



# Naturally Connected

## Welcome Summer!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



- Calling all rising 7th -12th grade Albion students, if you want to get active in the Albion community through granting making and volunteerism, reach out to [albionyac@gmail.com](mailto:albionyac@gmail.com)!



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Celebrate the 4th of July with the annual community firework July 3rd over the river by Riverside Cemetery.



### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 15th Juneteenth Gospel Fest 5PM - 7PM in Holland Park - Bonner Pavilion. All Gospel choirs, praise teams, dancers, mimers, rappers, poets, etc are welcome. Register by Wednesday June 5, (517) 894-5441
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum is hiring for a new position - Floor Staff Lead
- Difference Makers Summer Program start June 10th thru August 2nd, Monday - Thursday 9AM - 2:30PM, registration required. Contact Mrs. Nora Jackson at [d.m.2019difference makers@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.2019difference makers@gmail.com) or call (810)-545-7045
- Free "The Albion Community Cookbook" provided by the Albion Community Gardens available for pick up at the Albion District Library
- Kids Free Film Series at the Bohm Kick off June 26th

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



- City Hall summer hours until September 2nd: Monday thru Thursday 7AM - 5PM, Friday 8AM - 12PM
- Enjoy the McIntosh Splash Pad all summer long. Open daily 10AM - 8PM through September
- Annual Juneteenth Celebrating Freedom Event will be Saturday, June 15th in Holland Park 11AM - 7PM.
- 2024 Residential Clean-Up Saturday June 29th 9AM - 3PM, disposal location at Ketchum Field and Harris Field

### ANNOUNCEMENTS #CASTER Cares

- INNOVATE Albion's summer classes start June 10th, visit [innovatealbion.org](http://innovatealbion.org) to register.
- Swingin' at the Shell's summer concert series line up is available at [swinginattshells.com](http://swinginattshells.com).



Photo by Steve Ferency, BrickStreet Marketing



# Creating A Safe Space Albion's Rainbow Connection



Albion Rainbow Connection (ARC) was founded in 2012 by a few passionate Albion College students who found a gap in the Albion community when it came to LGBTQIA+ representation. It was needed to build a “safe space in places, minds, and hearts”\* for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and expanding identities (LGBTQIA+).

This overarching goal of creating a safe space in Albion for the LGBTQIA+ community is to provide support and safety to all members of the community. ARC is here to share with the whole Albion community that everyone should be accepted and welcomed, and that holds true with the group too. Anyone is welcome to be a part of ARC whether you are in the LGBTQIA+ community or an ally.

Since its formation, Salem United Church of Christ, an Open and Affirming church, has graciously been the hosting location for all meetings, potlucks, and other events. Over the years, ARC has gained visibility through participation in countless community events like the Festival of the Forks and Albion's Big Read Parade. In 2015 ARC helped Albion City Council write a non-discrimination ordinance to protect sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression rights in the Albion community. This ordinance passed unanimously.

Now ARC is in the rebuilding phase as Covid-19 and the changing Albion population has affected the membership of ARC. If you are interested in joining, ARC meets at 6:30PM on the 2nd Monday of every month, at Salem UCC. If you are interested in staying connected with ARC via Facebook requests can be made to their private Facebook page “Albion Rainbow Connection” by connecting with Janice Best or Loree Grinnell. You can also message them through the “Equality Albion” Facebook group. ARC is currently gearing up to host Albion Pride 2024 in October. This event will celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community while allowing college students to participate who may not be able to go to Pride events in other communities.



## Albion Rainbow Connection Mission Statements\*\*

- We strive to create safe spaces for Gender and Sexual Minorities (GSM) and their allies in physical locations throughout the city of Albion.
- We strive to educate ourselves, our community, and our city about issues relevant to the GSM community and its intersections with race, ethnicity, belief system, national origin, ability, age, and socioeconomic status.
- We strive to promote care and respect for our city, our community, our peers, and ourselves.

\*ARC's slogan \*\*Provided by Janice Best.



