



YOUR DOWNTOWN CONNECTION

MIPORTLAND.ORG

JUNE 2023

## Transforming Historic Downtown—3 Buildings at a Time | Judges Panel

dedicated invested  
developer opportunity  
(DIDO!)



PORTLAND MiFi (Façade Incentive)  
PITCH COMPETITION  
RULES & GUIDELINES

About DIDO! Pitch Competition



In one incredible evening, Mi Portland awarded \$18,000 to three deserving projects!

The public, supporters, judges and tabulators joined in at Confluxcity Brewing Co. to see and listen to projects by Courageous Coffee, Fabiano's River House, and the Community Theater.

Presentations were judged on a weighted scoring system including how the project complimented the Historic DT look and feel as well as historic restoration principals—completeness of the project, -- investment by the property owner—and how well their vision was conveyed. With points added in for audience favorites.

Courageous Coffee...	180.8691	+3
Fabiano's Riverhouse...	177.3536	+1
Community Theater...	159.1541	+2

In addition to the Judges Panel, Mi Portland (DDA) would like to thank its Board of Directors, volunteers, Opera Block Performing Arts, and our tabulators; Dr. Jason Williamson, Vicki Williamson, and City Finance Director Mindy Tolan.

CORY GRIMMINCK - DDA Chair and [Portland District Library](#) Director



NICK SANDBORN - Most commonly consulted Historic Downtown Commercial Realtor [Sandborn Real Estate](#) and Historic DT Property Owner



SHIRLEY TEACHOUT - Years of training in Historic Building Preservation, DDA Teams, Community Volunteer



SIMEON LOWE - Historic Downtown, [Fabricated Customs](#) Business Owner / Designer



LARA HITCHCOCK—[PFCU](#) Commercial Lender



DOUG LOGEL - DDA Property Owner, [Grand Hearing Center](#) owner, Community Volunteer



SAT  
AUG 12  
2023  
3-8PM



MI CRAFT  
BEER WINE  
CIDER  
FOOD and  
LIVE MUSIC

Enjoyed on Portland's Veterans Memorial Bridge

Watch for it....

**Opening Soon.**

When you join us in welcoming #miportland newest restaurant during their first few weeks, we encourage you to offer patience and grace as the owners and staff fine tune service and food



CONTACT US: 517-647-5027

TINACW@PORTLAND-MICHIGAN.ORG



## OLD RED MILL FARMERS MARKET

Sat. June-Oct  
8am-1pm

MiPortland.org/events  
Your Community  
Calendar  
for Complete  
Information on all  
area EVENTS



SOUNDS OF SUMMER  
Thursdays by Neal Mathison:  
Two Rivers Park Band Shell  
6:30pm—8pm



## FEATURED BUSINESS ~ THE TOBACCO SHOPPE

CONTRIBUTED BY: KURT FEDEWA



Owen Johnson is store manager of the Portland location of the Tobacco Shoppe, a business whose line includes cigarettes, pipe tobacco, foreign and domestic cigars, and tobacco accessories including pipes. The shop also sells CBD.

"CBD is a substance that relieves joint pain and that aids sleep," said Johnson. "Our Portland location specializes in it as well as in other tobacco products."

The corporation that owns the Tobacco Shoppe oversees eighteen locations of these stores around Michigan. The Portland location has been in business for three years. Johnson attributes the company's success thus far to a number of factors.

"We have been expanding our product inventory," he said. "We have also been seeking new customers through advertising, promotional sales, and by simply being friendly with them. We treat our customers right and they come back to us. Our loyal customers are what keep us in business."

Johnson said that he strives to create a friendly environment to work in. "We make working here fun," he said. "And that promotes a positive experience for our customers. Our employees have a great amount of product knowledge and customers who frequent our shop do so in part because our employees know so much about the products that we sell. In this way we are able to help our customers make the right choices. We also troubleshoot any problems that arise with our products. This all makes for a high level of satisfaction in our customers' minds. A visit to our shop is always a positive experience for them."

In addition to the products already mentioned, the Tobacco Shoppe offers E-cigarettes and smoking cessation materials which help people to stop smoking if that is what they wish to do.

"We are a one-stop shop for all of people's smoking needs," said Johnson. "When people come here we help them in every way possible, and they feel satisfied. I would encourage anyone who uses tobacco to stop in and to give us a try. They won't be disappointed."

1328 E. Grand River Ave. \* 517-994-6464

Monday – Saturday 9 am to 9 pm / Sunday 10 am to 8 pm

[www.thetobaccoshoppeinc.com](http://www.thetobaccoshoppeinc.com)