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PortlandMainStreet.org

We're Looking Grand!

July 2009, Issue No. 67

Committees

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- Economic Revitalization: Diane Smith
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"On the Street"

Calendar of Events

- July 3-5, Chamber of Commerce Riverfest
- July 7, Oktoberfest meeting, 7pm, City Hall
- July 9, Thursdays on the Grand (TOG), 6:30-8 pm - **Royal Ramblers**
- July 16, Thursdays on the Grand, 6:30-8 pm, **We Three Strings**
- July 16, Main Street Quarterly Forum, 7 pm, City Hall, "Web Strategies for Business"*
- July 16-18, Portland Civic Players Summer Theater
- July 17, "Third Fridays" Art Walk, 6-8 pm
- July 21, "How to Market Your Business," 6pm, City Hall *
- July 23, TOG, 6:30-8 pm, **Epic Band**
- July 30, TOG, 6:30-8 pm, **Thieves Like Us**
- Aug 6, TOG, 6:30-8 pm, **Blue Jello**
- Aug 14-15, Portland Relay for Life, Portland High School
- Aug 27, Main Street accreditation celebration at the Band Shell
- Oct 16-17, Main Street Oktoberfest
- Nov. 19-21, HolidayFest on the Grand

* Free, but space is limited.
Call 517.647.5027 to register

Third Fridays Begin!

Main Street, in partnership with the Portland Community Arts Council, will begin "Third Fridays" on July 17. **Third Fridays** will be held on the third Friday of each month and will highlight an art walk in various businesses downtown from 6-8 pm.. Come downtown to enjoy art, music, and receptions throughout downtown Portland. The following businesses plan to participate in the July debut event: Perfect Balance, Cheeky Monkeys, Tom & Jerry's Antiques, Jerry's Restaurant & Pub, Duke's, Distinctive Occasions, Raffaeles' Marketplace, Around the Block Quilt Shop, & Maria's Tacos. Art work will be displayed through the weekend at all locations.

For more information on displaying your art work or having art displayed in your business, contact PCAC Director Rush Clement at 517.647.6545. More information can be found at www.portlandcommunityarts.com.

PORTLAND

ACHIEVES NATIONAL MAIN STREET MASTER LEVEL ACCREDITATION!

June 30, 2009, LANSING -- Keith Molin, Executive Director of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), today announced that Portland was awarded National Accreditation at the Master Level through the Michigan Main Street Center @ MSHDA. Communities with traditional downtowns can be selected annually as a Michigan Main Street Community as a result of a multi-step application process based on the Main Street Four-Point Approach: Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Restructuring.

To achieve Master Level status, a community must reach Main Street accreditation and must have successfully completed services provided to Selected Level Communities. Chosen communities are evaluated annually using a year-end evaluation process and accreditation criteria intended to assist each community in meeting the accreditation standards of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Center. Although it is a critical moment for a Michigan Main Street community to become accredited, it is equally critical for the community to maintain the accreditation status once it has been earned.

The goal of the Portland Main Street program is to actively revitalize Portland's vibrant, charming, and unique downtown into a gathering place—one that uses broad-based community support to (1) provide opportunities to entrepreneurs; (2) sustain a strong economic foundation for the region; and (3) safeguard history, tradition, and a sense of community for residents and visitors. For more information on how you can be part of this mission, visit www.portlandmainstreet.org or call (517) 647-5027.

The first annual Cruise-A-Thong was held in downtown Portland on June 27. Money was raised for the American Cancer Society, and a great time was had by all.



Portland Pay Day - Don't Miss Your Chance to Win!

What's even better than supporting your downtown businesses? Winning lots of money and great prizes for doing so!

Portland Pay Day is in its third year, and people are scrambling to get as many entries into the drawing as possible. For every \$10 you spend with a participating merchant, your name is entered once.

Lunch at Cheeky Monkeys, getting a will drafted at Hoot Law, a few tacos at Maria's Tacos . . . it all adds up to more chances to win! If you haven't started collecting those receipts, you still have plenty of time. Portland Pay Day runs through August 31. Take your receipts to Distinctive Occasions or Around the Block Quilt Shop, and your name will be entered into the drawing . . . over and over and over!

