



September 20, 2009

Portland to hold Oktoberfest 5K

PORTLAND - The second annual Portland Main Street "Oktoberfest" is scheduled to have many new additions this year, not the least of which is "The Big Beer Run," a 5K run that will actively utilize downtown Portland's expansive river trail system.

"The Main Street program wants to utilize and promote all of the assets that downtown Portland has to offer," said Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. "We have a very active community that supports the trail system, so for us to introduce a 5K run was a very natural fit for our Oktoberfest celebration. This event also fits into our mission of promoting everything that downtown Portland has to offer to residents and visitors alike."

Registration for the run will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the Oktoberfest event site - Portland's City Hall parking lot. The 5K race will then begin at noon on Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Bridge Street bridge and will proceed out to the Bogue Flats area, before looping back to the finish line at the Bridge Street bridge.

Runners may also "pre-register" for the race by downloading a registration form from either the Portland Main Street Web site -- www.portlandmainstreet.org -- or from the Playmakers Web site -- www.playmakers.com -- and returning it to the Portland Main Street office before Oct. 9. The entry fee for the run is \$20 until Oct. 9, and \$25 for registration forms received after Oct. 9. Anyone who registers before Oct. 9 is guaranteed an official race T-shirt and free entry into the 2009 Oktoberfest. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age bracket, along with medals for the top overall men's and women's finishers.

Portland Main Street's "Oktoberfest" is a fundraiser for the Main Street program. All proceeds from the event will be used to help this program with its continuing efforts to revitalize downtown Portland.

For more information on this event, please contact the Portland Main Street office at (517) 647-5027.

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- From Portland Main Street
