

# Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce

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## ***The Members' Messenger***

Volume 74 ~ December, 2009

### **Character Ed Word For December: Honesty**

**Honesty:** (1) uprightness of character or action, (2) a refusal to lie, steal, or deceive in any way, (3) an active or anxious regard for the standards of one's profession, calling, or position, (4) trustworthiness and incorruptibility to a degree that one is incapable of being false to a trust, responsibility, or pledge.

**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.**

### **December Meeting Hosted By Maple Street Grill**

The December membership meeting for the Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce will be at **noon** on **Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at **Maple Street Grill**. Brian Kramer, Automotive Technology II Instructor for Dallas County Career Center in Louisburg, will be the guest speaker.

The lunch specials for **Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>** will be: (1) **Chicken Fried Steak** ~ Breaded cube steak, fried and topped with country gravy and served with mashed potatoes, green beans and a biscuit for \$6.99, (2) **Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken** ~ Fettuccine with a rich creamy Alfredo sauce, topped with a char-broiled chicken breast, served with garlic toast for \$6.99, (3) **Bacon Cheese Burger** ~ 1/2lb. char-broiled burger topped with American cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato, onion and pickle chips, served with fries. \$6.99, (4) **Chicken Quesadillas** ~ A flour tortilla stuffed with chicken, cheese, peppers and onions, then grilled to a golden brown for \$6.99. **Please call orders in prior to the meeting for faster service. Maple Street's phone number is 345-5045.**

### **Business Spotlight ~ Pine Lodge Residential Care**

**Pine Lodge Residential Care** is owned and operated by **Randy and Sue Gunter**. Sue is the Administrator and involved in day to day operations. Before getting into this business, Randy was a plant manager for Roberts Pacific Flooring in Mountain View, MO, and has over 20 years experience

in that business. Sue is a licensed Real Estate Broker, who sold facilities for five years before buying their first facility July 26, 2005, in Trenton, Missouri.

Sue and Randy planned to be absentee owners of that first facility. When Sue left West Plains to close on the business, she told Randy she would see him in two weeks. Two and a half years later Randy was there with her. She was pleasantly surprised that she loved working with the people. She truly believes that this is her mission in life. Sue and Randy make sure that they provide quality and compassionate care for their residents. It is their mission to enhance the quality of life, preserve dignity, choice of independence and meet health, social and emotional needs by working with family members, health professionals and the community. Their lives have changed so much since then. They sold their home in West Plains. They bought a facility that the state was closing down, because it had too many problems. It took a while to win the community over after having such a bad reputation, but they totally turned it around and went from being a 12 bed facility to 13 beds.

The Gunters have two sons who live in Springfield and most of their family live in the West Plains area so they began looking for another facility that was closer to them. That's how they ended up buying the facility in Buffalo. When they first went to see it, they pulled into the parking lot and Sue thought, "This isn't it. It's too small." But, she was wrong. It is so much bigger than it looks like from the outside. It is totally sprinkled and the rooms are large and private with private bathrooms. There is a small sitting area with a fireplace, a large beautiful living room, and a dining room. **Pine Lodge** is a 20 bed residential care facility, providing 24 hour care and a close family atmosphere. They strive to provide the best care, passing all of the medications and working closely with the doctors and family members.

At **Pine Lodge**, they believe everyone deserves to be spoiled, especially in the later stages of their life. When a person moves in they become part of Sue and Randy's extended family. Movies are watched on the big screen TV, and there's always a puzzle started in the living room. All meals are served in the dining room, and residents also play games in there. **Pine Lodge** also has a beauty shop where the residents can get their hair done. They have a beautician that comes in on Wednesdays and family members are allowed to do the residents' hair if they want them to do it. A wonderful lady volunteers her time to play the piano on

Wednesday mornings, and everyone sings all the old church hymns. Sue loves this time. If she closes her eyes, she can picture her grandmother in their old farm house on a Sunday after church, with lots of family members singing those songs and her uncle playing the guitar to keep them in tune. Sue and Randy have such a love for the elderly, and they have so many wonderful residents that have blessed them. It is their hope that they can be a blessing to their residents, as well.

