Website name (for poll): Mountaineer BBQ

Development time: ~45 hours

The website contains 4 pages, a homepage and three sub-pages. Each page has some text, pictures, and some type of javascript that makes the page more user friendly. I utilized Bootstrap's grid system, so the site is also responsive to mobile devices. When developing, I was respectful to how the code would affect the site's responsiveness to mobile devices and it's appearance. The site will actually be used for this business so I not only wanted to meet the homework specifications, but develop an appealing and easy to use site for customers. The initial design was mostly followed but certain things were changed during development.

Some things that I included that weren't initially part of the design were footers for the bottom of the page, a script that updates the local time, and buttons that the user can click to view certain images. Initially, each page had it's own .html and .css file. After a while, I decided to put all of the general styling code in it's own css file. That eliminated most of the repeating code in the css files. I also gave the navigation bar it's own css file, which also prevented code from being repeated.

When the website was about 90% completed, I wasn't happy with its appearance or structure. It wasn't appealing and looked like a website that was designed from the 1990s. After I did additional reading about website design, I decided to limit the content in the container classes to a width of 70%. Then I set the background of the page to a dark yet appealing picture. The picture doesn't stand out too much from the text and also fit's the "feeling" of the site's theme of BBQ.

The most challenging part of this development was creating a way for the user to select which images he/she wants to view. I initially created a simple scroll box and placed the menu inside it. It looked terrible but I couldn't think of another way to use a scroll box. I did a lot of research into how I could implement a scroll box into my site. Then one day I was shopping on Amazon and noticed once you type in a product to their search, on the right side of the screen are many options. I realized that I could have a similar thing but placed in a scroll bar. So I created a scroll bar to with input buttons so that when the user clicks on the button, selected images will appear. Making this feature function required lots of javascript and I spent many hours of trial and error getting images to appear. Another issue I ran into was removing the images once the user unclicked the box. I used resources from StackOverflow.com, w3schools.com, and developer.mozilla.org to figure out many parts. Many times, a solution I read gave me an idea of how to solve my problem. I figured out most of my issues through trial and error and experimenting.

I feel more experience now working with Javascript. Before this project, I didn't feel like I had much experience with it and I wasn't able to do much. I felt pretty comfortable with HTML and CSS. I had brief exposure to Bootstrap, but I also had to learn some more about their grid system. In each of these tools and languages, I feel more experienced with using and am excited to use them for future sites.