

# Naturally Connected

June 2025

## Albion's Annual Juneteenth Celebration

### “Learning about what was can help improve our present” – Councilwoman and Juneteenth Organizer, Lenn Reid

Juneteenth, or Emancipation Day, holds great significance in American history as it commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It memorializes the time in 1856 when the last enslaved people in Galveston, Texas received word of the Emancipation Proclamation and therefore, their freedom. Now, more than ever, it is important that we share, reflect, and understand our nation's history.

In 2005, the state of Michigan declared the third Saturday of June the state recognized Juneteenth National Freedom Day.

Albion's Juneteenth celebration began in 2006 when Carrie Anderson organized a celebration in her home. Anderson was originally from Texas and wanted to share her celebration with more of the community. Over the years, the celebration grew into an event that spanned from McAuliffe to Holland Park.



Although Anderson has since past, her legacy of Juneteenth celebrations continues with the hard work of community leaders such as Councilwoman Lenn Reid.

This year, the celebration begins at 6PM Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Harris Field with a free baseball game – the Playright Sports Academy youth team will be playing two baseball games, one against the Battle Creek Tigers and the other against the Battle Creek Black Soxes. This community event is free to attend with concessions available for purchase.

The celebration continues at 11AM on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> in Holland Park. Reflection, entertainment, and food will be available in the park with a community reflection beginning at 11AM in the Dr. Harry Bonner Pavilion. Afterwards, explore the numerous vendors in the park ranging from community organizations to local artisans and food trucks. The Calhoun County Health Department will be there to provide health screens and access. Live music will begin at 1PM and continue with the annual Gospel Fest starting at 4PM. All are encouraged to attend.



## Color Our World with Albion District Library this Summer!

Summer is here and that means ADL's annual summer reading challenge is too! It's kicking off on June 7<sup>th</sup>, get ready to read to win. Available for all ages, the true purpose of a summer reading challenge is to help prevent the “summer slide” that can occur for grade school students, keeping students actively reading through the summer allows for an easier and confident start to the school year.

### How Does It Work?

The Summer Reading Challenge is simple, sign-up, read, track, enter to win! Sign-up online at ReadSquared or download the app, or sign-up in-person at the library. Then, whether it's chapter books, graphic novels, audio books, magazines, or other forms of reading, each minute you spend from June 7<sup>th</sup> – July 19<sup>th</sup> is trackable online at ReadSquared or with a paper log from the library. From there, the milestones of time read allow you to enter to win prizes! Prizes are available at every age range.

Head of Public Services, Andy Myers, emphasized that the goal of a summer reading challenge is to “create positive reading experiences”.

### Color Our World

This year's theme is “Color Our World” with exciting coordinating programs. Expect a brightly decorated library and colored themed everything! Some programs the staff is really excited for includes the “Bluey” Party on June 12<sup>th</sup>, A Tie-Dye Workshop featuring Mercurial Threads on June 15<sup>th</sup>, Wool Dying Workshop on July 10<sup>th</sup>, and so much more! A full calendar of events is available at the library and included in the community calendar.

ADL's Summer Reading Challenge and coordinating programs are free and open to the public. No library card required. Some events do require a signup.

Summer Reading Challenge runs from June 7<sup>th</sup> - July 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Albion Youth Summer Programs Starting in June!

### DIFFERENCE MAKERS

#### Summer Program

Grades 3rd - 12th

Rooted in respect, resilience, and responsibility, Difference Makers focus on classes in math and reading, and provide extracurricular opportunities like swimming.

Summer program begins June 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Mondays - Thursdays: 9AM - 2:30PM  
Registration Required. Contact  
d.m.2019differencemakers@gmail.com or use the QR code.





## INNOVATE ALBION

*Lego Challenge, Kids Who Code, Drone Adventures, Intro to CAD*

*Grades K - 12th*

Immerse your student in hands-on STEM experiences with some tried-and-true classes to prepare them to join a FIRST Robotics team, or get adventurous with some of our new classes, like Drone Adventures and 3D Video Game Design.

Week long camps start June 9<sup>th</sup>.

9AM - 12PM and 1PM - 4PM

For more details about each camp visit [innovatealbion.org](http://innovatealbion.org).

*Registration Required*



**INNOVATE  
Albion**

## KIDS 'N' STUFF CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

*Art at the Museum*

*Family Experience (Pre-K - 4th Grade)*

*[Adult supervision required]*

Join Miss Rebecca, a certified elementary art educator, to explore a new art-making technique each week at the museum.

