# The Bright Side with BDT

Butler Downtown is a grassroots group of volunteers that roll up their sleeves to revitalize & restore the Main Street corridor of Butler City.





Visit our website at butlerdowntown.org or scan below

Scan the QR codes above or follow @ButlerDowntown on Facebook & Instagram



### **Upcoming Events:**

- Bowl for Butler: 3/24
  - Family Bowlaway
- Sips in the City: 5/4
  - Main Street
- Butler City Farmer's Market: May Oct
  - o Every Saturday 8:30 AM 12:30 PM
- Bantam Jeep Sculpture Unveiling: 6/7
  - Main Street during Bantam Jeep Invasion
- Foodie Fridays: 3rd Friday of the Month
  - City parking lot at N Main St.
  - 6/21 80's theme
  - o 7/19 Dog Days of Summer theme
  - 8/16 Back to School theme

#### SRU SUCCEED Events:

- Butler Hip Hop & Rap Community Meeting
  - o 2/1 & 3/7 from 5:30-6:30 PM
- Dress for Success
  - o 2/20 & 3/19 from 10 AM-2PM
- Trilogy Wellness Narcan Training
  - o 1/25 3-4 PM Register on EventBrite
- Community Voices Breakfast Series (must preregister with QR code)

0 2/1 & 3/7

For further details call 724-841-0477



BUTLER SUCCEED

# **BUTLER DOWNTOWN**

We brought in the new year with a fresh new logo! Thanks to Amanda Fleming and The Branding Agency for working closely with the Promotions & Organization committees to customize the design to reflect our nickname & Butler's Main Street skyline.

### **BRING BANTAM BACK**

HELP BDT & BUTLER AM ROTARY COMPLETE A LIFE SIZE BANTAM JEEP SCULPTURE FOR DISPLAY ON **MAIN STREET!** 

**DON'T MISS THE UNVIELING ON** 7.7.24





Scan QR Code to Donate Online or Donate by check payable to Butler AM Rotary Charities mailed to Butler AM Rotary, PO BOX 2434, Butler, PA 16003

# EverGreen Accounting

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#### **Editor's** Remarks

Hello friends! Krista Washkau, Secretary & Editor, here with remarks for this final print edition of *The Bright Side with BDT*. As the new year fell upon us, BDT made the tough decision to pause the publication of this newsletter in its current form. We will be evaluating available resources and implementing alternative ways to keep you in the loop on all things Butler City. Our digital subscribers will still receive regular communication from us so scan the QR code on the right to get BDT news directly in your inbox!



This is a bittersweet moment for me as the newsletter has been "my baby" for three years. I named it *The Bright Side* because I am passionate about changing the stigma that downtown Butler is a deserted or unsafe place to be. I've lived and worked in Butler City for almost 15 years, and most of that time I bought into the negative stereotypes. I allowed that mindset to take over and became jaded toward my own town. It wasn't until I started working on Main Street and volunteering for Butler Downtown in 2020 that I learned how mistaken I had been.

The neighboring business owners were friendly and I found community among the people who live and work here. There are thriving businesses that have been established for 100 years alongside new businesses popping up every year. There are so many services available to assist people from all walks of life provided by countless nonprofits and volunteer organizations doing their part to improve Butler City. I wasn't able to see the truth until I got involved in the community and saw it for myself. My greatest hope with this newsletter was to show you the true Butler Downtown. It is much *brighter* than many social media comments would give it credit for.

So readers, I am leaving you with a request. When you see or hear a negative comment about Butler City, challenge it! Ask if they've been on Main Street lately to see how it's come alive. Tell them about fun events like the Bantam Jeep Invasion or Foodie Friday. Give them a Fairy Door Trail passport off our website and let them know they can win a prize just for walking Main Street. Help spread *The Bright Side* of our town.

For bonus points, get out there and volunteer with <u>any</u> downtown organization! I promise that you will receive just as much as you give. BDT is only as strong as our volunteer base and we are always recruiting for the Design, Promotions & Organization committees. You can learn more about them on our website and reach out to us on Facebook to learn how to get involved. Lastly, make sure to sign up to our digital subscriber list so you don't miss updates about this year's events!

