

Our Sixty-Fifth Issue • December 02 2023

Welcome to Our Sixty-Fifth Issue!
Thank you so much for reading all about
Buchanan's latest with us!

THE BUCHANAN CHRONICLE



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DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

BCS is one of a handful of districts in Michigan that owns and operates a school farm! Our elementary students participate in hands-on science activities throughout the year.

We offer a free Great Start Readiness Preschool Program to eligible preschool-aged students in a nurturing, caring, and supportive environment.

All kindergarten students participate in our "All Kids Bike" Program that teaches students to ride a bike in gym class!

BCS operates a quality special education program in all four of our schools!

Buchanan High School offers a diverse array of Career Technical Education programs that provide students with the opportunity to learn real-world skills leading to certificates, licenses, and college credits in a variety of career pathways.

BHS offers approved College Board AP classes and access to the Berrien RESA Math and Science Center, Lake Michigan Early College, and Southwestern Michigan College Dual Enrollment Honors Academy.

Buchanan High School Athletics is committed to fostering a culture that provides the opportunity to pursue the total development of BHS student-athletes.

- Varsity Girls Softball 2023 Regional Champs
- Varsity Girls Basketball 2023 Regional Champs
- Varsity Baseball 2022 State Champs
- Varsity Girls Basketball 2022 Regional Champs
- Varsity Football 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Girls Cross Country 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Volleyball 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Softball 2022 District Champs
- Varsity Wrestling 2022 Conference Champs



OUR VISION IS TO DEVELOP RESPONSIBLE, RESILIENT, CREATIVE CITIZENS CAPABLE OF SUCCEEDING IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

Make Buchanan Community Schools Your School of Choice!

School of Choice will be opening this spring!
Applications will be located on our website.



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Community Schools**
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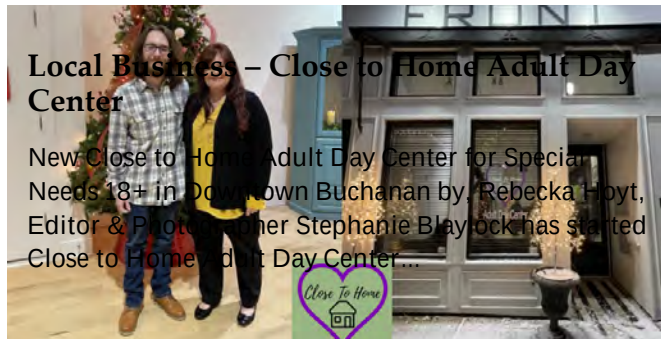
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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR – Cultural Arts Everywhere with Greta Pope
www.culturalartseverywhere.org

Local Business – Close to Home Adult Day Center

New Close to Home Adult Day Center for Special Needs 18+ in Downtown Buchanan by Rebecca Hoyt, Editor & Photographer Stephanie Blaylock has started Close to Home Adult Day Center...



Past Event – Bucktown Christmas 2023

A Beautiful Bucktown Christmas 2023 Photos by Eric Lovett, Heather Foster, and Jill K. McDonald A perfect Bucktown Christmas day and night was enjoyed by the Buchanan Community, Saturday November 11th.



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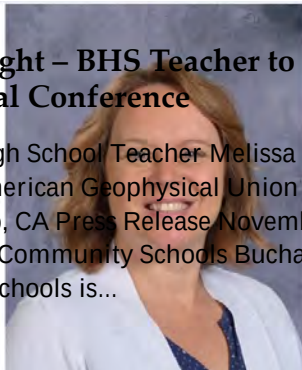
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San Francisco, CA Press Release November 20, 2023
by Buchanan Community Schools Buchanan
Community Schools is...



Nature Notes – Winter 2023

A Winter Wonderland Awaits You by Jiff K. McDonald
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As you walk among the great outdoors, look up,
down,...



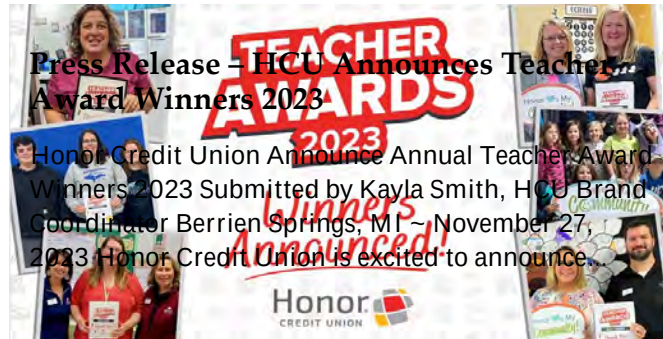
Christmas
Concert
Upcoming Event - Community Christmas
Concert 2023
6:30 PM Sunday.



Community Christmas Concert 2023 Shared by
Buchanan Area Ministerial Association Join us for our
annual Community Christmas Concert! We will follow
our tradition of singing a couple verses of Advent...



Cornerstone Alliance Announces Promotion of Zach Vaughn to Director of Business Growth Submitted by Chris Frank, Cornerstone Alliance Media Contact Benton Harbor, MI ~ November 21, 2023 Cornerstone Alliance, the...



Press Release - HCU Announces Teacher Award Winners 2023

Honor Credit Union Announce Annual Teacher Award Winners 2023 Submitted by Kayla Smith, HCU Brand Coordinator Berrien Springs, MI ~ November 27, 2023 Honor Credit Union is excited to announce...

Press Release – Lighthouse Chorus Hunger Fundraiser Conclusion

Lighthouse Chorus Raises Thousands for Area Food Banks Submitted by Brenda Ropp, Lighthouse Chorus Niles, MI – November 26, 2023 The Lighthouse Chorus, a local men's a cappella chorus committed...



Press Release – SAM Winter Recital

School of American Music Winter Recital, Presented at The Acorn for the First Time Submitted by Donna Mitchell, School of American Music Executive Director The School of American Music's Winter...



Buchanan District Library – December 2023

December at Buchanan District Library Shared with permission from Buchanan District Library monthly



newsletter "Books may well be the only true magic."
Alice Hoffman, author of Practical Magic Save the...

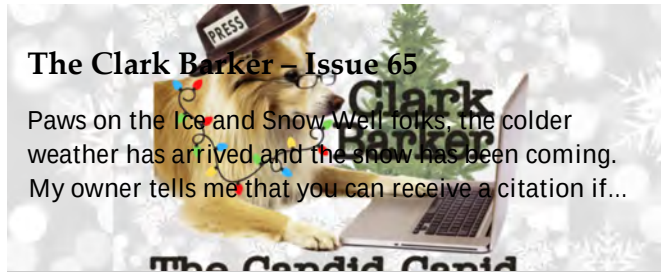
This Month at Buchanan Area Senior Center – December 2023

A Few of December's Events at Buchanan Area Senior Center Submitted by Diana Smuda, BASC Program Coordinator Thank you for supporting the Buchanan Area Senior Center! Read the full BASC...



The Clark Barker – Issue 65

Paws on the Ice and Snow Well folks, the colder weather has arrived and the snow has been coming. My owner tells me that you can receive a citation if...



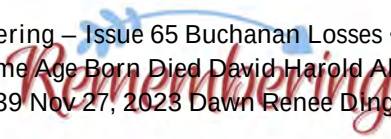
Now That's Funny! – Issue 65

Now That's Funny! – Issue 65 by Thomas Hoyt, Writer Over the holiday weekend I was told something funny that occurred years ago. A couple of brothers in the family...



Remembering – Issue 65

Remembering – Issue 65 Buchanan Losses • 11/18 – 11/27 Name Age Born Died David Harold Ahonen 84 Sep 9, 1939 Nov 27, 2023 Dawn Renee Dinges 48 Sep 6,...



BCS Sports – Buchanan Athletics Fall/ Winter Scores

Buchanan Athletics Sports Scores 11/17 – 11/30
Scores Compiled by Jen Garry, Publisher Below you
can find some of Buchanan Athletics recent sports
scores. Current sports include Boys Varsity
Basketball....

A Note from the Publisher – Issue 65

A Note from the Publisher – Issue 65 by Jen Garry,
Publisher The Winter Holidays (and weather) are
upon us! Our third printed edition is very soon to be
here...



The Buchanan Chronicle

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Thanks for Reading Our *Sixty-Fifth* Issue!

*

Look for Our *Sixty-Sixth* Issue:
Saturday, December 16, 2023



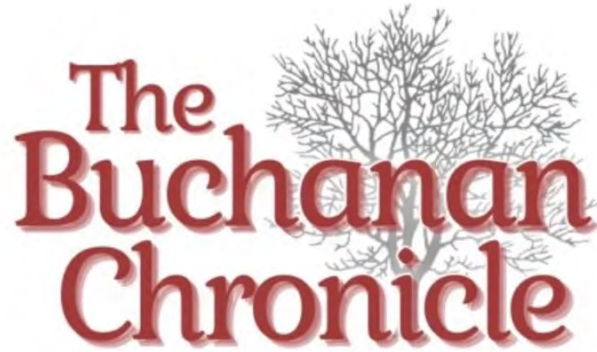
Beautiful Buchanan Common at Christmas 2023, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

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Local Business – Close to Home Adult Day Center



New Close to Home Adult Day Center for Special Needs 18+ in Downtown Buchanan

by, Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Stephanie Blaylock has started Close to Home Adult Day Center in downtown Buchanan at 207 East Front Street for those 18 years and older who have special needs/cognitive impaired needs while providing respite needs to caregivers. Stephanie, a registered nurse, had this idea for the last 3 – 5 years and now she is making it even more with her own approach. Joining her in this business is Elias Fuentes who can be found on the electric piano playing classical and holiday music to help adults get more social interaction while enjoying their time during the day.

Monday, November 27 2023 the public was invited to their open house from 2:00pm – 7:00pm. Refreshments and snacks were provided as lovely piano music was played by Elias Fuentes and comfortable seating nearby a safe fireplace.



