

## **Friday Fest continues with record crowds!**

Panama City, FL – The Downtown Improvement Board will host the fourth in the 2008 series of its newest signature event, “Friday Fest”, on **June 6, 2008**. “Friday Fest” will be held the first Friday of each month from March through November and promises to offer unique retail booths, great food, extended store hours, classic and low rider car displays, children’s activities, and best of all, family friendly live bands that will have mom, dad, the kids and grandparents shaking their tail feathers to the beat on the street. The hub of activity will take place in the 200, 300, 400 and 500 blocks of Harrison Avenue, which will be closed to vehicular traffic. FIVE stages will be set up, one at the intersection of Harrison and 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Harrison and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the Gateway Park and beside Maddie’s and Cassandra’s.

“This will be the FOURTH “Friday Fest” of 2008 and we have made some changes such as extending the hours, location and months” “We are very excited about this event which will kick off a great weekend of events in Panama City,” states Dutch Sanger, Director. “2007 will be an active year for the historic downtown districts as the DIB has increased its event schedule to include more signature events,” comments Sanger.

June’s “Friday Fest” will get the community ready for the dog days of summer with the sounds of “Herd of Turtles,” “The Jokers,” “AOM,” “Grass Cutters,” “Side Show” and “Margo Anderson.” The retail booths open at 5:30pm and the music starts at 6pm, but you may want to arrive early as thousands are expected to enjoy this free open-air concert.

“The merchants are looking forward to the “Friday Fest” event line-up and extending store hours after the success of last year’s “Friday Fest.” “The community has really rallied behind this community oriented event,” comments Sanger. “It’s a free fun thing to do for the whole family on a Friday night. You can have dinner together at any number of restaurants or food booths, dance the calories away, and shop for that perfect unique gift, new outfit or piece of jewelry all at the same time.”

For more information, please contact Dutch Sanger at 785-2554.