

## Mayor Balbier Honored

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On December 10th, the Chamber honored City of Brooklyn Mayor Richard Balbier for his years of service. Mayor Balbier retired on December 31st. The luncheon was held at Polaris Career Center with delicious food and cake prepared by the Polaris students. The Chamber presented the Mayor with a gift and several Board members spoke. Below are just some of the Mayor's accomplishments during his career.

Mayor Balbier began his career with the City of Brooklyn in March of 1964 as a Police officer, becoming Sergeant in 1971 and retiring in 1997 with 33 years of service. Mayor Balbier became a councilman in April of 1998 and served as Council President during various terms. He took over the Office of the Mayor in September of 2009. In November of 2011 he ran for his first mayoral election and won. He has over 50 years of service working for the City. Mayor Balbier was a member of the following organizations – Cuyahoga County Mayors and Managers Association; Ohio Municipal League; Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce; First Suburbs Consortium and First Suburbs Development Council. Mayor Balbier is married to Barb Balbier and they have raised 3 daughters and have 3 beautiful grandchildren. Before becoming Mayor, he volunteered at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo as a docent.

We wish Mayor Balbier the best of luck as he begins this next chapter in his life and thank him for all his support over the years!

### Our Newest Members

Welcome to our newest member....

#### Town Planner

Nina Pukys  
3046 Brecksville Road  
Bldg. 2 Suite B1  
Richfield, OH 44286  
216-272-2064

Email:

[nina@townplanner.com](mailto:nina@townplanner.com)

Website:

[www.townplanner.com](http://www.townplanner.com)



# Thank You Mayor!



# 10th Annual Taste of Brooklyn

**Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> 7-10pm at Agostino's Catering and Event Center**

The Taste of Brooklyn and All That Jazz will take place on Saturday February 27th from 7-10pm. The event is once again, being held at Agostino's Catering & Event Center (formerly Ridge Manor). All of the net proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce's Scholarship & Education Fund. This is the Chamber's 10<sup>th</sup> year hosting the event!

This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in 2015, we were able to increase the awards to three \$1,500 scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents who will be attending an accredited college or university and \$1,000 worth of grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same in 2016.

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 \$15 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 \$175. 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.

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

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

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

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



## Thank you to our food vendors...

**Aldo's  
Agostino's Catering & Event Center  
Applebee's  
Buffalo Wild Wings Brooklyn  
Polaris Career Center  
Rockne's  
Skyline Chili**



## Thank you to our sponsors...

**Agostino's Catering & Event Center  
Andy Celcherts  
Dollar Bank  
Ferrous Metal Processing Co.  
FirstEnergy  
Hampton Inn Brooklyn  
Jinisha Patel, State Farm  
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KeyBank Operations Center  
LaVilla Conference and Banquet Center  
Mayor Katie Gallagher and Family  
Richard and Barbara Balbier  
The Floor King  
Wally's Auto Service**

# 2015 Member Of The Year Recipients

Congratulations to Ferrous Metal Processing and U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West, on being awarded the 2015 Members of the Year! The awards were presented at our Holiday Social on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to congratulate these members the next time you see them!

## Large Business Ferrous Metal Processing



Ferrous Metal Processing was one of the Chamber's founding members, back in 2002, and has been active ever since. Ed Gonzalez, President of Ferrous Metal Processing, has supported the Chamber's events through sponsorships and raffle donations. In 2015, Ferrous was a large contributor to the Brooklyn Cares program, which helps Brooklyn families in need. They also gave a large donation to the City of Brooklyn's Fall Fest event. The Brooklyn Chamber and community are lucky to have such a supportive business in the area!

Ferrous Metal Processing is a fully equipped hot rolled toll processor and cold rolled converter. They have been in business since 1983, growing into the Mid-west's leading toll processor. The Brooklyn facility provides world-class pickling, slitting, leveling, annealing, cold rolling and temper passing. They are located

at 11103 Memphis Ave. Ferrous can be reached at (216)671-6161 or [info@ferrousmetalprocessing.com](mailto:info@ferrousmetalprocessing.com).

You can also visit their website at <http://www.ferrousmetalprocessing.com/>.

## Small Business U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West



U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West has been an active Chamber member since their business opened in 2011. Jessica and Daniel Cliff, owners of the school, have both served on our Board of Directors. Jessica, a current Board member, has spent countless hours volunteering time at our events and participating in our Picnic in the Park planning committee. She has also been an integral part of retaining and growing our membership. Both Jessica and Daniel have been very supportive of the Brooklyn and surrounding Cleveland area. They have held several fundraisers at the school to help families in need, such as food drives and car washes. They truly care about the students, their families, and the community! Jessica and Daniel 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!

