

Our Forty-Fourth Issue • January 21 2023

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

THE BUCHANAN CHRONICLE

Past Event – 101st Birthday for Geneva Swem

101st Birthday for Geneva Swem Write-Up and Photos submitted by Jerry Flenar Geneva turned 101 on 1/06/23. Cousins from Texas, Indiana, S Carolina, Georgia, Colorado and Michigan spent a 5...

[Keep reading](#)

February 4, 2023



Local Clubs – Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant 2023

Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant 2023 by Rebecka Floyt, Editor & Photographer, and Jen Garry, Publisher "Take Me Home Country Roads" was the theme for the 2023 Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant.

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

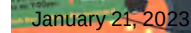


Upcoming Event – Soul Shop for Leaders at BCC

Equipping Faith Communities to Minister to Those Impacted by Suicide Submitted by Nathan Babcock,



January 21, 2023



Upcoming Event – Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations

Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations Spring 2023 Mrs. Robinson wants to know what's on your mind, connect with you, and exchange information. Event Details:

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023



Community Press Release – Dr. Tiffany Bohm Presented by LWV

League of Women Voters of Berrien/Cass Counties to Present LMC's Dr. Tiffany Bohm with 2022 Election Analysis and Related Topics Submitted by Faith Schoon, League of Women Voters of Berrien...

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January 21, 2023



Community Press Release – BCS Board Members Recognized

Buchanan Community Schools Honor School Board

Buchanan Community Schools is honoring 27 local and 50 international school districts at BCS.

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023



Community Press Release – Lighthouse Chorus Donates to RAM

RAM (Respite and Mobility) is a program that provides support for individuals with disabilities and their families.



Lighthouse Chorus Presents Check to Redbud Area Ministries Submitted by Brenda Ropp, Lighthouse Chorus Berrien County, MI – January 9, 2023 Redbud Area Ministries received an extra Christmas present when...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

A red banner with white text. The text reads: "Community Press Release – HCU High School Senior Scholarships". Below this, it says "COMMUNITY COMMITMENT" and "Honor Credit Union to Award 28 High School Seniors with \$1,000 Scholarship Submitted by Kayla Smith, HCU Brand Coordinator Berrien Springs, MI ~ January 13, 2023 Honor Credit Union is...". On the right side of the banner is a photo of a smiling man in a graduation cap and gown, pointing upwards. At the bottom left, there is a dark blue box with white text that says "Keep reading" and "online at: honorcu.com/scholarship".

Community Press Release – HCU High School Senior Scholarships

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Honor Credit Union to Award 28 High School Seniors with \$1,000 Scholarship Submitted by Kayla Smith, HCU Brand Coordinator Berrien Springs, MI ~ January 13, 2023 Honor Credit Union is...

Keep reading

online at: honorcu.com/scholarship

A Note from the Editor – Issue 44

A Note from the Editor – Issue 44 by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor Good Saturday morning my fellow readers! I hope all of you have had a great week. Winter sports...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023



Local Faith – BAMA Meeting January 2023

January BAMA Monthly Meeting Recap Submitted by Pastor Nate Babcock, Buchanan Christian Church BAMA Meeting held Tuesday, January 10, 2023 9:00AM at Buchanan Christian Church. We had a good meeting...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

Past Event – Listing Leaders Annual Holiday Cookies & Cocoa

Listing Leaders Annual Holiday Event – Cookies & Cocoa with Santa 2022 Write-Up and Photos submitted by Lesley Capron of Listing Leaders At Listing Leaders Michigan, our favorite annual tradition...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023



Mayor's Memo – Happy New Year!

Happy New Year! by Mayor Sean Denison Buchanan has a lot to be thankful for this new year. The McCoy Creek Trail extension project will get underway now that the...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

BCS School Spotlight – Buchanan High School December 2022

Buchanan High School December Spotlight Community Press Release – January 9, 2023 With the help of a grant from the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation, Buchanan High School's National Honor Society...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023



The Clark Barker – Issue 44

Snowmobile Rules in Buchanan This winter season hasn't been much of a winter, but we did have some snow last December. I heard there may be more chances of snow...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

The Candid Canid

Now That's Funny! – Issue 44

Now That's Funny! – Issue 44 by Thomas Hoyt, Writer So these days now there is a day for everything. Talk like a pirate day, Chocolate chip cookie day, Pizza...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

Now That's Funny! with Garrick – Issue 44

Filling Up the Car with Gas by Garrick Stubblefield So, I went to my local gas station to fill my car up with gas. I walked in and proceeded to...

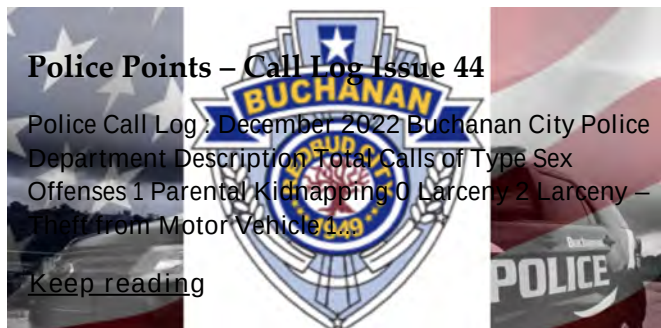
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January 21, 2023

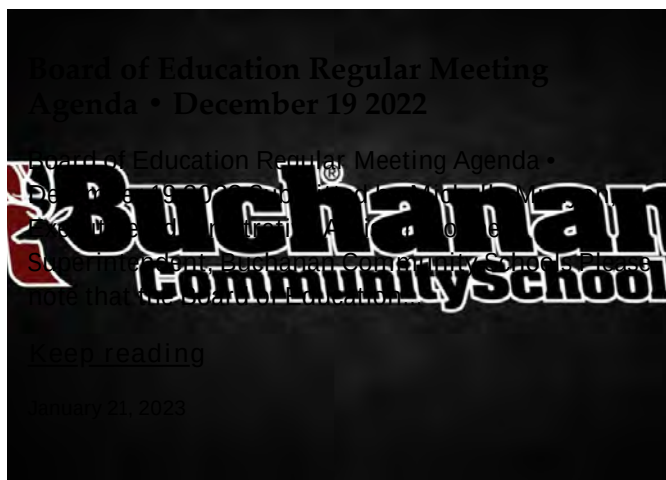
Police Points – Call Log Issue 44

Police Call Log : December 2022 Buchanan City Police Department Description Total Calls of Type Sex Offenses 1 Parental Kidnapping 0 Larceny 2 Larceny – Theft from Motor Vehicle 1 43

[Keep reading](#)



January 21, 2023



Remembering – Issue 44

Remembering – Issue 44 Buchanan Losses •

12/31/22-01/12/23 Name Age Born Died Robert L.

Hoven, Jr. 74 March 25, 1948 January 12, 2023

Maebelle Luke Hall 95 January 23, 1927...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

Puzzler Page – Issue 44

Puzzler Page – Issue 44 by Garrick Stubblefield Hello all and Happy New Year. I hope you all had fun last year with the puzzles I did for you and...

[Keep reading](#)

January 21, 2023

Thanks for Reading Our *Forty-Fourth* Issue!

*

Look for Our *Forty-Fifth* Issue:

Saturday, February 04, 2023



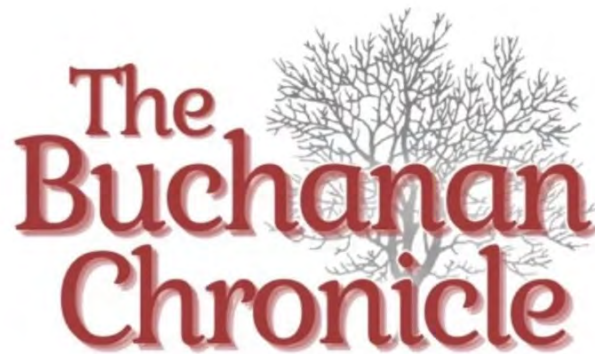
2022 Turns to 2023 at Midnight on New Year's Eve in Downtown Buchanan, Photo by Rebecca Hoyt

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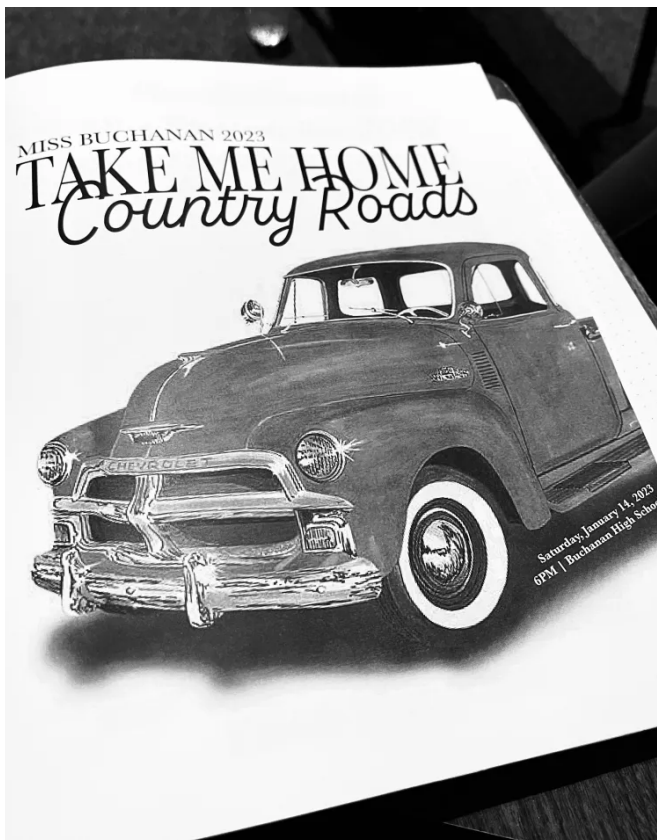
Local Clubs – Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant 2023



Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant 2023

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer, and Jen Garry, Publisher

"Take Me Home Country Roads" was the theme for the 2023 Miss Buchanan Scholarship Pageant which took place last Saturday evening, the 14th of January at 6:00 in the Buchanan High School Auditorium. Smiles, sequins, and the evening gowns were very beautiful on each contestant.



Take Me Home Country Roads, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

The evening started off with Emilie Kurtz singing the National Anthem with the American Legion Post #51 presenting the colors. Lillian Waggoner, Miss Buchanan 2022 & Miss Blossomtime 2022 opened up the ceremony and introduced Lindsey Colip Schmidt, Mistress of Ceremonies. The stage was then livened up the contestants and Miss Buchanan 2022's honor court dressed in black cowgirl twirly skirts, a white button-down shirt that adorned a loose-tied black sparkly tie and white cowgirl boots to the Shania Twain song, "Man I Feel Like a Woman." The smiles on their faces said it all that they had a great time doing this dance and the crowd responded with excitement!



Intro Dance Number was to "Man I Feel Like A Woman" by Shania Twain, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Those noted in attendance were: Buchanan City Mayor Sean Denison, Buchanan Community Schools

Superintendent Patricia Robinson, Judges Stacey Patillo, Zack Devereaux, and Katlynn Kennedy. Pages for the night were Jade Smith, Austyn Dalton, and Shailin Golden. The Blossomtime Reps and Tellers were Adam Smego and Lindsay Coleman; Committee Tellers: Sheila Proud and Maddy Vorrath. The Escort for the night was BHS Senior Seth Bromley.



Escort 2023 is BHS Senior Seth Bromley, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Each contestant was escorted by one of their family members, mostly dads but also a grandfather too as the contestant introduced them and the plans they have for their future. Lindsey Colip Schmidt, Mistress of Ceremonies asked the contestants their first formal question, "Knowing what you know now, what advice would you give yourself prior to the pageant?" Many of them stated to be yourself and have confidence.



Contestants and their Escorts



Mistress of Ceremonies Lindsey Colin Schmidt Questions Contestants

Pageant Process, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Out of the 11 contestants, they went down to the Top 5 who were: #8 Arianna Hankins, #4 Josie West, #10 Brianna Martin, #7 Makayla Miller, and #6 Lexi Herrman. A farewell was given to Lillian Waggoner who was then inducted to the Miss Buchanan Sorority.



Lillian Waggoner, Miss Buchanan & Miss Blossomtime 2022



Lily's induction into SWM Blossom Queen Sorority with Donna Bradfield

Previous Queen Lillian Waggoner, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

The first crowning was Miss Congeniality by Joy Kaltenbach (2022 Miss Congeniality) to #2 Isabell Bryans. Second Runner Up crowning by Alexa Burns (2022 Second Runner Up) to #7 Makayla Miller. First Runner Up crowning by Hayden Bauer (2022 First Runner Up) to #6 Lexi Herrman. And your 2023 Miss Buchanan is #8 Arianna Hankins crowned by Lillian Waggoner (2022 Miss Buchanan).



