

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

### **MOSQUITO CONTROL**

Spraying has begun to control the mosquito population within the city. Program information is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/mcontrol.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/mcontrol.htm). If you don't want your property sprayed, you must say so in writing to Public Works Director Steve Parkinson, 680 Peverly Hill Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801. Also, due to concerns about possible illness, do not handle dead birds but instead contact Mosquito Control at 431-0008 and/or the City Animal Control Officer at 610-7441 for pickup.

### **MOVIES, MOVIES**

“The Queen” is coming to the Library tomorrow night (May 17) as part of the Spring Cinema Series. The film starring Academy Award winner Helen Mirren begins at 7 p.m. in the Levenson Room. On May 31, “The Painted Veil” based on the classic novel by W. Somerset Maugham will be shown. Both films are rated PG-13. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-movies-april-may.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-movies-april-may.htm) for more information

### **REC DANCE CANCELED**

The Recreation Department's dance for middle school students originally scheduled for Friday (May 18) at the Connie Bean Center was canceled because the spring dance at the Portsmouth Middle School is that evening.

### **SCHOOL CONCERTS**

There will be two All-City Concerts next week at the Portsmouth High Auditorium. The concert on Tuesday (May 22) will showcase the Elementary String Ensemble, and the PHS Madrigal Singers, Men's Ensemble, Jazz Band and Choir. The Wednesday evening concert will feature the Little Harbour Chorus, Grande 5 Band, and the PHS Percussion Group, Treble Choir and Concert Band. Both concerts begin at 7 p.m. The Middle School Concert featuring choral and band groups is Wednesday, May 30, also at 7 p.m., at the PHS Auditorium.

### **PORCELAIN DOLLS**

You can learn about porcelain doll-making at a free Library program next Tuesday (May 22) at 7 p.m. Priscilla Keene Nickerson of Mystical Merriment Doll Studio in Durham will demonstrate the craft, explain the history of the porcelain doll and showcase her work in the Hilton Garden Room. Contact 427-1540 or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-052207.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-052207.htm).

### **BUILDING REUSE**

The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Building Re-use has made its recommendations to the City Council regarding six City-owned buildings: the old Library, South Meeting House, Lafayette School, Plains School, Creek Athletic Club, and Rock Street Garage. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/buildingreuse.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/mayor/buildingreuse.htm) for the May 7 report.

### **MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS**

On Friday morning, May 25, the Middle School Band will participate in the Central Veterans Council's “Symbolic Burial at Sea” service at Prescott Park. The Council also sponsors the Memorial Day Parade and Cemetery Service on Monday, May 28. Roads will be temporarily closed as the parade passes. It begins at 1 p.m. at the corner of Parrott and Junkins Avenues, continues to Pleasant Street, through Market Square to Congress Street, on to Middle Street to Richards Avenue to the South Cemetery. At the conclusion of the service, the parade travels down South Street to the corner of Junkins Avenue for a review by gathered dignitaries and then concludes at Junkins and Lincoln Avenues.

### **MEMORIAL DAY CLOSURES**

City offices, schools and the Library are closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. There will be no collection of trash, yard waste or recyclables, and the Recycling Center will be closed. Monday curbside trash and recyclables collection will be combined with Tuesday pickup, including the downtown district pickup Tuesday evening. There will be no yard waste collection on Tuesday.

### ***AFRICAN BURIAL GROUND***

The City of Portsmouth and the Mayor's African Burial Ground Committee's first public forum to collect input on the design for a memorial park on Chestnut Street will be broadcast on Saturday, May 26, beginning at 7 p.m. on local government Channel 22. A second public forum originally planned May 30 will be held in June. For more information about the memorial's design process, contact: 610-7226.

### ***SUMMER REC REGISTRATION***

Summer Rec Department program registration (other than the pool) begins Tuesday, May 29, and continues through June 1 from 5-8 p.m. at the Greenleaf Recreation Center. Program brochures are at Rec facilities, at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs.htm) or call 766-1483. Registration for Peirce Island outdoor pool lessons begins Tuesday, June 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Indoor Pool. For program information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-11.htm) or call 427-1545.

### ***DOG DEADLINE***

The deadline to renew dog licenses is fast approaching. Failure to do so by May 31 can lead to a civil forfeiture fine of \$25, per NH law, plus late fees and a Portsmouth District Court summons for those who do not respond within 15 days. All dogs that have received a first rabies shot must be registered with the City Clerk's Office. Puppies 3 to 7-months-old are charged \$6.50. Dog licenses are \$9 for male or female dogs, but \$6.50 for dogs with proof they have been neutered or spayed. Senior citizens over 65 may register one dog annually for \$2. Contact: 610-7207.

### ***ROADWORK***

Work to replace Congress Street sidewalks from High Street to Maplewood/Middle with brick and period streetlights is continuing. Also, crews are continuing to work on the New Castle Avenue seawall replacement and roadway project. Traffic will be controlled by a uniformed police officer. No major traffic interruptions are expected. Weather and other factors may cause schedule delays. The latest information on City road projects is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm). Contact: 498-4747.

### ***BOARD OPENINGS***

There is an opening on the City's Cable Television & Communications Commission and an opening for an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The Historic District Commission will have openings for three members and an alternate in June. To learn more about the City's Boards and Commissions, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm)

### ***FLUSHING MAINS***

Water Division crews are still flushing the City's water main between 8 p.m. and midnight, Monday through Thursday. Flushing can cause a reddish tint to tap water. Open faucets and let the water run until it becomes clear again. Contact: 427-1552.

### ***MARK YOUR CALENDAR (4 items)***

***Chinese Cinema*** -- Explore Chinese cinema every other Wednesday afternoon on the big screen of the Library's Levenson room beginning May 30 with "Red Sorghum." All movies begin at 1 p.m. and will be followed by a discussion. ***Graduations*** -- The Portsmouth Alternative School (PASS) graduation is Friday, June 1. The Middle School graduation will be Thursday, June 7, at the High School. Portsmouth High graduation is Friday, June 8. Contact: 431-5080. ***Pandemic Flu*** -- A panel discussion on "Pandemic Influenza: What Every Community Should Know" will be held Tuesday, June 5, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers at City Hall. Contact: 610-7302. ***Outdoor Pool & Fireworks*** -- Peirce Island Outdoor Pool opens for the season Monday, June 25. The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Carnival is July 25. Portsmouth's Fourth of July fireworks will be Tuesday, July 3. For more information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/fireworks.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/fireworks.htm)

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

The City's Graffiti Removal Partnership provides business owners with a simple, timely and low-cost solution for removing graffiti from buildings. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/economic/graffiti.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/economic/graffiti.htm) for more information. The City removes graffiti from City-owned property, but cannot remove graffiti from private property. Notify police about graffiti incidents by calling 427-1500.

**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).*