

Our Twenty-First Issue • February 05 2022

Welcome to Our Twenty-First Issue!

Thank you so much for reading all about
Buchanan's latest in 2022!

THE BUCHANAN CHRONICLE

Buchanan District Library – February 2022

February at Buchanan District Library Used with permission from Buchanan District Library monthly newsletter FEBRUARY IS LOVE YOUR LIBRARY MONTH! What do you love most about the library? Is it...

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February 5, 2022

Chronicle Community – Snow Photos Submitted

Snow Photo Submissions on Facebook by The Buchanan Chronicle Team ❄️❤️ SNOW DAY 2! Show us your snow photos and they might get picked to be in our 21st issue this...

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February 5, 2022

Buchanan Area Senior Center – February 2022

February Events at Buchanan Area Senior Center
Submitted by Diana Smuda, BASC Program Coordinator
Below are some programs at the BASC in February:
Tuesday, February 15, at 11am BIGGEST LITTLE...

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February 5, 2022

Local Faith – BAMA Meeting February 2022

Updates for the Year 2022 from Buchanan Area Ministerial Association Written by Buchanan Christian Church Pastor Nate Babcock & The Buchanan Chronicle Editor, Rebecka Hoyt The Buchanan Area Ministerial Association...

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February 5, 2022

Community Press Release – HCU at Buchanan Basketball

Friday Night in Buchanan at the Basketball Games Submitted by Karol Behrle, Honor Credit Union Community Assistant Vice President Friday night, January 28, 2022, Honor Credit Union was at Buchanan...

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February 5, 2022

Mayor's Memo – Civil Discourse

Civil Discourse by Mayor Sean Denison The last two years have been nothing short of strange. Our lives and our kids' lives have been turned upside down. Remote learning and...

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February 5, 2022

Press Release – BCS “Learn By Heart” Campaign

Buchanan Community Schools “Learn By Heart” Campaign January 26, 2022 Buchanan Community School is excited to announce the “Learn By Heart” campaign. Through a collaboration with Berrien RESA and other...

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February 5, 2022

Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda • January 17 2022

Submitted by Michelle Munyon, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Buchanan Community Schools Please note that the Board of Education Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

City Commission Meeting Agenda • January 24 2022

PUBLIC HEARING, JOINT MEETING WITH BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION AND BUCHANAN TWP BOARD OF TRUSTEES, REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION Pending Approval, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Community Press Release – Office of Governor Whitmer

State of the State – Progress for Michigan State of Michigan – January 31, 2022 Dear Friend, Last week, I delivered the State of the State address. I spoke about...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Community Press Release – Office of State Senator Kim LaSata

District Update from State Senator Kim LaSata State of Michigan – January 5, 2022 Dear Friends, We are now well into 2022 and the new legislative session. Below you'll find...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Now That's Funny! – Issue 21

by Thomas Hoyt When I was a lot younger, back when I was a teenager, I was really excited when I had taken driver's training and received my learner's permit....

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Seasonal Sentiments – Winter Wonderland

Winter Wonderland by Garrick Stubblefield Winter always comes in the fourth season of the year. As for us Michiganders we brace for it in such a way that it is...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

A Note from the Editor – Issue 21

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor There are times when I sit down to write this note, I get writer's block. So, I look back on my notes in my sketchbook/Rocketbook notebook...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Remembering – Issue 21

Buchanan Losses • 01/22-02/04 Name Age Born Died
Amy Marie Van Dyke-Wojciechowski 47 December 11,
1974 February 3, 2022 Thomas Herman Fritz 83
February 5, 1938 January 31, 2022 Linda...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

The Clark Barker – Issue 21

Groundhog Day 2022 So, what is this that I hear about Groundhog Day that a groundhog determines if we will have six more weeks of winter or not?! If I...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Puzzler Page – Issue 21

by Garrick Stubblefield Hi all, my name is Garrick Stubblefield and I live here in Buchanan. I joined the military right out of school. Recently, I was asked to join...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022

Police Points – Call Log Issue 21

Police Call Log : 1/12 – 1/25 Buchanan City Police
Department Description Total Calls of Type Sex Offenses
1 Parental Kidnapping 0 Larceny 2 Larceny – Theft from
Motor Vehicle...

[Keep reading](#)

February 5, 2022



Dr. Kasewurm's
Professional Hearing Services

Hello Friends!

Do you need help with your hearing health care?

We are here to help!

Contact us TODAY!

(269) 982-3444 infodesk@prohear.net
www.prohear.net

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of St. Joseph, MI; 269-982-3444
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Thanks for Reading Our *Twenty-First* Issue!

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Look for Our *Twenty-Second* Issue:

February 19, 2022

Search Our Site Here:

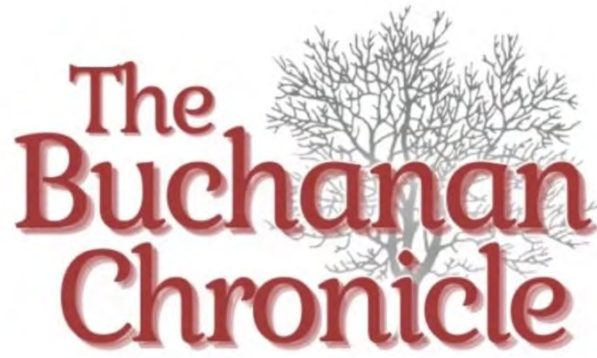
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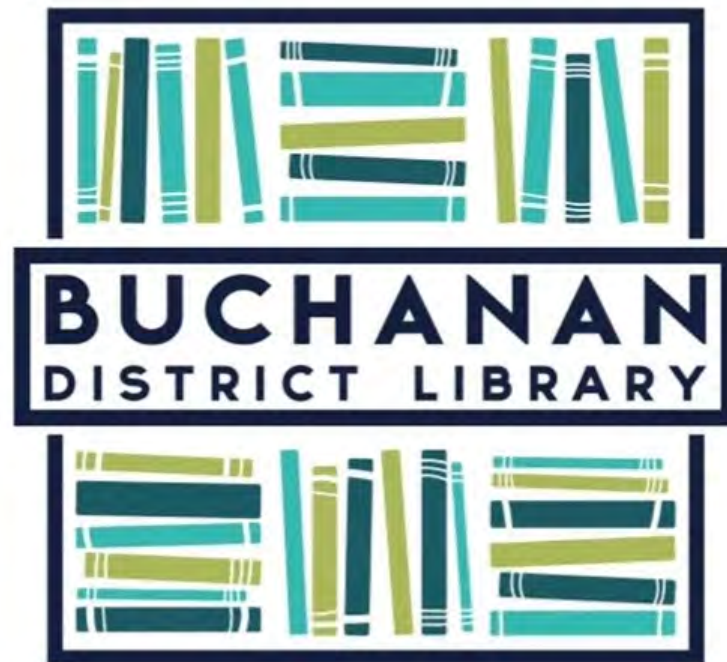
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Subscribe to Our Emails:



Buchanan District Library – February 2022



February at Buchanan District Library

Used with permission from Buchanan District Library monthly newsletter



Image provided by Buchanan District Library

FEBRUARY IS LOVE YOUR LIBRARY MONTH!

What do you love most about the library? Is it the mystery section? How you can get almost any book imaginable with MeLCat? Is it the Library of Things? Storytime? Craft classes? The Local History Room? Let us know! Help us show everyone all there is to love about your library by taking a photo in our “I love my library” frame and sharing it on social media along with why YOU love the library! Bonus points if you wear a library shirt, like our model Thelma here!



Photo provided by Buchanan District Library

"A library book, I imagine, is a happy book."
Cornelia Funke

TAKE-AND-MAKE ART PROJECT PAINT A SELF PORTRAIT WITH LOVE

We would LOVE for you to participate in a community art project with us this month! Sign-up below to receive a take-and-make kit complete with canvas, paint, a brush, and tips for how to paint yourself with love! Complete your painting at home and bring it back to the library by Saturday, February 12, to be displayed during the week of Valentine's Day. This project is open to kids, teens, and adults!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN-UP](#)
or call us at 269.695.3681



Programs for Kids:



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Wednesdays at 10:30am

January 19–March 16

Join us for Preschool Storytime at the Library. Come sing, dance, and hear stories! Designed for preschool-aged children, but families with children of all ages are welcome.



PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tuesdays at 6:00pm

February 22, & March 22

Come in your PJs for a special bedtime storytime!



SATURDAY STORYTIME

Saturdays at 10:30am

February 5 & 19, March 5 & 19

Join Ms. Jen for a special Saturday Storytime and craft! Designed for preschool-aged children, but families with children of all ages are welcome.



TAKE-AND-MAKE CRAFT

Pokémon!

Pick up February 11

Craft kit includes a paper craft and I-spy sheet. Scissors and glue are required. This kit is designed for children 8 and up. Younger children will need parental assistance to be successful. Post photos of your finished creations and tag the library in your posts by Pokémon Day on February 27!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN-UP](#)

Teen Programs:



TEEN SCENE!

Tuesdays from 3–4pm

January 18–March 15

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

Adult Programs:



ADULT CRAFT CLASSES

SILK FAIRIES

Thursday, February 24, 11am–12pm &

Friday, February 25, 6–7pm

Come make a little fairy in honor of Tell a Fairy Tale Day on February 25! Click the link below to sign up, or call the library at 269.695.3681.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)

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.

LOT

LIBRARY
of
THINGS

FEATURED ITEM



Sleds!