# Water System Improvement Project



The City of Albion has been awarded \$12,258,999 through EGLE's Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) for the Water System Improvement Project. The City will apply to the USDA-RD for the remaining \$6,942,000, for a total project cost of \$19,200,000. The project includes the construction of a new 1-million-gallon water tower located on the east side of town in the 425 property, transmission main, water main replacement, upgrades to the Water Treatment Facility, and lead service line replacement. Where water main replacement occurs, the awarded water funding typically includes one lane of roadway replacement. The City will leverage Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) bonding to cover the other half of the roadway for complete road replacement. The project is slated to begin in Fall 2024, with an anticipated June 2026 completion date.



## Light up the Night with Albion's Annual Fireworks!

A big part of what the Greater Albion Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau plans is the annual Fourth of July fireworks. Through lots of fundraising and community work, we are able to continue to light up the night, annually, July 3rd.

This year our goal is \$18,000, and we can not reach this without your support. If you are interested in helping continue the firework tradition cash and check donations can be sent to P.O. Box 238, Albion, MI 49224 and include on the Memo: Fireworks. You can also stop by our office at 403 S Superior St, downtown Albion!

## 14th Annual Father & Son Cookout Saturday, June 8th 10AM - 6PM



Come celebrate connection and community togetherness at the 14th Annual Father & Son Cookout in Victory Park. Greg Gant first started the event in 2011 with a vision of building relationships between young men and father-like-figures. It is a chance to build connections, play games, and enjoy great food.

Although the event is "Father & Son", it is open to all youth and adult role models. All are welcome!



# Celebrating Our Newest Chamber Members!

The Greater Albion Area Chamber of Commerce has had quite a few new members over the last few months, here's a bit of information about each new member! For more information on GACC members, visit the Business Directory at [greateralbionchamber.org](http://greateralbionchamber.org).

**Calhoun County Democratic Party** is "committed to fighting for progress and creating connections within our community", focusing on advocacy for families, seniors, students, and veterans.

**Galazio Restaurant of Albion** has been serving up authentic Greek cuisine in the heart of Albion since 2022. Open Tues-Sat.

**Hillside Daycare LLC** is an at home daycare located in the community of Albion.



**Milk Like Mine Community Birthing and Lactation Services** provide services like free childbirth education and birth services. Milk Like Mine is collaborating with the Calhoun County Public Health Department, located at 115 Market Place open Mon/Wed 1PM - 4PM.



**NAACP of Albion** "is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination." [albionnaacp.org](http://albionnaacp.org)



**Pure Albion** is all things Albion! From Albion College gear to local artisans, Pure Albion has a wide range of products perfect to show off your Albion pride. [purealbion.com](http://purealbion.com)



**Sturgis Bank** offers full banking services, investments, insurance and title services. At Sturgis Bank, "a community is more than a location; it's our heart and soul."



**Viking Warrior Axe Throwing Co.** provides fun and local entertainment. Get hands on with axe throwing as you compete with your family, friends, or coworkers. Open Thur-Sun. [vikingwarrioraxethrowing.com](http://vikingwarrioraxethrowing.com)



Enjoy pop-up live music  
**Fête de la Musique**  
 Friday, June 21st 5PM - 9PM Downtown Albion

Get downtown Albion on June 21st for the global celebration of Fête de la Musique ("Music Day", "Make Music Day", "World Music Day")! Come and listen to professionals, amateurs, and beginners of all types of music. Or get involved! It is free to join in and play. All are encouraged to share your musical talents, whether you are a professional or just starting out.



Sign up to participate using the QR code.





# Take a Lunch Break with Lunch at the Lloyd



Take a much needed lunch bring this June with Lunch at the Lloyd. Every Wednesday from noon to 1PM in June come to Lloyd Park on Cass St downtown Albion, to enjoy FREE live music, courtesy of Swingin' at the Shell.

Performers include B.U. & Blue, Owen McDaniel, Debra Lynn, and Steve Berkemeier.

Dennis Reid will be serving up fresh hot dogs to purchase. The Foundry Bakehouse & Deli will have a limited supply of boxed lunches for \$10, cash only.

Follow Swingin' at the Shell's Facebook page for more details.

