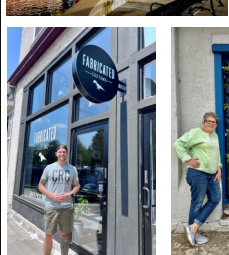
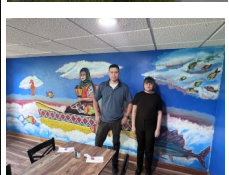
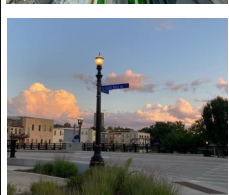


# DOWNTOWN PORTLAND MI on the street

*Let's Connect!*

YOUR DOWNTOWN CONNECTION

JANUARY 2024



## Reflecting and New Beginnings

Oh, what a year! One of the best yet for MiPortland, and you all played a huge role in that! So, let's look at the year in review...

### We are growing!

With people and organizations who choose to invest in Portland, creating new and expanded businesses; *Auto Zone, 2 Rivers Nutrition, Way to Go Wellness, Cunningham Insurance, Jule Martin Photography, Thrift Shack, Don Jose Mexican Grill, Farmers Insurance, Rivers Edge Grill added Liquor License, 118 Proof with soft openings.*

### We are changing:

We'd like to thank and recognize Tom Antaya for 35 years of community service through the DDA Board, since it's inception. And Cory Grimminck, our former Board Chair for her decade of service. Most notably her efforts with the 150 Year Celebration, Fundraising for Toan Park, Grant efforts achieved, and the update of our Financing and Development Plan. Leo Madarang, long standing Board Member was elected as the new Chair for Downtown Development. We also welcomed April Vogl of OM's Garden to the Board, she is very invested in the district!

### We are improving!

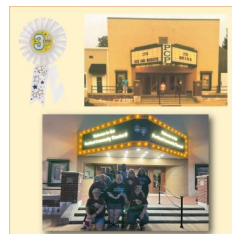
Property Owners and Businesses are investing! Each of the businesses listed above, as well as **Courageous Coffee** and **Fabiano's River House** with **Facade Incentives**, the **Theater Marquis**, **Lewanski Glass**, **Confluxcity Brewing**, and **Portland Party Store**. And the impressive, engaging **Lighting and Music project** by **Historic Downtown Owners** expected to continue to bring guests to downtown each Friday through the end of February.

**We have a lot of work ahead!** By the holiday season of 2024, Kent Street will be refreshed and infrastructure updated. There will be a whole new view where Kent St meets Grand River Ave. We've been promised more completed facades to compliment the project. It will be a long, challenging and unattractive year getting there, but the results will be transformative and poise the community for future growth.

**We have Rock Star Partners** Our city departments, our board and volunteers, our property owners, businesses, and organizations all together are a true driving force for progress! Thank you so much for everything, and we can't wait to connect with you in 2024 to move Portland further forward! Stay tuned for more updates,...

On behalf of the entire MiPortland team, thank you from the bottom of my heart!

*Aina CW*



## Window Winners

H.M.	Sandborn Real Estate
3rd	Senior Center- Portland Area Service Group
2nd	Simon Insurance
1st	Studio 176



## Happy New Year from Mi Portland Downtown!

The Portland Downtown Board of Directors would like to wish everyone a happy, prosperous and healthy 2024! Healthier people find purpose and/or meaning in their lives., this seems to make them happier too! Most in regular, small acts of volunteerism.

For details on how you can get involved or volunteer, please contact our office (info below) or visit [miportland.org](http://miportland.org) - **Get Involved**

Our **directory at miportland.org** also offers contact information for other wonderful community groups such as:

The Community Food Bank, Area Faith Organizations, Friends of the Red Mill, Historical Society, Service Group, Civic Players, Community Fund, Library, Garden Club, VFW

CONTACT US: 517-647-5027

TINACW@PORTLAND-MICHIGAN.ORG



## EDWARD JONES: FINANCIAL PROS SERVING PORTLAND

### FEATURED BUSINESS

SUBMITTED BY KURT FEDEWA

Malcolm Thurmond is a professional financial advisor in partnership with Kory Blastic at Edward Jones, a private brokerage firm serving Portland.

"We evaluate people's financial circumstances and we help them to achieve their financial goals," said Malcolm. "This process allows our clients to live the life they wish to live, free of financial worry."

Malcolm evaluates each person's financial picture in detail.

"We are looking for opportunities that help people reach their goals," said Malcolm. "We look at where they are now, we determine where they want to be, and we recommend financial instruments that help them get there."

Malcolm attended Alma College of Alma, Michigan, where he studied financial administration. After college he transitioned into the banking industry, working for Huntington Bank and then for Bank of America, where he experienced his first investment position through Merrill Edge, an aspect of Bank of America. While there Malcolm learned how to manage the financial needs of clients. He worked for Bank of America for two years before coming to Edward Jones.

"My banking experience and my investment experience with Merrill Edge prepared me for my present position with Edward Jones," said Malcolm. "I feel that I am able to give people the benefit of my experience and to thus maximize their financial potential."

Malcolm grew up in Indiana and moved to Michigan for his higher education. He met his wife, Anna, in college and they presently live in Grand Ledge. They are planning to have a family together and for the time being are enjoying their dog, Minnie.

Malcolm met Kory Blastic at an Edward Jones meeting. Kory was highly impressed by Malcolm and Kory invited Malcolm to join him at the office in Portland.



## DDA Board of Directors

### Leo Madarang

*Chairperson DDA Board  
Madarang Hoort and Assoc*

### Dr. Jason Williamson

*Vice Chair  
Portland Family Chiropractic*

### James Barnes

*Treasurer  
Mayor, City of Portland*

### Margery Briggs

*Secretary  
Two Rivers Consulting*

### Tutt Gorman

*City Manager*

### Becky Ward

*Wards Garage*

### April Vogl

*OM's Garden Inc.*

"Portland reminds me of my home town in Indiana," said Malcolm. "It is friendly and welcoming. I can see myself working here for the duration of my career. Portland is a wonderful community filled with wonderful people."

Interested parties may contact Malcolm at **(517) 647-2787** for appointments and for questions about his services.

### Edward Jones

212 Kent Street Suite 2

## Team Members

Shirley Teachout

Mandy Johnston

## Active Volunteers

Sheryl VanGoor

Tim Fuller

Katrina Freeman

Marianne O'Connell

*gifting  
Portland is a* **win** **Win** **WIN**

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BUSY B - ART COLLECTIVE	NEW CHINA BUFFET
CHOCOLATE MOOSE	OLIVERA'S - PORTLAND ONLY
CONFLUXCITY BREWING COMPANY	OM'S GARDEN
COUNTRY CUPBOARD FLORAL AND GIFT	P.FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC & MASSAGE
FABIANOS RIVER HOUSE GRILL	PORTLAND PARTY STORE / CREE MEE
FABRICATED CUSTOMS	RIVERS EDGE GRILL
GRAND BARBER LOUNGE	THE PIZZA SHOP
HOT SHOTS TAVERN	THE PORT-MODERN CRAFT WINES

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**PORTLAND** **THRIVING locally**  
buy where you live