CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

UPDATE from the City Manager for Friday, June 19, 2020 JUNETEENTH!

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865 when Gen. Gordon Granger entered Galveston, Texas with a Union occupation force and delivered the news of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation to enslaved people in the region. Enjoy a celebration of Juneteenth with the Black Heritage Trail of NH, at the Portsmouth African Burying Ground. To register for the free Juneteenth Zoom concert at 7 pm, click here. https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqceqgqjwqE9f_Jj0_NLmGb5zrb8jPlE1L. For more information about the celebration, continuing through tomorrow, click here**.** http://blackheritagetrailnh.org/2020-juneteenth-celebration-food-for-the-body-food-for-the-soul/

Governor Sununu's "Stay At Home" order has expired, replaced by "Safer At Home." For the full details on the Governor's Executive Orders, click here: http://www.nh.gov/covid19

THIS IS WHAT OPEN PLAYGROUNDS LOOK LIKE! – Luke Miller, who turns 5 next week, enjoyed a day out in Cater Park with his mom, Emily Weidman. The Health Department and Recreation Department have reopened playgrounds, based on the Governor's guidelines and instructions for sanitizing and appropriate physical distancing. **If the City Council restores the funding for its operation that is included in the FY21 budget (to be discussed at a special City Council meeting on Monday, June 22), the pool might open to Portsmouth residents only by July 6, starting with a maximum of 50 people at any one time and several infection control provisions/safety considerations in place. SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING, Monday, June 22 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.** For Agenda, Packet and Zoom registration instructions, click here. http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/citycouncil/cc062220ag.pdf

STAY COOL! While municipal buildings sometimes used as cooling stations are not open to the public, due to the pandemic, there are resources available. The Senior Services Manager often suggests Fox Run Mall (open 11 am to 7 pm) as a climate-controlled space with some seating and the Food Court for purchasing beverages. Also, the local Rockingham County office of ServiceLink (in Stratham, 603-334-6594 and on the COAST bus route) is there to provide "resources for independent and healthy living." https://www.servicelink.nh.gov/locator/stratham.htm

UPDATED LIST OF OUTDOOR DINING, TAKEOUT AND RESTAURANTS PERMITTED FOR INDOOR DINING – For the list of restaurants offering takeout and/or that have received approval for various outdoor and/or indoor dining arrangements, click here. **Please note that not all plan to open immediately. Always check first, as many have specific reservations requirements.**
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/restaurants-takeout-outdoor-dining

SATURDAY, June 20

- **ISLINGTON STREET –** Construction work will continue on Islington Street on SAT Jun 20, 7 am to 4 pm. Between Aldrich and Spinney Rd. The work will be low-impact relative to normal weekday operations, with flaggers present to maintain two-way traffic flow.

- **PORTSMOUTH FARMERS MARKET HAS RETURNED! SATURDAYS 8 am to 12 noon --** Seacoast Growers' Association beloved Portsmouth Farmers' Market returns every Saturday **at Little Harbour School on Clough Drive. PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO PARKING on Haven, Bracket Road and Bracket Lane (the residential side streets around Little Harbour School). Parking ONLY in the school parking lot and the lower lot** (corner of South St. & Junkins Ave) at City Hall. For more information, click here.
https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.seacoastgrowers.org%2fportsmouth-farmers-market&c=E,1,HUXuFF5Eu6xltBbExsp_P88RTPnZ-HjTbk_F4x4cs9tRLB56MqPqzerfKgTBm-tCuNuy0fcGzr1JIO0kfoSnNfuomIQyOfF7fGuz4S0zOw,,&typo=1

NH NONPROFIT RELIEF GRANT AND SBA DISASTER LOAN PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS –

- **NH Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund** – Established by the Governor, Grant funding is intended to reimburse the costs of business interruptions caused by required closures, and sustain nonprofits' ability to contribute to the state's recovery from the impacts of the coronavirus outbreak. Grants will not be awarded on a first-come-first-served basis; all applications will be evaluated based on program criteria. To receive funding, organizations must be recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Application deadline is Thursday, June 25. For more information, click here.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-06/NH%20Nonprofit%20Emergency%20Relief%20Fund.pdf

- **SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan** -- To further meet the needs of U.S. small businesses and non-profits, the U.S. Small Business Administration reopened the **Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and EIDL Advance program portal** to all eligible applicants experiencing economic impacts due to COVID-19 yesterday. SBA's EIDL program offers long-term, low interest assistance for a small business or non-profit. These loans can provide vital economic support to help alleviate temporary loss of revenue. EIDL assistance can be used to cover payroll and inventory, pay debt or fund other expenses. Additionally, the EIDL Advance will provide up to $10,000 ($1,000 per employee) of emergency economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing temporary difficulties, and these emergency grants do not have to be repaid.

