



REMINDER



Classified Ads Page 6

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15721
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New Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4



15704
Purchase for just **\$44,351** Lease for **\$37,497**



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15681
Gas / plug in hybrid, incredible economy and More power than just gas! Was **\$64,730**
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15672
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New Chrysler 300 Touring L AWD



15734
Panoramic sunroof, navigation, power heated leather bucket seats, 9 speaker premium sound with subwoofer. "Affordable Luxury!"
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New 2023 Dodge Challenger R/T



15683
5.7L Hemi, 8spd automatic, Black top package, sunroof, R/T stripe, Was **\$46,820**
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Last Call

New 2023 Dodge Challenger Scat Pack



15647
6spd manual, 485HP, T/A pkg, Plus pkg, Harmon Kardon, sunroof! Was **\$62,215**
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New 2023 Dodge Challenger Scat Pack



15715
Wide Body, 485HP, T/A pkg, plus pkg, Harmon Kardon, sunroof, Was **\$69,410**
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15631
305hp, 8spd automatic, Black top pkg, power sunroof, Was **\$37,225**
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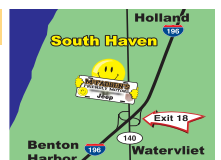
all rebates and incentives to dealer with qualified credit, price and payments are based on a 10K miles per year lease with 10% down plus tax and titling.

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TIGERS Gobles 2024 Spring Sports

MS Track

MS track competition

Coach Eichler • April 23, 2024

The boy's and girl's track teams were in a 4 team competition last night with the boys team taking 2nd place and the girl's team placing first outpacing the next nearest team by a whopping 47 points. Our boys team featured 10 Personal Records. The boys were led by Ethan Collison with 1st in the 200 and 4x200, Justin Gibson with first in 800 and 1600, Landon Gerould in the Pole Vault and the 4x100 team of Blaik Kuenzli, Austin Effner, Drake Ewald and Thomas Burrell, and the 4x200 team Hayden Spitzner, Camden Cuffaro, Thomas Burrell and Ethan Collison.

The girls team was led by 12 PRs. Team was led with 1st place finishes in the Taylor Cooley in the 400, Ella Collins in the 55m hurdles, Grace Stoneburner in the Shot Put, Kambree Stoneburner in the High Jump, Ella Horn in the Long Jump and the 4x200 relay team of Kambree Stoneburner, Hayden Keeley, Cora Shaffer and Ayla Jackson. The Lady Tigers were able to load up the points board by placing numerous 2nd and 3rd place finishes along with more than a couple of girl's like Aria Diaz, Cora Shaffer and Leah Chavez who ran back to back events to help their team to another 1st place finish.

Varsity Girls Softball

Gobles scores two big victories over Galesburg- Augusta

From Coach Megan Ivester • April 19, 2024

Game One:
Daisy Jackson drove in four runs on three heats to lead Gobles Varsity Tigers past Galesburg-Augusta 14-0 on Thursday. Jackson singled in the fifth scoring three, singled in the first scoring one and doubled in the third scoring one. Gobles scored 11 runs in the fifth inning on the way to victory. Hailey Hollan singled, scoring two runs, Ashlyn Myers had an RBI, Haleigh Hinson singled, scoring two runs, Kylee Killeen walked, scoring one run and Rosie Bowman singled.

Gobles opened the scoring in the top of the first thanks to two singles by Kenadi and Kylee Killeen. Gobles continued to score as Daisy Jackson doubled Kylee Killeen earned the win for Gobles. She gave up two hits and zero runs in five innings, striking out seven with no walks. Kylee Killeen paced Gobles with three walks. Overall, the team had patience at the plate, collecting ten walks and stealing five bases.

Game Two:
Kennadi Killeen collected three hits in three at bats, as Gobles defeated Galesburg-Augusta 18-0 in the second game of the double header on Thursday Kennadi Killeen double in the fourth inning, tripled in the first and singled in the second inning.

Gobles scored 11 runs in the fourth innings. Alan Gonzalez scored twice, Kylee Killeen scored three times and Daisy Jackson doubled scoring two runs. Holland and Gozalez singled again and scored. Kylee Killeen stepped in the circle again for Gobles. She allowed two hits and zero runs. She struck out three and walked one with stellar defense behind her.

Varsity Girls/Boys Track

Both Girls and Boys track teams fall to Saugatuck

From Coach Marc Kline • April 23, 2024

Both the Gobles Boys and Girls Varsity Track teams fall to Saugatuck, Wednesday, April 10.

It was a beautiful night to open dual meet action in track and field and the Saugatuck Trail Blazers came to Gobles and were too much for the Tiger boys as they beat them 86 to 47. Some highlights for the evening included Nathan Ray receiving the PR award in the Long Jump with an 18' 8" jump. Tough as Nails Award goes to Ryan Effner who after a tough fall in the 4x200m relay came back and ran a PR in the open 200m run, MVP went to Alex Lee for placing 1st in all 4 of his events: 100m dash, 400m Relay, 200m dash, and 1600m Relay.

Other notable performances include Coal Otis and Eli Huizenga setting a PR in the High Jump. Trystan set a PR in the discus. Steven Juarez, Ryan Effner, and Arman Bughoea, set PRs in Long Jump. Relay teams are rounding into form with outstanding performances in the 400m and 1600m relay with Nathan Ray, Eli Huizenga, Steven Juarez, and Alex Lee. Great night keep improving!

On the girls side, the Lady Tigers fell just 5 points short of the win. It was a hard fought competition all the way up to the final 3 races when Saugatuck earned enough points to secure the win. Our Lady tigers set numerous PR's and overall won 10 of the 17 events. The Trail blazers earned over half of their points in the field events where they have athletes ranked in the top 2 in the state in 3 out of 5 events. They also have the top 2 hurdlers in the state right now in division 4.

One bright spot for the evening was winning all 4 relay events where our Ladies are ranked in the top 6 in the state in each of them. Another was sweeping all 4 distance events thanks to freshman standout Libby Smith who won the 800, 1600, 3200, and a ran leg on the 4x800 Relay. This earned her the Meet MVP award. Ellie Wood earned the team PR award for getting a Personal Record in all 3 of her events. The tough as Nails award goes to Aly Tripp for running her guts out so to speak all the way to emesis. Way to work hard all night ladies.

TIGER STRONG!

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NOTICE • City of Gobles Property Owners & Residents
Citywide Curbside Pickup on Thursday, May 2, 2024

Spring CLEAN UP

- Refuse must be bagged or boxed and able to be easily handled by one man
- No item over four feet (4') in length
- No auto batteries, tires or rims will be accepted
- No yard waste materials
- No household waste (garbage)
- No paints, solvents, oils (paint cans will be accepted if they have been opened and the paint is dry)
- Mattresses must be sealed in a plastic mattress bag
- All small items must be in bags or cans for collection.

All material must be placed curbside PRIOR to 7:00 a.m. on THURSDAY, May 2, 2024. The city will be strictly enforcing the city blight ordinance. Blight violators will be subject to legal action. Please take this opportunity to rid your household and yard of unwanted items and junk and ensure you are in compliance with the blight ordinance.

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Bangor Housing Commission

Public notice 5 years annual PHA plan for 2023. A copy of this PHA plan is held at BHC, 820 2nd St. Bangor, MI 49013 or call 269-427-5535.

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PUBLIC NOTICE • City of Gobles

Notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test for the Special Election on May 7, 2024, will be conducted on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the Gobles City Hall located at 105 E. Main St., Gobles, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer that will be used to tabulate the results of the election have been prepared in accordance with the law.

Paula Sipes, Gobles City Clerk

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TOWNSHIP OF COLUMBIA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

To the qualified electors of Columbia Township, Van Buren County, State of Michigan: Notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test for the electronic equipment that will be used in Precincts 1 for the May 7th, 2024 election is scheduled for April 30, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Hall, located at 53053 CR 388, Grand Junction, MI 49056. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law.

Mary Phelps, Columbia Township Clerk

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2024 Spring Sports

BANGOR VIKINGS



Girls Varsity Track



Girls achieve track records

From Coach Muñoz • April 19, 2024
The girl's track team competed at home on Wednesday evening, April 17, with Comstock, Bloomingdale, and White Pigeon.
We had a great meet, with season and personal records by Navaree Nevith, Lauryn Anderson, Aanzhenii Smith, Madison Smith, Azariah Jackson, Yarnissia Campbell, Aliya Lee, Claire Heimsath, Savannah Marfia, and Jaelynn Little.
Team Scores:
Bangor 41 - White Pigeon 87
Bangor 44 - Bloomingdale 51
Bangor 50 - Comstock 48
Highlights:
-L. Anderson 1st in Discus
-J. Little 1st in 400m, 2nd in 200m
-Y. Campbell 2nd in 800m
-S. Marfia, C. Heimsath, Y. Campbell, N. Nevith 2nd in 4X200m Relay
-S. Marfia, J. Little, C. Heimsath, Y. Campbell 1st in 4X400m Relay.

Varsity Girls Soccer



Wind plays a roll in loss

From Coach Robles • April 19, 2024
The Lady Vikings Soccer Team on Wednesday, April 17 traveled to Marcellus, the current first-place team in the conference.
The wind played a huge factor in the game giving the Wildcats the advantage in the first half, allowing them to score two goals. In the second half, the wind was in favor of the Lady Vikings allowing them to keep the second half scoreless.

Ladies fall to Berrien Springs


From Coach Robles • April 23, 2024
The Lady Vikings took on Berrien Springs at home. The team fought hard and made some big saves and on-goal shots. The Lady Vikings weren't able to find the net and lost 5-0.

Congratulations!

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Varsity Boys Baseball



Wildcats take doubleheader

From Coach Nick Cox • April 19, 2024
Last night we traveled to Marcellus for a conference doubleheader. Our bats were cold and we could not heat them up. We lost both games to a very good Wildcats team. 0-13 and 0-14.

Vikings beat Cardinals

From Coach Nick Cox • April 23, 2024
Bangor took on Bloomingdale in the inaugural Patriot game. We were down 3-1 after the 5th inning and scored 3 to take a 3-4 lead in the 6th and held that score for the lead.
Jr pitched 6.2 innings, striking out 9 and walking 0. Jaiden Horvath came in to get the final out, striking the batter out in 4 pitches. Offensively we were led by Jaret McCoy, going 2-3.
In the night cap we are up 14-2 in the bottom of the 4th. Anthony Hardester pitched 4 innings, striking out 6 and walking 0.
We were led offensively by Jaiden Horvath, going 2-2 with 2 RBIs.

Varsity Girls Softball



Girls split doubleheader against Wildcats

From Coach Rickyna Luter • April 19, 2024
Last night the Vikings traveled to Marcellus for a SW10 matchup. In game one, our bats were hot and defensively we came up with some big plays. Emily Wisniewski scored the go-ahead run in the top of the 7th on an RBI by Carley McCoy. Cadence Mitchell had a clutch throw from right field to 1st base in the bottom of the 7th. We were able to hold the lead and won 6-5.
Key Players of the Game:
Emily Wisniewski went 3-4 from the plate scoring 3 of our 6 runs.
Carley McCoy had 5 RBIs on 3 hits
Isabelle Horvath struck out 9 batters.
Allowing no earned runs.
In game 2, it was a bit of a different story for the Vikings. Our bats were much colder and our defense was not as strong as game one. We committed far too many errors in the field and didn't give ourselves a shot at making a comeback. We ended the game losing 1-11.
Our record now stands at 8-2.

Schools honor Veterans

From Coach Rickyna Luter • April 23, 2024
The Lady Vikings hosted Bloomingdale last night in our Patriot Day game. We were honored to recognize 16 Veterans and 1 active duty servicewoman! We are thankful for all they have sacrificed for each one of us.
During Game 1, the ladies played some great team ball, committing no errors in the field and holding Bloomingdale to only 1 run on two hits. We had 11 combined hits as a team. We won in 4 by a score of 16-1.
In Game 2, the outcome was the same as the first. We won by a score of 16-1 in the 4th. We collected 17 hits and committed 2 errors in the field.

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South Walnut Elementary

1st & 2nd Graders have "Breakfast with the Teacher"



There was a great turnout for the first and second grade breakfast with the teacher events this month. Many parents came and participated.

Mr. Poppers Penguin Unit for 4th Grade



Mrs. Loomis' WIN group enjoyed reading the book "Mr. Popper's Penguins" this month. The students liked the comedy in the story and activities to go along with it, and looked forward to WIN time for a few weeks!

Thank You Christmas Shop Volunteers



A huge thank you goes out to the retired staff and alumni who have worked "The Little Viking Christmas Shop" for the past two years. Those who volunteered their time for the week were Dorothy Coates, Jennifer Anderson, Dan Thorbjornsen, Debra Nutting, Maurice Scott, Deb Reed, Debbie Gargus, Jane Rainey, and Jean Tucker. Without these people and our parent volunteers we would not be able to continue this activity for the students. So, thank you for supporting our students and school long after you worked here or went to school here, you are very much appreciated.

Bangor Career Academy

Students Visit Michigan Career and Tech Institute



Seven students from Bangor High and the GED program attended a tour of the programs at the Michigan Career and Technical Institute with Mrs. Livieratos and Mrs. Murdoch last month.

Various programs of study such as Electrical, Automotive, CNC/Welding, CNA, Cabinetry, IT, and Printmaking were presented and discussed by the MCTI staff and students. The Bangor students enjoyed exploring the facilities, dormitory, recreational opportunities, in addition to the beautiful campus.

This door of opportunity is open for students who qualify to attend after they turn 18 years old.

CLASS OF 2024

You are a
GRADUATE!

CONGRATULATIONS
Alizandra Crumb
Harley Pitcock
Khylee Uplinger
Isabel Villanueva

on passing your 4th GED Test!

Bangor Middle School

Charity Organization Donates to BMS Closet



The organization "100 + Women Who Care Van Buren" donated \$8,800 to the Bangor Middle School closet.

The check was gifted to BMS counselor, Madison Monro.

"I had the privilege to present the "BMS Closets" to an awesome group of women who make up the 100+ Women Who Care of Van Buren County. The group of ladies voted between various charities including ours and I won a total of \$8,800 for our students," said Monro.

"I am so proud and so excited to use this to better so many of our young lives in Bangor."

The BMS closet features clothing, shoes, hygiene products such as deodorant, shampoo, sanitary napkins, toothbrushes, and more that students can take as they need, and is located in the school office.

Congrats Vikings of the Month



Enrique Medrano Nehemiah Burton Ximena Saucedo Allison Cruz-Velasco Jeremy Uplinger Aylin Hernandez
Not Pictured: Haylie Perry and Jaxson Valentine.

5th and 6th Grade Band Solo Festival



From Band Director Mrs. Tianna Doe: "Congratulations to our 5th/6th grade band students and their performances at Solo Festival. Everyone was so impressed and you were all well prepared. Thank you to the HS band students for running the festival!"

Middle School Jazz Band Performs at Festival



"Both groups had great performances and we had an awesome time with our clinician. Thank you to all who were able to make it out. Also, shout out to our WMU intern, Miss Hahn, for working with our students to prepare them," stated Mrs. Doe.

Bangor High School

Solar Eclipse Amazes Bangor Public Schools



The solar eclipse took place on Monday, April 8, beginning during school hours. Bangor students observed the event in many ways, including creating artwork, scientific observations and assignments, and more.

HS Jazz Band Performs in New Orleans During Spring Break



The Bangor High School band traveled to New Orleans during spring break, to perform and see the sights. The group went on a ghost tour, visited the Maison Bourbon Jazz Club at Preservation Hall, took a boat ride down the Mississippi River, and even spent the day at the National WWII museum.

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FOR SALE - POND PROWLER 10' Boat. Pop up seats. SeriVel paddles, 2 new life jackets. Minnetonka trolling motor, like new. Asking \$400 OBO. Peral Bell kit, \$100. Washburn electric acoustic guitar, \$200 OBO. Epiphone Les Paul electric \$150 - WANTED - Mini Bike in good running shape. Call (269) 214-0826.

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www.journeyfamilychurch.com



Pastor Jim Robertson

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Pastor Jim Robertson
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Bloomingdale Christian Church

208 East Pine Street
bdalechurch1858@gmail.com
Sunday School 9:45 am (classes for all ages)
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:00 am
Tuesday Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am
(269) 521-4233
bccpastorbrett@gmail.com



Pastor Brett

Bangor Baptist Church

Pastor David Johnson & First Lady Renee Johnson

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Phone (269) 427.7067
Sunday School 10:00 am
BBkids Church 10:00 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Monday Prayer & Praise 6:00 pm
Everyone Welcome
Wed. Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm
Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm

Horseshoe Community Bible Church

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Sunday Worship 11 am
Evening Services 6pm
Wed. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
Pastor Don Miller

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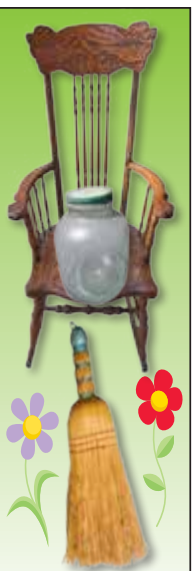
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Community Potlucks the 2nd Wednesday every month @ 6pm
Principe de Paz-Spanish Church
3 pm Sunday Worship Service-Pastor Alfredo De La Rosa (pastorodelarosa72@hotmail.com)
Additional activities:
Spanish Bible Study every Wednesday 6pm
www.kibbiereformed.com
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Bloomingdale 2024 Spring Sports CARDINALS



Photo by Richard Strange

Girls Soccer

The Varsity Girls soccer team has been on a tear since opening conference play. The team is currently undefeated in Southwest 10 Conference play with wins over Comstock, Hartford, and Marcellus. On Thursday, the team traveled to Hartford and beat a tough Huskie squad 2-0. The Lady Cardinals returned to action Monday night as they hosted Marcellus. The Cardinals came away with another 2-0 victory over the Wildcats.



High School Track and Field

The high school track team had a strong performance tonight at Bangor.

- Terrelle Pittsley: PR in 100M Dash, SR 200 M Dash, PR 400 M Dash, SR Long Jump.
- Jose Ramos: SR 100 M Dash, 2nd place 4x400 M Relay, 2nd place and PR High Jump.
- Connor Huff: PR 200 M Dash, PR 400 M Dash, SR Long Jump.
- Jaden Barnes: SR 800 M Run, 1st place SR 1600 M Run, 2nd place 4x400 M Relay.
- Reed Remington: SR 1600 M Run, SR 3200 M Run, 4th place 4x800 M Relay.
- Josh Odell: SR 1600 M Run, SR 3200M Run, 4th place 4x800 M Relay, PR Diacus.
- Nick Menzel: PR 1600 M Run.
- Kelsey Simms: 2nd place 4x400 M Relay, 4x800 M Relay, SR 300 M Hurdles.
- Aiden Byers: PR 110 M Hurdles, PR 300 M Hurdles.
- Thomas Mellinger: 4th place 4x100 M Relay, PR Shot Put.
- Zavier Gonzalez: 4th place 4x100 M Relay, PR Shot Put, PR Discus.
- Jack Danes: 4th place 4x100 M Relay, PR Shot Put, PR Discus.
- Daniel Hodgman: 4th place 4x100 M Relay, PR Shot Put.
- James Odell: PR Pole Vault, 4th place 4x800 M Relay.
- Isaac Goudzwaard: SR Pole Vault
- Teya Bale: SR 100 M Dash, SR 200 M Dash.
- Anika Kalinowska: PR 200 M Dash.
- Roxanne Sustaita: SR 400 M Dash, 3rd place 4x200 M Relay, 3rd place 4x400 M Relay, SR Long Jump.
- Kailey Andrade: PR 800 M Run, 3rd place 4x400 M Relay.
- Janelly Salazar: SR 100 M Hurdles, 3rd place 4x400 M Relay, SR Pole Vault, SR 300 M Hurdles.
- Abby Krall: PR 300 M Hurdles.
- Jayden Bowen: 2nd place 4x100 M Relay, 3rd place 4x200 M Relay.
- Chelsea Simms: 2nd place 4x100 M Relay, 3rd place 4x200 M Relay, 3rd place 4x400 M Relay.
- Alaysia Allen: 2nd place 4x100 M Relay, SR Long Jump.
- Emma Miller: 3rd Place 4x200 M Relay.
- Rowan Hegelmann: 2nd Place SR Shot Put, 2nd place PR Discus.
- Julie Salazar: PR Shot Put, SR Discus.

Varsity Girls Softball

Your Varsity Softball Team swept Comstock this past Thursday bringing home two huge wins and improving their record to 4 and 2. Sophomore, Hailee Blazys only gave up three runs the entire game, while striking out 8 batters. Freshman Evalyn Hegelmann had her first high school home run with a laser over left center field. Your cardinals combined for a total of 14 hits the first game. Your Lady Cardinals defeated Comstock 23-3. The varsity girls kept it rolling in the second game defeating Comstock 17-1. Freshman, Emily Latham won the game in the circle, only allowing 3 hits and striking out 4 batters. Andreyia Robinson led the cardinals offensively with driving in 4 runs off of just 3 hits. Your lady Cardinals did a great job at the plate again combining for 13 hits and 12 walks. Their offense led to even better defense as the team had zero errors in the game. Their quickness on the base paths was the driving force that led to two solid team wins.



Hall of Fame Ceremony This year's Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony will take place, Saturday, May 4th from 6 to 9 pm at The Silo in Allegan. This year's inductees include: Corinne Moragne (1987), Joe Long, Bill Weese, Blaine Douglas, and the 1963 Boys Basketball Team.

