



Aug. 13, 2013

Vol. 5, No. 14

This newsletter goes to 405 addresses
and is posted on www.explorebluffton.com

Current membership at 182

Several businesses participating

Bluffton downtown sidewalk sales Friday & Saturday!!!

The Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce announces several Bluffton fall events. Some of these are chamber sponsored, other chamber supported, while others are for information purposes. We will release more information on many of these event as they come closer on the calendar.

August

- Friday-Saturday, Aug.16-17, sidewalk sales (sponsored by downtown merchants)
- Saturday, Aug. 16 - Allen County Fair opens, Lima
- Sunday, Aug. 18 - Mennonite Memorial Home, concert on the lawn, Al Best Band, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Aug. 23 - Bluffton University new students move in
- Monday, Aug. 26 - Bluffton schools, first day of classes
- Friday, Aug. 30 - First home football game, BHS vs. C-RHS, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 31 - BFR Sports and Fitness 5K and Pump and Run

September

- Friday, Sept. 13 - Chamber breakfast, town hall, 7 a.m. breakfast; 7:30 a.m. program
- Saturday, Sept. 14 - Town Hall Concert Series, Lost Orchards, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 19 - Bluffton University business showcase
- Saturday, Sept. 21 - Bluffton University family day
- Saturday, Sept. 28 - 10th annual Bluffton fall festival
- Saturday, Sept. 28 - Chamber-Southgate Lanes bowling scramble fundraiser
- Saturday, Sept. 28 - Center for Autism & Dyslexia 5K, Sommer Center
- September-October-November, 3/50 downtown business promotion (sponsored by downtown merchants)

More fall calendar/from page 1

October

- Friday, Oct. 4 - Bluffton High School homecoming parade
- Friday, Oct. 11 - Bluffton chamber breakfast
- Saturday, Oct. 12 - Bluffton University homecoming
- Saturday, Oct. 26 - Town Hall Concert Series, The Rough and Tumble, 7 p.m.
- Trick-or-treat night date to be announced

November

- Wednesday, Nov. 6, Town Hall Concert Series, Moxie Strings, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 8, Bluffton chamber breakfast
- Saturday, Nov. 9 - Downtown holiday open house
- Downtown holiday garlands hung; Ream display posted on Presbyterian Church lawn, Dates to be announced
- Thursday, Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving
- Saturday, No. 30 - Blaze of Lights

“Deck the Halls” 2013 Blaze theme

Bluffton will deck the halls this year with its Saturday, Nov. 30, Blaze of Lights. Several new events are planned this year and will be announced soon. This year’s schedule follows:

- 4 p.m. - parade line up on Snider Road
- 4 p.m. - Ice sculpturer at work
- 5 p.m. - Parade
- 6 p.m. - Entertainment on Main Street
Horse and wagon rides following parade
- 7 p.m. - Ream holiday folk art display lights go on

Elsewhere in the newsletter is a parade form application. A residential and business holiday lighting contest is planned. Details on those event are coming.

Business showcase Sept. 19

Our annual business showcase at Marbeck Center will have a 10:45 a.m. set-up time and will run from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The chamber will send registrations separately from this newsletter. The event takes place Thursday, Sept. 19.



Your Sports & Fitness Place

BFR is your place to be active. We strive to offer quality services at affordable prices. Whether you are young or old, fit or not, there is something for you at BFR!

Register for Sport Skills and Fitness Classes:

BFR offers a variety of programs that are open to the public. Class fees vary based on the program.

- **Fitness Classes**, including aerobics, water exercise, senior exercise, YogaFit ©, and Zumba © Dance Fitness, run year-round.
- **Ultimate Fit** features high-intensity, group- workout sessions led by a staff trainer. Monthly sessions are available.
- **Youth Sport Skill Classes** are offered for basketball, dodgeball, football, soccer, swim, tennis, volleyball and Tiny Tots (pre-schoolers). Youth classes typically run on a 7 week schedule.
- **Drop-in Recreation** hours are posted for the gymnasium and arena. A Daily Guest fee is required; guests under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by a parent.



Purchase a Track or Recreation Pass for building access:

- **Individual Rec Pass & Family Rec Pass** options include unlimited use of the indoor track, use of the gymnasium and arena during posted open times, unlimited participation in drop-in recreation hours for basketball, dodgeball, tennis, soccer, and volleyball, as well as free admission (with Family Rec Pass) to Family Nites, and Open Play times.
- **Track Pass** includes unlimited access to the indoor track for 1, 3 or 6 month terms.