Think Music, Think Albion!  
TM

# Enjoy Fresh Produce & Local Goods

Albion Farmer's Market



It's that time of year to start exploring the Albion Farmer's Market! Enjoy locally grown produce and handcrafted artisan goods in the heart of downtown Albion. Every Wednesday until the end of September, Stoffer Plaza is going to be bustling with food vendors, locally crafted breads, yummy desserts, and so much more.



Experience a vibrant community hub where local farmers and artisans gather to sell fresh produce, homemade goods, and crafts. So, as you are making your weekly dinner plans or needing a few produce items, consider supporting local at the Albion Farmer's Market.

Visit the market in Stoffer Plaza, 211 Market Pl, every Wednesday from 4PM - 7PM.



*Congratulations*



# Gwendolyn Bulko & Locke Maddux

2024 Scholarship Recipients



The Health Service League of Albion Scholarship was established to support high school seniors residing in Albion, Homer, Concord or Springport seeking education in a non-administrative role in a health-related field. Careers such as careers nurses, doctors, x-ray techs, etc. Since 2003, this scholarship has awarded over 40 recipients with over \$45,000 supporting young minds in the pursuit of furthering their education in the health field.

This year's recipients are Gwendolyn Bulko and Locke Maddux!

Gwendolyn is graduating from Concord High School and will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall. Her field of study is neuropsychology.

Muddux is graduating from Springport High School and will be attending Lawrence Tech University, pursuing nursing.

Congratulations to you both! And to all of our 2024 High School Graduates!



## McIntosh Park Phase II Project



The City of Albion was awarded a \$1,000,000 Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) SPARK grant to fund the McIntosh Park Phase II Project. The project will include the construction of a second parking lot, a walking path around the perimeter of the park, lighting, landscaping, and other park amenities. Quality Excavators Inc. has been awarded the project. The project is slated to begin in July 2024 and is anticipated to be completed in the fall.



# Spend the Weekend in Albion!

June 28th - 29th



Get ready to immerse yourself in the lively spirit of Albion, the weekend of June 28th and 29th with an abundance of exciting events. From captivating cultural festivals to thrilling outdoor adventures, Albion is set to captivate visitors with a diverse array of activities. Whether you're an art buff, a car enthusiast, or simply seeking a weekend filled with fun and entertainment, Albion has you covered. Join us as we embark on a journey through this vibrant community, where every corner holds the promise of adventure and discovery.

## Art Under the Tower

Crowell Park

28th 3PM - 8PM & 29th 10AM - 3PM



Explore a diverse showcase of art in multiple medias. Discover unique crafts and homemade items for sale. Enjoy delicious offerings from food trucks and relax at picnic tables in a picturesque setting. Easy access parking will be available.

## History Hustle

Corner of Ash & Superior Streets

28th 6:30PM



Photo by Steve Ferency, BrickStreet Marketing

Dive into Albion's history through Run Albion's 5K race. As you run (or walk) through the course, you'll see more and more of Albion's past.

Register online at [runalbion.com](http://runalbion.com).

## Red, White, Blue Cruise-In Car Show

Downtown Albion - Superior St

28th 4PM -8PM



Stroll down the iconic brick road and view classic cars. This annual event brings everyone together on the warm summer evening to enjoy cars and delicious foods. And don't forget to cruise-in to the local businesses.

## Black Squirrel Bluegrass & Americana Music Festival

Albion Malleable Brewing Co. - Superior St

29th 12PM - 9PM



Enjoy live Bluegrass and Americana music downtown Albion for the 3rd annual Black Squirrel Music Festival. With performers from Michigan and across the country, you'll surely have a night to remember.



