



CONNECTION

Kearsley Community Schools

JUNE 2024

Class of 2024 ~ Top 10

1



SARAH MORIN

Valedictorian

GPA: 4.133

Future Plan:

Central Michigan
University,
Physical Therapy

2



DRAKE HOLLINS

Salutatorian

GPA: 4.106

Future Plan:

Harvard University,
Biomedical Engineering

3



AVA BOGGS

GPA: 4.103

Future Plan:

Western Michigan
University, Aviation
Flight Science

4



CADEN SAXTON

GPA: 4.1

Future Plan:

University of Michigan-
Flint, Actuarial Sciences

5



ARIANNA ASH

GPA: 4.081

Future Plan:

University of
Michigan-Flint,
Mechanical Engineering

6



GRACE OWENS

GPA: 4.061

Future Plan:

Saginaw Valley State
University, Environmental
Studies and Sustainability

7



HAILEY CAMERON

GPA: 4.033

Future Plan:

Rochester Christian
University,
Physical Therapy

8



ABBEY WILLINGHAM

GPA: 4.031

Future Plan:

Mott Community College,
Dental Hygiene

9



ALAYNA CAMPBELL

GPA: 4.02

Future Plan:

Oakland University,
Music Technology

10



ALEXANDER FENNER

GPA: 3.975

Future Plan:

Eastern Michigan University,
Computer Engineering



KEARSLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION

4396 Underhill Drive, Flint MI 48506 **810-591-8000**

Paul Gaudard, Superintendent of Schools

Peter LoFiego, Assistant Superintendent

Jane Fonger, Director of Curriculum,
Assessment and Grants/ Title IX Coordinator

Kelli-Ann Fazer, Director of Student Services

KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL

4302 Underhill Drive, Flint MI 48506 **810-591-9883**

Brian Wiskur, Principal

Brandon Marks, Assistant Principal

Keith Saxton, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal

KEARSLEY VIRTUAL ACADEMY

4396 Underhill Drive, Flint MI 48506 **810-591-9883**

Brandon Marks, Principal

ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL

6161 Hopkins Drive, Flint MI 48506..... **810-591-9929**

Lisa Oetting, Principal

Matt Moore, Assistant Principal

FIEDLER ELEMENTARY

6317 Nightingale Drive, Flint MI 48506..... **(810) 591-9925**

Kristi Cummings, Principal

DOWDALL ELEMENTARY

3333 Shillelagh Drive, Flint MI 48506..... **810-591-2274**

Kelly Fisher, Principal

WESTON ELEMENTARY

2499 Cashin Street, Burton MI 48509 **810-591-2336**

Sarah Wood, Principal

PUMPKIN PATCH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

4235 Crosby Road, Flint MI 48506..... **810-591-3585**

Janis Akers, Director

Douglas Hibbs, Early Childhood Principal

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Richard Hill, President

Dr. Chad Boggs, Vice President

Robert Ploof, Secretary

Chad Langworthy, Treasurer

Kelly Fenner, Trustee

Tami Swanson, Trustee

Dr. Charles Wade, Trustee

The Kearsley Community Schools Board of Education is a 7-member body elected by the residents of the school district. Board members serve 6-year terms.

MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
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July 15, 2024	6:00 pm	Administration Building
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Note: Meeting dates for the 2024-2025 School Year will be set at the July Meeting.

The Kearsley Board of Education meets on the second Monday of the month unless otherwise noted. Meetings will be posted at least 18 hours in advance at the entrances to the administration and school buildings, and on the district's website.

Meetings are open to the public, and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing assistance should contact the Superintendent's office at least five days prior to the meeting date by sending an email to tcorchad@kearsleyschools.org or call 810-591-7611.



SUPPORT
Our Special
Olympians

**27TH ANNUAL
MUM SALE**

More details to
follow early Fall 2024

Questions?
Please email Cory Fisher
cfisher@kearsleyschools.org

Superintendent's Message...

That's a wrap for the 2023-24 school year!

