

Adrian

OUR TOWN

Lenawee Area Lifestyle Magazine

FALL 2023

36 Pages
Of Features,
Events,
& More



“The Place To Be”

PAGE 6



FALL FASHION PAGE 10



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FROM THE PUBLISHER



Micheal T. Johnson
Publisher

As the leaves turn vibrant shades of red and gold, and a crisp autumn breeze fills the air, it's the perfect time to pause and reflect on the beauty of the fall holidays. With Thanksgiving, Halloween, and other

festive occasions on the horizon, there's no better moment to cultivate an attitude of gratitude and thankfulness. Fall, with its bountiful harvest and the warmth of cozy gatherings, serves as a poignant reminder to count our blessings. It's a time to appreciate the abundance of nature and the love of family and friends that surround us. In the midst of our busy lives, we often forget the simple pleasures that enrich our days. Thanksgiving, in particular, is synonymous with gratitude. But why limit this practice to a single day? Let's make it a lifestyle. Daily expressions of gratitude can improve

our overall well-being, boost our mood, and strengthen our relationships. It's a small effort with tremendous rewards. In this digital age, the fall holidays provide a precious opportunity to connect with loved ones on a deeper level. Whether it's sharing stories around the Thanksgiving table, carving pumpkins with friends, or sending heartfelt notes of appreciation, these traditions foster bonds that transcend screens and timelines. Fall is also a time to give back. As we reflect on our own blessings, let's remember those who may be less fortunate. Participating in charity drives,

volunteering at local shelters, or simply lending a helping hand can make a significant impact in our communities. This fall, let's embrace the season of gratitude with open hearts and open arms. Let's be thankful for the beauty that surrounds us, the people who enrich our lives, and the opportunities to make a positive difference. In doing so, we'll not only enrich our own lives but also spread warmth and kindness to others, making this fall a truly memorable season of thanksgiving.

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FALL 2023

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734.263.6461 |
mikejohnson@ourtownmidwest.com

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OUR TOWN STAFF

Micheal T. Johnson
Publisher
Stacey Carter
Co-Publisher

CONTRIBUTORS
Lorie Beardsley-Heyn

ADVERTISING SALES
Mike Johnson
Terri Bowles
Ricksard Chenot
Chick Reid

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Dave Edwards

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Adrian Business Owners Say Downtown Is “The Place To Be”



By Lorie Beardsley-Heyn Our Town Contributor

Downtowns faded with the allure of the suburban shopping malls and the national retail chains. In recent years, many communities have made an effort to reinvigorate their downtowns. Adrian is among the communities that is seeking to bring businesses to the storefronts that line their cityscape. Local business owners have a unique opportunity to meet the needs of the community and to form relationships with the residents who become their customers. After opening one store in North Adams,

Tammy Kies opened Tammy's Affordable Furniture, Antiques & More in Adrian. Kies had initially opened her Adrian location in the mall, but after having to leave the mall, a friend told her about an available building in downtown Adrian. “I really like the people here. They wanted me to stay, and I wanted to stay,” Kies said. Being a realtor as well as a business owner, Kies initially had concerns about the affordability of a space downtown. The pieces fell into place though, and Kies opened her downtown location a little more than a year ago.



Tammy's Affordable Furniture, Antiques & More sells name brand furniture by Ashley, Beauty Rest, and Sierra as well as other top brands. Kies enjoys being able to contribute to the local community through the store. "We offer financing programs through which people can both build credit and eventually, if they stay on schedule, own things. They get to have something nicer than a hand-me-down." Kies also helps the senior citizens in the community by providing free delivery for products like power lift chairs. Her store also sells antiques and collectibles sourced from local residents as well as from estate sales and other sources. With a store that has the catchphrase "Let us

make your house a home," Adrian area residents are more than likely to find what they both need and want to furnish and enhance their houses and apartments right in their community.

Filling a void in Adrian also brought Gwynne Marks downtown. "We knew there was a need for a grocery store in downtown Adrian. It's actually considered a food desert," Marks said. Gwynne Marks, and her husband Jay Marks, initially intended to open The Marks Trading Company as a spice shop, but given the need and their vision, they applied for the Healthy Food Initiative grant in 2021, and they were awarded the grant. The Marks Trading Compa- ▶

ny held their grand opening in September of 2022.

The store fills the need for fresh and wholesome food, particularly for residents who live in the downtown area who do not drive. Prior to the opening of The Marks Trading Company, the only options for food were a Dollar General, which lacked fresh and local options, and a Saturday farmer's market.