Miss Congeniality 2023 is Isabell Bryans



Second Runner Up 2023 is Makayla Miller



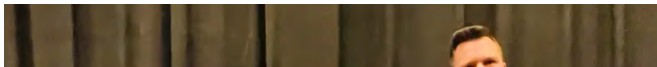
Each contestant received a \$250 scholarship. Miss Congeniality, Second Runner Up and First Runner Up each received a \$500 scholarship. And Miss Buchanan received a \$1,500 scholarship from the Buchanan Lodge #68 Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan.





Announcing the Winners, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Miss Buchanan, Arianna Hankins is “planning on attending GVSU to obtain her bachelors degree in biology. While attending GVSU I want to cheer on the Lancers and compete with their Co-Ed Cheer team. After college attend medical school to become a pediatric hospitalist.” She also gave some advice to those coming to Miss Buchanan next year, “being confident and being yourself and to not give up. It took me a while to get ready for this, like four to five months, and I have held four different titles: Little Miss Paw Paw First Runner Up, Miss Junior Paw Paw, Miss Teen Paw Paw, and Miss Sunburst. I am super excited for Miss Blossomtime.” She has had four cousins who have won pageants in the past 46 years. Her family consists of her Mom Sandra Hankins, and her two sisters Cierra Williams and Maraya Hankins. Arianna is originally from Paw Paw, but has lived in Buchanan for five years while volunteering at the Niles hospital and at the Trek-or-Treat at McCoy Creek Trail.



Jen and I would like to congratulate all of the contestants and we will see Miss Buchanan at the Miss Blossomtime pageant in April this spring! Good luck to all of you in the future!





About Miss Buchanan, Inc.: Miss Buchanan Inc. was started in 1978. Every December or January, Miss Buchanan Inc. holds a pageant where young ladies compete for the title of Miss Buchanan and her Court of Honor. Through her year of service as Miss Buchanan, she gets opportunities to attend local community events, receives scholarship money, and represents her community in the Miss Blossomtime pageant. Miss Buchanan Inc.'s mission is to always support and encourage the young women chosen as Miss Buchanan and her Court of Honor.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MissBuchananInc

Website: blossomtimefestival.org/pageants/miss-blossomtime/community-queens/buchanan/
missbuchananscholarship@gmail.com
[574-302-1990](tel:574-302-1990)
[1825 Bakertown Rd](#)
[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)
[USA](#)

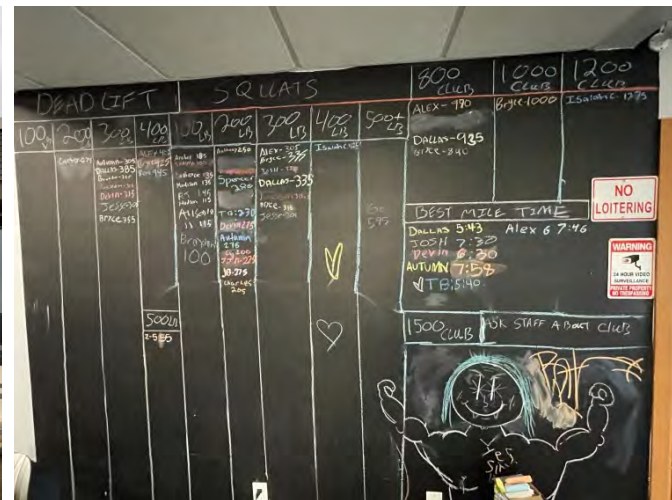
Local Business – New Owners at 24hr Fitness Industry



New Owners at 24hr Fitness Industry Gym in Buchanan

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Since last September, Robie & Jenny Scoggin purchased Fitness Industry in Buchanan that is at the end of the Smoke Vision building at 400 E. Front Street. Owner, Jenny Scoggin said, “when the opportunity came, we took it.” They have two employees as well.



Fitness Industry, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

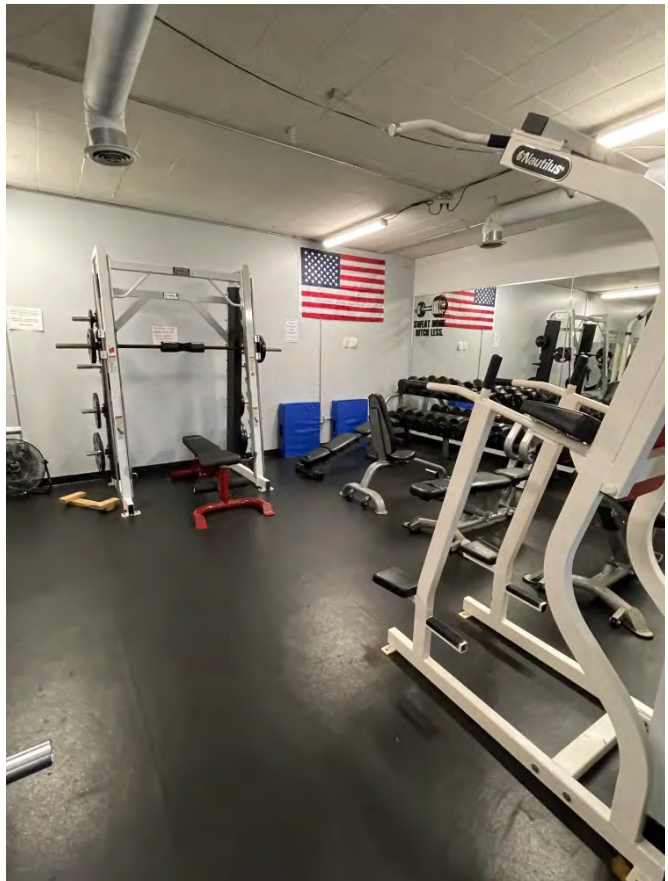
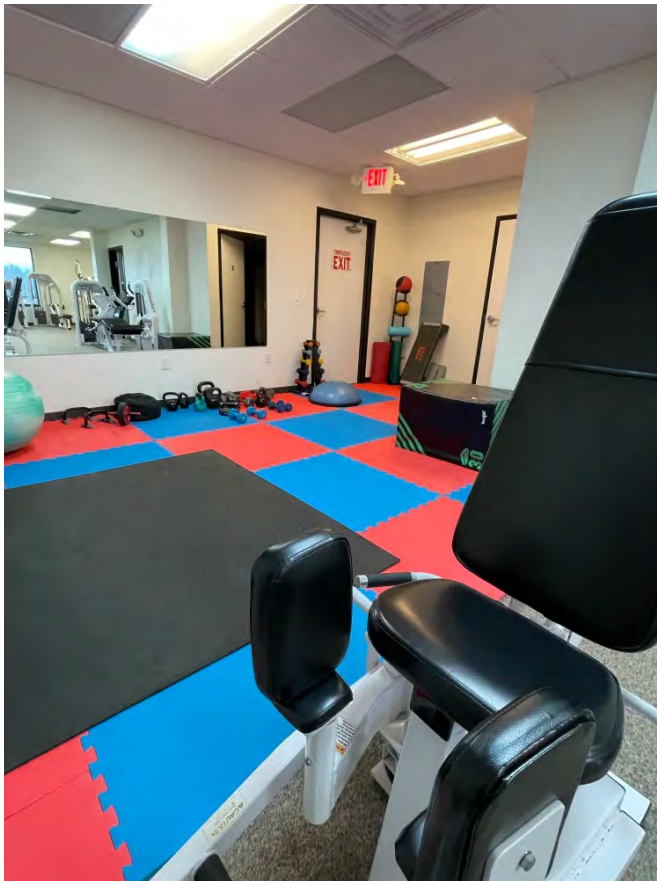
What is unique about Fitness Industry? They are open 24 hours. This allows “flexibility for those who work third shift, and it costs a lot at other places,” Jenny stated. Members have a key tag to come in and security cameras are placed throughout the fitness center. Business hours are: 9am – 7pm Monday – Friday, 10am – 2pm Saturday, and open 24 hours on Sunday (just no business hours). Children who are 14 years and up must come during the posted business hours. Also, one of their rules is to bring a pair of clean shoes to help keep the gym and equipment clean. You will notice the gym is clean.



Fitness Industry, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

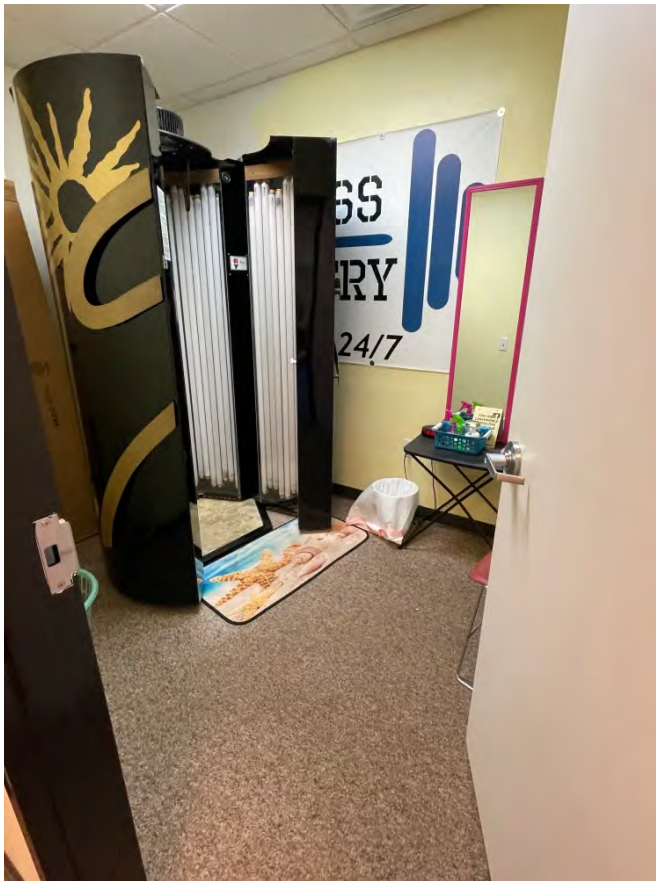
- Fitness Industry has your typical workout equipment ranging from:
 - Strength training
 - Treadmills
 - Ellipticals
 - Weight lifting
 - Stationary bikes
 - Stretching area

There are two different sized rooms for weight lifting along with black chalkboard walls to post your achievements of weight lifting.



Fitness Industry, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

They have lockers for your belongings, just bring a lock with you. As well as three restrooms and one shower in one. You can also tan in their lay down or stand up tanning rooms. Some of the patrons have said that tanning helps them "to be in a better mood when it's a gray day outside, and the staff are very friendly and helpful." No contract is needed, as they charge your credit card monthly and you can cancel at any time.



Fitness Industry, Photos by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

If you are looking for something to keep you moving in Buchanan, check out Fitness Industry and let them know you saw the article in The Buchanan Chronicle!

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing," (Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw).

• **Membership Types & Prices:**

- Adult (14 & up): \$28/month
- Couple: \$44/month
- Family of 4: \$54/month
- Adult add-on: \$14/month
- Annual Single: \$288 (12 For 11)
- Annual Couple: \$464 (12 For 11)
- Senior Single (62 & up): \$26/month
- Senior Couple: \$38/month
- Annual Senior: \$266 (12 for 11)
- Annual Couple Senior: \$420 (12 for 11)
- One Day Gym Pass: \$7

• **Tanning Prices**

- \$15/month per member
- \$25/month non-member
- \$7 Session
- \$3 tanning lotion samples



About Fitness Industry: Your Buchanan 24hr gym!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fitnessindustry

269-697-9254

fitnessindustry400@gmail.com

400 E Front St

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

Upcoming Event – Boy Scout's 56th Annual Swiss Steak Supper



Boy Scout Troop 541 Presents:
**56th Annual
Family Style
Swiss Steak Supper**



Proceeds support Troop 541 Activities and Community Projects

Serving Swiss Steak, Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Roll, Drink & Dessert

"Dine in" or "Take Out"

Saturday, February 4th, 2023
4 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

At: First United Methodist Church
132 S. Oak St
Buchanan, MI 49107

Adults \$10.00 and Children Under 12 \$5.00

You can purchase tickets in advance on Tuesday Evenings January 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st from 6:30 until 8:00 at the First United Methodist Church in Buchanan.
Or contact Bill Blumka at 574-361-0258 for more information.

Note: Dinner will be held regardless of the weather



Boy Scout Troop 541 to Host 56th Annual Family Style Swiss Steak Supper

Proceeds of this annual event go to support Troop 541 activities and community projects.

Event Details:

- *Who:* Boy Scout Troop 541
- *What:* 56th Annual Family Style Swiss Steak Supper
- *When:* **Saturday, February 04, 2023 ~ 4pm-6:30pm**
- *Where:* First United Methodist Church
 - 132 S Oak St, Buchanan MI 49107
- *Details:*
 - Serving: Swiss Steak, Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Roll, Drink, & Dessert
 - “Dine In” or “Take Out”
 - Note: Dinner will be held regardless of the weather.
 - Tickets:
 - \$10 Adults, \$5 Children under 12
 - You can purchase tickets in advance on Tuesday evenings, January 24 & 31, from 6:30-8pm, at First United Methodist Church in Buchanan.
 - Contact Bill Blumka at 574-361-0258 for more information.

