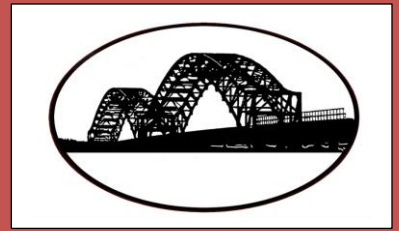


The Portland Business Journal

Summer Edition 2015

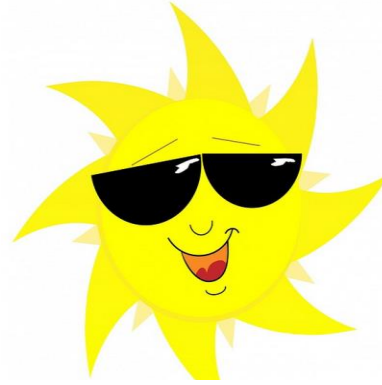
A Publication of the Portland Economic Development Commission



“Third Thursday” Comes to Portland

“Third Thursday” is a national movement to bring attention to local merchants, *restaurateurs*, and the arts through promotions and special events. At the same time, “Third Thursday” offers those with hectic schedules a chance to experience merchant, restaurant, and entertainment options that are normally only available to them on the weekend. It is a chance to get to know and promote our local businesses and all they have to offer.

A group of Portland business owners, town officials, and the Economic Development Commission are working together to bring “Third Thursday” to Portland. “Third Thursday” participants agree to stay open until at least 8 pm on the Third Thursday of each month. Participating businesses will display the “Third Thursday” logo in their windows. Businesses offering specials, product samples, promotional offers, sale items, workshops, door prizes, or other special events will be highlighted in media announcements leading up to each “Third Thursday”. Several local merchants and restaurant owners are already planning to partner with home based businesses and artisans to offer special sales and samples



Third Thursday Participating Business

on “Third Thursday” evenings to bring all members of our business community together.

This June, July, and August, look for the “Summer Sun” Logo in the window of participating businesses. A new logo will appear in the fall, winter, and spring. A list of participating businesses will also be posted on the Portland Connecticut Marketplace page on Facebook and on the portlandct.org webpage for each “Third Thursday” throughout the year.

If you’re a business that would like to participate, contact the Planning Office at (860)342-6727 or send a message to the Portland Connecticut Marketplace page on Facebook. “Third Thursday” is new to Portland, but we have exciting plans to grow and offer new and exciting shopping, dining, and entertainment options as the seasons change!

Mike's Sunday Drivers Opens For Business

The Portland Economic Development Commission is proud to welcome Mike's Sunday Drivers, 1125 Portland-Cobalt Road, to the business community. Owner Mike Wiltsie brings more than 40 years of experience in classic custom work and component rebuilds to Portland. His shop offers auto repairs and special part orders with a specialty in pre-1981 automobiles. If you're looking for quality work and someone willing to take on a complicated or interesting job - Mike's your guy! The shop is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. For more information, give Mike a call at (860)342-0108 and welcome him to the Portland business community.

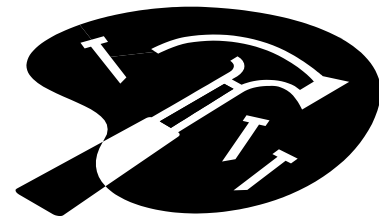


Building, Planning, Zoning & Health Department Hours

The offices of Building, Planning, Zoning & Health are located on the 1st floor of the Town Hall located at 33 East Main Street.

Office Hours

Monday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Attention Main Street Business Owners: Village District Parking Survey

The Economic Development Commission will be conducting a survey of Main Street business and building owners to determine if their parking needs are being adequately met. The surveys will be mailed to business owners and take only a few minutes to fill out. Your responses are very important to us and will help us address any problems that you, your employees, your customers, or your suppliers may be having. The EDC thanks you in advance for your time!

Victorian Inspirations Opens in The Village District

Portland's newest boutique gift shop, Victorian Inspirations, 204B Main Street, held its Grand Opening with local officials and representatives from the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce on April 21st.

