklers. Due to the fireworks display, the Dog Park will be closed from 6 a.m. Saturday until 10 a.m. Sunday. Dogs are never allowed at Leary and Central Fields, South Playground or the Connie Bean Playground. The tennis and basketball courts, playground and baseball areas will be closed all day Saturday. Vehicles will be towed from the playground lot on Junkins Avenue at 10 a.m. Saturday and from Parrott Avenue between Richards Avenue and Junkins at noon.

## ***FIREWORKS PARKING***

Due to the fireworks, the High-Hanover Parking Garage will charge a flat \$3 fee from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 3. There will be no parking on 23 streets near the South Playground (except for residents of those streets): Parrott Avenue, Junkins Avenue, Mt. Vernon Street, Pleasant Street, South Street from Miller to Marcy, Richmond Street, Rogers Street, Edward Street, Livermore Street, Wentworth Street, Melcher Street, Whidden Street, Franklin Street, Pickering Street, Hunking Street, Gardner Street, Gates Street, Howard Street, Elwyn Avenue, Sherburne Avenue, Rockland Street, Kent Street, and Richards Avenue.

## ***SUMMER READING PROGRAM KICKOFF***

Tomorrow (June 24) is the kickoff for the Library's summer reading program. The event takes place from noon to 2 p.m. at Four Tree Island and is free to all Portsmouth Public Library cardholders. Friday (June 25) is the rain date. This year's theme is "Make a Splash -- Read!" Bring a picnic lunch and participate in activities for all ages. Light refreshments will be served. Contact: 766-1740.

## ***"THE LIGHTNING THIEF"***

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

## ***SCHOOL INFO***

Although classes have been out for only a few days, the School Department has information available online related to school reopening for the fall. Information on tryouts and practices for fall sports, which begin the week of Aug. 16, can be found by clicking on the link at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm). School reopens for students in grades 1 to 12 on September 1. To see the 2010-2011 school calendar or download a form to enroll new students in the Portsmouth School system, click on the links at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/index.htm). The School Department's Central Office moves to summer hours next Monday (June 28) through Aug. 27, and will be open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and Fridays from 7 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Contact: 431-5080.

## ***PHS FOOTBALL FIELD, TRACK CLOSED***

The Portsmouth High School football field and track are closed to the public through late August while crews resurface the field with artificial turf. The NH Department of Education's waiver on minimum site size for the downtown Middle School renovation and expansion was contingent upon providing a regulation size field to support the competitive athletics program. Since the only field available for PMS lacrosse, soccer and field hockey games was the already overused PHS football field, the State also granted a waiver allowing installation

of artificial turf to accommodate the additional use. The waivers were necessary to receive State building aid to help pay for the Middle School project.

### ***RECYCLING CENTER EVENING HOURS***

Beginning July 6, the Recycling Center will be open Tuesdays from 8 a.m. 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. The Center is closed on Mondays and Fridays. Contact: 427-1530.

### ***“AN EDUCATION”***

The Library will show “An Education,” which was nominated last year for three Academy Awards including Best Picture, July 8 at 7 p.m. as part of the “Summer Cinema” series in the air-conditioned Levenson Room. In the PG-13 film, young Jenny (Carry Mulligan) is full of promise and intent to study at Oxford, but meeting an older man (Peter Sarsgaard) leads her to believe that she can learn things outside the classroom, casting doubt on her future plans. Contact: 427-1540.

### ***RESERVE MUSEUM PASSES ONLINE***

You can now check the availability of free or reduced price museum passes available through the Library, or make reservations online, even when the Library is closed. So if you're planning ahead for a family weekend and want to know which museum passes are available, you'll be able to do so with the click of a mouse. To learn more, visit [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/MuseumPasses.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/MuseumPasses.htm). Contact: 427-1540.

### ***RAIN BARRELS SAVE***

Did you know a rain barrel can save you about 1,300 gallons of water during the summer months when lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40% of total household water use? Placing a rain barrel underneath the gutters of your home can quickly provide a barrel full of rain water in a downpour that can be used later to water the flowers and garden, or even wash your car. Portsmouth water system customers can order up to two 60-gallon plastic barrels at a reduced price of \$30 each, thanks to a federal grant, by going to [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/ws-barrels.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/ws-barrels.htm) and the cost will be added to your water bill.

### ***SUMMER REC***

The Recreation Department still has openings in some summer programs. If you are looking for programs for your child this summer, call the Rec Department at 766-1483 or stop by the Spinnaker Point Rec Center to see what's available.

### ***SUMMER WORKOUT***

The Spinnaker Point Adult Recreation Center is air-conditioned so don't let the summer heat keep you from working out. Call 766-1483 for information on adult summer programs, or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-8.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-8.htm).

### ***JOIN THE (MEDICAL RESERVE) CORPS***

The Medical Reserve Corps consists of local volunteers (both medical and non-medical) who support their communities during large-scale emergencies such as natural disasters, pandemics, and public health crises, and may also be called upon to assist at flu clinics, health fairs, health education campaigns, and other community-wide public health initiatives. The Greater Portsmouth Region Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is seeking volunteers. Training will be provided. To learn more, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/mrc.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/mrc.htm), email [mrc@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:mrc@cityofportsmouth.com) or call 610-7302.

### ***POLICE ADVICE***

The Police Department reminds everyone that State law and local ordinances regulating parking are intended to keep us all safe. Under state law, except when momentarily discharging a passenger, the following parking is prohibited: in front of a public or private driveway; within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection; within 30 feet upon the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway; within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station within 75 feet of said entrance when properly signposted; and any place where official signs prohibit parking. Contact: 427-1530.

## ***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](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/transportation/index.htm).

## ***ROADWORK***

Crews have been working on Market Street between Russell and Deer Streets to install concrete sidewalks with brick edging and streetlights. Meanwhile, plans are being made to begin work soon to replace traffic signals and intersection improvements at the intersection of South Street and Lafayette Road, adding a new left turn lane on the end of South Street for traffic turning south on Lafayette Road. Also, updates on the State Street Reconstruction Project are at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/9.htm](http://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](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/6.htm). Contact: 766-1411.

## ***Mark Your Calendar... (3 items)***

- Police Chief David "Lou" Ferland will hold another "coffee talk" on Saturday, July 17, at 9:30 a.m. at Geno's Chowder & Sandwich Shop to talk with residents and visitors about their concerns.
- There will be an update on the new Middle School Project on July 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Portsmouth City Hall.
- The city's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Carnival at the Peirce Island Pool is July 28 and details are at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm).

## ***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](http://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](http://www.CityofPortsmouth.com), or the Meetings Calendar at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2010/index.htm](http://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](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/allschoolactivitiescalendar.htm). A link to the Portsmouth High sports schedule is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm](http://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. As of June 28, 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. 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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