Though the store does carry jams, jellies, pickled products, flours, pasta, sauces, and dressings, the store also offers residents locally sourced meats and fresh produce. "We partner with local farmers. All of the meat is local, and all of the produce is local in season." Marks noted that the store will supplement produce during the offseason, but she will return to sourcing locally as soon as the growing season in Michigan allows. Though Marks said that sourcing locally was initially difficult, due primarily to the size of their business, she has built a local network and is pleased with their progress. "I feel like it's a good community of farmers and vendors helping each other out," Marks said.

The store purchases products from local farmers and vendors on commission, a method that Marks describes as a "win-win" because the process allows the farmers and vendors to set their prices, and it frees up capital that does not need to be tied up in inventory. With more of the funds from the grant, Marks plans to begin to carry dairy products and breads. Within the next few months, The Marks Trading Company will be a full grocery store. They will also feature a bulk foods section that will include nuts, flours, coffee, candy, and more. They offer customers the opportunity to purchase peanut butter ground in store. Similarly, customers can purchase oats milled on site.



The emphasis of The Marks Trading Company is not on organic foods, due in part to the cost and affordability factors. Their emphasis is on offering the community the most healthy, local, and fresh product possible.

If it has been a while since you have visited downtown Adrian, take a drive – or even a stroll. You might find that downtown is once again the place to be.



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Unveiling the Alluring Fashion Trends For *Fall 2023*



As the leaves begin to change and a crisp breeze fills the air, the world of fashion is also undergoing a transformation. Fall 2023 brings with it a captivating array of trends that blend comfort, style, and innovation. From nostalgic nods to contemporary twists, here are the fashion trends that will dominate the season, allowing you to curate a wardrobe that perfectly encapsulates the essence of autumn.



• **Heritage Tweeds and Plaids:** Fall 2023 embraces the timeless charm of heritage fabrics such as tweeds and plaids. These classic patterns are making a powerful comeback, adorning blazers, skirts, coats, and even accessories. The cozy textures and warm color palettes effortlessly capture the spirit of fall, making them an essential addition to your wardrobe.

• **Cozy Knit Sets:** Comfort remains a top priority in the fashion world, and this season's answer to that is cozy knit sets. Matching knit tops and bottoms, whether in monochromatic hues or playful patterns, offer a coordinated yet relaxed look. From oversized cardigans to cable-knit sweaters, these sets provide a perfect balance between style and comfort.

• **Leather Renaissance:** Leather is taking center stage in fall 2023, but with a twist. This season, it's all about unexpected silhouettes and innovative designs. Leather blouses, skirts with asymmetrical hemlines, and even leather-trimmed accessories are creating a fresh and edgy aesthetic.

• **Exquisite Embellishments:** Embellishments are a key feature this fall, adding a touch of opulence to outfits. Sequins, beads, and embroidery are adorning dresses, blouses, and even outerwear. These intricate details bring a sense of luxury to everyday wear, allowing you to make a statement wherever you go.

• **Earthy Tones and Rich Hues:** The fall color palette is a delightful blend of earthy tones and rich, deep hues. Think warm browns, olive greens, mustard yellows, and deep burgundies. These colors not only resonate with the season but also create a harmonious connection with the natural world.

• **Sculptural Heels:** Footwear is taking on an artistic dimension this fall with sculptural heels. Shoes featuring uniquely shaped heels, whether geometric or architectural, are adding a creative twist to classic designs. These statement-making shoes can effortlessly elevate your look and become a conversation starter.

• **Elevated Outerwear:** Outerwear is becoming more than just a functional necessity – it's a stylish statement. Long trench coats with intricate detailing, oversized puffer jackets, and tailored leather coats are just a few examples of how outerwear is being reimagined this season.

• **Layered Textures:** Fall is the perfect time to experiment with layering, and this year, it's all about mixing textures. Combine cozy knits with sleek leather or delicate silk with chunky wool for a multidimensional and visually appealing ensemble.

• **Vintage-Inspired Accessories:** Accessories are embracing a vintage vibe this fall. Think '70s-inspired oversized sunglasses, retro scarves, and chunky chain belts. These accessories not only complement the clothing trends but also add a touch of nostalgia to your overall look.

• **Modern Tailoring:** Tailoring is undergoing a contemporary update with unexpected cuts and proportions. From oversized blazers to deconstructed suiting, this trend offers a fresh take on power dressing, allowing you to exude confidence and style.



Fall 2023 promises a delightful journey through time and style, with a mix of classic elements and modern twists. From heritage fabrics to innovative silhouettes, this season's fashion trends encourage you to express your individuality while embracing the warmth and coziness of autumn.

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EXPLORING

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As the spooky season approaches, it's time to start planning for Halloween festivities that are both safe and entertaining. While traditional trick-or-treating has been a cherished activity for generations, times have changed and made it necessary to explore alternative ways to celebrate without compromising on the fun and excitement. Here are some creative ideas to ensure a memorable Halloween experience for everyone involved.



- **Virtual Costume Party:** Embrace the digital age with a virtual costume party. Invite friends and family to dress up in their Halloween best and gather over video conferencing platforms. From adorable animals to iconic movie characters, this virtual gathering allows participants to showcase their costumes, play themed games, and enjoy each other's company from the comfort of their homes.

- **Halloween Movie Marathon:** Turn your living room into a cozy movie theater and host a Halloween movie marathon. Curate a selection of family-friendly or spooky films, complete with themed snacks and decorations. This alternative promises a night of laughter, scares, and togetherness without stepping outside.

- **Scavenger Hunt:** Organize a neighborhood scavenger hunt that adheres to social distancing guidelines. Create a list of Halloween-themed items for participants to find around their homes or yards. This engaging activity encourages creativity and exploration, while maintaining a safe distance from others.

- **Pumpkin Decorating Contest:** Replace the candy hunt with a pumpkin decorating contest. Provide participants with pumpkins and a variety of decorating supplies like paints, markers, and stickers. This artistic endeavor will result in a unique array of festive pumpkins and allow for self-expression.





• **Haunted Home Tour:** Transform your home into a haunted wonderland and invite close friends or family members for a private tour. From eerie decorations to spooky sound effects, this immersive experience will bring the Halloween spirit to life while minimizing potential health risks.

• **Baking and Treat Making:** Get creative in the kitchen by whipping up Halloween-themed treats. From ghost-shaped cookies to mummy cupcakes, the possibilities are endless. This hands-on activity not only results in delicious goodies but also offers a chance to spend quality time with loved ones.

• **Reverse Trick-or-Treating:** Instead of going door-to-door asking for treats, consider a reverse trick-or-treating approach. Prepare small goodie bags or treats and safely drop them off at the doorsteps of friends and neighbors. This heartwarming gesture spreads Halloween cheer while respecting social distancing protocols.

• **Outdoor Costume Parade:** Organize a socially distanced costume parade within your neighborhood. Participants can don their costumes and walk around the block while maintaining a safe distance from one another. This communal activity fosters a sense of community spirit and allows everyone to showcase their creative outfits.

• **Virtual Storytelling Session:** Gather children and adults alike for a virtual storytelling session. Share spooky tales, folklore, or even personal Halloween memories. This tradition bridges the gap between generations and keeps the essence of Halloween alive.

This year, reimagine the way you celebrate Halloween by embracing these alternative activities. While they may differ from the traditional trick-or-treating, they offer unique opportunities for fun, creativity, and connection, ensuring that the spirit of Halloween thrives even in the face of challenges.



Shop Local This Holiday Season

By Rebecca Carlisle-Healy for Barrett's Showplace Gardens & Flower Shop
Sponsored Content

As the year winds down and the holiday season approaches, we find ourselves looking forward to cherished moments with family and friends. It's a time of cozy gatherings, festive decorations, and the joy of gift-giving. But have you ever stopped to think about the impact your holiday shopping choices can have on your community? In Adrian, a place brimming with winter wonder, holiday traditions, and a tight-knit community, the importance of shopping locally shines brighter than ever. Lenawee County transforms into a winter wonderland as snow blankets the wide, flat landscape. From the glistening frost on trees to the serene stillness of frozen lakes under the bright blue winter sky, the natural beauty of Adrian in winter is nothing short of breathtaking. It's a season that beckons us to dress warmly and go outdoors, inviting us to revel in the brisk air as we complete our regular errands.

