



January 2019 Newsletter

President's Message

I've been doing some reflecting as a business owner and mother trying to come up with my top 3 moments of 2018 and it was much more difficult than I anticipated. We had such a fun year as a family and a successful year with our business, but I've managed to narrow it down to only three moments. So here it goes.

- 3) Becoming the Chamber of Commerce President :)
- 2) Moving our Martial Arts business to a newer, updated, bigger, better facility
- 1) Summer. I loved our summer 2018! As a Chamber we hosted our most successful Picnic in the Park yet! As a family, we traveled and were able to show our kids the east coast and west coast oceans! And as a business we celebrated our 7 year anniversary!

As we are starting a new year, I would encourage all of you to reflect on the last 12 months and try to come up with your top 3 moments as well. I hope you find it just as hard as I did to narrow down to only three!

2019 is promising to be an excellent year for the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce! We've had our first Board of Directors meeting and we've set goals, we've set our budget and are on track for our most prosperous year as a Chamber yet! We are excited to see what the new year brings for us as a Chamber, as well as for all of our businesses that are a part of our organization! Happy New Year!!

Best,

Jessica M. Cliff

President, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

Program Director, U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy



Chamber Boasts Bright Star



The Chamber Bright Stars for 2018 were recognized on Thursday, October 25th at the semi-annual Chamber Leadership meeting and eleventh annual Chamber Bright Star Awards presentation of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) at Pinstripes located at the new Pinecrest in Orange Village.

About 40 chambers of commerce across northern Ohio nominated a person from their chamber as their "Bright Star," to recognize a chamber member who has "made a significant impact on the chamber through membership, retention, sponsorship,

economic development, operations and/or education." Each Bright Star is an active chamber member for no less than two years and is likely to be an unsung hero or a dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer.

Andy Celcherts, Councilman with the City of Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Bright Star 2018 recipient, accepted his plaque, trophy and pin from Cindy Holzheimer, NOACC Executive Director and John Sobolewski, NOACC Vice Chair and Executive Director of the Fairview Park, North Coast, North Olmsted, West Shore Chambers. Andy Celcherts has been integral to the success of the Chamber's annual events, Taste of Brooklyn and Picnic in the Park. He has volunteered countless hours to help the Chamber accomplish the goals that have been set forth each year. Andy positively promotes the Chamber, and continues to build upon the successful relationship that has been built with the City. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the community are truly appreciative for everything that Andy continues to do to make Brooklyn a great place to live and work.

These volunteers represent a wide range of involvement with their respective chambers, some having been a member and or officer or committee chairman for 20+ years and some being newly involved but each of whom has given freely of his/her time, working hard for their chambers without any expectations.

This is the eleventh year for the Chamber Bright Star Awards, and again is giving an opportunity to recognize these volunteers among their peer groups, as chamber representatives, board members and spouses will also be in attendance.

Tony Gallo, President of the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce and NOACC interim chairman, knows this annual event gives local chambers a chance "to shine a spotlight on the people who help make our chambers successful, who bring their unique talents, insights and especially their attitude to make good things happen."

All the Bright Star photos and information from previous years is available at www.noacc.org/brightphotos.html. A link to the photos and video from this year's event are posted on the www.noacc.org website.

Taste of Brooklyn Saturday, April 6th 7-10pm



The Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz will take place on Saturday April 6th from 7-10pm. The event is being held at LaVilla Conference & Banquet Center (11500 Brookpark Rd). All of the net proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's Scholarship & Education Fund. This is the Chamber's 13th year hosting the event!

This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in previous years, we have been able to award countless college scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents and teacher grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same for years to come!

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 presale and \$25 at the door. Tickets include food, beer, wine, and entertainment. 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 \$225. 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 contact us at exec@brooklynohiochamber.org.

[Click here for flyer...](#)

[Click here for sponsorship info...](#)

[Click here for food vendor info...](#)



Thank you to our sponsors...

Andy Celcherts, Brooklyn City Council

Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living
and Memory Care

Cleveland Clinic Lutheran Hospital

Dollar Bank

First Energy

Hampton Inn

LaVilla Conference & Banquet Center

Mayor Katie Gallagher

Wally's Auto Service

Member Spotlight

Each month, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce chooses a different member to be the "Spotlight" for that month. That member submits an article highlighting themselves and their business and what they provide to the Brooklyn community. Featured on this page and next are the last 2 Member Spotlights. If you would be interested in being featured in an upcoming month, please let us know.