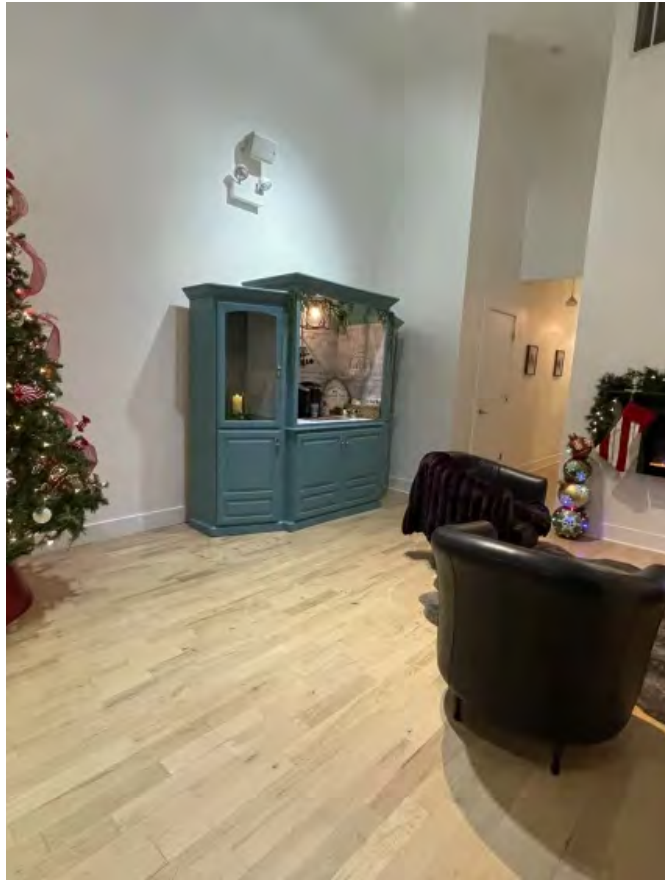
Close to Home Adult Day Center (Left) with Owners Stephanie Blaylock and Elias Fuentes (Right). Photos by Rebecka Hoyt

Close to Home offers these services: "personalized centered care plans, medication reminders, vital checks, assistance with transportation service set-up, assistance with activities of daily living and daily meals and snacks that Meals on Wheels provide. Their pricing starts at a minimum of \$75 for the first 5 hours of attendance per day, \$15 per hour thereafter for the remainder of the day. Half-Day attendance is available. You may call them at 574-210-4728 for more information to see if your family member qualifies and other questions/concerns that you may have," as provided on Close to Home's brochure.



Close to Home Adult Day Center Open House. Photos by Rebecka Hoyt

“Needs are more met in smaller intimate settings with the feeling of home comforts and one-to-one care. This is where all they want to do and to be seen and heard,” states Stephanie. Activities for clients will be inclusive when they attend to receive the benefits of being social with others. During their time here, they can partake in activities like: Bible services, library services with the Buchanan District Library right across the road, laundry services, crafts, brain games, daily exercise, live entertainment, movies, in-house spa days, local outings and so much more!



Close to Home Adult Day Center Inside. Photos by Rebecka Hoyt

Close to Home can be a “stepping stone towards progression to assisted living,” mentioned Stephanie. Questions about medicaid are being asked and it could take up to 12 months for a medicaid waiver in hopes to change quicker. They “welcome clients with these conditions/needs: high and low functioning dementia, Alzheimer’s, brain injuries, walker and wheelchair assistance, foley catheter, CVA/stroke, autism, oxygen dependent and intellectual disabilities for 18 years of age and above, all the while with on-site owner presence,” (Close to Home brochure).



About Close to Home Adult Day Center: We are a new Adult Day Center in Buchanan MI dedicated to enriching the lives of the individuals we serve.

ClosetohomeinBuchanan@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/CloseToHomeBuchanan

Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30am – 5:30pm

[574-210-4728](tel:574-210-4728)

[207 E Front St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Past Event – Bucktown Christmas 2023



A Beautiful Bucktown Christmas 2023

Photos by Eric Lovett, Heather Foster, and Jill K. McDonald

A perfect Bucktown Christmas day and night was enjoyed by the Buchanan Community, Saturday, November 25, 2023! There was shopping galore, reindeer to meet, a parade, Christmas tree lighting on the Common Stage, Miss Buchanan, and even Santa and Mrs. Claus! Peruse a few photo galleries of the festivities below! Happy Holidays 2023 to Buchanan and all our readers!



Bucktown Christmas 2023, Photos by Eric Lovett



Contest WINNER!!







PAST Bucktown Christmas 2023 flyer



2020 Reader's Digest Nicest City in America – Buchanan, MI!

About The City of Buchanan: The City operates under the Commission–Manager form of government as prescribed by the City Charter. Under this model the City Manager is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the City, with the Buchanan City Commission's main function being legislative and setting important policies that chart the future course of Buchanan. The City Commission is made up of five (5) members who serve four (4) year terms. The Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem are selected at the first meeting in November following the City election. Current City Manager: Heather Grace ~ Current Mayor: Sean Denison.

www.cityofbuchanan.com

- Typical Hours at City Hall:
 - Monday – Thursday : 9am-4pm
 - Friday : 9am-1pm

Phone: [269-695-384](tel:269-695-384); Fax: [269-695-4330](tel:269-695-4330)

[City of Buchanan](#)

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[302 N Redbud Tr](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

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About Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce: Since 1960, the Chamber has promoted a spirit of community in order to enhance the growth, prosperity, and quality of life in the Buchanan area. Life truly is better here!

Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce Membership Annual Dues:

Citizen Supporter/Individual: \$50

Non-Profit Organization: \$100

Single Owner Business/Sole Proprietorship: \$150

Regular Business: \$200; \$4/employee

www.buchanan.mi.us

269-695-3291

324 E. Dewey St.

Suite 202

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA



About Buchanan District Library: Our mission is to provide quality material, superior programming and exceptional services delivered with care and integrity to meet the needs of our diverse community.

Contact: Meg Paulette, Director

www.buchananlibrary.org

m.paulette@buchananlibrary.com

269.695.3681

128 E Front St

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA



About The Common: The Common is Buchanan's very own outdoor amphitheater. Sitting in the heart of Downtown, it's an ideal spot to stretch out on the lawn and enjoy a play or concert. The common is host to several music concerts during the summer months. Whether you enjoy jazz, country, bluegrass or rock & roll, the Common has something to suit everyone's musical tastes. Stop by on a lunch-hour break when you get a chance and enjoy one of the "Stop, Lunch & Listen" plays put on during the noon-hour throughout the summer.

www.facebook.com/TheCommonConcertSeries

www.cityofbuchanan.com/community/page/common

122 Days Ave

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

Local Business – The Hometown & Co



Issue 65 ~ December 02, 2023

New Business Incubator in Downtown Buchanan MI : The Hometown & Co

by Jen Garry, Publisher & Ashley Regal, LiveBuchanan

A brand new idea has hatched in Downtown Buchanan that opened Saturday, November 25, just in time for Bucktown Christmas 2023. The Hometown & Co is a mercantile and food market that is now open for the public to shop and eat at several new businesses inside. The concept is actually a small business incubator that is currently hosting four cohorts: two food options, one shop of handmade leather goods, and one farm stand with items sourced from over 30 local farms, makers, and vendors.



Mercantile Options inside Hometown & Co, Photo by Jen Garry



Community Eating Area inside Hometown & Co, Photo by Jen Garry

Each business accepted into LiveBuchanan's incubator program gets access to specialized business training, one-on-one coaching, and connections to vital resources to support them on their journey, as well as shared market space at 101 Days Ave.

They begin with some time for learning and growing together in the incubator, and then the cohorts launch into their own long-term homes in and around Buchanan when they are ready to fly the nest and have found the right space, each for their own needs and potential.



Goddess of the Moon Leatherworks



04/19/2025, 20:17



The Hometown & Co at 101 Days Ave, Photo by Heather Foster

Each vendor selected for the program is required to attend trainings, be present during open hours, and pay a monthly program fee.

If you're interested in learning more about The Hometown & Co Mercantile & Food Market, the small business incubator program, or to apply to be a part of this exciting new program, please visit our website for more at www.livebuchanan.com/business-incubator.



About The Hometown & Co Program: A new small business incubator program and retail location in

Buchanan MI run by LiveBuchanan, a MI Main Street Engaged Level Non-Profit Organization, and partially funded through a partnership with Honor Credit Union. Our goal at The Hometown & Co. is to find burgeoning talent and to help it grow and thrive – by and for our local community here in Buchanan. Small businesses can find support when accepted into the program as a cohort, and the public can shop and eat at our market/retail location ~ Tues-Sat 11a-7p at 101 Days Ave, Buchanan MI.

ashley@livebuchanan.com

www.livebuchanan.com

www.facebook.com/LiveBuchananMI

Store Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 11am-7pm

101 Days Ave

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

Mayor's Memo – 11/21 Comments Regarding City Manager



City of Buchanan Mayor Sean Denison Comments Regarding the Suspension of the City Manager

Submitted by City of Buchanan for Mayor Sean Denison

As many of you know, a recall petition was filed against me last week because of my decision to suspend the City Manager, with full pay and benefits, until the City could conclude an investigation of employee workplace complaints against the City Manager.

These complaints were shared with all members of the Commission, who were asked to keep the complaints confidential to protect all parties, until the City could investigate the complaints. If confidentiality had been maintained, the City could have left all employees working in place until conclusion of the investigation. However, one Commissioner could not honor this request and disclosed the employee complaints to the City Manager before a full and fair investigation could even be started.

To protect all of the parties, including the City Manager, from further workplace complaints or claims of retaliation, I made the decision, as chief executive of the City under Michigan law and on the advice of the City's attorneys, to suspend the City Manager with full pay and benefits, until the investigation could be concluded and reported to the Commission for consideration in a public meeting. In this process, we gave the City Manager, with his attorney present, notice of the complaints against him and an opportunity to present his side of the story.

No laws or contract rights have been violated. Some disagree with my decision, but the choice was between removing one person from the work environment or many City Hall staff members, to the harm of the City operations and citizens. The process remains underway now and I will ask the Commission to consider this matter as soon as possible after the holiday. Consistent with the City's Code of Conduct and Ethics, this statement is mine and does not represent the position of the City or City Commission.

Thank you,
Sean Denison, Mayor

Mayor Sean Denison invites any citizen of Buchanan who has additional questions or feedback to contact him directly at sdenison@cityofbuchanan.com.



Mayor Sean Denison, Photo submitted by City of Buchanan



2020 Reader's Digest Nicest City in America – Buchanan, MI!

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Fax: 269-695-4330
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302 N Redbud Tr
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Heather Writes – Education on Bullying



Education on Bullying

by Heather Foster

Our local schools have been inundated with bullying across the different buildings. Thankfully, after much research, they were able to see where their problem lies. They have since fixed the issues and are working on big plans for preparing for our next school year. This wonderful step forward, however, comes with a price – learning to handle the bullying that has morphed over the last few years.

Bullying can take on so many different forms, that it's hard to keep track. Now that we've spent the last few years in person with schools, we can see that our children, as well as society and school environments, have also changed. Our kids demeanors, their view of the world, and unfortunately, their reactions to different behaviors have all changed. We now find ourselves in a world of the unknown, doing our best to make positive changes that better everyone. When it comes to bullying in the school setting, it begins with education.

I was lucky to sit down with several parents this past week and hear some of their concerns and fears on bullying. Some parents don't recognize the signs of it, others don't know how to address it, and others, worry that the schools aren't equipped to handle it. In an effort to foster a partnership between parents and the school system, several parents have begun to ask the more difficult questions – how do we learn about bullying and how do we, both parents and schools, address it?

For parents, some signs your student may be being bullied are; sudden behavior changes, grades starting to

fall, becoming socially and emotionally withdrawn, and a desire to stay home from school. If you notice these things, ask them about the changes.

Here are some things you can do to help your child if you find out they're being bullied; listen to them, let them know you're present and willing to listen and help, and validate their feelings. Next, reach out to the school via the principal and or other school staff. Inquire as to the incident(s), request documentation, and create a plan to keep your student safe. Then, follow up on it with your child and the school.

Together, both parents and the schools can create a safe environment where every kid feels valued and welcome!

The Buchanan Chronicle wishes to provide a venue for public opinion to be heard. We may edit but only for typos, language, or length; as we desire to present submitted opinions as received.

OPINION

BCS Spotlight – BHS Teacher to Present at Geophysical Conference



Buchanan High School Teacher Melissa Frost to Present at American Geophysical Union Conference in San Francisco, CA

Press Release November 20, 2023 by Buchanan Community Schools

Buchanan Community Schools is proud to announce Buchanan High School Science Teacher, Melissa Frost, has been invited to present at the fall American Geophysical Union Conference this December in San Francisco, CA.



Melissa Frost, BHS Science Teacher, Photo provided by BHS

The American Geophysical Union (AGU) is an international, nonprofit scientific association whose mission is to promote discovery in Earth and space science for the benefit of humanity. There will be an estimated 25,000 attendees from over 100 countries at this year's conference. From AGU's website, the union has been opening science for more than 100 years, opening pathways to discovery, opening greater awareness to address climate change, opening greater collaborations to lead to solutions, and opening the fields and professions of science to a whole new age of justice, equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging.

In 2022, Melissa Frost began participating in a research experience for teachers with the Evans Lab connected with Kellogg Biological Station's (KBS) Long-Term Ecological Research Program and Michigan State University. The Evans Lab partners teachers with scientists to assist in ongoing research in the lab, as well as providing the teacher the opportunity to develop their own research project. Mrs. Frost, along with her Buchanan High School students, created a habitat restoration project at Buchanan High School in hopes to restore the area to improve water, soil, and air quality, while increasing students' connections with their environment. Melissa will be presenting her research experiences with scientists from around the world.

"Melissa Frost, one of many beacons from Buchanan High School, will highlight the path of discovery while presenting at the American Geophysical Union Conference. Her dedication and commitment foster unity in science, nurture solutions for our world, and open the doors of diversity, justice, and inclusion in the pursuit of a brighter, shared future for humanity. She models for her students the idea that we are always learning and growing", Trish Robinson, Superintendent.

Buchanan Community Schools is thankful for Mrs. Frost's commitment to education and research inside and outside of the classroom.



About Buchanan Community Schools: Public School system for Buchanan, Michigan area.

www.buchananschools.com

probinson@buchananschools.com

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About Buchanan High School: Welcome to Buchanan High School where we prepare students for life-long success by developing responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society. At Buchanan High School we believe our graduates will be adaptable, lifelong learners, productive problem solvers, effective life managers, confident communicators, and responsible global citizens.

www.buchananschools.com

bpruett@buchananschools.com

[269-695-8403](tel:269-695-8403)

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Nature Notes – Winter 2023



A Winter Wonderland Awaits You

by Jill K. McDonald

The season of winter brings joy and beauty all its own. As you walk among the great outdoors, look up, down, and all around. Let your senses guide you to fully become aware of your surroundings. You will discover the peacefulness and uniqueness of nature in winter.

This year the winter solstice officially occurs on Thursday, December 21 at 10:27pm EST, marking the transition of autumn into winter in the Northern hemisphere. Let's delve in and explore the joys of the winter woods.



Squirrel Nest or "Drey", Photo by Jill K. McDonald

Animals and birds are easier to spot with leaves fallen. Small movements are more noticeable and colors stand out, such as blue jays and cardinals. Nests are more visible in trees. Look up in the trees to enjoy nest remains from birds and paper wasps, as well as leaf clusters, called dreys, from squirrels.

Tracks can be easily found in the snow. Look for the tiny tracks from birds near your feeders, coyote and deer tracks in fields, or turkey tracks on freshly fallen snow. Observe a trail of mammal tracks closely. Do you think the animal was running or walking? Which direction was it traveling?

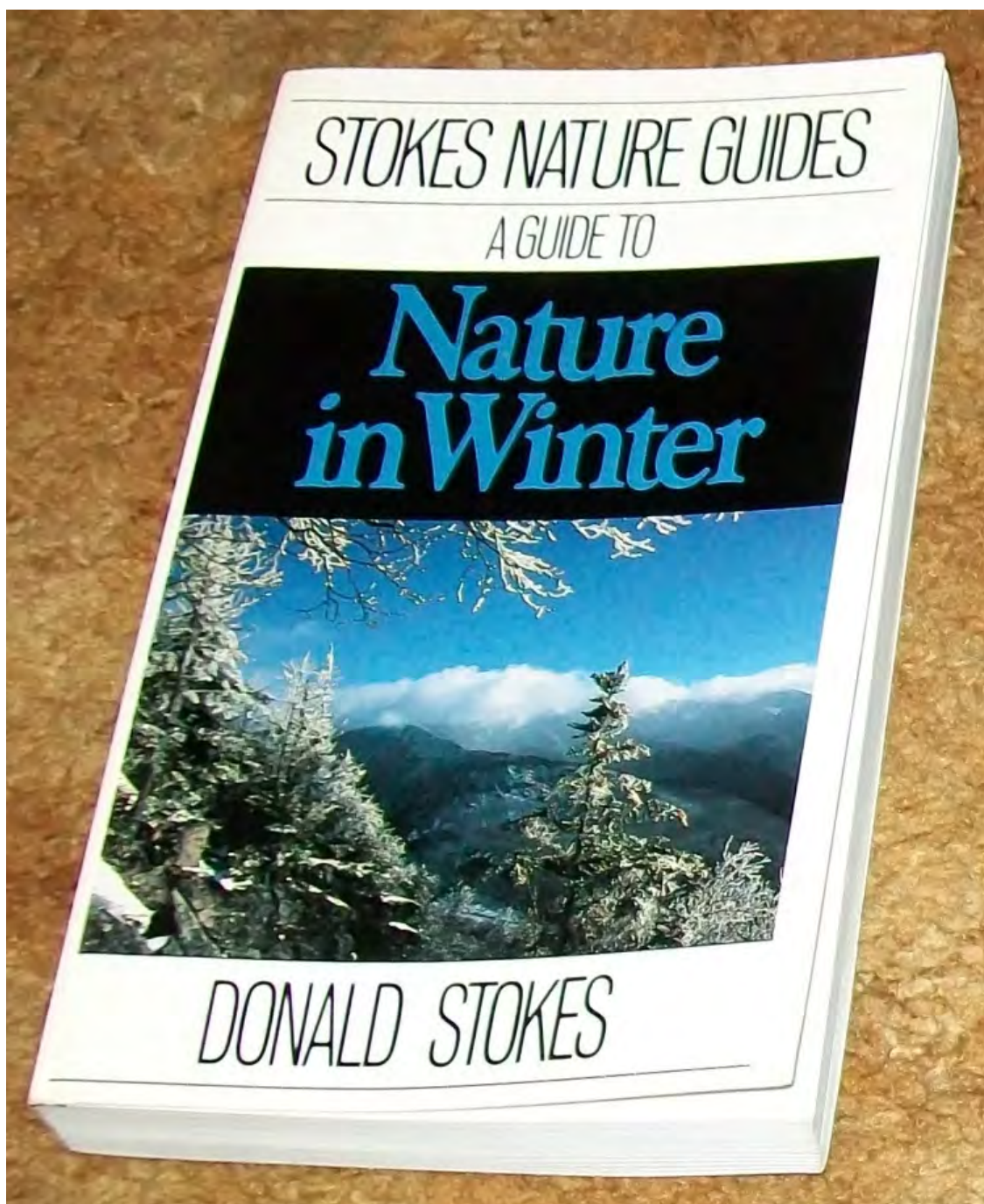


Winter Trees, Photo by Jill K. McDonald

Delving deeper into the joys of the season, textures and patterns in nature can also be enjoyed. Trees are unique in winter as the branches and overall shape stand out. Each type of tree also has a unique appearance and texture to its bark. Plants and flowers leave behind their intriguing skeletal appearance and seedpods, expanding the joy from the summer gardens.