It was an exciting year with so much to celebrate. I want to congratulate each one of our Kearsley students for their hard work and dedication throughout the academic year. Our students' accomplishments, both in the classroom and beyond, fill us with pride and optimism for our future.

We have a busy summer ahead with many summer projects and learning opportunities for our students. Some of the largest building projects going on across the district are:

- Completion of secure entrance and office additions/renovations at Armstrong, Fiedler and Weston
- Construction continuing on our new Community Recreation Center with an expected completion in late 2024 or early 2025
- Groundbreaking on our new Dowdall multi-purpose center, secure entrance and office addition with expected completion for the Fall of 2025
- Re-keying and door replacement at Armstrong Middle School
- Water tank replacement at Fiedler
- Weston parent loop expansion

Learning doesn't take the summer off at Kearsley! We have over 250 students participating in our various programs this summer! Additionally, we will be offering four book swaps every two weeks throughout the summer to offer a wide selection of books to keep kids reading throughout the summer. We, along with other Genesee County districts, are participating in the

Read to a Million Challenge over the summer. As a district we finished #3 in the county last summer and are looking to improve on that finish this summer! Please encourage your child to continue to read and log those pages throughout the summer for chances to win some great prizes and a pizza party for their class when we return in the fall.

As part of our 2022 Bond initiative and in alignment with one of our primary district goals of providing safe and innovative learning environments, Kearsley Community Schools recently contracted with Arch Environmental Group to conduct a thorough safety inspection and testing at all district buildings. This comprehensive testing and sampling took place over several months, beginning in November 2023 and concluding in April 2024.



Tests included:

- Indoor air quality measurements for temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, total hydrocarbons, percent oxygen, total dust, and general VOCs
- Background asbestos air monitoring
- Short-term radon sampling
- Water sampling

Additionally, a visual inspection throughout all facilities was conducted with the intent of identifying visible indications of mold growth or contamination, unusual odors, or other obvious building pollutants. Arch Environmental has provided us with a detailed report that

indicates no further investigation or corrective measures are required or recommended at this time. All parameters measured during the investigation were within applicable guidelines or regulations for human exposure and do not represent a potential health concern. We take pride in these results and will continue to be proactive in our efforts as the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority.

As we look towards next school year and beyond, I am hopeful and excited. Our entire community should be proud of the many additions and upgrades to facilities, curriculum and technology in support of Kearsley students, staff and families.

I encourage everyone to take time to rest, rejuvenate and spend time with family over the next few months.

Have a safe and relaxing summer. Go Hornets!



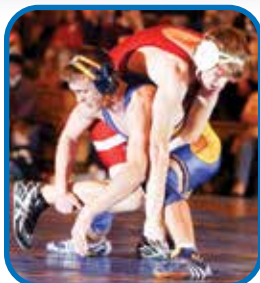
Sincerely,
Paul Gaudard
Superintendent of Schools



Salutarian Drake Hollins, Superintendent Gaudard and Valedictorian Sarah Morin

2024 KEARSLEY *Hall of Fame Inductees*

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE THREE INDIVIDUALS AND ONE TEAM THAT COMPRISE THE KEARSLEY'S HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2024.



PRIDE: Aaron Hynes '06 - Student-Athlete

Aaron was an outstanding KHS scholar-athlete, earning academic All Big 9 three times in wrestling and football. He recorded an individual record of 209-29 W while becoming a four-time All-State wrestler, and two-time Individual State Champion earning titles in both 2004 and 2005. Aaron helped lead a strong team to a Big 9 Title in 2003, four consecutive District Titles 2003-6, and Regional Championship 2004. Attending the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, he was a member of their wrestling program, 2006-11 - career record: 89-54 W; placed 5th in the Big Ten Conference; and appeared in the 2008-09 NCAA Championships.



