



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**City of Portsmouth to Celebrate Grand Opening of “Pokey Smokey II”
Portsmouth Youth Day and Healthy Kids Day!**

The City of Portsmouth’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services announces the Grand Opening Ceremonies for “Pokey Smokey II”, coinciding with “Portsmouth Youth Day”, on Saturday, May 14th at the Portsmouth City Park, 140 City Park Avenue. “Pokey Smokey II” is a new seven-bench passenger train attraction that is a scaled replica of an 1863 C.P. Huntington train.

The day’s events will begin with a parade starting at 9 a.m. at Simonsdale Elementary School, 132 Byers Avenue, and ending at the “Pokey Smokey II” train station. The parade will culminate with the opening ceremonies which will begin at 9:45 a.m. followed by the official ribbon cutting and “first ride” at 10 a.m.

In addition, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services will sponsor a “Healthy Kids Day” event which will be hosted by the Portsmouth YMCA and the Portsmouth “Youth Got Talent Showcase.”

“Portsmouth Youth Day”, a special event designed to promote the youth of Portsmouth and highlight their talents, will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Performances are scheduled throughout the day until 2 p.m.

Additional community partners for these events include the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, APM Terminals, and the Beazley Foundation.

For more information, call the Department of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services at 393-8481.

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