



# Street closures announced for Portland block party

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PORTLAND - The Portland Main Street program announced the schedule for street closures on Saturday, May 21, for the second annual "Downtown Block Party" in downtown Portland, sponsored by WION 92.7 FM and 1430 AM.

Starting at 8 a.m. on May 21, Bridge Street from Kent Street to Maple Street will be closed for event setup. Starting at noon, the 100 and 200 blocks of Kent Street -- from Grand River Venue to Academy Street -- will be closed to all through traffic. All vehicles must be removed from this area by 1 p.m. to allow setup of the Portland Cruiser's classic car "Cruise-In."

Also, the Kent Street half of the City Hall parking lot will be closed from 11 a.m. until 10 p.m. on May 21 to allow for the setup of the "Family Activities" section of the 2011 Block Party.

"We will have all kinds of activities in the City Hall lot this year," said Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. "We plan to have kid's inflatable rides all afternoon, face painting, a sidewalk chalk flood at 1 p.m., a petting zoo, and a kid's balloon launch at 3 p.m."

Activities in the City Hall lot aren't just for

children -- the City of Portland will also offer free document shredding all afternoon, courtesy of Shred Docs of Grand Rapids. Residents are encouraged to bring any documents that they would like to have shredded downtown that day to take advantage of this free service.

"We have a lot of setup work to do that morning due to the large size of the event," said Reagan. "We'll be setting up our main stage, our Party Pavilion tent, vendor spaces, all of our family activities, and also the car show.

"The Promotions and Marketing Committee is very excited about this event," added Reagan. "We're really happy with the buzz that it has created, and we're looking forward to a fun, family-friendly event on May 21."

The Block Party begins at noon, with the car cruise-in beginning at 2 p.m. in downtown Portland.

For more information and a schedule of

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events on the 2011 Portland Downtown Block Party, please visit [www.portlandmainstreet.org](http://www.portlandmainstreet.org) or call (517) 647-5027.

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