TRADITION: Chris Christensen - Staff Member

Chris Christensen was an exceptional Kearsley teacher from 1974-2002, covering multiple disciplines including history, physical education, special education and actively involved in Special Olympics events. In addition to coaching both boys and girls tennis, Chris served as the head coach for the KHS Hockey program. Throughout his career, Chris's hockey teams won six conference titles, six regional titles, and finished in the top four twice. His 1986 team recorded one of the best seasons in school history with a trip to the MHSAA State Championship game. He posted a 427-221-45 record over his 28 seasons leading the team. He was the first hockey coach in the Flint area to reach 400 career wins. At the time of his death in 2002, he had the most wins in Flint-area high school hockey history.



EXCELLENCE: Patti Yorks '87 - Notable Alumni

Patti Yorks was an incredible scholar, graduating with the KHS Class of 1987 as the valedictorian. After graduating from Oakland University, Patti returned to the district as an elementary teacher and counselor. Patti moved into administration as a principal, serving at Weston, Buffey, and Armstrong. She was promoted to central office Curriculum Director, elevated to Asst. Superintendent, and in 2012 our Superintendent. She held this position until retiring in 2018. Patti was highly respected and admired by her staff, the students & community. Not only was Patti the first Kearsley alumni to become the Superintendent of the district, but she was also the first female Superintendent to serve our community.

TEAM: 2012 Girls Bowling

Led by head coach Robert Ploof and assistants Pam Ploof & Doug Brownfield, the 2012 Girls Bowling team recorded a historic season culminating in the program's first MHSAA State Championship. Prior to the state tournament the team enjoyed an outstanding regular season going undefeated with an 8-0 record and winning the Flint Metro League Championship. The regular season also saw the team win the Best of the Best Tournament and defeat rival Davison, the top-ranked team and eventual State Champion in Division 1. Team Members included Lindsey Ploof, Chyanne Hibbs, Jessica Dawes, Holli Hollister, Kayla Emmendorfer, Amanda Thompson, Becca Iversen, Teagan MacDonald.

Individual honorees were selected by a committee in three categories aligned with the district's motto of Pride, Tradition and Excellence. In addition, a team was selected and will be honored at the 2024 Homecoming football game on Friday, October 4. Individual and team plaques of all inductees will be prominently displayed on the Hall of Fame wall in Kearsley High School.

THANK YOU!

For your service to Kearsley students & families.

#PrideTraditionExcellence

Congratulations 2024 Retirees!

43 YEARS

- Janis Akers, Pumpkin Patch

33 YEARS

- Sherise Timmons, Dowdall

31 YEARS

- Lori Saultman, AMS

30 YEARS

- Amy Graham, KHS
- Heather Roeher, Fiedler

29 YEARS

- Kirk Timmons, AMS
- Helen Plamondon, Pumpkin Patch

24 YEARS

- Scott Lints, AMS

23 YEARS

- Julie Skinner, Fiedler

Service Awards

The Service Awards honors those staff who have made significant contributions to Kearsley Community schools. Each year, Kearsley honors staff members reaching milestones of 5 years of service or more.

35 YEARS

- Ronda LeBrasseur, Weston
- Cathy Shetron, Dowdall

30 YEARS

- Kimberly Duffy, AMS
- Amy Graham, KHS
- Lisa Katzenberger, Fiedler
- Kourtney Lobsinger, Weston
- Marie McKinnon-Whitt, Nutrition
- Andrew Nester, KHS
- Heather Roeher, Fiedler
- Amy Schofield, Administration

25 YEARS

- Andrea Banks, AMS
- Diana Bowman, AMS
- Donna Carpenter, Nutrition
- Traci Corchado, Administration
- Kristen Klipa, AMS
- Christina Lovik, Pumpkin Patch

20 YEARS

- Ronna Bearss, AMS
- Heather Brannan, Weston
- Jill Carter, KHS
- Jane Fonger, Administration
- Kathryn Love, Nutrition

- Sherry Luney, Transportation
- Judi McIlroy, Transportation
- Annette Orth, KHS
- Allison Roberts, Dowdall
- Adrienne Temple, AMS

15 YEARS

- Jada Clark, Dowdall
- Douglas Hibbs, AMS
- Ashley Livingston, Administration
- Amy Mitchell, Nutrition
- Ellen Stadler, Pumpkin Patch
- Terry Williams, AMS

