

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Event: 32nd Annual Sugar Maple Festival**

**Location: Bellbrook**

**Dates: April 16-18**

**Theme: Mardi Gras 2010**

**Intro**

Come join the Bellbrook and Sugarcreek Township community as it celebrates the 32nd annual Sugar Maple Festival in downtown Bellbrook on April 16-18. The theme of this year's festival is "Mardi Gras 2010." As always there will be numerous activities for everyone in attendance. Entertainment includes live music, a parade, children's activities, crafts and food vendors. Other activities include a 5K run and a dog show. Come be a part of the fun!

**Contacts:**

Christy Phillips, Chair (848-3250; [christy228@sbcglobal.net](mailto:christy228@sbcglobal.net))

Eric Frantz, Public Relations (862-9305; [efrantz89@yahoo.com](mailto:efrantz89@yahoo.com))

**Website:** [www.sugarmaplefestival.com](http://www.sugarmaplefestival.com)

**Times:**

**Friday, April 16**

Main Street Closure	10:00 AM
Franklin Street Closure	5:00 PM
Dog Show Registration	6-6:30 PM
Dog Show	6:30 PM
Food Vendors	6:30-8:30 PM

**Saturday, April 17**

Pancake Breakfast	8:30-10:30 AM
5K Registration	8:00 AM
5K Run Start	9:00 AM
National Anthem	11:30 AM
Parade Start	11:30 AM
Entertainment	Noon-7 PM
Children's Activities	Noon-6 PM
* Craft and Food Vendors open from 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM	
** Entertainment from 12:00 PM until 7:00 PM	

**Sunday, April 18**

Children's Activities	Noon-4 PM
* Craft and Food Vendors open from 12:00 PM until 6:00 PM	
** Entertainment from 12:00 PM until 6:00 PM	

**5K Race:** The annual SMF 5k will be held April 17 with a start time of 9 a.m. Registration will take place at 8 a.m. at Sugarcreek Elementary School (51 S. East St.). This is an Ohio River Road Runners Club event so club race entry fees apply (Club members \$3; non-club members \$6). The race is an out and back on Washington Mill Rd.

**Bellbrook Historical Society:** Celebrating Mardi Gras the Historical Society will again showcase "The Bellbrook Museum". Look for new exhibits and interesting presenters as you tour the museum with docents from the society. Our booth will focus on selling those wonderful Sugar Maple cookies, History books and updated disks, prints of some of our historic building and much more. Local artist, Donna L. Gibson, has graciously given us a new watercolor painting to raffle. Tickets for the raffle are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Tickets may be purchased from any Historical Society member or from the booth.

**Children's Activities:** The SMF offers multiple FREE activities for kids of all ages. Games include Dinosaur Dig, Fish Pond, Duck Pond, Plinko, Skee Ball & Spin Me - Win Me!

### **Saturday, April 17**

Noon-6 p.m.	Face tattoos, hair painting and carnival games
2 p.m.	Hula Hoop Contest
4 p.m.	Jump Rope Contest

### **Sunday, April 18**

Noon- 4 p.m.	Face tattoos, hair painting and carnival games
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**Citizen of the Year Awards:** The 2010 Sugar Maple Festival Citizens of the Year are Marsha & Dwight Bartlett. The 2010 Outstanding Citizen of the Year is Mary Buell. The Bartlett's were chosen due to their impact on the economic and historic preservation of downtown Bellbrook. They can be reached for interviews at 937-885-2132 (home) and 937-475-6659 (cell).

Buell can be reached at 937-848-7781. The Outstanding Citizen of the Year award is not an annual award, but was given this year in honor of Buell who saved a child's life by performing CPR on the girl after responding to cries for help from the girl's aunt. Buell's actions, while awaiting the arrival of paramedics, were heroic.