Challenge yourself to closely observe snow crystals and continue to enjoy winter's beauty. Individual snowflake patterns can be observed as they fall on your coat. Wearing a dark colored coat or mittens makes for best viewing. Enjoy catching falling snowflakes on your tongue! Leave your own imprint in the snow from your tracks or have fun making a snow angel.

Though the winter woods may seem quiet, signs of life are everywhere. Tune yourself in to the slow, peaceful rhythm of the winter woods. Some may wait in quiet slumber for days of warmth, as spring will surely return. May you enjoy the beauty each season has to offer, if only you take the time to notice.



Stokes Winter Guide, Photo by Jill McDonald

To learn more about the winter woods, visit your local library. One great and condensed book is Stokes Nature Guides: Nature in Winter by Donald Stokes. Perhaps enjoy a visit to your local nature preserve or botanical garden as well. Enjoy all the simple delights nature has to offer!

Here are some fun checklists to perhaps cut out and hang on your refrigerator. Check the boxes as you enjoy the sights and activities throughout the beautiful season of winter. 😊

Nature all around us:

- Notice different shapes of snowflakes
- Follow some animal tracks (carefully)
- Spot a bird's nest in a tree
- Find a drey, or squirrel nest

- Ponder the unique skeletal shapes of trees with their empty branches
- Look for ice forming along the edges of a pond or creek
- Pause to appreciate the silence and peace of freshly fallen snow
- View the Geminid meteor shower, peaking mid-December
- Count all the kinds of birds you see

Fun in the great outdoors:

- Catch a snowflake on your tongue
- Make a snow angel
- Enjoy sledding or a sleigh ride
- Try ice skating or snowshoeing
- Have fun skiing or snowboarding
- Build a snowman
- Construct a snow fort
- Help a neighbor with snow removal
- Take in the Lights at Fernwood
- Examine snowflakes on black paper with a magnifying glass



Jill K. McDonald is a freelance nature & travel educator, writer, photographer, and speaker. She can be reached by email at jillmcdonaldjkm123@gmail.com or connect with her on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/naturetravelerjillmcdonald.

Upcoming Event – Southshore Concert Band Holiday Concert 2023



Celebrate the Holiday Season With Southshore Concert Band

Submitted by Jan Street, Public Relations Chairperson, Southshore Concert Band

Southshore Concert Band will be celebrating the holiday season during its performance on Sunday, December 10, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. on the Mendel Center Mainstage at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor. This concert, entitled "Christmas on the Mainstage", will feature many familiar holiday favorites in a variety of styles sure to boost your holiday spirit and bring the joy of Christmas into your heart.

The concert will open with a spirited arrangement of The Most Wonderful Time of the Year by John Moss. The band will perform Festival Espanol, a fantasia on Spanish Carols composed by Gene Milford and Mary's Boy Child, a traditional calypso melody arranged by Philip Sparke. The program will also include an Elliot Del Borgo arrangement of Pat A Pan, The Eighth Candle, a Prayer and Dance for Hanukkah by Steve Reisteter, Go Tell it on the Mountain arranged by Jay Dawson and Leroy Anderson's A Christmas Festival, a medley of festive and favorite carols.

This Southshore Concert Band performance, sponsored in part by the Frederick S. Upton Foundation and 1st Source Bank, is free to the public

Southshore Concert Band, in residence at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, is an adult community band comprised of members from Southwestern Michigan and Northern Indiana. The band, playing for its thirty-second season, is dedicated to performing "For the Joy of Music".

Event Details:

- *Who:* Southshore Concert Band
- *What:* Holiday Concert 2023 – "Christmas On The Mainstage"
- *When:* **Sunday, December 10, 2023 – 2pm**
- *Where:* Mendel Center Mainstage, Lake Michigan College
 - 1100 Yore Ave, Benton Harbor MI 49022



About The Southshore Concert Band: The Southshore Concert Band was formed in 1992 to provide an opportunity for Berrien County adults to use their musical skills formed in high school and college on a volunteer basis for personal enjoyment. The band membership has grown over the years to include members from northern Indiana as well as other southwest Michigan counties. Membership includes a broad range of professional careers- retired band teachers, current teachers, engineers, accountants, social workers, computer consultants - all playing together to share their common passion for music.

The band provides free concerts at various locations in southwest Michigan during the year. Regular concerts include Winter and Spring concerts at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center. Additional concerts such as a Halloween Concert, Veteran's Day Lest We Forget Concert, a collaborative concert with the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomie, and a Pops Concert add wide variety to our seasons. A "Big Band" was also created from members of the Southshore Concert Band to showcase sounds from a great musical time period. Annual summer concerts are played in local community parks and band shells.

The Southshore Concert Band was founded and is conducted by Dale Reuss. The band has a membership of approximately 75 adults. Rehearsals are at Lake Michigan College every Thursday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. during the regular season (except holidays). We welcome new members! If you are interested in joining, please email Dale Reuss at southshoreconcertband@gmail.com. A brief audition will be required.

The organization achieved 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation status in February, 1999. The band relies on member's dues, grants and public donations to fund its activities. The organization receives no public funds.

Contact: Dale Reuss, Director

www.southshoreconcertband.com

southshoreconcertband@gmail.com

Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

P.O. Box 939

Bridgman, MI 49106

USA

Upcoming Event – Community Christmas Concert 2023



Community Christmas Concert 2023

Shared by Buchanan Area Ministerial Association

Join us for our annual Community Christmas Concert! We will follow our tradition of singing a couple verses of Advent or Christmas carols and hymns between each vocal number and of a Scripture reading before the song.

Event Details:

- *Who:* Buchanan Area Ministerial Association
- *What:* Community Christmas Concert 2023
- *When:* **Sunday, December 3, 2023 – 6:30pm**
- *Where:* Buchanan Christian Church, 112 W 3rd St, Buchanan MI



About Buchanan Area Ministerial Association: This group is made of different churches in Buchanan. Their page is a great way to stay up to date on different events BAMA is hosting, but more importantly it is a great way to see how God is moving in Buchanan.

BAMA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BAMACHurches/>
269-325-1227
[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)
[USA](#)

Upcoming Event – A Not-So-Silent Night at the Library 2023

The poster for "A Not-So-Silent Night at the Library 2023" has a dark blue background with a festive green and white floral border. At the top left is the Buchanan District Library logo. The main text reads: "The Buchanan District Library Board of Trustees warmly invites you to a not-so-silent NIGHT at the Library!". "a not-so-silent" is in red, "NIGHT" is in large white letters with a red outline, and "at the Library!" is in red. To the left, it says "ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE" with a small library logo. Below that, "Tickets available at the library and at buchananlibrary.org". To the right, "Tickets \$25" is displayed. Below the main title, it says "FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM REDBUD RAMBLERS". The date and time are "SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH 6 To 8 PM". To the right, "AT THE LIBRARY" is written, followed by "Adults 21 and over welcome" and "125 E. Front St Buchanan, MI". At the bottom right, "ENJOY" is written, followed by "Hors d'oeuvres, Drinks, & Silent Auction". At the bottom center, it says "Join us to celebrate the season and support the library!". The poster also features illustrations of a guitar and a violin.

A Not-So-Silent Night at Buchanan District Library 2023

Shared by Buchanan District Library

Our popular holiday event returns for another year! Combining the best of live and virtual events, this fundraiser features a week-long online silent auction that will end at our festive holiday party on December 9. This year's live music will be provided by Buchanan's own Redbud Ramblers! Don't miss this opportunity to dress in your holiday best and celebrate the season, all while supporting the Buchanan District Library.

Tickets can be purchased in the library or on our website.

<https://www.buchananlibrary.org/suppo.../not-so-silent-night>

Anyone can participate in the online silent auction, even if you are not able to attend the event. The silent auction starts on December 1 and ends on December 9.

This year's event features LIVE music from Buchanan's own Redbud Ramblers!

<https://www.facebook.com/RedbudRamblers>



A Not-So-Silent Night at the Library 2023 graphic

Event Details:

- *Who:* Buchanan District Library
- *What:* [A Not-So-Silent Night at Buchanan District Library 2023](#)
- *When:* **Saturday, December 9, 2023 : 6-8pm**
- *Where:* Buchanan District Library, 128 E Front St, Buchanan MI
- *Details:* Enjoy hors d' oeuvres, drinks, a silent auction, and live music from Redbud Ramblers. Adults 21+ are welcome. All proceeds benefit Buchanan District Library. Celebrate the season and support the library!



About Buchanan District Library: Our mission is to provide quality material, superior programming and exceptional services delivered with care and integrity to meet the needs of our diverse community.

Contact: Meg Paulette, Director

www.buchananlibrary.org

m.paulette@buchananlibrary.com

[269.695.3681](tel:269.695.3681)

[128 E Front St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Press Release – SAM Winter Recital



School of American Music Winter Recital, Presented at The Acorn for the First Time

Submitted by Donna Mitchell, School of American Music Executive Director

The School of American Music's Winter Recital, featuring intermediate to advanced student and instructor solo and duet performances, will be held at The Acorn, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks, Mich., for the first time, on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Eastern. The recital is free admission and is an excellent way for the community and region to sample what the School of American Music, of Three Oaks, has to offer.

Tom Flint, the School of American Music (SAM) President, announced "The School of American Music and The Acorn have formed a partnership, which will include some programming at The Acorn throughout the year for recitals and fundraising events." Donna Mitchell, SAM Executive Director, said "The SAM Board of Directors, instructors, and students and their families are very excited about this new partnership. They look forward to the many possibilities the partnership will bring."



