

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

### **BACK TO SCHOOL**

Portsmouth High School freshman orientation is tomorrow (Thursday, Aug. 23) at 8:30 a.m. The Middle and High School nurses will be available tomorrow for new student health registrations from 8 a.m.-11 a.m., and 12:30 until 2 p.m. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/summerhealth.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/summerhealth.htm) for what to bring. The first day of school for students in Grades 1-12 is Tuesday, August 28. Schools are closed Friday, Aug. 31, and Monday, Sept. 3, for the Labor Day holiday. The School Department's Central Office returns to fall hours of 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. next Monday (Aug. 27).

### **KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten orientations are next Wednesday, Aug. 29, at Dondero Elementary and Thursday, Aug. 30, at Little Harbour and New Franklin Schools. School buses will pick up the kindergarten children, bring them to the school for the 1.5-hour orientation and then bring them home. Parents are welcome to attend orientation, but are not allowed to ride the buses. The first full day of kindergarten is Tuesday, September 4.

### **BUS ROUTES**

Morning bus routes for Portsmouth schools are at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/busroute0203am.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/busroute0203am.htm). The afternoon routes are listed at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/busroute0203pm.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/busroute0203pm.htm).

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

Did you know that back-to-school ranks only behind Christmas as the aid most frequently requested from the Welfare Department? Many Portsmouth residents cannot afford to buy the required supplies or clothing their children need to return to school. If you can help, bring new school supplies (markers, paper, notebooks, calculators, etc.), backpacks or department store gift cards for clothing purchases to the Welfare Department at City Hall Room 204 for distribution to needy residents. Contact [etully@ch.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:etully@ch.cityofportsmouth.com) or 610-7267.

### **ELECTION FILING**

The filing period for the Nov. 6 Municipal Election opens Monday (Aug. 27) and continues through Sept. 10 at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall. There are nine City Council openings, four on the School Board, one each for the Police and Fire Commissions, and several election positions. The requirements for candidates are listed at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm#muncan](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/voteinfo.htm#muncan). Contact: 610-7207.

### **LABOR DAY**

City offices, the Library, Schools and the Recycling Center will be closed Monday, September 3, for Labor Day. Monday's residential and downtown business district trash collection will be Tuesday. Yard waste normally collected on Monday and Tuesday will be collected the following week, or residents may take it to the Recycling Center.

### **PAY AND DISPLAY**

The City is installing six "pay and display" parking meters that allow the use of credit cards as part of a one-year pilot program. As of Sept. 6, these automated parking meters will replace multiple parking meters on a block. All customers parking on a block will pay one meter and display their payment receipt on the vehicle's dashboard. To learn more, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/transportation/paydisplay.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/transportation/paydisplay.htm). Contact: 766-1440.

### **PORTSMOUTH HEALTH**

Want to know the leading health issues facing the residents of Portsmouth and surrounding towns? The answers can be found in the "Community Health Profile" just released by the Greater Portsmouth Public Health Network. A link to the report is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm). The information will be used to develop regional approaches to emergency response and public health planning. Contact: 610-7302 or [mcook@ch.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:mcook@ch.cityofportsmouth.com).

### **FALL REC BROCHURE**

The Recreation Department's fall/winter brochure is now available at all Recreation Department facilities and online at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs.htm). It includes full schedules for fall sports, adult trips, the Indoor Pool, Spinnaker Point Adult Center and the Connie Bean Community Center. Contact: 766-1483.

### **POOL CLOSINGS**

The Peirce Island Outdoor Pool closes for the season on Sunday (Aug. 26). The Indoor Pool reopens Monday (Aug. 27) after a week of maintenance work.

### **SPINNAKER SHUTDOWN**

Spinnaker Point Adult Complex will be closed for its annual cleaning beginning on Labor Day (Monday, Sept. 3) through Thursday, Sept. 7. All classes are canceled. Spinnaker will reopen on Friday, Sept. 8.

### **DOCUMENTARY FILM**

The Library will show the documentary film "Watermarks" about the surviving members of the Viennese Hakoah sports club women's swim team, a world-dominating competitor in the 1930s that was shut down during Hitler's reign, on Thursday, Sept. 6, at 7 p.m. The film combines historical footage and contemporary interviews to reconnect the women's lives and memories. Contact: 427-1540.

### **TALK BOOKS**

After a brief summer break, the Library's Adult Book Discussion group resumes in September. The first dates are Sept. 10 and 11. The same book is discussed at the 7 p.m. Monday meeting and the 1 p.m. meeting on Tuesday. The schedule through July 2008 is now online at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-read.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-read.htm).

### **PORTSMOUTH CRITERIUM**

Several downtown streets will be closed for part of the day on Sunday, Sept. 16, for the Portsmouth Criterium high-speed bicycle race. Streets will close from approximately 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The High-Hanover Parking Facility will offer a flat rate of \$3 during those hours. Portsmouth Police will list all street closures on [www.CityofPortsmouth.com](http://www.CityofPortsmouth.com) a few days before the event. For race information, see [www.Portsmouthcrit.com](http://www.Portsmouthcrit.com).

### **POETRY AND SILENCE**

A "Silence and Poetry" workshop will be held at the Library on four consecutive Wednesday evenings beginning Sept. 19. A wide range of poems "with silence in mind" will be considered. For more information, including how to register, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-sp.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-sp.htm).

### **SPECULATIVE FICTION**

The Library and the New Hampshire Humanities Council will host three "speculative fiction" book discussions this fall, beginning on Sept. 27. The genre includes science fiction, fantasy, alternate history, and magical realism. See: [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-speculate.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-speculate.htm). Three classic science fiction films will be shown in conjunction with the book discussion program. The first will be Sept. 20. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-cin.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-cin.htm).

### **FLU PLANNING**

The panel discussion on "Pandemic Influenza: What Every Community Should Know" will be rebroadcast Saturday (Aug. 25) at 7 p.m. on local government access Channel 22. The PowerPoint presentation used during the June 5 event can be found at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/index.htm).

### **BOARD OPENINGS**

Current openings on the City's volunteer boards and commissions are Building Code of Appeals (5), Planning Board (1), Economic Development Commission (1) and Zoning Board of Adjustment (1 alternate). To learn more, see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm).

### **ROAD WORK**

Work continues on the New Castle Sewall Project. Uniformed police officers will direct traffic. Information on all City road projects is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/projects/index.htm).

***Mark your calendar (3 items):***

A Labor Day/Peace Treaty Parade will be held in downtown Portsmouth on Sunday, Sept. 23, beginning at 2 p.m. from the Prescott Park parking lot. There may be traffic interruptions.

Don't forget that Art-Speak, the City's cultural commission, will hold events Sept. 20-21 related to the recent Arts & Economic Prosperity Survey data. More information is at [www.art-speak.org](http://www.art-speak.org). Contact: 610-7222.

The Library will launch a film noir series on Wednesday afternoons beginning Oct. 10. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-noir.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-noir.htm).

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

Anyone selling magazines door-to-door in Portsmouth must have a license that is visibly displayed on the person's outer clothing. People who want to sell magazines must apply for the license at the City Clerk's Office and the application is then reviewed by the Police Department.

***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).*