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Committees

- **Design:** Kathy Parsons
- **Economic Revitalization:** Diane Smith
- **Organization & Finance:** Julie Clement
- **Promotions & Marketing:** Nikki Sunstrum

- **Board Chair, Joel VanSlambrouck**

Contact Us

Manager: Patrick Reagan
ddmainstreet@portland-michigan.org
517.647.5027

SAVE THE DATES!

April 15-16
Main Street Tag Sale

May 21
Downtown Block Party!

On the Street

Downtown Happenings

March: in like a lion and out like a lamb? We hope so. Here's what's in store:

- ▷ March 7, 4-6pm: Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ March 14, 4-6pm: Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ March 21, 4-6pm: Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ March 28, 4-6pm: Community Dinner, Congregational Church
- ▷ March 10, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, 4-week intermediate painting class begins (any media), Raffaeles' Marketplace
- ▷ March 12-13, "Drawing for Painters"; call Raffaeles' Marketplace for details (647 6710)
- ▷ April 4, 4-6pm: Community Dinner, Congregational Church

SAVE THESE DATES:

- ▷ April 15-16, Tag Sale, City Hall
- ▷ April 30, City-Wide Clean-Up
- ▷ May 21, Downtown Block Party

Chocolate Moose



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Downtown
Portland

Happy New Year!!

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with this Coupon

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Fudge

Specialty Coffees

- ▷ Thursday evenings, June through August, "Thursdays on the Grand" concerts
- ▷ June 18, Cruise-A-Thong
- ▷ August 19-21, Riverfest
- ▷ October 15, Main Street Oktoberfest
- ▷ November 18-19, HolidayFest on the Grand

Although this calendar is primarily for downtown--Main Street-- events, if you have an event that impacts the downtown or the Main Street program in some way, please let us know. We'll post it here! Contact Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan at 517 647 5027.

Main Street Committees' Regular Meetings:

- ◆ **Promotions & Marketing:** 4th Wed. of each month, 6:30pm, City Hall
- ◆ **Organization & Finance:** 2d Wed. of each month, 7:00pm, City Hall
- ◆ **Design:** 2d Thu. of each month, 6:30pm, City Hall
- ◆ **Economic Revitalization:** 4th Thu. of each month, 8:00am, Cheeky Monkeys
- ◆ **Main Street Board:** 2d Wed. of each month, 8:00am, Cheeky Monkeys

What's New?

Plans are well underway for some fun events this spring, summer, and fall. Who says there's nothing happening in Portland?! In April, you'll have a chance to do some spring cleaning and make a little cash during the annual Tag Sale. Then in May, Main Street will hold its annual Block Party. Remember last year? This year promises to be bigger and better than ever.

In June, the Portland Community Arts Council resumes its popular "Thursdays on the Grand" concert series. The PCAC will also host its third annual "Cruise-A-Thong" in downtown Portland, where you'll have a chance to prove just how average you are!

August brings Riverfest to the downtown, and October is . . . you guessed it: Oktoberfest.

See you downtown!

Annual Tag Sale²

Opportunity for Everyone

Shoppers

Looking for treasures? We'll have them! The Tag Sale will be held on the second story of City Hall on April 15-16, 2011. Read details below about our efforts to turn this into a city-wide sale. And urge your organizations to hold their own tag sales, yard sales, garage sales, etc. The more, the merrier! (Watch "On the Street" in April for specific sale hours and other events that will be held during the Tag Sale.)

Heres' the plan:

- You know you'll be doing some spring cleaning this year.
- You know you want to do that cleaning in time for the annual City-Wide Clean-Up, which is at the end of April
- You know you hate throwing things away . . . as you toss your "good stuff" in trash bags, you're thinking, "Maybe I should save this for a yard sale this summer," or "Why didn't I think to sell this in a yard sale last year?"

Area Residents

We have the solution!

Reserve a space now, and sell your great stuff instead of storing it or adding it to a landfill. We require a \$25 refundable deposit. Simply clean up after yourself, and you get your deposit back. Because it's a Main Street fundraiser, we charge 10% of whatever you sell.

Call Patrick Reagan today to reserve your spot! 517 647 5027. Then start gathering your treasures!

Churches, Schools, Organizations, Businesses, etc.

We want you to compete with us!! Not really . . . but somewhat. We encourage you to hold your own sale at the same time we're holding ours. Why? Because one sale (ours) might not be enough to attract people from the surrounding communities. Several sales, though, will bring many more shoppers! You know the ones--the hard-core yard-sale set . . . the ones itching for a great bargain and suffering from winter yard-sale withdrawal. We hope you'll consider holding a sale on April 15-16. If you'd like to join our marketing efforts, submit a mere \$20, and we'll include you in all advertising and on a map of the sales occurring in and around Portland. We'll also provide you with copies of the map that you can distribute during your sale. Contact Patrick Reagan for information on how we can then combine efforts to market the sales throughout the city. (Residents are welcome to participate, as well.)

FREE RETIREMENT PLAN REVIEWS.

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Financial Advisor

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5th Stan the Man
12th We Three Strings
19th Ramblers
26th Surprise ????

