

Naturally Connected

Thank you for your service!

Retiring Albion Community Foundation Board Members

Robert (Bob) Dunklin has been a member of the Albion Community Foundation Board since 2011, helping to build a lasting impact in the Albion community. During his service, Dunklin has brought his work experience and community service attitude to help shape the Foundation's community impact.

Within Albion, Dunklin was a supervisor at Harvard Industries for 29 years, a licensed barber for 20 years, and served as the President of the Albion Branch NAACP for countless years. Dunklin is a current member of Men Who Give and member and trustee at Lewis Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. For part of his time on the Foundation, Dunklin served as President.

Dunklin shared that he has been a member of the Foundation Board because he is committed to serving, and concerned about the development, growth, and well-being of the community. Thank you for your commitment, Bob Dunklin!



Bob Dunklin (far right) at the Foundation's 50th Anniversary Gala.



Nidia Hernandez Wolf has been involved throughout the Albion community in numerous roles including the Executive Director of the Albion Health Care Alliance, Downtown Development Authority, Owner and Operator of Albion Shell, Camp Fire Leader, and founding Member of the Albion High School Alumni Association.

She has put her heart into working for the betterment of Albion. And since 2010, Wolf has served on the Albion Community Foundation Board.

During her years of service at the Foundation, Wolf has been a part of the Grants Committee, bringing a unique perspective to the role. She also served on the Bohm Theatre Committee during its restoration.

Wolf has stayed involved because she likes "to feel that I'm doing my part to help make Albion a better place to live and work". We appreciate your continued dedication, Nidia Wolf!

Joyce Spicer joined the Albion community in the 1960s, working for local manufacturers including Corning Glass and Hayes-Albion later to be known as Albion Malleable. Spicer was also a previous Executive Director of the Albion Health Care Alliance. She has served on numerous boards including the Albion Economic Development Corporation, Albion Board of Education, and Summit Point.

Story continues inside!

Albion Community Calendar inside. —————>



Joyce Spicer (far left) at the 2024 Foundation's End of Year Celebration.

Spicer began her service on the Community Foundation board in 1991, and then continuously starting in 2004 until now. Throughout her time, Spicer has been President, Vice President, and a member of the Grants Committee.

Spicer has been dedicated to the Albion community through all forms of her work, and the Foundation Board is not an exception. Her passion for Albion has shown through her 23 years of service. Thank you for your passion, Joyce Spicer!



2025 Albion Community Foundation Grant Recipients - Over \$90,000 Granted!

Fund for Greater Albion

- Albion Community Gardens - \$3,078
- Greater Albion Chamber - \$6,870.39
- City of Albion - \$10,000
- Fluence Arts Organization - \$5,000
- Friends of the Bohm Theatre - \$5,000
- Walk the Beat \$8,500
- Albion Arts Commission - \$4,100
- Families First Learning Center - \$5,000
- Samaritas - \$3,005
- Sheridan Township Fire Department - \$5,000

Youth Advisory Committee Fund

- Albion Arts Commission - \$1,300
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$1,500
- Marshall Public Schools Harrington Elementary - \$1,500
- Friends of the Bohm Theatre - \$3,500
- INNOVATE Albion - \$3,000
- MI Crossroads Council, BSA - \$1,000
- Walk the Beat - \$2,500

Rotary Club of Albion Charitable Fund

- Charitable Union - \$2,000
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$1,798.22
- MI Crossroads Council, BSA - \$1,250



Karen Yankie is a life-long Albion resident who has been involved in various organizations in the community over the years including the Festival of the Forks, Albion Historical Society, and Albion Area Philanthropic Women. During her career as a Special Education Teacher at Albion Public Schools, Yankie received Albion Teacher of the Year and was a finalist for Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Yankie has served seven terms on the Foundation Board from 2004 – 2009, and once again 2011 – 2025. She has been the Secretary and Vice President, as well as a member of the Grants Committee.

