

## Facilities Update



June, 2017



November, 2017

### Timeline

2017-2018 School Year	Spring/Summer, 2018	2018-2019 School Year	2018-2019 School Year (Approx. mid-year)	Spring, 2019 & beyond
2nd grade moved to Vera Wilsie. (they joined Kindergarten and 1st grade there). 3rd & 4th grade remain at Velma Matson building. New Kindergarten, 1st & 4th grade wings are constructed	Kindergarten, 1st, & 4th grade move into their new spaces at the new facility. Work commences on other district projects (MS & HS entrances, bus garage parking lot, etc.)	K, 1, and 4th grade at new building. 2nd and 3rd grade occupy classrooms at Vera Wilsie while older Velma Matson classrooms get remodeled	2nd and 3rd grade move into their newly remodeled space at the new building	A new fully functional and fully occupied K-4 elementary school is in operation at the former Velma Matson site. Demolition of Vera Wilsie building commences

Newaygo Public Schools  
360 S. Mill Street, P.O. Box 820  
Newaygo, MI 49337

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ORGANIZATION





NHS Student Council and Advisor, Mrs. Grodus traveled to Heritage Farms in October! A corn maze, hayride, cider & donuts, and pumpkin painting made this day complete! Thank-you Ms. Roman for helping celebrate these Lion Leaders!



Mrs. Grodus' English 2 Honors Class received a Newaygo Library tour by Sarah Welch in October and will soon partake in a book study with her. We look forward to this partnership with our local library!



NHS sent over 250 decorated sack lunch bags to Kids' Food Basket! Our contribution helped this organization meet their goal of 75,000 bags. Lions love to help kids in need!







**VOLLEY AGAINST VIOLENCE:** The students and staff donated \$90 dollars to this cause and the Fremont Area Foundation matched Neway-go High School's donation, bringing our total to \$180 dollars. Thank-you Coach duChemin and the volleyball, soccer and football teams for their help in raising awareness against Domestic Violence.



Congratulations to the Students of the  
Month for September:  
Madison Berwald & Samantha Toth



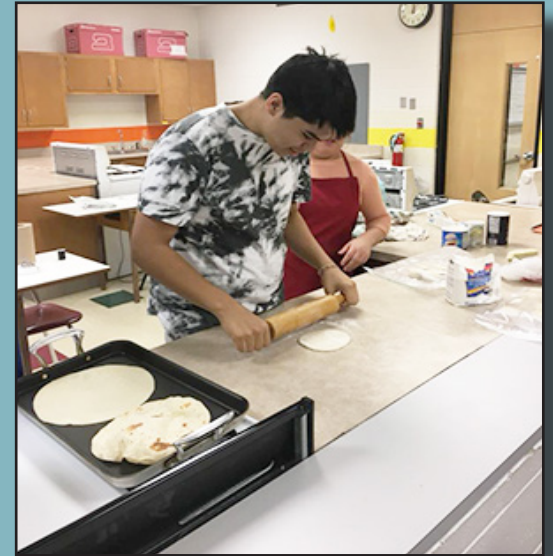
Congratulations to the Citizens of the  
Month for September:  
Lauryn VanEtten, Berenise Alvarez  
and Ike Reynolds





Fue una gran celebración para El Día de los Muertos en la clase de Sra Mercer. Muchísimas gracias a Srta Alvarez por hacer las tortillas.

Translation: It was a great celebration for the Day of the Dead in Mrs. Mercer's class. Thank you so much to Miss Alvarez for making the tortillas.



The Sophomore Class "Cider and Donut Incentive" was a huge success! Over 80 tenth graders are earning a 70% or better in ALL their classes! Lion Pride shines in the classroom!

NHS had 2 student-athletes qualify for the MHSAA Cross Country Division 3 State Championship meet on November 4.

Ellie Nausadis, 12th grade, made her second appearance at the state finals and capped off her high school career placing 87th at that meet with a time of 20:37.

Ryan Brummel, 11th grade, qualified for the first time and finished in 49th place with a time of 17:04.5.



Congratulations to our runners and Coach Alexis Mercer!

