

Naturally Connected

Swingin' at the Shell Summer Concert Series Starts this Month!



Swingin' at the Shell is approaching their 19th season of free summer concerts at Victory Park. Starting in 2004, Swingin' at the Shell began with the mission to "provide a variety of family-friendly musical entertainment to the community of Albion." In the beginning, it was a way to bridge the gap of live music from the community band concerts to the Festival of the Forks. Over the years, it has evolved and grown into an Albion tradition creating connections, shared memories, and a truly Albion experience.

Swingin' at the Shell is a non-profit organization that is supported by numerous sponsors including Caster Cares.[™] Through the support of its generous sponsors and grants, Swingin' at the Shell is able to bring high-quality entertainment to Albion in a wide range of genres and interests.

As you can imagine, picking music for a seven concerts series can be a daunting task. Board President, Stephanie Dobbins explained that over the past 19 years observations and input from the crowds has best gauged the music preferences. Audiences generally like tunes that are familiar and upbeat. People want to come out on Sunday evening and sing along with songs that they know, so this season there are quite a few tribute bands. Due to the rise of pop-culture nostalgia, tribute bands are a popular choice. In line with this trend, this summer you'll see tributes like Wanted – a Bon Jovi Tribute, The McCartney Project, a celebration of Shania Twain, and Simply Queen.

The first concert in the series this summer kicks off July 23rd at 6PM with Phillip Michael Scales, an independent artist combing the styles of blues and indie rock into what he calls "Dive Bar Soul". For the full line-up visit swinginattshells.com or scan the QR code.



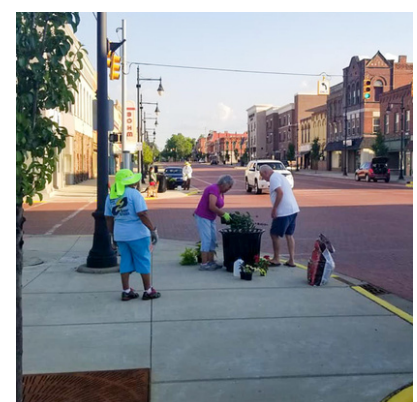
Think Music, Think Albion,[™] and we'll see you at the bandshell!

Keeping Our Community Beautiful The Passion of Citizens to Beautify Albion



Started in 1985 by Richard and Elverta Weatherford, the grassroots organization Citizens to Beautiful Albion began "with the vision of bringing the beauty of flowers for everyone to enjoy", said President Juanita Solis-Kidder. Now, Citizens to Beautify Albion is a non-profit organization working endlessly to keep the Albion community beautiful. Vice President Kay Knight explained that "a beautiful surrounding reflects the love, care, and pride of its citizens." Their volunteer-based organization maintains various gardens all over Albion including Weatherford Memorial Garden and the flowerpots downtown Albion. For most, it is deeper than just putting flowers in public places, it is sharing the beauty and love that countless people hold for Albion. Solis-Kidder emphasized her hope is to inspire others to want to do more for Albion.

Being a non-profit means that they function through fundraisers and generous donors. Citizens to Beatify Albion holds the annual fundraiser, "Men Who Cook", a ticketed event that brings people together for food and fellowship through the prepared dishes of Albion men. Although "Men Who Cook" has been paused during the Covid-19 pandemic, it will return in 2024! Other means for support include the established endowed fund at the Albion Community Foundation. Donations to this fund help with the endowment for the longevity of the organization. They also receive support by volunteering at the 5K races by Run Albion. A core value of Run Albion is giving back to the community through the support of non-profits. Through all these support systems Citizens to Beautify Albion is able to purchase immediate supplies needed such as flowers, fertilizer, and soil. It also helps with more long-term projects such as "pocket" gardens that require benches, planters, and concrete. The funds help continue the mission of bringing the beauty of flowers to the community for all to enjoy.



Knight reiterated the Margaret Mead quote, "Never doubt that a small group of individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has."



To get involved with Citizens to Beautify Albion, like them on Facebook, or scan the QR code to contact them through their website.



Stay Involved!

Fold me in
fourths and
hang me on
the fridge!



July

- 1st: 12PM Black Squirrel Bluegrass & Americana Music Festival at Albion Malleable Brewing Co.
- 3rd: At Dusk the Annual Fourth of July Celebration
- 5th - 7th: 11AM - 12PM, 1PM - 2PM Summer Break Programs at Kids 'N' Stuff
- 8th: 11AM - 2PM Celebration Saturday: Explore Electricity at Kids 'N' Stuff
- 9th: 11AM - 12PM, 1PM - 2PM Summer Break Program at Kids 'N' Stuff
- 10th: 7PM - 10PM Blues at the Bohm- Harper & Midwest Kind
- 11th: 4:30PM - 6PM Albion After Hours: Courtyard by Marriott
- 16th: 11AM - 12PM Sensory Friendly Hours at Kids 'N' Stuff
- 18th: 5PM *Hook*, part of the "Before They Were Classics" movie series at the Albion District Library
- 23rd: 6PM First Swingin' at the Shell Concert of the season
- 29th: 6PM - 8PM Gaddis Impressions Presents: Art Show Highlighting Gregory Gant

August

- 1st: 5PM *Raiders at the Lost Arch*, part of the "Before They Were Classics" movie series at the Albion District Library
- 5th: 11AM - 2PM Celebration Saturday: Make Your Own Black Hole at Kids 'N' Stuff, 1PM - 3PM Blues Workshop at Dickerson Music Co.
- 7th: 7PM - 10PM Blues at the Bohm- Reveren Peyton's Big Damn Band
- 18th: Play Right Sports Academy Golf Outing
- 20th: 11AM - 12PM Sensory Friendly Hours at Kids 'N' Stuff

Stay up to date on new events by checking:
downtownalbion.com/events/
greateralbionchamber.org/events/calendar

Recurring Events

Mondays:

7PM - 9PM Live Music at Albion Malleable Brewing Co.

Wednesdays:

4PM - 7PM The Farmer's Market at Stoffer Plaza through September 27th

Fridays:

7PM - 9PM Trivia Night with Patrick Lopez at Stirling Books & Brew

Saturdays:

10AM Free Film Saturdays at the Bohm Theatre

Sundays:

Starting July 23rd - September 10th 6PM Swingin' at the Shell free concerts

Additional Youth Opportunities:

Difference Makers, Tues-Thurs 9:30AM - 2:30PM, registration required, contact d.m.2019difference makers@gmail.com



Check out more youth activities in the previous quarterly newsletter from June!

Scan me to read more stories and stay up to date!



To submit feedback, information, or events for future documents contact ambassador@albionfoundation.org.

