

Wreath laying & tours by local Buchanan Elementary students to mark occasion

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# LancasterHistory

## For Immediate Release

*All events are camera friendly, and principals will be available for interviews.*

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## President Buchanan's 228th Birthday Celebration to be held on April 27

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Lancaster, PA (March 27, 2019) – The 228th anniversary of President James Buchanan's birthday will be commemorated on April 27, 2019, and will features the annual presentation of the White House wreath at the President's grave site at Woodward Hill Cemetery, starting at 10am. A birthday celebration will follow at Wheatland, his home, from 2-4pm. Both events are free and open to the public.

**Presidential Wreath Laying:** The day's events begin at 10am at Woodward Hill Cemetery with the Presidential Wreath-Laying Ceremony. The ceremony includes historical commentary provided by the Presiding Officer of Pennsylvania's National Guard, 328th Brigade Support Battalion, and the 56th Brigade Combat Team. Additional remarks will be given by Lancaster City Mayor Danene Sorace and County Commissioner Joshua G. Parsons. The James Buchanan Elementary School 5th Grade Chorus will sing the National Anthem after which two 5th Grade students, in historic costume, and the Presiding Officer of Pennsylvania's National Guard will present the Presidential Wreath at Buchanan's tomb. Additional ceremony participants include Reverend Timothy Mentzer (Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church), the Red Rose Veterans Honor Guard, and the Lancaster Fencibles, President Buchanan's historic guard.

**Buchanan Birthday Celebration:** Following the ceremony, the public is invited by the students and Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) of James Buchanan Elementary School to President James Buchanan's Wheatland for a 228th Birthday Celebration. Free tours of the President's beloved home, Wheatland, are available from 2pm to 4pm with a tour beginning every 15 minutes from LancasterHistory's main building, and the last free tour beginning at 3:45pm. "Tickets" are available at-door. These tours will be led by Buchanan Elementary students as they interpret the history of Wheatland, James Buchanan, his family, and his life. Enjoy a slice of James Buchanan's birthday cake with some punch provided through the generosity of the James Buchanan Elementary School PTO.

**About James Buchanan:** Born April 23, 1791, James Buchanan served as President of the United States from 1857-1861. His presidency was defined by a struggle to preserve the Union as it unraveled over slavery, secession, and Mr. Lincoln's election. His political career began in Pennsylvania's Legislature and was followed by 35 years in Congress, as a foreign diplomat, and as Secretary of State before his election as our 15th U.S. President. He remains the only U.S. President originally from Pennsylvania.

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[Download Image of James Buchanan](#)

[Download Image of Wheatland](#)

*A higher resolution files of the images above can be provided.  
Email Emily Miller, Marketing & Development Officer, at [emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org](mailto:emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org) to request files.*

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