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SALE \$24,995 \$372 mo SALE PRICED \$22,595 \$337





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Notable Christmas celebrations around the world

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas all over the world. Christmas celebrations include various time-honored traditions that celebrants hold near and dear to their hearts. Depending on where someone lives, their Christmas traditions may look quite different from those in other parts of the globe. It can enjoyable to learn how Christmas a procession representing Mary and Joseph's journey and their struggle to find

is celebrated elsewhere and perhaps even incorporate a few new traditions into your celebrations. Take a peek at these customs near and far.

 Seafood and beachside celebrations:
Australia is located in the southern hemisphere, which means Aussies are enjoying the peak of their summer come December 25. A white Christmas is unlikely, unless the "white" refers to white, sandy beaches. Santa is probably swapping his thick coat for a pair of board shorts, and heavy, roast-laden meals are unlikely to make it on to the menu. Instead, Australians dine on seafood feasts and spend Christmas outdoors camping or at the beach.

• Krampus parade: Some Christmas elves are not so jolly. Just ask residents of the Austrian, German and Hungar ian Alps. Each year in this region, a true "Bad Santa" is the talk of town. Villagers believed that Krampus, a half-man, halfgoat creature with a legion of ill-tempered elves, roamed the mountains wreaking havoc. Krampus was said to abduct miscreants and set unruly youth or even intoxicated adults straight. Today, Krampus is more the "bad cop" to Santa's "good cop" persona. Krampus is celebrated as an antihero at parades and other events.

• Las Posadas: According to scripture,



• La Befana: In Italian folklore, La Befana is a witch-like old woman who, like Santa, delivers gifts to children throughout Italy. Instead of this gift-giving taking place on Christmas. La Befana hands out gifts on the Epiphany Eve in a similar way to how the Three Magi brought presents to Baby Jesus. Le Befana also is believed to fly through the night sky to sweep away all the troubles of the old year and clear the way for a fresh start.

· Move over reindeer: Although reindeer often garner fanfare this time of year the Yule goat is a Christmas symbol and tradition in Scandinavia and northern Europe. Each year in towns throughout Sweden and other areas, large statues of Yule goats are built on the first day of Advent and stand throughout the holiday season. This tradition dates back to ancient Pagan festivals, and some believe the goat is connected to the Norse god Thor, who rode in the sky in a chariot pulled by two goats

Holiday traditions differ considerably in various regions of the world. Celebrants may want to consider incorporating foreign traditions into their own Christmas celebrations this year. TF24C500



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GOBLES HOMELINK



Trees for Troops

Elementary students were excited to participate in the annual Trees for Troops campaign coordinated by Wahmhoff Tree Farm. Over 300 trees will be sent to

Columbus AFB in Mississippi, and Ft. Knox in Kentucky, and each tree will be adorned with a message written by students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. We love being a part of this tradition and feel lucky to have the opportunity to thank our military personnel for their service

in such a meaningful way! In addition, Kindergarten students were excited to complete our annual service project by creating over 200 special ornaments to send with the trees, to help show our gratitude for our military members and the sacrifices they make to keep us safe. What a great opportunity for students to thank our soldiers! We hope all the members of the U.S. Armed Forces have a safe and Merry Christmas wherever they may be!



FedEx ATA







Kindergarten Students Sing Holiday Songs with Mr. Bair

Gobles Kindergarten students had the awesome opportunity to kick off the holiday season with a visit from Mr. Bair. They had a blast singing holiday songs and listening to him play the guitar. The Kindergarteners were also able to practice a few of the songs they've been working on in music class in preparation for their big holiday concert! We are grateful to Mr. Bair for donating his time and sharing his talents with us!