Pay Day Participating Businesses

- Around the Block Quilt Shop
- Cheeky Monkeys
- Chocolate Moose
- Distinctive Occasions
- Electric Sunshine
- G&B Pool Supplies
- Grand Barber Lounge
- HealthSource Physical Therapy & Wellness Center
- Hoot Law, PLLC
- Looking Grand Cafe
- Maria's Tacos
- McDonalds of Portland
- New to You Consignment Shop
- Pawsh Dog Bakery
- Portland Clinical & Therapeutic Massage
- Raffaeles' Marketplace
- Randall J. Riemer, OD, PLC
- Rivertown Bookstore

"On the Street"

Downtown Portland - Business Highlights

On July 17 & 18, **Around the Block Quilt Shop** will have a Grand Reopening to celebrate the business's new expansion. Stop by for refreshments and specials!

The Sweet Cake Company is opening soon! Portland resident Shayna Bennett will soon open "The Sweet Cake Company," a custom bakery at 107 W. Bridge St. (former Art of Giving location). She will offer custom wedding, birthday, anniversary, and other special occasion cakes, as well as cupcakes, cake truffles, and other baked treats. She expects to have a grand opening on July 4, and will be handing out free cupcakes, as well as coupons for future discounts. **The Sweet Cake Company** is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 10 am to 2 pm, or other times by appointment. For lots more information, visit www.sweetcakecompany.com, or call 517.402.9401.

Last month, several businesses contacted us about their recent LSJ awards. Now that the news is out, here are the rest of the downtown Portland businesses that received LSJ People's Choice Awards: **Country Cupboard** (Best Florist & Floral Designer [Stacy Feldpausch], Best Gift Shop); **Portland Clinical & Therapeutic Massage** (Best Massage Therapist [Rebecca Jandernoa]); **Ted's Barber Shop** (Best Barber); **Dr. Gerald Brown** (Best Doctor); **Julie Beard Travis, PLC** (Best Lawyer [Julie Beard Travis] & Best Receptionist [Diane Rademacher]); **Ward's Garage** (Best Mechanic [Steve Ward]); **LookingGrand Cafe** (Best Breakfast & Brunch); **Duke's Cajun Grill** (Best Dinner, Best Steak, & Best Mediterranean); **Jerry's Pub** (Best Bar); **Chocolate Moose** (Best Place to Buy Ice Cream); **Red Mill Farm Market** (Best Farm Market); **Tate's Playhouse** (Best Child Care Provider); **Schrauben-Lehman Funeral Home** (Best Funeral Home); **Keusch's Super Service** (Best Gas Station/Quick Mart); **Farm Bureau-Jack Griffin** (Best Insurance Agency); **Portland Black Belt Academy** (Best Martial Arts); **Portland Printing** (Best Print Shop); **Electric Sunshine** (Best Tanning Salon); **Smith Music** (Best Music Store); **Triple S Sports** (Best Sports Store). Congratulations! Have you visited these great businesses yet?

Cheeky Monkeys will be open until 8 pm on Thursdays and Fridays throughout the summer, giving you an excellent opportunity to grab a "brown-bag sandwich/cookie/chips" to take to **Thursdays on the Grand** concerts at Two Rivers Park or to enjoy on the Boardwalk, where you can see the softball players, as well as the river. **Cheeky Monkeys** has also introduced a line of Gelato & Sorbetto--Yum! These Italian ice creams have an intense flavor and are incredibly thirst-quenching.

Woo hoo! Tubes and bikes are out of storage and ready for some great trips! Contact **Portland Pedal Paddle** for your next trip down the river or along Portland's wonderful trails. Mention this ad and get 10% off your next tube or bike rental. **Portland Pedal Paddle** is in **Raffaeles' Marketplace** at 143 Kent. 517.647.6710.

Contact us: ddamainstreet@portland-michigan.org ~ www.portlandmainstreet.org ~ 517.647.5027

Thank you for reading *On the Street*, and thank you for helping us revitalize our downtown. Please let us know if there's a topic you would like to see covered in "On the Street." And please **shop downtown Portland**; the community you support is your own!