

# Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce

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## *The Members' Messenger*

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### **Character Ed Word For March: Self-Discipline**

**Self-Discipline:** (1) regulation of oneself for the sake of improvement, (2) the power to control one's actions, impulses, or emotions, (3) orderly or prescribed conduct or pattern of behavior, (4) restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions, or desires. **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.**

### **March Meeting Hosted By Buffalo Inn & Suites and Brick House Smoked Meats**

The March membership meeting for the Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce will be held at **noon** on **Wednesday, March 3**, at **Buffalo Inn & Suites**. **Brick House Smoked Meats** will cater the meal which will include Beef Brisket, Chicken Quarters, Cottage Fries, Cowboy Beans, Caesar Salad with Smoked Turkey, Sourdough Toast, and iced tea, lemonade or coffee for \$7.50 per person.

### **Business Spotlight ~ Holt Monument Company, LLC**

**Holt Monument Co LLC** was founded in 1927 by Lester Holt on the east side of the square in Buffalo. In 1938, he built the building at **117 East Franklin** and moved the business to that site, where it is still located.

In 1954 **Lawrence Holt** took over and guided the company for the next 50 years. He brought many new and creative ideas into the processes, enabling a much higher degree of customization. The addition of a computer driven design system has helped speed the engraving process and allowed a higher degree of accuracy. A lot of the custom design work is still done the "old-fashioned way" – by hand – as the computer just can't match this yet.

In 2004 **Wayne Holt** took the reigns and is now at the helm, trying to fill the huge shoes that came before. The crew at **Holt Monument** has pretty well remained the same over the years and they know what they are doing. **Holt Monument** still strives to deliver beautiful memorials to commemorate the lives that meant so much to their customers. The combined 178 years of experience helps to achieve that goal.

**Holt Monument** can be reached at **417-345-6114** or visit their website at [holtmonument.com](http://holtmonument.com).

### **Business Spotlight ~ McDonalds of Buffalo**

"Welcome to **McDonalds**." It's not just a greeting, it's an atmosphere at **McDonalds of Buffalo**, which opened its doors in 2003. This store has its own distinct style, the real saddles that are actually used as seats (mainly by the smaller folks, but there have been some big kids who have sat upon them as well.) The owners, **Chip and Teresa McGeehan**, also have six other area **McDonalds**. Between the two of them, they have over 52 years of experience with **McDonalds** restaurants. **Chip** bought his first store in Marshfield in 1985. **Chip and Teresa** call Marshfield home, where they live on their Buffalo Ranch.

**Teresa** says "We don't have kids of our own, but we consider those who we work with our extended family, all 500-600 of them". **Teresa and Chip** are very hands on owner-operators. The philosophy they live by is "to give back to the communities who do business with us." They want to say thank you to all the area businesses who so graciously donate to all of their worthy causes, such as Ronald McDonald House, McTeachers Night events, Share a Heart auctions and all the educational programs that McDonalds holds so dear to all of their hearts. McDonalds of Buffalo is a huge supporter of Mallory Elementary, Project Graduation, various local groups, Eagle Scouts, Parktacluar and local school fairs.

In November 2004, a young lady named **Beth Clemons**, entered the **McDonalds** in Marshfield looking for a job. She was hired as a crew person and worked her way up to the First Assistant position in December of 2007. She was then transferred to Buffalo, and within six months she was promoted to General Manager of the Buffalo store. According to **Beth**, when she walked in for a job, she left with a career. Beth has seen a lot of changes since 2004. She now employs 50 staff and crew, and approximately 20 of those are local students. Beth explained that her success comes from making sure that everyone that works with her has a place to call home and a shoulder to lean on. She has overcome many obstacles herself, and without **McDonalds** and **Chip and Teresa**, she would not be where she is now. **Beth** is newly engaged to a local businessman.

**McDonalds** has recently introduced McCafe', along with Angus 1/3 lb. burgers, and Frappes will be coming soon. Frappes are a light, specialty coffee drink in either caramel or chocolate flavor, topped with whipped cream and then a caramel or chocolate drizzle to top it off. They are open Sunday through Thursday, 5 a.m. to

11 pm and 5 a.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday. Stop by and visit with Beth and her staff. Let them know how much you appreciate them, and you will get back that same level of respect. Thank You to **Chip and Teresa McGeehan, Beth Clemons**, and all the dedicated crew members that have made **McDonalds of Buffalo** such a success.