Fall Choir Concert

On Oct. 16, in the middle school gymnasium, Hannah DeVall hosted a fall choir concert with accompanist Pam Westcott. The sixth graders performed "Wade In TheWater" by Moses Hoga, and "Come To Me O, My Love" by Allan Petker. The 7/8 grade choir sang "Al Shlosha" (translation: the world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace) by Allen E. Naplan featuring a solo from Grace Stoneburner. "The Fox," by Blake Richter and Taylor Shaeffer, featured the Mandolin played by Pam Westcott and acoustic guitar played by Gabe Dunbar. The High School Concert Choir performed "Light of Grace" by Andy Beck with a duet from Olivia Platt and Easton Piper, and "Keep Your Lamps" by Victor C. Johnson. Finally the High School Varsity Choir performed "The Wellerman" by Jacob Narverud and "You Do Not Walk Alone" by Elaine Hagenberg. "What a great show tonight by the Gobles 6-12 grade choir students! Many thanks to all who came out for the performance and a special thank you to the ones who made it all possible," said Choir director Ms. DeVall. The choir students look forward to seeing everyone for future performances.



English News

Mrs. Harbaugh's Film & Media class is directing and producing stop-motion films inspired by George Melies's 12-minute stop-motion film "A Trip to the Moon". The students laughed and guffawed at the jerkiness and ridiculousness of Melies's film, and they quickly found out that it wasn't as easy as they thought it would be to create a short film using stop-action techniques. The result will be several very short films made by teams of film students. Thomas Munoz, one of the students who participated in creating a film said "we had a lot of drawings, so we had to keep erasing and redoing the different objects/animals in our short film." Munoz also said, "It's really hard to do stop motion, but it's a fun process." if he was able to make a more detailed film







GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PROGRAM 2024-2025

Gobles Public School District recognizes the Schools of Choice Program adopted by the Michigan legislature and plans to implement the Schools of Choice Program for the 2024-2025 school year. Gobles Public Schools will accept applications from non-resident students residing within the Van Buren Intermediate School District boundaries, and in school districts located in contiguous intermediate school districts for the 2024-2025 school year under the Schools of Choice Program and will comply with the deadlines and requirements

Applications for the Schools of Choice Program are available on line at (www.gobles.org) and in the Superintendent's Office and will be accepted beginning January 6, 2025 through January 24, 2025. The District will notify the parent or legal guardian of each nonresident applicant who is accepted for enrollment of the date by which the student must enroll and he procedures for enrollment.



Students Enjoy Exploring Mexican Traditions

Gobles Public Schools

Creating a culture of deliberate excellence

Students in Ms. Murray's Spanish II class traveled to Pilsen, IL, on Oct. 15 to learn about Dia de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead), which is traditionally celebrated on Nov. 1. The students took a guided tour of the Day of the Dead exhibit at the National Museum of Mexican Art, afterwards they visited a bakery (la panaderia) and a candy store (la dulceria). Students were also able to enjoy an authentic Mexican lunch at a local restaurant. This day was so much fun and Ms. Murray looks forward to taking classes



Mr. Piller is exploring several units in various When is the start and end of season? science classes this month. From MS science Mid-Late December thru February. to biology and chemistry, Mr. Piller is giving What days of the week you compete? his students fun hands-on experiences. In Passes are usa biology, Mr. Piller's students are learning will provide addition about The Molecules of Life. This unit has nights only. great practical applications for students as they are learning to write a recipe and prepare a meal. What an amazing way for students to learn self-sufficiency and nutrition!

Gsbles Ski Club

Be part of the Gobles Ski Club https://fs4.formsite.com/vQoy6r/ tmrj0n8mbi/index

Interested in the Gobles Ski Cub? Contact Mitchell Smith (Smithm2288@gmail. com) & Casey Smith (Soccergotrski@gmail. com)

The cost to join the club.

\$40 for Passes, this allows students to get discounted lift tickets for \$26 and Rentals for \$26. It allows parents to get \$26 lift tickets Monday-Friday (Non-Holiday) and \$31 on weekends and Holidays

What ages can join the Gobles Ski Club? All ages, with discounted lessons for students 7 years old & up.