Did you know you can check out a sled from the Library of Things? These Flexible Flyer plastic snow sleds are perfect for families that enjoy snow sledding together. Lightweight sleds are easy for kids to carry back up and are made of strong resin plastic with a super-slick hard plastic sled bottom. Check one or all three out today and enjoy some winter fun! [CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to become an LoT patron at the Buchanan District Library!



Check it out!

Curious about us? We now have an Our Staff page on our website! www.buchananlibrary.org/about-us/our-staff



Buchanan District Library February 2022 Community Board

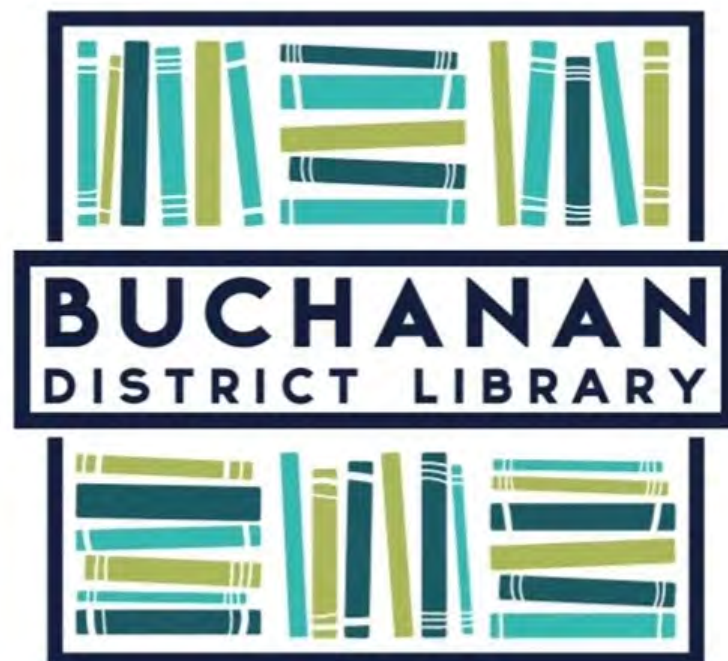
COVID-19 UPDATE

Library staff are monitoring the current state of the COVID-19 Pandemic in our area in case it becomes necessary to adjust our program schedule or library operations in response. Help us stay open to serve you by refraining from visiting the library if you feel sick and wearing a mask if you attend our programs. Masks are also encouraged for all patrons during their visit. If you can't come into the library due to illness, we are more than happy to offer curbside service! Call us at 269.695.3681 to make arrangements. Thank you for your support, and for helping us make the library a safe place for our staff and patrons!

COVID-19 UPDATE

[PLEASE VISIT OUR COVID-19 PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON LIBRARY POLICIES.](#)

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.

Buchanan District Library

269.695.3681

Contact: Meg Paulette, Director

www.buchananlibrary.org

m.paulette@buchananlibrary.com

128 E Front St, Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

Chronicle Community – Snow Photos Submitted

The Buchanan Chronicle



Snow Photo Submissions on Facebook

by The Buchanan Chronicle Team

❄️❤️ SNOW DAY 2! Show us your snow photos and they might get picked to be in our 21st issue this Saturday! Put them in the comments below with your name and city. Snowmen 🧑❄️ creations in the snow ❄️ or designs in the snow that is on your vehicle 🚗! They must be in the comments by 9pm tonight, Thursday, February 3! ❤️❄️ We are excited to see them!

Posted to The Buchanan Chronicle Facebook page by Rebecka Hoyt on February 3, 2022

Below you can see the submitted photos in response, enjoy the snowy imagery from near and far. Thanks so much to all who participated and submitted photos!



Rose Shelton Thomas - Buchanan MI



Madelyn Kitchell - Buchanan MI





Margaret Smith-Gridley - Myrtle Beach SC

Special Snow Photo from Myrtle Beach SC, Thanks to Margaret Smith-Gridley

Keep looking for more Community Participation opportunities in the future, here on our [website](#) and on our [Facebook page](#)!

The Buchanan Chronicle



Mayor's Memo – Civil Discourse



Civil Discourse

by Mayor Sean Denison

The last two years have been nothing short of strange. Our lives and our kids' lives have been turned upside down. Remote learning and working from home have become common. The anxiety and uncertainty have added to the stress we all face on a daily basis. That stress has been revealing itself in many ways. We've all seen it in the news lately. Concerned citizens, hollering at elected officials – whether it be a school board or city council. Name calling, violent outbursts and threats towards elected officials have increased exponentially over the last few years. People are fed up. Fed up with ever changing rules about what to do and how to be able to do it when it comes to the pandemic. Fed up with mandates and quarantines. I get it.

But here's the thing: In order to be able to get the issues we are all facing resolved, we have to act like adults. We must be able to communicate with one another in a way that is respectful and civil. The folks in small communities who hold elected positions, are not doing what they do for fame and fortune. They chose to get involved in an effort to make things better. I would encourage those that think they can make a difference to get involved. Start attending school board meetings and city council meetings. I would encourage them to run for an elected office themselves or volunteer to sit on a board.

I think it's important to remember that our children are watching us. They see how we interact with one another. We have the responsibility of showing them that it is ok to ask tough questions, it is ok to stand up for one's convictions and it is honorable to serve one's community. But we also have the responsibility of showing them that all those things can be done with integrity, character and ethics. If we don't teach them how to be respectful of others, who will?

Thank you, see you around town,
Sean Denison, Mayor
sdenison@cityofbuchanan.com
Buchanan City Hall
302 N Redbud Trail
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA



Mayor Sean Denison, Spring 2021, Photo submitted by Sean Denison

Press Release – BCS “Learn By Heart” Campaign



Superintendent of Schools

Phone: 269-695-8401 Fax: 269-695-8450

401 West Chicago Street Buchanan, Michigan 49107

"Educating students for life-long success in their civic, academic, physical, and social and emotional lives."

Buchanan Community Schools "Learn By Heart" Campaign

January 26, 2022



BCS "Learn By Heart" Campaign 2022 flyer

Buchanan Community School is excited to announce the "Learn By Heart" campaign. Through a collaboration with Berrien RESA and other Berrien County public school leaders, Buchanan Community Schools will celebrate the hard work and dedication of our school staff. The Learn By Heart campaign is designed to increase the awareness of the tireless efforts of Buchanan's educators, students, parents, and community members. Stories will be shared throughout our district publications, social media and through our local media outlets.

This is a wonderful opportunity to recognize our education personnel for their dedication to our children – our teachers, paraprofessionals, bus drivers, interventionists, breakfast and lunch staff, administrative assistants, coaches, custodians, principals, maintenance staff and many more! During this campaign, we invite students, alumni, parents, community members, and business leaders to take part in thanking our educators. Buchanan

Community Schools is excited to begin the Learn By Heart campaign which will run through the end of the 2021-22 school year!

More information can be found at www.buchananschools.com.

Buchanan Area Senior Center – February 2022



February Events at Buchanan Area Senior Center

Submitted by Diana Smuda, BASC Program Coordinator

Below are some programs at the BASC in February:



- Tuesday, February 15, at 11am
- **BIGGEST LITTLE BASEBALL MUSEUM AT THE BASC AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF BLACK PEOPLE IN BASEBALL:**
 - Staff from the Biggest Little Baseball Museum will be at the BASC to share about the game of baseball. Topics presented will include town teams, area big leaguers, Little League, card collecting, and in recognition of Black History Month, a brief history of Black People in baseball.
 - The Biggest Little Baseball Museum is located on the second floor of the nicest building within 100 miles, the Three Oaks Township Library. It is open during regular library hours, and admission is free.



- Friday, February 18, at 2pm
- **RECRUITING FOR CLARK:**
 - During World War II, the Clark Equipment Company had switched to wartime production. They produced landing craft and other mechanical equipment. But the need for soldiers had produced a severe labor shortage in Buchanan. To supplement Clark's labor force, Clark employee, Everett Watson, was sent South to recruit new employees. You will see what the recruits saw when Everett came to towns throughout the South. Photos of what their workplace and jobs would be like, where they would be housed, what they needed to bring and what they could expect to be paid. Also how they would get to Buchanan and photos of former recruits in Buchanan.
 - This program is to honor the Black People who moved to Buchanan and helped make Clark Equipment Company the successful company it was during the decades Clark Equipment Company was in Buchanan.
 - All materials used in this presentation are from the Everett Watson Collection in the Local History Room of the Buchanan District Library.



Linda
VanOverberghe
Chair Exercise
on Mondays at
10:00 am



Cecile "CC"
Cheney
Zumba Low
Impact on
Mondays at
11:00 am &
Chair Exercise
on Wednesdays
at 10:15 am



Lizz
Carmichael
Chair Exercise
on Fridays at
10:00 am



Ulrike
McCarty
Chair Yoga on
Thursdays at
10:00 am

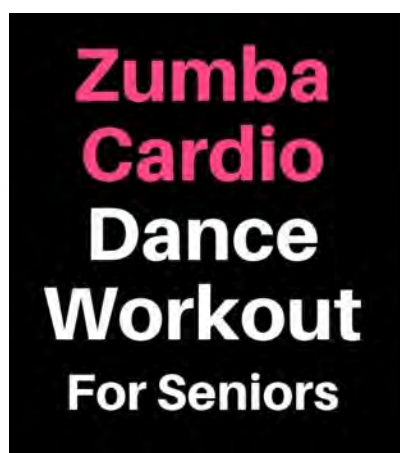


Missy Rodgers
Osteo Fit on
Tuesdays at 9:00
am; Powerbeats
(Cardio Drumming)
on Fridays at 9:00
am; Personal Train-
ing by appointment

- Tuesday, February 8, from 10:15-11:35am

- **BASC EXERCISE INSTRUCTORS SEMINAR:**

- Studies have shown that exercise classes reduce loneliness and social isolation in Seniors, along with health benefits. The intention of the BASC Exercise Instructors Seminar program is to offer our patrons the opportunity to get to know the BASC exercise instructors and to learn more about their specific exercise classes that are offered at the BASC.
- Registration is Required. Call 695-7119 to reserve your seat.
- Each instructor will share about themselves, why they chose to become an exercise instructor, and have about a 10 minute exercise routine, which you may participate. Call 695-7119 to reserve your seat.