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 FOLLOW US ON TWITTER  
@NewwaygoPS

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**www.newwaygo.net**  
to stay current with  
events!

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4120 Brockton Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512  
**877.974.6338**  
**EDUStaff** Innovative Staffing Solutions





## National Junior Honor Society

### 7th Grade

Sarah Andrews, Sofia Briggs, Grant Harkness, Iris Herrera, Connelly Hefferan-Nordlund, Grace Painter, McCaiden Rienstra, Nicholas Ruehmeier, Emma Youmans, Libby Young

### 8th Grade

Madalynne Benjamin, Saige Berwald, Justin Boverhof, Kate Haan, Mackenzie Hurrle, Madison Longcore, Phoenix Montoya

### 2nd Year Members

Dakota Bazzett, Jillian Braman, Emmerson Goodin, Matthew Hurrle, Jayden Joseph, Ryder Kirk, Stevie Kleibusch, Sidney Lay,

Ty Miedema, Josselyn Newfer, Clara Riddering, Carsyn Scarlavai, Jacob Sekach, Lily Swinehart

## Project Citizen

All 5th grade students participated in the 9th Annual Project Citizen raking event at the Newaygo City Cemetery on Thursday, November 2nd. This event allowed students to understand appropriate behavior at a cemetery, displaying respect, helping the community and giving back without expecting anything in return. Thank you to the following for once again helping Project Citizen with a this successful event: Newaygo Public Schools Transportation Department, NPS Office Staff, 5th Grade Teachers and Paraprofessionals, Parent Chaperones and the City of Newaygo Department of Public Works.







## NPS Brings Back the School Nurse Position

Welcome to our new school nurse, Ms. Jennifer Stephens! Recently, NPS made a decision to utilize 31a (at-risk) funds to bring back the nurse position to our school district. Several years ago, NPS students were served by a school nurse but as budgets became tight, the position was cut. Unlike our neighboring districts, we do not have a school health center.

Additionally, we have seen an increase in the number of students who have medical needs. School nurses do so much more than hand out band aids. Managing student medications, asthma, diabetes, allergies, student injuries, malnutrition, immunizations, pediculosis, etc., are all examples of conditions where our students need support and assistance while they are at school. Ms. Stephens is a Registered Nurse who previously worked at DeVos Children's Hospital. Her "home base" is at the Vera Wilsie building at this time, but she is ready and available to provide assistance for all K-12 students. Ms. Stephens can be reached at 231-652-7279 or jstephens@newaygo.net.



## Melanie Lanning

Melanie is a new hire at NPS. he has been teaching in the Grand Rapids Public School system. Ms. Lanning is filling the Elementary Special Education position at the Vera Wilsie.

See page 12 for more details on the St. Nick Kick!



Here are the Michigan Blood Drive Results held on October 26, 2017:

44 Individuals attended the NHS Blood Drive  
35 Donated Blood  
5 Community Members  
5 Staff Members (Barrette, Grodus, Baynes, Reyburn, Devoe)  
25 NHS Students

**WE SAVED 105 LIVES!**

(For every pint donated, a person saves 3 Lives)

On behalf of the NHS Student Council and their advisor,

Thank-you  
for helping  
us exceed  
our goal by  
10 pints!  
Lion Pride!



The next Blood Drive is in January.

The Community is once again welcome to donate!

**Newaygo High School art students and Lake Haven Animal Rescue present....**

## PET PORTRAIT PALOOZA

Online Auction Benefiting  
Lake Haven Animal Rescue



Adopted and Adoptable Lake Haven Animals painted  
by art students from Newaygo High School

**November 20th** - Display opens at  
Studio 37 Arts and Culture center.  
Online-Auction begins 10:00 am.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/40764348994/>

**November 28th** - Reception at  
Studio 37 Arts and Culture Center.  
Located at 65 State St.  
Newaygo, Michigan 5pm-7pm.

**December 1st** - Display is open  
during Newaygo Christmas Walk.

**December 4th** - Online Auction  
ends at 10 am.

**December 10th** - Display ends.

**RECEPTION  
November**

**28**

5pm-7pm  
@ Studio 37  
Downtown Newaygo  
65 State Street, Newaygo, MI





Thank you to everyone who helped us have another successful Emma Graham Color Run. Despite the unseasonably warm September afternoon, there were nearly 100 participants and 20 volunteers who helped us raise another \$1300 for the Emma L. Graham Scholarship Fund. We would like to send a special thank you to the GVSU Nursing Program for the volunteers, Community Home Health Care for providing us a volunteer to help with set-up, Rachael Bridges from One Fit Life for the Plyoga warm-up, Ashely Rummelt for the family yoga, and Badgero Accounting and Tax Services for providing drinks and snacks for our participants and volunteers. Thank you to Mrs. Hurrle for

getting students together to create the photo booth and to be our photographers. We would also like to thank the anonymous donor who provided healthy snacks and drinks! It is heartwarming

to see our community come together for such a wonderful cause. Hopefully you can be a part of next year's event!





**Contact Chris Cronk @  
the bus garage.  
(231) 652-1112**

**Substitute Bus Drivers Needed!**

NPS is in search of friendly, caring adults to transport our students (K-12) to and from school.

- Retired? Great way to earn extra \$\$ cash!
- Stay at home Mom/Dad? NPS is flexible for those with kids; accommodations can be made!

**LIONS**  
NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS





Zoey Davenport is ready for instruction!

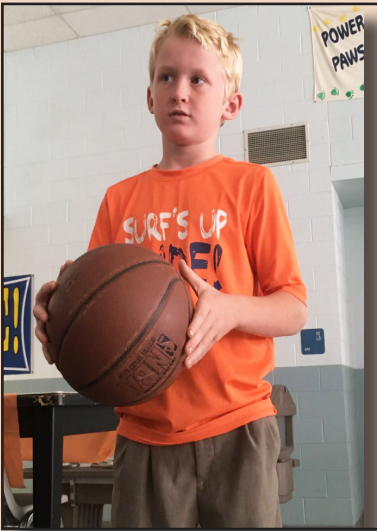
# Music is a Slam Dunk

In its first year of implementation the new music classes are a hit. Students in grades K-5 are now receiving regular music instruction for the first time in over five years. The music program had originally been replaced with a Writing Strategies class to increase student performance in writing. Since then Newaygo Public Schools has implemented Thinking Maps and Write from the Beginning and Beyond to provide the writing instruction that was needed.

During the week of October 2, the “I can statements” or learning targets for students K-5 were I can keep a steady beat, I can differentiate between beat and rhythm, and I can read quarter notes, half notes, whole notes, eighth notes, and quarter rest. To further engrain these targets during this week, students in grades 3-5 were given basketballs to bounce and follow the beat, rhythm, notes, and rests. This active learning provided students with an opportunity to move while they learned. It was awesome to see and hear the improvement over the week!



Keeping active in class, Kaylee Wiseman is all smiles!

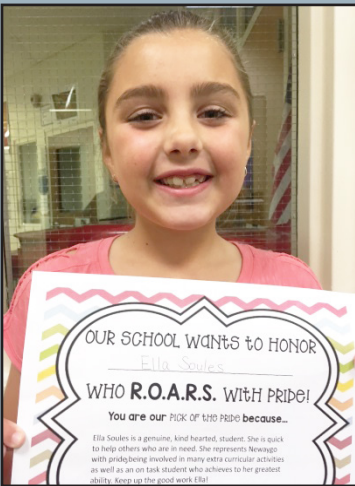


Ethaniel Thompson attentively waits for the next beat to drop his basketball.

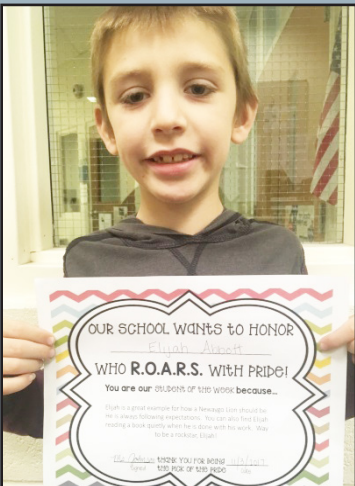
As we teach students math, reading, writing, and more it is important to remember that behavior requires the same practice and reinforcement. Congratulations to all the students at Velma Matson for working toward a positive school experience!



After the ROARS ticket drawings, Rylann Aishe and Taylor Randolph show that good behavior pays off!!



Ella Soules with her Student of the Week Award!



Eli Abbott Roars with Pride!





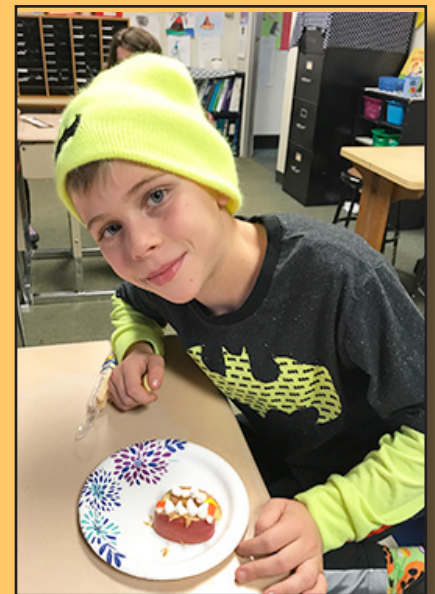
Students in Mrs. Morse's 4th grade class at Velma Matson have been working on writing informational paragraphs using correct conventions, after planning using thinking maps. Every student wrote about Helen Keller and then got to pick their own famous person to research and write about. After students wrote, they were able to paint a portrait of their famous person!

#### 4th grade classes visit Newwaygo Museum

Students learned many important facts about what life was like in Newwaygo long ago and got a better understanding of how dangerous logging was. Students enjoyed walking around the museum as they looked at all the interesting old fashioned items. Students then walked down to the Muskegon River to see if they could notice any of the logs that had been marked with a special marking from the logging days. We would like to thank the Newwaygo Museum for our very educational trip.



Our 4th grade students celebrated Halloween rotating through all 5 classes. The students had an exciting afternoon making Oobleq. They were amazed that one bag of oobleq can be hard when you touch it or runny. They enjoyed a Halloween snack that they made. It was a happy mouth made out of an apple covered with peanut butter and then marshmallows for the teeth. The students constructed catapults out of popsicle sticks, rubber bands and plastic spoons. Candy corn was flying all over that room! Prizes were won while playing Halloween Jingo. The students had to answer questions about Halloween and then covered the correct answer on their Jingo sheet. Our little goblins enjoyed playing Halloween tick-tac-toe, rolling 2 dice and adding them together to cover a number on a sheet for 5 in a row, and playing memory. There were some really scary Frankensteins and pumpkins made while using their imagination. Thanks you to all the parents that donated items to help us celebrate Halloween.



On October 20, 2nd grade students took a field trip to Heritage Farm Market in Fremont, Michigan. All 2nd graders were able to watch the process from start to finish of apples being made into apple cider. The best part was getting to taste it right after it was made! They were also able to view an enclosed bee hive and learn about the importance of bees to the apple growing process. In addition they got to take a hayride through the farm and see and learn about both elk and buffalo! It was an amazing trip that ended with a picnic lunch outside at the farm! 2nd grade teachers and students would like to thank our PTO for helping with busing costs for this trip. It was an amazing learning experience for all!



**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, August 21, 2017**

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 21, 2017.

There were no letters of resignation.  
The Board of Education hired a High School Social Studies & Psychology teacher, A High School Academic Interventionist and an Elementary Special Education Teacher.  
Construction Project Update –  
Mr. Pat Zawacki from Christman Construction updated the board on the construction project.  
Formal Board Communications – Letter from Missy Clark.

The Board of Education took the following actions regarding Old Business items:  
-Approved Students/Staff/Parent Handbooks for 2017-18;  
-Approved Seclusion and Restraint Policy;  
-Approved Capitalization Policy.  
The Board was updated on the finances of the District.  
The Board of Education considered the following New Business items:  
-Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Delegate Assembly Representatives.  
Principals updated the board on their buildings.  
The board entered into closed session for the purpose of the Superintendent Evaluation.

**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, September 18, 2017**

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017.