10 YEARS

- Michele Andrus, Dowdall
- Angela Ayre, KHS
- Stacy Briggs, Transportation
- Jacqueline Chartrand, Nutrition
- Megan Earley, Pumpkin Patch
- Renee Greer, KHS
- Susan King, Transportation/Nutrition
- Tina Kramer, Pumpkin Patch
- Lindsay Pittenger, KHS
- Deborah Richardson, Dowdall
- Karen Rose, Dowdall
- Rachel Siegrist, Pumpkin Patch
- Marci Sporman, KHS

- Marti VanOverbeke, KHS
- Michael Whalen, KHS
- Christy Woods, Dowdall
- Lori Phillips, Fiedler

5 YEARS

- Sarah Beardslee, Dowdall
- Kayla Bollis, Pumpkin Patch
- Morgan Brode, Pumpkin Patch
- Kylee Bunner, Pumpkin Patch
- Skylar Craft, Pumpkin Patch
- Joda Dailey, KHS/KVA
- Marcella Ellsworth, Nutrition
- Denise Graham, Fiedler
- Suzanne Grissom, Transportation
- Sarah Horne, KHS
- Lacey Hoskey, Weston
- Kayla Knoll, KHS
- Rebecca Litteral, Pumpkin Patch
- Autumn Marsh, Dowdall
- Micaela Meyer, Weston
- Nicholas Pagogna, AMS
- Stephanie Palmateer, Dowdall
- Beverly Price, Pumpkin Patch
- Madison Rowe, Pumpkin Patch
- Norma Smith, KHS
- Wendy Webb, Nutrition
- Megan Wood, Dowdall
- Tina Woycik, Dowdall



PUMPKIN PATCH

Award-Winning Child Care Center of Choice!

"Enhancing Quality - Validated" designation by Office of Great Start, MI Dept. of Education

Zero licensing violations

Dedicated & dependable staff that builds relationships with families

Fun day of outdoor games & activities for our youngest Hornets!



WESTON Elementary

Ms. Miller's first grade class did a wonderful job presenting their Butterfly Projects to Ms. Albutus's kindergarten class.

The first graders learned about the life cycles of butterflies and shared what they learned with their kindergarten friends.



DOWDALL Elementary

Dowdall students experienced a rare and beautiful celestial event on April 8, with the 2024 Total Eclipse. It was a unique experience to witness a period of darkness. The next opportunity this can be seen in the United States will be in 2044!



FIEDLER Elementary

The annual Spring Walkathon was a success! Held May 31, students walked to raise funds for Fiedler's PBIS activities. While they were enjoying the sunshine and music, a special guest showed up to cheer them on - **BUZZ!**



ARMSTRONG

Middle School

Career Showcase

Thank you to all of the community members that came to share information about their careers with Armstrong students. **OUR 7TH GRADERS WERE INSPIRED AND LEARNED A LOT!**



End of the Year Field Trips

AMS students celebrated the end of the school year with field trips. They had their choice of activity - roller skating, bowling, canoeing or attending a Flint Bucks' soccer game. **GREAT FUN WAS HAD BY ALL!**



U of M Regional Alliance of Health Schools Expands at AMS

Kearsley Schools is thrilled to announce that our partnership with the University of Michigan Health Systems will be expanding as we are moving forward with plans to bring a University of Michigan Regional Alliance of Health Schools (RAHS) clinic to Armstrong Middle School. Since 2016, we have been fortunate to have a RAHS health clinic located at Kearsley High School.

Armstrong currently has a U of M behavioral health clinic, with a full-time U of M social worker. This new clinic, which will be located in Room 900, will include a full medical clinic, behavioral health clinic and also provide space to provide dental and vision services.

Renovations to the AMS clinic will begin late this summer or early fall and are expected to be completed before the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year. This partnership is incredibly beneficial to the Kearsley community as the district simply provides the space and covers utility costs, while all medical equipment, furniture, and staffing costs are completely supported by Michigan Medicine.