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Gobles High School Seniors Bond Through Teamwork at Escapology

On November 26, the senior class at Gobles High School took a unique field trip to Escapology in Portage, Michigan. The outing provided a perfect opportunity for students to engage in teambuilding and critical thinking while having a blast.

Escapology, known for its immersive and challenging escape room experiences, welcomed the seniors into a world of riddles, puzzles, and collaborative problem-solving. Divided into groups of eight, the students were tasked with working together to solve intricate clues and "escape" from their respective rooms within a set time limit.

Teamwork and communication were essential as students pieced together hints, cracked codes, and navigated the high-pressure environment. While only two of the groups managed to successfully escape their rooms, every participant walked away with a sense of accomplishment

"This was a great way to build camaraderie and practice real-world problem-solving skills," said Mrs. Peterson, one of the teachers accompanying the group. "Watching the students support and encourage each other through the challenges was great. It's exactly what we hoped for."

In addition to the mental challenge, the field trip emphasized the importance of collaboration. Many students noted that they were able to see their classmates' strengths in new ways. reinforcing the value of teamwork as they prepare for life beyond high school.

Whether they escaped or not, all the students walked away with stronger bonds and a deeper appreciation for teamwork-a fitting lesson as they prepare to graduate and take on the challenges of the real world







Winter Schedule

Dec. 23-Jan 3 Winter Vacation Inclusive Jan. 6-10 Regular Week of School Jan. 13-17 January 15-17, 2025, Semester Exams. January 15,16, and 17 1/2 day of school. Elementary released at 12:00 p.m., MS/HS at 11:00 a.m. January 15,16, and 17 teacher workday p.m. January 17, 2025, End of 1st Semester



Please remember that Gobles Public Schools is offering FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH each school day to all students for the 2024/2025 School Year through funding from the USDA. Breakfast is served just prior to the start of the school day at the High School/Middle School and Elementary students will receive breakfast in the classroom. Please look on the Gobles Webpage for menus and more information.

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Go 'mutts' for these pet gifts

Pet parents try to ensure their companion animals never want for anything. People will go to great lengths to pamper their pets with the best care, food and accessories. Accord-ing to the American Pet Products Association, consumers in the United States spent \$147 billion on pets in 2023. And it's not just the essentials that have people opening up their wallets for pets. A 2022 YouGov survey found that 57 percent of owners buy holiday gifts for their pets and 40 percent host birthday celebrations.

With the holiday season on the horizon, there's a good with the holiday season on the holizon, there a good chance that beloved pets are on gift lists this year, particularly for Gen Z pet owners. A study of 1,000 U.S. adults conducted by Talker Research for Newsweek found that Gen Z spends an average of \$148.50 on their pets each month, the highest of all surveyed. For those shopping for gifts their pets

will enjoy, these options could have tails wagging.

• Treat dispenser: It isn't possible to be home with their pets all of the time. A dispenser that can be programmed to offer treats at certain intervals or connected to an app that enables a person to release one at the push of a button can be a nice gift to surprise stay-at-home pets.

 Puzzle toy: Pets need to keep their brains working; otherwise, they may get bored and into trouble. A puzzle toy that has treats or kibble hidden behind panels helps pets remain mentally sharp.

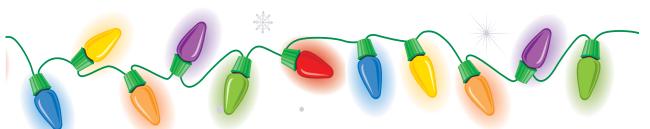
· Pet booties: When the weather gets chilly, walking dogs outdoors on the ice and snow can be painful on their paws. A pair of booties can protect the delicate pads of pets' feet from ice melt products, snow and sharp objects.

 New bed: Upgrade a pet's bed to something even more lush and comfortable. A fleece blanket and a dedicated pet pillow can help pets feel even more pampered. • Safety belt: Guarantee that trips in the car to the dog park

or other excursions are safer by gifting a safety pet harness that works like a seathelt in a vehicle Grooming package: Everyone wins when a pet is washed dried and primped to perfection. Professional groomers have the skills to tame excess fur and trim nails so pets smell

wonderful and remain comfortable. New toys: Whether a pet is a parakeet or poodle, gifts of

new toys can be engaging for animals who have grown bored with their old ones.