About School of American Music: The School of American Music was founded by D. Garth Taylor to serve as a music resource in Michiana. Currently serving as President of SAM, Taylor has been joined over the years by Executive Director, Donna M. Mitchell and a full Board of Directors. Their mission is to provide education, performance, and audience opportunities in music and the related arts in the Southwest Michigan area. The School of American Music, located in Three Oaks, Michigan, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The school provides education, performance, and audience opportunities in music and the related arts in the Southwest Michigan area.

www.schoolofamericanmusic.com

schoolofamericanmusic@gmail.com

[269-409-1191](tel:269-409-1191)

[3 N Elm St](#)

[Three Oaks, MI 49128](#)

[USA](#)

Press Release – SBRs Holds Final Event of 2023



South Bend Record Show Holds Final 2023 Event on Dec. 3

Submitted by Jeremy D. Bonfiglio, Event Organizer

South Bend, IN ~ November 21, 2023

The highly anticipated South Bend Record Show, one of the Midwest's largest vinyl and music events, is back for its final installment of the 2023 season. This musical extravaganza takes place on Sunday, Dec. 3, at The Gillespie Conference Center, within the Hilton Garden Inn at 53995 IN 933, just north of the St. Mary's College campus.

If you've never attended a record show but enjoy the experience of visiting record stores – sifting through bins, examining records, and engaging in music discussions – then the South Bend Record Show is a can't-miss event.



South Bend Record Show, Photo provided by South Bend Record Show

“One of the things that makes our December show so special is that we see people shopping for the music fan in their life,” said South Bend resident Jeremy D. Bonfiglio, the event organizer. “There are some pretty amazing gifts just waiting to go under the tree, and unlike Santa, we believe everyone deserves the gift of music, even if you’ve been a little naughty this year.”

Key Highlights:

- More than 40 vendors from Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana will occupy 94 tables, showcasing various music items. Explore pre-loved LPs, new vinyl releases, 45s, CDs, cassettes, posters, vintage stereo gear, T-shirts, record supplies, and more.
- All music genres are represented, strongly emphasizing classic rock, modern pop, metal, punk, garage, jazz, blues, R&B, and country.
- General admission begins at 11 a.m. and costs \$2. Early entry is 9 a.m. for \$7. Door prize drawings will be held at noon, 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m., offering attendees the chance to win shopping certificates and record products from BCW Supplies, the event’s sponsor, based in Middletown, Indiana.
- Attendees are encouraged to bring cash, the preferred form of payment by all vendors. Select dealers also accept credit and debit cards, PayPal, Zelle, and Venmo.



South Bend Record Show, Photo provided by South Bend Record Show

Mark your calendars: The South Bend Record Show is a bi-monthly event, with the first show of 2024 scheduled for Feb. 4 at the exact location.

For more information, visit SouthBendRecordShow.com or follow them on [Facebook](https://Facebook.com/southbendrecordshow). You can also contact Jeremy Bonfiglio at 574-261-3650 or via email at jeremybonfiglio@att.net.

Discover the thrill of vinyl and immerse yourself in music at the South Bend Record Show!

Event Info:

- *What:* [South Bend Record Show](https://SouthBendRecordShow.com)
- *When:* **Sunday, December 3, 2023 from 9am-5pm**
- *Where:* The Gillespie Conference Center at Hilton Garden Inn
 - 53995 IN 933, South Bend, IN
- *Details:* southbendrecordshow.com, facebook.com/southbendrecordshow



About South Bend Record Show: The South Bend Record Show is the largest one-day sale of recorded music in Northern Indiana. There are more than 85 tables filled with an ever-changing mix of tens of thousands of used and new music – LPs, 45s, CDs, cassettes – as well as DVDs, memorabilia, posters, vintage stereo gear, and storage supplies. You can find \$2 bargains to high-end collectibles. Multiple genres are represented, but the show is heaviest on classic rock, pop, metal, punk, prog rock, and '80s. Select vendors carry blues, jazz, R&B, soul, country, and more.

southbendrecordshow.com

facebook.com/southbendrecordshow

jeremybonfiglio@att.net

[574-261-3650](tel:574-261-3650)

Press Release – HCU Announces Teacher Award Winners 2023



Honor Credit Union Announce Annual Teacher Award Winners 2023

Submitted by Kayla Smith, HCU Brand Coordinator

Berrien Springs, MI ~ November 27, 2023

Honor Credit Union is excited to announce the winners of its Annual Teacher Awards. For over 10 years, Honor Credit Union has supported educators in its communities through its Annual Teacher Awards, athletic programs, and an abundance of community partnerships throughout the years.

This year, Honor increased the value of its teacher awards to \$500 per winner, increasing the total amount awarded to teachers to \$15,000. Submission totals were just under 1,000 entries from teachers across 28 member center communities.

To apply, teachers submitted a short essay explaining how they would use the money to better their students' education. After a blind selection, Honor team members chose winners and congratulated them on being the 2023 recipients.

Recipients chose from their choice between a \$500 Amazon digital gift card or check made payable to their school to be used in their classroom or school.

The 2023 Honor Credit Union Annual Teacher Award winners are:

Battle Creek / Coldwater Area

- Battle Creek Academy – Sean Kellogg
- Battle Creek Public Schools – Tammy Westbrook
- Jonesville Community Schools – Sophia Broesamle
- Lakeview School District – Kirsten Richards

Buchanan / Niles/ Berrien Springs Area

- Berrien RESA – Sarah Klee
- Buchanan Community Schools – Jennifer Lentz

Coloma / Hartford / South Haven Area

- Bloomingdale Public Schools – Mariann Dowd
- Coloma Public Schools – Julie Jerue
- Grace Christian School – Doris Jones

Greater Grand Rapids Area

- Allendale Public Schools – Brittany Pearson
- Grand Rapids Public Schools – Selin Turan
- Jenison Public Schools – Julie Van Dyken

St. Joseph / Benton Harbor Area

- Countryside Academy – Kirsten Johnson
- Saint Joseph Public Schools – Christine Crandle
- Saint Joseph Public Schools – Melissa Fritz

Greater Kalamazoo Area

- Allegan Public Schools – Becky Calvert
- Comstock/KRESA Head Start – Coryn Pontius

Decatur / Dowagiac / Paw Paw Area

- Decatur Public Schools – Beth Newell
- Otsego Public Schools – Madison Kinnane
- Paw Paw Community Schools – Amy Gronda
- Portage Public Schools – Ryan Johnson
- Vicksburg Community Schools – Amy Mclichey

Baroda / Stevensville Area

- Lakeshore Public Schools – Lori Kuntz
- Dowagiac Union Schools – McKenzie Collins

Gwinn / Marquette / Negaunee Area

- Marquette Area Public Schools – Jennifer Prus
- NICE Community Schools – Christina E King
- Negaunee Public Schools – Jacob Schmeltzer
- North Star Montessori Academy – Autumn Bates
- Wells Township School District – Hope Bruce



Teacher Awards 2023, Graphic provided by HCU



About Honor Credit Union: Honor Credit Union is a non-profit, full-service financial institution serving

over 110,000 members in 28 member center communities throughout western and northern Michigan. Providing solutions for financial success and giving back to the communities we serve remain the driving forces behind Honor Credit Union.

For more information, call 800.442.2800, or visit www.honorcu.com.

Press Release – Cornerstone Alliance Announces Director Promotion



Cornerstone Alliance Announces Promotion of Zach Vaughn to Director of Business Growth

Submitted by Chris Frank, Cornerstone Alliance Media Contact

Benton Harbor, MI ~ November 21, 2023

Cornerstone Alliance, the lead economic development organization in Berrien County, is proud to announce the promotion of Zach Vaughn to the position of Director of Business Growth. In his new role, Vaughn will be responsible for spearheading strategic initiatives aimed at expanding and retaining businesses in the Berrien County region.

Zach Vaughn, a Benton Harbor native, joined Cornerstone Alliance in August 2019 as the Project Manager of Physical and Business Development. A distinguished graduate of the University of Michigan, Vaughn has been an integral part of the organization, demonstrating exceptional leadership and dedication to the economic development of the region.



Zach Vaughn, Cornerstone Alliance Director of Business Growth; Photo from Cornerstone Alliance website

“We are thrilled to announce Zach Vaughn’s promotion to Director of Business Growth,” said Rob Cleveland, President and CEO of Cornerstone Alliance. “Zach has earned this promotion by consistently showing a deep commitment to our community and has played a crucial role in driving economic development initiatives. We are confident that his strategic vision and leadership will greatly contribute to the continued growth and success of businesses in Berrien County.”

In his most recent role as Director of Community Improvement, Vaughn successfully managed key projects, fostering positive relationships with local businesses and stakeholders. His promotion to Director of Business Growth reflects his proven track record and the trust placed in him by the Cornerstone Alliance leadership.

As Director of Business Growth, Zach Vaughn will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies

to attract new businesses to the area, as well as retaining and supporting the growth of existing businesses. His role will play a vital part in shaping the economic landscape of Berrien County and ensuring its long-term prosperity.

"I am honored and excited to take on this new role at Cornerstone Alliance," said Zach Vaughn. "Berrien County is my home, and I am passionate about contributing to its economic development. I look forward to working closely with our team, partners, and the business community to create opportunities for growth and success."

Cornerstone Alliance is confident that Zach Vaughn's leadership will further strengthen the organization's commitment to fostering a thriving business environment in Berrien County. His promotion was effective November 1, 2023.



