

BREAKING

XALT Energy to close its Midland plant



NEWS

Business by the Bay names 5 finalists for \$11,500 pitch night Nov. 12 in Bay City

By **Jon Becker**, *for the Daily News*

Oct 30, 2025





PRESENTED BY



Congratulations to our Finalists!

Maria Sian

Jennifer Barcia

Ashley Kirby

Malynda Stewart

Lily Boehm

The five finalists have been selected for the third annual Business by the Bay Pitch Competition, scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 12 at the John Glenn High School auditorium, 3201 Kiesel Road in Bay City.

Michigan SBDC Facebook page



 Listen Now: **Business by the Bay names 5 finalists for \$11,500**

3:13

1x



There may be a chill in the fall air, but the competition for \$11,500 in cash prizes has reached a fever pitch for this year's Business by the Bay Pitch Competition.



Michelle Judd, lead organizer of the event and Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC) consultant, calls the entrepreneurial-boosting contest one of Bay County's most anticipated small business events.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

The Essential Sale: 6 months for 99¢. Elevate your everyday with exceptional reporting.

ACT NOW

Five finalists have been selected for this third annual event, scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 12 at the John Glenn High School auditorium, 3201 Kiesel Road in Bay City.

The evening begins with a meet and greet at 5 p.m., followed by the pitch competition at 6 p.m., when the finalists take the stage to pitch their business ideas live before a panel of judges – and the general public.

Hosted by the SBDC, the event highlights the creativity and drive of local entrepreneurs who are vying for a share of the prize money and a jump-start on their business dreams.

“After months of intensive preparation, these finalists are ready to shine and showcase the hard work they’ve put into their business plans,” Judd said. “The Business by the Bay event is the culmination of our SBDC training, giving these entrepreneurs the critical exposure and funding they need to make a real impact in

The Essential Sale: 6 months for 99¢. Elevate your everyday with exceptional reporting.

ACT NOW

It's rewarding for Judd and other Bay County leaders to see an infusion of new small businesses that are key drivers of the region's economy. The five finalists are Malynnda Stewart (Compassionate Navigation), Ashley Kirby (Turkey Bob Books), Maria Sian (Great Lakes Healthcare Training Center), Lily Boehm (Curious Minds Club), and Jennifer Barcia (Sweets and Boujee).

"These finalists represent a dynamic mix of innovation, creativity, and community-minded entrepreneurship," Judd said. "They each bring a unique vision to the Bay County small business landscape. This friendly competition offers not only cash prizes but also valuable exposure, networking, and community support for emerging Bay County businesses."

Finalists have spent the past several months participating in SBDC-led workshops on marketing, financial planning, and pitch deck preparation. After submitting their finalized pitch decks for virtual judging, the top five were selected to compete live on stage at this year's event.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

Admission is free and open to the public. Guests can enjoy light hors d' oeuvres and refreshments, connect with community members, including local business leaders, and participate in the excitement by purchasing a \$5 "fan favorite" ballot to vote for their favorite contestant.

Oct 30, 2025

Jon Becker

Around The Web

Powered by **REVCONTENT**



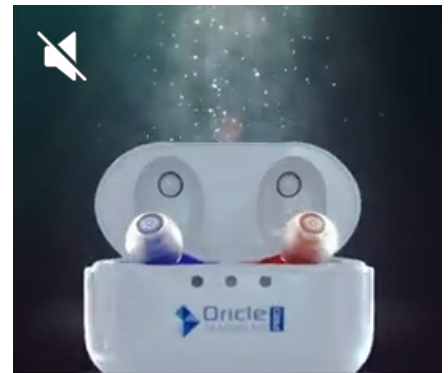
Limited Edition 250th Anniversary Hats - Shop Now!

By [Glosritystore](#)



Why Michigan Loggers Recommend This Portable Sharpener

By [Peoasis](#)



Seniors Are Loving This \$99 Hearing Aid Sweeping The Country

By [Oricle Hearing](#)

Michigan Legalizes Online Cannabis Purchases

By [Mood](#)



Why This Cordless Lamp Became The Year's Most-Loved Gift

By [Casekis](#)

Here's The Estimated Cost of a 1-day Walk-in Shower Upgrade

By [HomeBuddy](#)

Shocking Photos Taken Seconds Before The Disaster

By [Buzzday](#)

Heart Surgeon Begg Americans: Stop Drinking This Plant Based Milk

By [Well Being For All](#)

U.S. Cardiologist Warns Aging Seniors About Blueberries for Breakfast

By [GundryMD](#)

News



NEWS

Midland Mall hosts Trick or Treat

Various mall stores handed out candy at the Midland Mall on Halloween from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m..



POLICE AND COURTS

Man's body found Thursday night after he called 911

Man called 911 saying he was suffering a mental health emergency, police arrived to find him dead



NEWS

Rural | a loon catast

Nationwi
their sha
health fu

Most Popular

1. Halloween 2025 restaurant deals: Free meals, treats & discounts
2. XALT to close Midland factory, eliminate 230 jobs
3. Midland woman turns recovery into innovation
4. XALT Energy to close its Midland plant
5. Business Matters: Poker Face Aesthetic Club opened in September

More News

Midland man pleads to twice attempting to strangle fiancée

City offices to close Nov. 11 for staff in-service

XALT to close Midland factory, eliminate 230 jobs

Midland man jailed for road rage

Inside renovation of Downtown Midland's historic Odd Fellows Building

Let's Play



Bongo



Flipart



Pile-Up Poker



Cross|word



Midland
DAILY NEWS

Top ^



HEARST newspapers © 2025 Midland Publishing Company, LLC [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [DAA Industry Opt Out](#) |

 Your Privacy Choices (Opt Out of Sale/Targeted Ads)