Previous winners of the SMF Citizen of the Year Award are:

1986	John Dorn
1987	Berma Fernandez
1988	Mary Frantz
1989	John & Velma Roney
1990	Carl "Doc" Wright
1991	Dr. John Murphy
1992	Paul R. Thomas
1993	Richard & Sharon Cost
1994	Joan Lipot
1995	Genevieve Berryhill

1996	John "Ron" Kehl
1997	Robert E. Gooding
1998	Steve & Sharon Berryhill
1999	Steve Willshaw
2000	Bill Mercer
2001	Sherry Stipp
2002	Belynda Frieden
2003	Paul & Pat Thoerner
2004	Nick Falzerano
2005	(No Award Given)
2006	Richard & Iris Black
2007	Tom Frantz
2008	Joan Gallagher
2009	Walt Worthington

**Commemorative Plate Sales/Artist:** The 2010 "Limited Edition" Sugar Maple Festival Commemorative Plates go on sale Monday, April 12 at Dot's Market. They will continue to be sold at Dot's Market during the Festival and the week following the Festival. Dot's Market is located at 118 West Franklin/ State Route 725 Bellbrook, Ohio 45305. During the Festival, the plates can be purchased in the Sugar Maple Festival tent in Bellbrook Park. The 2010 SMF plates will be sold for \$15.00. Previous SMF plates can be purchased at a discounted price of \$10.00 (limited years and quantities available).

This year's 2010 Sugar Maple Festival Commemorative Plate was designed by Holly Credlebaugh-Levine. Holly is a 1991 Graduate of Bellbrook High School. Her artwork celebrates the Great State of Ohio with a drawing of our State Bird, "The Cardinal". To learn more about becoming an artist for upcoming Sugar Maple Festival Plates, or to purchase one of these Special Commemorative Plates, please contact Holly Levine at 937-750-9925 or [hollyx2jb@hotmail.com](mailto:hollyx2jb@hotmail.com).

**Crafts:** The SMF will once again offer an assortment of local and regional arts and craft vendors. Approximately 75 booths will line the streets. Returning this year among others are Earth Born Jewelry, Heartland Herbs, and White Mountain Honey Farm as well as 3 artists specializing in oil paints on canvas. We will also have grapevine trees, candles, sand art, several different jewelers, tie-dyed shirts, air brushed clothing, American Girl doll clothes, and country décor. For more information contact Pam Ryan at 848-9588.

**Dog Show:** The Fifth Annual SMF Dog Show is Friday, April 16. Registration is from 6-6:30 p.m. behind Sugarcreek Elementary. The categories are: cutest puppy (12 months and younger), cutest dog (over 12 months), ugliest, smallest, largest, best costume and silly dog tricks. Each of the above categories will award a first, second and third prize trophy. There is also a Best of Show winner. The winning dogs will be invited to participate in Saturday's parade. Food and beverage will be available at the show. The rain date is April 18 at the same time.

**Entertainment:** Will take place at Bellbrook Park and in front parking lot of Sugarcreek Twp. Fire Station. All entertainment is free. On Saturday, featured acts will include music from various local artists, a performance from the Bellbrook Dance academy and a Sugarcreek Township fire dept. extraction. Sunday entertainment includes more music.

#### Entertainment Schedule

##### Saturday, April 17

National Anthem to be sung from Reviewing Stand prior to parade – 11:30 a.m.

##### Bellbrook Park

2:00 p.m. Scott Barker  
5:15 p.m. The Measures

##### Sugarcreek Township Fire Department

1:00 p.m. Bellbrook Dance Academy  
2:00 p.m. Twp. Fire Dept. Auto Extrication  
3:00 p.m. Celtic Dancers

##### Sunday, April 18

##### Bellbrook Park

1:00 p.m. Rick Fannin  
2:30 p.m. Danny Voris  
4:00 p.m. Muddy River Band (bluegrass)

##### Sugarcreek Township Fire Department

2:00 p.m. Twp. Fire Dept. Auto Extrication

**Food:** The Sugar Maple Festival will once again offer a wide variety of food for festival goers. So many choices, so little time! Come hungry to the Sugar Maple Festival, because every type of Festival Food favorite will be offered along Main Street. Giant pork tenderloin sandwiches, maple sugar candies, fried moon pies, smokehouse BBQ ribs, grilled salmon and crab cakes, cajun gumbo or blackened chicken & rice, delectable grilled pork chops, sirloin steak sandwiches, Dippin Dots, frozen cheesecake on stick, frozen chocolate dipped bananas, pulled BBQ pork, icees and icee floats, texas taters, fried bloomin onions, corn on the cob, hot pretzels, smoothies, pita pocket sandwiches, apple flappins, deep fried pickles, firehouse 'firedogs,' baked goods, and the ever-popular hot dogs, hamburgers, french fries, cotton candy, popcorn and soft drinks of all flavors. Its all here!