### **Branson Tickets To Be Auctioned During St. Patrick's Celebration ~ March 12**

Mark your calendars for an evening of great food and entertainment on Friday, March 12, when the St. Patrick's Celebration will be held at the O'Bannon Center in Buffalo. Dinner, starting at 5:00, will include Corned Beef & Cabbage, Irish Stew, Bangers & Mash, Irish Soda Bread, Bread Pudding, Irish Whiskey Cake, and a beverage. During intermission, there will be an auction of Branson Show tickets. Entertainment will begin following dinner with music by Jon Reneau and Sarah Hook, Daryl Dickerson (bagpipes), Nancy Green (hammered dulcimer), and Irish dancing by Heidi Reneau, followed by the infamous Scotty the Fox.

Branson items to be auctioned include tickets to the Hughes Brothers, Jim Stafford, the IMAX theater, Ride The Ducks, Titanic, the Duttons, Dinosaur Museum, Grand Country Music Hall, Veterans Memorial Museum, Shepherd of the Hills, the Passion Play, Yakov Smirnoff, and Showboat Branson Belle, and CD's from the Wild Colonial Bhoys and Shoji Tabuchi.

Advance tickets are \$5 and are available at the Chamber office. For more information, contact the Chamber at (417) 345-2852 or by e-mail at [chamber@buffalococ.com](mailto:chamber@buffalococ.com), or Gloria Wolfgang at [highlandcattle@centurytel.net](mailto:highlandcattle@centurytel.net).

### **Dallas County Health Department Free Clinic Opening**

Dallas County Health Department and Citizen's Memorial Hospital have partnered to bring a Free Clinic to Dallas County residents who have no insurance coverage. This program is modeled after Polk and Dade county health departments' free clinics, started with the help of CMH in the past two years.

Volunteer medical professionals and staff members of the Dallas County Health Department will start seeing uninsured residents the first and third Thursday evenings of each month, beginning March 4, 2010. Uninsured Dallas County residents will need to make an appointment by calling 345-2332 (ext. 105). Patients will be required to submit proof of identity, residency and income when they complete clinic paperwork and will need to arrive before 5 pm the evening of their appointment. Only 15 appointments per evening will be available. The volunteer medical professionals include five local physicians that will offer their services on a rotating basis. Basic primary medical care will be available. No urgent or emergency care will be available and at no time will any controlled substances be prescribed. Any patient needing laboratory tests will be offered laboratory testing at a discounted rate.

Patients needing prescription medication will be allowed up to \$20 in prescription assistance annually. By partnering with Nyberg Pharmacy, patient vouchers for medication (up to \$20.00 in value) will be issued by Free Clinic staff. If a patient requires long-term drug therapy they may be referred to various prescription assistance programs from drug manufactures.

Dallas County Health Department Free Clinic will be seeking outside funding to help offset the cost of clinic supplies and prescriptions. Monetary donations will be accepted. Please share this information with anyone who may benefit from these services.

### **Business Expo Update**

More than 60 Dallas County businesses and not-for profits have reserved their space for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Local Makes Cents Business Expo, which will be held April 10 at Buffalo Prairie Middle School in Buffalo. Some people have asked for a clarification of rates for the spaces. They are as follows:

Chamber Member Businesses	One 8' x 10' Space - \$50	Two Spaces - \$75
Non - Member Businesses	One 8' x 10' Space - \$75	Two Spaces - \$100
Not-For-Profit Entities	\$35 Per Space	Two Spaces - \$52.50
Electrical Hook-Up	\$10 Per Space	

### **March Events**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Chamber Membership Meeting** - Buffalo Inn & Suites - Noon
- 6<sup>th</sup> Project Graduation Chili & Soup & Pie Auction** - O'Bannon Community Center - 5:30
- 6 - 7 Kiwanis Bowling Tournament** - Bison Bowl - 2:00 Saturday - 11:00 & 2:00 Sunday
- 11-12 No School - Spring Break**
- 12<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Celebration & Branson Ticket Auction** - O'Bannon Community Center - 5:00
- 21<sup>st</sup> Chili & Soup Cook-Off & Silent Auction** - Calvary Chapel Church - 5:30 p.m.
- 27<sup>th</sup> HFLCS Craft & Bake Sale** - Wal Mart - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.