

Christmas Greetings
Pages 12-19

Happy New Year

Covert Public Schools Pages 2-3
Van Buren

VIKING PRESS pages 10-11

REMINDER

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Established 1949 • Bangor, Michigan >>> CLASSIFIED ADS PAGE 8 <<< Sunday, December 25, 2022

Happy New Year!

VILLAGE MARKET
FOOD CENTERS
YOUR HOMETOWN STORE

2022/2023: AD EFFECTIVE DATES
MON DEC 26 TUES DEC 27 WED DEC 28 THUR DEC 29 FRI DEC 30 SAT DEC 31

Village Market, Fresh
Ground Hamburger
BUY ONE PKG., GET ONE PKG. OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE
FREE!

Fresh
Bone-In Chicken Wings
Lemon Pepper, Regular or BBQ Family Pack
BUY ONE PKG., GET ONE PKG. OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE
FREE!

Mix or Match, Village Market, All-Natural, Boneless
Assorted Center Cut or Butterfly Pork Loin Chops
America's Cut: Regular or Seasoned, Pepper Seasoned or Thin Cut
BUY ONE PKG., GET ONE PKG. OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE
FREE!

We reserve the right to limit quantities. We are not providing rain checks due to supply and demand from the Coronavirus (Covid-19).

Avocados
each.....
BUY 2, GET 3 **FREE!**

Open Acres Lemons or Limes
2 lb. bag.....
2/\$5

Select Varieties
Totino's Pizza Rolls
48.85 oz.
\$6.99
Save at least \$1.50 on 1

Bellatoria Pizza
Ultimate Supreme, Garlic Chicken Alfredo or Five Cheese
6.03 - 21.71 oz.
2/\$10
Save at least \$3.48 on 2

Fresh & Soft
Hamburger or Hot Dog Buns
8 ct.
4/\$5
Save at least \$2.00 on 4

Select Varieties
Our Family Ice Cream
4 quart
\$6.99
Save at least \$1.50 on 1

Select Varieties
Dutch Farms Chunk Cheese
(6 oz.) or
Shredded Cheese
(6 oz.)
BUY ONE, GET ONE **FREE!**
Save at least \$3.44 on 2

Jays Potato Chips
9.5 - 10 oz.
BUY ONE, GET ONE **FREE!**
Save at least \$3.24 on 2

Select Varieties
Progresso Soup
18 - 19 oz.
BUY ONE, GET ONE **FREE!**
Save at least \$3.94 on 2

Assorted Varieties
7-Up Products
2 liter (plus deposit)
BUY 2, GET 3 **FREE!**
Save at least \$8.07 on 5

XPRESS Save \$3 on ALL Oil Changes!

SAVE!!

Ad good from 12/19/2022-1/1-2023

08337 M-140, South Haven • 269-637-5050 Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-6pm, Sunday 10am-3pm

Xpress Oil Change (5 qts ServicePro oil and filter) Reg. \$40.99 **\$37.99** Plus Tax

Pennzoil Syblend Oil Change 5 qts oil and filter) Reg. 43.99 **\$40.99** Plus Tax

Pennzoil Platinum Syn Oil Change (5 qts oil and filter) Reg. \$63.99 **\$61.99** Plus Tax

All oil changes have a \$2 waste oil and filter disposal fee.

Upgrade To Full Service for \$5.00
Extra Oil & Special Filters are an Extra Charge.

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See us Today for Great Service!

Samuel Mancino's
ITALIAN EATERY

Ad good from 12/19/2022-1/1-2023

Available for Carry Out or Delivery!

14" One Topping Pizza \$10.00 PLUS TAX

Buy any Two Large Pizzas and get a Small Bread Stick **FREE**

\$100 OFF any 16" Grinder

In Village Market Xpress 08337 M-140, South Haven 269-637-9400 Sun-Wed 10-7pm, Thur-Sat 11am-8pm

407 S. State St., Gobles 269-628-2814 Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm, Fri-Sat 11am-11pm Sunday 11am-9pm

Capturing Kids' Hearts Covert Public Schools



Covert Public Schools celebrate the countdown to Christmas with special student and staff lunches, decking the halls, ugly sweaters, candy cane deliveries, hot cocoa, muffins, donuts, Secret Santas and so much more!!