The new AMS health center will provide valuable resources to our students and families that will include but are not limited to:

- Immunizations
- Physical Exams
- Sick Visits
- Nutrition Counseling
- Health and Fitness Education Programs & Groups
- Confidential Mental Health Services and Psychotherapy
- Vision Screening and Dental visits
- Referrals for Community Resources

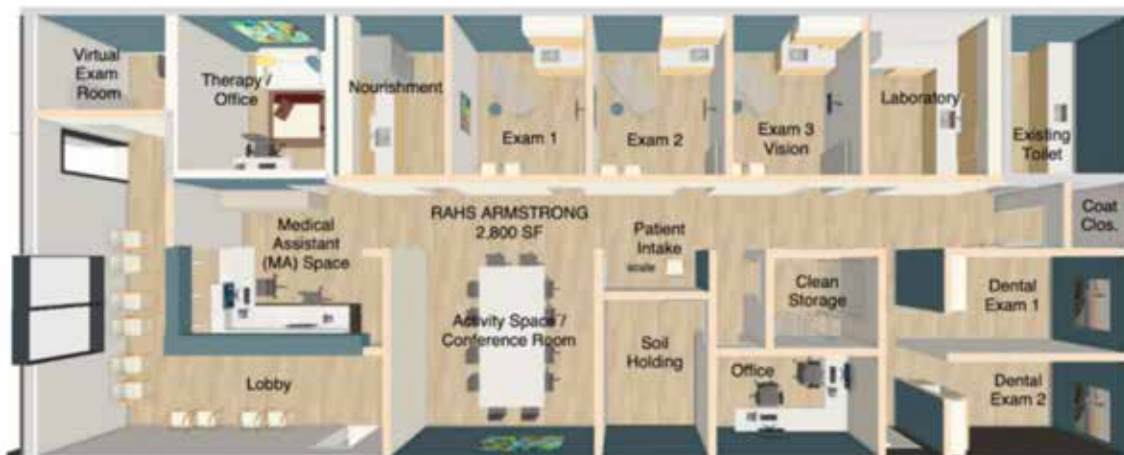
Although the RAHS health center will be open to Kearsley students, the University of Michigan Health Systems will provide care to all youth 21 years old and younger. Those seeking care do not need to be a registered student at any school-based health center partnering school. The health system will accept insured and uninsured patients, regardless of ability to pay. This partnership aligns with our district's continued commitment to the health and wellbeing of all youth.

Please know that the University of Michigan Health System team completely understands that safety and security of our schools is extremely important and will remain our top focus. Room 900 has an outside door so that any visitors will only be able to enter the building through the clinic itself and will not have access to the rest of the building.

Kearsley's existing RAHS clinic at KHS has proven to be a tremendous asset to our community. One major advantage is to provide care on a level that engages families while providing a strong emphasis on creating and sustaining strong student attendance. When students are present in school on a consistent basis, they are able to take advantage of the caring relationships and outstanding instruction delivered daily by our Kearsley staff.



FLOOR PLAN PROPOSED DESIGN Scale: Not to Scale



KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL

**BEST
of the
BEST**

Sally Smith Service Learning Award

Megan Nusbaum '24

- 547 total hours of community service

This honor is given to the student who has accumulated the most hours of community service during their four years at KHS.

Under Sally Smith's leadership, the Kearsley Service Learning program set the standard for the county & helped make our Kearsley students well rounded, contributing members of our community.



KHS DEPARTMENT AWARDS 2024

Business - **Gabrielle Chapman**

Career Technical - **Chloe Wirsing**

Language Arts - **Samantha Atkinson**

Mathematics - **Drake Hollins**

Physical Education - **Mark Lee**

Science - **Elizabeth Soper**

Social Science - **Arianna Ash**

Visual Arts - **Annalisa Hanson**

World Languages - **Leeann Mabry**



Kearsley Virtual Academy

Congratulations KVA Graduates!