- Mondays at 11am

- **NEW EXERCISE PROGRAM AT THE BASC:**

- Zumba Low-Impact with fitness instructor Cecile "CC" Cheney
- Zumba Low-Impact is a modified version of Zumba (fun Latin & other international dance fitness) geared toward active, older adults seeking lower-impact workouts. The movements are easier to follow. It combines medium and slow rhythms that tone and sculpt the body. It contains gentle movements that increase joint flexibility and increase muscle strength.



- **WINTER CLOSING REMINDER:**

- If the Buchanan Schools are closed due to bad weather, the BASC is closed and there will be no meal delivery. Watch for closings on WNDU-16.
- If you are in doubt, please call us at 695-7119.

Thank you for supporting the Buchanan Area Senior Center!

For more information on programs/classes you can contact Program Coordinator, Diana Smuda at the BASC at 269-695-7119 or via email: diana@thebasc.org

Buchanan Area Senior Center - February 2022 Calendar

Exercise / Health / Cards & Games / Educational & Informative & Special Programs / Other Programs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 "I had no idea that history was being made. I was just tired of giving up!" — Rosa Parks	9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 11:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing	9:00 Fasting Blood Sugar Testing 9:00 Coffee Chat 10:15 Chair Exercise with CC 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle	10:00 Chair Yoga with Ulrike 11:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day	9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Exercise with Lizz 11:00 People Inspiring People 1:00 Fiber Friends
10:00 Chair Exercise with Linda 11:00 Zumba Low-Impact with CC 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise	9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 10:15 BASC Exercise Instructors Seminar 1:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing	10:15 Chair Exercise with CC 12:15 Cyber Seniors 1:00 Hand & Foot 6:00 Pinochle	9:00 Foot Clinic 10:00 Chair Yoga with Ulrike 11:00 Blood Pressure Check 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day 1:00 Monthly CSFP Commodities 3:00 Board Meeting	9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Exercise with Lizz 1:00 Fiber Friends 1:00 Movie Matinee: RESPECT
10:00 Chair Exercise with Linda 11:00 Zumba Low-Impact with CC 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise 	9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 11:00 Baseball History/Black People in Baseball 1:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing 2:00 Hearing Aid Check	10:15 Chair Exercise with CC 12:30 Root Beer Floats 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Quarterly TEFAP Commodities 6:00 Pinochle	9:30 Eyeglass Repair 10:00 Chair Yoga with Ulrike 10:30 Book Club 11:00 GrandPad Training 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day	9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Exercise with Lizz 1:00 Fiber Friends 2:00 Recruiting For Clark
10:00 Chair Exercise with Linda 11:00 Zumba Low-Impact with CC 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise	9:00 Osteo Fit with Missy 11:00 Pinochle 1:00 Quilting & Sewing	10:15 Chair Exercise with CC 1:00 Hand & Foot 1:00 Birthday Bingo 6:00 Pinochle	10:00 Chair Yoga with Ulrike 11:00 Blood Pressure Check 1:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Game Day	9:00 Powerbeats with Missy 10:00 Chair Exercise with Lizz 11:30 Lunch Bunch 1:00 Fiber Friends 1:00 Movie Matinee: HARRIETT
10:00 Chair Exercise with Linda 11:00 Zumba Low-Impact with CC 12:30 Ice Cream Social 1:00 Euchre 1:00 Mah Jongg 2:00 Qigong Exercise 2:00 Conversations With Friends Ft. Mr. Kelly	Coffee Chat: Berrien County Historical Assoc. Historical Valentines Wednesday, February 2, at 9:00 am	BASC Exercise Instructors Seminar Tuesday, February 8 10:15–11:35 am	Biggest Little Baseball Museum at the BASC & a Brief History of Black People in Baseball Tuesday, February 15 11:00 am	Recruiting For Clark Friday, February 19 2:00 pm.

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BASC Calendar February 2022

Buchanan Area Senior Center
 phone: 269-695-7119, fax: 269-695-2901
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adam@thebasc.org, Adam Burck, Executive Director
 810 Rynearson Street
 Buchanan, MI 49107
 USA

Local Faith – BAMA Meeting February 2022



Updates for the Year 2022 from Buchanan Area Ministerial Association

Written by Buchanan Christian Church Pastor Nate Babcock & The Buchanan Chronicle Editor, Rebecka Hoyt

The Buchanan Area Ministerial Association (BAMA) held their monthly meeting on the morning of Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at Buchanan Christian Church. Buchanan area pastors get together and discuss upcoming community events for our community to take part in and I am able to attend so I can bring you this information. In addition to what is below, stay tuned as there will be an exciting announcement at a later time.

Those present were Dave Mitchell, Jann Mitchell, Ellen Bierlein, Brandon Smith, Judy Earnst, Dan Barz, Lyndon Azcuna, Father Leo Cartenga, Patti Mitchell, Brendan Shea, Rebecka Hoyt, and Nathan Babcock.

- R.A.M. is open and running again, thanks to a great team of volunteers. Please keep praying for Jan Walters as she continues her recovery.
- Life Plan had a good month of ministry in January. Lyndon also shared about how the new availability of abortion pills (chemical abortion) via mail-order is changing the face of the pro-life battle.
- Good Friday is April 15th. This year our combined Good Friday gathering will be a Stations of the Cross service at St. Anthony at 6:00 pm on the 15th. Also, Dan Barz will be hosting a service at St. Paul commemorating the hour at which Jesus was nailed to the cross: 9:00 am on Friday April 15th. All are invited to this service as well. In the future, you will see more of this day's events shared on The Buchanan Chronicle Facebook page.
- National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5th. More details are to come on when and where this will be held at.
- Baccalaureate will be on Sunday, May 22nd at 2:00 pm. More details are to come on when and where this will be held at.
- Ellen Bierlein announced that she will be retiring from ministry at the end of June of this year. Please be praying for her and Rick, and for the church, as they prepare for and move through this transition. Also, Ellen invited us to participate in the Palm Sunday service which will be at 3:33 pm on April 10th at Faith United Methodist.

*If your church or club would like to highlight your meetings/events, please email us at:
buchananchronicle@att.net

Community Press Release – HCU at Buchanan Basketball



Friday Night in Buchanan at the Basketball Games

Submitted by Karol Behrle, Honor Credit Union Community Assistant Vice President

Friday night, January 28, 2022, Honor Credit Union was at Buchanan basketball games and Title IV event, as a sponsor of the games.

We gave out 100 bags of free popcorn that we paid for in our logo bags, a \$100.00 gift basket (winner was Tracey Tompkins of Buchanan), and tons of Honor swag, including squishy basketballs, sunglasses, chapsticks, pencils, cinch bags, money/ID holders, and more. We also purchased everything for nachos and had our own table set up to sell them. We raised \$132.00 from that and gave it back to the school/concession stand.

Bucks won! It was a nail biter. They played the Berrien Springs Shamrocks. Final score was 56/52.



About Honor Credit Union: Honor Credit Union is proud to serve more than 91,000 members across the state of Michigan. Providing solutions for financial success and giving back to the communities it serves remains the driving forces behind Honor Credit Union.
For more information, call 800.442.2800, or visit www.honorcu.com.

Now That's Funny! – Issue 21



by Thomas Hoyt

When I was a lot younger, back when I was a teenager, I was really excited when I had taken driver's training and received my learner's permit. Upon receiving my learner's permit, my dad decided to take me out on some dirt road in the middle of farmland Cass County to have me practice driving. Now, we were in his 1979 Dodge pickup truck. This was a work truck special! It had a slant 6 engine, no power steering, no power brakes, and a manual transmission with 3 on the tree (if you know what 3 on the tree means, I applaud you)! So dad pulls over to the side of this dirt road in the middle of nowhere and has me get behind the wheel. This is my very first time operating a manual transmission automobile. So I followed his instructions regarding the clutch and did get the truck going with a good buck and go! 🤞 I was able to shift through the gears successfully and had the truck rolling along. It came time to stop, so I naturally pushed the clutch in with my left leg and then the brake pedal with my right leg. I pushed with all my might with my leg on the brake pedal and finally did get the truck to stop with a tiny bit to spare from the intersection! If I had known then what I know now, I would have put the shifter to neutral and used both legs on the brake pedal. LOL! 🤣🤣

Keep laughing folks! 😊

Answer to Puzzle 3 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:**PUZZLE 3 – FINDING A WORD WITHIN A WORD**

1. ROUND
 2. HOG
 3. HOURS
 4. HOUND
 5. YOUNG
-

Seasonal Sentiments – Winter Wonderland



Winter Wonderland

by Garrick Stubblefield

Winter always comes in the fourth season of the year. As for us Michiganders we brace for it in such a way that it is going to bring us a lot of snow or just outright cold.

