

Happy Thanksgiving

Small Business Saturday Slated for November 25th

American Express created Small Business Saturday in 2010 as a counterpart to Black Friday and Cyber Monday for small town USA. This special day encourages holiday shoppers to patronize local brick and mortar businesses rather than traveling distances or using on-line purchasing. As the merchants celebrate this special shopping day, many will be offering in-store specials, gift wrapping, contests and more. Become an inspirational shopper and create a “tourist in your own town” experience for you and your friends. Shop local and support your community. Many businesses are operated by friends, neighbors and in some cases even family. To ensure a strong business district, we all need to remember to shop local. Plan now for your Ionia shopping experience as we kick off Small Business Saturday on November 25th.

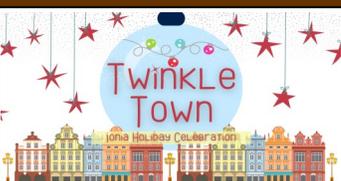


Twinkle Town Holiday Celebration

Join us for the Twinkle Town Holiday Celebration kicking off Friday, December 1st featuring the official tree lighting and caroling starting at 6pm with the Twinkle Town Christmas Light Parade following at 6:30pm. Visit Santa at the Armory Community Center prior to and following the parade. Live Local Realty's Free Movie Night is set for 7:15pm at the Ionia Theatre. Don't miss the Breakfast With Santa scheduled for Saturday, December 2nd from 9am to 11am at the Armory. Mrs. Claus' Annual Bazaar & Craft Show returns on Saturday, December 2nd from 9am to 3pm at the Ionia Middle School. Be sure to attend all of the Twinkle Town Holiday Celebration events and special activities. Shop local this holiday season. For a complete list of activities, visit the Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce website.



Twinkle Downtown Window Displays



The Ionia Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Authority request that downtown businesses fill their storefront windows with holiday displays showcased by twinkle lights. A Twinkle Downtown Storefront Decorating Contest is being hosted by the Chamber of Commerce with the ability to vote for your favorite online. Main Street businesses from Dexter to Kidd Street and cross streets Depot and Steele from Washington Street to Adams are eligible. Make sure you register your business by November 30th.

2023 Board of Directors

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Contact Information

Director: Linda Curtis
Office: 203 W Main Street
Mail: P.O. Box 496
Ionia, MI 48846
Phone: (616) 527-1420
Fax: (616) 527-0810
lcurtis@ci.ionia.mi.us
www.cityofionia.org

2023 Meeting Schedule

Regularly scheduled meetings of the DDA are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00AM at City Hall located at 114 North Kidd Street.

November 15th
December 20th

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

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 23rd
Thanksgiving

November 23rd / 24th

City of Ionia offices closed
including Ionia DDA

Small Business Saturday

November 25th

SHOP LOCAL!

Twinkle Town Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting

Friday, December 1st
6pm Tree Lighting
Parade at 6:30pm

Mrs. Claus' Bazaar & Craft Show

Saturday, December 2nd

Please watch for announcements regarding area special events and activities. * events subject to change

Street Closure Requests

If you or your organization have an upcoming event or special activity that may require street closures, use of barricades or planned use of the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Trail system, you must complete the proper application forms and receive prior approval. If you are planning a construction project that includes placing equipment, trailers or dumpsters in the downtown district, a permit must be submitted for the same. Each require a current certificate of liability insurance. We also request all applications / permits be submitted 30 days in advance of the actual event or start of the project. For more information, contact the DDA office at (616) 527-1420.



Just a reminder.....

With the winter approaching, please keep the sidewalk areas along your business storefront and exits clear of snow and ice. All entrances and exits must be cleared for easy access. When clearing your parking areas, please do not pile snow in front of dumpster enclosures, walkways or any drive entrances / exits. Shoppers may avoid your business if an icy sidewalk restricts their safety. As we gear up for the largest shopping season of the year, we ask that business employees and downtown residents do not park in the Main Street area but utilize the spacious parking lots located on Adams Street and Washington Street. The lots also allow for longer parking times to accommodate employees while Main Street limits are set at 2 hours. By providing shoppers and diners adequate storefront parking spaces, we will make each of their visits a memorable one.

On a final note, please remember to shop local. Many businesses are owned and operated by family, friends and neighbors. Support small businesses and your community.

Senior Matinee & Dinner!

Join us for good food and a **NEW** movie!

Thursday, Nov. 9

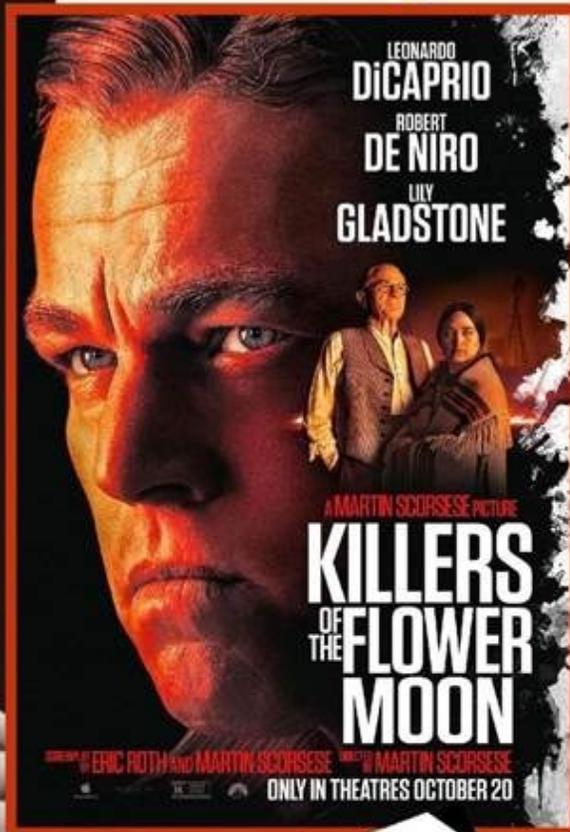
Come for **DINNER** at 5:00pm at the ICCOA
after the **NEW** Martin Scorsese film matinee
“**KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON**”
starring Robert De Niro and Leonardo DiCaprio
at the historic **IONIA THEATRE** at 1:00pm.