About Cornerstone Alliance: Cornerstone Alliance is a non-profit, investor-governed economic development organization primarily focused on increasing employment opportunities, private sector capital investments and the local tax base in Michigan's Great Southwest with specialized business services offered in economically distressed areas.

cstonealliance.org

cfrank@cstonealliance.org

[269-925-6100](tel:269-925-6100)

[80 W Main St](#)

[Benton Harbor, MI 49022](#)

[USA](#)

Press Release – Lighthouse Chorus Hunger Fundraiser Conclusion



Lighthouse Chorus Raises Thousands for Area Food Banks

Submitted by Brenda Ropp, Lighthouse Chorus

Niles, MI – November 26, 2023

The Lighthouse Chorus, a local men's a cappella chorus committed to making a positive impact on local communities, proudly announces the successful conclusion of its recent fall fundraiser in support of local food banks. Through a blend of musical talent and community spirit, the Chorus raised thousands of dollars, contributing significantly to the fight against hunger in our area.

In a year marked by challenges and uncertainties, the Lighthouse Chorus used the power of music to bring hope and relief to those in need. The fundraising initiative, aptly named United in Harmony, inspired businesses and individuals alike to join hands and hearts in supporting a common cause.



Bill Ropp, Treasurer of the Lighthouse Chorus, presents a check to Jan Nowak-Walters of Redbud Area Ministries in Buchanan. The donation was made possible by the incredible support shown at the recent Chorus Food Bank fundraiser.

Photo and caption provided by Lighthouse Chorus

"We are thrilled to announce that our communities have rallied together, and through the incredible generosity and support of our sponsors, advertisers and donors, we have raised over \$8,000 for local food banks," exclaimed Gene Hanor, Director of the Lighthouse Chorus. "This achievement is a testament to the power of music to unite us and make a positive difference in the lives of those facing food insecurity." The funds raised will be donated to food banks in Niles, Berrien Springs, Buchanan, Edwardsburg, Benton Harbor and Coloma, organizations that play a vital role in alleviating hunger in our area.

Based in Niles, the Lighthouse Chorus sings four-part harmony, primarily in the barbershop style of music. Using contemporary arrangements, the Chorus performs a variety of music, including jazz, rock, patriotic, spirituals and ballads. They perform throughout southwest Michigan and northwest Indiana and often give back to their communities by holding fundraisers for local non-profit organizations.



About Lighthouse Chorus: The Lighthouse Chorus is a great group of men who gather together in celebration of the art form known as barbershop music. We are a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Our director is the talented Brother Giles Hanover, who inspires us to reach new heights with each performance. We can be heard throughout the year, singing for civic and charitable organizations, private groups, churches, community events, and fundraisers. We love to entertain by putting on our own musical events each year for the community, our friends and families. We hold an Annual Foodbank Fundraiser in the Fall. We also send "singing telegrams" for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, birthdays or other special occasions. Also, in an effort to stay committed to singing and performing at the highest level possible, we compete in regional contests. Please contact us to sing at your next special event!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lighthousechorus

Website: www.lighthousechorus.org

lighthousechorus@lighthousechorus.org

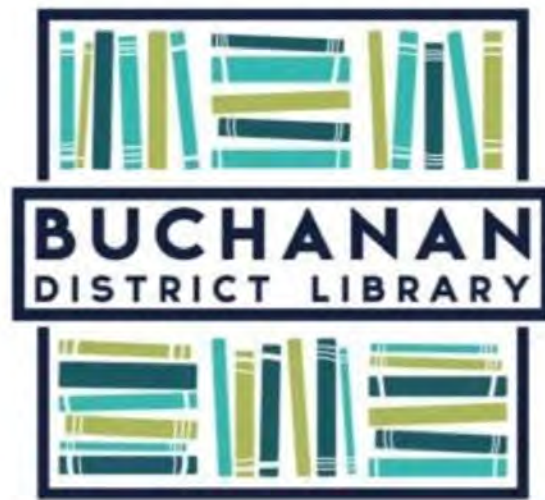
[269.471.4559](tel:269.471.4559)

[Berrien County, MI](#)

[USA](#)

Buchanan District Library – December 2023

This Month at



December at Buchanan District Library

Shared with permission from Buchanan District Library monthly newsletter



"Books may well be the only true magic."

Alice Hoffman, author of Practical Magic

Save the Date! Saturday, December 9, 2023 A Not-So-Silent Night at the Library!

The holiday season is nearly here, and that means it's almost time for a Not-so-Silent Night at the Library! Combining the best of live and virtual events, this fundraiser features a week-long online silent auction that will end at our festive holiday party on December 9. This year's live music will be provided by Buchanan's own Redbud Ramblers! Don't miss this opportunity to dress in your holiday best and celebrate the season, all while supporting the Buchanan District Library. All proceeds from this event support books, programs, services, and more at YOUR library!

We are also seeking sponsors and silent auction donations for this important library fundraiser. Sponsorships include personalized advertising, tickets to the event, and more! Learn more on our website and contact Meg if you or your business is interested in supporting our Not-so-Silent Night!

[Click here to learn more](#)



ADULT PROGRAMS:

BUCHANAN BOOK CLUB 2023

Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7,
Jul 5, Aug 2, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6

Come join our book discussion! The Buchanan Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month from 6:00–7:00pm at the library. Please email laura.hauch@buchananlibrary.com if you'd like to join the club/ contact list.

Don't have the book and the library's copy is checked out? We can get it for you through MeLCat interlibrary loan! Go to www.mel.org or ask at the Front Desk to request it.



Alcohol Ink Wine Glass

Thursday, December 14 & Friday, December 15
11am & 5:30pm each day

Create a unique wine glass crafted by you! All materials are provided. Space is limited and sign up is required. Call 269.695.3681. Due to the popularity of craft classes, the sign up for this class will not be available until December 1.



Puzzle Club for Adults

Friday, December 29 at 5:30pm

Get your puzzle on with other puzzle enthusiasts!



PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & TEENS:**PRESCHOOL STORYTIME**

Wednesdays at 11:00am
September 6–December 20

Join us for Preschool Storytime with Ms. Julie. Come sing, dance, and hear stories! Recommended for ages 2–6 but families with children of all ages are welcome.

**TEEN SCENE**

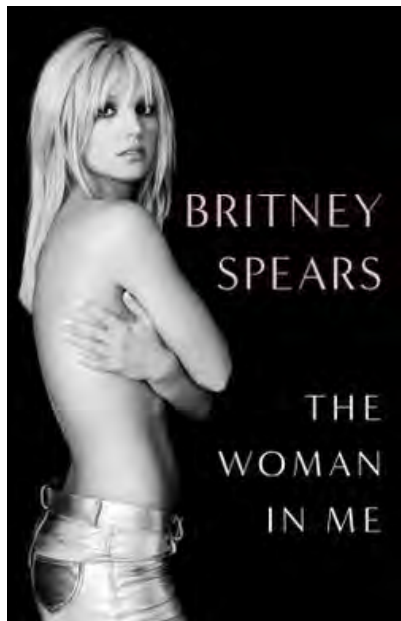
Wednesdays at 2:30pm
September 13–December 20

Come hang out with Ms. Jen and fellow teens at the library. Play games, do crafts, and just chillax!

**TIME CHANGE! Grinch Storytime**

Saturday, December 16 at 2:00pm

Due to the Grinch's very busy schedule of mischief and mayhem during the holiday season, Grinch Storytime has been moved to 2pm. Join us for this special storytime to hear *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss and visit with the Grinch himself!

WHAT WE'RE READING:**KAREN IS READING...**

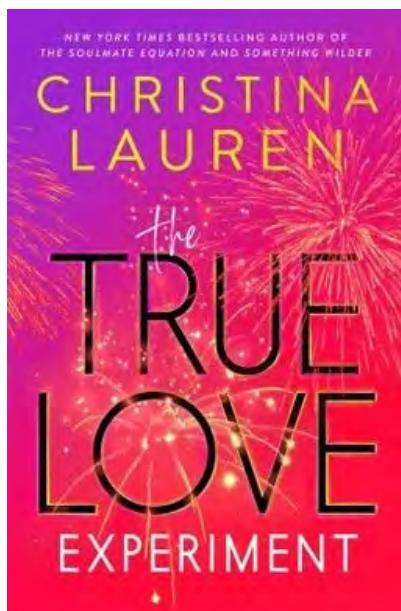
THE WOMAN IN ME
BRITNEY SPEARS

"In Britney Spears's memoir, she's stronger than ever." —
The New York Times

The Woman in Me is a brave and astonishingly moving story about freedom, fame, motherhood, survival, faith, and hope.

In June 2021, the whole world was listening as Britney Spears spoke in open court. The impact of sharing her voice—her truth—was undeniable, and it changed the course of her life and the lives of countless others. The Woman in Me reveals for the first time her incredible journey—and the strength at the core of one of the greatest performers in pop music history.

Written with remarkable candor and humor, Spears's groundbreaking book illuminates the enduring power of music and love—and the importance of a woman telling her own story, on her own terms, at last.

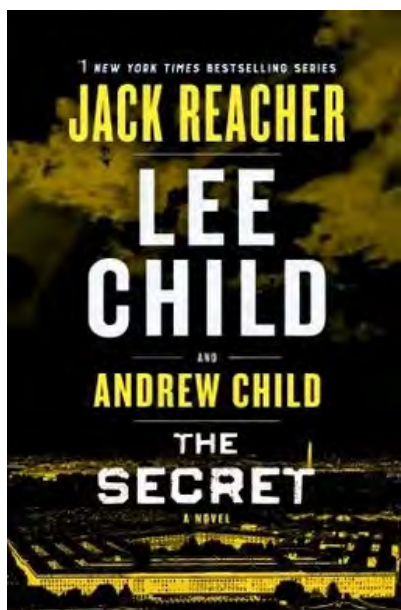


ERIN IS READING...

THE TRUE LOVE EXPERIMENT
CHRISTINA LAUREN

Felicity “Fizzy” Chen is lost. Sure, she’s got an incredible career as a beloved romance novelist with a slew of bestsellers under her belt, but when she’s asked to give a commencement address, it hits her: she hasn’t been practicing what she’s preached. Fizzy hasn’t ever really been in love. Lust? Definitely. But that swoon-worthy, can’t-stop-thinking-about-him, all-encompassing feeling? Nope. Nothing. What happens when the optimism she’s spent her career encouraging in readers starts to feel like a lie?

