

September
2022

— THE CITY OF —
CHARLOTTE
— MICHIGAN —

Charlotte Chronicles

CITY HALL CLOSED—LABOR DAY

City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday. Online services are always available at www.charlottemi.org.

Emergency Police/Fire: 9-1-1

Emergency DPW: 517-543-8874

Regular walk-in service hours are:

- First floor—Police/Clerk/Treasurer: Monday through Friday, 9am—1pm and 2pm—4pm
- Second Floor—City Manager/DPW/Assessor/Community Development: Wednesdays, 1pm—5pm

All city staff are available Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm by phone and email. In-person meetings with city staff are also available by request 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday.

Sign up for Alerts and Notifications



Alerts.Smart911.com

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 (cont. on page 3)



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CITY MEETING CALENDAR

September

- Monday, 5 Labor Day—City Hall Closed
- Tuesday, 6 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 6 Parks Advisory Board, City Hall Community Room—basement
- Thursday, 8 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 13 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 13 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Monday, 19 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 20 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm

October

- Monday, 3 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 4 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 4 Parks Advisory Board, City Hall Community Room—basement
- Tuesday, 11 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Thursday, 13 City Council workshop, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 17 Airport Advisory Board, 8:00am, Fitch Beach Airport, 1325 Island Hwy
- Monday, 17 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 18 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm

November

- Tuesday, 1 Planning Commission
- Monday, 7 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 8 General Election, Polls open from 7:00am to 8:00pm
- Tuesday, 8 Camp Frances Board, 6:30pm, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Thursday, 10 City Council workshop, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Friday, 11 City Hall Closed—Veterans Day
- Tuesday, 15 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30pm
- Monday, 21 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Thursday, 24 to Friday, 25 City Hall Closed—Thanksgiving

Agendas, meeting details, and zoom links are available online at www.charlottemi.org.

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

NEWS FROM CITY HALL



November 8th General Election- Absentee Voting, Michiganders can apply to vote absentee in the Nov. 8 general election now. Clerks will begin mailing out absent voter ballots by Sept. 29. They will be available for early, in-person voting in clerks' offices on that date as well.

For more information on absentee voting, or to register to vote, go to Michigan.gov/

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.

Grass and vegetation be maintained so as not to exceed 10 inches in height. A code enforcement inspector will take action on properties that are not maintained. They may also have weeds/grass cut at the property owner's expense. Please keep shrubs and trees trimmed back at corners to prevent traffic hazards, and away from sidewalks for pedestrian safety. Do not put lawn clippings or leaves in the road, alley, or gutters since they may clog storm drains, which can be costly to clear out.



Please note: curbside collection of yard waste takes place in the spring and fall. At all other times, yard waste must be taken to the DPW yard for disposal. Residents can drop off compostable materials Monday thru Friday from 8am to 4pm and Saturday from 8am to 11:30am.

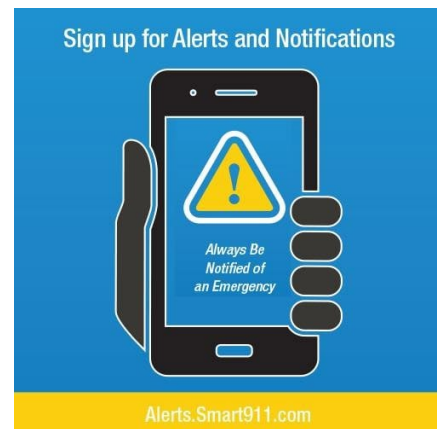
If you see a property in your neighborhood in need of maintenance, please call 517-543-8837, ccummings@charlottemi.org, or report it online at www.charlottemi.org/contact-us/.

Individuals in need of assistance can find resources on our website at www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/

Rave Alerts—Utility Billing (cont. from page 1) you. We also use the system to post other city information. Starting in July, we expanded the service options to include targeted text and email messaging for quarterly utility billing. We will send out a notice to registered users when we send out the bills for their cycle area. This alert will notify them the bill has been mailed and provide other billing related information.

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.



