

Memorandum



Date: October 14, 2026
To: Buchanan Area Recreation Board
From: Tony McGhee
Subject: Kathryn Park and Disc Golf Course Ribbon Cuttings

Attached is the media release for the ribbon cuttings celebrating the new playground at Kathryn Park and the Buckshot Disc Golf course at McCoy Creek Recreation Area. The events will be held on Monday, October 26, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Kathryn Park, with the group then moving to McCoy Creek Recreation Area for the disc golf ribbon cutting.

I would like to invite all BARB members to attend and help us recognize the completion of these two projects. The Board played an important role in identifying Kathryn Park as a priority, selecting the playground equipment, and supporting the continued improvement of recreational opportunities throughout the community. It would be great to have as many members there as possible.

Please designate one Board member to offer a few remarks on behalf of BARB during the program. Once a person has been selected, please let me know so we can include them in the final event schedule.

The attached media release is being provided to you in advance and is embargoed until Friday, October 23. Please do not share, post, or otherwise distribute the release publicly before that date.

Thank you for everything the Board has done to support these projects. They are great examples of what can be accomplished when the City, our boards, and community volunteers work together to improve Buchanan.

Attachment A



Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tony McGhee

City of Buchanan

269.362.3810 ext. 15

Ribbon cuttings scheduled for October 26 at Kathryn Park and McCoy Creek Recreation Area

BUCHANAN, Mich. — The City of Buchanan will hold ribbon-cutting ceremonies on Monday, October 26, beginning at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate the completion of two new community recreation projects.

The morning will begin at Kathryn Park with the ribbon cutting for the park's new community-built playground. The celebration will then continue at McCoy Creek Recreation Area for the official opening of Buckshot Disc Golf, the community's new disc golf course.

While the projects provide two different recreational opportunities, they share an important connection: both were made possible through strong partnerships between the City and the community.

"These projects are great examples of what makes Buchanan special," said Mayor Mark Weedon. "We believe in creating places where children, families, and residents can be active, gather, and enjoy their community. When our residents, volunteers, boards, and City staff come together, we can make meaningful improvements that benefit the entire community."

Buckshot Disc Golf was made possible through a \$10,000 Promoting Active Communities grant the City received through the Michigan Fitness Foundation. As part of that process, a group of community members representing local parks and trails, the schools, and the City assessed and inventoried Buchanan's fitness and activity assets. The group agreed that a disc golf course would be an excellent addition to Buchanan's park system. The volunteer efforts to build the course were lead by 269Bangarangatang, a local disc golf group.

The City had also previously been approached by local residents interested in developing a disc golf course. That dedicated group of volunteers helped design the course and worked

alongside the City to install the equipment purchased through the grant. It was truly a community effort.

“The City can provide resources and support, but the energy behind both of these projects came from the community,” said City Manager Tony McGhee. “At Kathryn Park, volunteers helped build a new playground in less than two days. At McCoy Creek, residents took an idea, helped shape the course, and then did the work to bring it to life. That type of partnership is how we continue moving Buchanan forward.”

Disc golf continues to grow in popularity because it is affordable, accessible to a wide range of ages and skill levels, and provides an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors while being physically active. Buckshot Disc Golf also creates another way for residents and visitors to experience McCoy Creek Recreation Area and Buchanan’s larger trail and park system. Kathryn Park has been a neighborhood gathering place for more than 100 years and remains a favorite park for many Buchanan residents. Nestled within one of the community’s core residential neighborhoods and located near Moccasin Elementary School, the park provides an important recreational space for neighborhood children and families.

The Buchanan Area Recreation Board identified Kathryn Park as a top priority for new playground equipment in its master plan. The Board also helped select the equipment and design the new playground. Dozens of local volunteers then joined Buchanan’s Department of Public Works to install the equipment in less than two days. The playground has been busy ever since.

Neighborhood playgrounds provide children with opportunities for physical activity, social interaction, creativity, and unstructured play close to home. Investing in these spaces also strengthens neighborhoods by creating safe and welcoming places where children, families, and neighbors can gather.

The public is invited to attend both ribbon cuttings and help the City recognize the residents, volunteers, board members, community partners, and City staff who made these projects possible.

Event Information

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026 **Time:** 10:00 a.m.

Starting Location: Kathryn Park – 315 Moccasin Street

Second Location: Buckshot Disc Golf at McCoy Creek Recreation Area – 606 Clark Street

Project Images