Boy Scout Troop 541 Presents:

56th Annual Family Style Swiss Steak Supper



Proceeds support Troop 541 Activities and Community Projects

Serving Swiss Steak, Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Roll, Drink & Dessert

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 Or contact Bill Blumka at 574-361-0258 for more information.

Note: Dinner will be held regardless of the weather

56th Annual Family Style Swiss Steak Supper flyer

About Buchanan BSA: Buchanan Boy Scout Troop 541 is in the Algonquian District, which is part of the LaSalle Council, Boy Scouts of America and supports local scouting units (Packs, Troops and Crews) in Southwestern Michigan and Northern Indiana.

Troop 541 Facebook Page
269-695-3282
Boy Scout Troop 541 meets at:
Buchanan First United Methodist Church
132 S Oak St
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA

Upcoming Event – Buchanan-Galien Lions Club Trivia Night



Buchanan-Galien Lions Club Trivia Night

Tease your brain and win some prizes!

Event Details:

- *Who:* Buchanan-Galien Lions Club
- *What:* Trivia Night
- *When:* **Saturday, February 25, 2023**
 - 6pm ~ Doors Open
 - 7pm ~ Game Starts
- *Where:* Buchanan Legion Hall
 - 403 E Front St
- *Details:*
 - \$25 per person, or \$200 for table of 8
 - Taco Bar Included
 - Cash Bar
 - Registration and more information: buy.ticketstothecity.com/purchase



Buchanan-Galien Lions Club Trivia Night flyer



"We Serve" is our motto – 87+ years strong – and proud to serve in the 2020 Nicest City in America – Buchanan, MI!

About Buchanan-Galien Lions Club: Buchanan-Galien Lion's Club has been serving the community for more than 75 years. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at the Buchanan American Legion Hall – to learn more about becoming a Lion, contact us. Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes. Lions extend their commitment beyond sight conservation through countless local efforts that include youth outreach programs, improving the environment, building homes for the disabled, and, through their foundation, provide disaster relief around the world.

[Buchanan-Galien Lions Club Facebook Here.](#)

Upcoming Event – Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations

SUPERINTENDENT & BUCK PARENT CONVERSATIONS



Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations Spring 2023

Mrs. Robinson wants to know what's on your mind, connect with you, and exchange information.



SUPERINTENDENT & BUCK PARENT CONVERSATIONS



JOIN US!

Mrs. Robinson wants to know what's on your mind,
connect with you, and exchange information.

MEETING DATE & LOCATION

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

4:45-5:30pm

Buchanan Middle School Extended Learning Area

located in the main hallway

Please use the main entrance in the front of the middle school

Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations flyer

Event Details:

- *Who:* Buchanan Community Schools
- *What:* Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations
- *When:* **Wednesday, January 25, 2023 from 4:45-5:30pm**
- *Where:* BMS Extended Learning Area (in main hallway, use main entrance in front)



About Buchanan Community Schools: Public School system for Buchanan, Michigan area. Our vision is to develop responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society.

www.buchananschools.com

probinson@buchananschools.com

[269-695-8400](tel:269-695-8400)

[Buchanan Community Schools](#)

[Central Offices](#)

[401 W Chicago St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Upcoming Event – Soul Shop for Leaders at BCC



Equipping Faith Communities to Minister to Those Impacted by Suicide

Submitted by Nathan Babcock, Buchanan Christian Church Pastor

Soul Shop™, the leading provider of faith-based suicide prevention workshops in the US.

The target audience for this one-day workshop is pastors, minister, clergy and benefits counselors, lay ministry leaders, first responders and essentially anyone interested in learning how to effectively minister to those impacted by suicide.

“Given that 6% of adults and 17% of adolescents are thinking about suicide at any given time and 50% of any congregation is impacted by suicide in some form, this is an issue that the church cannot avoid. Communities of faith have both a theological obligation and a call by God to face this challenge head on, equipping members to do the same.” Michelle Snyder, Soul Shop Executive Director.

Soul Shop™ workshops includes addressing the primary obstacles to dealing with suicide such as stigma, fear, and shame; statistics/facts about suicide; and how ministries can create a supportive environment while shifting the culture around how people deal with this subject and one another.

Since its development in 2014, Soul Shop has trained thousands nationally and internationally in suicide awareness and has facilitated the development of suicide prevention plans within numerous community teams.

[Soul Shop for Leaders – Buchanan, MI — Soul Shop™ Movement \(soulshopmovement.org\).](#)

- *Who:* Buchanan Christian Church
- *What:* [Soul Shop Suicide Prevention Trainings](#)
- *When:*
 - Soul Shop for Leaders – **Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from 8:30am-4:30pm**
- *Where:* Buchanan Christian Church
 - 112 W Third St, Buchanan MI 49107

YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND



soul  **shop**
For Leaders

JANUARY 24, 2023
8:00AM - 4:30PM
BUCHANAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

This one-day workshop
is designed to
equip faith community
leaders to minister to
those impacted by
suicide.

Soul Shop for Leaders flyer



About Buchanan Christian Church: BCC is an independent congregation of people whose mission is to be and make disciples of Jesus who serve God by serving others. We believe that the Bible is the word of God. We believe in the deity of Christ, his atoning death, and bodily resurrection. We attempt to follow the pattern of the New Testament church in faith and practice.

Pastor Nate Babcock

Services at 10:30am Sundays

Website: buchanan.church/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BuchananCC

[269-695-6621](tel:269-695-6621)

[112 W Third St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Community Press Release – Dr. Tiffany Bohm Presented by LWV



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF BERRIEN AND CASS COUNTIES

League of Women Voters of Berrien/Cass Counties to Present LMC's Dr. Tiffany Bohm with 2022 Election Analysis and Related Topics

Submitted by Faith Schoon, League of Women Voters of Berrien & Cass Counties

Bridgman, MI – January 5, 2022

The League of Women Voters of Berrien and Cass Counties will present Dr. Tiffany Bohm of Lake Michigan College at the Bridgman MI Public Library at Tuesday, January 24, 6:00 p.m. who will provide a close look back at elements of the November election of 2022 and related topics.

Dr. Bohm also will offer a short ad-hoc presentation covering take-aways from the 2022 mid-term election and how these may inform citizens for 2024.

Her presentation also will include a question-and-answer session. "I find open dialogue to be more beneficial in these fast-moving times," says Dr. Bohm.

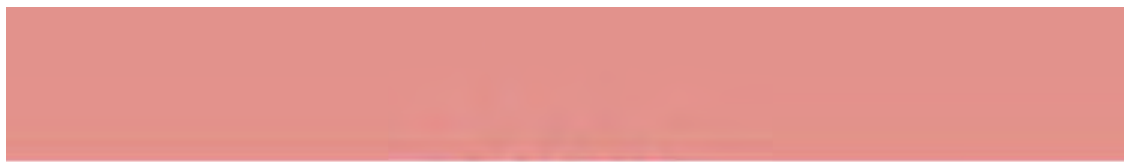
Coffee, tea, and baked goods will be provided. The Bridgman Public Library is located at 4460 Lake St., Bridgman, MI 49106 / 269-465-3663.

About Dr. Bohm:

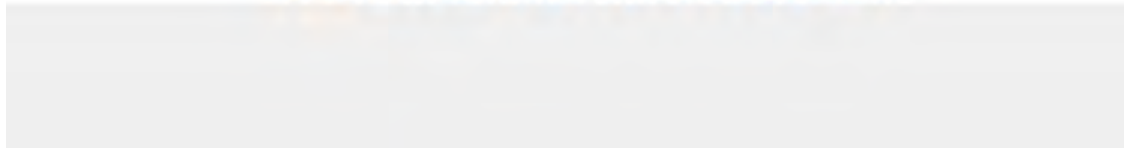
Dr. Bohm received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Northern Illinois University with a specialization in American Government and International Relations. Her research interests include political behavior, public policy related to national security (American and International), elite interviewing and phenomenological analysis, and civil-military relationships. Dr. Bohm has taught at Governors State University, Purdue University, and Prairie State College.

Event Details:

- *Who:* League of Women Voters of Berrien/Cass Counties
- *What:* Presentation by Dr. Tiffany Bohm of Lake Michigan College
- *When:* **Tuesday, January 24, 2023 ~ 6pm**
- *Where:* Bridgman Public Library
 - 4460 Lake St, Bridgman, MI 49106
 - 269.465.3663
- *Details:*
 - Coffee, tea, and baked goods will be provided.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF BERRIEN AND CASS COUNTIES



About League of Women Voters of Berrien/Cass Counties: The LWVBCC, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Contact: Faith Schoon, President

my.lwv.org/michigan//berrien-and-cass-counties

lwvbcc@gmail.com

[847.363.1179](tel:847.363.1179)

[P.O. Box 1032](#)

[Niles, MI 49120](#)

[USA](#)

Community Press Release – BCS Board Members Recognized



Buchanan Community Schools Honor School Board Members for Annual Recognition Month

Buchanan, MI – January 17, 2022

Buchanan Community Schools is joining 537 local and 56 intermediate school districts across Michigan to celebrate January as School Board Recognition Month.

"In another year full of challenges for public education, our school board members persevered through the adversity of 2022 to provide the best possible education for our students," said Superintendent Trish Robinson. "Celebrating School Board Recognition Month is one of the very small ways to express appreciation for all they do."

School board members represent the views and priorities of their community in the complex system of maintaining and running a district's public schools, Robinson said. They also reinforce the principle of local control over public education, which is an important, highly valued aspect of education in Michigan.

"Too often, the efforts of school board members go unrecognized," Robinson said.

- The school board's main goal is to support student achievement, Robinson added. To achieve that goal, the board focuses on the following needs:
 - Creating a vision for what parents and citizens want their school district to become and how to make student achievement the top priority.
 - Setting standards for what students must learn and be able to do.
 - Assessing whether schools achieve their goals and whether students are learning.
 - Accounting for the outcomes of decisions and by tracking progress and reporting results.
 - Aligning the use of the district's human and financial resources.
 - Creating a safe and orderly climate where students can learn and teachers can teach.
 - Collaborating to solve common problems and to support common successes.
 - Focusing on continuous improvement by questioning, examining, revising, refining and revisiting issues related to student achievement.

This month our Board will be recognized for their service during our Board meeting on January 17th. Board members will receive special pictures from students and a certificate of appreciation.

"Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation for our school board

members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round effort on their part,” Robinson said. “No matter what challenges lie ahead for our district in 2023, our school board members will continue to govern to improve student achievement and provide exceptional education for all our community’s children.”

- The individuals serving Buchanan Community Schools have been serving since:
 - Dr. Harvey Burnett, 1998
 - Ruth Writer, 2013
 - Kelly Laesch, 2013
 - Chris Carlson, 2021
 - Katie Berry, 2021
 - Dr. Scott Carlin, 2021
 - Jennie Brackett, 2023



About Buchanan Community Schools: Public School system for Buchanan, Michigan area. Our vision is to develop responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society.

www.buchananschools.com

probinson@buchananschools.com

[269-695-8400](tel:269-695-8400)

[Buchanan Community Schools](#)

[Central Offices](#)

[401 W Chicago St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Community Press Release – Lighthouse Chorus Donates to RAM



Lighthouse Chorus Presents Check to Redbud Area Ministries

Submitted by Brenda Ropp, Lighthouse Chorus

Berrien County, MI – January 9, 2023

Redbud Area Ministries received an extra Christmas present when it received a donation from the Lighthouse Chorus, a local men's A Cappella group. Bill Ropp, Treasurer of the Chorus, presented a check in the amount of \$325 to the food pantry, which came from the proceeds of the Lighthouse Chorus Annual Food Bank Fundraiser, Connecting through Harmony, held this past fall. The fundraiser grossed over \$7,000, with the net proceeds being donated to food pantries in Niles, Buchanan, Berrien Springs, Edwardsburg and Benton Harbor. Chorus President Gene Hanover noted that these donations were made possible through the tremendous support of area businesses who advertised in the fundraiser program, as well as supporters throughout Michiana who attended the annual event. The Chorus also held a food drive the evening of the performance, which brought in over 200 pounds of canned goods.



Bill Ropp, Treasurer of the Lighthouse Chorus, presents a check to Jan Nowak-Walters of Redbud Area Ministries.

Based in Niles, the Lighthouse Chorus is a men's a cappella chorus that 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, singing on stages, in parks, on sidewalks and in churches. They often give back to their communities by holding fundraisers for local non-profit organizations. They are always looking for new members and invite anyone who is interested to visit a rehearsal on Thursdays at 7 PM at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 9 S. 4th Street, Niles.