#### -Krista Washkau







# **Now Hiring**

Community Options, Inc. is a non-progit organization prodviding housing and employment supports to indivduals with Intellectual & Development Disabilities.



www.comop.org/careers





## How to Make Friends & Support Your Neighbors!

No one should go through life without a friend in their corner.



Mental Wellness Starts With Friendship



At Compeer we support mental wellness by connecting caring adults in one-to-one, co-equal friendships with people of the same gender who are in mental health recovery. We encourage volunteerism among caring adults and support from the local community. We will match, train, guide, and monitor volunteer relationships with Compeer friends.

We also have CompeerCORPS for veterans, where we establish vet-to-vet friendships. This is an extension of Compeer, focusing on the unique bond service members share.

Our programs are measured annually, and consistently show improvement in an individual's self-esteem, community engagement, and overall quality of life.

We ask for 1 hour a week of time spent between volunteers and their friend. You can call, video chat, or even meet up in person for coffee or a walk. Nothing costly, just your friendship.

If you'd like to be a friend, please contact us at (724) 287-1965 or <a href="mailto:compeer@sphs.org">compeer@sphs.org</a>

Where people with Mental Illnesses, Drug & Alcohol Addictions, and the Homeless, can Hang out, Get FREE Resources & Help, as they Heal















We can Stabilize people's Situations
And get them Back on Their Feet

140 N. Elm St. Ste. B, Butler, PA 16001 | 724-283-1704 | bpeoples@grapevinecenter.org www.grapevinecenter.org | 9:00AM — 5:00 PM including weekends

#### **BDT Board Members**

- Audrianna Bly- President (SpringHill Suites by Marriot Butler-Centre City)
- Lance Calvert (Branded In Butler)
- Lisa Campbell Economic Restructuring Committee Chair (BC3)
- Jeff Geibel (Edward Jones )
- Nicole Glasgow (Howard Hanna)
- Tom Graham (Frames & Pixels)
- Amanda Green Treasurer (EverGreen Accounting)
- Timothy Hawk- Design Committee Chair (Community Options)
- Mikayla Moretti Organization Committee Chair (BC3 Education Foundation)
- Rosanne Natili (Butler City Farm Market Manager)
- Amber Omstead- Promotions Committee Chair (Butler Technologies)
- Hannah Shannon (NexTier Bank)
- Tabitha Sperring (Quality Life Services)
- Krista Washkau Secretary (Edward Jones)



'Lights on the Ice" Friday Feb. 9 • 5PM-8PM

- LIGHTS on the ice will make it a festive night.
- CAMERA and phone pictures can capture the sights.
- **ACTION** watch as carvers create amazing art out of ice.
- **ENJOY** adult beverages, food vendors and entertainment.

"Family Fun Day" > Saturday Feb. 10 • 11AM-4PM

- **Live Carving of Ice Sculptures**
- Kids Activities including the popular Ice Slide
- Music, Entertainment, and Food Trucks
- Chili Cook-Off
- **Hot Dog Eating Contest**
- NEW! Sweet Treats Bake-Off Contest



#### **Businesses & Organizations**

Businesses & Organizations can still purchase or share ice blocks or make a donation. Visit butleramrotary.com or call 724-991-2212.

Proceeds support the Butler AM Rotary Charities Annual Giving Fund!

Visit butleramrotary.com or call 724-991-2212 for more information.

# Excel in 2024

Data-driven decisions will help you to stand out in the office.

Basic Excel Begins Feb. 6 | \$180 Intermediate Excel Begins March 5 | \$180 Advanced Excel Begins April 2 | \$180

Courses instructed live through Zoom.

**Register Now!** Visit bc3.edu/business-training



Employers - find out if your company is eligible for reimbursement for BC3 training through WEDnetPA.

Register Now! Visit bc3.edu/office



