



News Release

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Balloon Visitors Can Park and Ride the Shuttle for Free

For Immediate Release

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With thousands of visitors expected to head to the Vermilion Regional Airport on July 15 and 16 for the new ***Balloons Over Vermilion*** hot air balloon event, it is important for everyone to know there are options to dealing with traffic and paying to park on the airport grounds. Three bus shuttle sites located near the airport will accommodate plenty of vehicles, and free buses will be shuttling visitors to and from the airport when the grounds are open. Buses will load and unload near the main entrance, and visitors will pay their admission, then head onto the grounds to enjoy all the activities. "This is a great way to enjoy the event without paying the parking fee at the airport," says lead organizer Pat O'Shaughnessy.

The \$5.00 gate fee admission will still be charged into the airport grounds, but visitors can save the \$5.00 parking fee. Bus riders will additionally receive a coupon that can be redeemed for \$4.00 off a large, one topping pizza at Jocko's or \$4.00 off a 12, 16, or 20 piece meal at Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken and Strips.

Shuttle bus sites include WalMart at Vermilion and Newell, Lowe's at Vermilion and Boiling Springs Road, and the Heavenly Square parking area at Bowman and Voorhees. Lots open at 2:45pm on Friday and 12:45pm on Saturday. "Buses will run on a 15 minute schedule, and they will be running continuously from when the gates open until just after we close, so that everyone gets returned safely to their vehicles," O Shaughnessy says.

Balloons Over Vermilion event volunteers are encouraged to use the shuttle buses to report for their assigned shift times. "We really have limited parking at the airport, so the more volunteers and visitors who use the free buses, the better," says O'Shaughnessy.

Parking and traffic information will be posted on the event's website at ***balloonsoververmilion.com***, and on Facebook and social media.

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