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

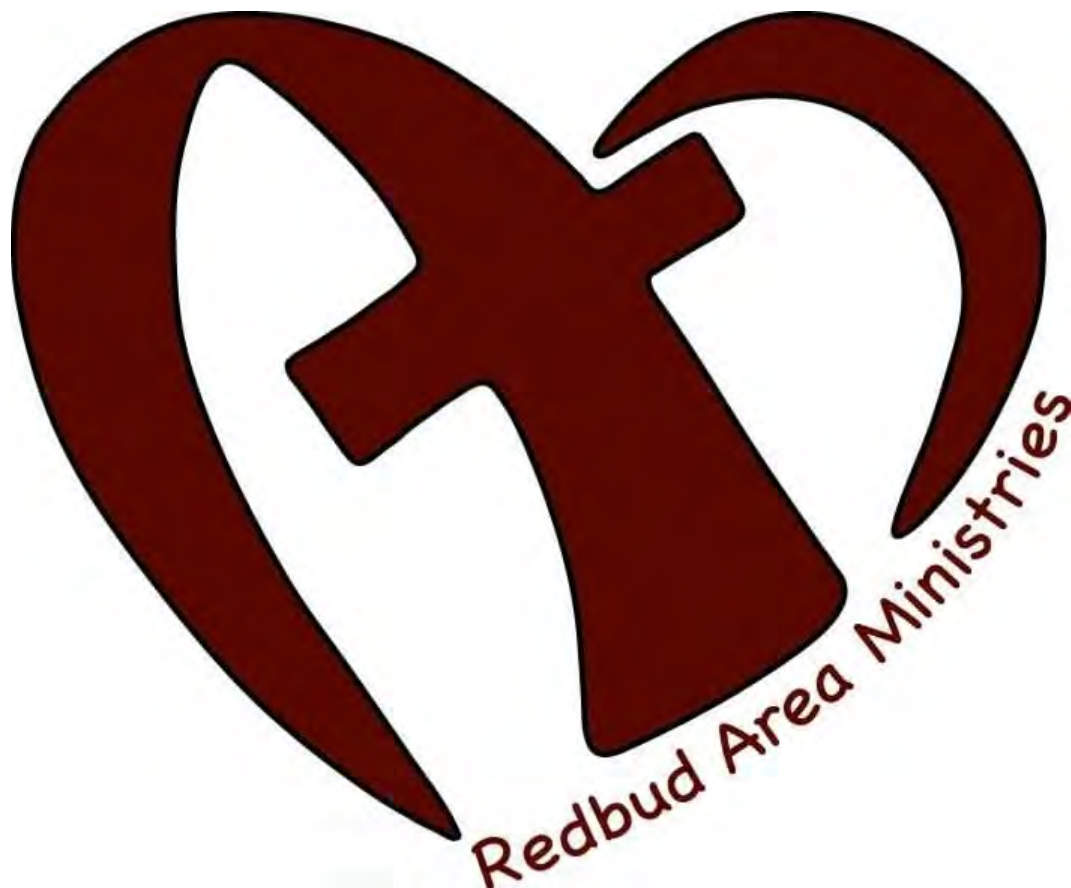
Website: www.lighthousechorus.org

lighthousechorus@lighthousechorus.org

[269.471.4559](tel:269.471.4559)

[Berrien County, MI](#)

[USA](#)



About Redbud Area Ministries: RAM is an interdenominational and interracial ministry center started to organize the churches in the Buchanan and Galien School Districts to respond to individual and family needs. 269-695-5083

redbudareaministries.weebly.com

[Redbud Area Ministries Facebook Page](#)

redbudareaministries@yahoo.com

[708 Red Bud Trail N](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Community Press Release – HCU High School Senior Scholarships



Honor Credit Union to Award 28 High School Seniors with \$1,000 Scholarship

Submitted by Kayla Smith, HCU Brand Coordinator

Berrien Springs, MI ~ January 13, 2023

Honor Credit Union is excited to announce the kickoff of its 2023 Community Commitment Scholarship application. The application window is open for high school seniors from January 13- March 15, 2023. Honor Credit Union will award a \$1,000 scholarship to 28 graduating high school or home school seniors.

Each year, the Community Commitment Scholarship holds steadfast with the mission of supporting high school seniors and their continued education at the university or trade school of their choosing. It reflects Honor's values of community, education, and supporting its members.

To be eligible, the student must be a primary account holder at Honor Credit Union and complete an online application detailing their academic performance and community involvement. Students must highlight this community involvement in a 300-400-word essay explaining how they have made their community a better place.

The deadline to apply for the Community Commitment Scholarship is March 15, 2023, at 11:59:59 PM. Applications must be submitted online. Applications delivered to an Honor member center will not be considered. Scholarship winners will be contacted and announced in late April. To access the application form and view the complete list of requirements, please visit <http://www.honorcu.com/scholarship>.



HCU High School Senior Scholarships, Image provided by HCU



About Honor Credit Union: Honor Credit Union is a non-profit, full-service financial institution serving over 100,000 members in 27 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.

Mayor's Memo – Happy New Year!



Happy New Year!

by Mayor Sean Denison

Buchanan has a lot to be thankful for this new year. The McCoy Creek Trail extension project will get underway now that the city has been awarded a grant from Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The nearly \$900,000 project will require no funds from the taxpayers, thanks to the efforts of Jerry Flenar and the Friends of the McCoy Creek Trail, Rich Murphy, Wightman, AEP and many others who donated money, time and energy. This is a huge win for the City of Buchanan!

Our Economic Development Director, Rich Murphy, has also recently submitted for a One Million dollar, no match required Spark Grant for St Joseph River Public Access. The funds would be used at the North River Park public access to make much needed repairs to the access road, parking lot and amenities. This is the start of a much larger plan to make the river more accessible to our residents and create a much nicer, more usable space for all.

Thank you to everyone who has worked on these grant opportunities on behalf of the city. Your work is truly appreciated. We look forward to seeing these projects come to fruition.

Thank you, see you around town,
Sean Denison, Mayor



Mayor Sean Denison, Photo submitted by Sean Denison

sdenison@cityofbuchanan.com
[269-695-3844](tel:269-695-3844)
[Buchanan City Hall](#)
[302 N. Redbud Trail](#)
[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)
[USA](#)



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

About The City of Buchanan, MI: 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; Fax: 269-695-4330
City of Buchanan
City Hall
302 N Redbud Tr
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA

BCS School Spotlight – Buchanan High School December 2022



Buchanan High School December Spotlight

Community Press Release – January 9, 2023

With the help of a grant from the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation, Buchanan High School's National Honor Society stocked the Little Free Pantry for the Church of Nazarene in Buchanan. Students provided non-perishable items throughout the month of December and enjoyed providing for their community during the holiday season.



BHS NHS Restocks Little Free Pantry at Church of Nazarene in Buchanan, Photo provided by Buchanan Community Schools



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

401 W Chicago St

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

A Note from the Editor – Issue 44



A Note from the Editor – Issue 44

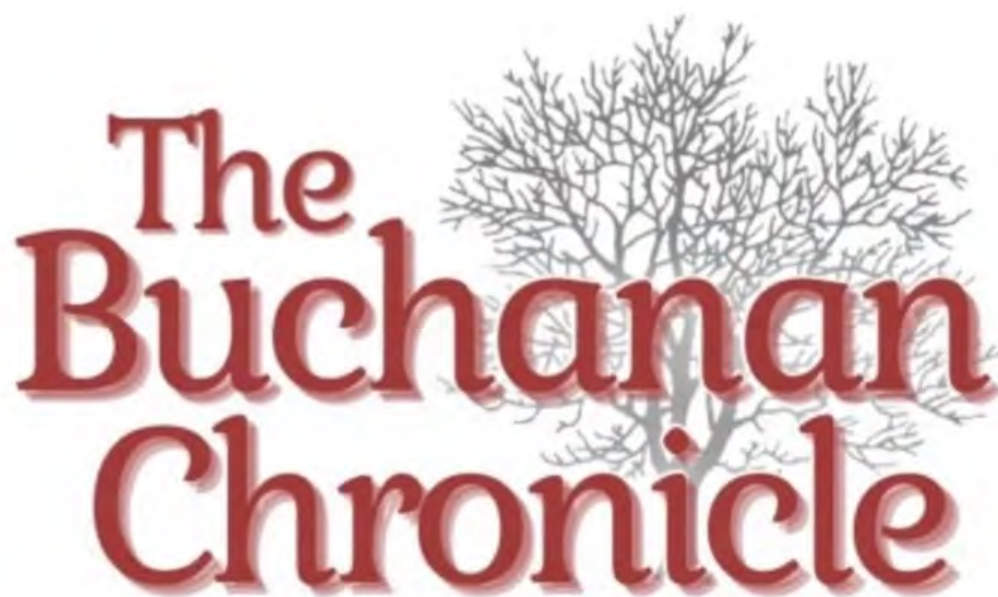
by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor

Good Saturday morning my fellow readers! I hope all of you have had a great week. Winter sports at the schools are in full swing, we have a new Miss Buchanan, and you may have or will see some pink fliers at area businesses like Buchanan Harding's Friendly Markets, Bucktown Nutrition, Fitness Industry, Redbud Insurance Services, and more to come from The Buchanan Chronicle.

As you know, we are wanting to have a printed quarterly newspaper. We want to know if you would like to have a subscription to that newspaper, or would like to pick one up in town at area businesses. Follow the instructions on the flier to respond to us. If you are one of our long distance readers and would like that newspaper mailed to you, please send us an email at buchananchronicle@att.net or through our [Contact Us](#) tab on the website, or by calling 269-697-9874. This will help us to truly get the right amount of newspapers and not too many leftover.

We want to reach as many people in Buchanan as we can. Even though Buchanan is a small town, we all come together and help each other out. And we cannot do this without your help. So please, help us in spreading the word by grabbing a flier or two to share with your neighbors, friends, coworkers/bosses, coaches, teachers, groups/ clubs, church, and family. We have plenty of fliers to go around town. We look forward to hearing from you!

Enjoy the issue, and please let us know any events or articles that may interest our readers.
Happy Reading,
Rebecka Hoyt



Local Faith – BAMA Meeting January 2023



January BAMA Monthly Meeting Recap

Submitted by Pastor Nate Babcock, Buchanan Christian Church

BAMA Meeting held Tuesday, January 10, 2023 9:00AM at Buchanan Christian Church. We had a good meeting this morning at BCC. Those present were: Kevin Haislip, Rebecka Hoyt, Lyndon Azcuna, Dave Mitchell, Jann Mitchell, Brendan Shea, Tim Douglass, Bill Walters, and Nate Babcock.

Ministry Updates

- **RAM** (update provided by Bill Walters). RAM's Christmas distribution went well. Executive committee chairperson Darlene Clevenger resigned from the position, so RAM is looking for a new chair.
- **LifePlan** (update provided by Lyndon Azcuna): January is Sanctity of Life Month. Frigid Five K is this coming Saturday at 9:00 am. Babycakes is this coming Saturday from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the Rage in Niles. Life Plan Community Prayer Gathering will be Sunday January 22 at 6:00 pm at Summit Church in Niles.
- **Salvation Army** (update provided by Tim Douglass). God provided for the Salvation Army during the bell-ringing season in some unexpected ways, so that needed funds were received! Thanks be to God!

Announcements

- Life Plan is bringing a **True Charity foundations seminar** to our community on February 24th. **True Charity** is an organization which equips those working with the poor to implement the principles of the book *When Helping Hurts*. Very generously, Life Plan is offering to pay the cost of registration for this conference for BAMA members who would like to attend. This is a \$30.00 per-person gift from Life Plan! For more information, please see the email from Lyndon Azcuna which I will forward to everyone.
- **Soul Shop for Leaders** seminar in suicide prevention is Tuesday January 24th from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm at Buchanan Christian Church. If you would like to attend, please use the information I have provided in previous emails to register. If you have questions, please contact me.
- Brendan Shea announced that Buchanan Nazarene Church will be doing an outreach called "**I Love My City**" on **May 7th**. On this day the members of Buchanan Nazarene will be going out to serve the Buchanan community in various ways. Brendan welcomes the participation of other BAMA churches in this great effort, and so if you have questions, please contact him.
- Nate will be meeting with Mrs. Beasley, principal of Buchanan Middle School, tomorrow about re-starting the **Middle School Mentoring Program**. More information will be made available soon so that members of your churches who would like to participate can get involved.
- **Upcoming BAMA events**: Good Friday, National Day of Prayer, and the Baccalaureate service.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, February 7th at 9:00 am at Buchanan First United Methodist.

Prayer requests

- Please pray for Pastor Ed Slate of Faith United Methodist Church. Pastor Ed is recovering from a stroke. Please also pray for Tim Douglass's son Josh, who is having surgery to remove a tumor on Thursday, January 12th.

Many blessings to all!

Nate

*If your church or club would like to highlight your meetings/events, please email us at:

buchananchronicle@att.net



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.

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

Past Event – Listing Leaders Annual Holiday Cookies & Cocoa



Listing Leaders Annual Holiday Event – Cookies & Cocoa with Santa 2022

Write-Up and Photos submitted by Lauren Capron of Listing Leaders

At Listing Leaders Michigan, our favorite annual tradition is our Cookies & Cocoa with Santa event. We have been hosting this event since 2018 and love to see some of the same families return year after year. This family event allows children to come visit Santa and write him a letter while they enjoy delicious cookies and hot chocolate.