Thursdays: 10AM - 11AM

Pre-registration not required but strongly encouraged. \$15 per participant (museum admission not required, membership discount available)

*Summer Staycation*

*Family Experience (Pre-K - 4th Grade)*

*[Adult supervision required]*

From live animals to live theater - each program allows families to explore and engage with new skills and new ideas together!

Fridays: 10AM - 12AM



**Kids 'N' Stuff  
children's museum**

## PLAY RIGHT SPORTS ACADEMY

*Summer Sports Camp Academy*

*Grades K - 12<sup>th</sup>*

Get active with Play Right Sports Academy this summer with daily sports camp focuses on basketball, tennis, volleyball, golf, pickleball, and swimming experiences, as well as enrichment activities with art and field trips!

Summer program begins June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mondays - Thursdays:

K - 5<sup>th</sup> : 9AM - 2PM 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> : 4PM - 8PM

Transportation available.

*Registration Required.*



**PLAY RIGHT  
SPORTS ACADEMY**

## Art Under the Albion Tower

Join the Albion Arts Commission, Sister City Committee, and Salem United Church of Christ for an exciting two days of art, entertainment, and community during Art Under the Albion Tower. The second annual event highlights local talents from creators to performers with over 25 vendors and over 7 live performers.



Taking place under Albion's iconic water tower, this event showcases local arts and crafts including fabric creations, paper crafts, jewelry, pottery, crochet work, photography, etchings, paintings, metal work, and weavings. Additional vendors include local authors, organizations, and small businesses. Enjoy live performances ranging from singers/song writers, dancers, and musicians. And to finish off the excitement, local food trucks will be on site ready to serve up a delicious lunch or dinner to you!

Albion Arts Commission Chair, Mary Slater, shared her excitement for the event as it encapsulates the goal of the commission to promote the arts in its multiple forms. This event not only allows for artists to show and sell their work and community members to appreciate local talents, but it also helps promote Albion beyond our community.

So, mark your calendars and join in the fun on Friday June 27<sup>th</sup> from 4PM – 8PM, and Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> from 10AM – 3PM, there's something for everyone!

## Albion Community Foundation New Community Impact Mini-Grants

**Albion**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Albion Community Foundation is excited to share a new initiative to support local events and activities beyond the three annual grant rounds, introducing Community Impact Mini-Grants! These funds are designed to immediately support local organizers and organizations with community projects, events, and grass-roots work. If you are making an impact in the Albion community and need a bit of financial support, these mini-grants are intended for you, even if you do not have a nonprofit 501(c)3. Applicants can apply for up to \$500 of support.

The first event to receive a Community Impact Mini-Grant was Albion Eggstravaganza with their annual egg hunt! For the past six years locals have been organizing an egg hunt in Victory Park impacting over 600 people, and the Foundation is proud to be able to support the hard work of the organization.

For more information about the new mini-grants contact the Foundation at 517-629-3349 or at [foundation@albionfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@albionfoundation.org). The Albion Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community foundation dedicated to strengthening the greater Albion area by cultivating community assets to enhance our quality of life.



Albion Community Foundation

First Round of Grants in 2025

The Albion Community Foundation is excited to announce the first grantees of 2025. In the first round of the year, grantee projects range from community music to youth programming, and over \$55,000 was awarded! This first round of grantees include Albion Community Gardens, City of Albion, Fluence Arts Organization, Friends of the Bohm Theatre, Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce, INNOVATE Albion, Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes, Inc, MI Crossroads Council, Scouting America, and Walk the Beat Albion. Here are a few of the programs being funded.

Albion Community Gardens

Garden Improvement Plan

With the need for accessible and healthy food increasing in our community, the Albion Community Gardens is working to expand their programming to support the community more. Since 2017, the Gardens has been growing fresh food for the community, now they will be increasing production and reach. The grant funds will support the development of a composting system and compost to improve garden production, as well as organizational items for better access to tools and supplies. Albion Community Gardens received \$3,078 from the Fund for Greater Albion.



City of Albion

Harris Field Revitalization

Harris Field is a 5.1-acre park on Albion's west side and one of the city's operational baseball/softball field, serving youth and adult leagues. The grant funds will further enhance safety and usability by replacing steel doors for the concession stand, maintenance room, and restrooms, upgrading bathroom fixtures, installing a new scoreboard, constructing a press box, and improving field conditions with new infield sand and bases. The City of Albion was awarded \$10,000 from the Fund for Greater Albion.