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FUSION



The Marketing, Sales & Business and Engineering & Architectural Design (EAD) students joined forces to birth FUSION! The marketing students developed the business concept while EAD students brought the conceptualized project to life by creating detailed blueprints and a stunning 3D printed prototype. EAD students' technical expertise turned the marketing team's vision into a tangible and innovative product, demonstrating the practical capabilities in real-world applications.

"The FUSION project not only represents the integration of marketing and EAD principles, but it also exemplifies how collaborative learning can lead to exceptional outcomes," said one of the staff advisors involved in the project. "Seeing students from different programs come together to use their unique skills in creating something innovative is what Van Buren Tech's educational approach is all about!"

Once the prototypes were completed, the marketing students developed a sales pitch and created a commercial to market their business model. With all of the commercials posted on social media and the prototypes displayed on VBT's Main Street, people were able to vote for their favorite business prototype.

This year's winner of FUSION: Ernie's- "Step back in time and indulge in a delicious blast from the past at our retro themed family restaurant."

Marketing, Sales & Business students: Jovanni Villa, Alejandro Mondragon-Jimenez, Steven Castro
 Engineering & Architectural design students: Erin Glover & Kaleb Borges

2024 Job Fair

Van Buren Tech's Work-Based Learning department hosted an incredible job fair, which saw enthusiastic participation from both students and local businesses. The event brought together 45 local business and industry professionals, offering students of Van Buren Tech (VBT) a valuable platform to network, explore various career paths, and even secure interviews with potential employers.

The job fair, aimed at enhancing the practical learning experience for students while aligning their academic pursuits with real-world industry needs, provided a dynamic environment. Students had the chance to interact one-on-one with potential employers, gaining insight into what companies look for in new hires and the skills that are in high demand. Events like this are integral to the educational experience at VBT, ensuring that students are not only academically prepared but also industry-ready.

We would like to thank all the businesses and professionals who made this event possible! Your support and engagement mean the world to us. Thank you for supporting Van Buren Tech's efforts in setting students up for success.



Marketing, Sales & Business



The Marketing, Sales & Business students recently had the privilege of visiting Midwest Family Broadcasting, where they immersed themselves in the dynamic world of radio and broadcasting. From engaging with the Director of First Impressions to meeting the hosts of the Plan B Morning Show & Rock 107 WIRX and Cosy 103.7, as well as other key figures including the Creative Lead, Director of Sales, and the President of Midwest Family Broadcasting, students gained valuable insight into the industry.

The visit included a tour of the station, providing students with a firsthand look at the operations and allowing them to interact with industry leaders. Students who won the CTE Showcase presentations were also asked to record ad libs for Van Buren Tech with Paul Layendecker, morning show host of COSY 103.7.

Following the tour, students enjoyed a business luncheon at Planks Tavern on the Water with VBT marketing business partners.

This experience offered students a comprehensive understanding of the diverse career fields available in radio, broadcasting, marketing, sales, and business. We extend our sincere gratitude to Midwest Family Broadcasting for their hospitality and for providing this invaluable educational opportunity!

Cosmetology



"(Students) don't want that traditional 'sit and listen to lectures' or do the same, normal bookwork that they do back at their home school," Sustaita explained. "So, they get to come here and really express themselves. This is a very art-based program- they get to express themselves in hair, nails and skin."

Over the course of three years, high school juniors and seniors in and around Van Buren County clock in 1,500 hours at BLISS before going to a testing site to be licensed. 100% of last school year's graduates passed.

"Right now, going through a private school would be more than \$20,000 (per year). The students really are given an amazing experience here and opportunities." -Sustaita

"I will be launched immediately into the industry," Stout said. "I get to meet people. I get to branch out, go to a lot of different salons- that's really awesome. I have a lot of those opportunities being set up already."



WOOD TV8 interviewed Maria Sustaita, one of Van Buren Tech's cosmetology instructors, and Leah Stout, a third year cosmetology student, to discuss the significance of BLISS and its impact on students' education and future careers.

Van Buren Tech

Unlock your potential at Van Buren Tech! Our cutting-edge programs and hands-on learning approach prepare students for thriving careers. With state-of-the-art facilities and dedicated instructors, we're committed to empowering students for success in their chosen fields. Discover the endless possibilities and turn your passion into a profession with Van Buren Tech.

