



TOWN OF BUCHANAN VIRGINIA

Newsletter

March 2024



Note from Town Council

We would like to express our gratitude to all of the donors and volunteers who have continued to support Town events. Your generosity and dedication allowed many people to enjoy a great tree lighting and lights display at the Town Park during the Christmas season. Thank you for all you did and continue to do to make our community a great place to live and work!

Like many of you, we are looking forward to the spring and summer events. If you are interested in volunteering, there is a spot for you!

We have a lot of work to do for the Town to be fully staffed. Our first priority is finding an effective Town Manager. We have decided it is best for the new Town Manager, when that position is filled, to hire their own team. This means some open positions will be filled in the short-term by contracting with professionals to fill the staffing needs.

Buchanan is a great place because of its' residents and businesses. Thank you!

In this newsletter:
Citizen Awards
Website Updates
Town Positions
Trash Rate
Facade Grant
Planning Commission
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Business Spotlights
Committees
And More!



Outstanding Service Awards

At the January meeting Town Council presented a citizen award to resident **Gavin Price** for his outstanding service to Botetourt County Schools and area food pantries for the collection and distribution of more than 10,000 jars of peanut butter for those in need.

At the February meeting Council recognized U.S. Army veteran and Buchanan native **Carroll Boblett** for his dedication and service to the Hometown Heroes Banner Program Town of Buchanan, Virginia. Over 120 banners line Main Street honoring our local heroes thanks to Carroll's efforts.

Trash Rate Changes

Due to changes in the rates by C & S Disposal Inc., the below rate changes are now in effect. These rates are in-line with or below other local rates.

Residential: \$19.00

Commercial: \$33.00

Grease Reminder

Help keep Town's and your costs down! Pouring grease down your drain clogs the pipes. This causes problems for the system which costs the Town money to fix.



Website & Email Notifications

The Town's website is getting a major overhaul! The website has been moved to a new system that allows for more functionality and easier updating for staff.

One of the new functions is an **email notification system**. If you are interested in receiving email alerts about meetings and newsletters, please opt-in by signing up today! You can use the QR Code or visit <https://www.buchanan-va.gov/notifications>.

You can also find a link on the Town's homepage.



Town Positions

We are excited to announce that **Reese Peck** was appointed as a **part-time interim town manager**. Reese started many exciting initiatives when he served in this role before, including the website update and new software, and was instrumental in the budgeting process. To help in the interim, we will be hiring an **interim Planner** and contracting with a **marketing firm** to manage social media and other marketing initiatives.

The town is currently seeking a **Public Works Maintenance Supervisor** and full-time **Town Manager**. We have hired the Berkely Group, a local government consulting firm, to manage and conduct the search process for a Town Manager. We feel that hiring the firm is a necessary expense for finding the right person.

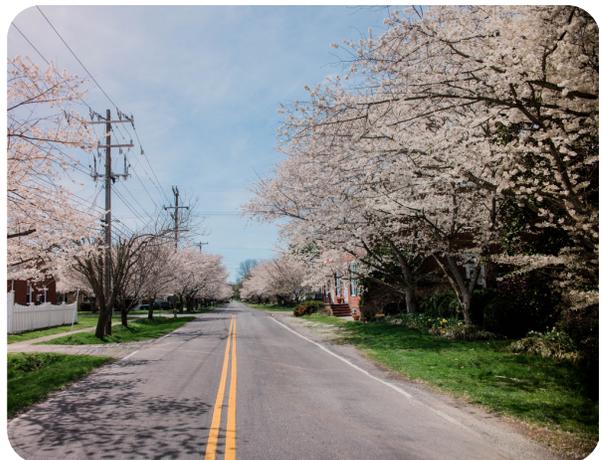
For details on the open positions please visit www.buchanan-va.gov/town-hall/page/current-town-recruitments.

Planning Commission

There is a open seat on the Buchanan Planning Commission. The position is appointed by Town Council for a term of four years. If you are interested in serving, please contact Mayor Harris, tharris@buchanan-va.gov before April 8th.

Facade Grant Expanded

- The 2024 Facade Grant to reduce or prevent blight has been expanded to include state or national registered historic properties and 501 3c organizations.
- Commercial buildings in the zoned area are still included.
- The amount of the grant is 50 percent of the cost of prequalified real property investment.
- A maximum of \$5,000 may be applied for the grant to be matched dollar per dollar by the applicant in the proposed project.
- Funds are limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis until exhausted.
- To apply visit Town Hall.