As I was a younger kid back in 78 I recall that we were out of school for two weeks and tried to unburden ourselves in 8 feet of snow. I also recall that we lived in a three story house and we would jump off the roof of the second story. Let's look at the nature side of it. When we get our first snow it is just so neat to see the snow lightly on the tree limbs and the sun hitting just right to make it look like a snow globe.

Can't forget the times of sledding and ice skating along with skiing and sipping down the hot cocoa to keep us warm. One other note is the driving in it of course it's not fun to do but that is the only way to get around weather like this. Just remember when driving to be safe and careful when driving out there.

Answer to Puzzle 4 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:

PUZZLE 4 – CRACK THE CODE

351

Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda • January 17 2022





Submitted by Michelle Munyon, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Buchanan Community Schools

Please note that the Board of Education Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda, click on the link to take you to more detailed minutes of the meeting. Also, the meeting minutes will not be published in each issue of The Buchanan Chronicle, but instead as they are available.

- **Regular Meeting**
- **1/17/2021 6:00 PM**
- **Watch the live stream: https://youtu.be/AY8Jx2T_zJ8**
- **Buchanan High School Auditorium**
- **401 W. Chicago Street**
- **Buchanan, MI 49107**

Begin Agenda:

A. Call to Order – Opening of Meeting by President

- President Dr. Harvey Burnett opened the meeting at 6:01pm

B. Pledge of Allegiance

- Dr. Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call

- **PRESENT:** C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- **ABSENT:** None.
- **OTHERS PRESENT:** Superintendent Patricia Robinson, Mark Kurland, Phil Place, Al Berget, Nathan Will, Michael

Dunn

D. Adoption of Agenda

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member K. Berry the agenda for the board meeting of January 17, 2022 be adopted as written.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

E. Recognition of Visitors (All visitors, please sign the sign-in sheet.)

F. Superintendent & Department Reports

- Updates for BHS, BMS, Moccasin, Ottawa, Athletics/BVA/CTE, Business Office, Operations, Food Service, Information Technology, Transportation, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent were provided respectively.

G. Presentations

- School Highlight – Nathan Will, Buchanan Community Schools Transportation Supervisor, presented to the board. Mr. Will informed the board about routes, bus recalls, reducing bus inventory, updating the driver's lounge, moving the department towards being paperless, as well as an open driver position.
- Executive Team Updates – Superintendent Robinson and the Executive Team provided their updates respectively.

H. Information, Reports, & New Business

H.I. BHS Student Advisory Committee Meeting – Mrs. Robinson said she had one student attend and they spoke for about 10 minutes.

H.II. Parent Advisory Committee Meeting – Mrs. Robinson shared with the board that they had 7 parents in attendance and have developed 5 subcommittees that will be meeting.

I. Community Dialogue & Citizens Concerns

- Carla Johnson – spoke against masks and quarantines.
- Donald Ryman – spoke against masks.
- Matt Belcher – spoke against masks.
- Richard McCoy – spoke of the Open Meetings Act and against masks.
- Eric Stoub – spoke against masks and quarantines.
- Stephanie Fain – spoke against masks.

J. Adoption of Consent Agenda Items

- MOTION by K. Laesch, SECONDED BY Member C. Lee, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda for the regular board meeting of January 17th, 2022 be adopted as written:
 - 1. Minutes:
 - 12-13-2021 Regular Meeting
 - 2. Warrants:
 - Treasury & Expenditure Reports – December 2021
 - 3. Recommendations to Hire as submitted by:
 - Director of Operations, Mr. Al Berget
 - Assistant Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Ryan Frontczak
 - Ottawa Principal, Mrs. Stacey Denison

Recommended Employee	Title
Phillip LaBounty	7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
Jensen Ruelle	Operations Utility Staff
Brittney Gmeiner	Early Childhood Special Education Teacher

- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

K. Recommended Action – Other

K.I. Buchanan Virtual Academy Graduation Certification

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, upon satisfactory completion of district requirements for high school graduation, the Board of Education hereby approves:
 - Buchanan Virtual Academy Students:
 - Destiny Renbarger
 - Ta’Naa Moten
 - Alexander Long

- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None MOTION ADOPTED

K.II. NEOLA Board Policies – Second Reading

- MOTION by K. Berry, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, the Buchanan Board of Education approves the second reading of the following NEOLA new and revised policies:

POLICY #	Description
0100	Definitions
0167.3	Public Participation at Board Meetings
0175.1	School Board Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops
1100	District Organization
2710	School Farm Advisory Council
3120	Employment of Professional Staff
6114	Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds
6152	Student Fees, Fines, and Supplies
8310	Public Records
8320	Personnel Files
8330	Student Records
8450.06	COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, and Face-Covering Policy (New)

- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

K.III. BEA Letter of Agreement – Brandon Flowers & Dawn VanDyke

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member C. Lee, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached letters of agreement with the Buchanan Education Association for Brandon Flowers and Dawn VanDyke.



Letter of Agreement Between the
Buchanan -SC Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the
Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education

Stipend for Additional Hours – BHS Counselor Brandon Flowers

In consideration of their mutual covenants reflected in this Agreement, the Buchanan-SC Education Association, MEA/NEA (the Association) and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education (the Board), agree as follows:

1. Due to the challenges in filling school counseling positions, Buchanan High School Counselor Brandon Flowers has accumulated additional work hours before the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, as well as additional hours outside of the regular school day during the 2021-2022 school year.
2. While the parties acknowledge that all professional staff have work responsibilities that may extend beyond the regular school work day, the additional hours worked by Mr. Flowers are significant.
3. Effective August 11, 2021, the District will pay Mr. Flowers an additional stipend of \$3,000 for each semester for the 2021-2022 school year.
4. This stipend payment is made through payroll on a lump-sum basis, less applicable withholdings, at the end of each semester.
5. The need for additional hours is temporary and will end, whichever is first, after the official start date of the new High School counselor or when additional time is no longer warranted as mutually agreed by Mr. Flowers and the Superintendent. The stipend for that semester will then be pro-rated as needed based on the number of days worked.
6. This Agreement is not intended to set a precedent and in no way modifies any other provision of the parties' collective bargaining agreement.
7. This Agreement expires on June 30, 2022.

For the Board of Education

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Robinson", written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Robinson,
Superintendent

December 5, 2021

For the Buchanan Education Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wendy Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Wendy Murphy
President

December 5, 2021



**Letter of Agreement Between the
Buchanan -5C Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the
Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education**

Stipend for Additional Hours – Early Childhood Special Education Teacher Dawn VanDyke

In consideration of their mutual covenants reflected in this Agreement, the Buchanan-5C Education Association, MEA/NEA (the Association) and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education (the Board), agree as follows:

1. Due to the challenges in filling certain special education positions, Buchanan Early Childhood Special Education Teacher Dawn VanDyke has accumulated additional work hours outside of the regular school day during the 2021-22 school year.
2. While the parties acknowledge that all professional staff have work responsibilities that may extend beyond the regular school work day, the additional hours worked by Ms. VanDyke are significant.
3. Effective August 31, 2021, the District will pay Ms. VanDyke an additional stipend of \$5,000 for each semester for the 2021-2022 school year.
4. This stipend payment is made through payroll on a lump-sum basis, less applicable withholdings, at the end of each semester.
5. The need for additional hours is temporary and will end, whichever is first, after the official start date of the new Early Childhood Special Education Teacher or when additional time is no longer warranted as mutually agreed by Ms. VanDyke and the Superintendent. The stipend for that semester will then be pro-rated as needed based on the number of days worked.
6. This Agreement is not intended to set a precedent and in no way modifies any other provision of the parties' collective bargaining agreement.
7. This Agreement expires on June 30, 2022.

For the Board of Education

Patricia Robinson,
Superintendent

December 15, 2021

For the Buchanan Education Association

Wendy Murphy
President

December 15, 2021

BEA Letter of Agreement – Dawn Van Dyke

- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

L. Questions & Comments from Board Members

- Mrs. Writer expressed her liking of ending the first semester before the winter recess. She mentioned the Title IX celebration for the women's 1971-72 teams on January 28th. She also announced the 100th Year Celebration of Buchanan High School on June 11th, 2022.

- Dr. Carlin announced BHS hosting a SAT class for juniors that is set to begin February 6th. All sessions will be recorded. If interested please contact Mr. Carlin or Mr. Pruett.
- Mrs. Laesch read a card received to the district by Tina Blumka. She also mentioned her appreciation for her fellow board members.
- Dr. Burnett acknowledged Martin Luther King and his accomplishments during the Civil Rights Movement.
- Mrs. Berry appreciates comments/questions that come to her as a board member from the community.

M. Next Board Meeting:

- Tuesday, February 22nd at 6pm

N. Adjournment

You may view the completed January 17, 2022 Board of Education Meeting Minutes on [the Buchanan Community Schools website here](#).



Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education

Mission: Educating students for life-long success in their civic, academic, physical and social/emotional lives.

Vision: To develop responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society.

Beliefs: We Believe in providing a safe, supportive, respectful environment, opportunities for all students (options), student growth and achievement, and cooperative relationships among students, families, stakeholders and community members.

"We welcome you to a meeting of the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting.

There is a time for regular public participation during the meeting as indicated in agenda item H. If you wish to make a presentation to the Board, please fill out the Speaker Card and pass it to the Board President before item H on the agenda.

