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**Committees**

- **Design:** Kathy Parsons
- **Economic Revitalization:** Diane Smith
- **Organization & Finance:** Julie Clement
- **Promotions & Marketing:** Nikki Sunstrum
  
- **Board Chair, Joel VanSlambrouck**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**November 18 - 20**

**8th Annual**

**HolidayFest on the Grand**

# On the Street

## Downtown Happenings

There's a chill in the air, but that's not slowing us down! Looking for things to do in and around downtown Portland this fall? Check this out:

- ▷ October 2, 8am-1pm, Farmers' Market, Red Mill
- ▷ October 4, 4-6pm, Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ October 9, 8am-1pm, Farmers' Market, Red Mill
- ▷ October 11, 4-6pm, Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ October 15, Third Friday Art Walk
- ▷ October 16, 8am-1pm, Farmers' Market, Red Mill
- ▷ **October 16, Portland Main Street Oktoberfest!**
  - ▷ Big Beer 5K Run (registration 10:30; race at noon; awards at 1:30)
  - ▷ Arts & crafts & food vendors (11am)
  - ▷ Entertainment tent (11am-midnight)
- ▷ October 18, 4-6pm, Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ October 23, 8am-1pm, Farmers' Market, Red Mill
- ▷ October 24, 9am-4pm, help build Adirondack chairs, Grand Dam Arts Center (7360 Lyons Rd)
- ▷ October 25, 4-6pm, Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ October 30, 8am-1pm, Farmers' Market, Red Mill
- ▷ November 1, 4-6pm, Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ November 18-20, HolidayFest on the Grand
- ▷ Craft beer sampling (noon - 1pm)
- ▷ Dave Wells Oompah band (1:30-3:30)
- ▷ Euchre tournament (3-5pm)
- ▷ Pete Trappen (3:30-5pm)
- ▷ The Mark Weymouth Band (5-6:45pm)
- ▷ Sauerkraut-eating contest (7:30pm)
- ▷ Pitcher-hoisting contest (7:45pm)
- ▷ 50/50 and other raffles (8:05pm)
- ▷ "Ned's in Town" (8:10-11pm)

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## What's New?



# Oktoberfest

PORTLAND, MICHIGAN

**October 16**

**Downtown Portland**



# Meet Your Neighbor-- Wanda Urie

When I first met Wanda Urie, I was intrigued by her unique and stunning looks. As I've come to know Wanda, I am intrigued by how such a beautiful woman can stay so down to earth and grounded while making everyone around her feel special.

To know Wanda is to love Wanda. Anyone that has gone into Distinctive Occasions knows this to be true. She puts that love into every flower arrangement, every box of delightfully yummy truffles, every helium balloon, and every sale she makes. You always leave Distinctive Occasions feeling special – feeling like somebody cares, and that's because Wanda genuinely does.

Wanda's great loves are her family, cooking, theater, & music. She was an accomplished dancer in school and to this day moves with the grace taught her many years ago.



You should also know that she sings beautifully (as anyone who has seen her perform at the Portland Playhouse will testify to) and enjoys being in stage performances.

She met AJ (Jim) Urie in 1988 and they married in 1989. Combining their families, they settled in Portland, and in 1995, Wanda opened Distinctive Occasions. Sarah, her daughter, took this summer off, but you will often find her in the store helping Wanda design beautiful flower arrangements, window displays, or product presentations.

Wanda and AJ attended Mount Hope Church in Lansing and in 1991 were asked to open an off-shoot of that Church in Portland. They rose to that challenge and are still regulars at the Portland Mount Hope Church.

Wanda has volunteered for the betterment of Portland since 1992. She recently relinquished the Chair of the Promotions & Marketing Committee, a position that she has held since 2005. Wanda serves on the DDA Board and the Main Street Board, as well as serving as a member of the Main Street Promotions & Marketing Committee. Without doubt, Wanda is a key member of the community and was recently honored as Main Street Volunteer of the Year.



Next month, Distinctive Occasions celebrates its 15th year in business, and I invite you all to go in and visit with Wanda. Congratulate her, buy something to treat yourself, and leave feeling like the most special person in the world, thanks to one of Portland's true gems!

*Happy Anniversary,  
Val -- this has been the  
best year of my life!*

*Love,  
Tony*

*Thank you, Main Street  
Volunteers!*

*"No man is an island." Every  
day, you prove that working  
together works. Thank you!*

*- Contributed by  
Georgie  
Trappen, Main  
Street  
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Committee*

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Thanks to our "Signature Sponsor!"