BROOKLYN POINTE Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living and Memory Care, a newly constructed Meridian Senior Living community, has formally opened as marked by its grand opening on October 18, 2018. Located at 4800 Idlewood Drive, Brooklyn, Brooklyn Pointe is owned by Steve Nicholas of Rochester, NY and managed by Meridian Senior Living.

The community offers a total of 80 apartments including a variety of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartment styles.

The grand opening was heavily attended with over 300 visitors including prospective residents, family members, and city representatives including the Brooklyn City Mayor, Katie Gallagher. Guests enjoyed seeing the new community and meeting the team members amongst a backdrop of the Oktoberfest theming. Not only did the attendees gain pertinent information about the services and amenities offered at Brooklyn Pointe, they also enjoyed Oktoberfest food, décor and entertainment. Such theming included The Oktoberfest Fair provided by Hofbräuhaus Cleveland, pastries by Rudy's Strudel and Bakery in Parma, beautiful fall foliage décor by Jindra Floral Design, ice sculptures by Elegant Ice Creations, and Oktoberfest music being performed by dueling accordions provided by Eric Noltkamper.



Brooklyn Pointe is the city of Brooklyn's first assisted living residence and is conveniently located near the Ridge Park Square shopping district, medical offices, and major expressways. Brooklyn Pointe is a new state-of-the-art Senior Living Community facility designed to provide a home-like environment rather than an institutional one with a hospitable residential atmosphere using natural sunlight in all areas. In addition to comfortable, affordable apartment homes, residents will enjoy socializing in a Grand Dining Room, a Fireplace Lounge, activity center, library, chapel, and theatre room and even a hair salon. The attractive, two-story community features stone and siding, with architectural elements like light wells and decorative windows and sunrooms that provide an abundance of natural light. A two-story ledge-rock fireplace can be enjoyed in the lounge or the neighboring bistro. A large dining room overlooks the courtyard, and the lounge features a new baby grand piano. A private dining room is designed for special family celebrations or dinner parties. The spacious activity center has a popcorn machine on wheels reminiscent of the street vendors of the past and can be wheeled into the theater room. Off the activity center is a greenhouse, so that residents can soak up some sun and nourish herbs for the chef's use or grow their own plants. A special, separate Memory Care neighborhood for those experiencing memory loss from Alzheimer's is also an important part of the new Brooklyn Pointe community. Specially trained staff and an enhanced activity program carefully tailored to meet residents' needs are an important part of the program, along with family style surroundings to mirror the residents' homes.

"The city of Brooklyn is happy to welcome the much anticipated Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living Facility to our community," Mayor Gallagher exclaimed. "We have always wanted to give our seniors the option to stay here in Brooklyn when they reached the next stage of their lives and now we have that ability. It is a beautiful facility and we look forward to our continued partnership for years to come." Karen Fratto, Senior Center Coordinator of the city of Brooklyn, commented, "Brooklyn Pointe is a very welcomed addition to our community. We have already began partnering with them and look forward to an ongoing relationship."



About Meridian Senior Living:

Meridian Senior Living, LLC, a privately held company, owns and operates senior housing communities across the United States. With more than 7,000 beds, Meridian is currently the fifth largest assisted living provider and the third largest memory care provider in the United States. Meridian prides itself on providing the highest quality care and affordable living options to residents in their own communities. Although large in scale, Meridian focuses its growth effort on building state-of-the-art properties in cities outside major markets. For more information on Meridian Senior Living's Brooklyn Pointe, visit us online at <http://www.brooklyn-pointe.com>.

Member Spotlight

Each month, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce chooses a different member to be the "Spotlight" for that month. That member submits an article highlighting themselves and their business and what they provide to the Brooklyn community. Featured on this page and the one before this, are the last 2 Member Spotlights. If you would be interested in being featured in an upcoming month, please let us know.



The Brooklyn City Schools serves approximately 1,381 students in grades PreK through 12. The District is comprised of two facilities, Brooklyn School that accommodates grades PreK through 7 and Brooklyn High School, which serves Grades 8 through 12. Our District places an elevated degree of importance on ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their potential inside and outside of the classroom. The Brooklyn City Schools is also dedicated to maintaining a strong, meaningful relationship with community stakeholders such as the City of Brooklyn and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

The vision of the Brooklyn City Schools is *to be the school district of choice where academic success is fostered by community collaboration and diverse educational opportunities*. The District strongly believes that all students deserve an environment that appreciates, welcomes and respects diversity. A recent, community-based strategic planning effort revealed that the five areas of focus for the District moving forward would include emphasis in Teaching and Learning, Safety and Discipline, School Community Pride, Finance and Facilities and Communications. The Brooklyn City Schools believes that this requisite level of planning ensures the best long-term success for academics, co-curricular opportunities, facilities, finance and overall District operations.



