

Annual Report 2023-2024



Picture of our newly rebuilt parking lot!

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Annual Fun Facts

Our mission to promote physical, social and mental well-being guides us in selecting programs and services that help older adults successfully age in place in the local community. Patron smiles are nice subjective measures of our effectiveness and incentive for us to keep on keeping on. We also track objective factors such as attendance data, so that is why we ask you to register by swiping in at the check-in kiosks.

The attendance data helps guide our programs and services planning, as well as demonstrating our efficacy to funders and the general public. In this past Fiscal Year (Oct 1 to Sept. 30):

- Patron log-ins increased 10%, from 54,207 log-ins to 59,528 log-ins
- Programs grew 23%.
- monthly newsletter subscriptions grew 12%, from 19,459 to 21,855.
- Subscriptions to our digital newsletter grew at an even higher rate of 32%.

| Fun Facts | 2023-24 | 2022-23 | Change |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Total Programs | 172 | 140 | 23% |
| Total Programs & Services Log-ins | 59,528 | 54,207 | 10% |
| Volunteer hours served | 4,036 | 4,170 | -3% |
| Total calls answered | 5,842 | 5,555 | 5% |
| Total SNS meals served | 2,802 | 1,603 | 75% |
| Total NEMT Transportation Rides | 502 | 438 | 15% |
| Total MMAP appointments | 55 | 82 | -33% |
| Total Income Tax patrons | 174 | 144 | 21% |
| Total CSFP Commodities | 734 | 660 | 11% |
| Total TEFAP Commodities | 300 | 309 | -3% |

BASC MISSION STATEMENT: *We promote physical, social and mental well-being*

Executive Director’s Report—Adam Burck

I want to thank our wonderful volunteers and staff for keeping BASC humming this past year. Thanks also to our patrons for making BASC your home away from home and enjoying our programs and services. We love seeing attendance numbers grow, and as the Fun Facts on the front page show, over the past year attendance grew by 10%. This growth demonstrates that we have succeeded in delivering programs and services that respond to our patrons’ diverse needs, enhance their dignity, support their independence, and encourage involvement in the BASC and larger community.

Significant highlights from the past year:

- We secured a competitive bid to reconstruct our parking lot. Improper base materials were causing rapid deterioration of the lot, so they had to remove the pavement, excavate down 2 feet to remove the bad base materials and replace with the correct materials and drainage features to keep our parking lot in good shape into the future. Thank you for your patience during the disruption from this project.
- We have been expanding our Education & Informational Programs over the past year, and the response has been overwhelming. We had 38 E&I programs in 2022-23 and this past year we added 7 more E&I programs, for a total of 45. This reflects and 18% increase in E&I program offerings, which led to a 39% increase in attendance at E&I programs. We are thrilled by the strong interest in these programs!
- The very positive response to music programs we began offering last year led us to increase the offerings this year. Last year there were 38 log-ins for 3 music programs and this year there were 114 log-ins for 5 music programs, which is a three-fold increase! Not only have we enjoyed hearing joyful music at the BASC, we are thrilled that our patrons are so positively responding to the musical programming.

We are also pleased that Berrien County’s annual audits of our finances have been very positive with clean audit opinions, indicating that we manage our finances in compliance with accounting standards. This effective financial management allows us to provide most programs and services for free and to properly maintain our facilities and grounds.

Last year’s budget looks different from prior years due to parking lot expenses that required the addition of a special budget line called *Other Financial Resources and Savings*. We drew down savings that had accumulated due to our strong fiscal management and donations from our supporters. Thank you for the support!

*We turn not older with
years, but newer every day”*
– Emily Dickinson

| Actual Income/Expenses 10/1/23-9/30/24 | (unaudited) |
|---|----------------------|
| INCOME | |
| Donations | \$ 19,950.47 |
| Grants | \$ 14,856.00 |
| Senior Center Millage | \$ 403,374.12 |
| Program Revenue | \$ 11,880.20 |
| Other Income | \$ 7,304.06 |
| Other Financial Resources & Savings (Pkg Lot) | \$ 330,000.00 |
| Total Income | \$ 787,364.85 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Compensation | \$ 197,554.29 |
| Benefits & taxes | \$ 68,949.11 |
| Operations & Administration | \$ 57,439.80 |
| Contractors | \$ 47,680.07 |
| Program Expenses | \$ 32,805.49 |
| Capital Expenses (mostly Parking Lot) | \$ 328,017.87 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 732,446.63 |
| Net Income | \$ 54,918.22 |

