

# 2023 RICHLAND INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

## RABA, THE RICHLAND INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE, AND PARTICIPATION

The Richland Area Business Association (“RABA”) is a nonprofit, non-partisan, and non-political organization. It does not promote any social or political purpose. It is formed solely to promote the Richland area as a superior location for local businesses. RABA is an independent organization made up of volunteers.

The Richland Independence Day Parade, produced by RABA, is a patriotic celebration of The United States of America’s Independence Day in an inclusive, family-oriented environment. This parade is presented for entertainment purposes only. It is not designed as a forum for political, social, or economic ideas or doctrines. Therefore, no such entry will be permitted. **The parade committee shall, in its sole discretion, determine whether an entry is appropriate for this parade and if it is allowed to participate.**

Currently seated elected officials of the Richland Village, Richland Township, Kalamazoo County, municipalities adjacent to Richland Township, as well as state and federal elected officials with Richland Township constituents, are invited to join in-person the vanguard of our parade. Unelected political candidates are welcome to join in-person the general category. No stand-ins or representatives for absent elected officials or absent political candidates will be allowed to participate in the parade.

## REGISTRATION, STAGING PROCEDURES

**Date:** The parade will start at 11 am, Tuesday, July 4th, 2023.

**Registration:** Complete the attached registration form and bring it on the day of the parade. A parade volunteer wearing a bright orange vest will collect your completed registration form at the staging area. There is no registration fee; however, RABA will accept an optional donation at the staging area on the parade day to help offset the parade’s cost. Your donations are greatly appreciated, and help make the Richland Independence Day Parade possible.

**Staging:** The parade line-up will begin in the parking lot behind the Gull Lake Middle School at 8 am. Enter the school parking lot via the M89 and Ryan Dr. stoplight.

Look for the volunteers with bright orange vests for assistance. To expedite check-in, please have your registration form completed before you arrive. Please plan on arriving at the staging area one or two hours before the 11 am start of the parade. Entries are admitted into the parade on a first-come, first-serve basis. Consequently, if you plan to travel the parade route with another entry, you must arrive together, and latecomers will be placed at the back of the column and may be unable to participate in the parade.

**Entry number assignment:** Once we receive your completed registration form, you will be issued a laminated number sign identifying your entry. Please post this sign on the front passenger side of your entry and ensure it is clearly visible. Please return the laminated number sign to a parade volunteer at the parade’s end.

**Starting time:** The parade will begin at 11:00 am sharp. To accomplish this, we must start the column moving at 10:30 am. Therefore, you must be in your vehicle and ready to roll by 10:30 am. No entries will be released from the staging area and allowed to join the parade after 11:45 am. The parade route will reopen to regular traffic at Noon.

