

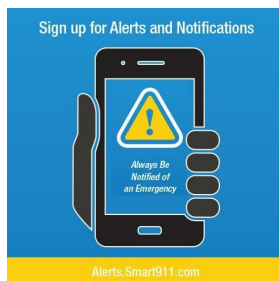
July  
2022

# THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE MICHIGAN

## Charlotte Chronicles

### ARPA TOWNHALL AND SURVEY

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](http://www.charlottemi.org/ARPA)



### RAVE ALERTS—UTILITY BILLING

The City of Charlotte uses Rave alerts to keep residents, business owners, everyone informed! 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. We also use the system to post other city information. Starting in July, we have 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](http://Smart911.com).



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# CITY MEETING CALENDAR

## July

- Monday, 4 Independence Day—City Hall Closed
- Tuesday, 5 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 12 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 12 Camp Frances Board, 6:30 PM, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- 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
- Monday, 18 Airport Advisory Board, 8:00AM, Fitch Beach Airport, 1325 Island Hwy
- Tuesday, 19 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30PM

## August

- Monday, 1 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 2 Primary Election
- Tuesday, 9 Planning Commission
- Tuesday, 9 Camp Frances Board, 6:30 PM, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Thursday, 11 City Council workshop meeting, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Monday, 15 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 16 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30PM

## 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, 6:30 PM, Camp Frances Bldg, 1501 S Cochran
- Monday, 19 City Council, in-person and remotely via Zoom and Facebook Live
- Tuesday, 20 Downtown Development Authority, 6:30 PM

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



**August 2nd Primary.** The City of Charlotte is conducting an election for the State Primary on August 2, 2022. Polls open 7:00 a.m. and close 8:00 p.m. for in-person voting.

Reminder: update your voter registration if you had any changes to your address, your name, or other personal information. If registering within 15 days of the election that you wish to vote in, including on election day, you must appear in person to the Clerk and bring proper residency and identity documentation.

An application for an absentee ballot must be submitted to obtain an absentee ballot. Applications are available now, apply as early as possible, the deadlines for absentee ballots for the August 2 election are below:

Saturday July 29 is the last day a ballot can be mailed to you via first class mail if your application is received by the clerk before 5:00 p.m. On July 29th, the Clerk's office will be open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for the purpose of issuing absentee ballots only.

Monday August 1 an absentee ballot must be applied for and received in person at the Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m. Note: a ballot issued on this day cannot leave the building. You must vote the ballot and return it to the Clerk before leaving.

Return your voted absentee ballots to the Clerk at your earliest opportunity after voting it. All voted absentee ballots must be returned/received to the Clerk no later than 8:00 p.m. (close of polls) on election day August 2, 2022 to be processed in the election.

Two drop boxes are available at City Hall, 111 E. Lawrence, to deposit your applications and voted ballots: in the vestibule at the front door and drive up and drop off along N. Washington St. Questions? You may contact the City Clerk's Office by emailing [clerk@charlottemi.org](mailto:clerk@charlottemi.org) or by phone at 517-543-2750.

Visit the Michigan Voter Information Center for more information: <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/Home/Index>



**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
- Ad Hoc Water Treatment Committee

Interested persons can find more information here:

<https://www.charlottemi.org/volunteers-wanted/>

# NEWS FROM CITY HALL



**From the Police Chief** Please remember to not give out any personal information over the phone or online. Online scams are increasing where messages are being sent through social media requesting personal information. Social media can become very detrimental so be very cautious of what you share online.

We are also seeing an increase in scam phone calls involving callers stating that they are from your local police department and are requesting money. No police agency will ever call you and ask you for money over the phone. You should never give out financial information to anyone over the phone. If it sounds too good to be true, it is! Always call to report suspicious calls or messages to the police, 517-543-1552.

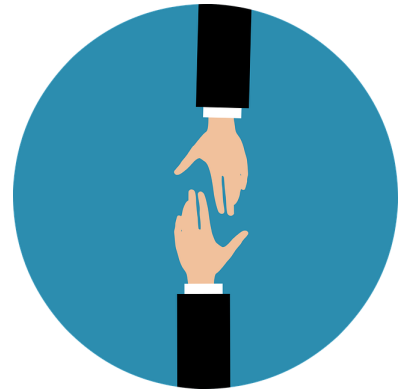


**From the Fire Chief** Prior to burning this spring and summer, don't forget to get a Burning Permit from the Charlotte Fire Department. This permit can be issued at either the West Side Fire Station or the Downtown Station, by calling (517) 543-0241, or online at <https://www.charlottemifire.org/content/permits/>.

The permit is issued at no cost.

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**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/](http://www.charlottemi.org/assistance-programs-available/) or by calling 2-1-1.

# 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](https://www.michigan.gov/lead-and-copper-rule).



**Mowing and Weeds.** City rules require that 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.

Mirroring trends seen across the country, [information recently released](#) by the Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center shows that, in 2021, Michigan saw increases in both the frequency and severity of traffic crashes over 2020, including:

- 15% increase in motor vehicle crashes.
- 17% increase in injuries.
- 10% increase in crashes with suspected serious injuries.
- 4% increase in fatalities overall, with a 10% increase in alcohol-related fatalities.