Victorian Inspirations has a wide variety of gifts and accessories for home, heart, body & soul. The store mixes upscale brands including Spratina, Silver Spoon, Sea Lily, Shari Dixon and Vixon's Delight jewelry, Wolf Leather for men, Badash Crystals, Judacia gifts from Grader Designs in Haifa, Jerusalem, Santa Fe Stoneworks, Hauser chocolates, Food Slabs from American Stoneworks (handcrafted from New England farmland) with beautifully crafted items from local Portland artisans. There are porcelain and china gift items for all occasions and magnifying glass pieces from India and a small selection of adult & children's clothing. Hours are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Visit their website at: www.victorianinspirations.com for a complete list of their current inventory.



Brownstone Barbers Moves Ahead in the JP Morgan Chase "Mission Main Street" Program

Thanks to the support of their customers and Portland residents, Brownstone Barbers, 1529 Portland-Cobalt Road, received the 250 votes they needed to move on to the next stage of the JP Morgan Chase Bank "Mission Main Street Program"!

JP Morgan Chase Bank started the "Mission Main Street Program" to increase awareness of the important role small businesses play in local communities and to help small businesses grow. Chase has dedicated \$2 million to the program to be distributed as 20 grants of \$100,000 each. The grants may be used to purchase new equipment, a new location, expand a product line or to improve product distribution. Brownstone Barbers application will now be reviewed by a panel of experts to determine if they will be awarded one of the 20 grants being offered by JP Morgan Chase. Good luck for continued success as they move along in the program!



Natural Affairs, LLC Opens for Business at 162 Main Street

April was a busy month for the Economic Development Commission as they welcomed several new businesses, including Natural Affairs, LLC at 162 Main Street. Owner Steve Pierson combined two of his life-long passions, flowers and fish, to create a magical new shop. A member of the Pierson family of Cromwell, famous for their beautiful roses, Steve brings a lifetime of horticultural experience. Also a fish expert, his selection of freshwater fish coupled with his knowledge makes Natural Affairs, LLC a "must see" for those hobbyists who love fish. It's worth a visit to see the beautiful selection of flowers, specialty orchids, and freshwater fish and supplies the owner Steve Pierson has to offer! For more information, call Natural Affairs at (860)342-2020. In the photo below, owner Steve Pierson and his staff, Shelby Burger and Allie Christenson, are always ready to help.



Congratulations to Arrigoni Winery, 1287 Portland-Cobalt Road! They were recognized by the CTNow Best of Hartford Reader's Poll 2015 and finished in 3rd Place in the "Best Locally Made Wine" category!



Congratulations to Symmetry Physical Therapy, 270B Main Street, celebrating 2 years in the Village District! Practice Director Keith Arcari, MSPT and Office Manager Barbara Giove can work with you to create a physical therapy appointment schedule that fits your needs. For more information, contact Symmetry Physical Therapy at (860)788-7976.

MHS Primary Care Celebrates Their 5th Anniversary

Middlesex Hospital Primary Care (MHPC) just celebrated their 5th Anniversary at their 270 Main Street location! Pictured below are (left to right) Matthew Nichols, MD, Jessica Terrone Roehr, DO, Wendy Griswold, ARPN, Israel Cordero, MD. MHPC has taken a number of steps to meet the needs of the community, including increasing the number of providers and adding early morning and evening appointment hours. MHPC provides a full range of primary care services, including comprehensive physical exams, acute care, and follow up appointments. The office has been recognized by the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Patient Centered Medical Home due to the quality and coordination of care provided to their patients. MHPC is a proud member of the business community and is focused on providing excellent care to the residents of Portland. The office is currently accepting new patients, if you are looking for a new Primary Care Provider or would like more information, please call the office at (860)342-3392 or visit www.mhprimarycare.org. MHPC looks forward to continuing to serve our friends and neighbors in Portland!



Summer Concerts on The Town Green

This year's Summer Concert Series has been moved to the Town Green on Waverly Avenue due to construction of a band shell at Riverfront Park. Concerts are Tuesday evenings beginning at 6:30 pm. So grab a blanket, pack a picnic basket, and enjoy the music!

July 21 CJ West & The Downtown Train
July 28 Seat of Our Pants
August 4 Great Hill Mountain Band
August 11 Michael Cleary Band



The Portland EDC meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, 33 East Main Street. Business owners, residents, and those interested in promoting Portland's business community are encouraged to attend.

The **Portland Business Journal** is a quarterly publication of the **Economic Development Commission**. Issues are published in March, June, September, and December and are available at portlandct.org. If you have ideas for future articles, notices for meetings or events for the **Portland Business Journal**, please contact Mary D. Dickerson, EDC Consultant by e-mail at: marydickerson@yahoo.com.