

BBA Trade Fair

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to its popularity the past two years. They will have a couple of special vacation offers, brochures and give-away items. Stop in and talk to them at booths 413 and 414 in the new gym.

This is the 19th Trade Fair that Doug and Pam Vandergrift of the Vandergrift Co. have been a part of. "The first year we opened up our company, 1997, the Trade Fair was coming and at that time it was only Doug and I, so we decided we weren't going to be in it due to time and manpower. Karen Daggett called us and said, 'You have to be in the Trade Fair, you are a new company, it's the perfect way for people to learn about you.' She was so right! That year we got a listing and a sale from it and we have been in it since then," Pam said. She added that as long as they are in business they will always be a part of Trade Fair.

Every year the Vandergrift Co. has a drawing for a Tiffany lamp, which has proven to be a very popular drawing with attendees. They will also have a laptop presentation showing all of their home listings and business cards and magnets. Look for their booth, number 313, in the old gym.

Rich Kenny, owner of Forest View Lanes, has been a part of Trade Fair for three years now but remembers being a part of it as a teen. "I remember participating as an employee back in 1987 when I worked here as my first job at Forest View," he said. "It's great to be part of this community, it's important to support Bedford and be an active part of our community. We are much more than a bowling center and this is our chance to meet people in our community."

The Forest View Lanes booth, 448 and 449, can be found in the new gym. They will have information on bowling leagues, volleyball leagues, open bowling and volleyball, golf simulators, corn-hole and more. There will also be free bowling for kids in the C Hallway. "We will be giving away free bowling coupons, we will have a prize wheel and we will have a major prize given away for a bowling party for you and 99 friends valued at \$795," Kenny said.

Paws & Claws Animal Hospital is a two-year Trade Fair participant. "We love to see and meet all the people, learn about their pets, talk to them about our services and how we can help their pets live happier and healthier lives," said Dr. Dawn Hanusz.

They will be answering questions, providing business cards with their contact information as well as giving away treats and toys and having a raffle for cat and dog baskets and pet beds. "We will also be giving out items to the children such as coloring books, stickers, Snoopy tattoos and candy. We have a prize wheel for the adults as well," she said.

Organizations, groups and churches in the community are also represented at Trade Fair, such as the Bedford Senior Community Center. Director, Dianne Carroll said the center has been participating in Trade Fair for at least 30 years. "It gives us the chance to talk to people to let them know about us, to let them know we're here and to stay in touch with the community."

A new service at the senior center is Medicare counseling. "We will have information on

that and travel flyers for our trips," she said. The booth will also have the quilt on display that will be given away during the senior center's upcoming Strawberry Festival, which is something they do annually. "We'll be selling raffle tickets for that," Carroll said. You can find them at booth 323 in the old gym.

Bedford Branch Head Librarian, Jody Russ, said that the Library has had a booth at Trade Fair for many years. "It's a great opportunity to share new and different things that the library does." One of the things new to the library is a library app that has a number of functions and capabilities. "We will be demonstrating how to use that," Russ said. "We will have games where you can win free things including books." The library booth, 489, is located in the new gym.

Compelled Church Youth Pastor Dustin Reed said, "We've been a part of Trade Fair almost every year for 20 years. It's one of the biggest events in the community. We get to meet with people and connect in the community. It's just a great time."

Their booth will feature church information including information about summer activities for kids. They will have candy to hand out. Stop at booth 465 in the new gym and discover all that the church has to offer.

Girls Scouts of SE Michigan Troop 75208 will have a booth, 361, in the old gym. If your child or someone in your family is interested in joining the Girl Scouts, be sure to stop by their booth and talk with them. "We will have information on how to join," said Nicole Perkins. It's Girl Scout cookie time and you can find these delicious cookies at their booth also. "We will be selling Girl Scout cookies," she said.

The Bedford High School Alumni Association had their first booth in 1996 and have been a part of Trade Fair for 20 years with the exception of 2013 and 2014. "Trade Fair has been a wonderful opportunity for us to inform the public of our events and service for Alumni and Associate Members as well as the community," said Michelle "Mickey" Rudolph, president of the Alumni Association.

"The Trade Fair also allows us direct communication with those who were not aware of our existence or activity, or those who just were not sure what the Association does or how they can benefit by joining. Often we find people we haven't seen in ages and rekindle long-lost relationships and that sparks more interest in the class reunion aspect of the Association. Finally, it gives Alums a direct voice to us on what they are interested in or answers to their Alumni-relevant questions," Rudolph said.

They will have information on upcoming events as well as recent events and raffle drawings for different Bedford-related items.

With Phase 1 and 2 of the stadium project completed, the Alumni Association is working on Phase 3, the restroom/meeting room project. "Plans are to get the porta-johns out of the stadium," Rudolph said. They will be replaced with restrooms.

The Alumni Association booth will have Phase 3 information along with a built-to-scale porta-john that will be used as a container where people can donate to the proj-

ect. "It brings across our message of what we're trying to do, perfectly. They can donate however much they choose to - loose change, small bills, large bills. All donations will go to the project," Rudolph said.

The aroma coming from the cafeteria is sure to tempt passersby to stop in to sample some of the specialties brought in by the food vendors whether you'll be having a snack or enjoying a meal. With the lineup of vendors this year and the variety they offer, there is sure to be something to tempt your taste buds. Food vendors are all from local eating establishments.

Tony's Country Store is famous for their homemade donuts. They will have these donuts as well as other pastries

Sage Steak & Seafood is new to the community as well as to Trade Fair this year. On the menu for Trade Fair is their chicken sandwich, lobster bisque and coleslaw.