Yankie shared that she is honored to have served on the Foundation Board and is proud of the collective action the Foundation does to support and finance the changing needs of the Albion community. "I am dedicated to improving and supporting the Albion that I was born and raised in and love." Thank you for your love, Karen Yankie!

James C. Kinglsey Youth Fund

- Friends of the Bohm Theatre - \$2,000
- INNOVATE Albion - \$4,500
- Junior Achievement - \$250
- MI Crossroads Council, BSA - \$1,000
- Girl Scouts Heart of America - \$750
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$1,500

MACI Youth Fund

- Charitable Union - \$400
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$1,000
- MI Crossroads Council, BSA - \$400

Riverfront Development and Environmental Fund

- City of Albion - \$3,000

The Andersons Charitable Fund

- Charitable Union - \$1,200
-

Team 1 Plastics Advised Fund

- Girls Scouts Heart of America - \$600
- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$750

Jack L. Hoaglin Family Fund

- Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum - \$1,000

Memorable Service – Caroline Hurteau’s Work with Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum

Since January 2020, Caroline Hurteau has been a Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum Board Member. Little did she know that just a few months after joining a global pandemic would drastically change how a hands-on children’s museum operates.

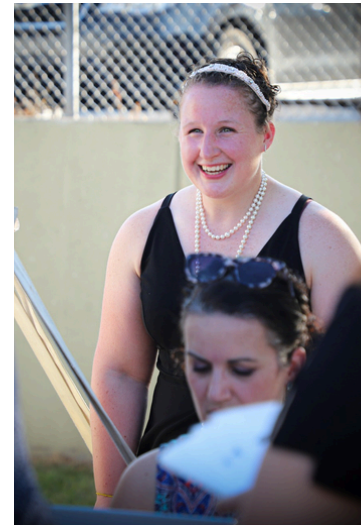
The Covid-19 Pandemic created countless unknowns for everyone including a small and impactful children’s museum nestled in the heart of downtown Albion, Michigan. Hurteau viewed this time for the museum as a “make it or break it” situation, and she was not going to give up. The museum went into “hibernation”, and that easily could have been the end to the beloved non-profit. However, Hurteau held the mindset of trying anything, and at that time if it was your idea, you needed to implement it. So that’s what she. With Hurteau’s leadership, the museum’s Board created at-home experiences and community activities that kept Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum relevant to families, donors, community members, and beyond. It wasn’t all smooth sailing, but due to all their efforts, the museum was able to open their doors up again to the public in June of 2021.

Around this same time, a new focus emerged that Hurteau led the charge on – a new water table. Hurteau helped bring back the Bids ‘N’ Stuff Auction, the museum’s annual fundraiser, and successfully raised over \$100,000 for the new table. The motivation has always been the same for Hurteau – wanting to see Kids ‘N’ Stuff not only survive but thrive and grow over the years.

Albion Area Philanthropic Women Are Reaching New Highs with ¾ Million Dollars Donated

The Albion Area Philanthropic Women’s giving circle is one of the most impactful community led initiatives in the Albion area. Since inception in 2007, around 100 Albion women and supporters have gathered every quarter, each with a \$100 check, with the purpose of supporting a local non-profit. Their final 2025 meeting will push the organization to over \$750,000 donated to Albion non-profits!

Read more about this milestone on our blog at downtownalbion.com!



Hurteau became the Board Chair in 2022 continuing her impactful leadership in new endeavors like helping to hire the current Executive Director, Katie Gigliotti. Gigliotti has brought a vision and dedication to Kids ‘N’ Stuff that has pushed the Board, including Hurteau to be better.

As Hurteau concludes her second term on the Board, she shared some thoughts on what it means to be a good board member at any organization - feeling responsible for the wellbeing of the organization, continuously growing to a better future, actively engaging beyond meetings, and lastly, being a champion for the organization in all aspects of your life. Hurteau is excited to see what the future holds for Kids ‘N’ Stuff in the next 25 years including the continuation of amazing staff, activating more Kids ‘N’ Stuff spaces, and increasing offerings to the community.