The KVA Commencement was held on May 30 in the KHS Auditorium. The nineteen graduates were applauded for their accomplishments by family, friends, KCS Board of Education and administration. A special dinner followed, prepared by Chef Kevin to celebrate their success.





2024 Kearsley High School Scholarships Awarded

BOGGS FAMILY ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Samantha Atkinson, Benjamin Owens,
Abbey Willingham, and Annika Young

CHARTWELLS SCHOLARSHIP

Kaitlyn McCallum

CONNIE BENNETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Arianna Ash

DAN EASHOO FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Haidynn Bartholomew

GENESEE EDUCATION CONSULTANTS SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP

Alexander Fenner

GENESEE POWER STATION SCHOLARSHIP

Grace Owens, Caden Saxton, Jalen Gatica,
and Alexander Fenner

GEORGE DALY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Arianna Ash, Megan Nusbaum,
and Caden Saxton

GEORGE DALY VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Richard Barber

JACK PRATT SCHOLARSHIP

Kasen Johnson

JANE AND AUBREY BURGTORF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Emma Edgeworth and Arianna Ash

JEROMEY MORGAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Dylan Ruhstorfer and Annika Young

KEARSLEY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

Drake Hollins

LEO RUEBKE BAND SCHOLARSHIP

Elizabeth Pichey

M. J. NOYCE FAMILY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Arianna Ash

MCKAYLA HANSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Dylan Ruhstorfer

MICHAEL LAFIA ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Haidynn Bartholomew

MICKY HAMILTON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Ava Boggs and Caden Saxton

PAT O'REILLY HORNET'S NEST SCHOLARSHIP

Ava Boggs, Drake Hollins, Kyle Owens,
and Dylan Ruhstorfer

PATRICIA SMITH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Kasen Johnson

PAUL A. WEBSTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Kaitlyn McCallum

STUDENT LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Drake Hollins

TROY PAXTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ava Boggs

VAN GILDER FAMILY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Jaleesa Burchfield and Alexander Lillywhite

ZACHARY J. WARNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Abbey Willingham



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Flint, MI 48506

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Save the Dates

JUNE

- 26** Elementary & Middle School Book Swaps
- MEL Bus @ Pineview Clubhouse, 3:00-3:40 pm
 - MEL Bus @ Fiedler, 3:50-4:30 pm

JULY

- 10** Elementary & Middle School Book Swap @ Kearsley Kone, 4:00-6:00 pm
- Students receive a free small soft serve, or \$1 off any other treat.
- 24** Elementary & Middle School Book Swap @ ForMar, 3:00-5:00 pm
- The Nature Center will be open to visit.

AUGUST

- 12** KHS Fall Athletics Begin
- 14** Family Movie Night, KHS Football Field, 7:00 pm
- 19** KHS 9th Grade & New Student Orientation, 7:00-8:00 pm
- 19** AMS 6th Grade & New Student Orientation, 11:00 am-noon or 6:00-7:00 pm
- 20** AMS 6th Grade & New Student Orientation, 11:00 am-noon or 6:00-7:00 pm
- 20** 5th Grade Open House - Fiedler, 4:00-5:00 pm
- 20** 4th Grade Open House - Fiedler, 5:30-6:30 pm

- 21** 3rd Grade Open House - Dowdall, 4:00-5:00 pm
- 21** 2nd Grade Open House - Dowdall, 5:30-6:30 pm
- 22** Pumpkin Patch Open House - Buffey, 3:00-5:00 pm
- 22** 1st Grade Open House - Weston, 4:00-5:00 pm
- 22** Kindergarten Open House - Weston, 5:30-6:30 pm
- 26** **First Day of School**
- 26** AMS Fall Athletics Begin
- 27** AMS Open House, 6:00-7:00 pm
- 27** KHS Fall Meet the Teams, 7:00-8:00 pm

SEPTEMBER

- 2** Labor Day, No School

OCTOBER

- 9/30-10/4** Homecoming Week
- 4** Homecoming Parade & Tailgate Dinner
- 29** Harvest Festival, 4:30-6:30 pm