At Papa Eli's it may be hard to choose just one, but choices include subs, pizza, salads, humus, grape leaves, pasta, baklava and cannoli. Choose a Pepsi or Coke product to drink with your selection.

Howard's Meats will have an original creation by owner Jan Howard that has been selling quite well in her store. As an alternative to corned beef for St. Patrick's Day, Jan came up with her own recipe for corned beef brats. She will also have her award-winning homemade polish kielbasa, pulled BBQ pork and Dearborn hot dogs.

to those Bedford men who died serving our country. Please stop by the BBA Military Appreciation booth and see just a few of the brave men and women who have helped us live in the land of the free," Folk said.

In addition to all of the business booths, a couple of important services will be provided during Trade Fair at no charge for the community to take advantage of. Three rooms in Hallway B will be set up for these services.

The Bedford Lions Club has a focus on hearing and vision and will be sponsoring screenings for both. Hearing screenings will be done in room B4 for all ages, on Saturday only, by the Lions Hearing Center of Michigan. While the screenings are not comprehensive exams, they do help individuals determine if there may be a hearing problem or potential loss.

New this year is vision screenings for children that will be performed in room B6 both days of Trade Fair. Members of the Lions Club have attended training sessions to learn how to use the club's new vision screening camera, which will help identify potential problems with a child's vision.

The whole process takes about eight to ten minutes, beginning with the parent signing a consent form. The screening itself is very quick with the parents getting a print out of the results of the screening.

There are eight problems that the vision screening camera can check for. While not all types of vision problems can be detected through these screenings and the screenings do not take the place of an eye exam by a professional, some common vision disorders that can be detected include: unequal visual clarity, pupil size differences, astigmatism, fixed/crossed eyes, far-sightedness, near-sightedness, eye misalignment and corneal reflex.

If the screening detects a problem, the parents are advised to get their child's vision

checked by a professional as soon as possible.

In room B8 the Samaria Masonic Lodge #438 will be providing a child identification program both Saturday and Sunday. Each child that goes through this free process will receive a dental impression as well as a CD containing a photo, video, digital fingerprints and their vital information.

Parents are encouraged to have their children repeat the process every two years to keep the information current.

Another feature of Trade Fair is the free non-stop entertainment on both Saturday and Sunday. The stage can be found in the cafeteria. Entertainment is family-friendly and attendees can watch as many of the acts as they choose to.

The lineup of entertainment includes song, dance, karate demonstrations and baton twirling. See the entire schedule of acts and the times they will be on stage, printed in the *Bedford Press*.

As you can see by this review of some of the highlights of what is going on at Trade Fair this year, the event has so much to offer - something for all ages! Bring your family or come with a friend and plan on spending one or both days at the 33rd annual BBA Trade Fair for a fun weekend!

Volunteers give countless hours of their time to ensure that Trade Fair will be a success for the businesses and organizations that participate and that it will be something the whole community can enjoy.

This year's Trade Fair chair is Jan Howard. Co-chairs are Karen Daggett and Laura Collins. Committee members include: Dona Folk, Dan Martin, Jessica Thompson, Lynette Donbrosky, Christopher Ray, Matt Francis, Paul Ramirez, Brad LaVoy, Ron Whipple, Kelsey Hoffman, Heath Velliquette, Dr. James Hardie, Michael Messenger, Jeff Pauli, TC Clements and Wendy DeBord.

Trade Fair Entertainment Schedule

- Saturday, March 12, 2016 -

- 10:00 a.m. • Piper Buehrer's (National Anthem)
- 10:30 a.m. • Motive Dance & Gymnastic
- 11:30 a.m. • BHS Soirée Singers
- 12:30 p.m. • Vibe Dance Company
- 1:30 p.m. • Bedford Cloggers
- 2:30 p.m. • Jean Holden Singers
- 3:30 p.m. • Stage Starz Academy of Dance
- 4:45 p.m. • Announcements

- Sunday, March 13, 2016 -

- 11:00 a.m. • Salute to Veterans
- 11:45 a.m. • Bedford Community Ed Seiwa Kai Karate
- 12:30 p.m. • Miss Lori's Dance Express
- 1:45 p.m. • Mini Motions Dance Studio
- 2:45 p.m. • Twirl Michigan
- 3:45 p.m. • BBA Drawings & Prizes

that you can enjoy with a cup of their dark roast or regular coffee. There will also be six different kinds of cookies to choose from that include popular standards such as chocolate chip, sugar and macadamia nut. If a slice of homemade pie sounds good to top off lunch, you can choose from blueberry, cherry or apple.

You can choose from two kinds of sliders at the Mike's Southwest Grill booth. Since sliders are smaller than a regular burger, you don't need to try to figure out which one you want, you can try one of each - a Baja burger slider and a steakhouse burger slider. They will also be offering hard shell beef and chicken tacos and a Cuban sandwich.

Village Pizzeria & Pub will have a variety of pizza by the slice with customer favorite topping combinations. They will also have a variety of pop and bottled water to go along with your slice or slices of pizza.

With all of the delicious options, it might be difficult to choose something from just one vendor - if that's the case why not sample something from more than one food establishment.

"For the 10th year the BBA will be honoring our active military and give the visitors a chance to send a note or message from the Bedford Trade Fair," Dona Folk, said. This special military appreciation booth can be found in the new gym, booths 430, 431 and 432.

"We are also continuing to honor our veterans with a display of some of our local veterans," she said. On display will be pictures along with name, branch and rank of those serving in the military as well as all the veterans in our area who have served our great nation.

"New this year, with the help of Don Adams from the Bedford Library, we are working on a display to pay tribute

Due to the BBA Trade Fair, we will be closed on Sat., March 12th

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!
BOOTHS 350 & 351

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