# Stay Involved!



## June

**1st:** 1PM Blues Workshop at Dickerson Music Co.  
4PM Albion Quality of Life Town Hall at Ludington Center

**3rd:** 7PM Blues at the Bohm with Denise Davis and the Motor City Sensations

**4th:** 6PM Video Games at Albion District Library

**5th:** 11AM Ocean Explorers at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
1PM Dino Dig & Adventure at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum

**8th:** 9AM - 5PM Vitalizing the Village Symposium at the Marshall Opportunity High School  
10AM - 1PM Father's Day Fundraiser at Tractor Supply Co. for Friends of Albion's Animals

**12th:** 11AM Father's Day Craft at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
1PM Ocean Explorers at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum

**13th:** 6:30PM Jimmy Buffett Tribute at Duck Lake Tavern

**15th:** 11AM - 4PM Juneteenth: Celebrating Freedom in Holland Park  
5PM - 7PM Juneteenth: Gospel Fest in Holland Park

**19th:** 11AM Dino Dig & Adventure at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
1PM Little Pirate Treasure Hunt at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum

**21st:** 5PM - 9:30PM Fête de la Musique downtown Albion

**22nd:** 9AM Member Mornings: Fly a Kite at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum

**25th:** 6PM - 7PM Graphic Novel Book Club at Albion District Library

**26th:** 11AM Little Pirate Treasure Hunt at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
1PM World Travel - Europe at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
Kids Free Film Kick off at the Bohm Theatre

**28th:** 3PM - 8PM Art Under the Tower  
4PM - 8PM Red, White, & Blue Cruise in Car Show Downtown Albion  
6:30PM History Hustle 5K Run Albion Race

**29th:** 9AM - 3PM Residential Clean-Up, drop off locations at Harris/Ketchum Fields  
10AM - 3PM Art Under the Tower  
10AM - 12PM Health and Safety Expo at Albion Community Ambulance  
12PM Black Squirrel Bluegrass & Americana Music Festival at Albion Malleable Brewing Co.  
1PM Blues Workshop at Dickerson Music Co.

## Extended Events

**June 17th - 20th:** Camp Med, Brit Vets, & Taking the Lead - Business Camp at Albion College

**June 27th, July 18th, August 8th:** 6PM - 8PM Family Summer Games at Caring Community Church

## July

**1st:** 7PM Blues at the Bohm with Tony Thompson & Friends

**3rd:** Dusk Albion's Annual Fireworks - across the river - Riverside Cemetery

**2nd:** 6PM Video Games at Albion District Library

**6th:** 9AM Member Mornings: Firework Art at Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum  
11AM Kids Free Film: "Spider-Man Across the Spider-verse" at the Bohm Theatre

**13th:** 11AM Kids Free Film: "Trolls Band Together" at the Bohm Theatre

**20th:** 11AM Kids Free Film: "Monster Trucks" at the Bohm Theatre

**21st:** 6PM Who Dat? Blues Band at Swingin' at the Shell in Victory Park

**23rd:** 6PM - 7PM Graphic Novel Book Club at Albion District Library

**25th:** 4PM - 8PM Walk-In Sports Physical Clinic at Oaklawn Express Care

**27th:** 11AM Kids Free Film: "The Bad Guys" at the Bohm Theatre  
12PM Ukulele Class - Beginner at Dickerson Music Co.  
1:30PM Ukulele Class - Advanced at Dickerson Music Co.

**28th:** 6PM Old Days (A Chicago Tribute Band) at Swingin' at the Shell in Victory Park

## Recurring Events

**Mondays:** 6:30PM Music Bingo at Duck Lake Tavern

**Tuesdays:** 9AM Walk & Talk\* at Marshall Opportunity High School (MOHS) Gym  
9:30AM Silverstars\* (low impact workout) at MOHS  
6:15PM Water Aerobics\* at MOHS

**Wednesdays:** 12PM - 1PM Lunch at the Lloyd with Live Music - all of June  
12PM - 1PM Brown Bag Documentary Series at Albion District Library  
6PM Cardio Drum\* at MOHS

**Thursdays:** 6:15PM Water Aerobics\* at MOHS

**Fridays:** 9AM Walk & Talk\* at Marshall Opportunity High School (MOHS) Gym  
9:30AM Silverstars\* (low impact workout) at MOHS  
7PM Hip Hop Line Dance\* at MOHS

**Saturdays:** 11AM Group Boxing\* at MOHS

**Sundays:** 6PM Starting July 21st Swingin' at the Shell Concerts in Victory Park

City Council meetings occur the first and third Mondays of the month at 7PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall

