

The CABOOSE

Connecting the Community



VILLAGE OF BUTLER

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Treasurer

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Building Inspector

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Police Department

Non-Emergency

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Village News

As many of you know, I am Kayla Chadwick and I have served as Village Administrator since January of 2014. I have a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Law from UW-Whitewater and a MBA from Cardinal Stritch University. I have spent my entire career working in various levels of government and am proud to lead the Village of Butler.

Many of you may not know exactly what a Village Administrator is. In Butler, the Village Administrator serves as the Chief Administrative Officer and manages all of the day to day operations. The Village Board, which is comprised of elected citizens of Butler, sets the policies and establishes initiatives. The Administrator directs and manages the appropriate staff to ensure the goals and policies set forth by the Board are being achieved. The Village Administrator also serves as the Clerk, Public Works Director, Finance Director, Economic Development Director, and Planning & Zoning Administrator.

Since the Village eliminated the paper newsletter in 2016, we have been hard at work to ensure that Butler is the best place to live, work and play. While some of this work was done behind the scenes, I want to highlight several of our major accomplishments over the last few years.

In 2015, the Village Board adopted a 20 year comprehensive road and infrastructure replacement plan to replace our neglected road and utility infrastructure. In 2016, the Village replaced 132nd St and Glendale Ave and in 2017, we replaced the water main and road on 128th St and Arden Place. The Village Board remains committed to dedicating the financial resources to make the necessary road improvements. In 2018, work will begin to replace Custer Ave and 131st St.

In both 2016 and 2017, the Village of Butler was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award which is the highest honor in governmental accounting. Our annual budget document is a comprehensive communications and financial document, and I encourage you all to review our budget document at www.butlerwi.gov.

Additionally, the Village, with help from a dedicated group of resident volunteers, completed the fundraising efforts to build a new all-inclusive playground at Frontier Park. In total, over \$80,000 was raised, and we expect the new playground to be built this coming spring. Huge Thanks goes out to Gene Liebl and Butler Tool for their generous donation of \$50,000 to the playground. Check the Village website and social media for updates on this project and for a call for volunteers when it comes time for the construction to commence.

Continued on Page 5

From the Village President

In 2016 the Village decided to eliminate the paper newsletter due to cost constraints. We transitioned to a bi-weekly e-newsletter, but a more substantial communications device remained.

I would like to thank Trustee Mark Holdmann and resident Diana Armstrong for reintroducing the newsletter privately. Thanks to their efforts, *THE CABOOSE* will again be delivered to our homes and businesses "Connecting the Community" with news, events and history of our great village.

Please visit the Village of Butler website at www.butlerwi.gov for current Village information, and sign up for our official bi-weekly e-newsletter that contains current village services and events.

I would like to conclude by challenging you all. Become involved in our community, make a difference, and help make Butler a better place than when you arrived. We are always looking for volunteers for various village committees and events. Please contact me at pattiarks@wi.rr.com if you would like to volunteer.

Someone once said, "*The spirit and strength of a community lies in the hands of the citizens who volunteer.*"

I Wish You All the Best in 2018!
Pat Tiarks, President

Recent News

SANTA SENDS HIS THANKS TO BUTLER

Santa sent a big "thank you" to Butler for turning out in such enthusiastic numbers. "I have always been impressed by how many Butler residents show up on my Nice list." Santa said. "It was great to see so many out to enjoy the day."

Thanks for the support of the Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works crew.

This event runs on volunteer power. A special thanks go out to a dedicated group of volunteers: Pat and Bob Tiarks, Rick and Kathy Ensslin, Kathy Gerhardt, Lori Johrandt, Teri Stegemeyer, Mike Zuba, Angine Emrich, Selina Trbovich, Rachel Block, Ashley Jameson, and Wayne Jameson.

The village extends a special thank you to Bill and Charlene Benjamin for their hard work and dedication to coordinating this special event.

Police Department

Greetings from the Village of Butler Police Department! A lot has changed within the department since the last edition of the Caboose. First, Officer Rick Napierala retired from the department in early November after serving the Village since 1988. We have also welcomed two new officers, Victor Herpin, Kyle Knapp, and Lieutenant Engleman to our team. With Officer Napierala's retirement, we will be hiring his replacement in the near future. When you see these new faces around town, please give them a warm Butler welcome!