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FUSION Youth Group: MS: 6-7:30pm / HS: 7:30-9pm on Wednesday

Location: @ The Church 514 W. Van Buren Street, Gobles • (269) 628-2288 www.journeyfamilychurch.com



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3313 102nd Ave., Gobles Sundays Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 am

Merson Church

Evening Service 6 pm Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday 9:30-11:00 am

Wednesday Nights Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm

Call (269) 673-5274 for transportation service Sr. Pastor Alan Carson Sr.

269-637-6575

Additional activities:

Community Potlucks the 2nd Wednesday every onth @ 6pn Principe de Paz-Spanish Church

www.kibbiechurch.com www.facebook.com/kibbiechurch

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

"Engaging & connecting all people to the love of Iesus" Sunday Praise Service 9:00 am Sun, School/Bible Study 10:15 am Traditional Worship 11:00 am

Christian Church

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Church Office - Friday

of Gobles 04077 M40, Gobles MI 49055

nday School 9:45 am (classes for all ages)

Sunday Gospel Kidz 5:15 pm (3yrs-6th Grade)

Tuesday Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 7:00 pm

208 East Pine Street, Bloomingdale

Northpoint Ministries

Sunday - Worship Service 11am

Wednesday - Prayer Meeting 7pm

Monday - Bible Study 7:00

269-628-9199 • northpointgobles@gmail.c Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.

Senior Bible Study 1sy & 3rd Friday 11:00 am

(269) 521-4233 • bdalechurch1858@gmail.com

Additional activities for all ages listed on our website at www.trinitylutheran.com 721 Pine St. Paw Paw, MI 49079 • (269) 657-4840 Email churchoffice@trinitylutheran.com Church office hours are Monday-Friday 8am - 4pm Providing Infant care, daycare, and Kindergarten - 5th grade

Kibbie Christian **Reformed Church**

Youth Pastor Jim Davis

11am Sunday Worship Service-Pastor Vern Swieri (vswier245@gmail.com)

Children's Worship ages 4-8yrs old AA Meetings every Thursday 7pm

3 pm Sunday Worship Service-Pastor Alfredo De La Rosa (pastordelarosa72@hotmail.com) Additional activities: Spanish Bible Study every Wednesday 6pm

Calvary Baptist Church obles, MI

403 E. Van Burei 269) 628-4100

Sunday School 9:45 am -for all ages-Morning Service 11:00 am Jr. Church Program for Children Sunday Evening 6:00 pm Wednesday Night @ 7:00 pm King's Kids Program Ladies Bible Study 9:00 am

CPM STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED NETWORK

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Our County Blood Supply is Low. www.redcross.org

Permit forms/information can **Permits** be found on breedsville.org **Breedsville Residents**

Building Permits **Rental Inspections** Rich McGrew 269-228-3234 Electrical Permits

ontact State of Michigan for a permit

Plumbing Permits Contact State of Michigan for a permit

Mechanical Permits Walt Devisser Jr 269-214-6696





SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

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Dispatch Received Numerous Calls about a Subject Trespassing and Looking in Win dows/Buildings in Antwerp Township. A Deputy located the subject; however, he would not cooperate at all. The individual tried to run away from the Deputy and actively resisted after he was caught and taken to the ground. A struggle ensued, but the Deputy was able to place him into custody for the incident.

Uniform Response went to Residence in Waverly Township for a Found Bicycle. The Deputy took to bike for safe keeping awaiting contact with the owner/victim Uniform Response Handled a Domestic Violence call in Lawrence. After investigating

the incident, no assault had taken place, only an argument. Uniform Response Handled a Domestic Violence call in Alema Township. After investigating the incident, no assault had taken place, only an argument.

