

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I finish my tenure as our Chamber President, I'd like to thank...Everyone! The past two years have been very rewarding. We have accomplished so much; I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such great and accomplished individuals who helped to support me and gave me excellent advice. I consider it an honor and a privilege to represent this great organization.

First and foremost, I am very appreciative of the Chamber Officers; thank you to David Nodge for serving as Vice President, David was always so supportive and extremely knowledgeable on a vast array of subjects; Treasurer, Chris Ellis, for the thorough reports on the financials, along with your ability to help keep the Chamber solvent and in strong financial position going into the future. Of course, a big Thank You goes to Valerie Thompson; she is the grease, oil, and the wheels that keep the Chamber moving. I am so appreciative of your hard work, organizational skills and attention to detail. Thank you to all the officers.

Thank you to all the Board members. There are so many knowledgeable, enthusiastic, hard working individuals that sit on the Board of Directors to help support the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. There are so many talented individuals that bring energy and excitement that is contagious to all. "Positivity breeds positivity." It truly was a pleasure to get to know all of you, and I feel very, very confident there are many "stars" that will carry on the leadership needed to help the Chamber continue to progress.

As I pass the gavel to my successor, I am leaving the presidency in the hands of an excellent leader and an intelligent individual. Last year's Treasurer, Chris Ellis from Hampton Inn, began his term as President on January 1, 2015. Since Chris has become a Board member, he has been highly active, supportive and involved in all the Chamber's activities. Chris has a strong, yet calm demeanor about him, and has natural leadership skills. David Nodge as Vice President and Jeff Suhay as Treasurer bring knowledge, skills and a willingness to help support and make the Chamber a stronger organization.

The Chamber works because these people worked; they are working now, and will continue to work. Each member that sits on the Chamber's Board of Directors donates their time, each individual believes in the Chamber and its purpose. I've grown to admire all of the individuals that I have come into contact with since being involved with the Chamber. Once again, Thank you! It has truly been a pleasure to serve as The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce President!!!

David Hill Dollar Bank



INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I first would like to thank our outgoing president David Hill from Dollar Bank. Over the past two years under his leadership, the Chamber has grown in membership revenues and overall success!!! David ran and organized the Board meetings with great professionalism and our annual events were always a huge success. Again, thank you David for a job well done!!!

I am extremely excited for the opportunity to become Board President for the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. I was elected to the Board in January of 2012 and became Treasurer in 2013. Over the last two years as your Board Treasurer, I have overseen both the budgeting and overall income and expenses of the Chamber. I have worked very closely with our Executive Director, Valerie Thompson, in this role. I am confident that along with her and the rest of the Board of Directors, we will continue to grow and prosper in 2015.

We have many exciting events and luncheons coming up this year. Taste of Brooklyn will kick it off and is always a great time and success. We have our Annual Golf Outing in June and we end the summer with our Picnic in the Park event. This event will be entering its 3rd year and has been growing every summer.

Again, thank you for the opportunity and I look forward to seeing you all at our events and luncheons this year!!!

Happy New Year! Chris Ellis Hampton Inn



🍸 2014 Members Of The Year 📑

Congratulations to Ridge Park Square and Westbrook Village Apts./K&D, on being awarded the 2014 Members of the Year! The awards were presented at our Holiday Social on November 13th. Be sure to congratulate these members the next time you see them!

Large Business Ridge Park Square, owned by Zeisler Morgan Properties





David Hill, Chamber President, presents Stacy Perkins and Lisa Dove with Ridge Park Square (Zeisler Morgan Properties), with their award.

Ridge Park Square, owned by Zeisler Morgan Properties, was one of the Chamber's founding members, back in 2002, and has been active ever since. They have supported all of the Chamber's events through sponsorships, along with taking out website banner ads. For each of our fundraisers, Ridge Park Square reaches out to their tenants asking for gift card donations and then matches their contributions! They are also a supporter of the Brooklyn community through the youth sports sponsorship program. Each year, Ridge Park Square sponsors several teams to assure that no team is left without a sponsor. Ridge Park Square has been integral in the success of the Chamber and its various events. The Brooklyn Chamber and community are lucky to have such a supportive business in the area!

