



STARLIGHT

JANUARY
2020

Sign Up for Your Hot Chocolate Bar

Who loves hot chocolate?

Everyone!

Who loves **free** hot chocolate?

Oh yeah, sign me up!

It's that time of year. As the Northwest Ohio winds swirl, Blanchard Valley Center is organizing visits of its free Hot Chocolate Bar to area businesses and organizations.

Blanchard Valley Center will be offering the service during the month of March – National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Here's the catch.

Ha! There is none. All you have to do is request a visit and we'll be serving up hot chocolate at your business or organization.

"This is an opportunity for us to get out into the community in a casual atmosphere and talk about the good work going on at Blanchard Valley Center," said Superintendent Kelli Grisham. "And, it's a lot of fun. We will have our selfie station set up with the hot chocolate bar. We encourage people to take a selfie and post it to social media to help create awareness for National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month."

This year, Blanchard Valley Center is adding a twist to the hot chocolate bars. It's "Hot Chocolate Bingo."

Bingo cards will be distributed at the Hot Chocolate Bars. Each time you enjoy a cup of hot deliciousness, a Blanchard Valley Center employee will mark your Bingo card. If you get Bingo, you will be entered into a drawing for valuable prizes.

To sign up for the Hot Chocolate Bar, contact Nadine Weininger at nweininger@blanchardvalley.org or 419.422.6387, ext. 1014.

Watch upcoming issues of *Starlight* for a complete list of Hot Chocolate Bar locations. We also will post it to our website.

DD Month Hot Chocolate Bar Bingo

Romans Hair Salon	KanDu Group	Spectrum Eye Care	YMCA
MCPA	The Courier	City Mission	Good Samaritan
Mazza	Winebrenner	Smarty Pants	Friends Office
Reineke Honda	Sleek Salon	Blanchard Valley Center	Family Center

myfreebingocards.com

Special Olympics Signing Day for Summer Sports Set for Jan 14

Signing day for Hancock County Special Olympics summer sports is set for Jan. 14 at the at the Blanchard Valley Center's training room, 1700 E. Sandusky St., in Findlay.

Athletes can select one sport per season. The sports available are track and field, and bowling.

Athletes with names beginning with A-L should report to the training room at 6 p.m. Athletes with names beginning with M-Z should report at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting is mandatory for any athlete wishing to participate in a summer sport. Important information regarding Special Olympics will be disseminated and parents or guardians are encouraged to attend.

All athletes must have a current physical to participate. Physicals are good for three years.

DATES TO REMEMBER | VISIT WWW.BLANCHARDVALLEY.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

Jan. 13 – 5 p.m.
Aktion Club meeting

Jan. 15
2-hour delay for Plan B preschool

Jan. 15 – 10 a.m.-noon
SSA and provider training

Jan. 20
BVC closed for MLK Day

Jan. 24
Director Davis visit to BVC

NOTES FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Ambassadors Are Agents for Open Communication at BVC



Celebrities Needed for March 18 Basketball Game

Okay, this is no time for modesty.

Our annual celebrity basketball game is set for March 18 at Findlay University. The game consists of two integrated teams from our Special Olympics teams and local celebrities.

Right now, we're looking for local celebrities to help fill out the rosters. If you're in the media, law enforcement, the military, or an elected official, we're asking for you to sign up for a team.

If you'd like to hit the hardwood with our Special Olympics basketball players, please contact Nadine Weininger at nweininger@blanchardvalley.org or 419.422.6387, ext. 1014.



Last year, we created a team of Ambassadors for Blanchard Valley Center. These are eight hourly employees that meet with me

periodically to discuss issues and challenges that need addressed at Blanchard Valley Center.

The goal is to keep an open line of communication between management and the people on the front lines. It has been very successful because of the commitment of these employees, and I am personally grateful for their commitment to making Blanchard Valley Center a better place to work.

Our employees recently collected items for Hope House. I work with some amazing people.

Their photos appear with this column.

Kelli Grisham, Superintendent



BVC Ambassadors: From left: Shane Fredritz, SSA; Nathan Wonsetler, Fiscal Specialist; Calista Altenburger, SSA; Cari Taylor, SSA; Terra Richardson, SSA; Cheryl Strohm, Advocacy & Community Support; Leatrice Depp, Transition Specialist. Absent when the photo was taken was Cory St. Myers, Developmental Specialist.



Blanchard Valley Center employees recently collected items for Hope House. Shown unloading the items are, from left, BVC Quality Services Manager Nadine Weininger, Ben Wochele, who receives services from BVC, and BVC Advocacy and Community Support Coordinator Danielle Collins.

BVC provides resources and supports that empower people with DD to live lives with meaning and purpose.



Blanchard Valley Center
Hancock County Board of Developmental Disabilities

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blanchardvalley.org

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Service & Support Emergency Number
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