

Buffalo Area Chamber of Commerce

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The Members' Messenger

Volume 79 ~ May, 2010

May Meeting Honors Student Leaders

The May membership meeting, the **Annual Leadership Luncheon**, will be at the **Buffalo High School Cafeteria** on Wednesday, **May 5**, at **12:45 p.m.** Guest speaker will be **David Beltz**, a business owner, consultant and active community leader. The Chamber will recognize student leaders, nominated by their high school advisors. Those being honored, their parents, and their sponsors are:

Students	Clubs	Parents	Sponsors
Kendall Canole	Theater	Kim & Phillip Canole	Tracy-Lane Insurance
Rebecca Case	Recycle	Roberta & Randy Case	Nimmo Insurance
Shane Chastine	Art	Julie & David Chastine	Buffalo Reflex
Meghan Craig	Recycle	Thomas Craig	Hometown Storage
Michael Crawford	Student Council	Steve & Shelly Crawford	DQ Grill & Chill
Morgan Crowder	Theater	Beckey & John Crowder	OACAC
Amanda Dafler	Yearbook	Michelle & Thomas Evans	Wanda Johnson
Jordan Davidson	Student Council	Randy Davidson	Dallas County Care
Tiffany Doehring	Future Farmers	Sherry & Robert Doehring	American Family Insurance
Cheyenne England	Art	Megan & Tim England	Edward Jones Investments
Megan Finster	Skills USA	Melinda & Robert Finster	Debby Dryer
Dan Gallion	Model U N	Sundee & Ted Gallion	Holt Monument Company
Brittany Glasscock	Math	Sulynn & Jim Glasscock	Bank of Urbana
Grant Glor	Nat. Honor Society	Myra & Lonnie Glor	O'Bannon Bank
Hillarey Graves	Music	Michelle & Ken Hunt	Tracy-Lane Insurance
Kathryn Gronniger	Future Farmers	Kim & Mark Gronniger	Buffalo Reflex
Rachel Hagan	Science	Marsha & Mark Hagen	O'Bannon Bank
Rebecca Hale	Christian Athletes	Sheila & Robert Hale	Lawrence Holt
Ronnie Kurtz	Christian Athletes	Joanne & Cleo Jasper	Farm Bureau Insurance
Michelle McClendon	Band	Brian McClendon	Shelter Insurance
Kristin Miller	Speech	Barbara & Brian Bradford	Tracy-Lane Insurance
Katherine Minear	Science	Rose & Dennis Minear	Bank of Urbana
Kaylob Morgan	FCCLA	Curtis Morgan	Buffalo Mayor Jerry Hardesty
Brittany Nelsen	Skills USA	Angela & Jeffery Nelsen	Shelter Insurance
Katie Pinkley	Yearbook	Judy & Kent Pinkley	O'Bannon Bank
Caleb Potthoff	Model UN	Heather Burgess	Mid West Lending
Tiffany Richmond	FCCLA	Penny Shover	DQ Grill & Chill
John Ruth	Band	Susan & Neal Ruth	Nimmo Insurance
Zachary Spears	FBLA	Jill & Travis Spears	Montgomery - Viets
Kaylee Strickland	Future Teachers	Tracy & Jeff Strickland	Shelter Insurance
Ian Taylor	Music	Cindy & Larry Shannon	Holt Monument Co.
Shayla Thomas	Future Teachers	Sandra & Willis Hainline	B D Advertising
Sarah Trow	Nat. Honor Society	Ruth & Todd Trow	DQ Grill & Chill
Rachel Turner	Speech	Loretta & Burley Turner	Quick Cash
Brandilynn Whillock	FBLA	Cindy & Jason Jasper	Sandy Crawford
Taylor Wilkerson	Math	Patricia & Gary Robbins	Great Southern Bank

Character Ed Word For May: Dependable

Dependable: (1) reliable, (2) able to be trusted, (3) deserving of trust or confidence, (4) having a sound character. **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.**

Alltel/ Verizon Has New Store Manager

The dust from the Alltel/Verizon merger has settled and Buffalo Verizon wants everyone to know they are here to take care of everyone's cellular needs... and then some. They also have answers to high speed wireless internet, and offer Dish Network and Direct TV! Everyone's entertainment and communication needs can be solved in one trip.

