

Mar 23, 2026

Hello Everyone,

As the year comes to an end, I want to take a moment and reflect on the 2025 accomplishments made by the Trail Board and our members.

2025 had its fair share of challenges, but the year also was filled with progress, growth and some really great moments. None of this would have been possible without the effort, teamwork and positive energy each Trail member brought to the success of our projects.

The Trail extension is a reality and is 95% completed. The extension is from the Schirmer Parkway parking lot to River Saint Joe, located at Flatwater Farms. The next extension will join the Niles Trail (I&M River Valley Trail) to McCoy Creek Trail.

In April, a high wind straight line storm blew over approximately 40 large trees across the Trail. The DPW cut up the downed trees and cleared the Trail within a matter of days. The Buchanan Scout Troop # 541 assisted in the final clean up.

Tom Wrasse donated 6 more American Chestnut trees to the trail. The Buchanan Tree Friends planted these trees along the Trail. The total number of American Chestnut trees planted over the last 5 years is 30.

Trek-n-Treat was a beautiful day with 656 children participating and 637 adults accompanying the children. Thank you to Clark Lab and Edgewater Automation for allowing us to use their parking areas, The Buchanan Lions Club assisted with parking and made safety a priority for all. With the rising cost of candy, several local businesses made large monetary donations for purchasing candy. Trek-n-Treat on the Trail is an event for our community and continues to be supported by many volunteers.

Shawn and Mary Ann Ward planned, organized, and managed our new venture, the Salmon Scramble. The original goal for participants was 50, but we had 101 runners. There were many positive comments and ideas for the 2026 Salmon Scramble. Please put on your 2026 calendar October 24th for the Salmon Scramble and October 31st for Trek-n-Treat.

This Fall the McCoy Creek Trail Board was approached regarding the merge of Live Buchanan with the Trail. Because Live Buchanan has non-profit status, donors to the Trail will now be able to receive tax credits.

Beginning with the new year, our Trail Board will report to BARB (Buchanan Area Recreation Board).