As your Police Chief, one of my goals is to increase the communication between the Police Department and the residents and businesses. Visit our Facebook page (ButlerWIPolice) to receive updates on a weekly basis highlighting calls for service, and other community information and police topics. We also recently created a Twitter page (ButlerWIPolice) to help keep you informed of activities around the Police Department. If you do not have social media accounts, we post weekly calls for service in the lobby of Village Hall. Please feel free to give me a call to discuss any areas of concern.

We have experienced one of our busiest years in a very long time. While we have not been completely immune to the crime trends in the Milwaukee Metro area, I'm very happy to report that our second and third shift officers are very active. They make a great visual presence to any potential criminals attempting to commit their crimes in the Village. As a reminder, do not make a criminal's job easy. Remember to lock ALL car doors and ALL entry doors to your house. Also, do not leave anything of value in plain sight inside your car. If criminals are not successful in stealing items in the Village, they will go somewhere else. Below is a brief summary of all calls of service, including officers' self-initiated activity over the last few years.

2017 - 4304 as of 11/21 – Estimate 4800 by years end
2016 – 3428
2015 – 3234

Lastly, I want to thank all the officers and Clerk Robin for all their hard work this past year. They are very dedicated to their job and genuinely care for your safety and well-being.

Chief David Wentlandt

Butler Business Bio

Butler Business Bio is a feature article highlighting a local business. You'll discover interesting facts and tidbits about the business that will foster community awareness and pride.

The Butler Barber Shop, located on the northwest corner of 126th and Hampton Ave., has been in operation for 56 years. Previously, the shop was occupied by a shoemaker. I met with the current proprietors, Russ and Mary, and asked a few questions. Here are their responses.

Q: How and when did you get started cutting hair?

Russ: In 1954, my dad taught "watch-making" at the Vocational School (later to be renamed Milwaukee Area Technical College) and my dad's friend taught "barbering." At that time, there was typically a 3-4 year wait to get into barbering school, but I got in right away because of my dad's connections. I've has been barbering for 64 years!

Mary: One month after graduating from Plymouth High School in 1983, I attended barber school at MATC. I've been cutting hair for 33 years and have many customers who've been coming here for 30 years. They come from all around the state.

Q: What kinds of trends have you seen throughout the years?

Russ: The Beatles affected a huge trend in hair styles. Young people were getting fewer haircuts, and as a result, many barbers had to find other ways to make a living. Another huge trend, the "flat-top", (a popular crew cut style in the 1950's and 60's) has mostly gone out of style and there are currently very few barbers skilled in giving this precision cut. They come from all over just for a good flat-top.

Q: What do you enjoy most about your job?

Russ: Visiting and talking with the customers. It's like talking to old friends.

Mary: Having a job you really enjoy. A lot of funny things happen. I also like to set my own hours and be my own boss.

Q: What do you do when you are not working?

Russ: I enjoy bowling, golfing and following and watching sports on TV.

Mary: I like downhill skiing, snowmobiling, boating, motorcycle riding and yard work.

Q: What is your most memorable barber shop moment?

Russ: The only time Elvis Presley performed in Wisconsin, I got five free tickets (best seats in the house) because the auditorium manager was one of his customers.

Mary: It's a series of moments of constant reminders of how I'm appreciated. How customers have shown their appreciation in gifts, laughter and love.

A Life Long Resident Shares Early Memories in Butler

Dan Etzel is one of the original son's of Butler. He was born in 1928 in the house on the northeast corner of



127th Street and Colfax. He calls himself a "Depression kid," and has fond memories growing up and living in a community shaped by the railroad. As a kid, he recalls swimming with other area kids, and fishing with his dad on the Menomonee River in the summer, and ice skating and playing hockey with a

piece of charcoal or stone for a puck and an angled shaped tree branch for a stick in the winter. "During the spring thaw, he would ride icebergs in the river as far as he could. In the early years, his family used an outhouse and shared a well pump with other families. Water was carried from the well a half-mile away. "Everyone got a bath on Saturday night in the same water," he said. Fire wood came from the remnants of wooden box cars at the rail yard."(1)

Dan attended Butler State Graded School from first to seventh grades. During his high school years, Dan shined shoes in local taverns and the Butler Barber Shop, "one of the only places in Butler that had a shower. For 25 cents, he'd give you a towel," he

said, and sold the Saturday Evening Post and Ladies Home Journal for a three cent commission.(1) He also worked loading trucks at the Coca Cola until he graduated from high school at St. Agnes School in 1947. Prior to graduating, he served three months in the Naval Reserve.