ACHIEVE • INNOVATE • LEAD

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.covertps.org
Follow Covert Public Schools on Facebook for updated information on sports, activities, and events.



Covert Middle School Basketball team has had a great season coached by Ken Harrington Jr.



The Covert Public Schools branch of Honor Credit Union is in full swing!!! When student's make a deposit their name is entered into a drawing this month winner of a \$25.00 deposit and water bottle is Leo Berry!!!!

Thanksgiving Luncheon



Notice Of Board Vacancy

The Covert Public School District is seeking applications for the current vacant position on the Board of Education. An individual will be appointed to fill the vacant position through December 31, 2024

If you are interested in being considered for the appointment, please submit the following in writing:

1. Your name
 2. Your address
 3. Your telephone number
 4. A statement that you are a citizen of the United States and a qualified and registered voter in Covert Public School District
 5. A brief statement as to why you would like to be considered
- All interested individuals must submit their request for consideration by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 to:
- Mrs. Valerie Bury,
Board President
Covert Public Schools
Board of Education
Business Office
35323 M-140 Highway
Covert, MI 49043

Qualifications:
• A registered voter in the school district • At least 18 years of age
• A Citizen of the United States
• A resident of the State of Michigan for at least 30 days • A resident of the school district on or before the 30th day prior to the date of the election

Property ownership isn't a requirement for candidacy.

Join Our Amazing Staff

We are looking for:
• Middle School ELA Teacher
• Middle School Math Teacher
• Transportation/Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor
• Food Service Supervisor
• Substitute bus drivers, custodians, and kitchen help

If interested, please call (269) 764-3701 for more information.



Covert Cheer Squad coached by Natisha Jones.

We're going to...
Rome and Athens
Summer 2024

Dear Parents & Guardians,
I am so excited to invite your student on this upcoming educational travel opportunity! Learn more about this exciting tour at an information session where we'll discuss:

- What we'll see and do
- Travel logistics
- How to earn high school or college credit
- Affordable payment options
- How to enroll on this trip (before it fills up!)

Please register for the meeting by Noon on the 6th

I look forward to seeing you there!
Pamela Baker

P.S. Can't make the meeting but want more information? Register using the QR code or link below and select "No but send info."



<https://bit.ly/3hJS6h>

CHURCH DIRECTORY



Journey Family Church

Sunday Bible Study: 9am
Sunday Service Times: 9am & 11am
Prayer Night: 6:30pm on Tuesday
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



Townline United Methodist Church

9:15 am - Summer School for ALL ages
10:30 am - Sunday Worship Service
10:30 am - Worship on Facebook Live
Life Groups
Wednesday's @ 7pm
FAYGO Youth Group 6-12 grade - 1st & 3rd Saturday @ 5:30pm.
Men's Group - 1st Sat. of the month at 8:00am
Prominent Women's Ministry activities
prominentwomenministries.com

41470 24th Ave, Bloomingdale / (269) 521-4559
Pastor Jim Robertson
www.facebook.com/townlineumc
townlineumc.org

SPREAD THE WORD...

PLACE CHURCH SERVICES HERE \$9.75 per week

Bloomingdale Christian Church

208 East Pine Street
bdalechurch1858@gmail.com
Sunday School 9:45 am (classes for all ages)
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 pm
AWANA 5:15 pm
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 pm
Tuesday Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:00 am
(269) 521-4233
bccpastorbrett@gmail.com



Pastor Brett Champion

Bangor Baptist Church



55661 M-43 East P.O. 236, Bangor, MI
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

4950 104th Ave., Grand Junction, MI
Phone (269) 521-4580
Sunday School 10 am
Sunday Worship 11 am
Evening Services 6pm
Wed. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
Pastor Don Miller

The Bloomingdale Bible Church

Jer. 6:16 *Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.*
A Caring Church Family with In-depth, verse-by-verse Bible Study, the Old Hymns & Praise, & Prayer Power.

