

DOWNTOWN CENTRAL



*A publication for & about
Downtown Cheboygan.*

OCTOBER 2005

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Summer events hit the Downtown Streets...

The Downtown Cheboygan **Summer Street Fair** made its debut on July 23rd -right on Main Street - with 2,500 people attending this inaugural event.

- 30 Cheboygan area clubs and organizations provided games and activities for the Street Carnival.
- Over 1,500 “tastes” were sampled by those attending the Taste of Northern Michigan—a food sampling event provided by Cheboygan area restaurants.
- Washington Park was full of families who listened to Native American stories told by Barbara Pratt, watched Ronald McDonald work his magic, rode 4-H sponsored pony rides, and “chalked the walk” with the Cheboygan Area Arts Council.
- 11, 2-man teams took part in the Downtown Clue Hunt throughout retail businesses.
- 20 Downtown Idol contestants competed in the karaoke contest. Over 100 audience members were in attendance for the contest.



A crowd scopes out the sights and sounds of the Downtown Summer Street Fair.

The **Downtown Blues Festival** hit the Citizens National Bank Parking Lot on August 20th. Mother Nature did not deter lovers of the blues from attending this event. Almost 400 people attended the 6-hour festival which offered 4 diverse Blues bands from all over the state of Michigan. Blues festival attendees had the opportunity to purchase refreshments from Mulligans Restaurant and Stage Door Café who “set up shop” under the tent at the festival.



An energetic crowd dances to the sounds of the Flat Broke Blues Band.



Mark Arshak surprises the audience when he continues his set while standing on a table.

Special thanks to all of the sponsors, volunteers and businesses who made both of these events possible. It was a great summer in Downtown Cheboygan!

DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Farmer's Market

Saturdays thru October 29 • 8-1 pm
Opera House Parking lot • 403 N. Huron
Cheboygan grown produce is available for sale every Saturday until October 29. For more info, call the MSU Ext., (231) 627-8815.

Lynn Dinnings

“Sand & Heat = Glass 05”

October 1-26

The Gildner Gallery - 216 S. Main
(M-F) 9—5 pm • (Sat.) 9-2 pm

Don't miss Lynn Dinnings' solo glass exhibition. For more info, call (231) 627-2121.

Jungle Book

Missoula Children's Theatre

October 8 • 3:00 & 7:00 pm
The Opera House - 403 N. Huron

This production is a “must see” as it casts 60 local and area students to perform.
Admission: Adults—\$6, Children—\$3
For more info, call (231) 627-5841.

Nashville Mandolin Ensemble

October 15 • 7:30 pm

The Opera House - 403 N. Huron
Admission: Members—\$18,

Non-Members—\$21, Students—\$10
Presenting an array of mandolins, mandola, mandocello, violin, guitar and bass.
For more info, call (231) 627-5841.

Escanaba in Da' Moonlight

Dinner Theater

October 22-23

Boathouse Restaurant - 106 Pine

For a hilarious adult comedy, join the Soady clan at their hunting camp north of Escanaba, Michigan. Sponsored by the Straits Area Community Theatre and the Boathouse Restaurant. For info, call (231) 627-4316.



Flowers around Downtown...

Downtown Cheboygan was fortunate this summer to have a beautiful abundance of flowers highlighting the Downtown streets. Many thanks to the following for their dedication and commitment:

- Seedums Garden Club and Citizens National Bank for the beautiful flower baskets
- Seedums Garden Club for maintaining the many landscaped gardens throughout Downtown
- Trudy Lofgren for watering the flower baskets every day!

Because of the volunteer efforts of these individuals and groups, Downtown Cheboygan looked fantastic! Thank you for keeping Downtown Cheboygan a beautiful place to live, work and visit!

ON THE MOVE....

New Business— Mulligan's

Tony and Brenda Ingersoll purchased Pappas' Restaurant last spring and opened Mulligan's Restaurant in April with the help of General Manager, Brant Coulter.

"The Ingersoll's saw the opportunity to keep the classic staple Cheboygan Restaurant in the hands of 'Cheboyganites'. They knew Cheboygan needed a place like this," says Brant.

Brant describes Mulligan's as having a "pub feel with a golf theme. Northern Michigan is a golf mecca and we are celebrating that."

When renovating the restaurant, the team added space to the existing conference room which will hold 60 comfortably. Another hat that Brant wears in the restaurant is that of chef. Chef Brant is quick to point out that the Mulligan's menu offers a wide variety—something for everyone. Nothing is pre-cooked. Everything is made fresh to order."



*Mulligan's General Manager,
Brant Coulter*

Mulligan's Hours of Operation:

11 am to late - Mon., Wed.-Sat.

Noon to Late - Sunday

320 North Main Street
627-2459

New Business— State Street Coffee Company

Carrie Carlson has recently opened the State Street Coffee Company. "Carrie has been interested in starting a coffee shop for a few years," says sister and shop manager, Jennifer Carlson.

"Carrie worked for Kilwins on Mackinac Island during her college summers and liked making espresso. While she was completing her college education in Saginaw, she frequented coffee houses and thought Cheboygan would be a great location."

State Street Coffee Company offers specialty coffees, bulk coffee, gift items, bagels, muffins, Danish, specialty desserts, and will soon be offering soups. "We are also starting to offer custom order gift baskets," says Jennifer. "A customer can come in and tell us what type of gift basket they would like and how much they would like to spend."



**State Street Coffee Company
Hours of Operation:**

6 am to 10 pm - Monday-Saturday

8 am to 4 pm - Sunday

211 West State Street
597-9575

Renovation— Billie's

Billie Livingston recently added on to her existing retail store, Billies, allowing Billies and Billies Too (Billie's other retail venture) to be under one roof.

"The opportunity to increase our size at Billies just presented itself so I decided to have the two stores in the same location," explains Billie. "Essentially, now I have two stores in one."

Billie's features women's clothing from casual to the classy styles and also Red Hat Lady attire. "My customers travel from Petoskey, Onaway, and the Soo. Their husbands will come too and sit on my bench outside the store."

"I started my business years ago because I didn't have anywhere to buy clothing. I would go to Canada to buy my clothes and that is where it all began."



Billie Livingston

Billie's Hours of Operation:

10 am to 5 pm - Mon-Sat.

300 North Main Street
627-6177

Building Façade Improvement Grant Program...

The Cheboygan DDA is offering a grant program for reimbursement of costs associated with design of building front façade improvements in the City of Cheboygan downtown area as recommended and described in the Downtown Enhancement Study completed by the consulting firm of HyettPalma. The DDA will allocate \$4,000 each budget year (July 1—June 30) toward this grant program and money will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. The DDA will reimburse up to \$1,000 toward costs associated with design relative to building front improvement approved in conjunction with guidelines, which have been adopted by the DDA.

A building owner may apply to the DDA under the Building Façade Rehabilitation Program. The Historic Resources Commission will act as a review and recommending body and also offer technical assistance to the applicant.

Approval for the Building Façade Rehabilitation Program will be guided by the following standards:

1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.
2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be discouraged.
3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings will be discouraged.
4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old visual qualities.

The DDA may find that rehabilitation and/or restoration of a particular building façade may be undesirable. Upon this finding by the DDA, an owner may apply under the Building Front Façade Rehabilitation Program with plans that provide for features and other defining characteristics from the era of original construction of the main building.

The Downtown Development Authority shall review the plans of the applicant and recommendation of the Historic Resources Commission before considering approval or disapproval of an application under the DDA Building Façade Rehabilitation Program.

Please contact Scott McNeil, City Manager/DDA Director, 627-9931, with questions or inquiries with regard to the Building Façade Rehabilitation Program.

Citizens National Bank offers Loan Program...

Citizens National Bank has a "Storefront Improvement Loan Program" in place for building owners within the jurisdiction of the Cheboygan Downtown Development Authority.

To qualify for a loan, the following conditions apply:

- The storefront to be improved must be in existence. The program is not intended for construction of new buildings.
- The storefront must be within the boundaries of the Cheboygan DDA.
- The DDA must approve the written plans for the improvement.
- The borrower must meet the bank's normal credit granting criteria.

The terms of the loan are as follows:

- Interest Rate is 1% under Wall Street Journal prime. Currently prime is 6.25%. Rate will be adjusted as prime changes.
- Maturity is fifteen years. Refinancing is not available.
- Collateral is the mortgage on the storefront real estate.
- Maximum amount is \$50,000.
- Repayment will be monthly principle and interest adjusted annually to reflect past year's rate changes.

CNB has committed \$250,000 for this loan program. Upon certification by the DDA that a project funded by CNB is complete, the borrower will receive a rebate of 5% of the principal loan amount up to \$2,500. To inquire about this loan program, please call Doug Damm, Jeff Schmidt or Marian Harrison at 627-7111.



Cheboygan is a Cool City Blueprint Community...

Cheboygan is one of 32 Michigan Cool City communities! Governor Jennifer Granholm announced that those communities who fell under the Blueprints for Michigan's Downtowns category would now be eligible to be a part of the Michigan Cool Cities initiative.

The 'cool' designation gives the communities access to additional marketing tools to promote revitalization efforts in their downtowns and adjacent neighborhoods. The City of Cheboygan received the grant to participate in the Blueprints for Michigan Downtowns program in 2003. The funding, along with a matching dollar amount of \$15,000 from the DDA, permitted Hyett-Palma, a national downtown consulting firm, to formulate a downtown economic development action plan.

Cheboygan will be receiving signs depicting the Cool City Neighborhood logo to display throughout the city.



Ottawa Park Update...

The once vacant space, which used to house the former Ottawa Hotel, is now taking shape in the form of an art park, officially known as Ottawa Park. This effort, thanks to the many volunteers and city work crews have been making progress throughout the summer and into this fall. Accomplishments to date include: planting of an arbor vitae hedge, installing electricity and an irrigation system, installing a limestone wall along the park's southern perimeter, laying sod and planting five Crimson King Maples into the berm. Additionally, over 400 porcelain tiles were created during the summer by people of all ages, who joined the workshops taking place in the Art Shack located within the park. Many of these tiles have already been fused into the mosaic patterns which will be installed at the park entryways and around the main centerpiece sculpture.



Currently, there is a temporary piece of sculpture installed, on loan from artist, Brian Ferriby. This sculpture depicts a topographical view of Lake Superior and will reside in Ottawa Park while Brian works on our permanent piece, "Lake Huron." In order to create his twelve foot, three dimensional, topographical sculpture of Lake Huron, Brian will use navigational depth charts as his resource for dimensions. When completed, "Lake Huron" will replace "Lake Superior" as the centerpiece of Ottawa Park.

Giant steel arches will soon be installed on the berm between each of the five Crimson Maples. These arches will serve as the frames for the mural canvasses—five of which are finished and ready to hang. Artist in Residence, Molly Jo Noland, is still accepting sketches and drawings for more murals and will continue to do so all winter. The murals are actually painted canvasses, 4' x 4', and will be changed periodically. Entry forms for sketches are available through the Cheboygan Area Arts Council office, the Gildner Gallery and the Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce.

To become involved with this community project, please watch the Local Notes section of the Cheboygan Daily Tribune for announcements regarding upcoming activities relating to Ottawa Park, or call the Cheboygan Area Arts Council office at (231) 627-5432.

Citizens National Bank hosts Churchill Classic....



Rain doesn't delay racers in the first-ever Citizens National Bank Churchill Classic held on August 20th. Racers ran throughout the city and crossed the finish line at Gordon Turner Park. All proceeds from this event were donated to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life fundraiser. The Churchill Classic was organized to honor the life of Robert Churchill, former CNB President and an avid runner.

On the Web...

Check out the following Downtown businesses who are on the 'information super-highway!'

Adena's - www.adenas.com

BKC Insurance - www.bkcinsurance.com

Billies - www.billiesfashions.com

Cheboygan Area Chamber of Commerce - www.cheboygan.com

Cheboygan Opera House - www.theoperahouse.org

Cheboygan Title Company - www.cheboygantitle.com

Cheboygan Daily Tribune - www.cheboygannews.com

Citizens National Bank - www.cnbismybank.com

City of Cheboygan - www.cheboygan.org

Comics North! - www.comicsnorth.CJB.net

Edward Jones - www.edwardjones.com

Elliott & Sangster PC - www.elliott-sangster.com

First Community Bank - www.firstcb.com

Frank's Party Supply - www.frankspartysupply.com

Greenridge Realty North Group
www.greenridge.com • www.upnorthpropertyforsale.com

Robert Merrick, OD - www.drmerriick.com

National City Bank - www.national-city.com

Reusch Jewelers - www.reuschjewelers.com

Straits Area Federal Credit Union - www.mi-safcu.org

Straits Area Star - www.21stcenturynewspapers.com

Town & Country Mortgage - www.tncmortgage.com

United States Postal Service - www.usps.com

Wicks & Pics - www.wicksandpics.net

Williams Office Equipment - www.williamsofficeequipment.com

If your business has a website and you would like it to be included in the next issue of *Downtown Central*, please email the web address to: kguenther@cheboygan.org

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(Ex-Officio)

Michael Grisdale
Cheboygan Area Chamber
of Commerce (Ex-Officio)

The Cheboygan DDA meets the **first Tuesday** of each month at **6:00 pm** in **City Hall, 403 N. Huron Street.**

Meetings are open to the public.

DOWNTOWN CENTRAL



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Downtown Central is a quarterly publication of the Downtown Development Authority and the City of Cheboygan.

Calendar and newsletter information are welcomed from Downtown Cheboygan businesses for inclusion in upcoming issues of *Downtown Central*. To submit an item or for more information, please call or email Kirsten Guenther:

(231) 627-9931

kguenther@cheboygan.org