



November 7, 2010

Portland HolidayFest event scheduled for Nov. 19-20

PORTLAND - Portland will come alive with great activities and promotions during the 2010 HolidayFest, to be held on Nov. 19-20 in downtown Portland. Horse-drawn carriage rides, a window-decorating contest, great promotions and in-store demonstrations, the "Third Friday Art Walk," and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus highlight this year's event.

"We have many fun, family-friendly activities happening downtown throughout HolidayFest, and we feel that it is going to be a fantastic event in 2010," said Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan.

On Friday, the "Third Friday Art Walk," businesses' open houses, live music, a painting demonstration at Raffaeles' Marketplace, and the annual "Luminary Lane" on Kent and Bridge Streets will take place in downtown Portland, among many other activities.

The horse-drawn carriage rides, a very popular activity every year, will be offered downtown twice during the 2010 HolidayFest - on Friday, Nov. 19, from 6 to 9 p.m., and on Saturday, Nov. 20, from 2 to 5 p.m.

The carriage rides are sponsored by Around the Block Quilt Shop and Raffaeles' Marketplace. Rides will cost \$3 for adults and \$2 for children, with children age 5 and under allowed to ride free.

On Saturday, activities include the Portland Garden Club's annual bird-feeder wreath-making workshop, a kids' candy cane hunt, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus at 4 p.m., live music at various downtown venues, and the lighting of the City Christmas tree at 6 p.m. at Scout Park

The 2010 HolidayFest is presented by Portland Main Street and the Portland Community Arts Council. For more information on this event, individuals are encouraged to visit the Portland Main Street website at www.portlandmainstreet.org or the PCAC website at www.portlandcommunityarts.com.

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 the Portland Main Street website at www.portlandmainstreet.org or call the Portland Main Street offices at (517) 647-5027.

The PCAC's vision is to connect the community by weaving the arts into everyday life.

- From Portland Main Street