ICCOA Senior Center: 115 Hudson St, IONIA MI 48846.

Please RSVP for MEAL by NOON on THURSDAY, NOV. 2.

MEAL is for seniors and their caregivers only.

Call (616) 527-5365. MOVIE is open to ALL AGES!



DINNER MENU

PIZZA NIGHT,

Caesar Salad, Bread Sticks

Brownie Treat.



**Suggested donation of \$3 for meal. Movie ticket is additional,
to be purchased at Ionia Theatre box office, 205 W. Main St.,
IONIA MI 48846. Box office phone: (616) 527-3860.**

Hosted by Ionia County Commission on Aging and the Ionia Theatre.





This holiday season, please join the Downtown Development Authority in continuing the long tradition of decorating the historical lampposts that line the streets of the business district. Sponsoring a fresh garland wrap is a wonderful way to recognize an organization, business, individual or honor a special event.

I would like to sponsor _____ lamppost(s) at \$20 each.

Please list my sponsorship under the following name / business / organization:

Your name: _____

Address: _____

City and Zip: _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

I would like to pay by: Visa Master Card Check

Name listed on card: _____

Address of card holder: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration date: _____

3 Digit Code found on the back of your card: _____

Signature: _____ Today's date: _____

Please enclose your payment with this form. Checks can be made payable to the City of Ionia DDA.

City of Ionia DDA P.O. Box 496 Ionia, MI 48846

To be acknowledged with a gift card placed on a garland wrap, sponsorships must be received by **December 6, 2023**. Requests to decorate specific lampposts cannot be accommodated. For additional information, please contact the Downtown Development Authority office at 616.527.1420.

Thank you for your support.



SHOP SMALL[®] SUPPORT BIG

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY[®] IS NOV 25



Ionia Free Fair Memorial Benches



The Ionia Free Fair is currently taking orders for Memorial Benches that are on display during the 'best days of summer'. This is a great way to honor loved ones or recognize businesses. For more information on costs, name recognition and more, contact the Ionia Free Fair by calling (616) 527-1310.

Announcements will be released soon for pre-ordering Super Fun Passes which make the perfect Christmas gift.

WANT TO HELP OUT? VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!

JOIN US for Mrs. Claus' Annual **BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW**

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 from 9am-3pm
at the Ionia Middle School, 438 Union St., Ionia.

- Candles
- Ornaments
- Handmade Soaps
- Homemade Candy
- Home Décor & Handbags
- Jewelry & Baskets
- Cards & Stationery
- Wood Carvings and MORE.

Something for **EVERYONE** on your Christmas List!

Proceeds benefit Ionia County Commission on Aging

FREE ADMISSION! Lunch & snacks available at the Ionia County COA Food Booth, south hall, first level.

Call Ionia County Commission on Aging at 616-527-5365 for info.
Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IoniaCountyCommissiononAging/>

Don't miss this 40 year old Christmas tradition in Ionia!

The Mrs. Claus Bazaar and Craft show annual fundraising event for the Ionia County Commission on Aging has been delighting Christmas shoppers since 1980! First launched over 40 years ago at the old Jaycee Center on Jackson Street in Ionia, the Mrs. Claus Bazaar and Craft Show has grown exponentially since then. Starting with 20-25 vendors in those early days, the event now draws 150+ vendors from all over the state! After pausing the event for two years due to the COVID pandemic, the event was joyfully re-launched in 2022, and this year ICCOA hopes to get back to pre-pandemic highs of nearly 200 vendors!

And it's all for a GOOD cause! "Mrs. Claus" is ICCOA's longest running fundraiser. It brings in significant supporting revenue annually, while also being a fun, community tradition that hundreds eagerly look forward to.

Founding volunteer Nancy Flinn has been organizing the event since it launched back in 1980 with help from Marge Kimball in the early years. ICCOA is so grateful to Nancy for her tireless efforts supporting our agency and seniors throughout Ionia County. Fundraising and community contributions are a KEY part of how ICCOA is able to provide services to seniors; which include Meals on Wheels, Transportation, In Home Services, Wellness Classes and much, much MORE.

The Mrs. Claus Bazaar & Craft Show is part of a wonderful holiday weekend in Ionia which kicks off with the Main Street Christmas Tree lighting and caroling at 6pm on Friday December 1st, followed by the Twinkle Town Christmas Parade at 6:30pm. December 2nd events include a pancake breakfast at the Armory from 9am-11am, and the Mrs. Claus Bazaar & Craft Show opening at 9am with FREE admission and DOOR PRIZE giveaways all day, and serving delicious food, coffee & cold drinks to keep you shopping all day long. Shop 'til you drop until 3pm.

From unique homespun crafts, to on-trend jewelry & fashions, to products featuring Michigan's natural bounty, Mrs. Claus Bazaar & Craft Show has a gift for EVERYONE on your Christmas list — See you at Mrs. Claus!

The Ionia County Commission on Aging gratefully accepts your donations of homemade crafts, Christmas and home decor items for sale at our booth at the Mrs. Claus Bazaar & Craft Show! Please call our front desk (616) 527-5365 with any questions.