President's Report

Deborah Hendrix

The BASC launched the My Legacy Program in 2024 by offering a series of life planning classes this summer. There were five classes and all were well attended free of charge. Local professional experts were utilized. Classes will be presented annually. The following classes were available to area citizens:

- Wills and Trust, presented by Attorney John Colip (Butzel)
- DIY Wills, John Colip (Butzel)
- Navigating Insurance for Retirement, presented by Alice Kring (Past owner of Redbud Insurance)
- Investment Planning for Retirement, presented by Justin Nurenberg (Edwaed Jones)
- Advanced Directives presented by Julie Griffin (Corewell Health)

This fall the first BASC Inaugural My Legacy Luncheon will be held on November 1st. Members will receive commemorative certificates, note cards, lapel pins and My Legacy brochures.

In summary, My Legacy is a fundraising concept designed to increase donations for BASC with a memorial and estate planning design. It is more interactive with donors and will engage them in ongoing plans for program expansion, development and evaluation of local needs. Our community has always been generous with BASC. We are grateful and want to reach out and show our gratitude through the program.

Terri Sisk, who served as Treasurer for 3 years and as an esteemed member of the Board for 4.5 years, resigned due to the demands of fulltime employment. We hope to continue to see Terri at BASC and wish her the best. Additionally, we would like to express our collective gratitude and thanks for the time that Terri devoted to BASC.

This past year brought many positive changes to the BASC Board, as we welcomed Dylan Carden and elected him as Treasurer. This was logical as he has an extensive financial background. Tony Houser joined the team last fall and is serving as the chair of Facilities and Transportation. Judi Jason joined the team last fall as well and was recently elevated to Interim Secretary. We warmly welcome the three new members and look forward to a continued excellent working relationship.

We have continued to improve our exercise equipment with the addition of a second NUStep Recumbent Stepper. Additionally, plans are underway to add a new Total Gym and Body Composition Analyzer.

The mammoth parking project was completed! We owe thanks to many community partners. It should be noted that the City of Buchanan donated time, material and staff to patch the lot a couple of years ago. This gave us time to research and plan for the project. Thank you! Also, thanks to the staff and the leadership of Executive Director Adam Burck for making this happen with excellent planning and direction.

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”

– Elizabeth Andrew

Annual BASC Board Meeting

Agenda

October 24, 2024—2:00 pm

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Call to Order | Deborah Hendrix, President |
| Pledge of Allegiance | Jeanne Harris, Vice President |
| Roll Call | Judi Jason, Secretary |
| Welcome | Deborah Hendrix, President |
| Board Business | Board of Directors |

REPORTS

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| President's | Deborah Hendrix, President |
| Director's | Adam Burck, Executive Director |

NEW BUSINESS

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Election Report | Phyllis Davis |
| Recognitions | Deborah Hendrix & Adam Burck |
| Comments | Board Members |
| Public Comments | Visitors |
| Adjournment and Refreshments | |

Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Jeanne Harris, Board President at 2:06 PM.

Members present: Joesetta Bibbs, Jeanne Harris, Deborah Hendrix, Tony Houser, Richard Martin, Jess Minks, Leona Wonacott, and Adam Burck. Members absent: Terri Sisk. Visitors present: Kay Schadler, Judi Jason and Phyllis Davis

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Leona Wonacott to approve the agenda, supported by Deborah Hendrix. Voice vote reflects unanimous approval (7).

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Jess Minks to approve the minutes, supported by Deborah Hendrix. Voice vote reflects unanimous approval (7).

President's Report:

The report was presented by Jeanne Harris who highlighted the overall accomplishments of the BASC.

Executive Director's Report:

The report was presented by Adam Burck who highlighted the accomplishments of BASC from the perspective of Director.

New Business:

The Election results were presented by Phyllis Davis.

The following incumbents were re-elected: Joesetta Bibbs and Jess Minks.

Judi Jason was newly elected and replaced retiring Board Member Richard Martin.

The staff, Board and visitors were thanked by Jeanne Harris and Adam Burck for support and service to the BASC.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM, refreshments and fellowship followed.



OUR HISTORY

Buchanan Area Senior Center (formerly Buchanan Senior Services) offered services to area seniors from 1979 to 1984, funded by the City of Buchanan, Buchanan Township, and donations. In March of 1982 the building, funded by HUD money, at 131 South Oak Street, was completed and dedicated by the city to be used for senior programming and community activities. Greater Niles-Buchanan Committee on Aging funded services and programs in Buchanan as a satellite program from 1984 to 2002. In October 2002 Buchanan Senior Services became a non-profit group that operated with private donations and Buchanan City support. In 2006, we began receiving county tax millage support. In March 2010 we broke ground on construction of our new building at 810 Rynearson Street in Buchanan. In December 2010 we moved into our new building. The Center continues operating with county millage money, donations, grants, fundraisers, and many wonderful volunteers. Senior Nutrition Services continues to provide the daily nutrition program at the Center.

