



'Pay Day' for those shopping locally

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PORTLAND, Mich. — Shoppers in Portland will have a chance to win \$1,500 just for shopping locally.

The annual Portland Pay Day promotional event started in June, and every customer who spent \$10 in participating stores were eligible to submit their receipt in the drawing.

The last day to collect eligible receipts is Tuesday, and the deadline for entering eligible receipts is Friday, and the drawing event will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 8.

"It's a fun little campaign, and the promotions and marketing committee love doing it," said Portland Downtown Development Director and Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. "It's a nice event they do to keep money in Portland."

Last year's event kept \$57,000 in Portland, and this is a good way for businesses to thank their customers.

"It is a great way to say thank you, and it also gives them a chance to win money," said Wanda Urie, owner of Distinctive Occasions. "It's a lot of fun, and we hand out a lot of prizes so there are a lot of winners. It's definitely a good time for them to come out and claim a prize."

During the event, there will be cake sponsored from Sweet Cake Company, and drawings from local businesses.

The grand prize will be \$1,500, second prize will be \$200 and third prize will be \$100.

The event will take place at the Community Band Shell, located at Two Rivers Park located on Divine Highway near Grand River Avenue. If it rains, the event will be held at the Portland High School auditorium.

"All of the businesses that participated this year are giving prizes as well, so we are going to draw for those," said Reagan. "It's a fun event, and a nice end to a really fun promotion."

This is the fourth year of the Pay Day promotional event, and not only rewards loyal customers, but also has the opportunity to bring in new business.

Eligible receipts can be dropped off at Distinctive Occasions located at 160 Kent St., or Around the Block Quilt Shop located at 120 Maple St.

To learn more information about the Pay Day promotion or the Main Street Committee, visit www.portlandmainstreet.org.

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