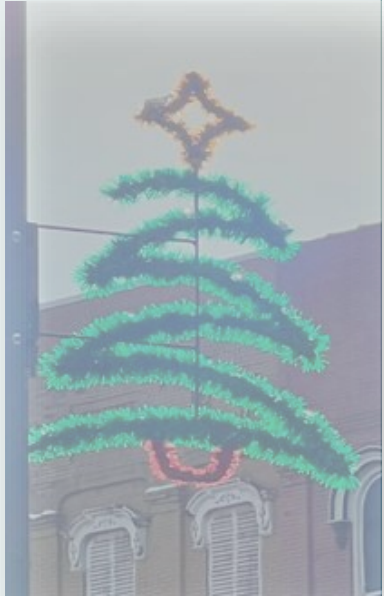


February  
2022

— THE CITY OF —  
**CHARLOTTE**  
— MICHIGAN —



THE CITY LAUNCHES NEWSLETTER

The City of Charlotte is pleased to present a monthly newsletter with news from around the community. First item of business—what should we call our newsletter? We want to hear from you! We have created a survey on our website—please vote here: [www.charlottemi.org/charlotte-e-news/](http://www.charlottemi.org/charlotte-e-news/)



NEWS YOU CAN USE

The city will be using this as another source of news and information to help ensure the community is kept involved in local matters. We want your feedback! Contact Erin LaPere at [ela-pere@charlottemi.org](mailto:ela-pere@charlottemi.org) or 517-543-8850 with any questions about the newsletter.

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# CITY MEETING CALENDAR

## February

- Tuesday, 1 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 1 Parks Advisory Board, in Community Room (basement of City Hall).
- Monday, 7 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Thursday, 10 City Council workshop meeting in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Tuesday, 15 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30PM.
- Monday, 21 City Hall Closed—President's Day
- Tuesday, 22. City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.

## March

- Tuesday, 1 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 1 Parks Advisory Board, in Community Room (basement of City Hall).
- Monday, 7 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Thursday, 10 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Monday, 14 Board of Review, in-person from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
- Tuesday, 15 Board of Review, in-person from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Tuesday, 15 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30 PM.
- Monday, 21 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.

## April

- Monday, 4 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Tuesday, 5 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 5 Parks Advisory Board, in Community Room (basement of City Hall).
- Thursday, 14 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Monday, 18 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Tuesday, 19 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30PM.

Agendas, meeting details, and zoom links are available online at [www.charlottemi.org](http://www.charlottemi.org).

Meetings are in-person at City Hall Council Chambers at 7pm unless noted otherwise.

# NEWS FROM CITY HALL

**Water Shutoffs Resume.** The City will be resuming its procedures for collection of unpaid utility billings, including shutoffs for non-payment. Utility customers who have an unpaid balance that is subject to shutoff per ordinance will receive a mailing detailing the amount owed and deadlines for payment.

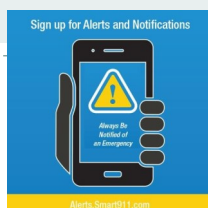
Persons who are in need of assistance due to financial or other hardships can find information on available programs online at [www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/](http://www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/) or by calling 2-1-1.



## Holiday Closure

City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents Day on Monday, February 21st.

**Rave Alerts.** The City of Charlotte is now using Rave alerts! Get notified with important information about what is happening in the community such as street closures, water system work, or emergencies that may affect you. There are several ways to register: Text CHARLOTTE to 67283; Download the Smart911 app; or Register for a free and secure safety profile online at [Smart911.com](http://Smart911.com).



**Winter Tax Bills** have been mailed to all property owners and taxpayers. State law requires property owners receive a copy of the tax statement. Those paid via escrow will have a notation in the upper, left-hand corner of the owner's copy of the tax bill.