Walk the Beat Albion

2025 Walk the Beat Albion Music Education Program

Walk The Beat Albion is an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to enriching lives through the power of music in the greater Albion community. Part of Walk the Beat Albion's work and dedication to the Albion community is providing educational music opportunities to Albion's youth by providing free musical instruments and lessons to children ages 6-21 in the greater Albion area. They were awarded \$2,500 from the Youth Fund will directly support the music opportunities in Albion.



Greater Albion Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

Annual Fireworks Fundraiser

Traditions are an essential part of every community, and Albion's Fourth of July Celebration with fireworks over the Kalamazoo River is a cherished tradition within the greater Albion area. Residents and visitors alike have fond memories as this long-standing community celebration has continued to bring us together year-after-year with our families and loved ones.

"The greater Albion area continues to show their support and dedication to the Greater Albion Chamber's annual Fourth of July Celebration with fireworks through generous donations helping us to keep this tradition as an essential part of our main mission to make Albion a great place to work, live and visit," said Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce's President & CEO Billy Beers.

Whether you can donate \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100+, every little bit helps the Greater Albion Chamber keep the tradition of fireworks over the Kalamazoo River a part of our areas Fourth of July Celebrations. Cash and credit card donations are accepted at the Greater Albion Chamber's office located at 403 S Superior Street, Albion, Michigan. Checks can be made out to:

Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau  
P.O. Box 238  
Albion, MI 49224  
Memo: Albion Fireworks



This year's show will begin at dusk (around 9:30PM) at Barnes Park on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

NEIGHBORHOOD

clean up

CURBSIDE PICK - UP

ONE DAY ONLY

All Items must be curbside by 7AM, please do not put out items prior to June 14th.

SATURDAY

21

JUNE



Scan for a list of Accepted & Not Accepted Items!





On the Big Screen

Upcoming events, movies, and opportunities at the historic Bohm Theatre.

CRAFT BOURBON at the Bohm

7PM Wednesday, June 18th

Tasting includes:

- Still Austin Cask Strength - Texas
- Bib & Tucker Small Batch - Tennessee
- Heaven Hill Bottled in Bond - Kentucky
- Frey Ranch Straight Bourbon Whiskey - Nevada

A special thank you to our sponsor **Secure Investors!**

TIE THE KNOT TUESDAYS

7:00 PM TUESDAYS IN JUNE \$5.00 Tickets

JUNE 3 CRAZY RICH ASIANS

JUNE 10 Wedding Wars

JUNE 17 LOVE STORY

JUNE 24 BRIDES MAIDS

BROADWAY at the Bohm

GET READY FOR SOMETHING BIG

1PM July 19th

HAIRSPRAY

A special thank you to our sponsor **Secure Investors!**

FREE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY! ALL SHOWS START AT 1:00 PM

JUNE 14 SPIDER-MAN INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE

JUNE 28 JUMANJI (1995)

JULY 12 THE PRINCE OF EGYPT

JULY 26 THE IRON GIANT

AUGUST 9 AN AMERICAN TAIL

AUGUST 16 SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3

SUMMER FAMILY FILM SERIES

ALL CHILDREN 12 AND YOUNGER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS: ALBION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION THE KINGSLEY FUND THE YOUTH FUND

FRIENDS OF THE BOHM VOLUNTEER GROUP

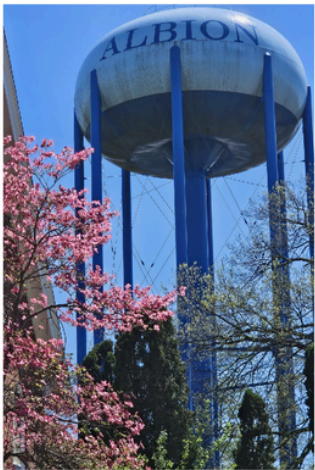
THE DAVIS CENTER - HOME OF THE

The Bohm Theatre is looking for enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to be part of the newly forming Friends of the Bohm Volunteer Group to assist with exciting movies and live music performances! Scan the QR code for more information.



Art Under the Albion Tower - 2025

Crowell Park



Friday, June 27th: — 4 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, June 28th: — 10 am - 3 pm

Arts — Crafts — Books — Jewelry

Music & Dance Performances

Kid's Crafts — Food Trucks

Hosted by

Albion Arts Commission

Salem United Church of Christ

Sister City Committee

Run Albion: History Hustle 5K

Stroll through some of Albion's most iconic locations as you complete a 5K. Strollers and dogs welcome. Registration required. Visit [runalbion.com](http://runalbion.com) to register prior to the race, or register on-site.

JUNE 27

RUN ALBION

Photo by Steve Ferency, BrickStreet Marketing.

Stay Connected!