Ridge Park Square is the only shopping experience that offers the variety and convenience for your lifestyle. Discover the hottest looks at TJ Maxx, catch the latest blockbuster hit at AMC Theatres, find the greatest grocery deals at Marc's and good cents, craft your latest project at Michaels or improve your home with a stop at Ashley Furniture, HomeStore, Lowe's or Bed Bath and Beyond. Ridge Park Square is located at Ridge Road and I-480 in Brooklyn, Ohio. Visit their website at <u>http:// www.ridgepark-square.com/</u>. For leasing information, call 216-464-2396.



David Hill, Chamber President, presents Tina Hughes, Denise Christescu, and Christine Ferraro with Westbrook Village Apts./K&D, with their award

Westbrook Village Apts./K&D, has been an active Chamber member since 2007. Denise Christescu with Westbrook Village Apts. has volunteered countless hours serving on our Board of Directors, volunteering time at our events, and participating in our Picnic in the Park planning committee. She has also coordinated her staff, including Janel Au, Christine Ferraro, Tina Hughes, Gina Hylton, Leslie Racy, Barbara Robinson, and Duane Steets, to volunteer their time at our events to assure their success. Denise and her staff have donated prizes, solicited donations from other local businesses, promoted and sponsored our events. They also do an amazing job hosting our annual State of the City with the Mayor. Denise and the Westbrook Village Apts. staff have been extremely supportive of the Chamber's mission and in making our events a success. They are a true asset for both the Chamber and the Brooklyn community!

Westbrook Village offers spacious 1 and 2 bedroom suites. Amenities include an outdoor pool and picnic grounds. It is set in Brooklyn, a great location close to the major highways, shopping centers, and just minutes from downtown and the airport. They also offer online rental payment and maintenance requests. Westbrook Village Apts. is located at 4000 Westbrook Drive in Brooklyn. They can be reached at 888-238-5224 or westbrook@KandD.com. You can also visit their website at <u>http://www.kdwestbrook.com/</u>.

PAGE



Mastering ChamberMaster by logging into your member portal!

This section is dedicated to giving you tips on how to get the most of our partnership with ChamberMaster. We hope you find them useful!!

We are so glad that all of you have decided to be members of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. Benefits gained by being a chamber member are available in many ways. Remember to take advantage of excellent opportunities for your business to attract new customers and share information with our community and the world.

Log in today to your chamber member portal to take advantage of these features!

- Business Directory Listing your business information is available to consumers through the chamber's website - visitors can search by category, keyword or alphabetically
- Online Informational Brochure your own page on the chamber's website which can include your business description, hours of operation, location information, and up to eight keywords (these help identify your business when a website visitor does a keyword search on the Business Directory)
- Job Postings- add your own job openings to the Chamber's website
- Hot Deals include store coupons and special offers on the Chamber's website
- Event Posting add your business' events to the Chamber's Online Events Calendar – chamber website visitors can add your event to Outlook, e-mail the details to a friend and request an automatically generated email reminder for vour event
- "Email to a friend" link visitors to your Online Informational Brochure may select a link to email your business information to a friend

Enter your login name and password to gain access to all of these features, update your information and more at www.chamberlogin.com. If you need your login information, please contact Valerie Thompson. Try it out and contact us with additional questions or for more information.

2015 Website Banner Ads Available

Are you looking for an economical way to advertise your business? For only \$100 you can have a banner space ad on the Chamber's website that will stay up for 6 months from January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015! The ad size is 468 pixels wide by 60 pixels tall. In the last month alone, we have had over 275 visits to our homepage and over 875 page views! We only have 1 ad space left so be sure to contact us ASAP if you would like to take advantage of this great opportunity! If you are interested, please contact Valerie Thompson at asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org for more information.









