



# Muskegon Main Street News

News and events from Muskegon Main Street

<http://downtownmuskegon.org>

Where Muskegon Comes Alive!

## Downtown Events

- Jan 17 - Heavens Above - Muskegon Museum of Art
- Jan 19 – Muskegon Bridal Association Bridal Show - Frauenthal Center
- Jan 27 – Black Mountain Chorus of Whales - Frauenthal Center
- Jan 30 - Coffee House Party - Hackley Library
- Jan 30 – Harlem Globetrotters - LC Walker Arena
- Jan 30 – Muskegon Film Fest– Frauenthal Center
- Feb 3 – Contemporary Troubadours - Muskegon County Museum
- Feb 9 - WSSO: Brahms Symphony no. - Frauenthal Center
- Feb 11 - Jesus Christ Super Star - Frauenthal
- Feb 21 - Death Trap - Frauenthal Center
- Mar 14 - St. Patrick's Irish Fest - WaterMark Center

## Muskegon Main Street Board

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## Tax Break to Spur Construction of Highpoint Flats

HighPoint Flats was the first residential project in the State of Michigan to have its Renaissance Zone status extended, allowing new condo owners to benefit from tax savings through 2023. The project is part rehabilitation, part new development and includes 43 condos and street-level commercial spaces. HighPoint Flats includes the former 8-story Hackley National Bank building, built in 1919, and two adjacent vacant lots.

Developer Jon Rooks recently unveiled architectural renderings of the project, which will offer views of Lake Michigan, Muskegon Lake, and the Muskegon cityscape. With the plans and Renaissance Zone extension in place plans are to break ground in 2008.



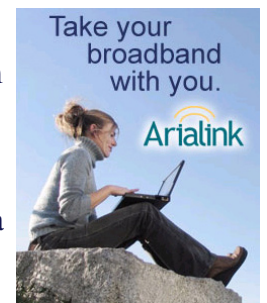
## Holiday Film Fest welcomes Families Downtown

In its fifth year, the Main Street Holiday Movie Festival continued to bring Holiday cheer downtown Muskegon. Held at the Frauenthal Theater on the wintery weekend of December 22 and 23, Santa Claus 3 was the big hit drawing the largest crowd. Immediately following the show many stayed to have their picture taken with Santa, or to check out a model train exhibit of the Polar Express put on by the Muskegon Railroad Historical Society. Thanks to the sponsors of the Festival, without whose help the event would not be possible. The title sponsor was Sappi Fine Paper, media sponsor was GNS Subway and film sponsors Consumers Energy, ManPower, the Topsy Toad, Parmenter O'Toole, Waterstone Insurance, and GVSU Annis Water. In addition thanks to the staff of the Frauenthal for their help with this community event.



## Downtown Wireless Unveiled

Muskegon Main Street, thanks to funding through the State of Michigan Cool Cities program, as well as through support from local sponsors including the Community Foundation for Muskegon County, has unveiled a downtown Muskegon wireless Internet service that makes free hot spot Internet services available throughout downtown Muskegon. Meant as a pedestrian amenity, particularly visitors to downtown parks, and outdoor seating area will be able to take advantage of the new service installed as part of a contract with Arialink Broadband.



## Jilly's Gallery Opens Downtown Muskegon

Jill Barnes, an established regional artist, has moved her gallery downtown Muskegon and is open at 471 W. Western. She is leasing space from the County Museum that previously housed the Museum Mercantile, next to Sun, Wind and Rain. Jilly's Gallery features clay, glass, jewelry, and creations from driftwood that are all original and are tied together with a whimsical theme. After opening in mid-November, Jill held a successful "Reopening Celebration" December 8. Jill is excited about the future of downtown Muskegon and states, "The potential is unlimited. I hope to see more public sculptures to interact with, and more galleries and a variety of artists are a necessity". Join Main Street in welcoming Jill with a stop by her gallery.



## Downtown Master Planning on Tap

The last formal planning undertaken by the City of Muskegon was in 1997 when a Master Plan was adopted along with a Downtown and Lakeshore Redevelopment Plan. Then in 2002 the community visioning process "Imagine Muskegon" took place focusing on the downtown area. With so much having been accomplished since 2002 and with an eye to influencing the next round of development, the City of Muskegon has engaged Williams & Works, to complete a Downtown Master Plan update. The result will include a summary of current conditions and will be graphical, intended to guide the City with strategies for implementation. Narrative and a land use map will inform all of the plan's intent. To be involved in the process attend a the community charettes planned for January 30 and 31 at the Hilt building. For full details visit the city's website at <http://shorelinecity.com>



## Construction continues at Third and Western

While the weather outside was, and will continue to be, frightful, work on building a new downtown Muskegon is ongoing. The Hines Building, which will house the Chamber of Commerce, continues to progress quickly and is still on schedule for occupants to move in late June, or early July. The Sidock building will follow quickly afterward and will be available for occupancy late this summer. Work at the corner will move to the next level in March when Baker College breaks ground on their Culinary School, set to open September 2009. Also headed for a possible 08 ground breaking is a County of Muskegon transit facility that will include a multilevel parking deck.



## Main Street Business Members

297 Clay Condominium Association  
 American Red Cross  
 Anesthesia Associates of Muskegon  
 Annis Water Resources Institute  
 Bosma Architects  
 The Cheese Lady  
 City Cafe  
 Clay Avenue Station  
 Creative Benefit Systems, Inc.  
 Details & Design  
 Drs. Gundersen & Zuker  
 Frauenthal Center for the Performing Arts  
 Glamazon Artistic Hair Culture  
 Drs. Gundersen & Zuker  
 Hackley Public Library  
 Hair-itage Salon & Day Spa  
 HGA Non-Profit Homes, Inc  
 Hooker DeJong Architects & Engineers  
 Huntington Bank  
 Jerviss-Fethke Insurance  
 Jilly's Gallery  
 Missing Piece Design Clay Studio  
 Muskegon Construction Company  
 Muskegon Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 Muskegon County Museum  
 Muskegon Heritage Association  
 Muskegon Museum of Art  
 Muskegon Post Office  
 Muskegon Railroad Historical Society  
 Muskegon Summer Celebration  
 National City Bank  
 Port City Construction and Development- Services  
 Port City Princess  
 Radiology Muskegon  
 Sun, Wind & Rain  
 True North Architecture, P.C.  
 United Way of the Lakeshore  
 US 31 BBQ  
 Waddell & Reed  
 Waterstone Insurance Agency  
 Weber Lumber Co.  
 West Michigan Dock & Market  
 Westshore Symohony Orchestra

## Main Street Benefactors

Muskegon Area First  
 ADAC Automotive  
 Consumers Energy  
 Sidock Group  
 Community Foundation for  
 Muskegon County  
 City of Muskegon  
 Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce

Muskegon Main Street is a non-profit organization, administered by Muskegon Area First, and supported by the above businesses/organizations. To learn how you can support Main Street visit [downtownmuskegon.org](http://downtownmuskegon.org)