NEWS FROM CITY HALL



From the Police Chief Frontier Days is coming to town September 7th through September 11th. On Saturday, September 10th there is the annual 5K and Parade. New for this year, the 5K is now starting at 9:15 am and the Parade will now be at 10 am. Traffic control will start at 9 am where no one will be allowed to cross Cochran and will have to use the posted detour route. We will post a map of the detour route on our Facebook Page (Charlotte Michigan Police Department) the week before.

Downtown Residents—Reminder: parking permits will expire at the end of October. Please call 517-543-1552 with any questions on parking permits.



From the Fire Chief Prior to burning this spring and summer, don't forget to get a Burning Permit from the Charlotte Fire Department. This permit can be issued at either the West Side Fire Station or the Downtown Station, by calling (517) 543-0241, or online at <https://www.charlottemifire.org/content/permits/>.

The permit is issued at no cost.

ARPA Funds Survey Results The City has approximately \$877,000 available for funding projects from federal American Rescue Plan Act funds. City Council asked for feedback on how to invest these one-time federal dollars. In May we conducted a survey on ideas for how to spend these funds and on Thursday, June 9th we held a townhall and reviewed the survey results. A copy of the survey results presentation and more information is available online at: www.charlottemi.org/ARPA



Volunteers Needed. Are you looking to give back? Do you have skills that can benefit the community? The City has several opportunities for citizens to participate in their local government. The following boards/committees need volunteers.

- Board of Review
- Camp Frances

Interested persons can find more information here: <https://www.charlottemi.org/volunteers-wanted/>



NEWS FROM CITY HALL

Property Maintenance Code. The City Council recently adopted proposed amendments to the property maintenance code. The property maintenance code regulates the standards for maintaining residential and commercial properties. The last updated code edition was from 2006. City Council adopted the 2021 edition to ensure standards are up-to-date and follow current best practices. All properties including commercial, industrial, and residential are expected to follow these basic property maintenance standards. These are the standards used by the Code Enforcement and Rental Inspectors for compliance with health, safety, and welfare concerns.

Medical Marijuana Caregivers. The City Council recently adopted new regulations for medical marijuana caregivers producing marijuana for patients in Charlotte. Medical marijuana caregivers are allowed to grow marijuana for other patients by-right under Michigan law. However, recent state supreme court rulings have affirmed that local regulations on the activity are allowed, as long as they do not conflict with state-level laws and rules. The City Council approved the new rules in an effort to ensure that the production of medical marijuana at houses and homes in Charlotte does not become a nuisance in the neighborhoods where these grow operations are located. Similar to other home occupations, these standards limit how much of a residential home can be dedicated to this use, ensure safeguards are in place to minimize offsite effects such as odors and noise, and provide a mechanism for permitting and review. Medical Marijuana Caregivers will be given time to register with the City once the regulations take effect.

Home Occupations. The City of Charlotte Planning Commission and City Council recently updated local rules regarding home occupations. The purpose of the update is to provide greater economic opportunity for Charlotte residents, while ensuring that home occupations do not disrupt residential neighborhoods. The term home occupation primarily means a small business based at a residence. Previous regulations had not been updated in many years, and did not reflect the diversity of economic opportunity presented by the modern economy. Previous regulations were based on a short and outdated list of allowed home occupations, and a short list of prohibited occupations. Anything else was prohibited unless special permission was granted by the Planning Commission in the form of a Conditional Use.

After reviewing a range of newer ordinances adopted by other communities, the Planning Commission determined that a better approach is one relying on a set of standards for home occupations that protect neighbors and neighborhoods from any potential negative effects and nuisances that might result from a nearby home occupation. The new approach presumes that all legal economic activity that can be conducted from an individual residence is permitted, as long as it does not create off-site problems such as increased traffic and parking, noise, dust, smoke, vibration or unsightliness.

The City Council reviewed the work of the Planning Commission and adopted the new ordinance as recommended. Questions regarding home occupations and the new ordinance should be directed to Community Development Director Bryan Myrkle at (517) 543-8853. Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director, (517) 543-8853 or bmyrkle@charlottemi.org.

A copy of each of the recently adopted ordinances can be reviewed online at www.charlottemi.org/city-code/recent-ordinances/ or in-person at City Hall, Clerk's Office, 111 E Lawrence Ave.