9th Annual Taste of Brooklyn February 7th







great food and entertainment!

<u>Click here for flyer...</u> <u>Click here for sponsorship info...</u> The Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz will take place on Saturday February 7th from 7-10pm. The event is once again, being held at Ridge Manor Party Center. All of the net proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's Scholarship & Education Fund. This is the Chamber's 9th year hosting the event!

This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in 2014, we were able to award three \$1,000 scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents who will be attending an accredited college or university and \$1,500 worth of grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same in 2015.

Taste of Brooklyn features a "taste" of cuisine from local restaurants and establishments. The Brooklyn High School Jazz Band entertains all of those in attendance. The cost is \$20 and includes food, beer, wine, and entertainment. This year, we will also be selling raffle tickets for a chance to win gift baskets and 50/50 tickets! If you are interested in sponsoring the event, the cost is \$150. All sponsors receive 2 admission tickets for the event.

If you are able to help out in any way or if you are interested in purchasing tickets, please let Valerie Thompson know.



We would like to thank the following food vendors: Aldo's Applebee's BW3 Carrabba's Hooley House Polaris Career Center Ridge Manor Banquet Center Rockne's Skyline Chili



We would like to thank the following sponsors: Ameriflag Andy Celcherts, Brooklyn City Council **Dollar Bank First Energy** Hampton Inn Jinisha Patel, State Farm Insurance and Financial Services Katie Gallagher, Brooklyn City Council President **KeyBank Operations Center** Loving Cup Kids Academy Mary L. Balbier, Brooklyn City Council Mayor and Mrs. Richard Balbier **Ridge Manor Banguet Center Ridge Park Square** The Frey Family Wally's Auto Service



The Brooklyn City Schools developed a program to help Brooklyn families in need during the holiday season. This program, called Brooklyn Cares, was organized by teachers Suzy Marquis and Hayley Toerek several years ago. The Brooklyn City School District vision is that the community of the Brooklyn City Schools, through collaborative efforts, will be a dynamic learning environment in which all students will maximize their intellect, as well as their physical, social, and emotional well-being. Everyone in the Brooklyn City Schools will be respected, acknowledge differences, have a sense of safety, belonging, and pride in their respective learning environments. The Brooklyn Cares program helped to foster this vision.

Brooklyn Cares was able to assist 58 families with a total number of 120 children this holiday season! Suzy Marquis would like to thank Brooklyn City schools, community members, Brooklyn City and Brooklyn businesses. The night that gifts are passed out, there are many tears of thankfulness. The following is a list Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce members that so generously donated. Many employees from these companies also adopted families on their own. It truly shows how a community comes together.

ABL Products Ameriflag Brooklyn ACC Management team at the Brooklyn Adult Activity Center Brooklyn Fire Department Brooklyn Police Department Eaton Airflex Ferrous Metal Processing



Gold's Gym J.B. Stamping, Inc. Members of Brooklyn City Council Ridge Park Square Sam's Club Westbrook Village Apts. Zounds Hearing

Brooklyn Cares will also continue throughout the year. Please contact Suzy Marquis at <u>suzy.marquis@brooklyn.k12.oh.us</u> if you are able to offer assistance to others. The strength of our community makes learning possible.



David Hill with Dollar Bank, served as the Chamber's President in 2013 and 2014. He was honored at our January 8th luncheon. Chris Ellis, current Chamber President, and David Nodge, Chamber Vice President, were in attendance to present David with a plaque and gift certificate. The Chamber was very successful during David's Presidency and we thank him for all of his hard work!





🔍 U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy News

Sponsor a student...

For the past year the U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy has had the privilege of teaching some of the city's kids through a local counseling program. This program allows the kids to choose an extra curricular activity to help them cope with whatever they are seeing the counselor for and in our case we have 6 kids that chose Martial Arts. The program takes care of our services for the kids to train at our school however they do not provide any monetary supplements to the families that would allow the students to participate in any of our "additional activities".