A Sergeant on Patrol Stopped a Vehicle for Reckless Driving in the Village of Paw Paw During the traffic stop, the driver refused to exit the vehicle. The Driver from Decatur was charged with Resisting and Obstructing, Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol 3rd Offence, DWLS(Driving While License Suspended), Operating-False ID, and Open Containe in a Motor Vehicle.

Uniform Response has taken a Rash of Larcenies/Break-in's around Three Mile Lake in Paw Paw Township. Numerous items are being stolen such as tools, spools of coppe wire, etc. Cottages are being broke into as well as vehicles. In some of the incidents, a quad was used. Anyone with any information of these are asked to contact our office.

Uniform Response Handled a Larceny/Break-in Call in Columbia Township. The victim had his Crystal Flash Propage tank stolen from his yard. The victims shed was also broke into and had an orange Echo leaf blower stolen. Anyone with any information on this is asked to contact our office.

A case Our Office Handled Involving a Missing/Runaway Juvenile from Geneva Township came to a resolution. The Juvenile was located safe, and the family is grateful for the outcome.

Uniform Response took an Assault Complaint that happened in Porter Township. The victim's boyfriend threatened to kill her and while driving together, drove off the roadway hitting a pole. He was able to get back onto the roadway and eventually dropped her off at a store in Cass County. Deputies are currently attempting to locate the suspect.

Uniform Response was involved in Recovering a Stolen Boat and Trailer in Antwerp Township. MSP took the original call in September of it being stolen. It was found aban

Our Office was Notified by SHPD(South Haven Police Department) that they took a call from a citizen that got scammed out of \$3,800 dollars. The victim received a call from an individual identifying himself as one of our Sergeants. The suspect told the victim he missed a jury trial, a warrant was issued, and the bond was \$3,800. The suspect directed the victim to post bond through an Apple Cash App. After sending the money, they were recontacted saving they now have a contempt warrant and needed more money. The vic tim then ran it through a ChatGPT and realized he was scammed. I cannot stress enough that we would never call anyone and take money like that. If you ever question anything o this nature, call our office direct prior to doing any transaction. This is a common theme that scammers use getting on websites, looking at news releases, etc. to get a valid name of a Deputy/Officer/Trooper to use in scams like this.

PUBLIC NOTICE

2024 DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW • ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP

52022 34th Ave, Bangor, MI 49013 • 269-427-7300

The December Board of Review will be held at the Township Hall, 52022 34th Ave, Bangor, MI 49013, at the following time:

December 10th, 2024 10:00am

The purpose of this meeting is to correct a clerical error or a mutual mistake of fact relative to the correct assessment figures, the rate of taxation, or the mathematical computation relating to the assessing of taxes, the clerical error or mutual mistake of fact shall be verified by the local assessing officer and approved by the board of review at a meeting held for the purposes of this section on Tuesday following the second Monday in December.

Danielle Golembiewski

Arlington Township Assessor Arlington Township Clerk

269-225-9006

VBCAC Pet of the Week!



MEET DEE DEE!

Dee Dee is a wonderful older lady with some spunk! She's very good in her kennel and doesn't mind other dogs. She loves to show off her zoomies and get treats and hangout with the humans too! Stop in and meet this sweet girl today!

Van Buren County Animal Control

58040 Co Rd 681, Hartford, MI 49057 • 269-621-4624 Email: AnimalControl@vbco.org







Hello Gobles Community!

My name is Jamie Dunklee and I am new to the Gobles area. I have decided to take a leap of faith and open my own resale shop here in this beautiful town! My resale shop is located at 21113 M40 right next door to Browns Auction house. A little bit about me and my journey- I have been married to my Husband Richard for 30 years and we have three children and six amazing grandchildren! I have always had a passion for the resale world and would love to bring my passion to life here in Gobles. Some of the items I will have will be sports memorabilia such as sports cards-comic books-plaques-vintage items, liquor lights of all varieties. Holiday items for each holiday, glassware, homemade air fresheners for your car. Clothing. Pictures/posters. Books including a wide variety of cookbooks. Fudge and homemade breads, Truffles. And so much more!