NEWS FROM CITY HALL



Michiganders in crisis now have an easy-to-remember three-digit number to call for help – 988. Michigan has joined the nation in [transitioning to the 988-dialing code](#), which will operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline’s network of more than 200 locally operated and funded crisis centers across the country.

In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to operate through the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#). This action expands the existing Lifeline beyond people who are feeling suicidal to all individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including suicidal thoughts or substance abuse issues. Trained counselors will be available 24/7 to field calls. They will listen to the caller’s problems, assess their needs and provide support by connecting them with resources, and alert local emergency crisis teams, if necessary.

Anyone with these concerns can call:

- Mental health-related distress.
- Thoughts of suicide.
- Substance use crisis.
- Emotional distress.
- There are specialized services available for veterans, LGBTQ individuals and other groups.
- People who are worried about a loved one who may need support also can call.

The 988-dialing code does not replace the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK (8255)) or other locally operated crisis lines. Instead, it serves as a universal entry point to connect individuals in need to trained crisis counselors who can help. MDHHS is working to ensure a solid infrastructure is built through coordination with 911 and other crisis service providers as the 988-dialing code launches.

Prior to the development of 988, the [Michigan Crisis and Access Line](#) (MiCAL) was funded by the Michigan Legislature in December 2018. MDHHS was charged with the development of MiCAL, which is currently operating in Oakland County and the Upper Peninsula, and with 988 implementation.

MiCAL is built on the SAMHSA’s National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care which is also the foundation for 988. In Michigan, MiCAL is responsible for answering 988 calls in all areas of Michigan. In Macomb and Kent counties, Macomb County Community Mental Health and Network 180 will answer 988 calls with MiCAL providing back-up call coverage.

For more information, visit [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and Michigan Crisis & Access Line](#).

NEWS FROM CITY HALL

Lead Service Line Replacement. A survey of the city's water system is needed to comply with the amended Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act which was changed in 2018 to require all municipal drinking water providers to inventory their water lines by 2025.

Part of that work includes verifying the material of the water service inside the residence. Water service lines can be copper or plastic, but some may be galvanized steel, iron, or lead.

While Charlotte has begun work on the outside portion of the project, a concerted effort will be undertaken soon to verify service material inside a home. If you would like to schedule an appointment for a city employee to verify your service, please call 517-543-8858.

A \$350,700 grant to assist in the effort to identify lead service leads has been obtained from EGLE. This work is mandated by the state, and more information about lead service lines can be found here: [Michigan.gov lead and copper rule](#).



Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund (MIHAF). The Fund was established under section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (the ARP) to mitigate hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to prevent homeowner mortgage delinquencies, defaults, foreclosure, loss of utilities or home energy services and displacements of homeowners experiencing financial hardship on or after January 21, 2020 or for those homeowners who experience a coronavirus pandemic financial hardship that began before January 21, 2020 but continued after that date. For more information or to apply, visit [MSHDA's website](#).

Emergency Home Repair Program. Eaton County administers an Emergency Repair Program. No interest, no payment loans to Eaton County residents who meet federal, state and County Housing Program guidelines may be provided. This program assists with emergency repairs that are causing a health and safety risk to the occupants and the structure of the home.

The program offers up to \$20,000 in no interest, no payment loan assistance to repair and improve program participant's home. A deferred mortgage is recorded against the property for the amount invested into the home. Contact Housing at: 517-543-3710 or visit their website at <https://www.eatoncounty.org/181/Emergency-Home-Repair> for more information.

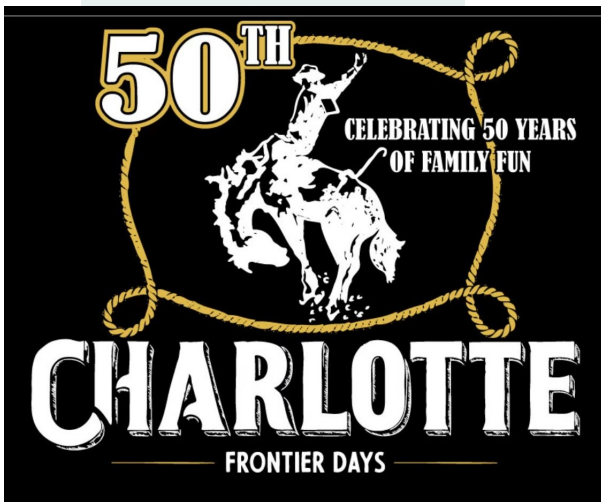
Other Assistance Programs Available. There are other programs for those having trouble paying rent/mortgage or utilities. Persons who are in need of assistance due to financial or other hardships can find information on available programs online at www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/ or by calling 2-1-1.