The U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy is constantly providing activities throughout the year for kids to get involved more with our school and our community. Some of the extra activities include sleepovers, snow tubing, movie nights, game nights, sky zone and so much more! The reason for my reaching out to you is this; Through this counseling program we have 6 students that are unable for monetary reasons to participate in these extra activities that we offer. I would love to just let these kids participate but for fear of showing favoritism I am unable to do that. I am looking for businesses in the area that would be willing to "sponsor" these kids or add to a "scholarship fund" that would go towards the kids costs to participate in our outside activities.

If you are interested in getting further information about the 6 students I would be happy to tell you their background and how they are doing with the training at our school. They all do a great job with our program and really enjoy themselves here. They are a joy to have in class and we would love to give them the opportunity to be able to participate in the extras. I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best.

Jessica M. Cliff Program Director U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy (West) 6775 Memphis Ave Cleveland, Ohio 44144 phone: 216-351-3222 Find us on FACEBOOK!

New Year's sleepover a success!

For the first time ever, the U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy hosted a New Year's Eve Sleepover for their students and children of the community. They would like to send out a HUGE thank you to a few local business that donated proceeds to make this event a great success. Ridge Park Square, AMC Theaters, and Sam's Club all donated to the sleepover and without their help it wouldn't have been nearly as successful! Thank you for helping us invest in the youth of the Brooklyn community. With out your support all of this wouldn't be possible! - Jessica M. Cliff - Program Director



Shaolin Kung Fu Institute

THEY ARE MADE! CALL TODAY FREE UNIFORM WITH SIGN-UP

(restrictions apply)

Cleveland West 6775 Memphis Ave. 216.351.3222

to listen and learn.

Willoughby Hills 28142 Chardon Rd. 440.585.4900

Shaker Hts. 3839 Pearl Rd. 20125 Van Aken Blvd. 330.576.6352 216.991.1200

Cleveland Fast 6401 St. Clair Ave. 216.431.4991



Medina

Polaris Identifies Critical Facility Needs

Earlier this year the Ohio School Construction Commission helped us identify \$30 million in vital infrastructure repairs that need to be made to bring Polaris up to state minimum standards.

While we continue to serve near record numbers of students, our near 40 year old facility is beginning to show signs of wear. As our facilities and labs continue to age, it will become increasingly difficult to meet employer demands and attract students into productive careers. The following is a partial list of critical upgrades that will help us meet state facility standards and mandates:

\$12.5 million to repair our HVAC, roofing, electrical, and plumbing systems

\$6.6 million to repair our walls, lighting, security and handicapped access

\$1.4 million to improve technology

\$6 million to create state-mandated middle school programs



As the calendar turns to 2015, we look forward sharing to our exciting plans to upgrade and renovate our labs and facilities.





Affordable Warehouse Equipment, Inc.

Nancy Wildenhaus 8500 Clinton Rd Suite 1101-A Brooklyn, Ohio 44144 216-661-2828 Email: <u>nancy@awei.com</u> Website: <u>www.awei.com</u>

Blue Jay Communications, Inc. John Houlihan 4906 Van Epps Road Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131 Email: <u>fverburg@bluejaycommunications.com</u> Website: www.bluejaycommunications.com

Welcome



Contact Us: Phone: (216) 288-5484 Email: asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org

> We are on the web! www.brooklynohio chamber.org

> > Officers

PRESIDENT Chris Ellis

VICE PRESIDENT David Nodge

> TREASURER Jeff Suhay

SECRETARY Valerie Thompson

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Jessica Cliff U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy

> Chris Ellis Hampton Inn

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> David Hill Dollar Bank

Karen Kirsh FirstEnergy

Nick Maroulis Youth for Christ/Campus Life

> Fran Migliorino City of Brooklyn

David Nodge Brooklyn Adults Activities Center/ Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Jennifer Piechowski Key Bank Operations Center