Follow @DowntownAlbion on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok to stay up to date with all things Albion.

DOWNTOWN ALBION



To submit feedback or information contact [ambassador@albionfoundation.org](mailto:ambassador@albionfoundation.org).

Ribbon Cutting Celebration

June 5, 2025 | 10 a.m. | 312 Fitch Street, Albion, Michigan

In Partnership with:

GREATER ALBION CHAMBER

CITY OF ALBION, MICHIGAN = Est. 1835 =

Norfolk HOMES Building Dreams, One Home At A Time

MSHDA MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Lunch at the Lloyd

Free live music in Lloyd Park every Wednesday at noon in June! Bring your lunch, bring a friend, and soak in the sounds of live musical performances while enjoying the fresh air and scenic views along the Kalamazoo River.

Swingin' at the Shell

Photo by Steve Ferency, BrickStreet Marketing.

Albion Farmer's Market

Every Wednesday 4PM - 7PM

Located on Superior Street, in the old bank building alley.

ALBION farmer's market





# June 2025

## Upcoming Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>10:30A</b> Children's Story Time <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>	<b>3</b> <b>7A</b> Tracks & Trades <i>Trackside Eatery &amp; Pub</i>  <b>7P</b> Tie the Knot Tuesday - Crazy <i>Rich Asians</i> <i>Bohm Theatre</i>	<b>4</b> <b>12P - 1P</b> Lunch at the Lloyd (Live Music provided by Swingin' at the Shell) <i>Lloyd Park</i>  <b>4P</b> Albion Knitters <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>4:30P</b> Boys Varsity Baseball <i>Marshall High School</i>  <b>6P</b> Zumba <i>The Body Shop Albion</i>  <b>4P - 7P</b> Albion Farmer's Market	<b>5</b> <b>10A - 11A</b> City of Albion Ribbon Cutting (Greater Albion Chamber) <i>312 Fitch Street</i>  <b>6P</b> Father's Day Craft <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>6P - 7P</b> Open Study Group <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>5:30P - 7:30P</b> Euchre Night <i>Albion District Library</i>	<b>6</b> <b>10A - 12P</b> Make Your Own Jigsaw Puzzle <i>Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum</i>  <b>12P</b> Salad Luncheon Fundraiser <i>Forks Senior Center</i>	<b>7</b> <b>1P</b> Coffee Hour with Jim Haadsma <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>1P</b> Summer Reading Kick-Off <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>3P - 5:30P</b> Pre-Father's Day Fish Fry <i>710 W Erie St. - RSVP (517) 894-5441</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>9A - 2:30P</b> Difference Makers Summer Program - <i>registration required</i>  <b>9A - 2P</b> Playright Summer Sports Camp: K - 5 <sup>th</sup> <i>Marshall Opportunity School - registration required</i>  <b>9A - 11A</b> LEGO Adventure/LEGO Challenge <i>INNOVATE Albion - registration required</i>  <b>10:30A</b> Children's Story Time <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>1P</b> Kids Who Code <i>INNOVATE Albion - registration required</i>  <b>1P</b> Make Your First 3D Video Game <i>INNOVATE Albion - registration required</i>  <b>4P - 8P</b> Playright Summer Sports Camp: 6 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> <i>Marshall Opportunity School - registration required</i>	<b>10</b> <b>7A</b> Tracks & Trades <i>Trackside Eatery &amp; Pub</i>  <b>3:30P</b> Free Car Seat Safety <i>City of Albion Fire Station</i>  <b>6P - 7P</b> Writing Circle <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>7P</b> Tie the Knot Tuesday - Four Weddings & A Funeral <i>Bohm Theatre</i>  <b>4:30P - 6P</b> Greater Albion Chamber - Albion After Hours <i>Yellow Bird Chocolate Shop</i>	<b>11</b> <b>12P - 1P</b> Lunch at the Lloyd (Live Music provided by Swingin' at the Shell) <i>Lloyd Park</i>  <b>2P</b> Crafternoon with Andy <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>4P - 7P</b> Albion Farmer's Market	<b>12</b> <b>5:30P</b> Bluey Party <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>6P - 7:30P</b> Yarn Craft Club <i>Albion District Library</i>	<b>13</b> <b>9A - 5P</b> Indoor Church Rummage & Bake Sale <i>Grace Free Will Baptist Church</i>	<b>14</b> <b>9A - 5P</b> Indoor Church Rummage & Bake Sale <i>Grace Free Will Baptist Church</i>  <b>11A - 6P</b> 15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Father & Son Cookout <i>Victory Park</i>  <b>1P</b> Free Family Summer Series Movie <i>Bohm Theatre</i>  <b>2P - 3P</b> Euchre 101 Class <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>3P - 5P</b> Euchre Club <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>

Youth summer programs start! Check with each program for more dates and times.



