

DOWNTOWN
PORTLAND MI *on the street*
Let's Connect!
Your MiPortland Connection
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MARCH 2026



Chasing Snowflakes Into Spring!
 Winter... we're officially done with you.

So our downtown businesses have decided to sweeten the season – with FUN + PRIZES to help us chase winter right out of town and glide into the Spring Equinox on March 21!

Here's how it works:

- * Stop into participating Portland businesses
- * Browse, hang out, find something special
- * Spot a hidden snowflake while you're there?
- * Turn it in at the register and claim your prize!

The only catch? We'll snap a quick photo of you in the shop with your prize so we can celebrate you (and the awesome local business you visited)!
 It's simple. It's fun. It's the perfect excuse to grab friends or family and make a little downtown adventure out of it.

Let's support local, shake off winter, and make downtown Portland buzz with energy again.

Who's ready to start hunting?

[#ChasingSnowflakes](#) [#MiPortland](#) [#ShopLocal](#) [#PositivelyPortland](#)

Positively Portland Post

MARCH 11, WEDNESDAY UPSTAIRS, CITY HALL

PRESERVATION FORWARD



JESSICA FLORES
 NATIONAL CONSULTANT

Evaluation of our downtown and best practices for a vibrant & welcoming environment!

You will be privy to:

- Networking & Discussion
- Catalysts for Downtown Revitalization
- Tax Credit Programs
- Grant Opportunities
- Strategies for higher standards
- Light Refreshments



Please Save the Date
 11 March 2026
 6 - 7 pm
 upstairs city Hall

Who Should Attend:

Property & Business Owners, Anyone Interested in Historic Downtowns, Boards & City Council



POSITIVELY PORTLAND 2026
 6pm City Hall

General Rule 2nd Tuesdays

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
13	10	11	15
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
12	9	14	11
SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
8	13	10	off

This is the second in a series of presentations coming to Portland, all designed to help our community move toward a shared goal: a unified city, proud of its downtown, with a level of vibrancy that's felt well beyond our core.

You're welcome to attend one, all, or any that interest you.

Please join us for this interactive workshop, hosted at City Hall in the Upstairs Community Room. What you'll get:

- * Façade improvement programs and grant opportunities available now
- * Strategies for setting higher standards that elevate the entire district
- * Case studies of buildings transformed from eyesores to economic engines
- * Refreshments !!

You're Invited To

Cultivating a Stronger MiPortland

Building Community Pride and Connection!

April 15, 2026
 6pm - 7pm
 Upstairs, City Hall

RSVP & More Information:
 dda@portland-michigan.org
 517-647-5027



The Portland Area Service Group, known affectionately in the community as “The Senior Center,” is a community venue open to people of all ages.

For director Jan Ridenour, the center is a labor of love. “I am doing my best to carry on the work of my late friend, Julie Ridenour,” said Jan. “Julie did great things for the center and she taught me so much.”

The center is recently remodeled with an attractive new paint job. It also features new carpeting, new tables, and three new large screen TVs that work well with the new Bingo machine. It all works together to give the center an inviting vibe. “We’ve spruced up the place quite a bit,” said Jan.

The center’s reason for being is to provide a warm and welcoming place for seniors and other community members to meet and to relax with friends. Coffee, pop, and snacks are available on the premises. Lunch is served on Tuesdays and on Thursdays for Euchre players and a potluck dinner is available for Bingo players on Monday nights. The lunches are cooked up by co-director Brenda Burleson.

“Brenda does an amazing job with the food,” said Jan. “We love her cooking and she does a great job as co-director.”

Jan herself is also a volunteer. The greatest reward for Jan in doing what she does for the center is the friendships that she makes with the regulars who frequent the location.

“I feel that this work grants me a great opportunity to give back to the Portland community for all of the love that it has shown me,” she said.

Jan invites everyone in the community to visit the center and to see all of the great things that it has to offer to them. “We want to reach out to everyone,” she said. “The center is not simply for seniors. We like to have fun here and we are open to new faces and to new ideas.”

Jan also wants people to know that the center has a loan closet filled with medical equipment which is available to community members in need. The equipment includes wheelchairs, walkers, shower seats, and hospital beds among other items. The loans of this equipment are free of charge. Jan only asks that people return the equipment when they are finished using it.

“We invite everyone to make good use of the center,” she said. “It’s a wonderful place.”

144 Kent Street 517-647-4004 HOURS: Monday - Friday 9am to 3:30pm
Facebook: Portland Area Service Group

Bingo on Monday evenings from 6 pm to 9:30 pm. Doors open at 4:30. Bring a dish to pass. Friday morning Bingo at 10:30 pm; doors open at 9:3pm. Every other Friday evening features walk-in Bingo from 5 pm to 9:00 pm.

The venue is available for rent for all occasions. It is handicap accessible, has a full kitchen and holds up to sixty to seventy people.

Event Details & Complete Calendar at miportland.org/events