Cherry Blossoms

Weather permitting, the peak time for the cherry blossoms will be soon! Take time to enjoy them!

Town Office Closings

Due to the heavy workload and necessary staff training, Town Hall will be closed on the following days:

Wednesday, March 20th & 27th.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Please note that bills can be paid online or placed in the drop box. Water and sewer issues can be reported by calling 540-254-1212 Ext.5.

Town Committees

Town Council Approved the following Committee Assignments:

- Planning Commission, Tristan Harris
- Public Works, Jamie Manspile
- Special Events, Jamie Manspile, Marty Rickman, and James Eubank
- Recreation, Rose Jeter

The newly formed **Recreation Committee** is a result of the Recreation Economy for Rural Communities planning assistance program that the Town participated in during 2023. The committee is charged with continuing the efforts of that plan. More information about the plan will be shared very soon.

Town Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 13th 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Rain or Shine

A dumpster will be available on the Town parking lot at the Town Park on Lowe Street for Town residents. Please bring proof of Town residency (water, tax bill, or driver's license).

Each residence may bring two pickup truck loads, or four car loads for free. Loads above that will be \$5 per car load and \$10 for a pickup truck load. **You must be able to lift items over head into a tall dumpster.**

NOT Allowed:

**Brush
Leaves
Tires**

**Construction Debris
Toxic chemicals or pesticides**

Allowed Items:

**Appliances
Furniture
Other household items for disposal**

TVs, electronics, and metal may be recycled at the Landfill. Solomon's Mission accepts donations of gently used items across the street from the Town Park.

Buchanan Business Spotlights



Anchorage House

The Anchorage House is a Bed & Breakfast that offers space for special events. Guests enjoy uniquely themed rooms and have the option of adding a boutique upgrade to make their visit even more special. Meetings and holiday parties are made easy with provided meals, drinks, and accommodations. anchoragehouse.org
1 540-425-5239



First XI Coffee

First XI Coffee offers a fun, cozy atmosphere to meet friends. They serve coffee, drinks, fruit smoothies, shakes, breakfast, and lunch. They have a small private meeting room and offer outside seating as well. firstxicoffee.com
1-410-271-3897



Sycamore Place General Store

Sycamore Place General Store features a wide variety of new and vintage merchandise. From camping supplies to gourmet cheeses and snacks, to fun vintage toys, they have something for everyone! They are located across from the Town Hall and Bank of Botetourt. facebook.com/sycamorereplacegenstore
1- 540-588-0934



Mac Westland Real Estate Group

Mac Westland Real Estate Group is a veteran-owned brokerage building relationships through helping you buy, sell, and invest in real estate. They serve the Roanoke, Botetourt, Salem, and surrounding areas. westlandsells.com 1-540-312-9202

Green Lights for Veteran Support

Sirens and Salutes is offering green light bulbs for porches to show support for our nation's veterans. Town Council voted unanimously to have two green blubs on the Main Street bridge.

The local 501c3 non-profit charity honors and memorializes 1st responders and veterans. Contact them directly to get a green bulb to show your support. 1-757- 751-2161 sirensandsalutes@gmail.com



Buchanan Town Improvement Society

The Buchanan Town Improvement Society is open for business and new members!

The Wilson Warehouse is available for event rentals, both inside the house and outside. The beautiful landscape extends from the garden to the James River. For details on rentals visit buchanantownimprovementsociety.org.

If you have an interest in history, period architecture, formal gardening or just want to have fun working together with other like-minded people send them an email at tis1903@aol.com or give them a call at 1-540-817-5772.

Upcoming Events

- Buchanan Area Business Gathering March 19
- Easter Egg Hunt March 30
- LEAP Farmers Market April 3
- Town Clean Up Day April 13
- Arbor Day Celebration April 25
- Buchanan Civil War Weekend April 26-28
- FSWVA Farmers Market April 24
- LEAP Farmers Market May 8
- FSWVA Farmers Market May 22
- LEAP Farmers Market June 5
- BOCO Wild June 8
- FSWVA Farmers Market June 26
- LEAP Farmers Market July 3
- Buchanan Community Carnival June 27-July 6
- July 4th Parade
- Fireworks July 4 & 6
- Reggae by the River July 20
- FSWVA Farmers Market July 24
- Botetourt Farmers Market Tomato Festival July 27

Thank you for reading!
buchanan-va.gov
1-540-254-1212