In characterizing the overall educational value that the Brooklyn City Schools provides, the District looks to several key areas of importance. The top priority of our District is to provide the highest quality educational experience for our students as possible. Though the Brooklyn City Schools maintains high standards in the classroom, our intent is to prepare students for success beyond their respective futures as well. One measure of success is statewide standardized testing as developed and implemented by the Ohio Department of Education through its statewide report card. Over the last three years, the Brooklyn City Schools have made considerable gains on these tests, including improving its *Performance Index* and *Indicators Met* score, which measures overall student achievement. Major gains were made by students in our District during the last year in Gap Closing, a metric which summarizes gains made in meeting the performance expectations for all students in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Finally, Brooklyn City Schools improved on this past year's report card in Graduation Rate percentages.

More importantly, the Brooklyn City Schools values educational achievement that goes beyond the state report cards. A prime example is the Class of 2018, which earned over \$300,000 in college scholarships and over 340 academic credits from local colleges and universities. Our students have also received national recognition for academic achievement, with ten National Art Honors Society Inductees and fifteen members of the National Honors Society. Through the Polaris Career Center students can pursue a wide variety of career paths. Educational achievement also occurs outside of the classroom through various athletic and co-curricular opportunities. The Hurricanes hockey team celebrated back-to-back GCHSHL Blue south Division hockey championships while three student-athletes were OHSAA State Qualifiers in 2018. An impressive twenty-five percent of the High School student body participated in last year's Spring Musical, while the marching band boasts over one-hundred participants.



Overall, our students have demonstrated success through the many learning opportunities offered by the Brooklyn City Schools. Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce and the entire Brooklyn community, for your continued support.

Please contact our Board of Education Office at 216-485-8100 if you are a Brooklyn resident and interested in enrolling your child in our high quality schools.

2018 Brooklyn Cares Holiday Program a Success!



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 60 families with a total number of 146 children this holiday season! Suzy Marquis would like to thank Brooklyn City schools, community members, Brooklyn City and Brooklyn businesses. Many employees from these companies also adopted families on their own. It truly shows how a community comes together.

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

Thank you again for everyone's support in making holiday wishes come true for Brooklyn families in need!

Thank you to the following members who donated and adopted several families this holiday season!

Brooklyn Police & Fire Depts.

Dollar Bank

Dr. Mark Gleichauf, Brooklyn City Schools

Eaton Corp/Airflex

Ferrous Metal Processing

EmbroidMe (Grodek Family)

John M. Coyne Recreation Center

North Shore Gastroenterology Inc.

Ridge Park Square

Sam's Club

Triad Engineering and Contracting Company

Contact Us:

Phone: 216-635-4297

E-mail:

exec@brooklynohiochamber.org

We are on the web!
www.brooklynohiochamber.org

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Jessica Cliff

VICE PRESIDENT
David Hill

TREASURER
Nick Maroulis

SECRETARY
Valerie Thompson

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David Hill
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Mike Kissel
Memphis Entertainment

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Youth for Christ/Campus Life

Jennifer Piechowski
Key Bank Operations Center

Amy Sabelli
Rockne's

Jeff Suhay
PNC Bank

Andy Celcherts
Ex-Officio

Andi Udris
Ex-Officio

Mayor Katie Gallagher
Ex-Officio

2019 Membership Dues



2019 invoices were emailed out in December. If you pay by January 31st, you will receive a FREE luncheon coupon that can be used at anytime in 2019. If you are interested in being a sponsor for Taste of Brooklyn or prepaying for lunches, those costs can be added to your payment for dues.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Thursday, February 14th State of the City Luncheon - Join us as Mayor Katie Gallagher gives the annual State of the City address on Thursday, February 14th. The luncheon will be at the Brooklyn Senior Center and will begin at 12noon. Luncheon will begin at 12noon and cost is \$15 for members. [Click here to register...](#)

Thursday, March 14th Member Spotlight Luncheon – Join us for this unique networking luncheon event on March 14th! This will be a great opportunity to network with other members, while also advertising what you have to offer to the community. Each member in attendance will be given the chance to sign up when they arrive to speak for 3-5 minutes. This will be done on a first come first serve basis. We encourage everyone to bring any literature they may want to share with others. Stay tuned for more details on location. [Click here to register...](#)

Newest Members

Keith D. Weiner & Assoc. Co., L.P.A.

