

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



UPDATE from the City Manager for Sunday, November 22, 2020

GOVERNOR SUNUNU ISSUES STATEDWIDE MASK MANDATE, effective November 20, 2020.

Portsmouth Mask Ordinance still in effect. Do your part. Wear a mask.

Deaths to date from COVID-19: US: 260,838. NH: 506. Rockingham County: 106
Cumulative cases: US: 12,328,780. NH: 17,281. Rockingham County: 4,121.
Current cases in NH: 4,174. Rockingham County: 883.

For the latest NH information from the Department of Health & Human Services, [click here.](#)

Click here for the entire Advisory collection of poems by Portsmouth Poet Laureate Tammi Truax.
<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/portsmouth-poet-laureate>

But he was not carrying any marijuana

"God forBid,
somebody brought a gun to me
and decided to shoot me.
Like,
I like,
wanted to be protected,
which I ended up
having to protect Myself."

The Boy's eyebrows, jowls, shoulders
droop down with symmetrical sadness
in his oft-shared mug shot. But
since he was made a national hero
and his liberty purchased
by self-deemed patriots
he smiles broadly for the camera.
Looks quite pleased with himself.

He is free, walking among you and me,
though not long ago
he used his stimulus check
to illegally glean
a Smith & Wesson AR15,
traveled to a place he didn't need to be
and killed unarmed people
to defend himself.

Something is indeed
rotten in this house.

-- **Tammi J Truax**

*Portsmouth Poet Laureate 2019-2021/Maine Beat
Poet Laureate 2018-2020*

(Note: For the backstory, [click here.](#))

Tammi also announces the Portsmouth Poet Laureate Program "A Bridge to Japan: A Poetry Broadside Contest." The digital poetry broadside contest offers two categories for entries: Adult and Youth (age 17 and younger) and will be judged by poet and translator Patrick Donnelly. Winning entries will be awarded cash prizes and the broadside will be gifted to Portsmouth's sister city, Nichinan, Japan. Entries should be one original poem of 30 lines or less, in English or English and Japanese, and not published elsewhere. The work should show a Japanese influence in the poem and/or accompanying art and the broadside should be no larger than 11 x 17 inches. Entries (maximum of 2 per person). Deadline: midnight Jan. 31, 2021. For full details and rules, [click here.](https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-11/Broadside_contest.pdf)
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-11/Broadside_contest.pdf