



Ionia Downtown Development Authority

Newsletter

January 2020

Sidewalk Snow Removal

With the winter months upon us, please keep the sidewalk areas along your business storefront and exits clear of snow and ice. All entrances and exits must be clear of snow for easy access. When clearing your parking areas, please do not pile snow in front of the dumpster enclosures or any entrances or drive exits. Shoppers may avoid your business if an icy sidewalk restricts their safety.

Street Closure Requests

If you have an upcoming event or activity that may require street closures, barricades or planned use of the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Trail system, you must complete the proper application forms and receive prior approval. For more information, contact the DDA office at (616) 527-1420.

Chamber Business Expo

The Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo returns on Saturday, March 14th from 9am to 3pm at the High School. More than 100 vendors will be featured offering information on their respective businesses. From healthcare to jewelry, you will be able to find everything you need at the Expo. Ionia Public Safety will be hosting their annual Pancake Breakfast - a favorite stop for all. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or seeking additional information, contact the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce office at (616) 527-2560.



Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival

Join us Friday, June 12th and Saturday June 13th in historic downtown Ionia for Michigan's only Wizard of Oz Festival. As a tribute to the 81st anniversary of the release



of the Wizard of Oz movie, we have planned two days of fun for every member of the family. Meet our Celebrity Guests and Official Characters, view world famous displays, and shop the specialty vendor area showcasing Oz memorabilia. Visit with one of several renowned Oz related authors who will provide books signings at their meet and greet sessions. Our fair city has mentions in several of their Oz editions. You won't want to miss the special makeover of the King of the Forest - the Cowardly Lion. Join Glinda at her Princess Tea Party. Don't miss the Witch's Brew Breakfast showing the softer side of this Oz character. The movie that started it all will be shown at the iconic Ionia Theatre. Tickets are priced as they were eighty one years ago - just 25 cents per person. We will again partner with the "Grand River Marketplace Arts & Craft Show" bringing vendors from afar with arts, crafts, antiques, repurposed / reclaimed furniture, and vintage treasures galore. Something for everyone. We are seeking vendors to join us. Contact us for additional information and applications. Adding to the excitement of the Festival are citywide garage sales. Maps with listings will be available at each sale site and the Festival's official Souvenir Booth. Share" and "Like" us on Facebook at **Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival**. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or committee member, please contact the DDA office by calling (616) 527-1420.

Ionia Downtown Development Authority



2020 Board of Directors

Mike Kirgis, Chairperson
Dave Cook, Secretary
Tim Hemenway, Treasurer
Margot Cook
John Krueger
Paul Lentz
Tim Paton
Chris Sorrell
Mayor Daniel Balice, Ex-Officio

Contact Information

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www.cityofionia.org



2020 Meeting Schedule

Regularly scheduled meetings of the DDA are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8am at City Hall located at 114 North Kidd Street.

January 15th
February 19th
March 18th
April 15th

DDA Committees

The DDA welcomes new members to their respective committees. If you have an interest in special events, promotion and marketing or business development, please contact us by calling 527-1420.

DDA Board Meetings

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8am at City Hall, 114 North Kidd Street. The public is welcome to attend.



Upcoming Special Events and Activities

Each Wednesday

Ionia Commission on Aging Luncheon - Take out style.

Chamber Community Awards

Saturday, January 25th

Elvis on the Bricks

in Downtown Ionia
Thursday, February 13th

Chamber Business Expo

Saturday, March 14th

Ionia Classic Car Show

in Downtown Ionia
Saturday, June 6th

Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival

in Downtown Ionia
Friday, June 12th
and Saturday, June 13th

News and Updates

Don't miss the Commission on Aging lunch program each Wednesday. Take out lunches and combo's are a great way to support the programming while having a delicious meal.

Stop by the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo on Saturday, March 14th at the Ionia High School located on Tuttle Road.

Do you have business news that you would like to share? Contact the DDA office by calling (616) 527-1420.

Listen to WION Radio 1430 for the latest weather updates and school closings.

Check out the City of Ionia's website at www.cityofionia.org for updates and news.

If you are seeking a location to host a webinar or seminar, contact the Ionia Theatre. Live webcasts are now available for groups - large or small. For more information, call (616) 527-3860.

Business Spotlight!

Join us as we welcome “Izzy’s Barbershop” to Main Street in downtown Ionia. Located at 402 West Main Street, walk-ins and by appointment patrons are welcome. The renovated building is old school with a modern flare as noted by owner Seth Izzard. For more information, contact Izzy at (616) 523-6443 or izzyzbarbership.setmore.com



From phones to pre-paid plans, if you need to update your system, stop by YCD Wireless located at 327 West Main in downtown Ionia. Their product line has recently expanded and now includes small appliances (blenders, microwaves and coffee brewers, and TV's). Newly renovated to assist in customer service, YCD invites you to stop by and shop locally.

The Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes Director Kat Reed and Administrative Assistant Laurie to the downtown office. Representing area businesses, organizations and individuals, the Chamber of Commerce works to provide a positive business environment and improve the quality of life in Ionia and the surrounding communities.



If you are in need of a full service locksmith, look no further than Ionia Lock & Key located at 319 West Main Street. From automotive to residential to commercial services, Ionia Lock & Key provides quality work, is locally owned and has experienced professional staff to assist patrons. Ionia Lock & Key will be donating \$1 to Soaring Above Teen Center for each key made during the month of January. For more information, call (616) 841-5539.

WION I-1430 AM and 92.7 FM Radio is locally owned and operated. “America’s Biggest Little Radio Station” proudly serves west central Michigan from Ionia. A mix of local programming, music, news and sports, the format fits any listener. If you would like to purchase one of their great advertising packages, contact Jim at (616) 527-9466. Tune in for up to date weather reports and school closing information.



Built in 1931, the Ionia Theatre still retains its beautiful historical character while providing state of the art technology and first run movies. Home to two screens, the Theatre can host over 700 in the large theatre and can comfortably seat 100+ in the smaller screen area. Live shows, workshops, trainings, parties, and even weddings can be booked in the facility. Join us for the **FREE** movie “Willie Wonka” on Saturday, January 11th at 1pm. For more information, call (616) 527- 3860.