



Your MiPortland Connection

dda@portland-michigan.org

miportland.org * 517-647-5027

September 2026



We're excited to learn more about out-of-town trail users, how often it's used by them, and where they come from. You know, your friends and family who make the trail a part of their visit.

Your response will help us understand how we can continue making the trail a great asset for our community. Every response helps - we'd love yours!



If you have a business or even a business idea...

Join us at this event. It will give you information and ideas on how to participate in 2027 for a chance to win up to \$8,000!

WE—YOU— can attend this live event FREE and check out 5 up-and-coming businesses.

9/17/2026

**Candlestone Inn & Golf
Belding MI**



DDA Board of Directors

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**Find Your Place.
Make a Difference!**

Have a little time, a special talent, or simply a desire to get involved? We'd love to have you!

Whether you have a couple of hours now and then or want to join a team regularly, we'll help find the right fit for you. Volunteer in a way that matches what you enjoy and what you do best.

Love events, business, organizing, marketing, photography, videography, graphic design or social media? Maybe you enjoy writing, making calls, visiting businesses, lending a hand or coming up with great ideas!

Volunteer on your own, with a friend, or as part of a team. Every hour, talent and idea helps make a difference. Bring your time. Bring your talents. Bring your ideas. Bring YOU! Ready to jump in?

Contact us today and find your place in making our community great!

Contact Us: 517-647-5027

tinacw@portland-michigan.org

The Crafted Scout Business Spotlight interviewed by - Kurt Fedewa

A Place where Hobbyists Create, Learn and Connect

For Jacklin Blodgett, The Crafted Scout is much more than a shop. It's a place where creativity comes to life, skills are shared, and people can gather around a common love of making things.



Jacklin brings a background in community work to her business. When she opened The Crafted Scout, she saw an opportunity to provide more than craft supplies — she wanted to create a welcoming place where hobbyists could learn, connect and be inspired.

That community focus is woven into the shop's many offerings. Jacklin partners with The Port, providing space for its hobby classes, and she offers classes of her own in quilting, cross-stitch, sewing and other creative skills. "The classes help people to build on their skills," Jacklin said. "Whether you're just starting out or ready to take your skills further, classes are offered for beginners, intermediate and advanced techniques."

But classes and supplies are only part of what The Crafted Scout offers. The shop also provides services in long arm quilting, custom framing and sewing machine repair, giving customers convenient, local resources to support their creative projects — whether they're starting something new or preserving something special.

The colorful shop is an inspiration itself, with quilts and handcrafted projects adorning the walls and showcasing bags, bows, quilts, placemats and other creations. "We hope the wall samples inspire our clients creativity," Jacklin said.

For Jacklin, one of the best parts of owning the business is connecting with customers. She enjoys learning about their interests and using those conversations to determine what products and services to offer. "Talking to customers is an enjoyable experience for me," she said. "One of my goals is to provide a center for hobbyists to congregate in and to simply enjoy being here."

That welcoming atmosphere extends to her staff. Jacklin employs six people, many of whom have been with the store for years and bring experience and knowledge to the customer experience. "They are friendly and helpful," Jacklin said. "I am thrilled that they are here."

Customers can stay connected through The Crafted Scout newsletter, featuring shop updates, classes and other services at thecraftedscout.com, as well as daily updates on Facebook.

Whether you're an experienced crafter or looking for a new creative outlet, The Crafted Scout offers a place to learn, create, repair, frame and connect.

Jacklin is grateful for the community's support. "I appreciate the support," she said. "I am very thankful to the community for the kindness it has shown me. It means so much to me."

Hours: Monday thru Saturday 10am to 5pm / Closed Sunday

120 Maple St.

www.thecraftedsout.com

517-647-5430

f thecraftedscout



COMING UP
-find more events,
share your Events....
Confirm Dates / Times
miportland.org!



**DATE CHANGE DUE TO
LABOR DAY**
6pm Tues. 9/15/26
Thompson Field Pavilion

ALL ARE WELCOME
Businesses,
Organizations,
Residents, Property
Owners, Volunteers -
It's a fresh, upbeat
gathering for people
who love our
community, enjoy
brainstorming, and
are willing to share a
little time and talent.



6pm Monday 9/28/26
City Hall

JOIN us to learn about
what's happened,
what's in the works,
and what's new for the
Portland area as we
begin our planning
process for 2027

***This meeting is a bi-annual update of the DDA.**



**Friends of the
Red Mill**

Tickets are \$25 each
and **MUST BE
PURCHASED IN
ADVANCE. TICKETS
WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE
UNTIL OCTOBER 1**
(or while supplies
last).