After graduation, Dan went to work at AC Spark Plug later known as AC Delco, a subsidiary of General Motors in Oak Creek. During his career, he worked on the guidance systems used for Apollo missions to the moon. "All workers in the Apollo program had their names added to a scroll that was placed on the moon." he said.(1) He had a 35 year career with AC Delco, retiring as a supervisor in 1987.

Dan served two terms on the village board. As a board member, he led a motion to establish the Butler library, and little leagues in Frontier Park. He also served as president of the Lions Club, where he helped plan the Frontier Days Festival which featured parades, country music stars and the area's first corn roast. The festival garnered Butler the slogan "Where Milwaukee ends and the West begins." Dan and his wife Marge have been married for 65 years and had four children, and "lost count of the number of grandchildren and great-grand children." he said.

(1) Huber, B. (2005, May 13). From the Menomonee River to the Moon. *The Freeman* Page 2, p. 1.

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Village News Continued from page 1

These are just a few of the many accomplishments the staff and elected officials of the Village of Butler have accomplished in the last few years. If you want to stay up to date on the most current priorities and projects the Village is working on, please sign up for the bi-weekly e-newsletter at www.butlerwi.gov, attend a Village Board or committee meeting, volunteer to serve on a Village events.

I would like to thank Trustee Mark Holdmann and resident Diana Armstrong for reintroducing The Caboose and applaud their efforts to increase communication in the Village of Butler. If you have a question, comment, concern, or would like to get involved with the Village of Butler, please contact me at kchadwick@butlerwi.gov or at 262-783-2525.

Best Wishes in 2018!
Kayla Chadwick
Village Administrator

Page 5

Library

The Butler Public Library is committed the serving Butler and the surrounding areas, it's not all about books. The library database contains an extensive list of resources and information including online career services, multiple literary references links, and over 300 FREE instructor-led online courses, and much more. Visit the library or go to www.butler.lib.wi.us to see all that your library has to offer.

**Library Hours: Monday—Thursday 10 a.m.—7 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.—3 p.m.**

The library is planning new events for 2018 including monthly game night for teens and adults, Lego Builder's Club, and Saturday movie night. Check the library calendar for the schedule of new events.

Current events at the library include:

Play Group—every Tuesday from 10:30 to 11 a.m. library children's area; Big and little play games

Story Time— every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11 am Library children's area. Join us for stories and activities

The Butler Stitching Group — every Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the conference room. Visit library for details.

Mostly Mystery Book Club— every Third Tuesday of the month 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the conference room. Mostly Mystery Book Club covers popular mystery authors. Discusses one book per month.

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Tidbits of Butler History

The Caboose will publish Tidbits of Butler History to share Butler's rich history that helped shape what this community is today.

Four Townships meet at the corner of North 124th Street and Hampton Avenue

"In 1911, a settlement, originally known as the Townsite City of New Butler, was established in Waukesha County immediately west of the junction of these townships on land first settled by farmers in the 1840's. When officially incorporated in 1913, it was called "New Butler" to distinguish it from "Old Butler" which had started as a post office located one mile south in the Town of Wauwatosa immediately east of the intersection of 124th Street and Capitol Drive in Milwaukee County. The land that today makes up the Village of Butler was ceded to the federal government in 1833 under a treaty concluded with the Chippewa, Ottawa and Potawatomie Indian nations. Due to the proposal of amendments by Congress, ratification was postponed until 1835. The Indians were allowed to retain possession of their country north of the Illinois state line for three years, expiring February 21, 1838.

Before the government could sell land or pass title to individuals, the territory had to be surveyed into sections and fractional subdivisions. Garret Vilet of Cincinnati, Ohio, assisted by George P. Delaplaine, Samuel

Frazey, Samuel Spivey and Richard Short arrived in Milwaukee on February 11, 1836 for the purpose of surveying ten townships of public land lying west and north-west of Milwaukee. These men, in all likelihood, were the first white men to pass through what is now the Village of Butler. As they surveyed the land, they passed down what is now 124th Street, previously known as Town Line Highway, and Hampton Avenue, previously known as Town Line Road. After the townships were surveyed, they had no other organization except township and range number. In 1838, the area now in Waukesha County was divided into four equal political units: Summit, Lisbon, Mukwanago and Muskego. These four units were later divided by the Territorial legislature into other townships. Important to the history of Butler were the division in 1839 of Lisbon into four townships: Lisbon, Menomonee, Pewaukee, and Brookfield effective March 1, 1840. The Village of Butler as we know it today straddles Brookfield Township (south of Hampton Avenue) and Menomonee Township (north of Hampton Avenue). In 1850, the population of the Town of Brookfield was 1,939 with 13 school districts; the town of Menomonee population was 1,340 with 7 school districts."