These increases come at a time when vehicle repair, replacement, and rental costs have also increased. National data collected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that, since January 2020: [Vehicle repair costs are up 10.5%.](#); [Used car and truck prices are up 52.1%.](#); [New car and truck prices are up 15.2%.](#); [Rental car prices are up 22%.](#)

These increases, along with rising fuel prices, parts shortages, and other pandemic-related supply chain concerns, underscore the financial benefits of safe driving.



# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## FAIRGROUNDS EVENTS-JULY



### 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 2022 Eaton County Fair is set to take place July 11-16, 2022. Join us for 5 days of family fun including exciting carnival rides, live entertainment, tractor pulls, horse racing, plenty of good food, and let's not forget all of the competitions and agricultural exhibits. The Eaton County Fair is a family tradition in Charlotte and should not be missed! Visit <https://eatoncountyfair.com/> for more information!

After the fair is over, come visit the fairgrounds for other existing events planned this year:

*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*

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

CHAMBER EVENTS-SUMMER 2022

## Summer Concert Series 2022



**THURSDAYS  
AT 6:30 PM**

6/2 SEA CRUISERS: 50'S/60'S  
6/9 THE ROLLING HILLS: INDIE FOLK  
6/16 DWAYNE SPAW: COUNTRY  
6/23 KATHLEEN &  
THE BRIDGE STREET BAND: BLUES  
6/30 FRENZ: THRU THE DECADES  
7/7 LAURIE & THE LEFTIES: COUNTRY  
7/14 ACOUSTIC LIBERTY: FOLK  
7/21 SPOONFUL: YACHT ROCK  
7/28 CHOSEN: GOSPEL  
8/4 CLAIM JUMPERS: COUNTRY  
8/11 PARTED WATERS: OLDIES  
8/18 EZY STREET BAND: 50'S/60'S

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS


## CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—SUMMER

### IT'S ELEMENTARY

June 22...Saltwater vs. Freshwater  
 July 6...Build a Mini-Boat  
 July 20...Glow Party  
 August 3...Sea Life Code Breakers

For children entering Grades 3rd–6th.

Participants must sign up one week before the scheduled event.  
 This event will be held in the Spartan room at 10am.



Charlotte Community Library  
 517-543-8859  
 charlottelibrary.org

### Summer In The Park

**Oak Park @ 11am–Noon**

June 14...Summer Start Off  
 June 21...Farm Day  
 June 28...Caribbean Steel Drum  
 July 5...Water Water Everywhere  
 July 12...Pirates- Ahoy!  
 July 19...Potter Park Zoo with "Last Ark"  
 July 26...Toddy the Turtle and Penelope the Park Ranger

No charge to attend this event.  
 \*In case of bad weather, we will meet at the library.

Charlotte Community Library  
 517-543-8859  
 charlottelibrary.org

### BABY & ME

SONGS, RHYMES, AND PLAY!

For babies and toddlers with their caregivers.

This event will take place on the Library's Yard\*.  
 Please bring a blanket to sit on.

**THURSDAYS**  
 10–10:30 am



\*In case of bad weather, wet grass, or bugs, we will meet inside the Spartan Room.

Charlotte Community Library  
 517-543-8859  
 charlottelibrary.org

### Summer In The Park

**Water Water Everywhere**

**July 5, 2022**  
**Oak Park**  
**11am-Noon**

Have a beach day with us!  
 We'll do goldfish tasting, draw with chalk, and have some shell-y good time with stories and songs.



No charge to attend this event.  
 \*In case of bad weather, we will meet at the library.

Charlotte Community Library  
 517-543-8859  
 charlottelibrary.org



# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS—SUMMER



### Stick Together 2022



**What will this summer's image be?**

Add a sticker each time you come into the library to discover what the image is at the end of summer!

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

### 2022 Summer Reading Program

June 13th - August 13th



**Reading fun for all ages!**

This summer will be packed with prizes and activities.

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org



### Free Summer Family Movies

@ Eaton Theatre

- Scoob - June 30
- Smallfoot - July 7
- Tom & Jerry - July 14
- Pokémon - July 21
- Space Jam - July 28

Concessions will be available for purchase.

Summer 2022 movies are at Noon.

Movies are free thanks to the partnership of:



517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

### Summer To-Go Kits

#### Make a Balloon Fish



**Kits will be available July 1st.**

**First come, first serve.**

*For students entering K-12th grade.*

Charlotte Community Library  
517-543-8859  
charlottelibrary.org

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## ALIVE! EVENTS — JULY



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

### **July 9 (Saturday) – Parents’ Great Escape: Hula Luau Island Party 5:30-9PM**

**Cost: \$25/first child (\$20/additional child, same household)**

**GROW Members: \$20/first child (\$15/additional child, same household)**

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. Pizza dinner provided. *Ages 3-12 (young children must be fully potty-trained). Pre-registration is required by the Wednesday prior to the event; call 517.541.5803.*

### **July 11 (Saturday) – Messy Monday**

**6:30-7:30PM | Cost: \$10/child**

Bring the kids and get creatively messy in this summer fun hour of 3 creation stations - bubble, slime and play-doh making. Parents/ guardians help their child make a craft at each station. Dress appropriately for this hands-on fun. You make the mess, we clean up.