Sunday Services: 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am
Worship Service 4:00 pm Evening Service (Canceled temporarily)

Wednesday 4:00 pm Prayer Power Hour and Bible Study.

Pastor/Teacher Russell Gibbs, Th.D.
Phone: (269) 427-2101 or (269) 370 0026
Deacon Phone: 370-0026

210 Chestnut Street NW at Pine Bloomingdale, MI 49026
Isn't It Time To Come Home?

Trinity Lutheran Church & School



"Engaging & connecting all people to the love of Jesus"
Sunday Praise Service 9:00 am
Sun. School/Bible Study 10:15 am
Traditional Worship 11:00 am
Weds. -Oikos-Family 6:00 at The Outpouring Cafe
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 - 8th grade.



Pastor Alan Carson

Merson Church

3313 102nd Ave., Gobles
Sundays
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
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 services
Sr. Pastor Alan Carson Sr.
Assistant Pastor, Paul Gillette
Youth Pastor Jim Davis

Northpoint Ministries of Gobles

04077 M40, Gobles MI 49055
269-628-9199

Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.

Sunday - Worship Service 11am

Monday - Bible Study 6:30

Wednesday - Prayer Meeting 7pm

Calvary Baptist Church

403 E. Van Buren
Gobles, MI
(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
-ages 4 & up
Ladies Bible Study 9:00 am



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SOUTH HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP Board Meeting Schedule 2023

Regular Meetings of the South Haven Charter Township Board will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 7:30 p.m., at the South Haven Township Hall, 09761 Blue Star Memorial Highway (southwest corner of Blue Star & M-140)

January 11th	July 12th
February 8th	August 9th
March 8th	September 13th
April 12th	October 11th
May 10th	November 8th
June 14th	December 13th

Norma L. Bales

Age 86, of Grand Junction
Norma L. Bales, age 86 of Grand Junction, passed away Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at Borgess Place, Kalamazoo. Norma was born March 7, 1936 in Wellfleet, MA. Norma truly loved people and was very involved in her church and community. She enjoyed working in her flower gardens and was a long time member at Bloomingdale Christian Church. At church Norma was heavily involved in the AWANA program, was a devout Sunday School Teacher for many years and was also the office manager for Gods Helping Hands. She also directed the Easter and Christmas programs at church and was known for making the men in church grow their beards out. Norma also was a leader for her children's Cub Scout and Brownie troops when they lived in Florida. She and her late husband Bob also owned and operated the Fun Valley Campground from 1969 - 1984. More than anything though, Norma loved her family and cherished time spent with her children and grandchildren. Surviving are her children, Gayle (Alric) Evans, Dale Bales, Curtis (Patty) Bales, Mike (Deb) Bales; grandchildren, Amber (Joni) Fuachie, April (Josh) Nordahl, Dale Bales II, Greg (Caitlin) Bales, Kristina (Eric) Kniebke, Jenna (Ryan) Walsh, Jasmine Newton, Robert (Amanda) Bales, William (Graci) Bales, Jamie (Nikki) French and Shannon (Misti) French; great grandchildren, Donovan, Jaden, Layla, Violet, Tessa, Cooper, Freddie, Makayla, Madison, Kyxston, Mattox, Savannah, Cassidy, Addalynn, Austin, Hazel, Skyler and Corban; siblings, Barbara Williamson, BettyAnn McQueen, Evelyn Drieling, Bill Omerod, Calvin Omerod, Jerry Hageman; many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert, her parents, siblings, Jeanette Sumrall and Mary Wolfe. The family will meet friends on Monday from 5 - 7 PM at the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com. Funeral services will take place Tuesday, 11 AM at the Bloomingdale Christian Church, Pastor Gary Napp officiating. Interment will follow in Breesville Cemetery. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Bloomingdale Christian Fellowship.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SOUTH HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP Planning Commission Regular Meeting Schedule 2023

Regular meetings of the Planning Commission will be held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at South Haven Township Hall, 09761 Blue Star Memorial Highway (southwest corner of Blue Star & M-140).