During their meetings, the women hear from various presenting non-profits, who explain how they would use the approximate \$10,000. The women vote on the winner of that quarter’s round. Previous recipients range from the Albion District Library to establish the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to the Forks Senior Center for technology upgrades, encompassing multiple facets of the community.

Welcome to Albion New Faces in the Community

Debbie Kelly – President & CEO of Albion Economic Development Corporation (EDC)



Coming with 27+ years of EDC experience, Debbie Kelly is the new President & CEO of Albion EDC. Joining the community from Jackson, Kelly’s experience in the EDC arena ranges from assistant to Vice President, and she is excited to use her tools and knowledge to impact Albion.

Kelly is ready to listen and collaborate in the Albion community to strengthen our economic stance. On the horizon for the Albion EDC is the continued development of the West and East Industrial Parks through attracting new potential business and revenue resources. Kelly is excited to help fill downtown spaces, believing in the ripple effect of good spaces with job opportunities leading to further development. Kelly is ready to help “put Albion on the map”!



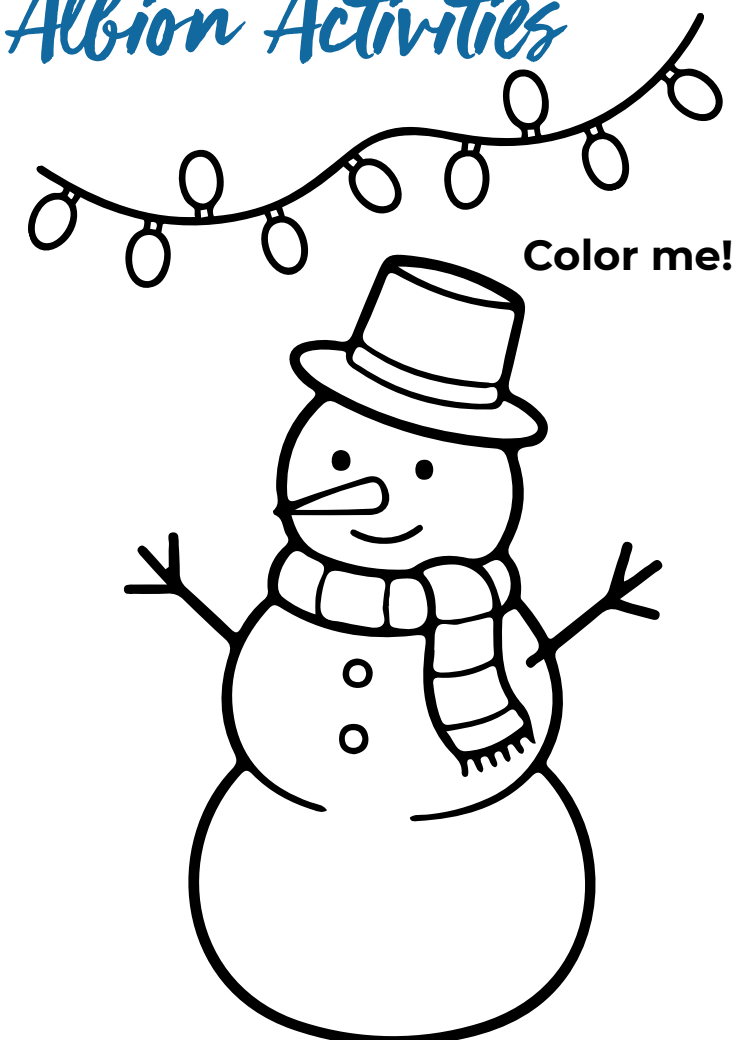
Val Ferency pictured with husband Steve Ferency.

Joining the Greater Albion Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau is **Valerie (Val) Ferency**! Ferency is the new GACC’s Visitor & Events Specialist, bringing years of creative and community-focused experience to Albion. She is passionate about highlighting the city’s growth and spirit through art, music, and local engagement.