Connor Prince, documentary filmmaker and single father, loves his work but when his profit-minded boss orders him to create a reality TV show, putting his job on the line, Connor is out of his element. Desperate to find his romantic lead, a chance run-in with an exasperated Fizzy offers Connor the perfect solution. What if he could show the queen of romance herself falling head-over-heels for all the world to see?



THELMA IS READING...

THE SECRET
LEE CHILDS

A string of mysterious deaths. A long-classified mission. A young MP with nothing to lose.

1992. All across the United States respectable, upstanding citizens are showing up dead. These deaths could be accidents, and they don’t appear to be connected—until a fatal fall from a high-floor window attracts some unexpected attention.

That attention comes from the secretary of defense. All of a sudden he wants an interagency task force to investigate. And he wants Jack Reacher as the army’s representative. If Reacher gets a result, great. If not, he’s a convenient fall guy.

But office politics isn’t Reacher’s thing. Three questions quickly emerge: Who’s with him, who’s against him, and will the justice he dispenses be the official kind . . . or his own kind?

LIBRARY OF THINGS FEATURED ITEM:



RIVER OF LIFE YOGA CLASS PASS

Check out a pass to River of Life Yoga, located at 113 Main Street in Buchanan. This pass is good for one studio drop-in class for one adult. It is valid for any regularly priced and scheduled weekly class. Not valid for workshops, events, or specialty classes. Visit riveroflifeyoga.com to view class schedule and register for a class. You must have the pass from the library checked out before you register for a class. Passes are available to adult Buchanan District Library cardholders only. Passes are able to be reserved for a specific date through your account in the library catalog.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to become an LoT patron at the Buchanan District Library!

ARE WE MISSING SOMETHING??

Did you know you can request materials for the library to purchase? To make a request, log into [your LIBRARY ACCOUNT](#) (in the upper right-hand corner, use your library card number and 10-digit phone number), click on the Reserves/Requests tab, and click the request link.



THE DEWEY DECIBEL SYSTEM

WE STARTED A PODCAST!

The Dewey Decibel System is the official podcast of the Buchanan District Library. Each episode Meg, Karen, and Grant will discuss books, movies, music, video games and more...basically anything that can be checked out with a library card! A special guest from the community will be part of each conversation. Check out our first episode on [Spotify](#) or [YouTube](#), or right on the [library's website](#).



2024 Remembering Buchanan Calendars are here!

Calendars are \$20 each and are a wonderful way to enjoy Buchanan history throughout the year. And they make wonderful gifts! Purchase yours in the library while supplies last.

HOOPLA

Have you tried hoopla yet? Check it out!

What is hoopla?

Hoopla Digital is a service that provides online and mobile access to eBooks, audiobooks, comics, music, movies, and TV. The hoopla digital collection includes popular entertainment and educational content, such as hit TV series, newly released music, bestselling audiobooks and eBooks, and much more. With hoopla and a valid library card, you can instantly borrow, stream, and download dynamic content for free!



Unlike Libby (don't worry, Libby is still available too!), hoopla is a cost-per-circulation service, which means that the library pays for each item checked out so you can have it instantly—no waiting or reserve lists! Checkouts are limited to 5 per month, so choose your items wisely! Checkout limit resets on the first of each month.

How do I sign up?

Download the hoopla app on your mobile device or [go here](#) to get started. Search for Buchanan or enable your location and choose Buchanan District Library. Log in with your 14 digit library card number with no spaces. Your pin is your 10 digit phone number. You will need to set up an account with an email address and password. After signing up, you will log in with your email and the password you created.

[Click here to learn more about using hoopla](#)



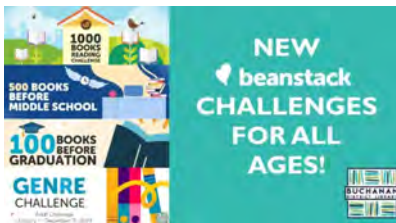
NEW! Join the Reading Dragons challenge!

Kids 5–17, join our new Reading Dragons challenge on [Beanstack](#) and earn your own magical menagerie! Earn a new set of creature cards each week from September 1 through April 30. Register for the challenge and learn more details in the Beanstack Tracker app or on our [Beanstack site](#).

New Beanstack Challenges!

The library has made new on-going challenges for kids and teens and a seasonal challenge for adults on our Beanstack site to encourage everyone to be a life-long reader!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten: This challenge promotes early literacy skills for children from birth to age six and encourages parent and child bonding through reading. Reading helps build social and emotional skills, sparks creativity and imagination, and helps kids do well overall in school. It doesn't matter if your child is three, or just three months – there's no better time to start than now! Take that motivation, open one book, and get started. And remember, 1000 is just a number. The goal is to work reading aloud into your regular routine, and let the magic of stories do the rest. This is an ongoing challenge with no end date, and readers can participate in this challenge at the same time as other challenges. Parents, don't forget to pick up your welcome packet at the library.



500 Books Before Middle School: Kids ages 5-11, are you up to the challenge? Read 500 books before middle school! Log your reading to earn badges along the way. Every 100 books you read earns you a pin-on button! This is an ongoing challenge with no end date, and readers can participate in this challenge at the same time as other challenges.

100 Books Before Graduation: Teens and pre-teens ages 11-19, read 100 books before graduating, log your reading in Beanstack, and earn a new set of badges, as well as a pin-on button at 50 and 100 books! This is an ongoing challenge with no end date, and readers can participate in this challenge at the same time as other challenges.

Genre Challenge 2023: Challenge yourself to read beyond what you can imagine and explore new genres! This challenge runs from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, and readers can participate in this challenge at the same time as other challenges.

[CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT THE NEW CHALLENGES!](#)
or find the challenges in the [BEANSTACK app!](#)



Community Cookbook

Did you know we're working on a Community Cookbook? Your recipe may be printed off and shared around the library, and when we collect enough recipes, we'd like to create a printed book. If you want to submit a recipe, use the form on our website!

[Click here to submit a recipe!](#)



The myLIBRO app is now available at BDL!

- Search and browse the library's catalog from your mobile device
- Access your library account to view, renew, and reserve items
- Checkout and read/listen to eBooks and audiobooks
- Connect to Amazon's Alexa

Questions? Visit our website, stop by the library, or give us a call at 269.695.3681.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

The library is always closed Sundays & Mondays.

HOLIDAY HOURS :
CLOSED Tuesday, 12/26
Happy Holidays!

Thank you for being part of the Buchanan District Library!



About Buchanan District Library: Our mission is to provide quality material, superior programming and exceptional services delivered with care and integrity to meet the needs of our diverse community.

Contact: Meg Paulette, Director

www.buchananlibrary.org

m.paulette@buchananlibrary.com

[269.695.3681](tel:269.695.3681)

[128 E Front St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Buchanan Area Senior Center – December 2023

This Month at



A Few of December's Events at Buchanan Area Senior Center

Submitted by Diana Smuda, BASC Program Coordinator

- **Join us for Coffee Chat on Wednesday, December 6, at 9:00 am**
 - Get to know Kim Pruitt, Executive Director of RRAC. Learn more about the past year dedications, changes, and what is happening at the Roti Roti Art Center of Buchanan.
- **Singing and Celebrating the Holiday Season Together!**
 - We invite you to join us at the BASC for our first annual Holiday Sing, an enchanting musical journey, where you'll unlock the true potential of your singing voice in a joyful and supportive environment. Dr. Greta Pope, a seasoned entertainer and accomplished instructor with years of experience, will be your mentor on this musical adventure. Embrace the festive spirit as Dr. Greta Pope provides you with expert guidance, fostering your vocal skills while encouraging collaboration with your fellow participants. As you immerse yourself in the world of song, you'll not only develop your musical talents but also create lasting memories and treasured connections with others who share your passion. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to elevate your singing abilities and celebrate the holidays through the power of music. Holiday Sing Class Dates: December 5 & 6, 1:00–2:00 and December 7, 1:00–3:00 pm Reserve your spot by calling the BASC at 695-7119. Please plan on attending all three dates and the Holiday Sing Concert on December 7 at 6:00 pm.
- **HOLIDAY SING CONCERT AT THE BASC**
 - We are especially looking forward to the upcoming Holiday Sing event at the Buchanan Senior Center on Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 pm. Join BASC patrons and Dr. Greta Pope as they spread the joy of music to our community. The Holiday Sing Concert is an opportunity to connect with fellow music enthusiasts and share the magic of the season through song. Call the BASC at 695-7119 to reserve your seat for the Holiday Sing Concert on December 7 at 6:00 pm.
- **City of Buchanan Police Officer Briann (Brie) Schmitz**
 - will be at the BASC to give a safety talk on new fraud complaints, how to keep safe from frauds, and personal safety in and outside your home! Information About Frauds & Personal Safety Tuesday, December 19, at 2:00

pm. Scammers are always finding new ways to take advantage of others, be sure sign up for the class to help protect yourself. Bring a friend! Call 695-7119 to register.

- **Join us on December 13, 12:00-1:00 pm for a discussion on Pain Management.**

- Registration is Required. Call 695-7119 to reserve your seat. Please bring any pills that you are no longer using in a zip lock bag and we will dispose of them for you. Discussion will include the importance of safely managing and storing medications, along with alternatives to pain management beyond prescription medications. You'll also learn about safe disposal options for expired or unwanted medications and you will leave with an at-home kit for safe disposal! Discussion will include lunch & refreshments for all who join. Participants will also be entered into a gift card raffle! Discussion will be led by Kerri Teachout, Certified Prevention Consultant with the Region IV Area Agency on Aging.

Thank you for supporting the Buchanan Area Senior Center!