January 4	February 1	March 1	April 5
May 3	June 7	July 5	August 2
September 6	October 4	November 1	December 6

Applications and other matters not requiring a public hearing must be submitted to the Zoning Administrator by Tuesday, 12:00 p.m., at least 15 days prior to the meeting.

Applications for which a public hearing is required must be submitted by Tuesday, 12:00 p.m., at least 28 days prior to the hearing.

Special meetings of the Planning Commission are called by the chairperson and notice will be posted on the door of the Township Hall at least 48 hours prior.

Monthly scheduled meetings may be cancelled up to 48 hours prior to the meeting if no agenda items or lack of quorum.

All meetings of the Planning Commission are open to the public. Written comments on agenda items may be mailed to the Township Hall 09761 Blue Star Highway, emailed to mtsallagan@frontier.com, or delivered to the Township Hall by 4:00 p.m. the day prior to a meeting.

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Holiday Greetings

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Delivering Our Best!

May your holiday deliver an abundance of joy and good cheer. We thank you for choosing us hope to see you again soon!

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HAVEN

NOTICE OF POSTING OF ORDINANCE NO. 152

ORDINANCE AMENDING MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at its meeting on December 14, 2022, the Township Board introduced Ordinance No. 152 entitled "Ordinance Amending Marijuana Establishments Ordinance." The ordinance proposes to amend the voter-initiated Marijuana Establishments Ordinance to do the following:

- (1) extend the deadlines in the Marijuana Establishments Ordinance, including the effective date;
- (2) eliminate the requirement that police power and zoning regulations be adopted "after" the effective date of the Marijuana Establishments Ordinance;
- (3) eliminate the provision that restricts the Township from establishing a maximum number of marijuana establishments until "after" their retailers are licensed and operating; and
- (4) make other minor amendments.

The ordinance is available in its entirety for public inspection and is posted at the Township Hall, 09761 Blue Star Highway, South Haven, Michigan 49090-9744, and on the website of the Charter Township of South Haven (www.southhavenmi.org). The proposed ordinance will be considered for adoption by the Township Board at its meeting on January 11, 2023.

Brenda Bertaroli, Clerk
South Haven Charter Township Hall
09761 Blue Star Highway
South Haven, MI 49090-9744
(269) 637-3345

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We extend our wishes with heartfelt gratitude.

Merry Christmas

to all our Readers, Advertisers and Friends in the Community

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Hartford (269) 621-2001 • Watervliet (269) 463-6141 M-F 8AM-5PM SAT-SUN CLOSED

SOUTH HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP SYNOPSIS REGULAR MEETING December 14, 2022

PRESENT: Stein, Wiatrowski, DeGrandchamp, Lewandowski, Bertorelli, Fisher and Kiry
ABSENT: None

Minutes from November 9, 2022 Regular Meeting were accepted as presented. Reports were received from Mick Middaugh regarding Palisades, from Emily Hickmott VB Conservation, Andrew Newell a resident with a building project and input on zoning for Marijuana Dispensaries and Zach Keinrich from SHAES The Agenda was approved.

There were no updates on Internet Services or Affordable Housing. Motion to approve the 2023 Township Board Meeting Schedule. Board meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Motion to approve Elizabeth Bertorelli as Deputy Clerk.
Motion to approve an IT Services Agreement with the City of South Haven.
Motion to approve Resolution 22-21 a Metro Act Agreement with MEC.
Motion to approve Resolution 22-22 Amendments to the 2022 Budget.
Motion to approve Resolution 22-23 to Introduce Ordinance #152 Amending the Marijuana Ordinance.