**Free Learning Lunches**  
 Learn about chronic health conditions from local experts. Free lunch is included with registration. Register by emailing [monique@albionhca.org](mailto:monique@albionhca.org) or calling (517) 629-5080.

**There's Enough - Grand Giveaway**  
 There's Enough is moving to a new home in the Vision of Life building at 718 Austin Ave. In preparation for the Grand Opening in August, There's Enough will be hosting a Grand Giveaway in mid-June. Stay tuned for more details.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 <b>12P</b> A Tie-Dye Workshop featuring Mercurial Threads <i>Albion District Library - signup required</i>	16 <b>10:30A</b> Children’s Story Time <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>	17 <b>7A</b> Tracks & Trades <i>Trackside Eatery &amp; Pub</i>  <b>6P</b> Mug Club <i>Albion District Library - signup required</i>  <b>7P</b> Tie the Knot Tuesday - Love Story Bohm Theatre	18 <b>12P</b> Interactive Storytime <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>12P - 1P</b> Lunch at the Lloyd (Live Music provided by Swingin’ at the Shell) <i>Lloyd Park</i>  <b>4P</b> Albion Knitters <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>4P - 7P</b> Albion Farmer’s Market  <b>6P</b> Zumba <i>The Body Shop Albion</i>  <b>7P</b> Bourbon at the Bohm <i>Bohm Theatre - purchase tickets in advance</i>	19 <b>5P - 7P</b> Family Game Night <i>Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum</i>  <b>5:30P - 7:30P</b> Euchre Night <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>6P - 7P</b> Open Study Group <i>Albion District Library</i>	20	21  Albion’s Juneteenth Celebration <i>Holland Park</i>  <b>7A</b> Neighborhood Clean-Up - items by the curb  <b>9A - 10A</b> Member Morning: World Day of Music <i>Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum</i>  <b>10A - 2P</b> Garden Totem Pole Workshop <i>EBMY Farm - registration required</i>  <b>6P</b> 3 <sup>d</sup> Annual Veterans Relief Fund Event <i>Duck Lake Tavern</i>
22	23 <b>10:30A</b> Children’s Story Time <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>	24 <b>7A</b> Tracks & Trades <i>Trackside Eatery &amp; Pub</i>  <b>9A - 12P</b> Youth Basketball Camp <i>Albion College Dow Center - registration required</i>  <b>6P</b> Graphic Novel Book Club <i>Albion District Library - signup required</i>  <b>7P</b> Tie the Knot Tuesday - Bridesmaids <i>Bohm Theatre</i>	25 <b>12P - 1P</b> Lunch at the Lloyd (Live Music provided by Swingin’ at the Shell) <i>Lloyd Park</i>  <b>2P</b> How to Draw: Pigeon & Friends <i>Albion District Library</i>  <b>4P - 7P</b> Albion Farmer’s Market	26 <b>6P</b> Classics Reading Group <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>6P</b> Cooking Club <i>Albion District Library - signup required</i>	27 <b>9:30A - 4:30P</b> Michigan Button Society 85 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show <i>Ismon House</i>  <b>4P - 8P</b> Art Under the Albion Tower <i>Crowell Park</i>  <b>6:30P</b> History Hustle - Run Albion - 5K <i>Downtown Albion</i>	28 <b>10A - 3P</b> Art Under the Albion Tower <i>Crowell Park</i>  <b>1P</b> Dungeons & Dragons Extravaganza <i>Albion District Library - signup required</i>  <b>1P</b> Free Family Summer Series Movie <i>Bohm Theatre</i>  <b>2P - 3P</b> Chess 101 Class <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>  <b>3P - 5P</b> Stirling Chess Club <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>
29	30 <b>10:30A</b> Children’s Story Time <i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>	*Albion Health Care Alliance - Community Table of Albion				

ALBION COLLEGE - SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

All Strokes Swim Day Camp - Ages 10 - 18

June 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
9A - 4P  
Registration Required

Boys & Girls Youth Soccer Camp - Ages 10 - 18

Starts June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2P - June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4P  
Registration Required

Boys Nike Lacrosse Camp - Ages 10 - 18

June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>  
Registration Required

Coach May Youth Basketball Camp - Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

June 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>  
9A - 12P  
Registration Required

Distance Swimming Day Camp - Ages 10 - 18

1P - 4P June 30<sup>th</sup> - July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Registration Required