INVITATION TO BID

PROJECT NAME: Covert High School Partial Roof Improvements

PROIECT DESCRIPTION:

BASE BID: (9,735 SF Roof Area)

Remove all roofing materials down to existing steel roof deck. Inspect steel roof deck and replace / repair as needed. Mechanically fasten new base layers of insulation and 1/4" tapered insulation adhered to achieve a minimum R-30. Install new adhered 1/2" cover board. Apply fully adhered 45 mil fleece-back KEE roofing membrane. Provide manufacturer's 20-year warranty.

ALTERNATE 1: Provide a deduct alternate to omit the roof cover board from the base

ALTERNATE 2: Provide a deduct alternate for an induction welded roof installation in lieu of fully adhered installation of the base bid roof area.

UNIT COST: Provide a unit cost per square foot for metal roof deck replacement.

OWNER: Covert Public Schools, 35323 M-140, Covert, MI 49043

(Administrative Offices)

ARCHITECT:

CARMI Design Group, 210 E. Main Street, Ste. 200, P.O. Box 487, Niles, MI 49120, Phone: 269-663-5073

Bids will be received at the district's Administrative Offices until 3:00 PM (local time), Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

Bids will be publicly opened at the Administrative Offices and read aloud at this time. Bids received after this time will not be considered and will be returned to the bidder

Bids shall be properly and completely executed on the Bid Proposal Form included within the Project Manual and submitted in duplicate. Bids shall be clearly marked as "Covert High School Partial Roof Improvements" on the front of the submitted envelope.

A formal pre-bid meeting will not be held, however potential bidders must visit the site no later than Friday, December 6, 2024. Please call Marcus Williams at 269-764-3701

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY AND USE:

Bid Documents may be viewed at the following Plan Rooms on or after Tuesday, November 26, 2024.

Builders Exchange of Kalamazoo • www.builder-exchange.com Builders Exchange of Lansing • www.bxlansing.com

Builders Exchange of Michigan • www.grbx.com

Construction Association of Michigan • www.BuildwithCAM.com

ConstructConnect • www.constructconnect.com Dodge Construction Network • www.construction.com MAČIAF (South Bend, IN) • www.constructionsite.org

Bidding documents are available electronically at no charge, via email. Please email your request to Susan Weiss, susan@carmi.biz.

A five percent (5%) Bid Bond shall accompany all bids. The successful bidder will also be required to provide a Performance Bond, and Labor and Material Bonds, each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount, and certificates of Liability and Worker's

OTHER CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION:

Each bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Covert Public Schools Board of Education or the superintendent of the school district. Covert Public Schools Board of Education will not accept a bid that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

No bidder may withdraw their bid for a period of Thirty (30) calendar days after the date set for bid opening.

Public Act 517 of 2012 (effective December 31, 2012) enacted the "Iran Economic Sanctions Act", which prevents "Iran linked businesses" from bidding on a school district or ISD's request for proposals ("RFP"). This law requires that persons submitting bids certify that they are not an "Iran linked business," which is defined as either:

a) A person engaging in investment activities in the energy sector of Iran, including a person that provides oil or liquefied natural gas tankers or products used to construct or maintain pipelines used to transport oil or liquefied natural gas for the energy sector of Iran; or

b) A financial institution that extends credit to another person, if that person will use the credit to engage in investment activities in the energy sector of Iran.

Accordingly, bidder must include a certification that it is not an Iran linked business

This is a prevailing wage project. The awarded contractor will be required to pay not less than the current published rates.

Covert Public Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or irregularities in bids, and to accept any bid which is deemed most advantageous to the public interest.

CPM STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED NETWORK

PAY-PER-CALL ADS

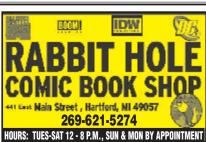
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