Ms. Angie Roelofs, from Baird, Cotter and Bishop, present to the board the 5 year summary of the General Fund.  
Ms. Darlene Dongvillo from NEOLA presented

and explained to the board the type of service offered by NEOLA to districts and the services provided on maintaining a districts board policies.  
Mrs. Theresa Voshel, NPS Teacher, reported to the board the importance and impact that Professional Learning Communities (PLC) have on staff and students.  
Dr. Mathis updated the board on Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS).  
Letters of resignation were received from 2 Bus Drivers, an aide from Vera Wilsie Elementary School and, the Freshman Class Advisor.  
The Board of Education hired a Varsity Boys Track Coach, 2 Vera Wilsie General Education Aides; 4 Vera Wilsie Special Education Aides; 2 Middle School Special Education Aides; a K-12 Nurse and 2 Freshman Class Advisors as a split position.  
The Board of Education took the following actions regarding Old Business items:  
-Approved the Audit FY Ending June 30, 2017;  
-Approved Bid Category #1: Cabling;  
-Approved Bid Category #2: Access Control;  
-Approved the Certification of Delegates for the 2017 MASB Delegate Assembly;  
-Appointed a Board Representative for the Newaygo County School Board Association.  
The Board was updated on the finances of the District.  
There was no New Business.  
Principals updated the board on their buildings.  
The board entered into closed session for the purpose of the Superintendent Evaluation.

**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, October 16, 2017**

The Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 16, 2017.

Ms. Erica Jordan presented an overview of the CATCH Program (Coordinated Approach To Child Health). She talked about new reporting and assessments that show a need for nutrition education within Newaygo County. The program has a committee that looks at how to implement smarter lunchrooms in the county; saturating school environment with healthy choices. Ms. Jordan also teaches students tips and eating habits, as well as taste testing healthy snack options.  
M-STEP Data – Dr. Mathis  
Dr. Mathis gave a brief overview to the board with scores on our district as well as other districts that had the same student count and the same number of free & reduced lunches. Mathis noted there should be new data; sub-group scores, that will be brought forward in future months.  
PBIS – Principals  
Principal updated the board on current PBIS, explaining the importance, the need and ways to continuously improve the program.  
Audience Participation –  
Mr. John Clark presented President Brummel with an audience participation card.  
A letter of resignation was received from the Drama Club Advisor.  
The Board of Education hired 2 Bus Drivers and a Drama Club Advisor.  
The Board of Education took the following actions regarding Old Business items:  
-Approved to enter into a partnership with NEO-LA for Board Policy Management;  
-Approved the Superintendent's evaluation, extend the contract for one year and approve a pay increase of 1.5%, as other staff received.  
The Board was updated on the finances of the District.  
There was no New Business  
Principals updated the board on their buildings.

**Board of Education Meetings**

The Board of Education meets on the third Monday of every month. Meetings are held in the Library of the Newaygo High School, 200 East St., Newaygo, MI 49337. Meetings are open to the public and begin at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are available on the district website. [www.newaygo.net](http://www.newaygo.net)

Anyone with questions regarding any meeting of the Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education is invited to contact any member of the Board of Education or Superintendent Peggy Mathis at (231) 652-6984. Minutes of any meeting of the Newaygo Public Schools Board of Education are available for review in the school district's administration office, 360 S. Mill Street, Newaygo, MI 49337.



NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2017-2018 School Calendar



November 16 Parent-Teacher conferences — Grades K-4 — 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
November 20 Late Start  
November 22 Half-Day of School — Begin Thanksgiving Break  
November 23-24 No School — Thanksgiving Weekend  
November 27 Late Start  
December 20 Half-Day of School — Begin Christmas Break  
December 21-January 2 No School — Christmas Break  
January 3 School resumes  
January 8 Late Start  
January 15 Late Start  
January 19 Half-Day of School — End of First Semester — Teacher Records in p.m.  
January 22 Late Start  
January 29 Late Start  
February 5 Late Start  
February 12 Late Start  
February 16-19 No School — Winter Break  
February 26 Late Start  
March 5 Late Start  
March 12 Late Start  
March 19 Late Start  
March 19 Lion Pride Night — Grades K-4 — 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
March 19 Parent-Teacher Conferences — Grades K-4 before or after Lion Pride time - TBA  
March 20 Lion Pride Night — Grades 5-8 — 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
March 20 Lion Pride Night — Grades 9-12 — 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
March 20 Parent Teacher Conferences — Grades 5-12 before or after Lion Pride time - TBA  
March 23 End of Third Marking Period  
March 26 Late Start  
March 30-April 6 No School — Spring Break  
April 9 Late Start  
April 16 Late Start  
April 23 Late Start  
May 28 No School — Memorial Day  
June 5 Half-Day of School — Teacher Records in p.m.  
June 6 Half-Day of School — Last Day of School  
Late Start - School will begin one hour later than normal and morning bus routes will run one hour later in the morning on these days.  
Alternate Days of Instruction — If additional days of instruction are needed to comply with State requirements of minimal number of hours of instruction (1,098) they will be added at Winter Break (February 19), and/or the end of the school year.

The Newaygo Public Schools Newsletter is published by the Newaygo Board of Education and Administration. All news for this publication should be sent to the Administration Office, 360 S. Mill St., P.O. Box 820, Newaygo, MI 49337. All submissions should be sent to the attention of Jessie Borkowski, Editor. Newaygo Public Schools is committed to the policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, religion, sex, age, national origin and handicap in all of its programs.

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# NEWAYGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## 2017-18 Administration

Peggy Mathis, Superintendent .....	652-6984
Kristin Melvin, Business Manager .....	652-6984
Brad Reyburn, H.S. Principal .....	652-1646
Sarah Rodriguez, Assistant H.S. Principal .....	652-1646
Steve Bush, M.S. Principal .....	652-1285
Jim Grugett, Assistant M.S. Principal .....	652-1285
Adam DeShano, Velma Matson Upper Elem ....	652-2100
Candy Wells, Vera Wilsie Elem. Principal .....	652-6371
Bud Gould, Dir. Building & Grounds .....	652-9313
Chris Cronk, Dir. Transportation .....	652-1112
Mary Anne Charette, Dir. Food Service .....	652-9286
Scott Van Essen, Director Athletics .....	652-1646
Walter Aslakson, Technology Director .....	652-1646

### Lunch Prices for 2017-18 School Year

Velma Matson/Vera Wilsie Elementary	\$1.75
High School/Middle School	\$2.00
Adult Meals	\$3.00
Reduced Meals	\$.40

Monthly Lunch Menus can be found on the NPS website.  
[www.newaygo.net](http://www.newaygo.net)

\*Menu subject to changes due to conditions beyond our control. The National School Lunch Program prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

Mary Anne Charette, Food Service Director  
(231) 652-9286

**NPS is always accepting applications for Substitute Cooks.**

**Interested candidates should contact Mary Anne Charette, Food Service Director at 231 652-9286.**



**Contact Chris Cronk @  
the bus garage.  
(231) 652-1112**

## Substitute Bus Drivers Needed!

NPS is in search of friendly, caring adults to transport our students (K-12) to and from school.

- Retired? Great way to earn extra \$\$ cash!
- Stay at home Mom/Dad? NPS is flexible for those with kids; accommodations can be made!



Ho! Ho! Ho! Ready to GO! The seventh annual St. Nick Kick, a family-friendly, 5K and 10K run, as well as a 1 mile walk for all ages, is scheduled for Saturday, December 3 beginning at 10:00 am at Newaygo High School. Race proceeds go to the benefit of the Newaygo High School Cross Country Team.

Registration flyers may be picked up at any of the NPS buildings in the main office or at any ChoiceOne Bank location.

Online registration is available at  
<https://rivercountrychamber.redpodium.com/choiceone-bank-st-nick-kick>

All information about the race may be found at the River Country Chamber of Commerce website OR the Newaygo Public Schools website!

[www.newaygo.net](http://www.newaygo.net)  
[www.rivercountrychamber.com](http://www.rivercountrychamber.com)

For more information, contact Race Director Alexis Mercer at [ybmerc10@gmail.com](mailto:ybmerc10@gmail.com) or 231.286.0593.



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