In our rural community, holiday traditions run deep. Families gather to celebrate time-honored customs passed down through generations. The lighting of trees decorated by our community for the Comstock Christmas Riverwalk, streets decorated with festive evergreen garlands and twinkling lights, and the spirit of giving bring the community together like nothing else. It's a time to count our blessings and enjoy giving to others. While we're fortunate to enjoy four distinct seasons—even the cold one!—it's local businesses that truly make this community shine. Every storefront tells a story, and every purchase supports a dream. Consider local shops that carry handmade products where

artisans pour their hearts into crafting unique gifts. Shopping here means finding treasures you won't discover anywhere else, while also bolstering the local economy. It's about local character, chatting with your neighbors, and appreciating our distinct regional qualities. The holiday season is synonymous with community togetherness in Adrian. From the Winter Wonderland Festival to the lively events downtown, this is a time when residents come together, fostering a sense of belonging that centers and refreshes our soul. Adrian's holiday gatherings remind us of the importance of unity and shared experiences.

In a world of mass-produced goods and crowded malls, it's easy to overlook the treasures that lie within our own community. Adrian, MI, exemplifies the magic of local holidays, where the landscape transforms into a winter wonderland, where traditions are cherished, and where local businesses are supported by folks searching for something unique at a great value. As we embark on this holiday season, let's remember the importance of shopping local and supporting one another where we live.

By choosing to support local businesses, we invest in the heart of our community. We ensure that the stores lining our streets continue to tell their stories, employ our neighbors, and add to the distinctive character of Adrian. Moreover, shopping local isn't just a transaction; it's an act that connects us, a way of saying, "We're in this together."

So, this year, let's make our holiday shopping more than a routine task; let's make it a joyful, meaningful experience. Explore Adrian with a child's eyes. Rediscover holiday traditions and create new ones by keeping your business local. Together, this is how we ensure that our community thrives, not just during the holidays, but all year round.

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EVENT CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Tecumseh's Appleumpkin Festival 2023: Downtown Tecumseh

October 14 – 15

Information: <https://www.facebook.com/Appleumpkin/>

Kelly Carter Scholarship Run: Intersection of Pearl St. and Chicago Blvd., Tecumseh, MI

October 14, 8:00 AM

Register Online: <https://carterrehabcenter.com/kc-tl-scholarship-run.html>

Jekyll and Hyde: Croswell Opera House

October 13-22

Information and tickets: 517-264-7469 or <https://croswell.org/>

CR Motors of Adrian Trunk or Treat: 1211 E US Highway 223, Adrian

October 25, 4:30 PM

Information: 517-266-5900 or <https://www.facebook.com/events/216540214251451>

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater: You'll Die Laughing! Croswell Opera House

October 27-28

Information and tickets: 517-264-7469 or <https://croswell.org/>

Downtown Trick or Treating: Downtown Adrian

October 28t, 4:30 -6:30 PM

Includes trick or treating from Downtown and area businesses, bounce house, and photo area

<https://www.facebook.com/downtownadrian>

Trick or Treating: Village of Clinton

October 31, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

NOVEMBER

First Friday "Give Thanks": Downtown Adrian

November 3

<https://www.facebook.com/downtownadrian>

The Little Mermaid: Croswell Opera House

November 17 – December 3

Information and tickets: 517-264-7469 or <https://croswell.org/>

Associated Charities Turkey Trot:

Siena Heights University Fieldhouse, Adrian

November 23, 8:30 AM

Register Online:

<https://www.raceentry.com/races/associated-charities-turkey-trot/2023/register>

Small Business Saturday: Downtown Adrian

November 25

<https://www.facebook.com/downtownadrian>

DECEMBER

Frist Friday "Christmas" Events: Downtown Adrian

December 1

Include Holiday Light Parade, Comstock Riverwalk Christmas Tree Lighting, visits with Santa and his elves, and more

<https://www.facebook.com/downtownadrian>

Women: Make a Charcuterie Board: Sam Beauford Woodshop

December 3

Information and tickets: (517) 759-3070 or

<https://www.sambeaufordwoodshop.com/women-non-binary-wood-working-courses>

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How To Find A Tutor For Your Child



Metro Creative Feature

Tutors provide an invaluable service to students across the globe. Students at all grade levels utilize tutors, and the results such tutors produce may surprise even the most ardent tutor supporters. A study from researchers at the Chabot College Office of Institutional Research found that tutored students had higher pass rates on average than non-tutored students in every class examined. Those classes included anatomy, biology, business, and chemistry. In addition, one study published in the American Journal of Physics found that human tutoring can result in classroom test scores that are 35 percent higher than software-driven tutoring. Such results have understandably made many parents true believers in the power of tutoring. Parents who want their children to work with tutors but don't know where to find one can try these strategies.

Contact your child's school.