Reports from committees were reviewed and received. W.C. Askew gave a report from Van Buren County Road Commission.
Motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$83,811.17.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Brenda Bertorelli, Clerk

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Applications available Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm at Van Buren Public Transit, 610 David Walton Drive, Bangor, Michigan 49013; or online at: <https://www.vanburencountymi.gov/682/Employment-Opportunities>

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Van Buren REMINDER
269-427-7474

Peace

Al-Van Humane Society Rescued Treasures

Christmas Market December 1st - 16th

WISH LIST
Come shop our expanded inventory of Christmas decor for this special sale! All proceeds go to Al-Van Humane Society to care for the shelter animals.

Adult Dog Food (Purina One)
Dry Kitten Food
Dry Puppy Food (Purina)
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NOTICE OF OPEN COUNCIL SEATS FOR THE CITY OF BANGOR

The City of Bangor will be holding a regular city council election on May 2, 2023, for three (3) city council seats, two (2) Full Term Council Members each with a 3-year term, and One (1) Partial Term Council Member with a 2-year term. Nominating petitions can be obtained at the Bangor City Hall located at 257 Monroe Street, Bangor, MI 49013. Petitions must be returned to the City Clerk by 4:00 pm on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk at clerk@bangormi.org or by phone at (269) 427-5831.

Joyous Noel

At this holy time of year, we'd like to join you and your family in a prayer for peace on earth and harmony between people of all nations. For all of the goodwill you've shown us, we are deeply grateful.

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Multiple Online Estate Auctions Weekly! Great selection of: Collectibles; Antiques; Household; Lawn/Garden; Shop; Tools; Furniture; Sporting Goods and more. For your convenience, shipping is available as noted. www.EstateAuctionExperts.com 248-987-0030

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Electrical Permits Contact State of Michigan for a permit	Mechanical Permits Walt Devisser 269-427-7543

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF TOWNSHIP MEETING
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP, 26520 CR 388, GOBLES, MI 49055

The Township of Pine Grove will hold its Monthly Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 4th, 2023 at the Pine Grove Township Hall, at 7:00 P.M.

This notice is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended (MCL 41.72a)(2)(3)) and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The Pine Grove Township Board will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, of materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 3 days' notice to the Township Clerk.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Pine Grove Township Board by writing or calling the Township Clerk at, (269) 628-4380.

Posted December 20, 2022
MICHELLE MEERT
PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP CLERK

BANGOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
"THE SCHOOL OF CHOICE"

Open to Any Student Living in a VanBuren County School District. Bangor Public Schools Provides Outstanding Programs for ALL STUDENTS. We Actively Support Challenging Academic Course Work, The Arts, Technology, Alternative Education, and Athletics.

"Providing Educational Excellence as a Pathway to Success"

Challenging and Guiding each Student to Pursue their Dreams

Safety Each student learns in a SAFE and positive culture	HIGHLIGHTS
Value Each student is VALUED as a unique person full of potential	
Innovation Each student is engaged in INNOVATIVE learning environments	
Preparation Each student is PREPARED for the next level of maturity and success	
Growth Each student GROWS to be a positive impact in our school district, communities and world	

BANGOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS have openings at *all* grade levels including Alternative Education.

SCHOOL OF CHOICE APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL SCHOOL BUILDING OFFICES.
Applications will be accepted January 2, 2023 to January 20, 2023

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- Comprehensive Athletic Program for boys and girls
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- Career Pathways Curriculum
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Email: reminder49013@aol.com

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South Walnut Elementary



50 South Walnut students in total completed one full hour of learning computer coding!

★ Students of the Month ★

November:
Kindergarten: Catalina S., Donald F., Daleyza M.M.
1st grade: Lamar H., Forrest G., Elijah V.
2nd grade: Phoenix M., Nico G., Avery H.
3rd grade: Braxton S., Jesus G., Jolee S.
4th grade: Avani V., Cami L.