**Free Shuttles:** Run from the Bell Creek Intermediate School on Upper Bellbrook to Bellbrook Park during festival hours. The SMF Committee is currently looking for more drivers. If interested contact Louie Schatzberg at 937-848-8749 (home); 937-439-6745. (work); or 937-760-8401 (cell).

**Garden Club:** The Bellbrook Garden Club booth will highlight the Club's objective to stimulate interest in gardening and share how the club members contribute to the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek community. Look for the winning Earth Day posters from Bellbrook students, a working water garden, vegetable garden demonstration, educational handouts, Club project photos from the school and community gardens and more. Members of the Bellbrook Garden Club, and reference materials, will be available to help with gardening questions and problems.

**Grand Marshall:** The Honorary Grand Marshall for this year's parade and festival is former Bellbrook High School and Ohio State linebacker Austin Spitler. Spitler, who just wrapped his senior season for the Buckeyes, is currently preparing for the NFL Draft, which starts April 22. Spitler had 38 tackles last year as the Buckeyes finished the season 11-2 and beat Oregon in the Rose Bowl. As a senior at Bellbrook, Spitler was named first team Division III All-Ohio after making 132 tackles (including 11 sacks).

**Handicapped Parking:** Will be available at 26 N. West St. (Old American Legion building).

**Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale:** The annual "all-you can eat" pancake breakfast will be held Saturday, April 17 at the Bellbrook United Methodist Church from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Adults are \$4.50 and children are \$3. There will also be a bake sale.

**Parade:** Parade participants include various/multiple local groups, floats, horses, the Dog Show winners, antique cars and the Bellbrook High School Marching Band among others.

**Park Activities:** Bellbrook Park offers a plethora of activity during the SMF. Situated in downtown Bellbrook, it is the location for maple syrup, corn fritters, kettle corn and the famous commemorative plate. Bellbrook also hosts live entertainment and children's activities. Other attractions include an educational display from the Greene County Park District; planting activities from the Bellbrook Garden Club; and the ever-popular "free" trees available at the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District booth.

**School Activities:** SMF school activities chair Korinne Borczcz will be meeting with children in small groups and reading stories about sugar maple trees and how maple syrup is made. Visits will be made to Stephen Bell Elementary (during each class' assigned library time), Sugarcreek Education Center Preschool and Happy Child Preschool the week of April 12th. Each student will also have the opportunity to taste some "real" maple syrup. Cookies and brochures for all teachers and students will also be passed out.

**Sweetheart Contest:** All female students at Bellbrook Middle School and Bellbrook High School are encouraged to apply for the annual SMF Sweetheart Contest. Look for applications in the main office of each building the week of March 8th. Crowning will take place at the Middle School April 8th at 6:30.

**Sponsors:** Bellbrook Family Practice; Creative Awards; Francis Kennels; Karen's Pooch Parlor; Law Offices of Amy S. Boland; Little Shoppe of Hair; Marc B. Sternberg, DDS; Samuel Jones Income Tax Service, LLC; State Farm Insurance; Sugarcreek Animal Clinic; Dr. John P. Harmeyer; Primrose School; Beaver creek Rentals; Bellbrook Dance Academy; Burton L. Hagler, DDS; Dot's Bellbrook Market; Edward Jones; McIntosh's Pub & Grub; Muffler Brothers; Happy Child Preschool; Miami Valley Hospital; and the Miami Valley Sports Magazine.

**Syrup:** As always, authentic Sugar Maple Syrup will be available for purchase in Bellbrook Park. Prices are: Quart (\$20) and pint (\$12). There are also personalized glass bottles that can be purchased for \$10 (12 oz.) and \$8 (8 oz.). Bline Farms, out of Springfield, is the producer of the syrup.