Welcome **Margaux Dever** to the Albion Community Foundation team! Dever is bringing her grant expertise and knowledge to the Foundation as the Grant Development Specialist. This role is the result of the Dobbin’s Family Foundation \$100,000 gift to the Albion Community Foundation to hire a professional grant writer, to strengthen the community’s ability to attract resources for downtown development, recreation, entrepreneurship, and more.


Albion Activities





December

Happy Holidays!

<div>1</div> <div>7P Rev. Peyton's Big Damn Band - Blues at the Bohm Bohm Theatre</div>	<div>2</div> <div>10A Wiggle Worms Storytime Albion District Library</div> <div>10A - 6P Community Table of Albion Walk-In Pantry Marshall Opportunity School</div> <div>5P - 8P 70th Birthday Party Dickerson Music Co.</div> <div>5P - 8P Tech Savvy Seniors Albion District Library</div> <div>5P - 8P Magic: The Gathering Club Albion District Library</div> <div>5P - 9P Senior Adventuring Guild (Ages 16+) Albion District Library</div> <div>5:30P Flow & Flourish Yoga - free The Body Shop Albion</div> <div>6P Gingerbread House Workshop Albion District Library</div> <div>6P - 7:30P Writing Circle Albion District Library</div> <div>6:30P - 8P Buyers Workshop Stirling Books & Brew</div> <div>7P A Christmas Story - Tinsel Tuesday Bohm Theatre</div>	<div>3</div> <div>12P - 1:30P Albion Health Care Alliance Learning Lunch - RSVP Bread of Life Ministries</div> <div>12P - 1P Real to Reel Documentary Series Albion District Library</div> <div>4P - 5:30P Albion Knitters Stirling Books & Brew</div> <div>6P Zumba The Body Shop Albion</div> <div>6P - 7P Teen/Adult Movement & Dance Class In-Fluence Studio</div>	<div>4</div> <div>5P - 8P Tech Savvy Seniors Albion District Library</div> <div>5:30P - 7:30P Open Game Night Albion District Library</div> <div>6P - 7P Classics Reading Group Stirling Books & Brew</div> <div>7P Music Bingo: Who's Singing that Song? University Lanes</div>	<div>5</div> <div>5:30A Functional Fitness The Body Shop Albion</div> <div>4P Ribbon Cutting with the Albion Health Care Alliance - (Greater Albion Chamber) Marshall Opportunity School</div> <div>5:30P - 7:30P Frozen Open House Albion District Library</div> <div>6P Albion Aglow After-Party Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum</div> <div>6:30P Albion Aglow Parade Downtown Albion</div> <div>7P After Parade Albion Aglow Holiday Music w/ M.A.P. Trio Albion Malleable Brewing Co.</div> <div>10P Krampus - bohmnite Bohm Theatre</div>	<div>6</div> <div>9A - 11:30A Santa's Christmas Corner - Caster Cares 100 E Erie Street</div> <div>9A - 12P Annual Cookie Walk St. James Episcopal Church</div> <div>11A Elf - Dollar Film Series Bohm Theatre</div> <div>1P - 2P DnD Adventure Club (Ages 8 - 12) Albion District Library</div> <div>1P - 2:30P Coffee Hour with Attorney Jim Haadsma Stirling Books & Brew</div>
<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>3P - 5P Drive-Through Food Distribution - Community Table of Albion Marshall Opportunity School</div> <div>4:30P Albion After Hours with Albion Arts Commission - (Greater Albion Chamber) Albion Arts Center</div> <div>5P - 8P Tech Savvy Seniors Albion District Library</div> <div>5:30P Functional Fitness The Body Shop Albion</div> <div>7P Polar Express - Tinsel Tuesday Bohm Theatre</div>	<div>10</div> <div>12P - 1P Real to Reel Documentary Series Albion District Library</div> <div>6P - 7P Teen/Adult Movement & Dance Class In-Fluence Studio</div> <div>7P Making Holiday Memories w/Capital City Brass Band - sponsored by Stirling Books & Brew Bohm Theatre</div>	<div>11</div> <div>6P - 7:30P Yarn Craft Club Albion District Library</div> <div>7P Music Bingo: That's My Jam! University Lanes</div>	<div>12</div> <div>8A - 9A Eggs & Issues with the Brass Band of Battle Creek - (Greater Albion Chamber) Location TBD</div>	<div>13</div> <div>10A - 3P Friends of Albion's Animals Annual Cookie Walk Albion District Library</div> <div>12P - 4P Junior Adventuring Guild (Ages 12 - 17) Albion District Library</div> <div></div>