Breakfast with the Teacher

South Walnut Elementary has implemented a breakfast with the teacher event in which parents are invited. This month, Mrs. Cook's, Mrs. Loomis, and Mrs. Fritz's classes were featured. Parents joined in on learning activities with their students, played games, and also were able to see presentations of what each class has been working on throughout the semester.



It's not only fun...it's Science!



Auntie Claus (retired Bangor teacher Mrs. Jean Szczypka) read to the students during Spirit week. Students and staff in all buildings dressed up for different holiday themes during the final week before winter break.



Mrs. Vassar's class is learning about the physical properties of matter. The students created hats that would keep the wearer cool in the heat, shade the sun and absorb sweat.



The South Walnut Elementary Christmas concert took place on Tuesday, December 20. Prior to the concert, students were able to take pictures with an extra special guest...Santa! The students then performed a variety of songs including favorites like "Feliz Navidad," and "Let it Snow," and also played songs on recorders. Raffle winners were also chosen and received themed baskets filled with items that the community and PTO had been collecting throughout the month.



Bangor Career Academy



This month, Kim from Kettering University spoke to Bangor Career Academy students and the Robotics team about opportunities for them at Kettering.



Congratulations!
JAY- PASSED LANGUAGE ARTS GED TEST
JONATHAN- PASSED SCIENCE GED TEST
OLIVIA- PASSED LANGUAGE ARTS GED TEST

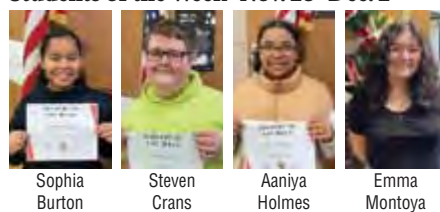
Congratulations
Brisa | **Everette**
Winner of the Week 13 Leadership Challenge | Winner of the Week 14 Leadership Challenge

Bangor Middle School

Students of the Week- November 21-25



Students of the Week- Nov. 28- Dec. 2



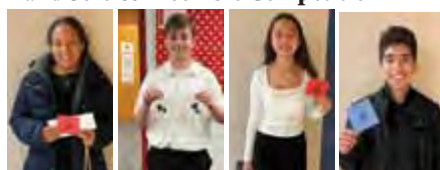
Vikings on the Rise - November



Students of the Week- December 5-9



Band Solo & Ensemble Competition



Bangor Middle School Band students competed in the MSBOA District 6 Solo & Ensemble competition, held at Paw Paw Middle school on Saturday, December 3. Many students earned medals for their performances.

Students compete in Spelling Bee

Can you spell poppet? How about unacknowledged? Our middle school spelling bee students CAN spell those words, and more. On December 5, the annual Bangor Middle School Spelling Bee was held in the middle school library. Participating students include Brayden Guy, Makenzi Houchin, Bellah Gray, and Rachel Loomis. They lasted through sixteen suspenseful rounds of spelling, before declaring our top three spellers. First place was Brayden Guy, second place was Rachel Loomis, and third place was Bellah Gray. A special honorable mention goes to Makenzi Houchin for her outstanding effort.

Brayden, Rachel, and Bellah will advance to the Cloverleaf Regional Spelling Bee at Lake Michigan College on February 22, 2023. Students from Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren County participate in this regional spelling bee. The winner from this bee will advance to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. in May. Thank you to the Bangor Alumni Foundation for sponsoring this event and always supporting our students.

Bangor High School

Olivet College Launches New Direct Admissions Program to Bangor Students

Bangor High School Students will now be automatically admitted to Olivet College, as a part of the new Olivet Direct program which makes admissions faster and easier for qualified students.

The program guarantees that seniors who graduate in the spring of 2023 and enter as first time students to Olivet College in the fall of 2023, will receive institutional grants of at least \$15,000 per year toward the cost of attendance.