Cookies and Cocoa with Santa 2022, Photos submitted by Lauren Capron

Seeing the kids' faces light up when they see Santa is one of the most magical experiences. We have our very own elves that help pass out cookies & hot chocolate to the parents and kids. While writing their letter to Santa, the kids can include their address and a book they would like. Once their letter is complete, it can be placed in Santa's big magical mailbox.



Cookies and Cocoa with Santa 2022, Photos submitted by Lauren Capron

At the end of the night, the elves get busy reviewing the letters and buying books. Our little elves hand wrap all the books with a special little message and deliver them to each and every house just in time for Christmas. Our local communities look forward to this night every year, as do we!



PAST EVENT Cookies & Cocoa with Santa 2022 flyer

PAST Event Details:

- *Who:* Listing Leaders MI
- *What:* Cookies & Cocoa with Santa
- *When:* **Thursday, December 1, 2022 from 4:30-7:30pm**
- *Where:* Listing Leaders MI
 - 223 E Front St, Buchanan MI 49107



About Listing Leaders MI: Listing Leaders Michigan is all about offering a different kind of real estate experience. We're ready to assist you every step of the way.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/listingleadersmi

Website: www.listingleadersmi.com/

listingleadersmi@gmail.com

[269-405-5478](tel:269-405-5478)

[256 E Front St](#)

[Buchanan, MI 49107](#)

[USA](#)

Remembering – Issue 44



Remembering – Issue 44

Buchanan Losses • 12/31/22-01/12/23

Name	Age	Born	Died
Robert L. Hoven, Jr.	74	March 25, 1948	January 12, 2023
Maebelle Luke Hall	95	January 23, 1927	January 8, 2023
Cheryl Kay Clymer Herrington Smith York	82	July 1, 1940	January 8, 2023
Robert “Rob” Fredrick Troike II	57	January 3, 1966	January 8, 2023
Janice Lucille Merrill	85	November 11, 1938	January 6, 2023
Henry Louis Murray	91	December 31, 1931	January 5, 2023
Richard “Dick” Appell Sr.	80	May 13, 1942	December 31, 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
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



Now That's Funny! – Issue 44



Now That's Funny! – Issue 44

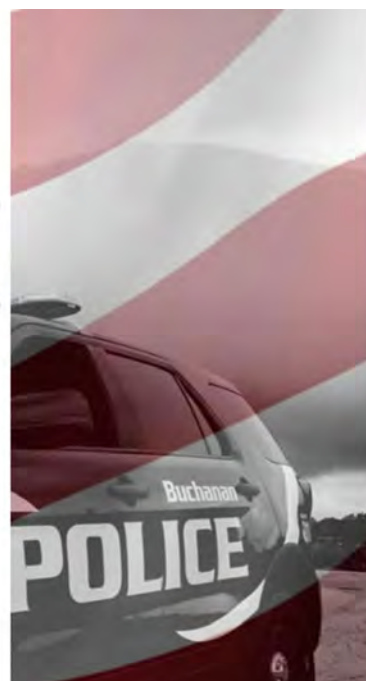
by Thomas Hoyt, Writer

So these days now there is a day for everything. Talk like a pirate day, Chocolate chip cookie day, Pizza day, and the list goes on. When I was a kid, I don't remember having all of this. Of course, when I was a kid we didn't have the computers that we have today along with the internet and all the social media that we now have. It was a much different culture 30+ years ago. Now we can go online and perform a search for so much information. Back in my day I had to go to the library to perform a search in the old card catalog just to determine if there was even a book about what I was interested in! Geez I'm old! 🤔🤔🤔 So if you want to learn if there is a day for talking in pig Latin, Google it.

Dad Joke: Have you heard about the new movie Constipation? It hasn't come out yet. 🤔🤔🤔

Keep laughing folks! 😊

Police Points – Call Log Issue 44



Police Call Log : December 2022

Buchanan City Police Department

Description	Total Calls of Type
Sex Offenses	1
Parental Kidnapping	0
Larceny	2
Larceny – Theft from Motor Vehicle	1
Fraud	5
UDAA (Motor Vehicle Theft)	0
Aggravated Assault	0
Non-Aggravated/Domestic Violence	7
Family/Other	0
Burglary/Unlawful Entry	1
Intimidation/Stalking	4
Forgery/Counterfeiting	0
Retail Fraud Complaint	0
Damage to Property	3
Liquor Violations	0
Obstruction/Warrant Arrest	4
Disorderly Conduct	0
Weapons Offense	0
Public Peace / Other	10
OUIL	1
Driving Law Violations	7
Health and Safety	7
Trespass	2
Juvenile Complaints	3
Animal Cruelty	0
Private Property Damage/PI Accidents	11
Abandoned Vehicle	0
Property Checks	1
Alarms	28

Description	Total Calls of Type
Civil	10
Suspicious Situations	19
Lost/Found Property	26
Natural Death	3
Accidental/Suicide	2
Medical Assist	42
General Assist	86
Ordinance Violations	21
Missing Person	0
VCSA	1

Total Calls December 2022 : 308

* Reminder: The time frame included in each Call Log may vary, and as such the total number of calls per Call Log will vary accordingly.*



About Buchanan City Police Department: The Buchanan City Police Department's fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard life and property; to protect the innocent against deception; the weak against oppression or intimidation; the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional Rights of all persons to liberty, equality, and justice. The Buchanan Police Department proudly serves the citizens of the City of Buchanan by providing twenty-four hour, seven days a week, full service police coverage.

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

Non-Emergency phone: 269-695-5120, fax: 269-695-0014.

www.cityofbuchanan.com/police

dselir@cityofbuchanan.com

720 E Front St, Suite B

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA

- Hours: 24HR EMERGENCY SERVICE – 911
- Office lobby hours: Monday – Friday ~ 8am-4:30pm, except holidays.

Police Points

**Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda • December 19
2022**



**Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda • December 19
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**
- **12/19/2022 6:00 PM**
- **Buchanan High School Auditorium**
- **401 W. Chicago Street**
- **Buchanan, MI 49107**

Begin Agenda:

Call to Order

- **PRESIDENT:** Dr. Burnett opened the meeting at 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

- Dr. Burnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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, Phil Place, Carrie Brunsting, Mark Kurland, Michelle Munyon, Mark Frey, Shelby Beasley, Ryan Frontczak, Tammy Holmer, Sondra Staggs, Michelle Horvath, Kristine Rettig

Adoption of Agenda

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer the agenda for the board meeting of December 19, 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

Recognition of Visitors

- Dr. Burnett and Mrs. Robinson welcomed all.
- J. Pecoraro

Points of Pride

- Buck Staff Recognition December Winner: Michelle Horvath, Moccasin 3rd Grade Teacher. Mrs. Laesch recognized Mrs. Horvath as this month's winner.
- Nominees included:
 - Brenda Hemphill, Moccasin 4th Grade Teacher
 - Dale Groves, BMS 5th Grade Teacher
 - Donna Southwell, BHS Interventionist
 - Holly Martin, BHS Special Education Teacher
 - Jacque Coffel, Moccasin Lunchroom & KidKare Aide
 - Jennifer Shumaker, BS Paraprofessional
 - Josh Wegener, BHS Social Studies Teacher
 - Lindsay Harroff, Moccasin 2nd Grade Teacher
 - Lisa Eliason, Enviroclean Custodian
 - Marilyn Harmon, Moccasin Paraprofessional
 - Rebekah Marschke, Moccasin 4th Grade Teacher
 - Ryan Frontczak, BMS Dean of Students & Assistant Athletic Coordinator
- School Board Member Recognition, Chris Lee 2016-2022 – The Board honored Mr. Lee for his service to Buchanan Community Schools.

Superintendent / Department Reports

- Updates for BHS & CTE, BMS, Moccasin, Ottawa, Athletics & BVA, Business Office, Food Service, Information Technology, Transportation, and Assistant Superintendent

Presentations

- School Highlight – Mr. Mark Frey, Buchanan High School Assistant Principal and CTE Director shared with the board the exciting things happening with CTE.

Information/Reports & New Business

- Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations, November 29th Meeting – Mrs. Robinson confirmed these are open meetings for the community or parents to come ask questions and have an open dialogue with her.
- BHS Student Council, November 30th Meeting – Mrs. Robinson met with the BHS student council and discussed the bond.
- Parent Advisory Committee, November 30th Meeting – Mrs. Robinson shared they touched on a lot of different

topics, the bond, safety and security, elementary Spanish club, curriculum and programming as well as ADA compliance issues.

- Moccasin & BHS Bond Feedback, December 5" & 6' Meetings – Mrs. Robinson informed the board these were casual meetings for staff to come share their thoughts or concerns about the bond with her.
- Human Resources Committee, December 7" Meeting – Mrs. Berry updated the board they spoke of a wage opener with the paraprofessional group, retirement, new hires, potential new hires, and open positions.
- Facilities Planning Committee, December 13th Meeting – Mr. Carlson shared they spoke of bus drivers taking the buses home, our sinking fund, ADA compliance issues at Moccasin, BMS parking lot, BHS family restroom, and air conditioning.

Public Comment

- None

Adoption of Consent Agenda

- MOTION by R. Writer, SECONDED BY Member C. Lee, the Board of Education approves the consent agenda for the regular board meeting of December 19th 2022 be adopted as written:

1. Minutes:
 - 11-21-2022 Regular Meeting
2. Warrants:
 - Treasury & Expenditure Reports – November 2022
3. Retirement:
 - Wendy Murphy – Ottawa Literacy Coach, 32 years of service
4. Recommendations to Hire as submitted by:
 - Ottawa Elementary Principal, Mrs. Stacey Denison

Recommended Employee	Title
Lucie Behrle	Ottawa Paraprofessional (temporary position)

5.

5. Coaching Recommendation for Spring 2022-23 submitted by Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Reid McBeth:

Coach	Position	Class/Level	Step
David Sokolowski	Varsity Baseball Coach	2	1

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

Buchanan Virtual Academy Graduation

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

- MOTION ADOPTED

Support Staff Leave of Absence – Amber Breden

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member K. Berry, the Buchanan Board of Education grants an unpaid leave of absence to Amber Breden, Moccasin Media Assistant, from December 14th through December 23, 2022 to celebrate her wedding and honeymoon in accordance with board policy 4430.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Support Staff Leave of Absence – Sophia Williams

- MOTION by K. Berry, SECONDED BY Member C. Carlson, the Buchanan Board of Education grants an unpaid leave of absence to Sophia Williams, Operations Utility Staff Coordinator, from December 21, 2022 through January 4, 2023 to celebrate her daughter's wedding in Jamaica.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Summer Tax Resolution

- MOTION by C. Lee, SECONDED BY Member C. Carlson, the Buchanan Board of Education adopts the following resolution:
 - WHEREAS, this Board previously adopted a resolution to impose a summer tax levy to collect 100% of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board.
 - NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
 1. The Board, pursuant to 1976 PA 451, as amended (the Revised School Code), invokes for 2023 its previously adopted ongoing resolution imposing a summer tax levy of all of annual school property taxes, including debt service, upon property located within the District and continuing from year-to-year until specifically revoked by the Board and requests that each city and/or township in which the District is located collect those summer taxes.
 2. The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to forward to the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located a copy of this Board's resolution imposing a summer property tax levy on an ongoing basis and a copy of this resolution requesting that each such city and/or township agree to collect the summer tax levy for 2023 in the amount specified in this resolution. Such forwarding of the resolutions and the request to collect the summer tax levy shall be performed so that they are received by the appropriate governing bodies before January 1, 2023.
 3. Pursuant to and in accordance with Section 1613(1) of the Revised School Code, the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to negotiate on behalf of the District with the governing body of each city and/or township in which the District is located for the reasonable expenses for collection of the District's summer tax levy that the city and/or township may bill under MCL 380.1611 or MCL 380.1612. Any such proposed agreement shall be brought before this Board for its approval or disapproval.
 4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

BEA Letter of Agreement – Melissa Lyon

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member K. Laesch, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached letter of agreement with the Buchanan Education Association for Melissa Lyon.
 - Letter of Agreement Between the Buchanan -5C Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education
 - *Stipend for Additional Hours – Special Education Teacher Melissa Lyon*
 - 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 Special Education Teacher Melissa Lyon has accumulated additional work hours outside of the regular school day during the 2022-23 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. Lyon are significant.
 3. Effective October 28, 2022, the District will pay Ms. Lyon an additional stipend of \$5,000 for each semester for the 2022-2023 school year pro-rated for the number of days of responsibility.
 4. The 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 Special Education Teacher or when additional time is no longer warranted as mutually agreed by Ms. Lyon 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, 2023.
 - Signed, December 13, 2022: Patricia Robinson – Superintendent, for Board of Education; & Tom Brinks – President, for Buchanan Education Association.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

BEA Letter of Agreement – Reclassification of Schedule C Advisors

- MOTION by R. Writer, SECONDED BY Member K. Berry, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached letter of agreement with the Buchanan Education Association for the reclassification of Schedule C Advisors.
 - Letter of Agreement Between the Buchanan -5C Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education
 - *Reclassification of Schedule C Advisors*
 - 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:
 - Due to the scope of responsibilities associated with advisor positions:
 1. HS Spirit Team Advisor is added to Class 6.
 2. Junior Class Advisor in Class 7 is renamed Prom Committee Advisor.
 3. Junior Class Advisor position is moved to the "other" section as a \$200 stipend to align with the 9th and 10th grade sponsors.

