

Greater Port Austin Area Chamber of Commerce

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2008

Farmers Market - Ⓢ Only 2 weeks left!



It seems hard to believe that October - and thus Farmers Market & More - is winding down already. Where did the time go!?

Saturday, October 25, is the last day for the Market.

“We have had a tremendously successful year,” said Market Manager John Pridnia about the record-breaking numbers of both vendors and customers at the venue this past year.

October 11 was a busy day at the Farmers Market and around town - with picture-perfect weather all weekend!



July 5th was the Market's biggest day for number of visitors - with well over 10,000 people in attendance that morning. And the number of vendors over the Fourth of July weekend (a little over 200) was surpassed over the Labor Day weekend - with about 230 vendors participating!

“We appreciate all of the support that the community has given to the Market. And the vendors have done an outstanding job of setting up week after week - even when the weather predictions have been dismal.”

Pridnia added, “Lisa and I really need to give a shout out to some of our dedicated volunteers - we just could not do it without them!”

“Them” includes the morning crew - Gary Babcock, Ken Firmanty, Dave Dybowski, Karl Brocklehurst and Joyce Stanek - and afternoon helpers, Martha Babcock, Peggy Miller, Aaron Miller and Lou Schillinger.

And, of course, we (the Chamber and the community) can't begin to express our appreciation for all of the time and effort that John and Lisa put into organizing the Market and keeping it running smoothly. Good Job and Thank YOU!

“Kids Costume & Trick-or-Treat Day” is Oct. 25 at Farmers Market

Meet Morris & Maurice - the “Picture-Purr-fect” Kittens!



Note from Helen Ranger:

We have two beautiful kittens that need a home. These are rescue kittens that we took off the streets of Port Austin. They are twins! Maurice and Morris are a wonderful ginger color.

They have already been to the vet and are healthy and have been neutered.

If you know of anyone that could provide a GOOD HOME please let us know.

The twins are number 31 and 32 that we have found homes for. All of the kittens have done fine. They are now living all over the United States and two are even in Japan.

Please contact Helen Ranger for more information 989-738-8000.

“Little Shop of Horrors” opens Oct. 24 at Port Austin Community Playhouse

Little Shop of Horrors opens on Friday, October 24, at the Port Austin Community Playhouse.

Directed by Gary Sturm, the musical centers around a flower shop and its owner, his employee - and a VERY strange plant that changes lives forever.

Additional performances are October 25, 26, 31 and November 1 and 2. Show times are at 8:00 p.m. for Friday and Saturday performances, and the Sunday matinee is at 2:00 p.m.

For reservations, contact the Box Office at 989-738-5217.

Ticket prices are \$16 for adults and \$12 for youth 14 years old and under. You can save \$16 by purchasing a Season Subscription!

Season subscriptions are \$36 and include tickets to all four of the regular season shows: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Homecoming* (Christmas with the Walton Family), *The Unexpected Guest* (an Agatha Christie mystery) and *Play On!* (a comedy about a community theater trying to put on a play).

Season Subscriptions for the 2008-09 season can be purchased at the playhouse or by calling the Box Office 989-738-5217.

Auditions for PACP's Christmas show set

Auditions for PACP's Christmas show - *The Homecoming* - will be held on Monday and Tuesday, October 26 and 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Port Austin Community Playhouse.

Adults and children of all ages are needed for the cast.

Additional volunteers are needed for stage crew, costumes, ushering, etc.

The show is a heartwarming story about the Walton family – sure to be a great family fare for the holiday season. The show opens on Friday, Dec. 5 and runs through Dec. 14.

For more information, please call the Box Office at 989-738-5217 – or just come to auditions either night.

Fall Activities in P.A.

First-ever events geared toward women in Nov.



Two new events have been planned for the weekend of November 14-16 that are directed toward females looking for something to do this fall.

Friends Promoting Port Austin is advertising their 'Dear' Widows Weekend with this note: "Ladies, be prepared to shop in Port Austin over the big deer hunting opening weekend!" Gift shops, clothing stores and antique shops will have special sales all weekend.