> Jeff Suhay PNC Bank

Cynthia Walker Brooklyn City Schools

Mayor Richard Balbier Ex-Officio

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Thursday, February 12th State of the City Luncheon - Join us for Mayor Richard Balbier's annual State of the City address at our luncheon on Thursday, February 12th. The luncheon is being held in the community room of Westbrook Village Apartments, located at 4000 Westbrook Drive off of Memphis Ave in Brooklyn. Networking and registration for all of our luncheons begin at 11:30am and lunch will be served at 12noon. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Click here to register...





Thursday, March 12th Luncheon - Join us Thursday, March 12th, for our monthly Chamber luncheon. Jessica and Daniel, owners of the U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy in Brooklyn will be speaking on the history of Shuai Chiao and

their other styles of Martial Arts that they teach at their school. They will also talk about the benefits of Martial Arts for fitness and the different programs that they offer the community and chamber members.

Self-Defense is also a very important topic to cover based on recent events in the surrounding communities. If they have time, they will cover some basic self-defense and awareness tips to close out their session.

The luncheon is being held at Hampton Inn, located at 10305 Cascade Crossing in Brooklyn. Networking and registration begins at 11:30am and lunch will be served at 12noon. Cost is \$15 for Chamber members and \$20 for non members.

'S DUE

Click here to register...

It is that time of year again...time to renew your membership to the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. 2015 invoices have been emailed. Payment can be made by check or credit card. If interested in paying by credit card, please let Valerie Thompson know so she can send you the link. If you are interested in being a sponsor for Taste of Brooklyn, purchasing a website banner ad, or prepaying for lunches, those costs can be added to your payment for dues. Let us know if you have any questions or if you need a revised invoice to include the additional items.



The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Froudly Fresents

A Taste of Brooklyn AND ALL THAT JAZZ 2015

Saturday, February 7, 2015

7pm - 10pm

Ridge Manor Party Center 4630 Ridge Road (Brooklyn)

\$20.00 donation per person

Onjoy an evening of fun, eat food and entertainmen

Entertainment provided by the Brooklyn High School Jazz Ensemble

Tickets available through the Chamber of Commerce and Brooklyn High School. For more information contact Valerie Thompson at asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org or (216) 288-5484.

Net proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Scholarship & Education Fund



9th Annual "Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz" Sponsors needed...

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual "Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz" on Saturday, February 7, 2015. The event is being held at Ridge Manor Party Center from 7-10pm. All of the net proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's Scholarship & Education Fund.

We are looking for sponsors to help offset the cost of the event and generate more money for the scholarship & education fund. If you are willing to be a sponsor for the event, your name and logo will appear in the event program, on our website, in newsletters and emails leading up to the event and you will be recognized the evening of the event. The cost for a sponsorship is \$150. All sponsors receive 2 admission tickets for the event. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please fill out the attached form.

This is the Chamber's 9th year hosting the event! This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in 2014, we were able to award three \$1,000 scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents who will be attending an accredited college or university and \$1,500 worth of grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same in 2015.

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If you would like more information or if you are able to donate a gift basket, purchase tickets, etc.; please contact Valerie Thompson at <u>asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org</u> or 216-288-5484.

We thank you for your support!

Taste of Brooklyn Committee



Please fill out the sponsorship form below for the Taste of Brooklyn. The cost is \$150. All sponsors receive 2 admission tickets for the event.

Contact Name		
Company Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Email		
Phone		
Total: <u>\$150</u>		
Pay by Check Pay by Credit Card Bill Me		
Please make checks payable to Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. If paying by credit card, please email <u>asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org</u> to be emailed the link. Mail checks and forms to:		
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce PO Box 44038 Brooklyn, OH 44144		
If you have any questions, please contact Valerie Thompson at 216-288-5484 or <u>asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org</u> .		
Net proceeds benefit the Chamber's Scholarship & Education fund.		