2023-24 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

HEALTH SERVICES

- Blood Pressure
- Chair Fitness
- Chair Yoga
- Fitness Equipment Orientation
- Fitness & Workout Room
- Eye Glass Repair
- Fasting Blood Sugar
- Flu Shot Clinic
- Foot Clinic
- Hearing Aid Check
- Dancing to the Oldies with CeCe
- Osteo Fit with Missy
- Powerbeats Drumming (Tues & Fri)
- Virtual Fitness Programs
- Qigong—DVD
- Training with Missy
- Walk Days
- A Matter of Balance
- First Aid CPR AED Training
- COVID Training

SPECIAL SERVICES

- AARP Taxes
- BASC Library
- Blood Drive
- BASC Garden Club
- Compassionate Callers Club
- Tablet Lending Program (GrandPad)
- CSFP Commodities
- Dial-a-Ride
- Form Assistance
- Home Heating Credit
- Homestead Property Credit
- Loan Closet
- Meals On Wheels
- Medical Transportation
- MMAP
- Notary
- ONE Buchanan
- Pill Drop Off
- Senior Nutrition Services
- Shredding Event
- TEFAP Commodities
- Veterans' Assistance
- Veterans' Outreach
- Rake A Difference Registration

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- Birthday Bingo
- Book Club
- Coffee Chat/Brunch Social
- Cribbage
- Euchre
- Hand & Foot Cards

- Ice Cream Social
- Jigsaw Puzzles
- Lunch Bunch Club
- Mah Jongg
- Movie Matinees
- Pinochle
- Root Beer Floats
- Game Day
- Game Day—Thanksgiving
- LGBTQ Mixers
- Socializing/Visiting
- Book Club Meet and Greet
- Dance Party
- Plays at the Tin Shop Theatre
- Garden Club Luncheons
- Garden Club
- Skip-Bo
- Annual Senior Expo-Fitness Presentation
- Annual Holiday Lunch
- Old Fashion Plow Days
- Super Bowl Party

ARTS & CRAFTS

- Quilting & Sewing
- Monthly Quilting & Sewing Projects
- Fiber Friends
- Valentine Cards
- Basic Embroidery
- Folded Star Ornament
- Sip & Paint Lighthouse
- Tie-Dye T-Shirt

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Annual Senior Picnic
- Memorial Day Parade
- Volunteer Appreciation & Award Dinner
- Buchanan Pride on the Common
- Sing! Concert Showcase for Family and Friends
- Holiday Party
- Grandkids Day
- Halloween Party
- New Year's Dance Party
- St. Patrick's Day Social
- Valentine's Party
- Stephens Memorial Sunroom Dedication
- Veteran's Certificate of Appreciation

FUNDRAISERS

- Annual Appeal Donations
- Bakeless Bake Sale
- Building Use Rental
- Dollar Club
- Farmers' Market Bake Sale x 3
- Harding's Community Rewards
- Memorial Tree
- Program Donations

- Pumpkin Roll Sales
- Spartan/Our Family UPC Collections
- Bazaar Luncheon
- Bazaar Table Rental
- Bazaar Door Prizes
- Ornaments
- Taco Night Dinner
- Meatball with Rice Casserole

TRIPS

- Plays at the Tin Shop Theatre
- Casino Day
- Progressive Lunch
- South Bend Cubs Baseball Game
- Water Street Glassworks
- Raclin Murphy Museum of Art
- Inner Freedom
- Michigan Maritime Museum and Lighthouse
- National New York Central Railroad Museum
- Monno-Hof Tour in Shipshewana
- Senior Resource Fair
- Senior Safety Tips
- Simplify Your Home by Decluttering
- Sing! Sing! Sing! Program and Concert
- Sing! The Many Benefits!
- Smartphones: The Basics
- Staying at Home Safe Seminar
- What is Kinship Care

Continued on page 6



The BASC is represented at the Annual Area Agency on Aging and The Herald-Palladium Senior Expo! Linda VanOverberghe, BASC Chair Fitness instructor leads a group of patrons during the entertainment section of the expo. A wonderful experience for our patrons to exercise, socialize, gather information from the vendors, and show off the BASC. A fun time for all!

