

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

### ***SUMMER DANGER***

With the hottest days of the summer approaching, Portsmouth Police remind EVERYONE never to leave young children or pets in unattended vehicles, even for a minute. On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car—even with the windows rolled down two inches—can reach over 100 degrees within 10 minutes and continue to climb to over 130 degrees. On a bright, sunny day, even when it's as low as 60° F outside, temperatures can reach life-threatening levels inside a vehicle. To report a child or pet emergency inside a vehicle, call 911 or directly into Police Dispatch at 436-2145.

### ***MOSQUITO WARNINGS***

Although two dangerous mosquito-borne illnesses, West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis, have not been found in our area yet, August is generally the riskiest time. The City Health Department urges everyone to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and these serious diseases. For more information, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm).

### ***CHESTNUT STREET CLOSURE***

A five-month-long trial closure of Chestnut Street between Congress Street and Porter Street has begun. The closure was requested last year by the Music Hall as a way to create a more pedestrian-friendly and aesthetically pleasing environment in front of the historic theater. The City Council approved the request last fall following a favorable recommendation from the Traffic and Safety Committee. The closure is being carried out on a pilot basis through the end of this year.

### ***DISAPPEARANCES***

The director of the film “Disappearances” starring Kris Kristofferson will attend the Portsmouth Library’s screening of the movie on Aug. 21. At 6 p.m., the Library will show a short film about the making of “Disappearances” and director Jay Craven will answer questions afterward. The full-length film will be shown at 7 p.m. To learn more, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-082107.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-082107.htm).

### ***SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE***

Many Portsmouth residents cannot afford to buy the required supplies or clothing their children need to return to school. The Welfare Department is accepting donations of new school supplies (markers, paper, notebooks, calculators, etc.) and backpacks. Gift cards to local department stores for the purchase of shoes, socks, and clothing also are greatly appreciated. Drop off donations at the Welfare Department in City Hall Room 204. Contact: [etully@ch.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:etully@ch.cityofportsmouth.com) or 610-7267.

### ***STREET PAVING***

The following streets will be paved in August: Pleasant Point Drive; Boyan Place; Moebus Terrace; Robin Lane; New Castle Avenue; Driftwood Lane; Baycliff Road; Ball Street; Fernald Court; Ridge's Court; Marcy Street (South St-New Castle Ave.); Humphrey's Court; South School Street; Walden Street; Holmes Court; Partridge Street; Pray Street; Salter Street. Contact: Tom Richter, 766-1412.

### ***ELECTION FILING***

The Municipal Election filing period opens Monday, Aug. 27, and continues through Monday, Sept. 10, at the City Clerk’s Office in City Hall. The election is Nov. 6. There are nine openings for the City Council, four on the School Board, one each for the Police and Fire Commissions, and several election positions. Candidates must be Portsmouth residents for two years and registered voters. For the additional candidate requirements, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm#muncan](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm#muncan). Contact: 610-7207.

### ***CHIMNEAS & OTHER BURNING***

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 chimneas 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](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/fires/firepermit.htm) or call 427-1515.

### ***PANDEMIC INFLUENZA***

"Pandemic Influenza: What Every Community Should Know," a panel discussion including state and regional emergency response personnel and health officials will be rebroadcast on the next three Saturdays (Aug. 11, 18, 25) at 7 p.m. on local government access Channel 22. The June 5 event was sponsored by the Portsmouth Area Emergency Planning Team/All Hazards Health Region comprising Portsmouth and surrounding towns. The presentation used during the discussion can be found at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm).

### ***NEW STUDENTS***

Health registrations for new Portsmouth Public School students are being held at all schools this month. Dondero, Little Harbour and New Franklin Elementary school nurses will hold registration Aug. 22, from 8:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-2:30 p.m., followed by the Middle and High Schools the next day from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/summerhealth.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/summerhealth.htm) to find out what to bring.

### ***SCHOOL NEWS***

PHS sports tryouts and practices begin next week. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch-tryout.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch-tryout.htm). Portsmouth schools reopen Tuesday, Aug. 28, for students in Grades 1-12. Kindergarten starts Aug. 30.

### ***POOL CLOSINGS***

The Portsmouth Indoor Pool will be closed August 20-24 for pool maintenance, and for its regular weekend closure on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The Indoor Pool will reopen on Monday, August 27. The Peirce Island Outdoor Pool closes for the season on Sunday, Aug. 26.

### ***REC NEWS***

There are still a few openings in the Portsmouth Recreation summer programs. Call 766-1483 to see what's available. Spinnaker Point Adult Recreation Center will be offering numerous adult classes/programs this fall. Call 766-1483 for schedules.

### ***ROAD WORK***

Repaving work has resumed on Woodbury Avenue from Gosling Road to the intersection of Market Street and Kearsarge Way, with most of the work being done between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. to minimize the inconvenience to motorists. The night road striping will begin after the paving is completed. Also, the New Castle Avenue Seawall Project will see the installation of granite curbing, concrete sidewalk, seawall railings, and miscellaneous work during this time period. Uniformed police officers will be available to direct traffic at both locations. Information on City road projects is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm).

### ***FAMILY GOLF TOURNEY***

Don't miss the Rec Department's 3rd Annual 9-Hole Family Fun Golf Tournament on Sunday, Aug. 19, at 4 p.m. at Pease Golf Course. Register at Spinnaker Point Rec Center until there are 18 teams of two. The fee is \$60 per team, including a cart. Free refreshments and prizes. Contact: 766-1483.

### ***Mark your calendar (2 items)....***

Portsmouth will once again be the stage for the Criterium Bike Race on September 16 when residents and visitors can watch amateur and professional racers compete on an elliptical course through downtown. Certain streets will close at 10 a.m.

Art-Speak, the City's cultural commission, will hold an evening presentation and reception for business and cultural professionals featuring Randy Cohen of Americans for the Arts on Sept. 20, followed by a workshop the next day on how to use Arts & Economic Prosperity Survey data to benefit their organizations. More information is at [art-speak.org](http://art-speak.org). Contact: 610-7222.

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

Portsmouth Police dogs have searched an estimated 40,000 rooms and a thousand square miles for escaped felons, suspects, lost people and runaways. Studies show a trained dog is at least 60% more effective and works seven times faster than 88 people searching an area. Portsmouth K-9 Unit dogs have saved the City thousands of dollars in search time, alone. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/patrol-k9.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/patrol-k9.htm) to learn more.

**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 Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 7 a.m. until 12:30 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).