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*—photography available—*

**THE FIRST EVER GIANT PUMPKIN LAND REGATTA  
TO TAKE PLACE AT THE GREAT HIGHWOOD PUMPKIN FESTIVAL**

**HIGHWOOD, IL (SEPTEMBER 2010)** – “One if by land, and two if by sea” was spoken by Paul Revere to warn colonist by lantern the means in which the British were attacking. Well, there is only going to be one lantern hanging in Highwood during the Great Highwood Pumpkin Festival because the Giant Pumpkin Regatta is now going to be taking place on land. And we are challenging all Mayors, school principals, residents, business owners and surrounding communities to attack the race by adding wheels to your pumpkins.

“I would like to challenge all Mayors of our surrounding communities to this race,” states Highwood Mayor Charlie Pecaro. “If I do not come in the top three, I will invite all participating Mayors back to our wonderful city for dinner on us! Now how can you refuse that.”

The first ever Giant Pumpkin Land Regatta will take place on Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11am on the starting line at the corner of Highwood Ave and Sheridan Road for a 100 yard race north on Sheridan Road. There will be heats of five and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers of each heat will move on to the next round. When there are six contestants left, there will be one last race to determine the winner, which will win a trophy complete with bragging rights.

Here are the rules:

- Pumpkin must be over 200 pounds before carving.
- The vehicle must contain the actual giant pumpkin and be human powered only.
- Driver may sit in or on the giant pumpkin.
- Only one person per vehicle allowed.
- No feet are allowed on the ground-this is not a Fred Flinstone race!
- A team member can push for the first 20 yards.

This has NEVER been done before, so there is no choice but to be creative. The first 20 contestants to sign up will get their giant pumpkin supplied by the City of Highwood. All others must bring their own giant pumpkin. Please contact Rob Sabo at 847-432-1924 or email him at [rsabo@cityofhighwood.org](mailto:rsabo@cityofhighwood.org) to sign up.

May the best pumpkin racer win! On your marks, get set, go!

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