"As Superintendent of Bangor Public Schools, I am greatly honored to enter into this agreement with Dr. Corey and Olivet College. To be able to offer Bangor Graduates the opportunity to attend Olivet College tuition free, and pursue their "Post-Secondary" dreams is a once in a lifetime opportunity,"

stated Bangor Superintendent Lynn Johnson.

Students may receive upwards of \$60,000 in grants over four years to pay for tuition and fees. Bangor High School students may also qualify for the Olivet College ADVANTAGE Scholarship, which will cover the full cost of tuition and general fees after all other grants and scholarships are applied.

"Olivet College is proud to launch our new Olivet Direct! program. We are thrilled that Bangor Public Schools students will be the first to take advantage of direct admission and benefit from our generous financial awards structure," said Olivet President Corey. "An Olivet College education alters the trajectory of a person's life. A four-year degree



Bangor Superintendent Lynn Johnson (right) shakes hands with Olivet President Steven Corey in agreement over the Olivet Direct Program.

increases a person's lifetime earnings, opens the door to countless career possibilities, broadens life experiences, and offers opportunities to build lasting friendships and mentorships with diverse populations."

Students participate in "Lunch with the Superintendent"

On December 6, BHS students joined Superintendent Johnson for a luncheon held in the high school library. The goal of the meeting was to hear student input about how to improve the school. Some of the top performing students from each grade level attended the luncheon to share ideas with the Superintendent, while BHS Principal Eric Adams was also in attendance.

"We want to hear what our students have to say, and to give them a voice," said Superintendent Johnson. Topics discussed included decreasing the absent rate, decreasing class failure rates, reducing behavior referrals, developing a positive school culture, improving communication, improving safety, and the battle of the fans school spirit challenge.

Students were asked to share their thoughts on solutions to the various issues. The students then brainstormed together in groups, and then wrote their ideas down on a poster board to be recorded and shared. The next Superintendent/Student Advisory council meeting will include students from each grade level who are struggling the most academically. The overall goal is obtaining student opinion as a driving influence in order to improve trust, community engagement, and ensure that BHS students have the knowledge and skills to prepare for new challenges, both in school and in the future.



Bangor High School Hispanic Student Association hosts Christmas Fiesta



This month, Bangor families enjoyed a Christmas Fiesta (posada) organized by the Bangor bilingual/migrant staff & Hispanic Student Association. HSA secretary/BHS senior Abel Muñoz performed songs, while attendees enjoyed eating tamales and breaking piñatas among the activities.



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Happy Holidays

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Merry Christmas • Happy New Year

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Steve Brown • Pearl Etzwiler
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LUKE 2:11-12

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Rendon & Sons Gobles

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

PEACE LOVE

PEACE LOVE

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December, 2022

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Graphic Design

Gabriel Huntley, Paw Paw High School & Van Buren Tech Graphic Design student, wins Best of Show for his stop-motion animation video at the First Annual Kalamazoo Valley Community College Art and Design Competition Exhibit. Huntley has been awarded two semesters of tuition and additional funds for books and materials for enrollment in the Studio Arts or Applied Arts and Media Technologies programs at KVCC! Huntley's Graphic Design instructor, Heather Macyauski, describes Gabriel as extremely dedicated to learning, self-motivated, and an all-around great student. Van Buren Tech's goal is to set students up for success post high school. Partnering with KVCC has given students an opportunity to not only showcase their skills, but to also help fund their way through college. Huntley's talent doesn't stop in the classroom- he enjoys creating fun stop-motion animations on his Youtube Channel @GabesAnimations. Van Buren Tech is proud of Huntley for representing his school and community in art & education.