### **July 11 (Monday) – Summer Beach Market Series - YOGA**

**6:30-7:30PM | Cost: FREE**

Come down to Beach Market on West Lovett St., in Charlotte (across from post office) and enjoy the fresh air as you workout. Please register in advance, and bring a yoga mat and a water bottle!

### **July 12 (Tuesday) – Kids’ Table: Homemade Ice Cream & Toppings**

**6-7PM | Cost: \$12/child**

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.

### **July 13 (Wednesday) – Nerf War & Firearms Safety**

**6-7PM | Cost: \$10/child**

Kids ages 6-12 will learn unique firearms safety in this educational and fun offering. After learning basic gun safety rules we will break out into a Nerf war. Kids are to provide their own nerf gun(s). Eye protection must be worn at all times.

### **July 18 (Monday) – Canning: A 3-Part Series – HOT WATER BATH CANNING**

**6-8PM | Cost: \$25/class (or \$60/series)**

Learn what items are needed to get started, recommendations for the easiest way to begin the canning process, and even ideas for sourcing ingredients to preserve when you don’t have your own garden. And of course, sample some of our favorite canned products. **Pre-registration required as space is limited.** Childcare available; regular GROW fees apply.

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

# EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

## ALIVE! EVENTS – JULY

### **July 19 (Tuesday) – Mocktails in the Garden**

**6-7PM | Cost: \$10/person**

Join us in our beautiful garden, HARVEST for a fun date-night making "mocktails." Learn how to build nutrient-packed, tasty mocktails perfect for a hot summer day. Create and enjoy two of your very own concoction during class.

### **July 20 (Wednesday) – Eat the Rainbow: Lunch Series – YELLOW/GREEN**

**12:15-12:45 PM | Cost: \$12/person/class**

Eating a variety of fruits and vegetables for health means including all of the colors. Learn from our dietitians about what beneficial nutrients are in each color of food and the health benefits they provide.

### **July 22 (Friday) – Friday Movie Night**

**5-7PM | Cost: \$5/child | GROW Member: FREE**

Lights, Camera, Action! Children of all ages are invited to join us for a PG film. Kids snack boxes (popcorn, sweet treat, bottled water) will be available for purchase \$5.

### **July 25 (Monday) – Summer Beach Market Series - PIYO**

**6:30-7:30PM | Cost: FREE**

Come down to Beach Market on West Lovett St., in Charlotte (across from post office) and enjoy the fresh air as you workout. Please register in advance, and bring a yoga mat and a water bottle!

### **July 26 (Tuesday) – Date Night: Salsa Contest**

**6-7PM | Cost: \$25/couple**

Grab a date and learn how to create a fresh tasty salsa in HARVEST with our dietitians. Utilizing fresh garden vegetables and herbs, you and your date will be able to create your very own salsa and compete against other couples in a salsa contest. Prize awarded to the winning couple!

### **July 28 (Thursday) – Diabetes Support Group**

**1-2PM | Cost: FREE**

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](mailto:deborah.dillon@sparrow.org).

### **July 30 (Saturday) – Preschool Sports Sampler BEGINS**

**10-11AM | Cost: \$15/child | GROW Member: \$12/child**

**Session: July 30 – August 13 (on Saturdays, 10am)**

This sports sampler class is designed to teach 3-5 year-olds the basics of three sports: basketball, soccer and floor hockey. Each week a different sport is featured with the focus on age-appropriate instruction and basic skills development.

## 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](mailto:elapere@charlottemi.org)

Summer is in full swing and one highlight is the excitement of the Eaton County Fair on July 9-16. Check out pages 6-11 of this newsletter for more details and events happening around Charlotte!

Do you have a great idea to improve the City? Are you passionate about something happening in your neighborhood? Call, text or email me; or stop by City Hall. You can also 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](http://www.charlottemi.org); the city's [facebook page](#), or twitter: @CityCharlotteMI

*- Erin E. LaPere*

**Monday, July 4th—Independence Day.** City Hall will be closed.

Police/Fire Emergency dial 9-1-1  
DPW Emergency dial 543-8874

### 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



### Recent City Council Actions

In June, City Council took the following actions:

- Approved application for MDOT Category B road grant funding
- Approved the FY22-23 Budget
- Approved the FY22-23 Fire Special Assessment Roll
- Approved fireworks display for Frontier Days
- Approved lease agreement for property at the airport to Shyft
- Authorized the sale of 332 N Cochran
- Amended the FY21-22 Budget
- Appointed member to fill Council member vacancy in District 2
- Appointed members to the Charlotte Area Recreational Co-Op and Planning Commission

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