

Buffalo Area Chamber Of Commerce

101 N. Maple ~ P.O. Box 258 ~ Buffalo, MO 65622

Phone/Fax: 417-345-2852 E-Mail: chamber@buffalococ.com

The Members' Messenger

Volume 59 ~ September 2008

Character Ed Word For September: *Respect*

Cooperation: (1) to feel or show honor or esteem for, (2) to show consideration for. **Character Ed** is a Chamber-led community wide initiative working to create a "culture of character" by focusing on a new word each month. **Please include the monthly *Character Ed* word in any media opportunities.**

September Meeting At Maple Street Grill

The September membership meeting for the Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce will be **Wednesday, September 03**, at **Maple Street Grill**. Guest speakers will be Bobbie Heard, Buffalo Parks Director, and Larry Highfill, Buffalo City Fire Chief.

The lunch specials for **Wednesday, September 03** will be: (1) **Hickory Smoked Brisket Platter** ~ 6 oz. hickory smoked brisket topped with a smoky bb-q sauce and served with your choice of two of the following: coleslaw, plantation beans or fries (substitute salad or onion chips ~ add \$1.29), and garlic toast. \$6.99, (2) **Bacon Cheese Burger** ~ 1/2lb. char-broiled burger topped with American cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato, onion and pickle chips, served with fries. \$6.99, (3) **Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken** ~ fettuccine served with a rich creamy Alfredo sauce and topped with a char-broiled chicken breast, served with garlic toast. \$6.99, (4) **Clam Strip Salad** ~ Fried clam strips, jack cheese and tomatoes on a bed of mixed greens. \$7.29. **Please call orders in prior to the meeting for faster service. Maple Street's phone number is 345-5045.**

08 ~ 09 Fiscal Year Membership Renewals

While several members have renewed their investment, approximately half have not. If you have not, please take a moment to update your information and send in, or drop off, your investment. The more support the Chamber has, the more we can accomplish in promoting Dallas County businesses. Membership investment amounts are based on the number of employees: 1-10 at \$125, 11-30 at \$150, and more than 31 at \$200. Individuals (non-business), Civic Clubs and Churches are \$50.

Business Spotlight – Country View Estates

Countryview Estates was opened 7 years ago with 40 apartments as a Tax Credit Complex. By following the guidelines of the State, they receive tax credit money back, which allows them to keep the rents low. That is why they are called "affordable housing". There is a maximum amount of income a person may have in order to qualify. However, they may have real estate, CD's, savings, etc. Everyone pays the same amount in rent, which is \$297 for a 2 bedroom with 1 1/2 bath and \$401 for a 3 bedroom with 2 baths. Each unit comes with a refrigerator, stove, microwave, dishwasher, garbage disposal and washer and dryer hook ups. **Countryview Estates** is handicap accessible for 20 downstairs apartments and there are two handicap units. Before residents can move in they must pass a criminal background check, rental check and credit check.

Countryview Estates is owned by **MidAmerican Management Company** in Springfield. **Becky Bonner** has been the Resident Manager since its opening in 2001. A maintenance person is on staff at the complex, keeping it in good repair. The office building is located at **1350 Carlson Lane**, which is right behind O'Bannon Bank South. They have been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since they opened and encourage everyone to come out and see their beautiful apartment living. **Countryview Estates** is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They will be happy to take your calls at 417-345-1554. Leave a message if you find they have stepped out.

Business Spotlight – Save-A-Lot

Save-A-Lot opened for business November 11, 1998, on Hwy 65, just south of Truman Road. **Save-A-Lot** is a limited assortment grocery store with an emphasis on quality and savings of up to 40%, compared to conventional supermarkets. There are 1,200 Save-A-Lot stores in the U.S. **Save-A-Lot's** canned vegetables are "Grade A Fancy", which means they are the same level of quality as the name brands. They also have excellent meat and produce departments.

Larry Blair, store manager, has been in the retail grocery business for 35 years. Most of the 13 employees (six full-time and seven part-time) have been with the store since it opened. Turn-over is rare. In fact, no new employees were hired last year. Although he has had multiple opportunities to re-locate, **Larry** loves living in Dallas County. He and all of the employees are proud to serve Buffalo and the surrounding communities.

6th Annual Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games

This year's Festival has moved to the Old City Park and Fairgrounds in the northeast part of Buffalo on East Ramsey Street, two blocks east of Hwy 73. The grounds are beautiful, there is plenty of parking and space for everything, there are more structures, and the Fair Board has been wonderful to work with. It's going to be fantastic!

Beau Buffington is the entertainment coordinator this year and is doing a great job. Some performers who have supported the Festival faithfully for the past five years are returning and several new ones will be joining the line-up. There will be three entertainment stages this year with thirteen separate dance and music groups. Other additions this year include: Jon and Heidi Reneau in the Kid's Realm with "Scotty Fox", singing and dancing with the wee lasses and laddies, local 4-H youth holding archery competitions, carriage rides pulled by Clydesdale horses, Birds of Prey, and there will be several new animal exhibits. Ozark Gold Honey & Iron Works is returning with iron smithing demonstrations and Celtic Roots will offer Scots and Gaelic language classes.

The Calling of the Clans on Friday evening and the Parade of Tartans at noon on Saturday promise to be more exciting as they are led by the Tullintrain pipe band from Kansas City. Also, another appearance of the Central High School Kilties in their Royal Stewart Kilts will add to the festivities.

Ancient Athletics from Springfield, Illinois, will again host the Highland Games. They will be set up Friday evening and will offer hands-on demonstrations. Anyone who has never participated in the Highland Games should take the opportunity to experience each of the events.

The Chamber tent will be open Friday evening for t-shirts, advance tickets and schedules of events for Saturday's activities.

October Meeting Will Honor Super 4-H Youth

The October membership meeting is traditionally set aside to honor our Super 4-H youth. Chamber members will be asked to sponsor the students by paying for their meal and sitting with them and their families during the event. A list of qualifying students will be available during this month's membership meeting.

September Events

- 1st Labor Day**
- 3rd Chamber Membership Meeting** – Maple Street Grill – Noon
Guest Speakers: Bobbie Heard, Parks Director, and Larry Highfill, Buffalo City Fire Chief
- 5th Celtic Festival Golf Tournament** – Dream Valley Golf Course – All Day
- 5th – 6th Celtic Festival & Highland Games** – Old City Park & Fair Grounds – East Ramsey Street
- 8th Shape Up Dallas County** – Fall Session Begins – Dallas County Health Department
- 11th White Elephant Sale** - Engles Senior Center

October Events

- 1st Chamber Membership Meeting** – Maple Street Grill – Noon – Super 4-H Recognition
- 18th Senior Fest** – O'Bannon Community Center – 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 21st Meet The Candidates Forum** – Time and Location TBA

November Events

- 4th Rotary Fish Fry** – Maple Street Grill - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.
- 5th Chamber Membership Meeting** – Hip Pocket Pizza – Noon
- 8th Veterans' Day Parade** – 10:00 a.m.
- 11th Veterans' Day** – Honoring All Veterans ~ Past and Present
- 14th Luncheon & Holiday Bazaar** – Buffalo United Methodist Church Family Life Center – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- 24th Thanksgiving Dinner** – Engles Senior Center – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 27th Community Thanksgiving Dinner** – Maple Street Grill – 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Donations Accepted
Sponsored by Buffalo Optimist Club & Habitat For Humanity