Thank you for your support of Buchanan Community Schools!"

Members of the public may contact members of the school board to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the board. These items will also be shared with the Superintendent.

- Dr. Harvey Burnett, President – hburnett@buchananschools.com
- Ruth Writer, Vice-President – rwriter@buchananschools.com
- Kelly Laesch, Secretary – klaesch@buchananschools.com
- Chris Lee, Treasurer – clee@buchananschools.com
- Katie Berry, Trustee – kberry@buchananschools.com
- Chris Carlson, Trustee – ccarlson@buchananschools.com
- Dr. Scott Carlin, Trustee – scarlin@buchananschools.com

Official minutes of school board meetings are stored and available for inspection in the Superintendent's Office. Meeting minutes are also posted on our district website under the Board of Education.

www.buchananschools.com

Upon request to Michelle Munyon, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in the meeting.

City Commission Meeting Agenda • January 24 2022

PUBLIC HEARING, JOINT MEETING WITH BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION AND BUCHANAN TWP BOARD OF TRUSTEES, REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION

Pending Approval, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla Langston

Please note that the City Commission Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda, click on the link to take you to more detailed minutes of the meeting. Also, the meeting minutes may not be published in each issue of The Buchanan Chronicle (probably once a month) due to rules that minutes are approved at the next City Commission meeting.

THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, as amended, B2103192 of 2021, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of Buchanan City Hall, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan MI.

- *Requests to be added to the agenda as a "Scheduled Matter from the Floor" should be submitted in writing to the City Clerk at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled meeting during which the speaker wishes to appear, and the approval of such requests remain within the discretion of the Mayor. If denied, the speaker may nonetheless speak during the "non-agenda items only" public comments section of the agenda.*
- *Those who are unable to appear during a meeting but who still wish to share public comment may submit such comments in written form to the City Clerk at least 4 hours in advance of the meeting.*
- *Individuals with disabilities may request necessary reasonable accommodations by submitting requests to the City Clerk, preferably at least 24 hours in advance.*
- *Written requests and comments may be submitted to the City Clerk either in person or via mail to Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107, or via email to clerk@cityofbuchanan.com*

The entire Joint 5-Year Recreation Plan is available on the City website and can be found at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4baehab8>. Printed copies are also available at Buchanan City Hall.

The Buchanan City Commission met for this special meeting Monday, January 24th 2022 at 7:00 pm, in person, Buchanan City Hall Chamber, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107.

MONDAY, January 24, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Begin Joint Meeting Agenda:

I. City Call to Order Joint Meeting

- Mayor Denison called to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. Township Call to Order Joint Meeting

- Supervisor Cole-Crocker called to order at 7:00 P.M.

III. City Roll Call

- Present: Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Cameron Downey, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem
- Absent: None

IV. Township Roll Call

- Present: Supervisor Mindy Cole-Crocker, Township Trustee Lynn Ferris, Treasurer Rachel Plank, Clerk Wendi Heyliger
- Absent: Brad Huebner

V. City Approve Agenda

- Motion made by Weedon, seconded by Downey to approve the agenda. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VI. Township Approve Agenda

- Motion made by Heyliger, seconded by Ferris to approve the agenda. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VII. City Open Public Hearing

- Motion made by Swem to the City of Buchanan Joint Public Hearing on the draft "Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan", to accept public comment regarding the plan, Seconded by Weedon. At 7:02 PM.
- Yea: Denison, Weedon, Downey, Money, Swem.
- Nay: None

VIII. Township Open Public Hearing

- Motion made by Plank to the City of Buchanan Joint Public Hearing on the draft "Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan", to accept public comment regarding the plan, Seconded by Ferris. At 7:02 PM.
- Yea: Cole-Crocker, Ferris, Plank, Heyliger.
- Nay: None

Public Comments were made:

- Dan Vigansky – Wanted to say thank you to Marcy Hamilton, the time limit was very constrained on this. Heyliger and Plank were a lot of help on this, with lots of time going into proofreading the plan. Dan is very excited to be working with the township collectively.
- Juanita Lewis – New Resident to Buchanan, happy to be here. Believes we can all work together.
- Marcy Hamilton with Southwest Michigan Planning Commission – Been a pleasure to work with the City and Township on a Joint Plan. SMPC serves Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren Counties. Buchanan City and Township are one of the few that chose to work with their neighbors on Joint Plans and wanted to commend the City and Township on that effort. No other communities in Berrien County have done a joint plan. Offered Congratulations to City and Township.
- Mayor Denison thanked Marcy Hamilton for all her work making this happen.

IX. City Close Public Hearing

- Motion made by Denison, seconded by Swem to close the City of Buchanan's joint public hearing on the draft 'Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan". At 7:08 PM.
- Yea: Denison, Weedon, Downey, Money, Swem.
- Nay: None

X. Township Close Public Hearing

- Motion made by Cole-Crocker, seconded by Plank to close Buchanan Township's joint public hearing on the draft 'Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan". At 7:08 PM.
- Yea: Cole-Crocker, Ferris, Plank, Heyliger.
- Nay: None

XI. Joint New Business

XI.A. City of Buchanan to Consider a Resolution to Adopt the Buchanan Community Recreation Plan 2022-2026.

- Motion made by Money, seconded by Downey, to Approve Resolution #2022.01/240 to adopt the "Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan" as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

XI.B. Buchanan Township to Consider a Resolution to Adopt the Buchanan Community Recreation Plan 2022-2026.

- Motion made by Plank, seconded by Heyliger, to Approve Resolution #2022-06 to adopt the "Joint Five-Year Recreation Plan" as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.
- Discussion opened with Plank, echoing the comments about Marcy, as well as City Manager Grace. Township happy to be involved.

XII. Township Public Comment

- *None*

XIII. Township Executive Comments

- Cole-Crocker thanked everyone for coming out, as well as thanking City Manager Grace and Marcy Hamilton. Stating this is a huge endeavor and will bring people in to enjoy our parks. Believes it's a fantastic move for the City and Township to work together.

XIV. Township Adjourn

End of Joint Session

- Motion made by Plank, seconded by Ferris, to adjourn the Buchanan Township Board of Trustees Meeting. Roll call vote carried unanimously. (Regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission continues.) At 7:09 PM.

Begin Regular Meeting Agenda:

Regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission Continues.

XV. Recognition

- *None*

XVI. Public Comment

Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

- Dan Vigansky – Concerned about a written comment that was turned in. Voiced his concern about closed session.

XVII. Consent Agenda

(can be approved all in one motion, for general housekeeping items)

XVII.A. Approve Expenditures for January 24, 2022, in the amount of \$85,417.63.

XVII.B. Consider Approving Minutes for the January 10th, 2022, Regular Meeting of the City Commission.

XVII.C. Consider approving Minutes from the January 12, 2022, Special Meeting of the City Commission.

- Motion made by Money, seconded by Downey to approve the consent agenda, as presented, including the approval of the 1/24/2022 bill run in the amount of \$85,417.63. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

XVIII. Scheduled Matters from the Floor

(if any)

- None

XIX. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

XIX.A. Treasurers Report

- Treasurer Stephanie Powers will give a brief report and will introduce Tim Bailey of Bailey Investments Group and LPL Financial for Honor Credit Union. Consider the request to move 2 million dollars in the city investment account to an indexed annuity with 4% growth and no downside on returns.
- Powers gave a brief report to the Commission.
- Weedon wanted an update on the new current software. Powers stated it's fantastic, there is a lot to it and we are still learning how to use its full ability.
- Weedon also asked for an update with Plante Moran assisting at City Hall with the finance department and audit. Powers believes with the audit starting today that the assistance will be completed by the end of February.
- Powers introduced Tim Bailey to talk about the investment account. Bailey is the advisor on the investment accounts for the city.
- Swem asked about "no downsize on returns" and wanted to make sure this is compliant with the city's investment policy.
- Bailey explained how the account works.
- Grace said it is compliant with the investment policy.
- Swem would like to see a side by side with investment account of what the city is currently at and what Bailey is proposing. Commission decided to table the item till the Special Meeting on January 31, 2022.

XIX.B. Community Development Director Report

- Rich Murphy will discuss two additional economic development incentive programs:

1. Redevelopment Liquor Licenses

- Director Murphy, Manager Grace, Assessor Cole, and Building Inspector Lewis have been working together, along with the City Attorneys, to try to make the City of Buchanan eligible for additional liquor licenses through a special "redevelopment liquor license" program offered through the State of Michigan. Murphy shared details regarding the program and asked for Commission support in the form of a resolution– Consider Approving a Resolution to Create a City Redevelopment Project Area, which is proposed to encompass the entire City. [Note that an establishment would still need to satisfy zoning requirements for any specific location wanting to utilize a liquor license]. This process is the first step for the path forward. As a municipality we're doing everything we can to provide the tools, but the State must approve it and the applicant. But they can't do either one unless we have the tools for redevelopment.
- Motion made by Swem, Seconded by Weedon, to adopt Resolution # 2022.01/241 which authorizes the creation of a City Redevelopment Project Area.
- Yea: Denison, Weedon, Money, Swem
- Nay: None
- Abstain: Downey- Conflict

2. Tax Abatements

- Director Murphy, Manager Grace, and Assessor Cole, along with generous assistance from Cornerstone Alliance, are working to have a tax abatement program ready to discuss in more detail during the February 14th City

Commission meeting, but a brief preview explanation of the planned program will be discussed at this time.