In addition, vendors that specialize in items for women will be set up at the Port Austin Civic Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on November 15th. Merchandise will include such things as jewelry, cosmetics, purses, crafts, housewares and much more!

Vendor spots are still available through November 5th. Contact Stacey Viers for more information: 989-738-5333.

A second event, also slated for November 15, is a special "Mom to Mom Sale" at the Port Austin United Protestant Church.

Moms can buy, sell or swap items – maternity, baby and children's clothing, and baby and kids items.

For more information, contact Jan DePatty at 989-551-7710.



Lots of unique "straw sculptures" brighten up the town for "Harvest Days" event



A lighthouse, a puppy, a spider, a beer mug, a scarecrow, a Tootsie Roll --- what do these things have in common? They were all "sculptures" made of straw in recognition of Harvest Days in Port Austin.



Mark Your Calendar - October 2008

Oct. 19- "Slime Time" Party for Kids at the United Protestant Church, 3 - 6 pm

Oct. 24 - Nov. 2: "Little Shop of Horrors" - Fall Musical at the Port Austin Community

Oct. 25 - Last day for Farmers Market. Note: There will be a Special "trick-or-treat" day for kids that day - come in costume!

Oct. 31 - Kids' Halloween parade downtown & party at Civic Center

Oct. 31 -Trunk & Treat, United Protestant Church

Oct. 31 -Halloween Party at the Port Austin American Legion - DJ, Karaoke, sloppy joes, hot dogs - Come in costume!

Coming Events

- * 'Dear'Widows Weekend - Nov. 14-16: sales; vendors catering to women's interests on Nov. 15
- * "Mom to Mom" sale at United Protestant Church - Moms can buy and sell maternity clothes, baby/infant/toddler clothes & items - Saturday, November 15
- * Nov. 16 - Wine Tasting at The Bank 1884 - sponsored by the Port Austin Area Historical Society
- * Nov. 16 - Feather Card Party at the American Legion
- * Nov. 29 - Thanksgiving Dinner & Raffle at the Port Austin Conservation Club
- * Nov. 29 - Harp Concert - featuring holiday music, at the Port Austin Community Playhouse

Reminder to all who have upcoming events - please provide details to the Chamber so that we can help promote your activities!

2008-09 Chamber Board Members

President:	Rene Nichols -738-8650
Vice President:	Michel Ricou - 738-8729
Secretary:	Stacey Viers - 738-5333
Treasurer:	LaNette Wiese - 874-4500
Trustee:	Steve Schmidt - 738-5235
Trustee:	Darcie Finan - 738-6004
Trustee:	Patty Finan - 738-8736



The Historical Society's first annual "Oktoberfest" was a huge success - with hundreds of people enjoying great German music, dancing, food and friendship at the October 4 event.

There's still time to win CASH!

The Port Austin Area Historical Society still has 41 tickets left for its 300 Club Raffle drawing on October 18.

Fifteen people have already won \$100 cash prizes. The winners include: Sharon Baczynski, Chris Knoblock, Dave Herrington, Robert Horetski, Paula Mullen, Ada Leach, Rene Nichols (Nate), Keri Rogers, Dorothy Forth, Tie Murawski and Deanna Kidd, all of Port Austin, and Virg Gembariski of Kinde, Barb Schultz of Bad Axe, Anne Mette of Shelby Township, and Lori Smith of Phonenix AZ.

Don't miss out! There are still 14 more prizes to give away! Ten more \$100 prizes, plus two \$250 prizes, one \$500 prize - and the Grand Prize of \$1,000.

Tickets cost \$30 and can be purchased at Lake Street Emporium - or at the PAAHS tent at Farmers Market on Saturday, October 18, prior to the 11:00 a.m. drawing. Proceeds go to the group's building project.

Greater Port Austin Area Chamber of Commerce

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Office hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.