

Sept. 25, 2013

Vol. 5, No. 17

This newsletter goes to 391 addresses  
and is posted on [www.explorebluffton.com](http://www.explorebluffton.com)

Current membership at 182

Southgate will name one league after winning team

## Last chance to sponsor your team in Southgate-Chamber bowling event

Interested in having a Southgate Lane bowling league carry your business name this year? It's possible. Seven teams are registered and only three spots remain.

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."

### Teams already signed up:

- 1 - Basinger Plumbing & Heating
- 2 - Citizens National Bank
- 3 - Fortman Insurance
- 4 - Shirley's Popcorn / Shannon Theater
- 5 - Luke's Bar & Grill
- 6 - Bluffton University
- 7 - Bluffton Hospital
- 8 - Open
- 9 - Open
- 10 - Open

### 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 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.

## More bowling info/from page 1

“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. A few team spots remain. 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.

## Downtown holiday open house Nov. 9

Downtown Bluffton merchants are putting together a Saturday, Nov. 9, holiday open house event. For more information contact Aphaphanh Nussbaum at Ten Thousand Villages.

### **Santa will visit Bluffton several times in November and December**

The chamber has invited Santa to town this fall. He will be here Saturday, Nov. 16, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7 and Santa and Mrs. Santa Claus will also be here during the Blaze of Lights night on Nov. 30.

### **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](http://www.explorebluffton.com)



# Here's the official Bluffton Fall Festival schedule - it's Saturday!

Saturday, Sept. 28, is the 10th annual Bluffton Fall Festival and this year's event is full of lots of free family-oriented activities, according to Daren Lee of Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio, who coordinates the festival.

While the festival is not a chamber event, participants are chamber members. Here's a summary of what's planned.

## **Maple Crest Senior Living Village, 700 Maple Crest Court**

Antique tractor show, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; musical entertainment, Full Sound Chamber Group, 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. and 1-1:45 p.m.; corn shredder and wheat thresher demonstrations, TBA; kiddie tractor pull, registration 1-1:30 p.m., pull starts 1:30 p.m.; fishing derby, 2-3:30 p.m. Food available during the day.

## **Mennonite Memorial Home, 410 W. Elm St.**

Events earlier in the week include a silent auction from Sept. 23 to noon Sept. 28; bake sale Friday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Sept. 28 events: Lunch and kid's face painting, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; fun photo booth, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; horse-drawn carriage rides from MMH and downtown, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Bingo (no cash prizes), 1-3 p.m. kid's hay dig, kiddie train, kettle corn for sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 28 entertainment: Rainbow Dulcimers, 10:30-11 a.m.; Don Hurless Trio, noon-1:30 p.m.

## **Downtown Bluffton – Main Street retail district**

Many businesses will have special sales during the day. Bluffton Senior Citizens Center will have lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Horse-drawn carriage rides from Mennonite Home stop at the Center.

## **Swiss Community Historical Society homestead, 8350 Bixel Road**

Farm animal exhibits, straw bale maze and other kid's games, blacksmithing, corn shelling, bread-baking, needle crafts, open-fire meat roasting, popcorn popping, soup cooking, woodworking and other old-time rural crafts, wagon rides, horse plowing, Swiss-German music, historical exhibits and food available.

## **Bluffton Elementary School, 116 S. Jackson St.**

Bluffton Scrap Artists quilt show, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. elementary gym. Several sewing projects on display, including quilts made by the club for The Wounded Warrior Project.

# More Fall Festival details

## **BFR Sports and Fitness, 215 Snider Road**

First-ever Craft and Home Business Expo, booths of hand-made craft items, a variety of products from national companies representing beauty and skincare, candles, scrap-booking, books, jewelry, purses, home décor, storage and cooking products. Demonstrations provided throughout the day, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$1 admission.

## **Center for Autism and Dyslexia 5K run-walk**

A 5K run and walk sponsored by The Center for Autism and Dyslexia of Findlay and Lima will use Bluffton University's Sommer Center as its starting and ending point. Registration at 8 a.m. Race at 9 a.m. Award ceremony follows with trophies awarded. To register [contactsmeffley@gmail.com](mailto:contactsmeffley@gmail.com).

## **Farmers' Market, Citizens National Bank parking lot, 102 Main St.**

### **First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson St.**

"Sowing and Reaping: Celebrating Good Food from the Earth." Joint effort of several community organizations includes free community brunch, food samples and demonstrations. Mad River Theater Works present "The Pasture and the Process: A Parable of Just Food," at 10 a.m. in First Mennonite sanctuary.

Farmers' market, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Free community brunch, 9-10 a.m. Food samples and demonstrations 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pie baking contest 11 a.m.

## **Pumpkin Pie Contest at Farmers' Market**

Thursday, Sept. 26, is the deadline for entering this year's contest. Contestants may call Keith McClelland at 419-326-5185 to enter. There is a limit of one pie entered per family.

Three cash prizes will be awarded. First place is \$100, second place \$50 and third place \$25. All proceeds go to the Bluffton Community Assistance Program food pantry. Last year's contest generated \$600 for the food pantry.

Pies must be delivered to the McClelland booth at the farmers' market by 9 a.m. on Saturday. Judging starts at 9:30 a.m. A pie auction of all pies entered takes place following the judging.

## **Bluffton Hospital, 139 Garau St.**

Pony rides, face painting, inflatables for kids including a bounce house and 30-foot shark slide, pumpkin decorating and light refreshments. Transportation provided between downtown and the hospital during the day.

## **Bluffton Public Library, 145 S. Main St.**

Friends of the Library book sale, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Book sale also open to public Thursday and Friday, Sept. 26-27.

## **Facebook updates**

For updates and complete information on the Bluffton Fall Festival visit its Facebook at [facebook.com/BlufftonFallFest](https://facebook.com/BlufftonFallFest).

# Northwest Physical Therapy's 5K Oct. 19

Bluffton chamber member Northwest Physical Therapy's 4th Annual Northwest Poker-Run Charity 5K is Saturday, Oct. 19. The event will take place at 1880 N. Perry St., in Ottawa - registration at 8:30 a.m., race at 10 a.m.

All proceeds from the event to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital according to Dan Settlage.

Registration is \$15 prior to Oct. 1, \$20 after Oct. 1 and day-of-event. Refreshments will be available and door prizes will be awarded. Registration forms are available for pickup at Northwest Physical Therapy or through download by visiting [www.NorthwestPhysicalTherapy.com](http://www.NorthwestPhysicalTherapy.com)

## Bluffton chamber fall calendar

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.

### September

- Sept 26-28 - Friends of the Library book sale, Bluffton Public Library
- Saturday, Sept. 28 - 10th annual Bluffton fall festival
- Saturday, Sept. 28 - Chamber-Southgate Lanes bowling scramble fundraiser
- September-October-November, 3/50 downtown business promotion (sponsored by downtown merchants)

### October

- Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Messiah rehearsals begin, Gilliom Room, Bluffton University
- Friday, Oct. 4 - Bluffton High School homecoming parade
- Friday, Oct. 11 - Bluffton chamber breakfast
- Saturday, Oct. 12 - Bluffton University homecoming
- Sunday, Oct. 21 - BFR Halloween party, 204 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 16 - Senior citizens breakfast, Middle School, 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 26 - Final Bluffton Farmers' Market of the season, 8:30-noon
- Saturday, Oct. 26 - Town Hall Concert Series, The Rough and Tumble, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 31 - Bluffton trick-or-treat night, 6-7:30 p.m.

### 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