**Winter tax payments are due by February 14, 2022 at 5pm.**

Any payments received after close of business will be considered late, including online payments or those deposited in the drop-box after hours. Please note, it is the property owner's responsibility to ensure taxes are paid and non-receipt of the bill does not negate the requirement to pay. Questions about your tax bill contact the Treasurer's Office at 517-543-2750. You can get more information and pay online at [www.charlottemi.org](http://www.charlottemi.org).



**Blight, Weeds, or Junk Vehicles** Properties must be kept in good repair, including exterior siding and roofs, and free of junk/debris. Additionally, city code states that vehicles must be registered and operable.

If you see a property in your neighborhood in need of maintenance, please call 517-543-8837, [ccummings@charlottemi.org](mailto:ccummings@charlottemi.org), or report it online at [www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/](http://www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/).

Individuals in need of assistance can find resources on our website at [www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/](http://www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/)

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

In 2019, a partnership of Charlotte Public Schools, Sparrow Hospital (formerly Hayes Green Beach), CanDo!, Barry Eaton Health Department, the Eaton County Road Commission, and the City, applied for funds through MDOT from the

Safe Routes to School grant program to construct certain infrastructure projects throughout the City, including sidewalks, crosswalks, and signage to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bike to school. In 2021, we received conditional approval of the \$1.3 million in grant funding and we are working on the pre-construction stage of this project. Crews have been out surveying and meeting with affected property owners. Look for more information later this year!



# NEWS FROM CITY HALL

**Assessing Update** The Board of Review will be meeting on March 14 from 3:00pm to 9:00pm and March 15th from 9:00am to 3pm at City Hall for the purpose of hearing protests to the 2022 values as set by the Assessor. Appointments may be made after the Assessment Notices are received. Notices will be mailed by March 1st, 2022.

Any Veterans that are considered permanently and totally disabled may be exempt from property tax. Poverty exemption applications are also available from our office. If your household income is less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines you may qualify for a property tax exemption. Please contact our office for details. If you have been exempt in the past, please make sure you file the application as soon as possible. You may contact us by emailing Sandy at [sosborn@charlottemi.org](mailto:sosborn@charlottemi.org) or Randy at [randy@taxassessing.com](mailto:randy@taxassessing.com), or by phone at 517-543-8844.



**From the Fire Chief** Did you know that three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms? More than one-third (38 percent) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present. The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms. Smoke detectors help save lives by warning residents of a fire in time to escape.

The Charlotte Fire Department will provide and install a free smoke detector for any qualifying Charlotte and surrounding Township residents living in a single-family or two-family residence. The department also will install replacement batteries in existing smoke detectors at no charge.

For a free smoke detector or to arrange to have the batteries in an existing device replaced, call 517-543-0241.



**From the Police Chief** Reminder—please do not park overnight on any city street or parking lot (except for permitted downtown residents). There is a city-wide ordinance prohibiting parking from 2am to 5am. Keeping streets clear is especially important in winter to ensure plows can clear roads after snowfall.



Downtown residents—did you update your parking permit in November? Please call 517-543-1552 or visit [www.charlottemi.org](http://www.charlottemi.org) for permit information.



