

MAYOR'S CORNER
October 11TH
2018

We are going to cover a variety of topics in this edition of the Mayor's corner so please bear with me.

The Eaton Rapids Arts Council has been working hard to bring forth the "Tile Project." Perhaps you have seen the display at City Hall in the lobby. Two projects have been completed. The large planter in front of City Hall and two tile sculptures at the Amphitheatre on W. Knight St. The tiles are available for \$10.00 and may be purchased at either City Hall or at Your Creative Escape Ceramic Shop on Hall St. near Hamlin.

You simply make the purchase, do the decorating at YCE and then the tile is kept at YCE until another sculpture is created. Each one is unique and the money raised will go to the River Mural Project.

On Wednesday, October 24th at 7:15 pm, the Eaton Rapids Arts Council, in conjunction with the City of Eaton Rapids Quality of Life Board and the Lansing Arts Council will be "Blinging the State St. Bridge." In 2017 the Lansing Arts Council presented a grant opportunity to Eaton Rapids. Up to \$2,500.00 in grant funding to create a unique art project in our downtown. Our ERAC worked with several ideas and decided that the State St. Bridge, with its unique architecture and proximity to the downtown, would be the focal point. An artist's rendition was created and I would like to invite all of Eaton Rapids to the unveiling. Through a partnership with the Lansing Arts Council, Bronners of Frankenmuth and Dowding Industries we will be "throwing the switch" on October 24th at 7:15. The best vantage point will be the south end of the GAR Park (island park).

The Downtown Trick or Treat event will be held on Wednesday, October 24th, from 5-7 pm. Come one come all to this fun evening. Our scarecrows will be on their best behavior as our little ghosts and goblins wander our downtown streets in search of those elusive sweet treats. I would like to thank our business community for their ongoing participation and support and thank our QOL Director Lindsey Zeller for her efforts in organizing and promoting this event.

As an added bonus there will be a traditional “Witches Dance” held throughout the evening of the 24th at Hamlin Court. This group of local performers will be led by Linda McNutt. She assures me that they have been practicing for several months and this can only add to this evening’s highlights.

Traditional Halloween Trick or Treating will be held on Wednesday, October 31 st from 6-8 pm. Chief McNutt and his able bodied crew will start the festivities by sounding their sirens.

As in years past, there will be some traffic control measures put into place. E. Knight St. will be closed just east of Wicklow St.. Wicklow St will be closed at E.Knight St. Union St. will be closed at Union St. school. Miller drive will be closed at Hastay Blvd. Crane St will be closed at Center St. These measures are necessary to safeguard the trick or treaters as sidewalks are lacking in this neighborhood and the pedestrian foot traffic is extremely heavy. The barricades will go up at approx. 6:00 pm.

Halloween Safety tips: Make sure your children’s costumes are visible or they carry some sort of easily detectable light source such as a flashlight or xylum light stick. Make sure that if they wear a mask they can see through the eye holes. Watch the length of the costume to prevent a tripping hazard. Eat before you go so the temptation of

consuming uninspected goodies isn't so enticing. Respect people's property while on the "prowl." Be aware of traffic. Keep track of your children while walking. It's hard to recognize your 5 yr old in a sea of ghosts and superheroes. Children under the age of 13 shouldn't be out there without an adult or older sibling. It's not that it is unsafe, it's that children younger than 13 may not know what to do in case of an emergency.

Above all, have fun, be courteous and enjoy yourselves.

Eaton Rapids is always looking for additions to our various boards and commissions. I'm personally urging you to participate. We will be publishing a list of upcoming board openings. Your city council and neighbors need your help in making decisions that will guide us as we move forward in revitalizing our/your community.

Until next time, we are glad that you are here and hope that you will continue to call Eaton Rapids home and make it a great place to live, work and raise your family.