



Ionia Downtown Development Authority Newsletter July 1, 2018

City of Ionia Fireworks Display Scheduled for Tuesday, July 3rd

One of the most anticipated events in Ionia is the annual fireworks display. Thousands will gather in the downtown area and fairgrounds to view the spectacular pyrotechnic presentation. This year the fireworks are planned for Tuesday, July 3rd at dusk so not to interfere with your holiday plans. A rain date of Friday, July 6th has been secured. The DDA will be providing music and special announcements beginning at 6pm. Bounce Houses, games and specialty food concessionaires will also open for added entertainment. Special thanks to the following sponsors who have partnered with the DDA to provide this great event for our community.

In Honor of Joseph James Bignell by Howard and Lorena Bignell,

In Honor of Keith Patterson by Travelers Protective Association - Post 1

In Memory of Matthew Robert Stein Bignell by Howard and Lorena Bignell,

In Memory of Sidney J. Ball - KIA WWII

In Memory of Ron & Dorothy Fletcher on behalf of the Log Cabin Inn Banquet Center,

In Memory of Rex O'Connor Sr. by Mary O'Connor,

In Memory of Kent & Fran Schaefer by Clover Family Farms,

American Inn & Suites, Astera Credit Union, Bader & Sons Company, Bain Concessions,

CL Trucking & Excavating LLC, Consumers Energy, Divine Auto Body, Downes Law Offices,

Duff Chadwick & Associates PC, Edward Jones Investments / Steve O'Mara, Fahey Schultz Burzyck Rhodes PLC,

Fishbeck Thompson Carr & Huber Inc., Fleis & VandenBrink, Herbruck's Poultry Ranch Inc., Independent Bank,

Inflatable Carnival, Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce, Ionia Community Theatre, Ionia Lock & Key,

Ionia County Shopper's Guide, Lake Funeral Home, Lamplight Grill, Lehman Funeral Homes,

Linda Curtis and Family, MATCOR Automotive - Michigan, Michigan One Community Credit Union,

Mid Michigan Tax Services Inc., Mulder & Associates, Papa's & Ooma's BBQ and Catering,

PFCU / Portland Federal Credit Union, Rainbow Glow Toys, Reed & Hoppes Incorporated, Robert Payne DDS,

Sentinel Standard, Seymour Furniture, Shattuck Farms / Jack Shattuck, Soaring Above Teen Center,

Spicer Group Inc., Touch of Joy in Every Scoop Concessions, Travis Hardin Concessions, Trevor Merren Auto,

Young's Auto of Ionia, Walker Fluke & Sheldon PLC, WION Radio, City of Ionia, City of Ionia DDA,

City of Ionia DPW, City of Ionia Public Safety, Gary Ferguson, Tom Millard, Ionia Free Fair, Life EMS & Staff,

Ionia Rotary Club, and Melrose Pyrotechnics.

Thank you!

Ionia Downtown Development Authority

2018 Board of Directors

Mike Kirgis, Chairperson
Brett Patterson, Vice Chairperson
Dave Cook, Secretary
Tim Hemenway, Treasurer
Margot Cook
Jim Killion
Paul Lentz
Ron Wilson
Mayor Daniel Balice, Ex-Officio

Contact Information

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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.

2018 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.

July 18th
August 15th
September 19th
October 17th
November 21st
December 19th

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.



Upcoming Special Events

June through October
Ionia Farmers' Market

July 3rd at dusk (10pm)
Ionia Fireworks Display
Rain date of July 6th

July 10th at 7pm
Music on the Green
Tom & Cheri Hagen, Kayla Hagen
and Kenzie Carrera

July 12th - 21st
Ionia Free Fair

July 14th
Ionia Free Fair Grand Parade

July 24th
Music on the Green
Main Street Music Talent Night



Ionia Farmers' Market Supports National Data

Michigan ranks 3rd in the nation for having the greatest number of registered farm markets. The Ionia Farmers' Market is one of 339 Michigan sites with vendor numbers growing each week. USDA Marketing Administrator Anne Alonzo recently reported "farm markets play an extremely important role for both farmers and consumers. They bring urban and rural communities together while creating economic growth and increasing access to fresh, healthy foods." The DDA is proud to be such a strong partner in this initiative and strive to meet our goal of becoming one of mid-Michigan's strongest markets. Locally grown fruits and vegetables, flowers and bedding plants, honey, baked goods, and maple syrup products are just a few of the top sellers each week. Vendor fees for the market are \$4 per day per space. For more information on the Ionia Farmers' Market, contact the DDA office by calling (616) 527-1420 or by email at lcurtis@ci.ionia.mi.us.



Highlights of the Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival

*Selected as one of the
“Top Ten Michigan Small Town Festivals
to Visit in 2017”*

Despite the unpredictable weather, the Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival showcased the community to out of state visitors, brought smiles to those 2 to 98 years and filled the Theatre with guests to watch the movie that started it all. Attendees included patrons from Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and cities across Michigan. Special thanks to the Official Characters, committee of volunteers, business owners, sponsors, vendors, Celebrity Guests, and others who made the Festival a success.

To view over 1,000 photos and videos, visit FB at Michigan Wizard of Oz Festival.