- OPRA is the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act – this provides a reduction in future taxes on improvements made on an eligible building in an established OPRA district. Murphy will be bringing the resolution to the commission to create the districts.
- Murphy is trying to create buzz and find a sense of self for Buchanan, starting with building blocks to redevelop the city. There is interest in the city and he feels we need to keep doing what were doing and would like to hear the goals from the leadership on what they want to see next.

XX. Unfinished Business

- None

XXI. New Business

XXI.A. Consider Entering Closed Session to discuss matters subject to attorney-client privilege, pursuant to MCL 15.268 Sec. 8(1)(h).

1. Draft Harassment and Discrimination Policy
2. Draft Land Redevelopment Program
3. Draft Parking Ordinance
4. DDA Loan Follow-up
5. USDA Project Follow-up
6. Architect Contract Follow-up
7. Zoning Questions Follow-up
8. Blight Enforcement Questions Follow-up
9. Draft Mobile Food Vending Ordinance

- Motion made by Weedon, seconded by Money to enter Closed Session to discuss matters subject to attorney-client privilege, pursuant to MCL 15.268 Sec. 8(1)(h) at 7:44 PM. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

XXI.B. Consider Re-Entering Open Session

- Motion made by Downey, Seconded by Swem to re-enter Open Session at 7:58 PM. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

XXI.C. Consider taking action, if any, on items discussed in Closed Session

- None currently.

XXII. Communications

(informational only, formal board action is not necessary for these items, unless so desired)

- None

XXIII. Public Comment

Non-Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

- City Manager Grace made note of a written comment that was received prior to this meeting. There was a written communication that requested to be shared as a public comment at tonight's meeting. The communication was distributed to the Commission and there is a public copy available in the binder at the table. If anyone would like to review it, please do so or we would be happy to provide you with a copy. Thank you. (Summary provided below)
 - "Alan Robandt (written comments)- Shared concerns regarding perceived issues of transparency and favoritism, alleging a lack of public input. Indicated that he felt that the City should not share handouts with certain property developers, and that tax abatements should not be considered for particular projects. He also shared concerns regarding the past dissolution of the DDA and current expenditures."

- Dan Vigansky – would like to know why the written comment was not read.
- Rhett Johnson – has been developing the properties at 402, 404, 408 Oak St. They have been working around the clock and happy to be in Buchanan.

XXIV. Executive Comments

XXIV.A. City Manager Comments

- Thanked everyone in attendance, welcomed new residents, thanked individuals sharing their comments and concerns, as well as new businesses investing in our community. It's an exciting time in our community. Regards to the procedures that are used for closed session, in Michigan we are subject to follow the OMA. There is a section of that legislative act that governs proceedings for closed sessions. When we discuss matters that are subject to attorney client privilege with the City Attorney as we did this evening, we go to a private location and discuss those matters. Those matters are not made public until a decision is going to be made. Anytime a decision is going to be made, they are made during open session with the public willing and able to participate. We are having conversations, but no decision are being made behind closed doors. Every decision that's made and any expenditure using city taxpayer money is done publicly. A big part of why we have some of those discussion in closed session, there a certain things that are not appropriate for legal reasons to discuss publicly. Confidentiality issues with staff or real estate transactions of developers, so very important things we work hard on to make sure it's in the best interest of the Buchanan city residents. And again, we are always as transparent as possible. Anyone who has further questions on it, Grace would be happy to answer after the meeting. Thank you.

XXIV.B. Commissioner Comments

- Commissioner Weedon – If you haven't had a chance to go downtown and visit the Sweet Shop, he cannot encourage you enough. Weedon took the family down and the kids were smiling the whole time and of course wanted everything. They have a lot of pride. Joe and Tom are excited to show you the business. Once again a lot of great things coming. It's a beautiful place and they have put their heart and soul into it. Please take an opportunity to go down and see it. Thanked Marcy and Heather for the 5 year-Rec Plan. It's fantastic to hear that we're the only one in the county working with their Township. Really enjoyed their presence and would be a great thing to see more often.
- Commissioner Swem – Thanked Buchanan Township for all the work that went in the Joint RecPlan. As well as BARB, it's important to set an example for our neighbors to work together. Commended Murphy on his work on the Liquor License program, with Heather, Guy and Mindy. Appreciate everyone coming out.
- Commissioner Downey – No comment.
- Commissioner Money – Welcomed Juanita, thanked Murphy on all the work he's been doing downtown. Thanked Chief Ganus and Sargent Leonard for their presence downtown, as it seems to have made a difference. Thanked Mike Baker for doing a great job on keeping the roads clear.

XXIV.C. Mayor Comments

- Thanked Fran and The Chamber for doing a phenomenal job. Thanked all of the staff for their hard work. Congratulations to Lily Wagner on becoming our new Miss. Buchanan, and thanked Jade Smith for her historic 2 year run of Miss. Buchanan; she did a great job and very proud of her. Thanked the Commission and the public.

XXV. Adjourn

- Motion made by Weedon, Seconded by Money to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

You may view this complete [Agenda, Meeting January 24, 2022](#) here.

You may view all completed City Commission Meeting Minutes on [the City of Buchanan Website](#).



Community Press Release – Office of Governor Whitmer



State of the State – Progress for Michigan

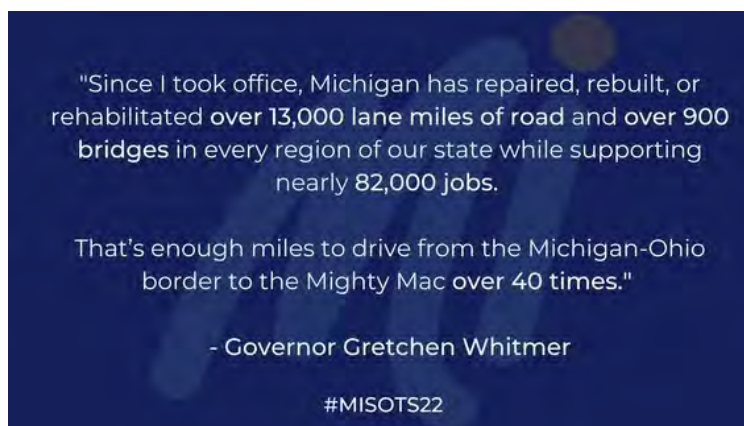
State of Michigan – January 31, 2022

Dear Friend,

Last week, I delivered the State of the State address. I spoke about the kitchen-table issues that unite us as Michiganders and the progress we have made together. While there is much work left to do, I am so proud of the way we have come together to get things done and make a real difference for Michigan families.

Roads & Infrastructure

- We have repaired, rehabilitated, or rebuilt 13,198 miles of road and 903 bridges, making safe commutes for Michiganders and supporting 82,000 jobs.
- I signed a bipartisan budget to fix an additional 100 bridges and create 2,500 good-paying jobs in 2022.
- We launched the Rebuilding Michigan Plan to build up roads, highways, and bridges with the right mix and material to support over 45,000 jobs without raising taxes.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

Lowering Costs

- In 2019, I signed historic, bipartisan auto insurance reform saving drivers hundreds of dollars per year. By May 9, 2022, Michigan drivers will receive a \$400 refund check per vehicle.
- In November 2021, I repealed the sales tax on tampons and menstrual products, which will save consumers hundreds of dollars in taxes.
- We delivered aid on energy bills to 175,000 households to keep families safe and warm through the winter.
- I signed a bipartisan bill against surprise medical billing, protecting Michiganders from unexpectedly high out-of-pocket expenses.

Supporting Michigan's Economy

- In December, I signed a bipartisan bill providing an additional \$409 million to small businesses affected by COVID-19.
- I worked with folks across the aisle to secure a \$7 billion investment from General Motors, creating and retaining 5,000 good-paying jobs in Michigan.
- Last October, I reestablished prevailing wage for state contracts, guaranteeing these workers get a fair wage.
- Over the last three years, I have delivered over \$420 million in relief to small businesses, helping them retain over 200,000 jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We enacted a bipartisan tax cut for small businesses, helping them grow and create jobs.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

Education & Childcare

- Three years in a row, we have made the largest investment into education in state history without raising taxes. Last year's budget closed the funding gap between schools to improve opportunities for students all across the state of Michigan.
- I have invested in on-campus mental health, helping schools hire more than 560 mental health professionals to support students, educators, and families.
- We have put over 170,000 Michiganders on a tuition-free path to higher education with the Michigan Reconnect and Futures for Frontliners programs.
- I expanded low- and no-cost childcare so that more than 1 in 3 kids and their families are eligible, helping parents get back to work knowing their children are safe.
- We delivered bonuses of up to \$1,000 to 38,000 full-time childcare professionals through the Child Care Stabilization Grants.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

Water, Clean Energy, and the Environment

- I invested over \$2 billion in water infrastructure, keeping millions of Michiganders safe, protecting the environment, and supporting 30,000 jobs.
- We invested over \$100 million in parks and public lands.
- We deployed solar panels on state-owned lands and buildings and committed to powering state government with 100% renewable energy by 2025.

Public Safety

- I worked with partners across the aisle to deliver more resources to the Michigan State Police to help all families feel safe.
- We signed bipartisan Clean Slate bills making hundreds of thousands of Michiganders eligible to have their records expunged, expanding their opportunities for jobs, housing, and education.
- We provided COVID-19 hazard pay for law enforcement officers and first-responders.

