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Shirt Sales Begin for T.C. Patriot Game

Central/West football rivalry supports veterans and fallen heroes

Traverse City, Mich.— Shirt sales will begin tomorrow at area car dealerships for the second annual Traverse City Patriot Game. Organizers expect to have a sea of red, white and blue shirts in the stands again this year during the annual football rivalry between Traverse City Central and West.

The T.C. Patriot Game honors northern Michigan veterans and gives special recognition to those who have been killed in recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Proceeds to this year's event will go to the Grand Traverse Horses 4 Heroes program at Reining Liberty Ranch. The non-profit facility runs various equine programs at no charge to area veterans. They work to not only help heal returning soldiers but to also provide a safe place for them.

The Central/West game is scheduled for September 13th. A pre-game ceremony will be held to honor all veterans and provide an opportunity for the football players to personally thank them for their service to our country. Veterans will be allowed into the game at no charge.

Two shirt colors will be available this year with supporters of Central encouraged to purchase blue shirts and supporters of West are asked to purchase red shirts.

Students from the schools' student senates have been actively involved in planning this year's event. They interviewed a variety of veteran organizations and selected Reining Liberty Ranch to receive the proceeds. They also selected the design of the shirts.

Shirts are available at all Bill Marsh car dealerships, Fox Motors, Williams, Traverse Motors and Cherry Capital Cadillac Subaru. The shirts will be sold at other locations including both schools once classes begin and at the Military & Veteran Services at Northwestern Michigan College.

“While the West/Central rivalry is one of the biggest games of the year, our players need to know the sacrifice they make to get ready for the game is nothing compared to the sacrifice every veteran makes for our freedom,” says West football coach Tim Wooer.

More information about the game or sponsorship is available at the athletic departments at both schools or by contacting Mike Kent at MKent@BillMarsh.com.

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