ISLE OF CAPRI

GREEK VALENTINES WINE TASTING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH AT 7:00PM \$30.00 per person

<u>MENU</u>

Dolmandes (Stuffed Grape Leaves) served with fresh lemon and kalamata olives

Horiatiki Salata (Greek Salad) with tomatoes, onion, cucumber, green pepper, feta cheese, extra virgin Green olive oil, and pickeled peroncini

Penne with eggplant, kalamata olives, and feta cheese in a fresh basil tomato sauce

Greek lamb souvalaki skewers served on a bed of confetti spinach

Dessert * Baklava

Ridge Manor Banquet Center 4630 Ridge Rd Brooklyn, OH 44144 216-749-5509

Click here for more information or to register...



RIDGE MANOR BANQUET CENTER * ROCKIN' FISH FRY

Every FRIDAY beginning FEBRUARY 20th from 4PM to 9PM

LIVE Music begins at 8PM to 11PM

MENU ITEMS:

Dinner Salad - \$5.00

3 pc Beer Battered Cod served with Cole slaw and fries - \$11.00

1 Pound Famous Agostino's Fried Calamari - \$12.00

2 Dozen Mussels Marinara - \$10.00

1 Dozen Steamed Clams - \$8.00

Cassoula Di Calamari Sautéed calamari surrounded by Mussels and Clams - \$21.00

Pescatore Sautéed Calamari, Mussels and Clams tossed with Fettuccini in Fresh Tomato Sauce - \$23.00

Desserts:

Baklava - \$4.00

Crème Di Carmel - \$6.00

Chocolate Mouse Martini Glass - \$6.00

Slice of Cassata Cake - \$5.00

Apple Pie slice with Vanilla Ice Cream - \$6.00

Weekly Schedule of Entertainment to be posted online

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS 216-749-5509 OR ON-LINE <u>www.ridgemanorbanquetcenter.com</u>



Dear Brooklyn Resident, Business Owner and School Supporter:

The Brooklyn Athletic Boosters Club and Post Prom Committee are excited to be hosting our annual Night at the Races on February 21st 2015 at UAW Hall 1250, and are offering an opportunity to partner with you to be able to promote your business or athlete or family, while at the same time you will be supporting the student-athletes of the Brooklyn City Schools in their pursuits. We are currently asking area residents, and businesses to consider sponsoring a race for \$100, a family ad for \$50 or purchasing a horse for \$10 at our annual Night at the Races upcoming fundraiser. *If you* sponsor a race for \$100 you will get a full page ad in our Race Guide with the wording of your *choice if it is a family ad it will be a half page*. We will have 10 race sponsorship slots available. Any donations that we receive will go towards the support of our student-athletes, including purchase of uniforms, training opportunities and much needed equipment that the normal school operating budget does not cover. We also give (6) \$500 college scholarships per year. Please review the attached form and consider purchasing a race, or a horse to help support our student-DEADLINE FOR HORSES AND RACES IS FEBRUARY 9TH, 2015 athletes. For those of you that have supported the schools in so many different ways in the past, we would like to thank you again on behalf of our students. If you have any questions on any of the details for the event or pricing, please do not hesitate to contact Michele Rivera (216) 952-7569, Patti Gatte (216) 215-7738 or Brooklyn Athletic Director Ryan Kelber (216) 485-8164

Thank you and Go Hurricanes! <i>Michele Rivera</i>		
President, Brooklyn Athletic Boosters Club PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO THE BROOKLYN ATHLETIC BOOSTERS CLUB		
Sponsor a Race for \$100 or a \$50 half page family ad		
Your Name:	Company Name:	
Telephone #:		
What you would like to have announced regarding your donation:		
Sponsor a Horse for \$10		
Your Name:	Company Name:	
Telephone #:		
Name of Horse(s):	,,	