

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

### **CITY BUDGET**

Work continues on developing the City's budget for Fiscal Year 2009, which begins July 1, 2008. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/finance/budgets.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/finance/budgets.htm) for dates of the City Hall budget meetings, which also are televised on cable Channel 22. The Police Commission holds a public hearing at 6 p.m. tomorrow (Feb. 7) on the proposed Police Department budget and the School Board holds its second hearing on the proposed School budget Tuesday (Feb. 12) at 7 p.m. Copies of the proposed School Budget may be viewed at the Library or borrowed from the School Department Central Office for three working days. Contact: 431-5080.

### **SPEEDING HELP**

Do you want to do something about speeders or drivers running stop signs in your Portsmouth neighborhood? Contact the Police Explorers Post advisor, Detective Robert Munson, and schedule a team of teenage Police Explorers to join you in monitoring violations in your residential neighborhood. They'll bring a logbook and a hand-held radar capable of recording the speed of vehicles. A follow-up "letter of warning" and a request for voluntary compliance with traffic laws will be sent to the vehicle's registered owner. To learn more about the "Police CAN ID" program, contact [rmunson@pd.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:rmunson@pd.cityofportsmouth.com) or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/explorer/index.html](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/explorer/index.html).

### **SITE REVIEW REGS**

The Planning Board continues its work on drafting new Site Plan Review Regulations and will hold a work session tomorrow (Feb. 7) from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers. The Board does not take comments during work sessions, but the public is invited to attend and the work session will be televised on Channel 22.

### **FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE**

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Father-Daughter Dance sponsored by the Rec Department is Saturday (Feb. 9) from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Connie Bean Center. Girls in Grades K-5 and dads (or uncles, grandfathers, brothers, etc.) are welcome. Cost is \$10 per couple (no charge for extra daughters) and includes corsages for the young ladies. For more information, contact 766-1483 or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-5.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/programs-5.htm).

### **MARKET STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

A public meeting is scheduled Tuesday evening (Feb. 12) to gather input on options for sidewalk, parking and loading zone layouts for the upcoming Market Street Sidewalk Improvement Project from Bow Street to Market Square. The goal of the 6:30 p.m. meeting in City Hall Conference Room A is to achieve a consensus on the general design concepts for the project that is scheduled to begin in the spring and will include reconstruction of the sidewalks with street lamps. Contact: 427-1530.

### **ZONING AMENDMENTS**

The Planning Board will hold a Feb. 14 public meeting to continue its consideration of a request for proposed zoning ordinance amendments submitted on behalf of Borthwick Forrest, LLC, to facilitate development of an "Elderly Congregate Care Facility" on land frequently called "Islington Woods" between Islington Street and Borthwick Avenue. During the 7 p.m.-9 p.m. meeting in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers, the Board is expected to allow brief comments from the applicant and the public. The meeting will be televised on local government Cable Channel 22.

### **VALENTINE FILM**

The Irish love story "ONCE" will be shown twice on Valentine's Day, at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., in the Library's Levenson Room. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-021408.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/lib-programs-021408.htm) to learn more.

### ***SERVICE AGENCY GRANTS***

The application deadline for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Public Service Agency Grants is 4:30 p.m. next Friday, Feb. 15. The competitive grant program is administered by the City's Community Development Department and funded by a federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000 are given to non-profit public service agencies serving Portsmouth individuals and families earning very low, low, or moderate-incomes. Funds may be used for program operating expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30, 2009. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/community/announcements.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/community/announcements.htm).

### ***OVERNIGHT ART***

Feb. 15 is the deadline for artists to submit applications to the Overnight Art 2008 competition, which will result in the temporary installation of various forms of public art at outdoor sites in Portsmouth from mid-May through the summer. For an application and more info, see [www.art-speak.org](http://www.art-speak.org).

### ***PRESIDENTS' DAY***

City Hall, the Library and the Recycling Center will be closed Monday, Feb. 18, in observance of Presidents' Day. However, curbside collection of rubbish and recyclables will continue as usual, including the central business district collection. Also, Portsmouth public schools will be open but are closed the following week of Feb. 24 for the winter recess.