The Third Annual



# Oktoberfest

Portland, Michigan

Saturday, October 16th — Noon until Midnight  
**DOWNTOWN PORTLAND**

Fun Filled Family Activities All Day Long!

Throughout the Day In the Heated Entertainment Tent

- Great Local Food • A Euchre Tournament • Craft Beer Tasting •
  - Sauerkraut Eating Contest • Pitcher Hoisting Contest •
- A 50/50 Raffle and Prize Raffle with a Grand Prize stay at the JW Marriott in Grand Rapids!

On the AT&T Stage!

Dave Well's German "Oompah" Band • Pete Trappen  
The Mark Weymouth Band • Detroit's Own "Ned's in Town"

*Sponsored by G&B Pools and Health Source Physical Therapy and Wellness Center*

Local Food Vendors

Great Local Food Selections from The Sweet Cake Company,  
The Pizza Shop, and brats from VFW Post 4090 of Portland

The "Big Beer 5K Run!"

Run for the beer, stay for the cheer! Portland Main Street's Second  
Annual 5K Run Starts at Noon in Downtown Portland!

An Outdoor Craft Fair and Farmer's Market

Fun Arts and Crafts for the Whole Family! And Don't Miss Out on  
Pumpkins, Gourds, and Other Fall Goodies!



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Visit [portlandmainstreet.org](http://portlandmainstreet.org) for more details!

# Oktoberfest Raffle

The grand prize for the Portland Main Street Oktoberfest raffle is a stay at the exclusive JW Marriott in Grand Rapids! The raffle will also have a second prize of \$100 and a third-place prize of \$50. There will also be a 50/50 raffle during the October 16th event.

The Grand Rapids JW Marriott, which opened in September 2007, is considered an upscale, luxury hotel – one that boasts terrycloth robes for guests, 37" flat screen televisions in every room, and a nightly turndown service for guests.

Raffle tickets will be on sale for \$1 at various downtown retailers, including the Looking Grand Café, Raffaeles' Marketplace, Cheeky Monkeys Coffeehouse and Bakery, and G&B Pool and Spa Supplies beginning October 4th.

Watch our website for details on purchasing tickets before the event.

[www.portlandmainstreet.org](http://www.portlandmainstreet.org)

If tickets do not sell out before the event, a limited number will be available for purchase at the Oktoberfest event.

Sometimes, it's just easier to do the work yourself, right? But when people come together, that's when amazing things can happen!

Three upcoming projects and events can use your help--whether for an hour, an entire day, or a full weekend. Every little bit helps!

**Oktoberfest (October 16):** The Oktoberfest committee needs volunteers to help with a variety of activities throughout the day and evening on October 16--from helping with setup to serving beer to tearing down & cleaning up, it's all staffed by volunteers. Call Patrick Reagan to volunteer (517 647 5027).

**Build Adirondack Chairs (October 24):** The Portland Community Arts Council is building Adirondack chairs, which will be painted by artist and auctioned next summer as a fundraiser. Event planners hope to draw hundreds of visitors to Portland's Main Street district, where the chairs will be displayed throughout the spring and summer of 2011. On October 24, meet at the Grand Dam Arts Center (at the Portland hydro plant) any time between 9am and 4pm. Stick around for live music at the end of the day! (Cordless screwdrivers and work gloves are always helpful!)

**HolidayFest on the Grand (November 18-20):** Main Street and the PCAC team up to hold this holiday event every year, which features a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, horse and buggy rides, lots of kids' activities, luminary lane, a chili cookoff, caroling and tree lighting, and much, much more. All events are carried out by volunteers. Call Patrick Reagan (517 647 5027) or Rush Clement (517 647 6545) to volunteer!

# Projects that need you

## Community Dinner

Looking for a way to get to know your neighbors? Missing a sense of community? The entire community is invited every Monday to a community dinner, held at the Congregational Church. All food is donated by local businesses and individuals or purchased with donations, and the dinner is organized and served by local volunteers each week.

Whether you're feeling isolated, in need of a meal, or simply looking for a way to connect with your community, join your neighbors for a free dinner every Monday, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

## CHEEKY MONKEYS



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Monday thru' Friday 7am - 6pm

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