

Keeping cash local, Portland's Pay Day to have prize party

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Posted Aug 31, 2011 @ 11:10 PM



PORTLAND, Mich. — A keep money local campaign that has been underway since June, is wrapping up and getting ready to reward local shoppers.

The Portland Pay Day event will be holding a prize party celebration offering residents a chance to win cash and prizes.

The prize party will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 8 on the second level of city hall.

“We are really looking forward to it, and it should be a good time,” said Portland Main Street Manager Patrick Reagan. “We love keeping money in Portland, and our shop local campaign kept \$55,000 in Portland and the year before that \$57,000.”

Portland Pay Day is an event that encourages and rewards people for shopping at participating businesses in Portland. Anyone 18 years or older that spends at least \$10 at a participating business can enter into the drawing to win a grand prize of \$1,200.

Receipts have to have a date of Aug. 31 or earlier to be eligible, and the last day to turn them in is Friday. Receipts can be turned in at Distinctive Occasions, located at 160 Kent St., or Raffaeles' Marketplace, located at 143 Kent St., before 5 p.m.

“The business owners love this campaign,” said Reagan. “It allows them to thank their customers for shopping and we live it because it keeps dollars here in town.”

Community members can submit more than one receipt, offering them more chances to win the grand prize.

Also at the event, there will be give-a-ways that participating businesses donated for participants to win.

Reagan explained that Portland Main Street members are anticipating the amount of money kept locally will be greater than previous years based on the amount of receipts already turned in, but they will not know the amount until all the receipts are calculated.

For more information, visit www.portlandmainstreet.org.

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There is a new website that is relevant to the Buy Local Movement. It is kind of like Groupons but with a commitment to supporting local merchants and local economies. www.paylessfirst.com
Seems like a good idea.

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