Serving Veterans

- We cared for those who served our nation by building a new veteran's home in Macomb County and another in Grand Rapids.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

I am so proud of the work we have done to invest in Michiganders over the past three years. Through hard work, bipartisanship, and focusing on the issues that unite us, we have made incredible progress. I will continue to fight for our families, small businesses, and communities to put Michiganders first.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan

Community Press Release – Office of State Senator Kim LaSata



Photos provided by Office of State Senator Kim LaSata, State of Michigan

District Update from State Senator Kim LaSata

State of Michigan – January 5, 2022

Dear Friends,

We are now well into 2022 and the new legislative session. Below you'll find an update on legislative priorities, news from the district and other resources I hope you find interesting!

As always, if you have any questions or need to get in contact with me, feel free to call my office at 517-373-6960 or email me at SenKLaSata@senate.michigan.gov.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Kim LaSata
State Senator
21st Senate District of Michigan

LaSata to host February office hours

I recently scheduled an office hour meeting for the month of February. The date, time and location are as follows:

Friday, Feb. 11
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
[Revive Coffee & More](#)
636 N. St. Joseph Ave.
Berrien Springs, MI

No appointment is necessary. Please feel free to drop in to share issues that are important to you!

Carrying the momentum into 2022

It's been a busy 2022 so far as we work to continue last year's momentum into the new year. Below you'll find a brief update on some of the things we have been working on in the Legislature, along with other recent news out of the state Capitol:

State of the State address

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer last week delivered the annual State of the State address. We've heard the annual call for working together for three years, but the governor's calls for bipartisanship haven't always matched her actions.

During her speech, the governor said she was ready to work with lawmakers to reduce tax burdens on Michigan residents. This is welcomed news. If the governor is sincere, Republicans in the Legislature are eager to discuss lowering taxes.

Republicans have long argued that Michiganders know how to spend their money better than the government does. Our responsible spending has led to the state's budget being in a strong position. Now is the time to explore ways to let Michiganders keep more of what they earn.

Protecting Michigan taxpayers

As inflation and shortages continue to disrupt our economy, families and businesses are feeling the pinch on their pocketbooks. I co-sponsored legislation to cut income tax rates, provide a \$500 per child tax credit, and lower Michigan's business tax rate to the lowest in the Midwest to provide hardworking taxpayers and small businesses with a bit of much-deserved relief.

Senate Bill 768 was recently passed in the Senate Finance Committee despite "no" votes by every Democratic member. This legislation will help our economy bounce back to pre-pandemic levels through lower taxes, not higher spending.

Senate, House Oversight committees review Deloitte report on UIA fraud

The Senate and House Oversight committees held a joint hearing to discuss a Deloitte and Touche investigation into imposter fraud and intentional misrepresentation payments made by the Unemployment Insurance Agency.

According to the Deloitte report, the agency is alleged to have squandered up to \$8.5 billion in fraudulent jobless claims throughout the coronavirus pandemic. The new report follows a recent state Office of the Auditor General audit indicating \$3.9 billion had been paid out to ineligible recipients due to the agency ignoring federal rules.

There are unanswered questions that the department needs to address like who specifically was responsible for preventing fraud while this was happening or who made the decisions to roll back fraud protections. The hearings will continue until we find who was responsible for these decisions and they are held accountable for their actions.

Attracting talent and strengthening our economy

Michigan's labor market continues to be constrained due to a number of ongoing issues, including an exodus of residents and a lack of qualified workers. I've proposed legislation, Senate Bills 739-741, to allow more employers, especially employers in rural areas, to participate in the Michigan New Jobs Training Program.

The Michigan New Jobs Training Program allows community colleges to provide free training for employers that are creating new jobs or expanding their operations in Michigan. The training for the newly hired workers is paid by capturing the state income tax associated with the new employees' wages.

Individual community colleges work directly with employers and local economic development agencies to support job creation and training. I am having discussions about taking a regional approach to open up more opportunities for employers and Michigan workers as well.

Building a smarter infrastructure system

The condition of roads and bridges is something that often comes up when I speak with constituents.

In recent months, the Legislature has been working on ways we can take care of some other much-needed infrastructure repairs. In addition to the state's roads, bridges are a critical piece of Michigan's aging infrastructure and have been a key focus in Lansing. Senate Bill 529, which I supported, would use \$1.3 billion in federal money to repair bridges in severe condition across the state.

This would not only help make necessary repairs to the state's aging bridges, but it also would take a huge financial burden off the shoulders of local governments and road agencies.

Over 400 locally managed bridges are in critical need of repairs, including 15 in our Senate district. Instead of going to taxpayers for money, we introduced legislation that would use one-time federal funding to make meaningful repairs where they are needed.

Supporting Michigan's Catholic schools

Photos
provided
by Office
of State
Senator
Kim
LaSata,
State of
Michigan

The state Senate recently adopted my resolution recognizing the week of Jan. 30 through Feb. 5 as Catholic Schools Week in Michigan.

Senate Resolution 103 recognizes the excellent work Michigan's Catholic school administrators and teachers perform on a daily basis and commends Catholic schools for maintaining strict educational standards while also instilling values that help transform students into caring, compassionate adults.

Communities throughout our state are strengthened through the values taught in our Catholic schools. As a former Catholic school student, teacher and parent, I have experienced first-hand the beneficial life lessons taught in our state's tremendous Catholic schools.

I recently had a chance to visit my alma mater, Lake Michigan Catholic, and present Principal James White with a framed copy of SR 103.

DNR accepting applications for conservation officer academy



Photos provided by Office of State Senator Kim LaSata,
State of Michigan

The DNR is currently accepting applications for two conservation officer academies being offered this year.

Michigan conservation officers are fully licensed law enforcement officers who provide natural resources protection, ensure recreational safety and protect citizens through general law enforcement and conducting lifesaving operations in the communities they serve. Learn more at Michigan.gov/ConservationOfficers.

Applications are due Monday, Feb. 28.

Staying up-to-date

My [website](#) and my [Facebook](#) are the best ways to stay current on what is happening in both our Senate district and the state's capital.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. You may [sign up](#) to receive this newsletter also at my [website](#).

Michigan's 21st Senate District

Michigan's 21st Senate District includes all of Berrien, Cass, and St. Joseph counties.

Photos
provided
by Office
of State
Senator
Kim
LaSata,
State of
Michigan

Senator Kim LaSata
S-310 Capitol Building
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
Visit my website at: StateSenatorKimLaSata.com

The Clark Barker – Issue 21



Groundhog Day 2022

So, what is this that I hear about Groundhog Day that a groundhog determines if we will have six more weeks of winter or not?! If I saw that groundhog, I would probably be chasing after him if he came out of the hole and stayed there and did not go back in. I am a dog, so I just go with the flow no matter what the groundhog sees or doesn't see.

Recently I was told that the prediction was that winter is here for another six weeks. Oh well, we just live every day to the fullest. However, if winter wasn't going to be here for another six weeks, then I could have seen myself being outside even more chasing those squirrels up the tree! Oh how I long for warmer days!

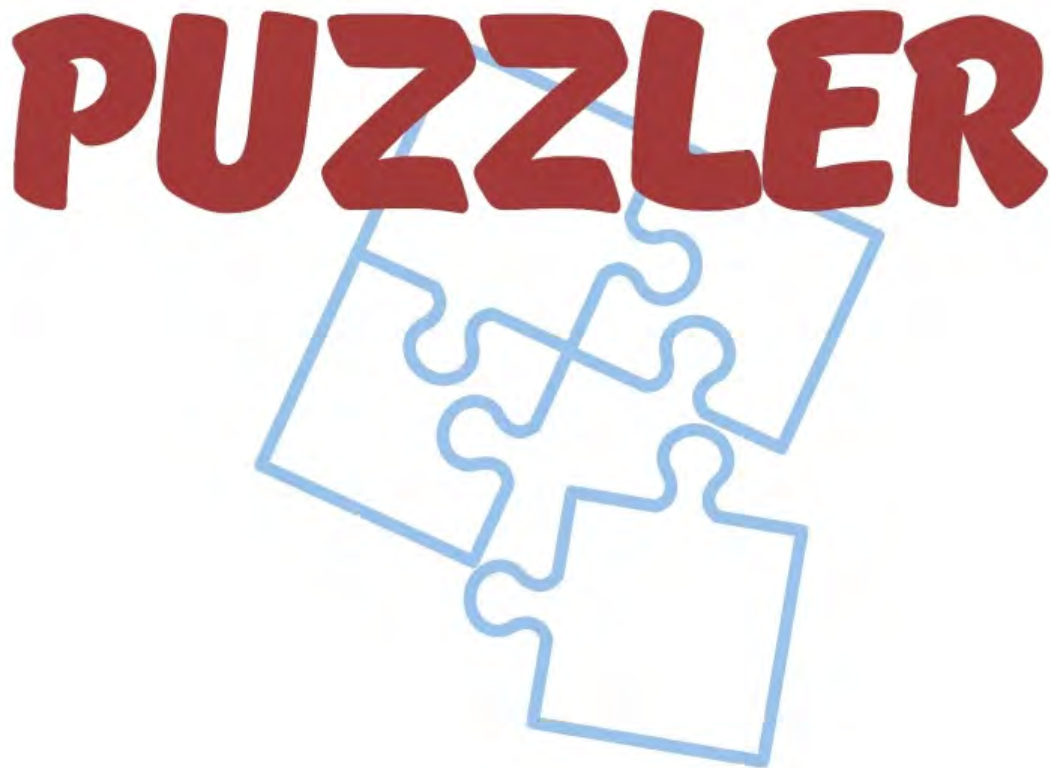
Woof-Woof!