(See SCHEDULE C document in full minutes [HERE](#))

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

- ABSTAINED: C. Carlson
- MOTION ADOPTED

BEA Letter of Agreement – Removal of Schedule C

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached letter of agreement with the Buchanan Education Association for the removal of Schedule C Language.
 - Letter of Agreement Between the Buchanan -5C Education Association, MEA/NEA, and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education
 - *Removal of Schedule C*
 - 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. Rationale: Due to the extra-curricular schedule maintaining significant consistency each year the association is willing to forgo their review.
 2. Effective Dates: October 4, 2022 – June 30, 2024.
 3. Current Language: By June 15 of each year, the Superintendent and Leadership Team (including one principal for each building and Athletic Director) shall meet with the Association Team (President or designee and one representative from each building) to confirm the extracurricular positions budgeted and assigned for the ensuing fiscal/academic year.
 4. The current language will be removed from the Agreement.
 5. This Agreement is not intended to set a precedent and in no way modifies any other provision of the parties' collective bargaining agreement.
 6. This Agreement expires on June 30, 2024.
 - Signed, December 13, 2022: Patricia Robinson – Superintendent, for Board of Education; & Tom Brinks – President, for Buchanan Education Association.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Transportation Letter of Agreement – Housing of Buses

- MOTION by C. Carlson, SECONDED BY Member K. Laesch, the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education approves the attached letter of agreement with the Buchanan Community Schools Transportation Association for the housing of buses.
 - Letter of Agreement Between the Buchanan Community Schools Transportation Association and the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education
 - 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. To change the Housing Buses to better accommodate the department and school district.
 - a. B9. Working Conditions
 - C. Housing Buses: Drivers who live in the district and have adequate space may take their buses home with the transportation director's approval. Drivers who live outside the district will park their buses at the bus facilities.
 - This Agreement is not intended to set a precedent and in no way modifies any other provision of the parties' collective bargaining agreement.
 - This Agreement expires on June 30, 2024 with the option to set a new expiration date if both parties are in agreement. The District Administration and/or Board of Education has the right to revoke this LOA If needed.

- Signed, December 14, 2022: Patricia Robinson – Superintendent, for Board of Education; & Jennifer Schmidkunz – President, for Buchanan Education Association.

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

Closed Session – Student Discipline Hearings & Superintendent Evaluation

- MOTION by K. Berry, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, the Buchanan Board of Education moves into closed session for a hearing on student discipline, Student #0002939048 and Student #4897524985, as well as to conduct the Superintendent's evaluation. Time: 6:35pm
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Return to Open Session

- MOTION by R. Writer, SECONDED BY Member C. Lee, the Buchanan Board of Education resolves to return to open session. Time: 9:15pm
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Student Discipline – Expulsion Hearing

- MOTION by H. Burnett, SECONDED BY Member K. Berry, the Buchanan Board of Education holds the expulsion hearing in abeyance and student #0002939048 continues on suspension until the student procedural question is addressed.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Student Discipline – Expulsion Hearing

- MOTION by H. Burnett, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, the Buchanan Board of Education holds the expulsion hearing in abeyance regarding student 4897524985 returning the title IX proceedings back for further addressing.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and H. Burnett
- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Superintendent Evaluation

- MOTION by K. Berry, SECONDED BY Member R. Writer, the Buchanan Board of Education adopts the completed year-end evaluation for Superintendent, Mrs. Patricia Robinson.
- ROLL CALL VOTE: C. Lee, K. Berry, C. Carlson, K. Laesch, S. Carlin, R. Writer, and

H. Burnett

- NAYS: None
- MOTION ADOPTED

Questions & Comments from Board Members

- Board members wished everyone a happy holidays and thanked Mr. Lee for his service on the board.
- Mrs. Berry congratulated Wendy Murphy on her retirement.
- Dr. Carlin reiterated that we are lucky to have Mrs. Robinson.

Next Board Meeting

- Monday, January 9th at 6pm.

Adjournment

- 9:20 pm

You may view this meeting's completed 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 Regular Meeting Agenda • November 28 2022



City Commission Regular Meeting Agenda • November 28 2022

Agenda 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 Buchanan City Commission met for this regular meeting Monday, November 28th 2022 at 7:00 pm, in person, Buchanan City Hall Chamber, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107.

MONDAY, November 28, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Begin Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

– Meeting was called to order by Mayor Denison at 7:00 P.M.

II. Recognition

None

III. Pledge of Allegiance

– Mayor Denison led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

– Motion made by Money, supported by Swem to excuse the absences of Commissioners Dan Vigansky and Mark Weedon, as they are currently otherwise occupied performing their duties as delegated for Berrien County.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

– Present: Mayor Sean Denison, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem

– Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Dan Vigansky

– City Staff: City Manager, Heather Grace; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Director of Public Safety, Tim Ganus, Chief of Police Harvey Burnett

V. Approve Agenda

– Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to approve the agenda, as presented.

– Roll call carries unanimously.

VI. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

– None

VII. Consent Agenda (can be approved all in one motion, for general housekeeping items)

VII.A. Minutes

– Consider approving the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2022.

VII.B. Expenditures

– Consider approving the expenditures for November 28, 2022, in the amount of \$132,159.84

– Motion made by Money, supported by Swem to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

VIII. Scheduled Matters from the Floor (if any)

– None

IX. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

IX.A. Community Development Report – Director Murphy

IX.A.1. KISA Enterprises MI, Inc. Medical & Adult Use Marihuana Applications for annual permit renewal.

– Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to approve the KISA Enterprises MI, Inc. Medical and Adult Use Marihuana Applications for annual permit renewal, as presented.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IX.B. Clerk Report – Board AppointmentsIX.B.1. Buchanan Tree Friends

- Consider the appointment of Elaine Rowland to BTF.
- Motion made by Money, supported by Swem to appoint Elaine Rowland to the Buchanan Tree Friends.
- Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IX.B.2. Friends of the McCoy's Creek Trail Committee

- Consider the appointment of Shawn Ward to Friends of the Trail..
- Motion made by Denison, supported by Money to appoint Shawn Ward to the Friends of the McCoy Creek Trail.
- Roll call vote carries unanimously.

X. Unfinished Business

- Motion made by Denison, supported by Swem to postpone all items of Unfinished Business relating to City Boards until the next City Commission meeting, so that the entire City Commission is able to engage in dialogue together.
- Roll call vote carries unanimously.

X.A. Items VIII. B. was postponed at the City Commission meeting on November 14th until the Commission could have a further review of said boards.– OPTIONAL, BUT RECOMMENDED:

- City Manager Heather Grace recommends the formation of the following Boards / Commissions / Committees / Task Forces:

* [Note that Manager Grace recommends that at least one, but no more than two, Commissioners serve on each of the following Committees. Also note that the following recommended committees are not intended to be “standing committees” in violation of Charter Sect. 6.7 because they are intended to only meet ‘as needed’ and also not be permanent, and only exist as long as is deemed necessary—and shall cease operations once their assigned task is completed].

X.B. Recommended to Be Created Boards:X.B.1. Compensation Commission (2 seats)

- As noted in the Buchanan City Charter, at Sec. 4.4, the Home Rule City Act, Public Act 279 of 1909, allows for the creation of a Compensation Commission by ordinance. Manager Grace strongly recommends creating this Commission to assess the compensation given to members of City Boards / Commissions / Committees to ensure that we are continuing to attract the talent necessary to have well-functioning boards and committees, which is vital for the City's operations. This Committee shall meet as needed and case operations once the City Commission has voted upon any recommendations related to committee compensation created by said committee.

X.B.2. Finance Commission

- In conjunction with the City's Auditor, Manager Grace also strongly recommends the creation of a Finance Committee. While not required by statute, a Finance Committee would be an ideal way to further improve the City's financial oversight, as well as provide an additional mechanism for enhanced transparency. This committee shall only meet as needed, and will cease operations once the committee is comfortable with the City's financial oversight processes, as presented to the entire City Commission during regular meetings.

X.B.3. Board of Public Works

- Pursuant to Buchanan City Charter, Manager Grace also strongly recommends the creation of a Board of Public Works, to include one to two members from the City Commission, plus three other members (five members total), with the three other members being “freeholders and electors of the City” [aka, a registered voter who owns property in the City], as per the Charter—in addition to seeking out members with experience in construction or related fields. The Charter also indicates that the Board of Public Works, if created, shall be charged and entrusted with the following duties, powers and responsibilities subject to the direction of the Commission: (1) The construction, management, supervision, and control of the City water works. (2) The construction, management, supervision, and control of any municipal electric system [doesn't apply in our situation]. (3) The construction, management, supervision, and control of such other public improvements or works as are designated by ordinance. This Board would only meet as needed, and would cease operation upon a vote of the City Commission, once the City Commission believes that the City has completed the majority of its needs related to construction and capital improvements.

- It is worth noting that if a Board of Public Works is created, such Board would still need approval from the City Commission to make expenditures—So, in essence, the Board of Public Works would review issues related to Public

Works and then make recommendations to the full City Commission for review and requested approval. Manager Grace thinks that this would be a great benefit, given the many large construction projects in the City's near future.

X.B.4. Community Development Implementation Committee

– Manager Grace also recommends the creation of a Committee to help guide and oversee our Community Development Department's implementation of the City's stated goals and visions related to community development, including certification in the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program, creation of a successful Main Street program, creation of an updated zoning code, and implementation of the Andrews University 'Vision for Buchanan' plan. This committee would meet as needed and would cease after it achieves the above stated goals, as decided by either the Committee itself, or by the City Commission.

X.B.5. Economic Development Committee

– Manager Grace also recommends the creation of an Economic Development Committee to help guide City staff regarding items pertaining to economic development, such as façade grant programs, tax incentive programs, the sale of City-owned property, marihuana permit-related matters, and other issues relating to economic development.

X.B.6. Compliance Commission

– Manager Grace also recommends the creation of a Compliance Committee, which would be charged with providing additional oversight in the areas of legal and ethical compliance. Manager Grace believes that this Committee will be important to help ensure that all City officials, including members of staff and all members of City boards and committees, are meeting all legal and ethical compliance standards. This committee would be charged with creating recommendations for best practices, would meet as needed, and would cease to exist once it has accomplished its stated goals, as decided by either the Committee itself, of the City Commission.

X.B.7. Public Safety Commission

– Manager Grace also strongly recommends the creation of a Public Safety Committee, which would be charged with all matters related to Public Safety, including the creation and implementation of a new blight remediation and code enforcement program—to including rental inspections, etc. The Committee would meet as needed and would cease to exist once it achieves its stated goals, as determined by either the Committee itself or the City Commission.

X.B.8. Governance & Administration Commission

– Manager Grace also recommends the creation of a Governance & Administration Committee, which would be charged with the development of best practices related to matters pertaining to governance and administration, including things such as elections, public communications, interactions with the public, social media policies, and much more. This Committee would meet as needed, and would cease to exist once it achieves its goals, as decided by the Committee itself or the City Commission.

X.B.9. Any other Alternate and Board Appointments

XII. New Business

– None

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

XIII.A. Michigan Municipal League Training

– If any commissioner would like to attend the training, please let Clerk Langston know to set up times.

XIII.B. Thrill on the Hill 2023

XIV. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

– Juanita Lewis complimented the Commission and would like to volunteer with different committees and especially the Thrill on the Hill event.

XV. Executive Comments

XV.A. City Manager Comments

– Thanked everyone for making Bucktown Christmas a very special event.

XV.B. Commissioner Comments

– Money : Loved seeing everyone come out to Bucktown Christmas, it was a very joyful and outstanding job.

– Swem : No Comment.

XV.C. Mayor Comments

– Denison : Asked Baker for an update with the Sweeper. The parts are hard to come by, the DPW staff is working hard to get leaves picked up after the snow fall.

XVI. Adjourn

– Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 P.M.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

You may view the complete [Agenda for this meeting HERE](#).

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



City Commission Regular Meeting Agenda • December 12 2022



City Commission Regular Meeting Agenda • December 12 2022

Agenda by City Clerk Kalla Langston

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THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, as

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- *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.*
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- *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 Buchanan City Commission met for this regular meeting Monday, December 12th 2022 at 7:00 pm, in person, Buchanan City Hall Chamber, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107.

MONDAY, December 12, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Begin Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

– Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sean Denison at 7:00 P.M.

II. Recognition

– None

III. Pledge of Allegiance

– Mayor Denison led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

– Present: Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem, Commissioner Dan Vigansky

– Absent: None

– City Staff: City Manager, Heather Grace; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; City Treasurer, Deborah Perez; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Director of Public Safety, Tim Ganus, Chief of Police Harvey Burnett; Mainstreet Manager/ Chamber Executive, Ashley Regal

V. Approve Agenda

– Motion made by Vigansky supported by Weedon, to amend the agenda to add item for Credit Card Discussion under Section IX. Reports by Departments, item E. Finance Department Report number 2.