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

FAIRGROUNDS EVENTS-2022

Yeehaw! It's the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Charlotte Frontier Days! We hope everyone can join us in celebrating this fabulous tradition. Below is a summary of events planned, a full schedule can be found online at www.charlottefrontierdays.org

<u>Tuesday, September 6:</u>	Ribbon cutting and 50th Reunion/Mixer at the Saloon
<u>Wednesday, September 7:</u>	DJ Bingo and Karaoke at the Saloon
<u>Thursday, September 8:</u>	Fireworks and 80's Night at the Saloon
<u>Friday, September 9:</u>	Family Day at the Fairgrounds, Rodeo, live music and dancing at the Saloon
<u>Saturday, September 10:</u>	Parade (10am), Bingo (at Beach Market), Rodeo, dog shows, live music and dancing at the Saloon
<u>Sunday, September 11:</u>	Classic Car Cruise In, Helicopter Rides, High School Rodeo



- Shopping at the Arts & Crafts Show and Frontier Market, Live Music at the Saloon all weekend!
- Dancing Deputies perform all week long!
- See the ALIVE Dancers on Weds and Thurs only

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. Come visit the fairgrounds for all the fun events this year, including:

September 6-11: Charlotte Frontier Days

September 16-18: Dog Show

September 23-24: Horse Show

October 1: Horse Show

October 14-15: Horse Show



EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EVENTS-SEPTEMBER



CPS Construction Update The Charlotte Public Schools have been hard at work with construction thanks to the support of the community with the 2020 Bond proposal. You can find out more on their website here: <https://www.charlotteorioles.com/cpsbond2020/>

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

ALIVE! EVENTS — SEPTEMBER



A list of September events at Alive! can be found below. Check out the complete Fall Brochure here: [My](#)

[Alive! Brochure](#)

September 4th-September 10th

Free Sampler Week

Try any MOVE member free group exercise class for free!

live life. Nspired.

This annual Sparrow Eaton 5K run and 1.5-mile family walk is inspired by Natalie Freiburger's 11 years of life lived fully. Join participants from all walks of life for this unique generosity experience. Visit livelifainspired.org for early registration dates and race details.

Cost: 5K Run - \$20/\$25/\$30

Family Run - \$50/\$65/\$80

Family Walk - FREE

Sat., Sept. 10 9:15 a.m.

Parents' Great Escape

Faciliators: GROW caregivers

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

Sept 10: Barnyard Bash, Y'all!

Oct. 22: Brewing Something Spooky!

Nov. 12: GIVE (please bring a nonperishable food item)

Cost: \$25 first child

\$20 per add'l child (same household)

GROW Member:

\$20 first child

\$15 per add'l child (same household)

Sat. 5 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Kids' Table

Instructor: Adrienne Bunce

Kids ages 5-12 learn valuable culinary skills and new recipes with a hands-on cooking experience. Our goal is to expand young taste buds to discover that "real food" can be delicious and fun to prepare.

Sept. 20: Farm to Table

Cost: \$12/child per class

Tues. 6 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Diabetes Support Group

Facilitator: Deb Dillon, MS, RDN

Assistance for all individuals with diabetes and their families. Healthcare professionals and speakers present topics ranging from new medications and treatments to healthy eating. *For more information about this monthly offering, contact deborah.dillon@sparrow.org.*

Cost: FREE

Thurs., Sept. 22 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Recreational Ukeology

Instructor: Sam Colegrove

Join in this interactive Ukulele class that will teach you all of the basics of the instrument. By the end of the 3-day workshop, you'll be able to play almost any song! ***Class is limited to 12 participants.***

Cost: \$50

Sept. 26, 27, 29 (Mon., Tues., Thurs.) 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Beginner Meditation

Instructor: Jennifer Davis

Feeling the need to be a bit more present? Wanting to become the calm within the chaos? Help center yourself and cultivate calm through this meditation workshop.