JERRY KRAUSE
Owner

Sign Incentive Grant Off to a Great Start

In January, the Design Committee launched its latest project—the sign incentive grant—through the Portland Downtown Development Authority (DDA). And in February, Duff Chadwick & Associates jumped on the opportunity. The sign incentive grant offers a 50% match, up to a maximum of \$1,000. Businesses must meet the Design Committee's sign guidelines, which were created to encourage business owners to install interesting signs that keep with the historic character of the downtown.

Former Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Duff complimented the DDA and the Main Street program for the many incentives designed to keep businesses in Portland and help them succeed. Attorney Duff's offices have been in Portland for many years, and Duff, Chadwick & Associates has had an office on Kent Street, in downtown Portland, since 2009. Main Street Manager and DDA Director Patrick Reagan praised Duff, Chadwick & Associates on the firm's sign design. "It's a good looking sign," Reagan said, adding that the sign should be installed very soon. Other downtown businesses are encouraged to contact Reagan if they're interested re-designing their sign. He can be reached at 517 647 5027 or via email at ddamainstreet@portland-michigan.org.

National Main Street Conference

The National Main Street Conference will be held in Des Moines, IA on May 22-25. For the last few years, Portland Main Street has had excellent representation at this invaluable conference. Take a look at the conference website here:

<http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/training/conference/2011-des-moin>

Riverfest News

The Riverfest Committee continues to meet to plan this year's Riverfest, which will be held August 19-21. A wide variety of organizations are participating in the planning this year. Although plans are not finalized, the event will likely include the following, among others:

- ◆ "Wine the Walk," beer and wine tasting event;
- ◆ Civil War encampment
- ◆ Various canoe races and events

- ◆ Food, arts, and craft vendors
- ◆ Juried art show
- ◆ Church service & music
- ◆ Community-wide photo show & sale
- ◆ Art and music workshops
- ◆ Horse show
- ◆ Water testing demonstrations & education
- ◆ Kids' games

Organizers meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 on the second floor of City Hall. The committee is currently seeking volunteers with marketing and volunteer-recruitment experience or interest. Contact Patrick Reagan for more information: 517 647 5027.

Jerry's Restaurant & Pub

**Friday night
Seafood Buffet**
Starting March 11th thru the
Lenten season

ALL YOU CAN EAT

- **Hand Battered Cod and Perch**
- **Breaded Shrimp**
- **Baked Cod**
- **Baked chicken**
- **Streamed Vegetables**
- **Mashed Potatoes & Gravy**
- **Rolls**
- **Salad Bar**

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Meet the Main Street Board of Directors

Although our Main Street program has a full-time manager, it's run by volunteers: Anyone who has a stake in the success of the downtown and wants to help strengthen this important part of our community is welcome to serve on a Main Street committee--either year-round, or by simply helping with a task here and there.

The Main Street Board oversees the program; under its bylaws, the board consists of the four committee chairs and a majority of the members of the Downtown Development Authority. Here are the people who give their time to oversee Portland's Main Street program:

- ◆ Joel VanSlambrouck, DDA Member & Main Street Board Chair
- ◆ Wanda Urie, DDA Member & Main Street Vice Chair
- ◆ Kathy Parsons, Design Committee Chair & Main Street Secretary
- ◆ Diane Smith, Economic Revitalization Committee Chair, DDA Member, & Main Street Treasurer
- ◆ Julie Clement, Organization & Finance Committee Chair
- ◆ Nikki Sunstrum, Promotions & Marketing Chair & DDA Member
- ◆ Charles Dumas, DDA Chair
- ◆ Rush Clement, DDA Member
- ◆ Margery Briggs, DDA Member

A note from Mayor Barnes:
"As we face the challenges of the new year, including the fiscal issues, please share your thoughts on the kind of city you want Portland to be with the people who represent you. The decisions that have to be made will be difficult, and the more people who share their ideas and concerns, the better the job your representatives can do."

Recently, DDA Director & Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan and I were guests on the *Jim Carlyle Friday Morning Round Table* at WION. We were scheduled for 7:30 a.m., and the lead-in for our arrival was, "Who are they in Portland?" They said, "Maybe

A Note from the Chair

they are Portlanders, Portlandish, or Portlandites!" They came up with plenty of nicknames that we here in Portland would never call ourselves. I found myself perplexed, wondering, "What is the correct answer?" So I am very interested in how we refer to ourselves when we connect ourselves with Portland. *Who are we in Portland?*

Main Street invites you to have a say. Visit our web site www.portlandmainstreet.org, and vote. Visit our Facebook page and leave a comment. We love Facebook friends!

Joel VanSlambrouck, Portland Main Street Chair

CHEEKY MONKEYS

www.cheekymonkeyscoffeehouse.com

Monday thru' Friday 7am - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 3pm
Sunday Closed



Please take note of our new winter hours above -- they took effect February 1st, 2011. This month's soups are: Monday--Chicken Noodle, Tuesday--Cream of Broccoli with Cheese, Wednesday-- White Chicken Chili, Thursday--Twice-Baked Potato, Friday--Vegetarian Tuscan Tomato.

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