

# HAPPY



# Holidays



Bluffton Parks Department  
Giant Stocking Coloring Contest

Color and return to the Bluffton Parks Department (128 E. Market) by Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> to be entered in a drawing for a prize.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

**Bluffton Parks Department Winter Events**  
**824-6069 or email [events@blufftonindiana.gov](mailto:events@blufftonindiana.gov)**



**Free Toddler Time:**

December 8<sup>th</sup> will be Story Time with Mrs. Claus!

January 5<sup>th</sup> will be Toddler Play Day in the City Gym (Matchbox cars, puppets, toys)

February 2<sup>nd</sup> will be Block Party in the City Gym.

The Bluffton City Gym will be open every Tuesday and Thursday from 11-noon for you to bring your tots and burn off some energy. (October – March 30<sup>th</sup>) This free drop-in program will allow young children to play with others their age in a large open space. Balls will be made available in the storage closet at the East end of the gym when we hear the children arrive. Please note that this is not a staff-facilitated event, and parents are responsible for their children. The first Thursday of each month except for December (December 8<sup>th</sup> will be Story Time with Mrs. Claus), we will offer a special tour or activity. Please sign in on the wooden door each visit and turn off the gym lights if you are the last to leave. If you have questions, call the park office at 824-6069.

**Free Open Gym:** Supervised activities begin Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – March at the Bluffton City Gym for school-aged kids K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. All participants must fill out a parental permission slip (either the first day they attend or print one off and send it in with them from the city's website at [blufftonindiana.net](http://blufftonindiana.net) under the parks department gym page). This program is four days a week from 3:30-6 pm on Monday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. FREE

**Hue Can Paint:** November 28<sup>th</sup> painting is a gingerbread house. The Bluffton Parks Department will host a canvas painting class for youth ages 7 & up on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. Lessons will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of City Hall (128 E Market) from 6-7:45 pm. Your kids will enjoy the step-by-step instructions from a local artist to paint a one-of-a-kind creation to take home. Not only will they leave with beautiful artwork, but they will also feel accomplished as they master the painting techniques. The cost is only \$15 per person and includes all supplies and instructions. To register, call 824-6069 or e-mail [events@blufftonindiana.gov](mailto:events@blufftonindiana.gov); space is limited to the first 12 paid participants!

**Santa's Mailbox:** November 23<sup>rd</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup>. The mailbox is located on the front steps of the City Hall building. This is open to Wells County Residence only, and we cannot accept letters from the schools. The Bluffton Parks Department is happy to deliver your child's letter to Santa between November 23<sup>rd</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup>. Each child will receive a personalized letter back with a small gift enclosed. Please ensure that the child's name and address are clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. This is a free service, and no postage is needed. Questions call 824-6069.

**Gingerbread Contest:** Categories - Youth 9 and under (Adults may help); Ages 10-15; Adults 16+. Construction - Houses should be made of gingerbread. Children's houses may be made from graham crackers. All decorations, except the base, must be edible. Kits may be used. Size - All entries must be on a sturdy base for easy transport and may not exceed 12"x12". Awards Prizes will be given to each age category. Entries must be delivered to City Hall (128 E Market) Nov 28<sup>th</sup> - Dec 9<sup>th</sup> between 8 am-4:30 pm. Pickup Dates - All gingerbread structures must be picked up by 4:15 p.m. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. Any entries left will be disposed of. People's Choice Voting will take place on the Bluffton Parks Department Facebook page December 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. Each "like" will be counted as a vote; vote for as many as you like, and the person with the most votes per age group wins.

**Search for Santa's Helper:** Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. Children ages 12 and under need to take a selfie when they find a photo of Santa's Helper Elf in one of the parks and share it to the Bluffton Parks Department Facebook page for a chance to be randomly drawn for a prize. Winners will be contacted on Facebook, and you will need to pick up the prize at City Hall if you are notified.

**Paws and Claus:** The Bluffton Parks Department invites you and your pet to the annual Paws and Claus event on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Bluffton City Gym.

**Winter Wonderland:** Bring the kids to SEE SANTA, play games, and jump in a bouncy house on Thursday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, in the Bluffton City Gym from 5:30-7:00 pm. This is a FREE event! Make sure to bring your camera to capture the moment with Santa. Each child will receive a toy! Enter the glass door on the West side of the building. Questions call 824-6069.

**Santa Drive By:** We have made numerous long-distance phone calls to the North Pole, and you will be happy to hear that Santa will be coming to town!!! He sent Tim, the elf, to sit down with us to plan a route through the city, and the Fire Department is more than happy to escort him through the neighborhoods on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> between 4:30-5:30pm. Stay tuned to the Bluffton Parks Department Facebook page for maps of his route.