14	15 Hanukkah Begins	16 3P - 5P Drive-Through Food Distribution - Community Table of Albion <i>Marshall Opportunity School</i> 3P Sip, Snack, and Stay Safe with Huntington Bank <i>Forks Senior Center</i> 6P - 7:30P Writing Circle <i>Albion District Library</i> 7P National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation - Tinsel Tuesday <i>Bohm Theatre</i>	17 12P - 1P Real to Reel Documentary Series <i>Albion District Library</i> 4P - 5:30P Albion Knitters <i>Stirling Books & Brew</i> 6P Zumba - Christmas Edition <i>The Body Shop Albion</i> 6P - 7P Teen/Adult Movement & Dance Class <i>In-Fluence Studio</i>	18 5:30P - 7:30P Open Game Night <i>Albion District Library</i> 7P Music Bingo Ho! Ho! Ho! Holiday Classics <i>University Lanes</i>	19 5:30A Functional Fitness <i>The Body Shop Albion</i>	20 9A - 10A Member Mornings: LED Holiday Cards <i>Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum</i> 11A How the Grinch Stole Christmas - Dollar Film Series <i>Bohm Theatre</i> 1P - 4P Magic: The Gathering Club <i>Albion District Library</i>
21	22	23 5:30P Functional Fitness <i>The Body Shop Albion</i> 7P White Christmas - Tinsel Tuesday <i>Bohm Theatre</i>	24 Christmas Eve 11A White Christmas <i>Bohm Theatre</i>	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
28	29 5:30P Flow & Flourish Yoga <i>The Body Shop Albion</i>	30	31 New Year's Eve 11A - 12P Noon Year's Eve <i>Kids 'N' Stuff Children's Museum</i>	There's Enough 718 Austin Avenue Free Store open: Mondays 10A - 1P Wednesday 10A - 1P		

The Body Shop Albion classes are only \$5 per class through the end of the year.

Thru December 6 Art Exhibitions at Albion College -
Munro Gallery: Exhibition by Chloe Crawford
Dickinson Gallery: Prints from the Albion Collection curated by students Amelia Douglass, '27, and Sela Geraci, '28
9A - 4P Tuesdays & Thursdays
2P - 8P Fridays
10A - 2P Saturdays
Bobbitt Visual Arts Center, Albion College



ALBION ARTS CENTER
107 E CASS STREET

HOLIDAY
Arts Market

NOV 20 - DEC 13
THURSDAY 2-6
FRIDAY 2-6
SATURDAY 11-2

OVER 25 LOCAL ARTISTS
PAINTING, CERAMICS, JEWELRY, SCULPTURE, FABRIC CRAFTS, GREETING CARDS, ORNAMENTS, AND MORE!

ALBIONARTSCOMMISSION@GMAIL.COM

North Pole Exploration!
ELF SEARCH

Join us Downtown Albion, **now- December 31st** to find our hidden elves for a chance to win Albion gift cards!

Visit 10 participating businesses to find their hidden elf and get a stamp in your “North Pole Passport”. Once you’ve collected 10 stamps, turn in your passport to either the Foundry Bakehouse & Deli, Greater Albion Chamber, or Pure Albion. Winners will be announced in the new year.