2023-24 SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

EDUCATIONAL & INFORMATIVE SERVICES

- Assistance with Your Cell Phone or Tablet
- Conversations with Friends
- Advance Care Planning
- Grand Pad Training
- Smartphones: The Basics
- A Safer Spring for a Safer You
- Becoming a Senior Companion Volunteer
- Cannabis Education
- Discussion on Dementia Care
- Fire Safety with Bob Blalock
- Honor Flights for Veterans
- Indiana Michigan Power
- Information about Fraud and Personal Safety
- LGBTQ Civil Rights Forum
- Memory Rescue Building Your Bright Minds
- Munch on the Mediterranean
- Navigating Nutrition with (Pre)Diabetes
- Nursing Homes & Assisted Living Communities
- Pain Management Opioids and Alternatives
- Preventing Auto-Immune Conditions
- Register of Deeds—Property Alert
- Shipwrecks on the Great Lakes
- Tax-Aide Presentation
- The Art of Herbal Tea
- Total Solar Eclipse 2024
- Tulsa Race Massacre Presentation and Documentary
- Vaccine Information
- Veterans Benefits Q&A
- Volunteering at the BASC
- What You Need to Know About Knees
- BASC My Legacy Series—Life Planning Classes
- What is Right for Me: Will, Trusts, Etc.
- DIY Wills
- Navigating the Right Insurance Products for Retirement
- Living in Retirement: A Successful Foundation
- Advanced Directives
- Mama Bears Documentary & Group Discussion
- Living with Alzheimer's in the Middle Stage—Class for Caregivers
- Visit to Cannivista Wellness Dispensary
- CARES Medical ID Bracelet
- SAMBA Basics 101
- Dollar Store Dining
- Herb of the Year, Yarrow!
- Sing! Sing! Sing! The American Songbook
- The Many Benefits of Singing

“We need never be hopeless, because we can never be irreparably broken.” — John Green



BASC Field Trips offers patrons a day of adventure to learn something new and to socialize with other patrons.



BASC has been offering intergenerational programs. Pictured are patrons playing Skip-Bo with a patron's grandchildren when they were visiting on summer break.



Holiday Time is Fun Time!
Bingo and Door Prizes!



See what planting seeds can do?!

When we introduced the Sing! program, there were only 4 participants. With each Sing! program the number of people participating grew, and the August Sing! program had 14 partici-

Senior Nutrition



Meals are funded by the Older Americans Act through the Region IV Area Agency on Aging and Senior Nutrition Services

The BASC has been partnering with SNS for decades, offering meals that fit into most diet plans for our seniors in a five-mile radius of the center. Meals on Wheels delivers hot, cold & frozen meals to seniors who are homebound, Monday—Friday. We are grateful to be offering meal services to our senior through a wonderful organization.



Kerri Pettie
is the SNS Site Manager
for the BASC.

Meals on Wheels has eleven drivers and helpers who alternate days delivering meals to our seniors.



HONORING THE BASC VOLUNTEERS

Our 2023-2024 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was a great success. We honored our wonderful volunteers, who without their generosity and hard work, we could not function. We look forward each year to recognizing our volunteers who put in 15+ hours of dedication to the Senior Center.

TVB Catering catered our delicious Italian themed dinner and Martin's Supermarkets prepared the beautiful cake for dessert.

The event gave recognition to our volunteers for the following awards:

New Volunteer of the Year: Mary Weaver

Most Hours Volunteered: Wendie Stephenson

Volunteer of the Year: Maxine Brown

Medical Transportation Drivers: Pat McBain, Leona Wonacott, Kelly Minks, Wendie Stephenson, Tim Jason, Maxine Brown

Newsletters: Linda Abair, Bobbi Benak, Joesetta Bibbs, Mary Blake, Herb Boyersmith, Yolanda Julian, Linda Luhrsen, Dan Riley, Gillian Robbins, Janis Sexton, Judy Vergon, Sue Zimmerle, Leona Wonacott

Commodities: Charlie Serene, Leona Wonacott, Pat McBain, Jeanne Harris, Jess Minks

Bingo Callers: Charlie Serene, Pam Serene, Leona Wonacott, Jeanne Harris, Joesetta Bibbs

Tax Preparation: Maxine Brown, Wendie Stephenson, Kim Calkins, Matt Kent, Sharon Oswalt

Program Instructor: Marge Collins

Garden Club Tenders: Jeanne Harris, Kay Schadler, Rita Arnold, Charlie Carpenter, Jill Garmire, Judi Jason, Karen Smith, Pat McBain