Purchase a BFR Membership for maximum benefits:

Full membership includes use of the BFR fitness center (a members-only area for those 14 years and older) and indoor track, plus use of the gymnasium and arena during posted open times, and discounts on fitness class fees. Family Membership also includes free admission to Family Nights, and Family Open Play events plus discounts on youth sport skill program fees.

Individual Memberships (for those over 14 years of age) are available in 1, 3, 6 month and full year terms; **Family memberships** (covering all family members residing in the household) are offered in full year terms only.



Contact us TODAY for a TOUR, and PRICE information.

2013 Bluffton, Ohio Blaze of Lights parade application

2013 Blaze theme: “DECK THE HALLS”

Please send parade application to:

Junior Weihrauch
Parade Chairperson
20791 State Route 68
Arlington, OH 45814
1-419-365-5304 – Home number after 2 p.m.

Parade information:

- Parade, 5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013
- Line up 4 p.m., on Snider Road, just off North Main St., Bluffton
- (north of the Bluffton Community Swimming Pool)
- Application deadline: Friday, Nov. 22, 2013

Name of group:

Contact person:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Description of parade entry

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 142, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
blufftonchamber@gmail.com; 419-369-2985

You're invited!

Blanchard Valley Health System and The Findlay - Hancock County Community Foundation invite you to attend the Advance Care Planning Leadership & Development Initiative.

Purpose:

To explore proven approaches to advance care planning and end-of-life care – models adopted in communities across the United States with measurable success. And to ask ourselves, can such models be effective in our community?

Host:

Scott Malaney, CEO, Blanchard Valley Health System

Date & Time:

Thursday, October 3

Morning Session I (8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

Afternoon Session I (1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Please only RSVP for one session

To RSVP, click one of the following links:

Morning Session

(8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

<http://bvhs.pingg.com/Morning>

Afternoon Session

(1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

<http://bvhs.pingg.com/AfternoonSession>

For more information:

Elizabeth Kelly, Spiritual Care Coordinator

Blanchard Valley Health System

Blanchard Valley Hospital

1900 S. Main St.

Findlay, Ohio 45840

Phone: 419-429-6463

Fax: 419-429-7652

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce Board:

Sally Siferd, president, Tammy Whitlow secretary, Aphaphanh Nussbaum, Adam Stedke, Jamie Mehaffie, Derek Dukes, Mark Alliman, Bob Inniger, Doug Luginbill, Luke Young and Larry Hoffman. Fred Steiner, CEO

Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 142, Bluffton, OH 45817;
blufftonchamber@gmail.com; Phone: 419-369-2985 www.explorebluffton.com



Fundraiser for Main Street banners

Southgate Lanes-Chamber hosts first-ever bowling scramble

Southgate Lanes and Bluffton Area Chamber of Commerce have teamed up to sponsor a Business Bowling Scramble on Saturday, Sept. 28, at the bowling alley, 9700 N. Dixie Highway, Bluffton.

“The event is a fundraiser for the chamber’s Main Street banner project,” said Derek Dukes of the bowling alley. “Ten four-person teams will compete in the evening scramble. Bowling begins at 5 p.m.”

The winning team receives:

- Southgate names one of its 2013-14 leagues after the winning business
- Southgate posts a 3 by 5 foot advertisement on its wall naming the winning business
- A traveling trophy goes the winning business

The event is similar to a golf scramble. Ten teams, each made up by a Bluffton chamber member business, will bowl three games. After each member of the team has completed a frame, only the best score will be used for that team’s frame.

In this scramble however, crowd participation can help any team’s score.

“Each team will have a stack of cards that represents one pin each. Any person attending the event, but is not bowling, may ‘donate’ one pin to a team’s total score,” said Dukes. The Southgate Lanes staff will monitor donated pins.

“Businesses are encouraged to bring promotional items to the scramble to try to ‘win over’ people walking in the door,” said Dukes. “In addition, door prizes will be drawn throughout the evening from the donated pin basket. Anyone who donates a pin will automatically be entered for door prizes.”

The first 10 teams who registered will compete. The entry fee is \$100 per team (\$25 per person). Bowlers do not need to be employees of registered teams, however teams must be chamber members.

In addition, any business is welcome to donate door prizes. For more details on the scramble contact Derek Dukes at Southgate Lanes, 419-358-6966, or Fred Steiner of the chamber at 419-369-2985. Bowlers should be ready to bowl 30 minutes for the scramble begins.