



March Resident Newsletter



February 28, 2024

Rent is due on Friday, March 1, 2024. Late fees will be assessed at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming meetings are as follows & will be held in the Highrise Conference Room:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 3:30 p.m. | Resident Council Meeting |
| Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 4:00 p.m. | Neighborhood Watch Meeting |
| Thursday, March 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. | Big Rapids Housing Commission Meeting |

All meetings will be held in the Highrise Conference Room. All residents are invited to attend.

Signatures Needed

If your apartment # appears on this list, then you need to stop by the office and sign your completed rent review: 1A 1B 1C 1D 2A 2C 3C 3D 4A 4B 4C 4D 5A 5D 6A 6C 7A 7B 7C 7D 8CU 18C 29A 106C 111C 113E 115A 117B 118A 118B 118C 119A 119B 119D 119E 120B 120C 120D 121A 121B 121E 122A 122B 122C 123A 123B 123D 124B 124D 125A 125C 126B 126C 126D 127B 127C 127E 127F 128C 128D 128E 129C 129D 131A 131B 131C 131D 131E 131F 132B 133A 133C 133D 134C 134D 135B 135C 135F 135G 201

Spring Clean Up

On Tuesday, April 9, 2024, we will be having Spring Clean-Up. On this day you may place any large items out for pick up and we will pick them up free of charge. It is your responsibility to transport items to the curb by noon.

Annual Inspections

Unit Inspections have been scheduled for all apartments in the senior section on the following dates:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Parkview South Senior (10-A – 31-C) | Monday, April 15, 2024 |
| Parkview North Senior (101-A – 114-D) | Tuesday, April 16, 2024 |
| Parkview Highrise (201 – 408) | Wednesday, April 17, 2024 |

If this time is not convenient for you, Friday, April 12, 2024, will be the alternate date. You must contact the office by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, to reschedule your inspection.

If any needed repairs are identified during the inspection the maintenance staff may be re-entering your apartment on your inspection day to complete the repairs whether you are home or not.

We will be making sure that your stove is clean, including oven and under stovetop. We will also be making sure you are taking proper care of your floors (mopping and waxing when needed) and take an overall look at your general housekeeping. We will be checking for damage to the unit and looking for any work orders that are not being reported to the office in a timely manner. Please be reminded it is your responsibility to call the office if you need a work order completed. It is also important that the areas in front of and behind your unit are clean, including your shed. Residents in violation of the Curtain Policy will receive a lease violation notice. If you need curtains, please stop by the Curtain Pantry located in the Highrise for free curtains.

BEFORE THE INSPECTION: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE IN QUARANTINE DUE TO COVID-19 EXPOSURE OR POSITIVE TEST. IF YOU ARE SICK OR HAVE EXPERIENCED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS: FEVER, COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, SORE THROAT OR VOMITING/DIARRHEA.

Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch’s Executive Board and Board Members are up for election in April. The Executive Board consists of a President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer. The Board can consist of 7 members. The election will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Highrise Conference Room. The term for the Executive Board is 2 years and for Board Members it is 1 year. The purpose of the Neighborhood Watch is to observe, log, and report to Big Rapids Housing Commission and/or law enforcement suspicious persons/activity, safety concerns, and suggestions for improving our neighborhood in a coordinated effort to resolve issues as well as educate the residents on home and personal safety while setting a standard for the local community. If you have any questions or would like to run for any of the positions mentioned, then please call the office and ask for Lisa.

Neighborhood Watch would like to thank the Big Rapids Housing Commission maintenance and office staff for all their hard work. THANK YOU!!

Resident Council

The Resident Council’s Board Member election will be held at the Highrise, on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. The board can consist of 8 members. Anyone who is a resident of Parkview and Evergreen and if you are interested in being on the board or if you have any questions, please call the office and ask for Lisa. The term for a board member is 3 years. Anyone on the board will attend the monthly meeting. The purpose of the Resident Council is to be representative of all residents by working with the Big Rapids Housing Commission for the betterment of the community. To be a source of information, for the exchange of information, and provide activity among residents that contributes to the welfare and edification of the community. This is a great way to be involved and meet some of your fellow neighbors.

****Attention Senior Residents****

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency will be at the Big Rapids Housing Commission dining room Friday, March 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to sign residents up for commodities. Even if you are already receiving commodities, you will need to bring your ID to the Highrise dining room and fill out a new application if you wish to continue receiving commodities.

Resident Council Ice Cream Social

The Resident Council will be hosting an Ice Cream Social and Root Beer Float on Saturday, March 16, 2024, between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Highrise Community Room. All residents and their children are invited to attend. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Coffee with a Cop

Officer Bill Sell will be hosting Coffee with a Cop on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Highrise Community Room. This is a great opportunity for residents to meet and talk with Officer Sell. Donuts and coffee will be served.



Highrise Community Room Activities

- Euchre schedule is as follows: Mondays at 1:00 p.m., Fridays at 5:00 p.m., and the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3:00 p.m.
- Bible Study on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.
- Mexican Train on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.
- Bingo on Thursday, March 14 at 4:00 p.m.
- Uno on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

PET OWNERS – Please be reminded that according to the Pet Policy all dogs and cats must be on a leash when not in the owner’s apartment. The leash must be no longer than 4 feet. Pets cannot be tied up or left unattended at any time on Housing Commission property. Also, you must clean up after your pet immediately. Is your emergency pet contact up to date? If changes need to be made, please contact the office.

Emergency Contact

In an effort to keep emergency contact information updated, please take the time to stop by the office and update any changes that need to be made. Or send us an email at admin@bigrapidshousing.org and we can email you the form.

Reporting Income Changes

Reminder to all residents to report **ALL** income changes within 10 days of the change. Please don’t wait until your first paycheck to report the change.

Daylight Savings Time

Remember to spring clocks ahead on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 2:00 a.m.

Resident Sidewalks

Residents shall be responsible to remove snow and ice from the immediate unit area, patios, porches and service walks to the main sidewalk. If you are unable to clear your personal sidewalk due to medical reasons, it will be necessary for you to provide a doctor’s note.

Residents must use ice melt or ice pellets to remove ice from the sidewalk. Ice melt is available in the office and other designated locations listed below – you must bring your own container. Rock salt is not allowed. **The maintenance staff will be inspecting walks every day. If your sidewalk is in an unsatisfactory condition, we will tag your door and give you 24 hours to clear your sidewalk or you will be charged \$47.00 per hour plus supplies for BRHC to clear your walk for you.**

Ice Melt

Ice melt is available at the following locations free of charge - please bring your own container:

- For South Parkview Buildings 10-31: At office entry and under canopy by 19 Building.
- For Family in Buildings 1-8: Top of steps between 4 and 7 Buildings
- For Family in Buildings 115-117: By mailboxes
- For North Parkview Buildings 110-114: Under North Community Room Canopy Entry.
- For North Parkview Buildings 101-109: Under canopy between 101 and 102 Buildings.
- For Evergreen 118-135 Buildings: By mailboxes near 119,125, and 132 Buildings.

Please make sure you are securing the salt bucket lid after getting salt to avoid snow/water from getting inside.

Snow Removal Reminders

Do Not Pull Your Vehicle Over the Sidewalks!!!



Be prepared to move or have someone move your vehicle on snow days so all parking areas may be plowed properly. Residents shall be responsible to remove snow and ice from the immediate unit area, patios, porches and service walks to main sidewalk.

In most cases, it is necessary for ALL vehicles to move from the lot. Be considerate to others in your area who make the effort to move.

Please contact the office if you observe any icy sidewalks or lots that need attention. Ice melt is available for sale in the office – you must bring your own container.

Please be on the lookout for our snow removal trucks and tractors! Keep a safe distance from this equipment. The maintenance staff is concerned for your safety, as many people walk out in front of and behind them. With all the attached equipment on their vehicles, it makes it very difficult for them to see a pedestrian behind their vehicle – especially children.

Any vehicle improperly parked, inoperable or unlicensed will be tagged and towed after 48 hours at the owner's expense. (Only 12 hours will be given for vehicles that do not move for snow removal). Thanks for your cooperation in assisting with the snow removal process. Ice melt is available at each entry.

Free Tax Preparation –AARP Tax Program for 60 and older

AARP Foundation Volunteer Tax Program is designed for taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those age 60 and older. The program is run entirely by volunteers from Tuesday, February 6, 2024, through Thursday, April 11, 2024. You must have all of the necessary paperwork at the time of the appointment. Appointments can be scheduled beginning Thursday, January 25, 2024, by calling the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 231-796-4848.

Free Tax Preparation- for all ages

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency is offering tax filing services. Please call 231-660-0271 to make an appointment. Virtual and in-person appointments are available.

Reminder!

Wipes are not flushable! Even if the package claims they are sewer safe and flushable, they **ARE NOT**, and this eventually leads to clogged sewer lines. A charge will apply if wipes are found to be the cause of your sewer back up.

Illegal Drug Use

Please be advised that Big Rapids Housing Commission prohibits the use of all illegal drugs including marijuana, regardless if you have a medical marijuana card. Marijuana is still against federal law and therefore not allowed in any of our apartment complexes because our funding and/or rules are federal.

If you believe illegal drug activity is occurring, please contact the office at (231) 796-8689.

Facebook Page

Did you know the Big Rapids Housing Commission has a Facebook page? Like our page to keep up to date on current events and programs.

Maintenance Treatment for Bed Bug

Residents will receive an additional notification. This is the tentative schedule for March 2024:

Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date
21A	3/13/24	23C	3/20/24	26B	3/27/24
21B	3/13/24	24A	3/20/24	26C	3/27/24
21C	3/13/24	24B	3/20/24	27A	3/27/24
22A	3/13/24	24C	3/20/24	27B	3/27/24
22B	3/13/24	25A	3/20/24	27C	3/27/24
22C	3/13/24	25B	3/20/24	28A	3/27/24
23A	3/13/24	25C	3/20/24	28B	3/27/24
23B	3/13/24	26A	3/20/24	28C	3/27/24



You are required to contact the office immediately or within 24 hours if you suspect you see bed bugs or other vermin in your apartment.

Cockroach Information

Sanitation is the Key

- Remove/discard trash and unneeded newspapers, magazines, piles of paper bags, rags, boxes and other items that provide hiding places and harborage.
- Store opened items of food in insect proof containers such as glass jars or sealable plastic containers.
- Drain all sinks in the kitchen and bathrooms and remove any food debris.
- Floors need to remain clean (swept and/or mopped) at all times.
- Do not leave unsealed food items in bedrooms, living area, etc.

Do you have moisture in your home?

Moisture issues can become a major concern for everyone. There are many reasons why moisture can be a problem, which is why controlling moisture is key. Please review the following “moisture control tips”:

- When water leaks or spills occur indoors, ACT QUICKLY and clean up wet or damp areas immediately.
- If you see condensation or moisture collecting on windows, walls or pipes ACT QUICKLY to dry the wet surface and reduce the moisture/water source. Condensation can be a sign of high humidity.
- Run the bathroom fan when showering and run it for 20-30 minutes after showering.
- Use the range hood exhaust fan whenever cooking.
- Do not block heat registers and vents as this may restrict proper air flow in your unit.

Local Resources

- Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency (231) 660-0271
- Project Starburst (231) 796-5342
- Angels of Action (231) 629-8140
- Salvation Army (231) 796-5597
- Manna Pantry (231) 408-2940
- Meals on Wheels (231) 972-2884
- Hope House (231) 598-9500



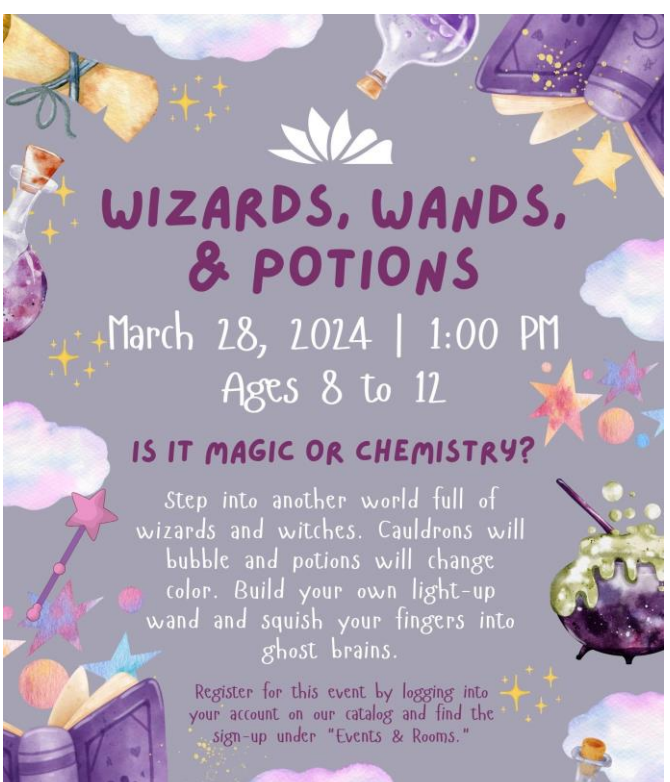
Art & Craft Workshop

March 12 | 4-5 PM  **creativebug**
FOR LIBRARIES

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month for a guided craft!
March's craft: Acrylic Paint Pouring

REGISTER NOW
Space is limited.
Register by phone or log into your account and find the sign-up

426 S. Michigan Ave
Big Rapids MI 49307



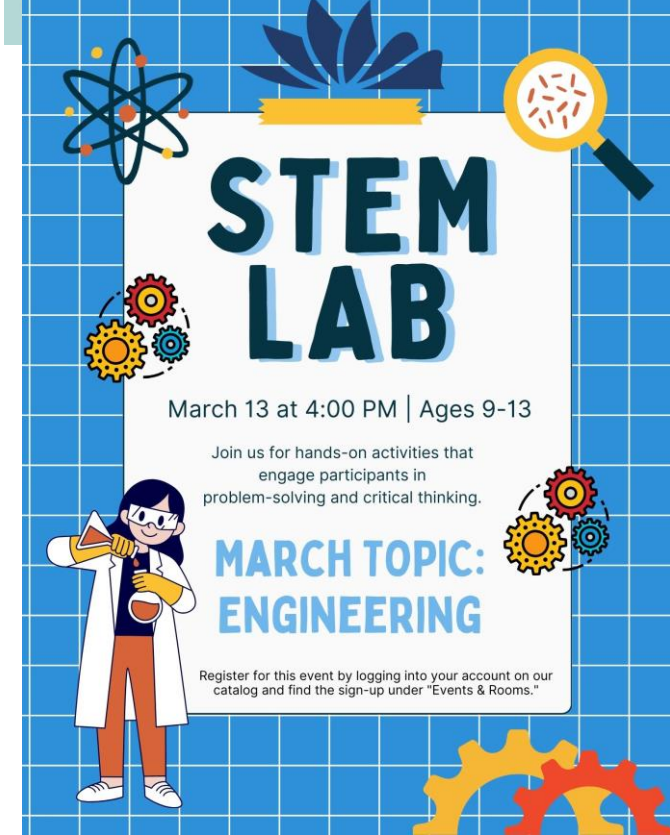
WIZARDS, WANDS, & POTIONS

March 28, 2024 | 1:00 PM
Ages 8 to 12

IS IT MAGIC OR CHEMISTRY?

Step into another world full of wizards and witches. Cauldrons will bubble and potions will change color. Build your own light-up wand and squish your fingers into ghost brains.

Register for this event by logging into your account on our catalog and find the sign-up under "Events & Rooms."



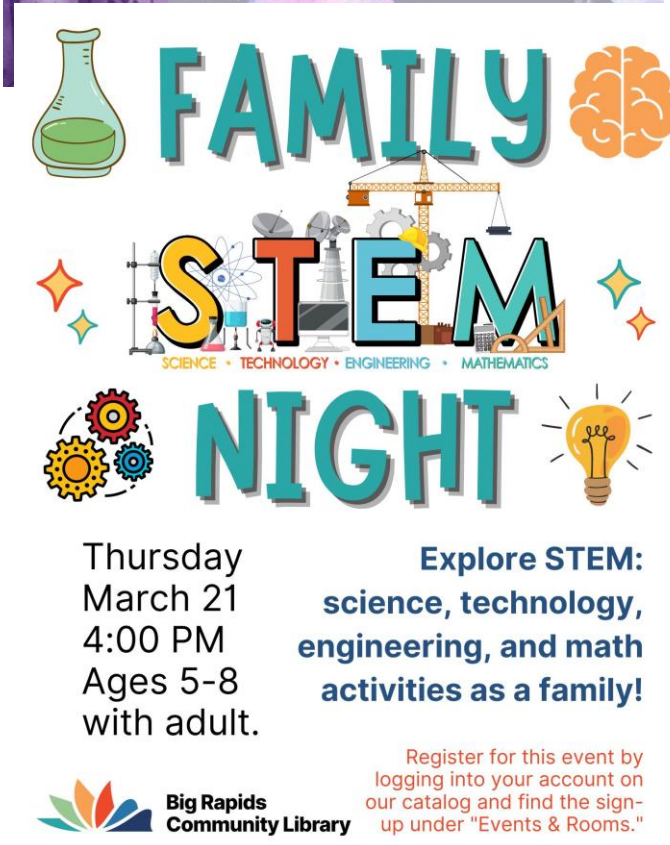
STEM LAB

March 13 at 4:00 PM | Ages 9-13

Join us for hands-on activities that engage participants in problem-solving and critical thinking.

MARCH TOPIC: ENGINEERING

Register for this event by logging into your account on our catalog and find the sign-up under "Events & Rooms."




FAMILY STEM NIGHT

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS

Thursday
March 21
4:00 PM
Ages 5-8
with adult.

Explore STEM: science, technology, engineering, and math activities as a family!

Register for this event by logging into your account on our catalog and find the sign-up under "Events & Rooms."

 **Big Rapids Community Library**