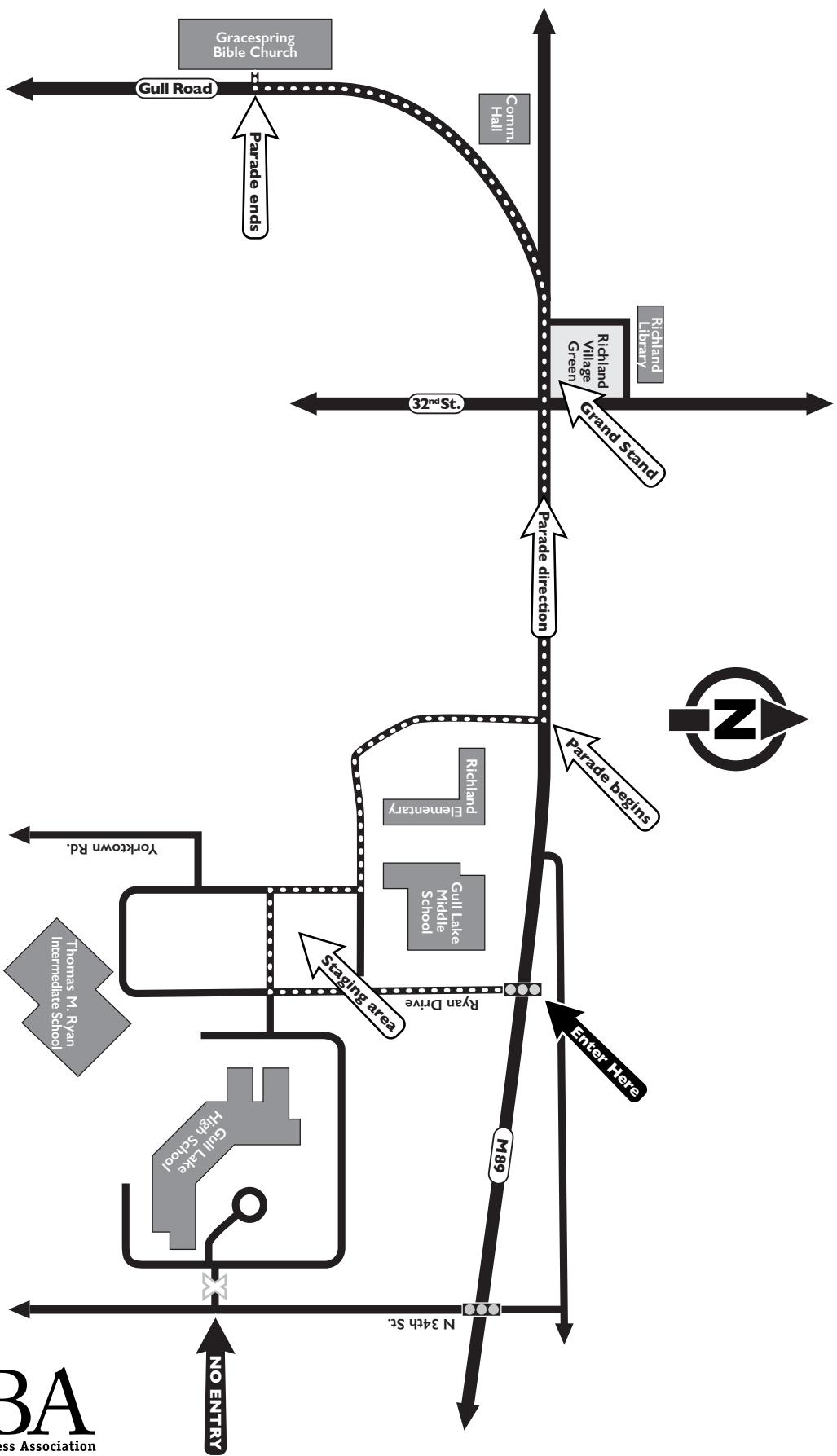
**Parade’s end:** The parade will conclude at Gracespring Church on Gull Road. Please return your laminated number sign to a parade volunteer.

## PARADE CONDUCT

**Please do not throw candy!** Safety must be our primary concern. Candy in the road entices children to run into the path of parade vehicles. Candy thrown into the crowd can strike audience members in the face. If you plan on giving out candy, please walk alongside your entry to safely hand it to the spectators.

**Please do not stop during the parade.** To run the procession smoothly and to be able to close the parade route on time, entries must not stop while traveling in the parade. Keep close to the entry ahead of you and refrain from stopping to hand out candy or flyers or interact with the crowd.

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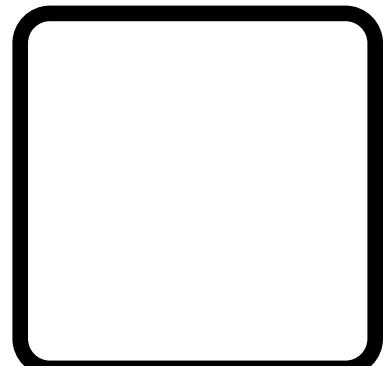
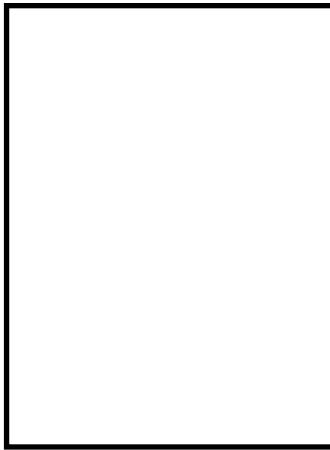
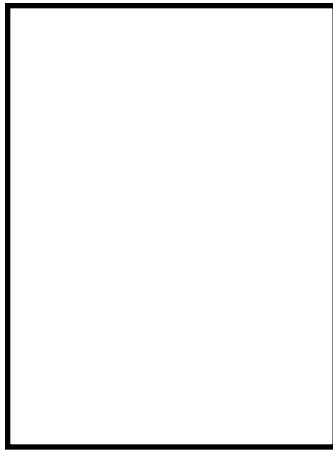


# Richland



# RABA

Richland Area Business Association



# ROW LETTER

ROW LETTERS: THE GRID **A - G**, LARGE ANIMALS **H**, VANGUARD **V**, EXTRA LARGE ENTRIES **X**

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**CONTACT PERSON** (*Complete "Contact Person" & "Entry Information". Bring form on parade day*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:

eMail: [info@paulschmid.com](mailto:info@paulschmid.com)

## ENTRY INFORMATION (How would you like your entry announced by the Emcee?)

Name of Entry:

Type of Entry:

Name of Sponsor:

Description: