

The Daily Tribune (dailytribune.com), Serving Southeastern Oakland County

Localnews

Clawson to bid farewell to summer

Monday, September 8, 2008 3:00 AM EDT

CLAWSON - The Clawson Downtown Development Authority is holding what members call the last local shindig of the summer.

Residents are invited to the DDA's Block Party event planned from 3-7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 on the northwest corner of 14 Mile and Main Street. The block party extends from Pizza Hut's back parking lot to Leon & Lulu at 96 W. 14 Mile Road.

The event features live entertainment by group Travistock, children's games and food tastings from Clawson's restaurants, including hot dogs, kielbasa and Italian sausage from the Clawson Grill; a pork barbecue meal from Royal Kubo; pizza from Pizza Hut; and sweet and sour chicken from Lim's Palace, among other restaurant offerings.

Joan Horton, DDA secretary, said she approached downtown eateries before she went forward with event organization.

"The response was wonderful," she said. "I had restaurants say right away, 'Absolutely.'"

Partiers can purchase tickets for \$1 each towards the price of food.

Horton said that the idea of the block party evolved from DDA members brainstorming ways of promoting businesses while giving the public a good time.

"We started thinking about a chili cook-off, but that seemed kind of limiting," she said. "Then it became an end of summer barbecue."

Finally, the members decided on calling the event Block Party.

Kids can have fun on two large inflatable playscapes, including a moon walk and obstacle course. Adults can get in on the fun with their own inflatable called, "Bungee Run." The inflatable is set up like a two lane bowling alley. Adults are hitched up to a bungee cord at the back of the inflatable and then see who can run farthest before being yanked back by the bungee cord.

For a small cost, adults and kids alike can also try their hand at the dunk tank, featuring the chance to dunk City Manager Rich Haberman, Mayor Penny Luebs or one of the Clawson police officers. Ticket revenue collected from dunking a police officer goes to fund the department's police liaison officer program.

Adults can take part in a beer tasting, with beer provided by Black Lotus Brewery and can bid on cakes provided by businesses and residents.

Mary Liz Curtin, co-owner of Leon & Lulu and DDA president, said she'll be serving popcorn and coffee for participants and will

provide restrooms. Curtin mentioned that the DDA's movie night earlier in the summer was a great success and believes it can be duplicated with the block party.

"It's just a good reason for people to come down," she said. "We are trying to bring attention to downtown Clawson and doing things to entertain our neighbors and promote our businesses. This is a close-knit community."

For information about the Clawson DDA, visit the city Web site at www.cityofclawson.com or call Horton at (248) 583-9750.

Contact Elizabeth A. Katz at elizabeth.katz@dailytribune.com or (248) 591-2521.

URL: <http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2008/09/08/localnews/20080908-archive7.prt>

© 2009 dailytribune.com, a **Journal Register** Property