75 Public Square
Cleveland, OH 44113
Contact: Brad Hanson
Email: bhanson@weinerlaw.com
Phone Number: (866) 368-6500

Care Alliance

1530 St Clair Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Contact: Anthony Felici
Email: afelici@carealliance.org
Phone Number: 216-781-6228

Rakesh Ranjan MD's & Associates Inc.

12395 McCracken Rd Unit H
Garfield Hts , Oh 44125
Contact: Anish Ranjan
Email: aranjan@charakcenter.com
Phone Number: 216-587-6727





World Class Care *Has Come to Brooklyn* **NOW OPEN**

Welcome to **Brooklyn Pointe**, providing World Class Assisted Living & Memory Care to the Brooklyn and surrounding area in a brand new state-of-the-art senior community.

We are now **accepting new residents** and will be offering:

- Short-Term Respite Stays
- Social Activities & Outings
- On-site Rehabilitation & Other Therapies
- Rapid Response Programs
- Montessori Moments in Time Memory Care

Our goal is to **WOW** our residents and guests every chance we get. We invite you to experience the best because we believe ... **Everyone Deserves a Great Life!**

Call today to arrange your private tour

BROOKLYN POINTE

ASSISTED LIVING AND
MEMORY CARE

4800 Idlewood Dr • Brooklyn, OH 44144
Facebook: @BrooklynPointe
www.meridiansenior.com/brooklynpointe

216.230.5690



The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Proudly Presents

A Taste of Brooklyn

AND ALL THAT JAZZ

2019

Saturday, April 6th

7pm - 10pm

LaVilla Conference & Banquet Center

11500 Brookpark Rd (Brooklyn)

\$20 presale, \$25 at the door



*Enjoy an evening of fun,
great food and entertainment!*



**Entertainment provided by
the Brooklyn High School Jazz Ensemble**

For more information on where to purchase tickets or for sponsorship opportunities,
please contact Valerie Thompson at
exec@brooklynohiochamber.org or (216) 635-4297.

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



*The Brooklyn Chamber of
Commerce Proudly Presents*

A Taste of Brooklyn

AND ALL THAT JAZZ

April 6, 2019

*Enjoy an evening of fun,
great food and entertainment!*



*If you are interested in
participating or have questions,
please contact*

Valerie Thompson
Executive Director

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

exec@brooklynohiochamber.org

216-635-4297



What is the Taste of Brooklyn?

The Taste of Brooklyn is a fundraiser hosted by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. It features a “taste” of cuisine from local restaurants and establishments. The event is an opportunity for the community, schools, and businesses to come together and raise funds for the students of Brooklyn & Old Brooklyn. All the net proceeds benefit the Chamber’s Scholarship & Education Fund. This is the Chamber’s 13th year hosting the event!



The cost to those who attend the event is \$20 presale and \$25 at the door. Tickets include food, beer, wine, and entertainment. The Brooklyn High School Jazz Band puts on a spectacular performance for all those in attendance. Gift basket raffle tickets and 50/50 tickets are sold at the event, as well.

Who does the Taste of Brooklyn benefit?

All the net proceeds benefit the Chamber’s Scholarship & Education Fund. This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in previous years, we have been able to award countless college scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents and teacher grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same for years to come!



Where & when is the Taste of Brooklyn?

The event will take place on Saturday, April 6th from 7-10pm. The event is being held at **LaVilla Conference & Banquet Center**, located at 11500 Brookpark Rd in Brooklyn.



How can I participate?

We are looking for local restaurants and businesses that are willing to donate food for the event. Each restaurant is given a table to use to serve their food and pass out flyers, menus, coupons, etc. to those in attendance. If you are unable to send someone to work the table for the evening, no problem! We can come pick up your donation, set up the table, and serve your food.



Why should I participate?

It is a great way to promote your business to the Brooklyn/Old Brooklyn community. Feel free to bring flyers, coupons, menus, etc. to pass out. Last year, we had 300 people in attendance! All food vendors receive 2 free admission tickets. Plus, your company name will appear on our website, event emails, newsletter, etc.



13th 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, April 6, 2019. The event is being held at LaVilla Conference & Banquet 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 \$225. 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 13th year hosting the event! This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in previous years, we have been able to award countless college scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents and teacher grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same for years to come!

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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 exec@brooklynohiochamber.org or 216-635-4297.

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 \$225. All sponsors receive 2 admission tickets for the event.

Contact Name _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Total: \$225

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 exec@brooklynohiochamber.org 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 216-635-4297 or exec@brooklynohiochamber.org.

Net proceeds benefit the Chamber's Scholarship & Education fund.