This Tidbit of Butler History is directly referenced from *The History of (New) Butler Wisconsin*, published by the 2013 Butler WI Centennial Committee. Editor: Marilyn Wroschultz



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Community Stories

The Gandy Dancers

In the beginning years of the railroad
The tracks were laid by hand,
The workers were called gandy dancers
Coast to coast and throughout the land.

They were usually poor immigrants
who worked long hours for little pay.
The work was hard, exhausting labor;
In bad weather there was no delay.

The men used a long bar called a gandy,
For unison each bar had to be the same.
Moving the track the men could sway
That is probably how they got their name.

The crews could vary from eight to ten
Working in unison was an absolute must.
Synchronized in rhythm in song or chant
It was team-work for each man to adjust.

Laying, aligning and maintaining the tracks
Was not their only task, there was more.
Tamping down the earth between the ties
Was also an unpleasant and dirty chore.

The gandy dancers were seldom glorified
Such as the conductor, fireman or engineer.
The trains could not move with tracks,
their part we should appreciate and
revere.

In the 1960's the gandy dancers were done,
Machines replaced them and did the
chore.
In romancing the railroad they did their part
To be remembered now and forevermore.

Standing on the Hampton Avenue Bridge
Looking down at the Butler railroad yard,
I could imagine the toil so many years ago
And the gandy dancers who labored so
hard.

A poem by Ron Lundean, Butler resident

Community Services

How to Report a Code Violation

If you notice a village code violation, report it at www.butlerwi.gov/i-want-to/report
Village staff will investigate to determine if it is a violation and address it with the proper party.

Garbage and Recycling Collection

Christmas Trees

Please put your Christmas trees out by the curb (do not put them in a bag). DPW crews will collect them the week of January 8, 2018 and January 22, 2018

Bulk and large Items

Johns Disposal will remove bulk and large items from residential properties in the Village for a small fee. Please make arrangements with Johns Disposal if you would like them to remove large items by calling 262-473-4700.

Yard Waste Program

Johns Disposal offers a subscription yard waste collection to all residents from April through November annually. Yard waste may not exceed 2 bags or containers per week per home. The cost of the program is \$115 annually. If you are interested in enrolling, please call 262-473-4700.

For Garbage and Recycling Collection FAQ's

please visit www.butlerwi.gov/services/community-services/garbage-and-recycling-collection

Recycling Electronics and Appliances

Visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/rsw for information on how to dispose of electronics and appliances and view the annual schedule of drop-off locations in Waukesha County.

Donation Information

To donate furniture, clothing or household goods, contact the Salvation Army to schedule a free pickup of your items. To schedule a pickup, visit their website at milwaukee.satruck.org/ or call 1-800-728-7825.

St. Agnes Catholic Church Food Pantry

The food pantry of St. Agnes provides emergency food assistance as a result of illness, unemployment, divorce or other unfortunate situations.

For those in need of assistance, the pantry serves Butler and the surrounding area, and is open on Monday's 12:00 to 2:00 pm and 5:00 to 6:00 pm.



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Connecting the Community

Our mission is to publish a quality newsletter committed to serving the Village of Butler by providing topics of interest, news and information.

The Caboose Staff:

Mark Holdmann, Village Board Trustee

Diana Armstrong, Resident

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please send an email to mkholdmann@gmail.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
1/16/2018	Building Board Meetings	6:30 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
1/16/2018	Finance Board Meeting	6:50 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
1/16/2018	Village Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Village Hall
2/6/2018	Building Board Meeting	6:30 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
2/6/2018	Village Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Village Hall
2/19/2018	Building Board Meeting	6:30 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
2/19/2018	Finance Board Meeting	6:50 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
2/19/2018	Village Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Village Hall
2/20/2018	Spring Primary Election	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM	Village Hall
3/3/2018	Congressmen Sensenbrenner Village Hall Meeting	8:30 AM	Village Hall
3/6/2018	Building Board Meeting	6:30 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
3/6/2018	Village Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Village Hall
3/20/2018	Building Board Meeting	6:30 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
3/20/2018	Finance Board Meeting	6:50 PM (approx.)	Village Hall
3/20/2018	Village Board Meeting	7:00 PM	Village Hall
4/3/2018	General Election	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM	Village Hall