



Portland readies for block party

ADVERTISEMENT

By Jon Szerlag
Ionia Sentinel-Standard
Thu May 06, 2010, 12:03 AM EDT

PORTLAND, Mich. -

Downtown Portland is hosting its first annual Downtown Block Party, but it's not going to be your average block party.

Games, food, live music and even a steer will be smack dab in the middle of Portland at Kent and Bridge streets. The event will take place on, May 15 from 2 to 11 p.m.

"It's going to be a fantastic community tie: Local food vendors, live entertainment and a party pavilion offering beer and soda," said Portland Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. "We have the chamber of commerce taking part, local businesses and some other ones that will be helping; we are really just thankful for the support we get from the downtown."

The Portland Rodeo will be sponsoring the steer, where people will be able to get their pictures taken with it.

To kick off the event, local cruisers will come into the downtown for a car show that will include between 200 and 400 vehicles.

"We are looking forward to it, and it's all in the downtown area," said Owner of Maria's Tacos and originator of the event James Espinoza. "There are a lot of activities for everybody."

Espinoza conceived the event after opening his store a year and a half ago. He wanted to bring an event to Portland in the spring, and teamed up with Portland Marketing and Promotions Committee.

"I had a concept, and thought that not much is going on in the springtime so I got with the powers that be to see if I could partner with them," said Espinoza. "They really stepped up to the bat, and I couldn't be happier with them."

Also at the event, there will be a men's softball tournament and a co-ed kickball tournament put on by Portland's Parks and Recreation Department.

The cost to register a softball tournament is \$75 per team and for kickball the price is \$50 per team. The deadline to register a team is May 12.

The event is going to be free thanks to sponsors, and the only cost at the event will be for items from the vendors.

“The local sponsors really impressed me,” said Espinoza. “They really stepped up, and we have a balanced budget for the first year so we are hoping that this will bring enough proceeds for next year.”

For more information or to register a team, call the Portland Main Street office at 517-647-5027 or go to www.portlandmainstreet.org.

Related Stories.

Comments (0)

Login or register to post a comment:

Login

Username:

Password:

[Forgot password](#)

Login

Register

Email:

First Name:

Last Name:

I agree to the [terms of use](#)

I am over 13 years of age

NOTE: Your inbox must accept emails from "no-reply@gatehousemedia.com"

Register

1 Trick of a tiny belly :
~~~~~  
Cut down a bit of your belly every day by using this 1 weird old tip.

Tip 