Cost: FREE

Tues., Sept. 27 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 18 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Tues., Nov. 15 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Little Oilers

Instructor: Adrienne Bunce

Kids ages 5-12 participate in this hands on workshop as a mini mixologist, learning to create their own kid-friendly essential oils blend. Homeopathic health education made fun in this DIY of immunity, "owie," or sleep rollers.

Cost: \$12/child

Tues., Sept. 27 6 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

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

EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—SEPTEMBER



Craft Club Jr

Solar System I-Spy Busy Bag!

**September 2nd
4:15-5:15pm**

This event will take place in person in the Spartan Room.

Pre-registration is required.

For students in 1st-3rd grade.



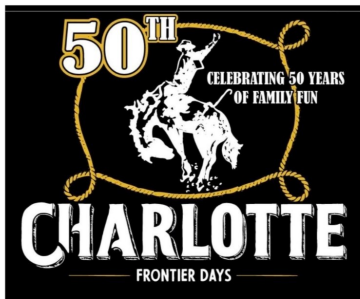
517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org

**The Library will be closed for
Labor Day
Monday, September 5, 2022.**



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org

**The Library will be closed for
the Frontier Days Parade
Saturday, September 10, 2022.**



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



NORMA LEWIS

AUTHOR OF WILD WOMEN OF MICHIGAN: A
HISTORY OF SPUNK AND TENACITY.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH
@ 6:00 PM**

This event will take place in the Spartan Room.



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org

Adult Craft Program

**Reverse Tie Dye
with Bleach**

**Tuesday,
September 27th
@ 6:00pm**



Pre-registration required
as you'll need to provide
your t-shirt size.



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org



CRAFT CLUB

**Light Up Constellation
Art!**

**September 30th
4:00-5:30pm**

This event will take place in person in the Spartan Room.

Pre-registration is required.

For students in 4th-12th grade.



517-543-8859
charlottelibrary.org

CITY OF CHARLOTTE

Michael Armitage—Mayor

Tammy Weissenborn—Mayor Pro-Tem/
Councilmember

Joseph Chin Jr.—Councilmember

Michael Duweck—Councilmember

Branden Dyer—Councilmember

Anthony Rodriguez—Councilmember

Adrianne Van Langevelde—Councilmember

Erin LaPere—City Manager

Mary LaRocque—City Clerk

Eric Smith—Finance Director/Treasurer

Amy Gilson—DPW Director

Paul Brentar—Police Chief

Mark Jordan—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

We are excited to celebrate 50 years of fun with the Charlotte Frontier Days! We hope everyone can join in on the festivities taking place September 7th through 11th. Check out page 8 for more details!

Do you have a great idea to improve the City? Are you passionate about something happening in your neighborhood? Contact me via phone/text/email. Or, reach out to your elected officials to share your thoughts: [click here for their contact information](#).

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

- Erin E. LaPere

Recent City Council Actions—August 2022:

- Approved resolution for Frontier Days activities.
- Approved amendments to regulations on Home Occupations; Medical Marijuana Caregivers; and the Property Maintenance Code (see page 5 for more details).
- Approved DPW property survey
- Approved purchase of Lift Pump for Lansing Lift Station using ARPA funds
- Approved contract for City Hall roof replacement using ARPA funds
- Approved lead service line identification work using grant funds to defray a portion of the cost
- Approved a block party for neighborhood
- Approved street closure for Festival of Oddities
- Approved contract for credit card processing vendor
- Approved purchase of DPW truck #6 replacement dump truck.

Want to know more? Check out www.charlottemi.org/category/2022-city-council-meetings/ to see prior meeting agenda packets and minutes.

City Hall

111 E Lawrence Ave
Charlotte, MI 48813

Phone: 517-543-2750

Fax: 517-543-8845

E-mail: 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