Mike Zoldan, is the new Store Manager here in Buffalo. He has 10 years of customer service experience, and has worked for Verizon in the past. He is dedicated to making sure everyone's needs are taken care of. Mike graduated from Buffalo in 2002, and has lived in Springfield since then. His goal, here in Buffalo, is to prove to all his customers that Buffalo Verizon is committed to doing whatever it takes to make a visit to their store as pleasurable as possible.

The Alltel/Verizon merger has left some customers a bit fearful. Mike understands where those fears are coming from. He has always been with Alltel, and was very uneasy about the change in his own account. He wants to assure everyone that this is a good change. It gives everyone more coverage, more exciting phones to choose from, and faster data transfer for internet users! Verizon has unsurpassed coverage in the nation and the largest 3G network available. This means no roaming, no long distance, and super fast internet speeds. They also offer some great features like Family Locator to keep tabs on loved ones and VZ Navigator with audible turn by turn directions. Verizon has recently announced that all Alltel customers under contract can now upgrade to new Verizon devices early and remain on their Alltel plan. This is fantastic news if anyone is still under contract and needs a new phone.

The staff at Buffalo Verizon love what they do, and truly care about the service and experience they provide. Mike would like for everyone to know that, "The Buffalo community has been good to us and we are eager to give back. We have exciting promotions coming out weekly and look forward to providing you with outstanding customer service! So stop in, say hi, and let us evaluate your situation to look for an opportunity to save you more time and money!"

New Officers ~ New Fiscal Year

During the Chamber's Annual Meeting last month at Buffalo Inn & Suites, the following officers were elected for the 2010-2011 fiscal year:

President ~ David Andrews ~ Farm Bureau Insurance
Vice-President ~ Aubrey Johnson ~ Edward Jones Investments
Secretary ~ John Maddux ~ Century 21 - Maddux Realty
Treasurer ~ Linda Portman ~ O'Bannon Banking Company

Our heartfelt thanks to Denise Reed and Christy Chyka for serving the past two years as President and Vice-President, respectively, and to Georgia Hale for serving as Treasurer for the past nine years.

The Chamber's new fiscal year begins May 1 and invoices will soon be sent to all previous investors. The membership investment schedule is based on the number of full-time employees, as follows:

1 - 10	\$125
11 - 30	\$150
More Than 31	\$200

Individuals (non-business members), civic clubs and churches invest at a rate of \$50 per year.

Family Fun Day at the Fair

The Dallas County Fair needs help to provide a morning of free family fun games. This event will take place on June 26 as part of the Dallas County Fair. They would like for this to be a time where families can come and participate in games at no cost. Currently, the Buffalo Optimist Club has committed to a watermelon seed spitting contest, a three-legged-race, and money in a haystack. They will also be providing a lunch for all participants. The Fair Board will appreciate any group or person who will be willing to organize additional games and activities. Please call David Andrews at 733-2840 or 345-7251. Other contacts are fair board member, John Crawford, Kim Davies, Bobby Stewart, Cody Phillips, and Tracy Billings.

May Events

- 1 - 2 Long Lane Lions Club Trail Ride**
- 5th Annual Leadership Luncheon** - Buffalo High School Cafeteria - 12:45 p.m.
Start Booking City Wide Garage Sale Spaces - Chamber Office - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 6 - 7 St. William's Catholic Church Indoor Yard Sale** - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 7th Wal Mart Grand Re-Opening** - 7:30 a.m.
Peddlers Country Wares Grand Opening - Noon
- 8th OATS Bake Sale** - Wal Mart - 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
"Cops & Kids" - Buffalo Park - East Ramsey Street - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 22nd Pancake Breakfast** - Grace Community United Methodist Church - 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.