Compassionate Care Callers: Jeanne Harris, Deb Hendrix, Karen Pratt, Anne Reed

100+ Hours Volunteered: Kim Calkins, Anne Reed, Leona Wonacott, Jeanne Harris, Deb Hendrix, Pat McBain, Wendie Stephenson, Maxine Brown, Kay Schadler, Mary Speckine, Mary Weaver, Joan McGuire

The BASC Board of Directors and Staff



Deb
Hendrix
President



Jeanne
Harris
Vice Presi-



Dylan
Carden
Treasurer



Judi
Jason
Secretary



Leona
Wonacott
Director



Joesetta
Bibbs
Director



Jess
Minks
Director



Tony
Houser
Director



Adam
Burck
*Executive
Director*



Jayme
Marrow
*Office
Manager*



Tammy
Ross
Receptionist



Diana
Smuda
*Program
Coordinator*



Terry
Perkins
*Staff
Assistant*



Thanks to the many volunteers who helped us at our 4th annual community shredding event, and thanks to our sponsor United Federal Credit Union!

BASC COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AARP Tax Services
Always Best Care Services
Alzheimer's Association Michigan Chapter
Alzheimer's & Dementia Services of Northern Indiana
Becky Roush PT
Benton Harbor Senior Center
Berrien Community Foundation
Berrien County Cancer Service
Berrien County Commission
Berrien County Health Dept.
Berrien County Sheriff Dept.
Berrien County Veterans Services
Berrien Register of Deeds
Blessed Feet, LLC
Brentwood at Niles
Buchanan American Legion
Buchanan Art Center
Buchanan Chamber of Commerce
Buchanan Chronicle, The
Buchanan City Fire Dept.
Buchanan City Police Dept.
Buchanan Community Schools
Buchanan Dial-a-Ride/Berrien Bus
Buchanan District Library
Buchanan Farmers' Market
Buchanan Masons Lodge #68
Buchanan Meadows
Buchanan Preservation Society
Buchanan Tree Friends
Buchanan Township Fire Dept.
Buckteens
Buchanan-Galien Leos
Buchanan-Galien Lions Club
Campus for Creative Aging
Cannavista Wellness
Caring Circle of Corewell Health
Cecil Cheney
Central County Senior Center
Chalet of Niles
City of Buchanan
Corewell Health Foundation of SW Michigan
Country Heritage Credit Union
Cultural Arts Everywhere
Dr. Greta Pope
Faith Global Methodist Church
Fernwood
First Presbyterian Church

Fork in the Road Food Truck
Greater Niles Senior Center
Harding's Friendly Market
Health Markets Insurance Agency
Herb Society of American, Michiana Unit
High Profile
Honor Credit Union
Indiana Michigan Power
Inner Freedom
Little Free Pantries in Buchanan
Linda VanOverberghe
Lizz Carmichael
Lowery's Meat Market
Mamasan/Papasan Korean Vets
Marge Collins
Mary Ann Penwell
Mary Weaver
Melissa Ann Fitness
Metea Court Apartments
Michigan Gateway Community Foundation
Michigan State University Extension
Michigan's Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports
Mill Pond Apartments
Miracle Ear
Natural Choices, Dr. Jane Oelke
Niles-Buchanan YMCA
North Berrien Senior Center
ONE Buchanan
PACE of Southwest Michigan
Pinnacle Emporium
Redbud Area Ministries
Redbud Hardware
Redbud Insurance Agency
Region IV Area Agency on Aging
River Valley Senior Center
Riveridge Rehab & Health Care
Roti Roti Art Center of Buchanan
Royal Neighbors of America
Ruth Writer
Sara Burns
S.W. MI Comm. Action Agency
Senior Nutrition Services
7 Engines
Smoke Lifted
Social Security Administration
Spartan/Nash
St. Joe Lincoln Senior Center

State Advisory Council on Aging
Tin Shop Theatre
Township of Buchanan
TRIAD of Berrien County
United Federal Credit Union
United Way of S.W. Mich.
Vite's Greenhouse
Willows, The
Woodland Terrace
Zen Leaf

What is a Senior Center?

Buchanan Area Senior Center is a community focal point on aging. Area older adults come together for services, programs and activities that reflect their experiences and skills, respond to their diverse needs and interests, enhance their dignity, support their independence, and encourage their involvement with the community and this center. The center is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving older adults living in Buchanan City, Buchanan Township, Niles Township west of US31 Bypass, Bertrand Township, and Galien Township east of Cleveland Avenue. Membership is free and most services are provided at no cost. However, contributions are greatly appreciated and help us do more!