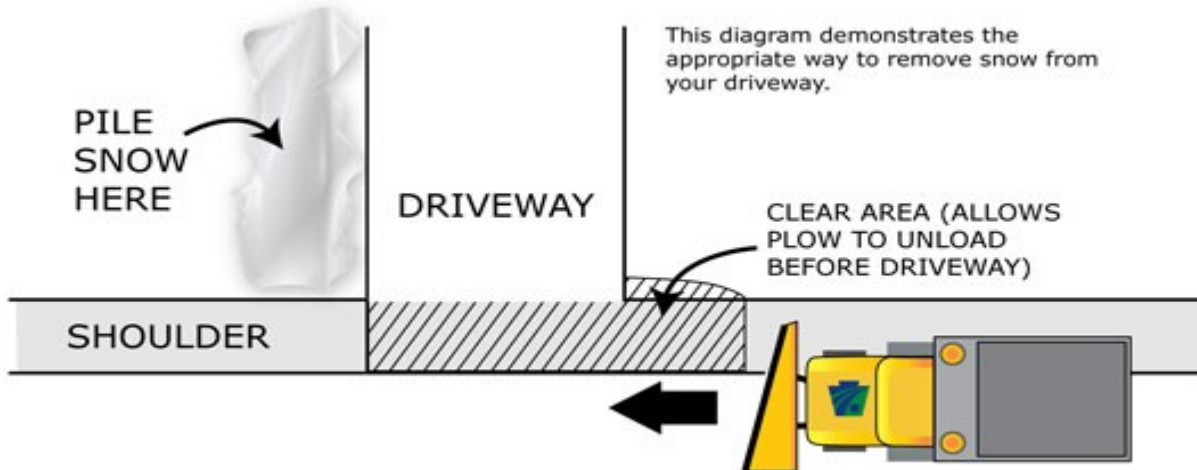
Business Owners—scan the QR code to update the police department keyholder contact information quickly and easily.



## NEWS FROM CITY HALL

**Snow Removal Reminder.** The streets in the city are plowed by City, ECRC, and MDOT crews, depending on jurisdiction. The effectiveness of the snow plow; however, is impacted greatly by the actions of property owners when moving snow out of their driveways and sidewalks. Please do not push, blow, plow, throw or otherwise place the snow in the street. Most importantly for the efficiency of our plows, do not push snow back into the street after the plow has been down your street. Pushing snow into the street is not only a safety concern, it's against our code of ordinances.

To help limit the amount of snow that ends up in your driveway, clear a section of the street along the curb before your driveway to create a place for the snow to end up. This will reduce the amount that ends up in front of your drive. If there is a hydrant in front of your home or business, please keep it cleared throughout the winter.



**Sidewalks—Snow and Ice.** The City has adopted an ordinance that requires property owners keep sidewalks clear of ice and snow. Property owners are required to clear the sidewalks within 48hrs of a snow or ice event. Please remove snow from edge to edge and from property line to property line including the entire approach to any crosswalks. Owners of corner lots must clear both frontage streets in their entirety. In addition, please do not push snow from the sidewalks into the crosswalk. Ensure that all crosswalks are clear and that pedestrians have a safe path from the sidewalk, without having to step over a pile of snow.

If you see sidewalks in your neighborhood in need of attention, please call 517-543-8837 or report it online at [www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/](http://www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/)





# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—FEBRUARY



# Baby & Me

Rhyme Time

- SONGS
- ACTIVITIES
- PLAY

A special time of interaction between adult and babies/toddlers.

Thursdays 10-10:30am  
For babies and toddlers with their caregivers.

 Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org



# STORIES, SONGS, and STRETCHES!

## Preschool Storytime

- Thursdays at 11am
- For children ages 3-6 and their caregivers
- Yoga mat or blanket recommended but not required

Develop early literacy, physical, and social-emotional skills.

 Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# Take Your Child to the Library Day

February 5, 2022



- Parents, bring your child to the library and be entered into a drawing for a \$20 Meijer gift card.
- Children visiting the library will receive an 'I VISITED' button.



\*while supplies last

 Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org



# Craft Club!

**Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 4-5:30pm**  
For students 4th-12th grade




We will be doing **Paper Mache**

Pre-registration is required.

 Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org



# HUNT A KILLER MYSTERY





**Do you have what it takes to Hunt A Killer?**  
Sort through evidence, decode ciphers, piece together clues, and catch the killer.

**Meet every Thursday night in February @ 5:30pm**

**Mystery Storyline:**  
When a graduate student is found dead during an expedition in Alaska, his death is blamed on local wildlife. But suspicious evidence at the scene points to foul play. It's up to you to find out what dangers and truths await.

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

Adult Programming




Charlotte Community Library

# Board Meeting

**Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7pm**

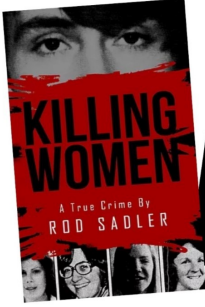

Meeting is held at the library in the Spartan Room.



Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# Author Visit

Saturday, Feb. 26th @ 1pm

Join us for an intriguing author presentation.

**Killing Women**  
By Rod Sadler

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

Adult Programming

Charlotte Community Library

# WILL BE CLOSED

## Presidents Day

**Monday, February 21, 2022**



Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# Sweetheart Bingo



**Wednesday, Feb 2nd @ 3pm**  
For students 2nd grade and up

No pre-registration needed

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# DIY Vanilla Extract & Infused Olive Oil




Make and Take Workshop

**Monday, Feb. 7th @ 5:30pm**

Pre-register by Feb. 4th

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

Adult Programming



# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## ALIVE! EVENTS—FEBRUARY

### February 1 – Broadway Cardio Series Begins

**6:30-7:15PM, 4-week session every Tuesday | \$35/4-week session or \$20/4-week session for MOVE Members**

*This high energy class features Broadway-themed music and dance that will give you a full body workout while experiencing the excitement that comes with Broadway show tunes.*

### February 4 – Dine & Design

**6:30-8:00PM | \$40/person**

*Enjoy an evening out as you paint your own winter-themed masterpiece. This beginner-level, step-by-step, instructor-led class will guide you through painting your own canvas. Come with an appetite as this program features dinner catered by The Big Salad.*

### February 10 – Sushi & Frushi

**11:45AM-12:30PM | \$12/person**

*Satisfy both your sweet and savory taste buds in this lunchtime offering. Learn how to make custom sushi and frushi (fruit dessert) rolls, then enjoy your creations during class. Tips and tricks to recreate this delectable meal at home will be shared.*

### February 11 – Fit to be In Love: Couple's Workout

**5:30-6:15PM | \$20/couple or \$10/couple for MOVE members**

*Bring your partner and put your relationship to the test, in this Valentine's Day inspired, couples workout.*

### February 12 – Parents' Great Escape: Valentines Edition

**5:00-9:00PM | \$18/first child, \$12/additional child (same household)**

*Parents, drop the kids off for some fun at ALIVE while you take the evening to relax or go out. Ages 3-12 (young children must be fully potty-trained). Supervised activities include Valentine-themed crafts/snacks, singing songs, group games, group stories and more. Pizza dinner provided. Ages 3-12. **Pre-registration is required by Feb. 9; call 517.541.5803.***

### February 22 – Community Blood Drive

**12:00-6:00PM | FREE**

*Blood donation is vital to keeping our community safe. **Sign-up in advance as a donor at [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) (use code Alive in the "make your appointment" field) or call 1.800.RED.CROSS (1.800.733.2767) to request a reservation.** Two timeslots available every 15 minutes during drive.*

### February 26 – Bread Making & Taking

**10:30AM-12:00PM | \$20/person**

*French baguettes will be featured as chef Sarah shows you how to create the perfect loaf. To accompany the fresh baked creations, enjoy a soup and seasoned olive oil from The Big Salad. A take home loaf can be purchased for an additional \$5 (limited quantity available).*



All programs are held at 800 W. Lawrence Avenue, Charlotte, MI unless otherwise noted



# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## OTHER CHARLOTTE AREA EVENTS

### Eaton Area Senior Center “The Center”

The Senior Center invites one and all to join as a member and support the non-profit's mission. All ages can join! Please contact 517-541-2934 or visit <https://www.eascmi.org/> The Center is located at 804 S Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI 48813.



**BINGO!** Every Tuesday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM the Center hosts Bingo games. All are welcome to attend and join in the fun!