– Motion carries 4-1.

– Yea: Weedon, Vigansky, Swem, Money

– Nay: Denison

– Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Weedon to amend the agenda to add item for a presentation about the removal of the silos as item A. under Section XI. New Business.

– Motion carries 4-1.

– Yea: Weedon, Vigansky, Swem, Money

– Nay: Denison

– Motion made by Weedon, supported by Vigansky to approve the amended agenda.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

VI. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

– Don Ryman: Comments about Zoning Code, does not believe we need a completely new zoning code.

VII. Scheduled Matters from the Floor (if any)

– None

VIII. Consent Agenda (can be approved all in one motion, for general housekeeping items)

VIII.A. Minutes

- Consider approving the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 28, 2022.

VIII.B. Expenditures

- Consider approving the expenditures for December 12, 2022, in the amount of \$42,614.06
- Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
- Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IX. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

IX.A. Public Safety Report – Chief Harvey Burnett

IX.A.1. Shop with a Cop 2022

- Burnett gave the Commission an update about Shop with a Cop on December 3rd. The PD took a total of 14 children, 12 in person to shop at Wal-Mart in Niles, with 2 children not being able to be present a school representative was able to shop for them. With the gracious donations that were given each child was able to spend \$200.00, in past years it was \$100.00. The event was a huge success, with the Mayor and Courtney from City Hall helping in the event. He gave a giant thank you to The American Legion, Buchanan Scarecrow Charities, the Buchanan-Galien Lions Club, and other private and businesses that were able to donate. It's a great event to give back to the community.
- Denison also wanted to give a thank you to the Sweet Shop for hosting the kids for snacks after the shopping.

IX.B. Community Development Director Report – Rich Murphy

IX.B.1. Microbusiness Ordinance

- Consider First Reading of Proposed Amendments to the Adult Use Microbusiness Ordinance to include Class A Microbusinesses, as is newly allowed via recently updated state law.
- Murphy brought forth an amendment to the Adult Use Microbusiness Ordinance (2019.11/214). The state has made changes regarding Microbusiness. For public knowledge, Microbusiness was a concept developed for a smaller business to be able to compete. Buchanan had opted into one microbusiness license in 2019. The class A has a few changes that Murphy outlined on the ordinance. See attachment A
- Denison wanted to clarify that the city is not adding any more dispensaries that were not already approved. Murphy is requesting to change our ordinance to mirror the states rules.
- Vigansky wanted to get a better understanding of the Microbusiness.
- Weedon commended the Walpole Brothers for sticking with it.
- Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money to approve the first reading of proposed amendments to the Adult Use Microbusiness Ordinance, as presented.
- Motion carries 4-1.
- Yea: Denison, Weedon, Money, Swem
- Nay: Vigansky

IX.C. Main Street Winter 2022 Progress Report

- Main Street Manager/Buchanan Chamber of Commerce Director, Ashley Regal & Main Street Board Chairperson Tony Housand will provide an update on recent progress.

Regal gave an update on The Michigan Main Street Board and what they have been working on. With the training complete in November, the four components of Main Street is Design, Economic Vitality, Promotion, and Organization.

The board has subcommittees in the four components. Regal went through the committees and the people that serve on them as well as their priorities. Regal is extremely proud of the project and all the work the boards have put in.

IX.D. Board of Review Appointments – Clerk Kalla Langston

- Note that both items above are recommended for approval by City Assessor Mindy Cole- Crocker.

IX.D.1. Emma Lysy Application

- Consider the application of Emma Lysy to join the Board of Review due to the vacant position in 2023 with the term beginning in January of 2023- term ending in January 2025
- Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Money, to appoint Emma Lysy to the Board of Review, as presented.
- Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IX.D.2. Jeff Griffin Re-Appointment Request

- Consider Re-appointing Jeff Griffin to the Board of Review with a 2-year term beginning in January 2023- term ending in January 2025
- Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to appoint Jeff Griffin to the Board of Review, as presented.

– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IX.E. Finance Department Report – Director Deb Perez

IX.E.1. Finance Department Update

– Perez had supplied a revenue and expenditure report as well as the bank reconciliation for October. Revenue and expenditure for the General Fund were at just about 40% revenue collected and 40% expenses. 501 water/sewer is at 52% collected and 40% for expenditures.

IX.E.2. Credit / Purchasing Card

– Perez updated the Commission as to why the Purchasing Cards were removed from the agenda. The agenda before had asked the Commission for 3 additional purchasing cards, two of which were replacements due to staff changes, the other was for a newly issued card. Which if the three had been approved it would have given the city a total of 15 cards. Perez is looking to revamp that policy as she does not see the need to have that number of cards, nor does the city have a policy on purchasing cards for employees. Perez will be creating one to bring in front of the Commission and would like to move forward with having corporate cards with authorized signatures.

– Perez also updated the commission that she was nominated by Grace to AM Champion program for the Asset Management and will begin that in January. Winter taxes are being collected now through February.

IX.F. Public Services Report – Director Mike Baker

IX.F.1. New DPW Building Construction Bids

– Consider approving AVB to go out to bid on the upcoming project to construct a new DPW bldg.

– Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Money to AVB going out to bid on the new DPW building, as per AVB's presented recommendations.

– Swem asked for discussion.

– In the agenda Andy Campbell was supposed to be here to talk about how the city is going to fund the project.

Grace was asked to go over the expectation of how we are paying for this.

– Grace had a meeting with Campbell and decided that \$45,000 would come out of 101 General Fund and \$45,000 would come out of streets between local and major to be determined by the Commission. The water/sewer rates would be raised as previously discussed to cover the other half of the bond payment.

– Swem has been against a project this large the entire time. But he did want to thank the team that has done all the work into this project, it was a huge commitment that was made. He urges his colleges not to handcuff the community with the financial baggage that comes along with a 5- million-dollar project. It does not provide enough efficiency or economic impact to justify this level of expense. The city is not in a position to absorb this level of cost. The concept of having our water/sewer bills carry much of that load is one that's a significant concern. With our \$20 million bond on the horizon, this proposal essentially becomes a tax that hurts the people in this community that can afford it the least. The fear of \$200 water bills for a family is already knocking on our door and he's already consistently paying over \$150 a month. He won't vote yes for a project that's going to have that level of negative financial impact on households in this community and crush our ability to fund projects through the financial burden. It's just too much money.

– Vigansky agrees with Swem but now we're between a rock and a hard spot. The building is gone and about three years behind schedule. He's going to be complaining a lot about the water bills because there should have been a lot more work put into this on the financial side.

– Discussion between commission about cost of the building and alternative options.

– Roll call

– Yea: Money, Denison, Vigansky

– Nay: Swem, Weedon

– Motion carries 3-2.

IX.F.2. General Public Services Department Update

– Street Sweeper is still broken down, parts have still not come in yet. If we don't have a timeline, we will need to be on a list to rent one out.

– Anticipating snow this weekend the DPW got the trucks ready to go.

– Concerns about trash, even though it takes time to pick up the trash. Vigansky would like the trashcans left out downtown. Baker removed them due to snow fall and not being able to maneuver the equipment on the sidewalks to clear snow. Vigansky would like to know if there is anything we can do about the dumping of wood and other materials. Baker is a proponent of fences around the dumpsters.

X. Unfinished Business

X.A. Items X. A was postponed at the November 28th meeting for all the Commissioners to be present on deciding (Items VIII. B. was postponed at the City Commission meeting on November 14th. until the entire City Commission could have a further review of said boards.)

— OPTIONAL Boards for the City Commission to consider for potential creation:

— After further one-on-one conversations with City Commissioners, Manager Grace does not necessarily recommend the creation of these optional boards, unless the City Commissioners so desire:

X.B. Boards to Consider for Possible Creation:

X.B.1. Compensation Commission (2 seats)

— As noted in the Buchanan City Charter, at Sec. 4.4, the Home Rule City Act, Public Act 279 of 1909, allows for the creation of a Compensation Commission by ordinance.

X.B.2. Finance Commission

— While not required by statute, a Finance Committee would be an ideal way to further improve the City's financial oversight, as well as provide an additional mechanism for enhanced transparency.

X.B.3. Board of Public Works

— Pursuant to Buchanan City Charter, a Board of Public Works could be created, which could include one to two members from the City Commission, plus three other members (five members total), with the three other members being "freeholders and electors of the City" [aka, a registered voter who owns property in the City], as per the Charter—in addition to seeking out members with experience in construction or related fields. The Charter also indicates that the Board of Public Works, if created, shall be charged and entrusted with the following duties, powers and responsibilities subject to the direction of the Commission: (1) The construction, management, supervision, and control of the City water works. (2) The construction, management, supervision, and control of any municipal electric system [doesn't apply in our situation]. (3) The construction, management, supervision, and control of such other public improvements or works as are designated by ordinance.

X.B.4. Community Development Implementation Committee

— Could be created to help oversee and guide our Community Development Department's implementation of the the City's stated goals and visions related to community development, including certification in the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program, creation of a successful Main Street program, creation of an updated zoning code, and implementation of the Andrews University 'Vision for Buchanan' plan.

X.B.5. Economic Development Committee

— An Economic Development Committee could be created to help guide City staff regarding items pertaining to economic development, such as façade grant programs, tax incentive programs, the sale of City-owned property, marihuana permit-related matters, and other issues relating to economic development.

X.B.6. Compliance Commission

— A Compliance Committee, if created, could be charged with providing additional oversight in the areas of legal and ethical compliance, as well as statutory and regulatory compliance.

X.B.7. Public Safety Commission

— A Public Safety Committee could be charged with all matters related to Public Safety, including the creation and implementation of a new blight remediation and code enforcement program—to including rental inspections, etc.

X.B.8. Governance & Administration Commission

— A Governance & Administration Committee could be charged with the development of best practices related to matters pertaining to governance and administration, including things such as elections, public communications, interactions with the public, social media policies, etc.

X.B.9. Any other Alternate and Board Appointments

— Motion made by Vigansky to take no action on all items under Unfinished Business at this time, no support to motion.

— Motion fails.

— Motion made by Swem, supported by Weedon to create the finance committee, with Commissioner Swem, Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, City Manager Heather Grace, and City Treasurer Deborah Perez.

— Yea: Swem, Denison, Weedon, Money

— Nay: Vigansky

— Motion carries 4-1.

XI. New Business

XI.A. Removal of Silos

- Mario Palmisano representing South Bend Chocolate Factory. The SBCF is building a complex by the South Bend Airport, they are wanting the silos that have the domed top to create a golden dome. Ultimately, they are willing to take the equipment down at their cost.
- The Commission would like to set a meeting with the other company that was interested in the silos and with Mario.

XII. Communications (informational only, formal board action is not necessary for these items, unless so desired)XII.A. GoGov App Soft Launch

- Manager Grace will share a communication related to the soft launch of a new City app from GoGov called “My Buchanan Go” in the app store.
- The city is looking for feedback on the app during this soft launch, to tweak anything that may need to be added. Then we will market it in full force.

XIII. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

- William Hass Works in the Marihuana Industry, questioned the 6th marihuana retail permit. He would also like to have the opportunity for Microbusiness Class A Permit.
- Kelly Lesh Christmas parade was beautiful, and just wanted to give thanks to the DPW crew for coming out the next morning and doing a trash run. Also wanted to praise to Mike Baker for always being readily available and professional with any incidents that occur.

XIV. Executive CommentsXIV.A. City Manager Comments

– Grace: It was mentioned in the finance department report that I have recommended for our treasurer to join the asset management champions program. I just finished my own training – it’s about a 3 1/2-month long program, it’s very intensive, there’s a little over 40 hours’ worth of online modules that you have to do as well as six interactive facilitated zoom meetings plus two in person meetings in Lansing. I wanted to discuss it this evening to impress upon the community the importance of this endeavor and the fact that it’s going to be very intensive timewise for staff but in the end, it has huge dividends. Just to touch on some of the points from the program; essentially what they’re asking us to do is inventory every foot, every yard of infrastructure throughout this entire community and if you can imagine the thousands of miles of water and sewer, storm sewer pipe, in addition to streets sidewalks they must inventory. Every single publicly owned building they want us to inventory, absolutely everything that we have, every playground structure associated with the replacement cost and life expectancy, and you know there was vandalism at this site you just have to do that, there’s a service line that needs replacement. It’s extremely complicated. We’ll ultimately result in literally millions of data inputs by staff. They estimate that it will probably take approximately five years to fully complete but, in the end, once you do that it creates a system, and that system allows you to have extremely accurate budgeting both short term and long term. It really allows citizens of Buchanan to have their elected representatives make the most well-informed decisions for future generations to come. It’s a system that’s a breathing documented system, constantly updated and evolving, and I’m looking forward to bringing that to the community. I did want to share that I would be certified in that program. There’s a very small amount of folks certified in it so I’m excited to bring that. You’ll probably hear me discussing that over the next several years.