Many schools offer free tutoring programs, and such programs can provide the one-on-one attention students need to understand their lessons. After-school tutoring programs offered by schools also may provide curriculum-specific tutoring that aligns directly with what students are being taught in the classroom. Schools also may have information about local private tutors and tutoring firms, so parents should not hesitate to contact their children's school.





Ask around.

Fellow parents can be great resources when looking for tutors. Other parents can share their own experiences working with certain tutors, and may be able to point you in the direction of tutors who specialize in certain areas, such as mathematics or the sciences.

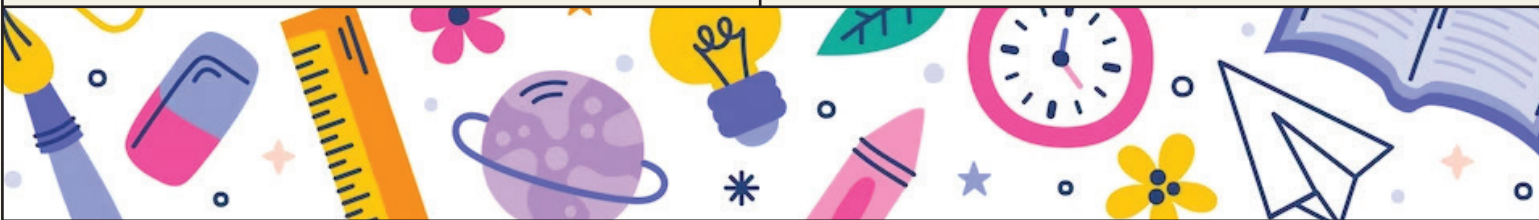
Contact local community organizations.

Local community organizations such as the YMCA also may offer free or low-cost tutoring programs to members or even non-members. Parents are urged to consider these programs, as they may be staffed by local college students, including undergraduates and post-graduates. When speaking with local

organizations, ask how they choose their tutors and inquire about the educational backgrounds of those tutors.

Consider online tutoring services.

Online tutoring services are another option, and one that can be especially valuable for families that live in remote or rural areas where in-person access to tutors may be hard to find. Search the internet for online tutoring services, making sure to read reviews and even request testimonials from past clients before signing up. Parents have numerous resources at their disposal that can help them find tutors for their children.



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Hooligans Sugar Cookie Martini

2oz Cake Vodka
 1oz Chocolate liquor
 1oz Bailey's
 1oz heavy whipping cream

In a martini shaker 1/2 full with ice and add all ingredients, vigorously shake with tight lid, let sit then shake again and pour in glass rimmed with sugar or make it extra special with sprinkles.

Spiked Hot Chocolate with that extra touch

Why make boring hot chocolate when you can amp up your game in a major way!



Ingredients:

Unsweetened cocoa
 Bitter sweet chocolate
 Warm milk
 Spoon of sugar
 Your choice of liquor:
 Kahlua, Spiced Rum,
 Whiskey

That EXTRA Topping, make a marshmallow snowman!

All you need are large marshmallows, pretzel sticks, candy corn for the nose and chocolate frosting in the tube. Use a piece of pretzel to connect the head and body with a dot of frosting and decorate away.



Wild Game Meatloaf

Ingredients:

2/3 pound ground venison
 1/2 pound ground beef
 1/3 ground sausage
 1/2 c diced sweet onion
 1/2 c diced celery
 2 tbsp. minced garlic
 3 tbsp. fresh fine chopped parsley
 1/2 cup bread crumbs
 1/4 cup rolled oats
 1/2 cup milk
 2 eggs
 Pinch of each, Kosher salt, black pepper, tarragon

Prep time 45 min, Cook time 1 hour - Amazing Michigan comfort food, as the days become cooler and leaves fall this dish is one to satisfy and bring reminders of the warmth of home. This season Hooligans Grill dish is a HUGE hit with our customers and is only available in the fall/winter. Sauté onion, celery, and garlic in butter and dash of olive oil till tender. Mix all dry ingredients in large bowl then add meat, mix, then add liquids mix again with clean hands till all is incorporated and mashed together. Place a formed roll of meat mixture in a loaf pan or ball size in a large muffin pan for individual servings. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour (if using muffin pan check at 35 minutes as it will cook quicker) Be careful to not over cook as venison is very lean and can cook quickly. Make it a classic and top with ketchup.



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OCTOBER 13 - OCTOBER 22



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 AT 7:30PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 AT 7:30PM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 AT 2:30PM
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7:30PM
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 7:30PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT 2:30PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 AT 7:30PM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT 2:30PM

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