Auto

Van Buren Tech would like to extend a huge heartfelt THANK YOU to Signature Dealer Group out of Benton Harbor, MI for donating a brand new engine directly from Toyota's factory. Bill Crowder, Signature Dealer Group's General Manager, has also offered to support Van Buren Tech's Auto programs by offering students co-op internships and job shadows. Bill Crowder (General Manager/Operating Partner), Bill Reilly (Dealer Principal/President), Zackrey Spear (Master ASE/Master Diagnostic Technician), and Curtis Rinke (Field Technical Specialist) visited Van Buren Tech to drop off the engine and meet with staff and students. Thank you for your time, financial support, and passion for bringing more opportunities and resources to Van Buren Tech!



Middle College

Van Buren Middle College is now accepting applications for Fall 2023. Applications are due February 10th. Talk to your high school counselor or visit www.vbisd.org/vbtech for more information.



Agriculture & Natural Resources



Kailee Logan is a senior at Paw Paw High School and a second-year student in Van Buren Tech's Agriculture & Natural Resources program. Kailee placed top 3 at her chapter level and then advanced to Regionals, where she placed top 3 again with Region 1. Kailee's win at Regionals advanced her to the Michigan Farm Bureau High School State Discussion Meet in Grand Rapids where she competed in two rounds of discussion. The first round asked competitors to discuss how high school students can play a role to help combat food insecurity in their communities and throughout Michigan. The second round asked competitors to discuss how they can bridge the gap with non-traditional agriculture and urban communities. Kailee's articulation and innovative viewpoints on both topics helped expand the discussion and give ideas on how to set realistic goals to help agriculture education expand in our communities. Congratulations to Kailee for doing a great job representing Van Buren Tech at State!



Engineering & Architectural Design

John Schuman (Lawrence High School) and Abigail Russell (South Haven High School) are both second year students in the Engineering & Architectural Design program. A project they were recently tasked with was to develop a Site Plan of the Van Buren Tech parking lot for Mr. Whitman. Schuman and Russell both had to measure the entire parking lot and then design the parking lot to scale in Revit, a building information modeling software tool for architects. In Revit, they were able to develop, model in 3D, streamline documentation, and use specialized tools in a unified BIM environment.



Construction Trades

FOR SALE: Beautiful new 1,365 square foot, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home constructed by the Construction Trades students at Van Buren Tech. This home is located in the Corwin Meadows subdivision with easy access to I94. An eat-in kitchen provides easy access to the three season room through sliders. Main floor living includes a spacious master bedroom with master bath and walk-in closet. Two additional bedrooms on the main floor allow you to keep the family nearby. A large unfinished DAYLIGHT basement is ready for your finishing touches. It has been plumbed for an additional bathroom. The exterior is low maintenance vinyl siding with Simonton low E windows. This home has city water & sewer and is part of the Corwin Meadows Homeowners Association. **If you are interested in purchasing or would like more information, please contact Robert Smith at Rsmith@vbisd.org**



Cyber Security & Computer Network Technology



Former Cyber Security & Computer Network Technology student, Maria Gallegos, visits Van Buren Tech to give current students advice on taking advantage of the opportunities Van Buren Tech offers and how to prepare for college.

Gallegos was a part of Mr. Huffman's Cyber Security & Computer Network Technology program for two years and has credited him and Van Buren Tech for her success in college today. Not only did the program prepare her for her double major at Western Michigan University, staff at Van Buren Tech also helped her apply and obtain scholarships to fund her way. She was the recipient of the Martin Luther King Scholarship, Cesar Chavez scholarship, and many more! Gallegos is currently attending Western Michigan University and majoring in Business Analytics and Criminal Justice. "Van Buren Tech and Mr. Huffman gave me the confidence to achieve great things and the knowledge to succeed."

10th Grade Visits

Van Buren Tech hosted 10th grade students throughout Van Buren, Cass, and Berrien County. Students were able to explore a variety of programs, meet instructors, and learn about the benefits of Career and Technical Education at Van Buren Tech. Not only will VBT students graduate with college credit and industry recognized credentials, they will also gain advanced skills that employers need now! Thank you to all of the participating schools and 10th graders for attending. For more information visit vbisd.org/vbtech