CLIPPER STRONG FUND COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES FIRST INITIATIVE -- The Clipper Strong Fund has created a **Clipper Strong Care Package** that includes items that are difficult for individuals to source at reasonable prices: a supply of facemasks, a touch-free thermometer and signage with the CDC health safety guidance. The initial distribution is being planned to meet demand during this round on a first-come, first-served basis. **Portsmouth businesses should email hotline@cityofportsmouth.com to request a Clipper Strong Care Package and include their locations**. For more information on the Clipper Strong Fund, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/clipper-strong-fund **Click here to make a Clipper Strong Fund tax deductible donation to support Portsmouth's small businesses**. Donations by check may be mailed to the Clipper Strong Fund c/o Coastal Economic Development Corporation, 4 Merrill Industrial Drive, Suite 201, Hampton NH 03842**. https://www.clipperstrong.org**

CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE SEEKS INPUT FROM BUSINESSES – The Task Force and subgroups working on using public realm spaces to support restaurants, retail shops and nonprofit arts and culture are meeting almost daily with City staff including DPW, Planning, Health, Fire, Police, Inspections and the City Manager to facilitate functional plans. **DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS who would like to participate in the planning, please send an email with your contact information to** hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

- **Public Realm Spaces for Restaurants** – Concepts for use of public spaces are being advanced in conjunction with Fire, Police, Building, Planning and DP. Public realm requests will be received through City's Viewpermit system (Sidewalk Café Application), pending additional Task Force decision-making. Restaurants and retail can go ahead and submit, approvals to follow. The use of these spaces is subject to City area service agreement insurance details and Health Department requirements for physical distancing. https://portsmouthnh.viewpointcloud.com/categories/1082/record-types/6431

- **Foundry Place Garage Rooftop Space**– The Foundry Place Garage task force sub-group chair Russ Grazier, with Kathleen Cavalaro's nonprofit arts and culture group PopupRooftop.com http://www.Popuprooftop.com is working out practical and logistical details.

For more information, visit the Citizen Response Task Force web page, that provides the materials and resources the committee is using. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/citizen-response-task-force All meetings are conducted publicly via zoom and are posted in advance on the City website homepage. To contact the Citizen Response Task Force, email via hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

PERMIT GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR DINING AND INDOOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING
For the page detailing all the Health Department guidance on Outdoor and Indoor dining: https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/portsmouth-health-department-guidelines-related-indoor-and-outdoor-dining-during-covid-19

PORTSMOUTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT BOUTIQUE PROGRAMS FOR KIDS -- The Portsmouth Recreation Department will be offering a session of boutique programs this summer. Each program will run twice a week for six weeks, with a specific focus that allows for maximum social distancing. The programs are for Portsmouth residents only and are free of charge. Children will be kept in pods of eight, with a maximum of four pods per program. Physical distancing and hand sanitizing procedures will be in place, along with encouraging use of masks by participants. The programs include hiking and running clubs, multi-sport, kids' fitness, arts & crafts, Legos and more. Click here for the full program listing and schedule. www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation

DISPOSAL OF USED FACEMASKS, GLOVES, ETC. -- Please be aware that used facemasks, gloves and cleaning towels should be disposed of in a trash container that is lined with a bag. Please do not put them in recycle bins. Also please do not flush wipes (even those marked 'flushable') as they tend to clog pipes, especially smaller diameter pipes from homes to sewer pipes or septic systems.

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK. For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks

- **WATER LINE FLUSHING --** The Water Division has begun the twice-annual, routine flushing of the City's fire hydrants and 190 miles of water mains to remove sediment buildup. The work is ongoing, Monday through Thursday, between 7 and 11 pm for the next 3 weeks. The flushing operation covers both public and private hydrants in Portsmouth, New Castle, Rye, Greenland and Newington. Crews open select fire hydrants, releasing water with enough velocity to carry sediment out of the pipes. While flushing can result in discolorations to tap water, customers can use cold water to flush their lines and the water remains safe to drink. If the discoloration persists, customers should contact the Water Division though the Click 'n Fix system to ensure prompt response.
- **ISLINGTON STREET** -- Detour is in place for one-way, inbound/easterly traffic between the bridge over the Bypass to Aldrich Road and outbound/westerly traffic, detoured down Aldrich. For map, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/islington-street-corridor-reconstruction-project
- **MARKET STREET & KEARSARGE WAY BRIDGES:** Final landscaping and other details are being completed on the Market Street gateway park. Kearsarge Way Bridge is being reduced to one lane, with alternating traffic directed by temporary traffic signals. Market Street between the Sarah Long Bridge and

the Noble's Island traffic signal is being reduced to one lane in each direction. For the full presentation on the project, click here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBTsRp4Pemo

- **SIDE STREETS OFF PLEASANT:** Affecting Richmond and Livermore. Equipment staged, as before, on Edmunds.
- **PRESCOTT PARK DOCK RAILING replacement work continues.** The dock remains closed.

TESTING: The NH Department of Health & Human Services is now coordinating COVID-19 testing appointments at one of the several testing clinics established throughout the state, for anyone who calls. That testing coordinating office phone number is 603-271-5980. CVS on Lafayette Road in Hampton is now also accepting appointments for testing. For FAQs about testing in New Hampshire, click here. https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/testing-guidance.htm In addition, the Rite-Aid at 1390 Lafayette Road in Portsmouth is providing free by-appointment testing for COVID-19 to anyone age 18 or over. For more information, click here. https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing

Instead of repeating the long list of COVID-related resources each day, you can now find them all collected on one City website page! Click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-resources

Sign up for the Daily Advisory, here. The latest news is always at the top, in red.

For answers to other questions about the City's response to COVID-19, please email: hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

For more information, visit City's page on COVID-19.