The Gunters have come a long way since they bought **Pine Lodge** on March 5, 2008. Randy and Sue were the only employees until the business started growing. They now have fourteen residents and four full-time and one part-time employees. They have bought property, are still finishing their house, and now call Buffalo their home.

**Business Spotlight ~ ABC Motors**

**ABC Motors** opened in 2004 with a belief that serving the needs of people is primary to business success. Led by that guiding principle, what began as a one-employee operation five years ago is a growing enterprise. **ABC Motors** now employs five people full-time in a facility that is currently undergoing its third and largest expansion since **ABC Motors** began.

With a wide range of vehicles in stock, **ABC Motors** offers quality, pre-owned vehicles to everyone. They offer a financing program for everyone, even those with poor credit. They can also finance those who are otherwise under served with difficulties such as out of balance debt to income ratios, etc. Further, **ABC Motors** reports monthly to the credit bureau to help people establish or re-establish a good credit score. "We've been helping people rebuild their credit while putting them in nice cars for more than five years now", said **General Manager, Brian Ainley**. When looking to buy a quality vehicle, call Brian at **417-345-1000**. Or, shop online at **abcmotors.com**.

**ABC Advertising** was added in 2007. This agency offers "high tech, low cost" advertising to area businesses via the digital billboard on the **ABC Motors** lot. This advertising medium is very flexible, allowing unlimited changes to the advertising copy at minimal cost. Businesses are pleasantly surprised to find the cost is often less than other methods of advertising and provides them with great exposure. To inquire about the advantages of outdoor advertising and find the right package for your business, call Brian at **417-345-2000**.

**ABC Auto Care** started in 2008 and offers complete mechanical care and maintenance for any year, make, or model of vehicle. **ABC Auto Care** is the reason for the extreme makeover the business is currently undergoing. Six garage bays are being added including one with a quick lube pit for no appointment oil changes. "We offer any service the customer needs, from oil changes and transmission flushes to advanced electrical diagnostics and complete rebuilds" said Service Manager, **Eric Beltz**. "With this expansion, we will be able to serve the needs of many more customers." To schedule your vehicle for maintenance or repair, call Eric at **417-345-1000**. **The ABC Family:** five years and growing strong.

### **HFLCA Giving Away Nintendo Wii**

Home For Life Cat Sanctuary is holding a fundraiser to benefit the pet adoption program of the Buffalo City Pound. A drawing will be held December 14 for a Nintendo Wii system (including five sports games) valued at \$199. Tickets are \$5 each and only 250 will be sold. Doggone Pretty, Harris Realty, A Cut 2 Dye 4, Buffalo Veterinary Clinic and Buffalo Heights Beauty Salon in Buffalo and All Creatures Animal Clinic, Galini Salon & Day Spa and Cookin' From Scratch in Bolivar will each be selling the tickets. For more information, call M.J. Newton at 417-733-2965.

### **Dallas County Business Expo**

The Local Makes Cents committee is planning the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Dallas County Business Expo which will be held April 10, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Buffalo Prairie Middle School in Buffalo. Registration information has been sent by postal mail to Chamber member businesses, which have first opportunity to reserve a booth space. Beginning January 1, non-member businesses, not-for-profits and civic and social entities will have an opportunity to participate. Bill Monday is coordinating vendor registration. Contact him at 417-345-2251 for more information.

## **December Events**

- 2<sup>nd</sup>**            **Chamber Membership Meeting** - Maple Street Grill - Noon  
**Guest Speaker: Brian Kramer**, Automotive Technology II Instructor for Dallas County  
Career Center
- 5<sup>th</sup>**            **Relay For Life Chili Cook-Off** - Buffalo High School Cafeteria - 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- 12<sup>th</sup>**           **Buffalo Christmas Parade** - Line Up @ 8:00 a.m. ~ Judging @ 9:00 a.m. ~ Kick-Off @  
10:00 a.m.
- 16<sup>th</sup>**           **Toys For Tots Distribution** - VFW Hall
- 16<sup>th</sup>**           **Deadline For Sign-Up** - Winter Basketball League - Buffalo Parks & Recreation