**The Center is available for rent—banquets or special events; fundraising!**  
Call Cindy for details, 517-541-2934



### Eaton County Fairgrounds

The events at Eaton County Fairgrounds are managed by the Eaton County Agricultural Society. The Eaton County Agricultural Society is a Non-Profit 501(c)(5) corporation established in 1855. ECAS is operated by the Board of Directors, AKA the Fairboard. The Fairboard consists of 15 members who make the majority of the decisions regarding the operation of the Eaton County Fair and the grounds. Learn more here: <https://eatoncountyfair.com/pageserver/ag-society>.

The Fairboard has a full slate of exciting events planned for 2022. The tentative schedule is below:

*February 25-27: Michigan Nordic Fire Festival*

*April 15-16: Eaton Conservation District Tree Sale pick-up*

*April 30-May1: Eaton County Home & Business Expo*

*May 5-8: Spinsanity Flow Down*

*May 7: Horse Show*

*May 7: Llama Show*

*May 21: Cattle Show*

*May 29: FFA Elite Lamb Show*

*May 30: FFA Elite Hog Show*

*June 4-5: Magical Realm Fantasy Faire*

*June 10-11: Horse Show*

*June 23-25: Charlotte Bluegrass Festival*

*July 9-16: Eaton County Fair*

*July 30: Horse Show*

*August 6: Dairy Goat Show*

*August 6: Horse Show*

*August 12-14: Mid-Michigan Gospel Fest*

*August 26-27: Horse Show*

*September 7-11: Charlotte Frontier Days*

*September 16-18: Dog Show*

*September 23-24: Horse Show*

*October 1: Horse Show*

*October 14-15: Horse Show*

## CITY OF CHARLOTTE

**Michael Armitage**—Mayor

**Tammy Weissenborn**—Mayor Pro-Tem/  
Councilmember

**Branden Dyer**—Councilmember

**Anthony Rodriguez**—Councilmember

**Adrianne Van Langevelde**—Councilmember

**Christopher Lake**—Councilmember

**Ronald Horvath**—Councilmember

**Erin LaPere**—City Manager

**Mary LaRocque**—City Clerk

**Eric Smith**—Finance Director/Treasurer

**Amy Gilson**—DPW Director

**Paul Brentar**—Police Chief

**Robert Vogel**—Fire Chief

**Bryan Myrkle**—Community Development  
Director

**Randy Jewell**—Assessor

## MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



office 517-543-8850  
cell/text 269-223-9809  
email [elapere@charlottemi.org](mailto:elapere@charlottemi.org)

best way to achieve our future success.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and useful. Please reach out to me with information about your neighborhood, places we can improve services, or any questions about city operations. I'd love to hear from you!

You can also learn more about what's happening in Charlotte online at the city's website: [www.charlottemi.org](http://www.charlottemi.org); facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CityCharlotteMI>; or twitter: @CityCharlotteMI

*- Erin E. LaPere*

### Guide to Frozen Water Services. Pipes or hoses exposed to the air will



freeze when the temperature reaches 32 degrees or colder. Water pipes buried in the ground are insulated from the freezing temperatures until the frost in the ground reaches the depth of the water pipes. The time it takes for the frost to reach buried water pipes varies greatly depending on snow cover, average temperatures and the type of soil. One interesting fact is that when the sun shines during the winter months, it actually pushes the frost deeper before thawing begins. When water freezes in a pipe it expands and the expansion can result in a burst pipe. Letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. It's not that a small flow of water prevents freezing; this helps, but water can freeze even with a slow flow. Please call Public Works at (517) 543-8858 for more information.

**Camp Frances Reservations.** The cabin and grounds at Camp Frances are temporarily unavailable for rent due to vandalism (broken window).

We hope to have rentals available soon!

### City Hall

111 E Lawrence Ave  
Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-2750

Fax: 517-543-8845

E-mail: [manager@charlottemi.org](mailto:manager@charlottemi.org)

Clerk/Treasurer/Police

In-Person Service Hours

Monday thru Friday

9 am - 1 pm

2 pm - 4 pm

City Hall Staff Hours

Monday thru Friday

8 am - 5 pm

Emergency Services 9-1-1

After-Hours DPW 517-543-8874