Answer to Puzzle 2 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:**PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS**

- STATES:
 1. Nebraska
 2. Missouri
 - CAPITALS:
 1. Atlanta
 2. Annapolis
-

Puzzler Page – Issue 21

by Garrick Stubblefield



Hi all, my name is Garrick Stubblefield and I live here in Buchanan. I joined the military right out of school. Recently, I was asked to join The Buchanan Chronicle by sports writer Nik Sanchez. I will be doing an array of, not only puzzles, but I will be doing sports and other articles. My objective is doing puzzles for your entertainment. Bear in mind that these puzzles have come from my head and not from any ol' newspaper, magazine, or book. I hope you love them and give me feedback as they come out.

Puzzler Page

PUZZLE 1 – REDUCING A LETTER

- Puzzle Instructions:
 - You'll be given a 3, 4, 5, or 6 letter word.
 - The object of the puzzle is to remove one letter each step, making a new word each time.
 - After a letter is removed you cannot reuse it.
 - Abbreviations do count. As in the English dictionary, there are 2 letter words that count, such as PI, AR, KA, KI, ER; however acronyms do not count.
 - You may rearrange the letters each step to create your new word.
- THIS ISSUE Puzzles:
 - 6 Letter –
 - PLATES
 -
 -
 -
 -
 -
 - 5 Letter –
 - BRAKE
 -
 -
 -
 -
 - 4 Letter –
 - TAKE
 -
 -
 -
 - 3 Letter –
 - TAD
 -
 -

As this puzzle could have many answers, you can email your possible answers to Garrick at garrickstubblefield@gmail.com. He will check and respond as quickly as he can.

PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS

Riddles below are clues to State names and State Capital names.

- STATES:

1. This State may grow the most CORN in the U.S.
 2. This State is considered the Gateway to the West.
- CAPITALS:
 - This Capital is home to the beverage Coke.
 - This Capital is home for Navy College.

PUZZLE 3 – FINDING A WORD WITHIN A WORD

- Instructions:
 - Search the given word to find a new word for each clue below.

GROUNDHOG DAY

1. A circle is considered THIS.
2. A type of ANIMAL.
3. A person puts THIS in a days work.
4. A type of DOG.
5. Another term for a SMALL KID.

PUZZLE 4 – CRACK THE CODE

- Instructions:
 - Beginning with a given three digit number, you will follow along each step and end with a different three digit number as your answer.

525

1. FLIP THE NUMBER;
2. MAKE THE FIRST 2 INTO A 1;
3. MAKE THE SECOND 2 INTO A 3;
4. REVERSE THE NUMBER AND FLIP;
5. WHAT IS THE FINAL 3 DIGIT NUMBER?

PUZZLE 5 – SCRAMBLES

- Instructions:
 - This game's objective is to scramble the letters to form a new word. Some words may have at least 1 or at most 10. I'll specify how many you're looking for and how many letters long. Let's see how you do.
- Example:
 - TABLE – find 2 words of 5-letters each
 1. BLEAT
 2. BLATE

MEATS — find 5 words of 5-letters each

Check your answers by finding them throughout this issue. Read each article to find all the answers.

Police Points – Call Log Issue 21



Police Chief Tim Ganus

Police Call Log : 1/12 – 1/25

Buchanan City Police Department

Description	Total Calls of Type
Sex Offenses	1
Parental Kidnapping	0
Larceny	2
Larceny – Theft from Motor Vehicle	0
Fraud	2
UDAA (Motor Vehicle Theft)	1
Aggravated Assault	0
Non-Aggravated/Domestic Violence	3
Family/Other	0
Burglary/Unlawful Entry	0
Intimidation/Stalking	2
Forgery/Counterfeiting	0
Retail Fraud Complaint	4
Damage to Property	1
Liquor Violations	0
Obstruction/Warrant Arrest	0
Disorderly Conduct	0
Weapons Offense	0
Public Peace / Other	3
OUIL	0
Driving Law Violations	3
Health and Safety	0
Trespass	0
Juvenile Complaints	2
Animal Cruelty	0
Private Property Damage/PI Accidents	1
Abandoned Vehicle	2
Property Checks	0
Alarms	8

Description	Total Calls of Type
Civil	4
Suspicious Situations	13
Lost/Found Property	1
Natural Death	0
Suicide	0
Medical Assist	22
General Assist	28
Ordinance Violations	2
Missing Person	0
VCSA	1

Total Calls 1/12 – 1/25 : 106



Police Points

A Note from the Editor – Issue 21



by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor

There are times when I sit down to write this note, I get writer's block. So, I look back on my notes in my sketchbook/Rocketbook notebook from our team meetings, and previous "Notes from the Editor," to get some

ideas. Finally, it comes to me: As I write this, it has been a year since I started to come up with ideas for The Buchanan Chronicle. Most of those ideas have been published and some have still yet to be published. As our great town of Buchanan evolves, our team comes up with more ideas and we talk about how we are going to incorporate them and other ideas they have into an issue or as a Facebook LIVE video.

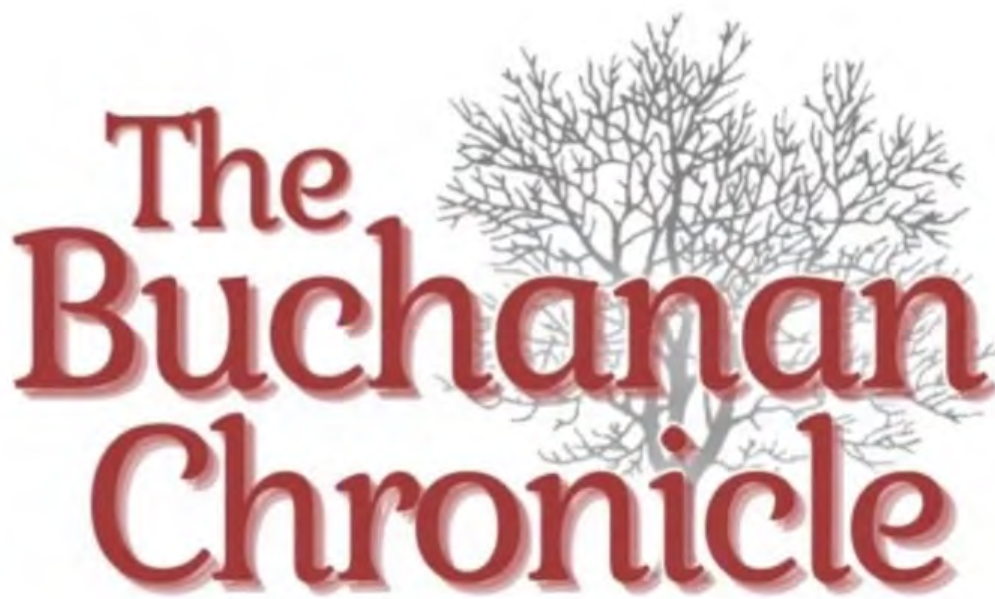
In the near future, you will see some neat personal stories in writing as well as Facebook LIVE videos. Check them out and learn a little bit more about our team! We would also like to get to know our readers even more. Now I have a request for you: do you know anyone who has a rare disease? Rare Disease Day is the last day of February and we would like to showcase those diseases or even just a list of them. If you would like to have an interview on your/your family member's rare disease, please email us at buchananchronicle@att.net. If not an interview, you can email the name of the rare disease as well (please make sure that your spelling is correct). Not sure if the disease is rare? Checkout the [National Organization for Rare Disorders website](#) and you can search for it. These will need to be received by Thursday, February 10 so we can publish this list in our 2nd issue of February. Thank you for your help!

Each article in this issue is special. Although, I would like to highlight a few of them:

- *The Mayor's Memo* by Mayor Sean Denison
- *Winter Wonderland* by Garrick Stubblefield writer, The Buchanan Chronicle
- *Buchanan Community Schools Press Release*

Enjoy this issue and please send us your comments in an email: buchananchronicle@att.net or comment on our Facebook page post of any article telling us what you think. We truly value your opinion as it helps us to know what matters to you and to serve our community better.

Happy Readings,
Rebecka Hoyt



Remembering – Issue 21



Buchanan Losses • 01/22-02/04

Name	Age	Born	Died
Amy Marie Van Dyke-Wojciechowski	47	December 11, 1974	February 3, 2022
Thomas Herman Fritz	83	February 5, 1938	January 31, 2022
Linda Marie Wallace	68	November 11, 1953	January 29, 2022
Jack Thomas Hemminger, Sr.	94	January 22, 1928	January 27, 2022
Larry Dean Cronin, Sr.	82	August 2, 1939	January 26, 2022
Daniel Damouth	47	November 29, 1974	January 25, 2022
Bruce Nelson Goodwin	61	July 6, 1960	January 24, 2022
Patricia Lane McNeely	79	August 12, 1942	January 23, 2022
Marilyn R. Bierwagen	87	April 24, 1934	January 22, 2022
Walter Kim Bruner	77	November 23, 1944	January 22, 2022

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 <http://www.hovenfunerals.com> info@hovenfunerals.com
[269-695-2363](tel:269-695-2363)
[414 E Front St](#)
[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)
[USA](#)

Starks Family Funeral Homes – Swem Chapel <http://www.starksfamilyfh.com/swem-chapel>
[269-695-6881](tel:269-695-6881)
[301 W Front St](#)
[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)
[USA](#)