Read the full BASC Newsletter for December 2023 [HERE](#).

Buchanan Area Senior Center—December 2023 Calendar				
Fitness / Health / Cards & Games / Educational & Informative & Special Programs / Other Programs				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BASC Holiday Bazaar Saturday, December 2 9:00 am—2:00 pm At the BASC	Play at the Tin Shop "Game Show" Sunday, December 10 4:00 pm See page 4 for more information	Holiday Sing December 5, 6, & 7 at 1:00 pm Holiday Sing Concert December 7 at 6:00 pm	Holiday Lunch at Carrabba's Friday, December 15 11:30 am See page 4 for more information	¹ 9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Fitness with Lizz 1:00 Fiber Friends
⁴ 10:00 Chair Fitness with Linda 10:00 Skip-Bo 11:00 Dancing to the Oldies with CeCe 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise	⁵ 9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 1:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing—Pillow 1:00 Holiday Sing 5:30 Powerbeats with Missy	⁶ 9:00 Coffee Chat 9:00 Fasting Blood Sugar Testing 10:15 Chair Fitness with CeCe 1:00 Holiday Sing 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle 6:00 Euchre	⁷ 11:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Holiday Sing 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day 3:00 Board Meeting 6:00 Holiday Sing Concert	⁸ 9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Fitness with Lizz 1:00 Fiber Friends 1:00 Movie Matinee: A Boy Called Christmas
¹¹ 10:00 Chair Fitness with Linda 10:00 Skip-Bo 11:00 Dancing to the Oldies with CeCe 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise	¹² 9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 2:00 Hearing Aid Check 1:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing—Pillow 5:30 Powerbeats with Missy	¹³ 10:15 Chair Fitness with CeCe 12:00 Pain Management 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle 6:00 Euchre	¹⁴ 10:00—10:30 Blood Pressure Check 10:30 Fireside Chats 9:00 Foot Clinic 11:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 pm Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day 1:00 Monthly CSFP Commodities	¹⁵ 9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Fitness with Lizz 11:30 Holiday Lunch at Carrabba's 1:00 Fiber Friends
¹⁸ 10:00 Chair Fitness with Linda 10:00 Skip-Bo 11:00 Dancing to the Oldies with CeCe 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 2nd Pick-Up Monthly CSFP Commodities 2:00 Qigong Exercise	¹⁹ 9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 1:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing—Pillow 2:00 Information About Frauds & Personal Safety 5:30 Powerbeats with Missy	²⁰ 10:15 Chair Fitness with CeCe 12:30 Root Beer Floats 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle 6:00 Euchre	²¹ 9:30 Eyeglass Repair 10:30 Book Club 12:00 Holiday Party 	²² 9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Fitness with Lizz 11:30 Lunch Bunch 1:00 Fiber Friends 1:00 Movie Matinee: Jingle Jangle
²⁵ 	²⁶  The BASC is closed on December 25 & 26, as well as on January 1.	²⁷ 10:15 Chair Fitness with CeCe 1:00 Birthday Bingo 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle 6:00 Euchre	²⁸ 10:00—10:30 Blood Pressure Check 10:30 Fireside Chats 11:00 Chair Yoga 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day	²⁹ 1:00 New Year Party 1:00 Ice Cream Social 



About Buchanan Area Senior Center: Buchanan Area Senior Center provides a complete facility, a friendly and efficient staff, and active volunteers that enhance the quality of life of seniors in our community. We offer programs and services designed to promote physical, social, and mental well-being, including exercise, recreation, and crafts, as well as Senior Nutrition Services, food commodities, and a Senior Community Garden.

diana@thebasc.org, Diana Smuda – Program Coordinator

adam@thebasc.org, Adam Burck – Executive Director

[269-695-7119](tel:269-695-7119) (phone).

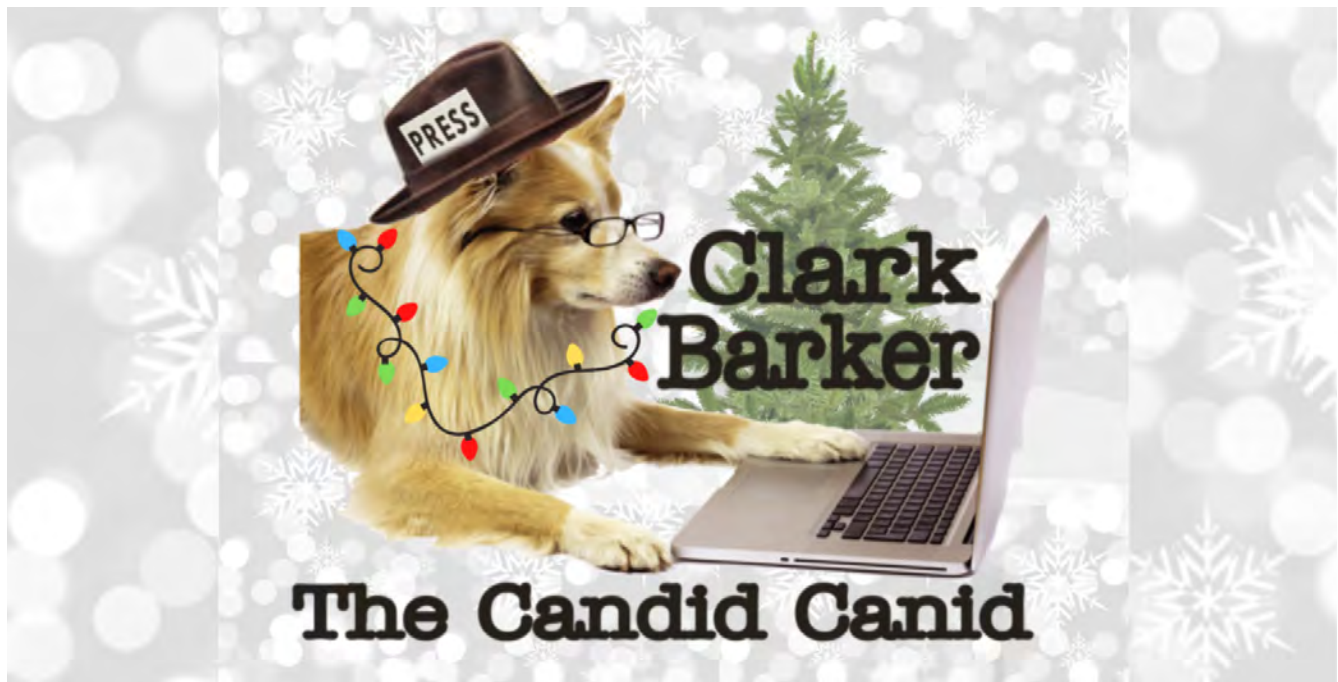
[269-695-2901](tel:269-695-2901) (fax).

[810 Ryneerson St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

The Clark Barker – Issue 65



Paws on the Ice and Snow

Well folks, the colder weather has arrived and the snow has been coming. My owner tells me that you can receive a citation if your sidewalk isn't clear of snow and ice in the city limits of Buchanan. While I do like snow, my paws can only handle it so much that my owners have to put on these doggie snow boots on my feet. They're okay, but I really wish that I didn't have to wear them, but with the colder temperatures, my paws don't tolerate it well.

The city ordinance says that 24 hours after a snow event comes through, that sidewalks must be clear of snow/ice. It sure is nice for my human to walk on a clear sidewalk (even though I like to smell everyone's foot/paw prints), as well as the kids and parents going to and from school, the mail/delivery people who bring us our mail and precious packages.

So spread some extra kindness this season and shovel or snow blow your neighbor's sidewalk while you do yours. You won't believe how this is a huge relief to those who can't always get out there to do it.

Woof-Woof!



Now That's Funny! – Issue 65



Now That's Funny! – Issue 65

by Thomas Hoyt, Writer

Over the holiday weekend I was told something funny that occurred years ago. A couple of brothers in the family were out on a hunting trip up in northern Michigan when they got hungry and decided to get something to eat. They saw a Burger King and decided to go there. This was back in the 1970's when drive-thru's were just becoming a thing. So they drove into the drive thru lane straight up to the window. They didn't realize they had to

stop at the speaker to place their order. 🤔 Well the window opens up and the brothers were given food, and they were like “how did you know what we wanted?” The lady read off the order, and the brothers said no to that. Then the brothers were asked if they had placed their order “back there”, to which they said no. 🤔🤔 Well the lady was nice enough to take their order at the window and fulfill it.

Today's Dad joke: A polar bear walks into a bar and says to the bartender “I'll take a rum...and coke.” The bartender says, “What's with the pause?” The polar bear says, “I was born with them.” 🤔🤔🤔

Keep laughing folks! 😊

Remembering – Issue 65



Remembering – Issue 65

Buchanan Losses • 11/18 – 11/27

Name	Age	Born	Died
David Harold Ahonen	84	Sep 9, 1939	Nov 27, 2023
Dawn Renee Dinges	48	Sep 6, 1975	Nov 24, 2023
Marilyn Jean Eldred	88	May 28, 1935	Nov 23, 2023
Kenneth K. "Kenny" Lockamy	72	May 16, 1951	Nov 22, 2023
Debra Lynn Grafford	65	Jul 28, 1958	Nov 20, 2023
Mark Allen Flowers	65	May 7, 1958	Nov 19, 2023
Wolfgang Rudiger Kurt Gless	72	Oct 21, 1951	Nov 19, 2023
Diane Adele de Kuyper	87	Jun 22, 1936	Nov 18, 2023

We wish to respectfully honor the memory of anyone we lose in the Buchanan community. Please do let us know any corrections or additions to the list.

Hoven Funeral Home
www.hovenfunerals.com
info@hovenfunerals.com
269-695-2363
414 E Front St
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA

Starks Family Funeral Homes – Swem
www.starksfamilyfh.com/swem-chapel
269-695-6881
301 W Front St
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA



Remembering