XIV.B. Commissioner Comments

Weedon – Thank you for everybody here. We put a lot of pressure on Mike in particular, I wanted to thank you for bringing answers. He know it was quite a different thing for you to have to be at the forefront of the DPW and give presentations, but I think now you understand those expectations and you bring answers, not just what we needed. We should bring justifiable reasons for actions that are taken out there. Ashley explained the Main Street program exceptionally well. I know that there’s always a lot of questions about what it is. It’s going to improve itself and with the work that you’ve already done. Rich, thank you so much for bringing that microbusiness and attention to detail about what that is and the changes that have come with it. Shop with a Cop, you guys always knock it out of the park. I’d like to say thanks to Joe and Tom for having the kids down at the Sweet Shop, very cool to see Sean down there, officers, and the kids. The recount is tomorrow, and I wish the best of luck to Monroe. I realize it’s not just necessarily directed at me, but we are within one vote so this could be my last meeting. If it is, thank you for the last four years; if it isn’t, then I’ll see you in two weeks. Best of luck at the recount tomorrow.

Swem – Thanked his peers for a good discussion. Looks forward to the next meeting.

Vigansky – Donated to the library for their fundraiser. Touched on the his participation in the Republican delegate

meetings. The Republican Party have 150 plus delegates now if anybody's interested delegates throughout the county and I know this is on the republican side – with the Democrats I'm sure it's the same thing and I don't do this very often it's just to get involved and to get educated. so, he could bring this education down here as far as Roberts Rules and how to conduct the meetings and I learned how not to do it.

Money – Thanked Regal for her introduction to the Main Street program, Baker for improving and doing a great job, and the police department for their Shop with a Cop program. He thanked everyone involved. He recognized the commission for the work they put in to make the City a better place and it's a privilege to serve with them.

XIV.C. Mayor Comments

– Denison thanked everyone for attending and participation. He wished the City staff good health.

XVI. Adjourn

– Motion made by Weedon supported by Money to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 P.M.

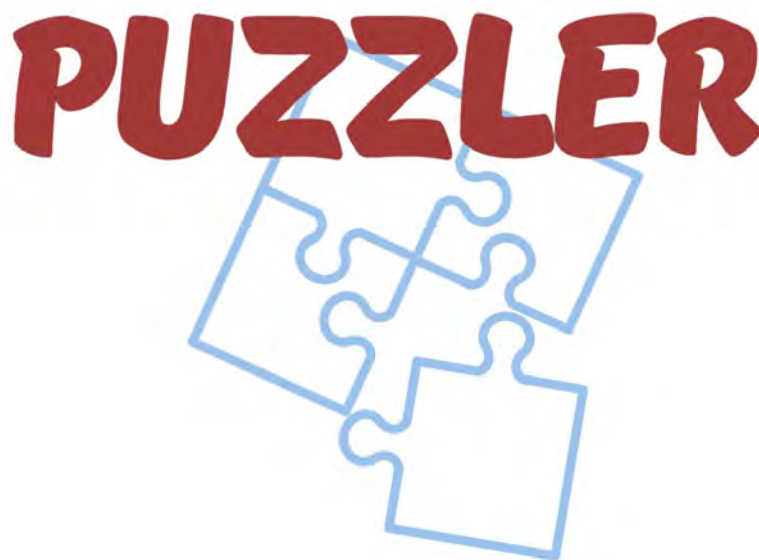
– Roll call vote carries unanimously.

You may view the complete [Agenda for this meeting HERE](#).

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



Puzzler Page – Issue 44



Puzzler Page – Issue 44

by Garrick Stubblefield

Hello all and Happy New Year. I hope you all had fun last year with the puzzles I did for you and the chronicle. It has been a very good experience for me to do them because if you remember that all these puzzles are coming from my head. I'm excited to introduce you to a couple of new ones. I will continue to put you in the thinking mode. If you're interested in getting a whole series of them please contact me by phone and leave a message. My number is 2692560547. My proceeds go as follows: 40% goes to the chronicle 40% goes to our local veterans and 20% goes to offset the supply cost. 1-\$1.50 / 3-\$4 / 6-\$7.50 / 12-\$10. Also if you can text me at this number and give me your feedback. I will continue to make these puzzles for you to enjoy. Thank you for the support.

Puzzler Page

PUZZLE 1 – REDUCING THE WORD

- 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.
- Words:

- 6 Letter –
 - FRIEND
 -
 -
 -
 -
 -

- 5 Letter –
 - PAGER
 -
 -
 -

- 4 Letter –
 - WARD
 -
 -
 -

- 3 Letter –
 - ARM
 -
 -

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. One possible set of answers is on Page 2 – Puzzles Answer Page.

PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS

- Instructions:
 - Riddles below are clues to State or Capital names.
- Clues:
 - STATES:
 - This State borders 8 other States.
 - CAPITALS:
 - This Capital can claim “Busiest Airport in the South”.

PUZZLE 3 – 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.
- Code:

1. CHANGE THE 8 TO A 3;
2. CHANGE THE 5 TO A 1;
3. CHANGE THE 2 TO A 7;
4. THE FINAL 3 DIGIT CODE IS: The Date we celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

PUZZLE 4 – WORDS IN A QUOTE

- Instructions:
 - See if you can find the 4-letter words I found:
 - 3-4 you're doing good
 - 5-6 catching up to me
 - 7-more fantastic
- Quote:
 - CAN I GET A LITTLE RESPECT AROUND HERE

3-Letter Words:

1.
2.
3.

4.
5.
6.

7.
8.
9.

10.
11.
12.

PUZZLE 5 – WORD WITHIN A QUOTE WITH CLUES

- Quote:
 - THE GODFATHER
- Clues:

1. Not your MOTHER, but your ____.
2. A type of ANIMAL is in here.
3. When a group of people COME TOGETHER.
4. There is a single NUMBER in here.
5. This BUILDING houses a lot of movies.

PUZZLE 6 – ANAGRAM WORDS

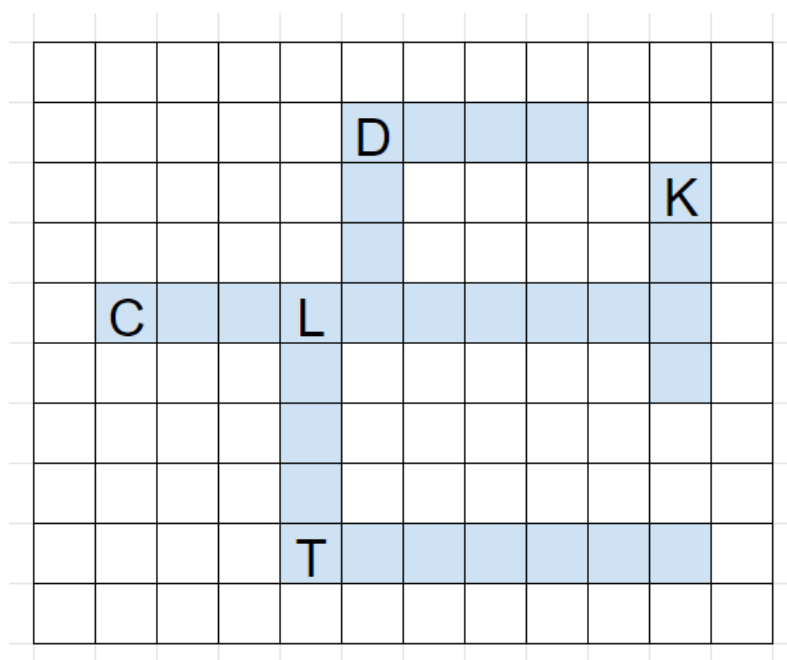
- Instructions:
 - Simply rearrange the provided word to make another word.
 - Examples: car ~ arc, rate ~ tear
- Clues:
 - DAM ~ _ _ _
 - LATE ~ _ _ _ _
 - MEATS ~ _ _ _ _ _
 - RENTER ~ _ _ _ _ _
 - COUNTER ~ _ _ _ _ _

PUZZLE 7 – ANIMAL COLLECTIONS

- Instructions:
 - Do you know the collective noun for each animal when its in a group?
 - Examples: PRIDE of lions, GAGGLE of geese
- Clues:
 - SHREWDNESS of APES
 - C of BADGERS
 - C Y of BATS

PUZZLE 8 – BOXGRAM

- Instructions:
 - Fill the shaded boxes to complete all the answers that go with the clue.
 - We've given you the beginning letters of each answer.
- Clue: THINGS YOU SEE IN A CLASSROOM. (find 6 words)

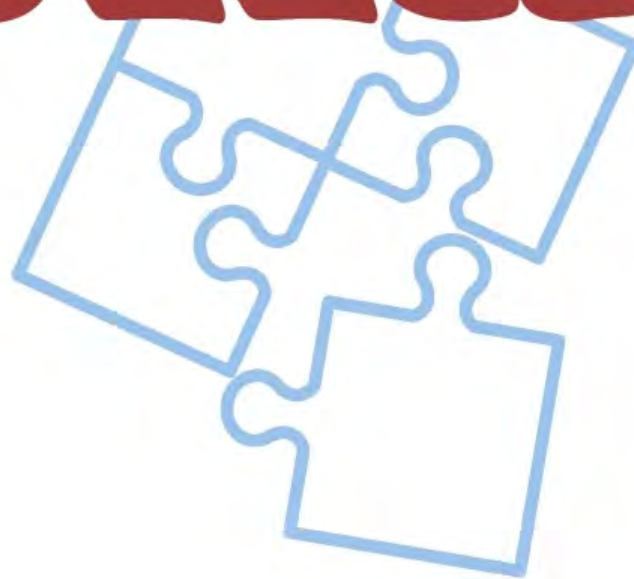


Boxgram Puzzle – Issue 44

Thank you for playing along with our puzzles in this issue!

Follow to Page 2 next for all the Answers!

PUZZLER



Puzzles 44 – Answer Page

PUZZLE 1 – REDUCING THE WORD

- 6 Letter –
 - FRIEND
 - PIRED
 - FIRE
 - FIR
 - IF
 - I

- 5 Letter –
 - PAGER
 - PAGE
 - APE
 - PA
 - A

- 4 Letter –
 - WARD
 - WAR
 - AW
 - A

- 3 Letter –
 - ARM
 - MA
 - A

PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS

- STATES:
 - This State borders 8 other States: **Missouri**
- CAPITALS:
 - This Capital can claim “Busiest Airport in the South”: **Atlanta**

PUZZLE 3 – CRACK THE CODE

852 to 317

PUZZLE 4 – WORDS IN A QUOTE

- Quote: CAN I GET A LITTLE RESPECT AROUND HERE

3-Letter Words:

1. can
2. tag
3. gel

4. her
5. pet
6. gal

7. his
8. pit
9. lag

10. act
11. had
12. cat

PUZZLE 5 – WORD WITHIN A QUOTE WITH CLUES

- Quote:
 - THE GODFATHER
- 1. Not your MOTHER, but your **FATHER**.
- 2. A type of ANIMAL is in here: **GOAT**
- 3. When a group of people COME TOGETHER: **GATHER**
- 4. There is a single NUMBER in here: **THREE**
- 5. This BUILDING houses a lot of movies: **THEATER**

PUZZLE 6 – ANAGRAM WORDS

- Instructions:
 - Simply rearrange the provided word to make another word.
 - Examples: car ~ arc, rate ~ tear
- Clues:
 - DAM ~ MAD
 - LATE ~ TALE
 - MEATS ~ STEAM
 - RENTER ~ RERENT
 - COUNTER ~ RECOUNT

PUZZLE 7 – ANIMAL COLLECTIONS

- ## PUZZLE 8 – BOXGRAM

- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | D | O | O | R | | | | |
| | | | E | | | | | K | | | |
| | | S | | | | | | I | | | |
| C | H | A | L | K | B | O | A | R | D | | |
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408 of 465

PUZZLER



The Clark Barker – Issue 44



The Candid Canid

Snowmobile Rules in Buchanan

This winter season hasn't been much of a winter, but we did have some snow last December. I heard there may be more chances of snow coming up before this month is done. So, I thought I would share a link with you about the regulations there are for snowmobiles in Berrien County, Michigan. Click on the link below to inform yourself and others. Stay safe humans!

Find all the MI DNR Regulations Here: [MI Snowmobile Regulations](#).

If you hear or see any snowmobiles in violation of the regulations, contact Buchanan Police first to report it. The official person to speak with about snowmobiles for Berrien County Sheriff's Office Marine Division is Lieutenant Marc Hopkins at 269.983.7141 x:4921.

Woof-Woof!



Now That's Funny! with Garrick – Issue 44



Filling Up the Car with Gas

by Garrick Stubblefield

So, I went to my local gas station to fill my car up with gas. I walked in and proceeded to prepay the amount I thought would fill my car up. I always get a 5 cent discount off a gallon. I went to put gas in and I noticed it didn't give me my 5 cents off. I hung up the nozzle and went in and told the cashier. She: I'm very sorry but we will need to do the transaction again. I replied by saying that was fine with me. So, I went to do the same process again and again but it didn't work. I went back to find out what was going on and the cashier turned to me with a sigh saying with an apology, "I have been putting you on the wrong pump all this time."