### ***POPS CONCERT***

The Portsmouth High School Pops Concert is Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the PHS Auditorium. It begins at 7 p.m. and features the PHS Band, Choir, Madrigal Singers, Treble Choir, and Men's Ensemble. Tickets available at the door are \$2 for adults, \$1 for senior citizens and students. Snow date is Feb. 21. Contact: 436-7100, ext. 2906.

### ***ADULT SWIM CLASSES***

Registration has begun for a new series of adult swim lessons: Adult Beginner, Feb. 19-April 8; 7:05 to 7:55 p.m.; Adult Triathlon, Feb 19-April 8, 8 to 8:55 p.m.; Advanced Beginner, Feb. 21-April 10, 7:05 to 7:55 p.m.; Stroke Proficiency, Feb. 21-April 10, 8 to 8:55 p.m. Call the pool at 427-1546 for more details or see the PDF file at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm).

### ***YOUTH SWIM LESSONS***

New sets of youth swim classes are being offered at the Indoor Pool. Give the pool a call at 427-1546 for the schedule or see [www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor.htm).

### ***VACATION CAMP***

Registration opens Monday (Feb. 11) at 6 p.m. for the February school vacation camp at the Connie Bean Community Center. Cost is \$105 for residents and includes all activities and bus transportation. The camp is limited to 40 children in Grades K-5. Contact: 766-1483.

### ***STREET TREES***

The City's Public Works Department and the Mayor's Committee on Trees and Greenery are seeking recommendations for locations for the planting of trees along city streets. If you would like a tree planted in front of your property or know of another location that could benefit from the planting of a street tree, call 766-1428 or email [eskern@pw.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:eskern@pw.cityofportsmouth.com) and provide your name, address and a contact phone number.

### ***SPINNAKER POINT***

It's time to renew your membership to Spinnaker Point Adult Recreation Center. Call 766-1483 with questions.

### ***YOUR POLITICAL PARTY***

If you voted in the Presidential Primary and don't want to take a ballot for the same political party in the State Primary Election this fall, you need to go to the City Clerk's office by June 3 and change your political party status to undeclared or to a different political party. No political party changes will be allowed after June 3 for the Sept. 9 State Primary election. The Clerk's office is in City Hall Room 218. Contact: 610-7245.

### **TV SPORTS**

The Portsmouth High School Feb. 16 hockey match against Moultonborough will be broadcast Saturday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. on local cable Channel 22. The men's Feb. 19 basketball game with St. Thomas will be broadcast March 1 at 7 p.m. See [www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/school/phs/athlsch.htm) for a link to the PHS schedules.

### **BOARD OPENINGS**

There are three vacancies on the City's Taxi Commission, two on the Building Code Board of Appeals and one opening on the Economic Development Commission. Information on all the City's volunteer boards and how to apply is at [www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boardscommissions.htm).

### **Mark your calendar...**

The Library's 3rd Annual March Movie Madness featuring Academy Award nominees will include "Gone Baby Gone" on March 6, "3:10 to Yuma" on March 13, and "Michael Clayton" on March 20.

On Friday, March 28, Dondero Elementary School will present the "Are You Smarter than a Dondero Fifth Grader?" game show live at the Portsmouth High auditorium from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale in March. Proceeds will help the Dondero Fifth Graders attend environmental school.

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

Five members of the Portsmouth Fire Department recently received a Unit Citation Award for their actions in a June 16, 2007, water rescue. They successfully rescued a female from a strong current and in close proximity to the Sarah Long Bridge only months after the Fire Department personnel completing Boat Operator Training. Honored were Captain Kenneth Smith, Firefighter/EMT Paul Trivigno, Firefighter/ EMT-I Samuel Chouinard, Firefighter/Paramedic Ezekiel Tappin, and Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Rivet.

**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/2008/index.htm](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com/calendar/2008/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).*