

CITY OF BIG RAPIDS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER EDITION



The 2023 Fall Fest is around the corner!

The 2023 Fall Fest promises to be an exciting event for people of all ages.

This year's festivities will kick off with the Chili Cook-Off on Friday, October 20th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Downtown Big Rapids.

On Saturday, from noon through 2 p.m. kids can look forward to the Trunk or Treat event along Michigan Avenue. Later in the day, at 3 p.m., the celebrity pumpkin rolling contest will take place. Inflatables will also be available for kids to enjoy, and food trucks will be on-site throughout the afternoon.

The Downtown Business Association and Re/Max Together are once again sponsoring this year's Fall Fest.

"Partnering with Re/Max Together for this year's festivities, we are very excited about having tons of great offerings for kids and adults alike, it is truly a special event for the community," said DBA Director Josh Pyles about the upcoming Fall Fest.

For more information, visit the Big Rapids DBA Fall Festival Facebook Page.

VOTERS ARE NOW ABLE TO AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR EVERY ELECTION

With the approval of Proposal 2, voters in Michigan can sign up for the permanent absentee ballot list.

On the Absent Voter Ballot Application, there is a section that reads "I want to vote absentee in all elections. Automatically send me an absent voter ballot for every election."

The May 2023 election was the first opportunity for voters to check this box, making the upcoming November election the first time those voters can skip the Absent Voter Application process and automatically receive a ballot.

If you wish to automatically receive a ballot for future elections, please check the box on the Absent Voter Ballot Application.

Questions? Call the City Clerk's Office at 231-592-4001.

Commissions & Board Meetings

Meetings take place at
6:30pm at City Hall

City Commission
October 2nd
October 16th

Planning Commission
October 18th (Tentative)

ZBA Meeting
October 19th

Parks & Recreation Board
October 12th

Happy Retirement Gail!

The City of Big Rapids would like to extend our congratulations to City Assessor Gail Dolbee, who is retiring after 15 years of service.

Thank you for all your hard work and enjoy retirement!

IMPORTANT VOTER INFORMATION

Please note a change in your polling location for the
NOVEMBER 7, 2023, ELECTION.

All registered City voters will vote at the following Polling Location:

Big Rapids City Hall
226 N. Michigan Avenue
Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Your precinct at this location will be open for voting
from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. If you have any questions,
please contact your local City Clerk at 231-592-4020.

Absentee ballots may be obtained from your local
clerk.

All registered voters will be receiving notification by
mail of this polling location change.

Hemlock Street to get repaved

The Public Works Department and its partner,
Rieth-Riley Construction will be prepping and
repaving Hemlock Street this month.

The project begins on Monday, October 9th
with crews pulverizing and grading the road.
Once completed, crews will put the asphalt
leveling course on Friday, October 13th or
earlier.

Officials say Hemlock Park will be open during
that weekend.

Finally, hot mix asphalt will be applied during
the week of October 16th, then opened up for
the weekend again.

If you would like access to Hemlock Park
during the week of construction, please park
in the parking lot behind Big Rapids Middle
School.

FALL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

GROOVE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Location: Big Rapids Middle School Cafeteria
Cost: \$5
Time: Thursday 4 pm-4:45 pm

GROOVE

Location: Big Rapids Middle School Cafeteria
Cost: \$5
Time: Thursday 6 pm-7 pm

DELAY THE DISEASE FITNESS FOR PARKINSON'S

Location: Style Station (1619 Catherine Street)
Cost: \$2 per participant
Times: Thursday 1 pm-1:45 pm:
Beginning Sept. 14th – Dec. 14th

WALKING PROGRAM

Location: Big Rapids Middle School
Cost: Free
Times: Monday – Thursday 4 pm-7 pm
Beginning Oct. 31st- Mar. 31st
No Walking: Fridays or non-school days

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT JOSH
PYLES AT 231-592-4038**

WATER AEROBICS

Location: University Recreation Center Pool
Cost: \$4 per class or \$40 for a 12-class punch
card available for purchase at City Hall
Times: M,W,F 10 am-11 am
No Classes: October 16th & November 24

LATIN DANCE FUSION

Location: Big Rapids Middle School Cafeteria
Time: Monday 6 pm-7 pm
Cost: \$5
No Classes: Oct. 23

PICKLEBALL

Location: Pickleball Courts Behind Big Rapids
Middle School
Cost: \$1 donation to assist with supply costs
Times: Tues 9 am-11 am, Wed 5 pm-7 pm, Fri 8
am-10 am, and Sat 10 am-12 pm

SENIOR FIT TIME

Location: Style Station (1619 Catherine Street)
Cost: \$2 per participant
Times: Tuesday 4 pm-5 pm Thursday 3 pm-4 pm
Beginning Sept. 12th – December 14th