U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West is a family owned business and has been located at 6775 Memphis Ave in Brooklyn since 2011. They offer a fun, safe environment for children as young as 3 and offer a variety of classes for all ages. Students at the school learn self-defense, self-discipline, self-control, focus, and concentration (just to name a few!). U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West encourages all students to take advantage of other programs available to them, such as the student referral program, pizza parties, sleepovers, snow tubing, and cook outs. They can be reached at (216)351-3222 or [kungfuacademywest@hotmail.com](mailto:kungfuacademywest@hotmail.com).

You can also visit their website at <http://kungfuacademywest.com/SocialSite/home>.



## Member...Friend Moves On

**Fran Migliorino was honored for her years of service at the Chamber's holiday social**



Fran Migliorino, Economic Development Director, was honored at our holiday social on November 12th. Chamber President, Chris Ellis, and Chamber Vice President, Dave Nodge, presented Fran with a gift to celebrate her retirement. Newly elected Mayor, Katie Gallagher and Fran's husband, Bob, were also in attendance to congratulate Fran for all that she has done for the Chamber and the Brooklyn community. Since Fran joined the City and the Chamber in 2009, she has been an integral part of the business community. She has served on the Chamber's Board of Directors since her 1<sup>st</sup> day of employment with the City. Fran has worked tirelessly at retaining and recruiting members for the Chamber. She has served on various committees and has always made sure the Chamber

and the City have had a positive working relationship. Fran and her husband Bob have volunteered at all of our annual events throughout the years. She will truly be missed. Good luck Fran! You will be missed!



## ***2015 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 50 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. Brooklyn Cares will also continue throughout the year. Please contact Suzy Marquis at [suzy.marquis@brooklyn.k12.oh.us](mailto: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 to the following members who donated:**

**Wal-Mart – donated \$1,000!!!**

**Ameriflag  
Brooklyn Adult Activities Center  
Brooklyn Police  
Ferrous Metal Processing  
Ridge Park Square**

## Mastering ChamberMaster

### 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 your 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](http://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.



## State of the City Luncheon February 18th



Join us as the newly elected Mayor Katie Gallagher gives the annual State of the City address on Thursday, February 18th. 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. **[Click here to register...](#)**

# Member Honored As Bright Star



## Jessica Cliff with U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West is this year's NOACC Bright Star Recipient!

The Chamber Bright Stars for 2015 were recognized on Thursday, October 29th at the semi-annual Chamber Leadership meeting and eighth annual Chamber Bright Star Awards presentation of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC) in the Windows on the River at the Nautical Entertainment Complex in Cleveland, Ohio

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.

Jessica Cliff with U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Bright Star 2015, accepted her plaque and trophy from Tony Gallo, NOACC Chairman and President of the Lorain County Chamber at the presentation. Jessica has been a very active member, serving as a Board member, event planning committee member, volunteering at all of our annual events, and promoting Chamber membership to new and existing businesses. Jessica has also been an integral part of the community by raising funds for local students' school supplies, conducting food drives, etc. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the community are truly appreciative for everything that Jessica 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 eighth year for the Chamber Bright Star Awards, and again has given an opportunity to recognize these volunteers among their peer groups, as chamber representatives, board members and spouses will also be in attendance.

Tony Gallo, NOACC Chairman said "our volunteers are the common bond in each chamber. Giving recognition to our Bright Star in a public way lets our membership and community know we appreciate the time, talent and treasure that they provided."

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



## New Year's Fun With Kung Fu Academy



Each year, leading up to our New Years Eve sleepover I contact local businesses to donate or sponsor the event. Once again we had a fantastic New Years Eve sleepover thanks to a few key members! Daniel and I would like to give a huge thank you to AMC Theater, Ridge Park Square, and Sam's Club for their generous donations to help make this event such a successful one! This is our 2nd year opening up the school on New Years Eve to our students and kids in the community to allow them a fun, safe evening while their parents also get a fun night off! We kicked off the night at 6:00 p.m. with a pizza dinner, then headed up to AMC Theater to watch Star Wars and enjoyed some yummy movie popcorn! After the movie we headed back to the school to get set up for the NYC Ball drop and our very own balloon drop and sparkling juice toast! While we were getting set up the kids were having a blast at the Photo Booth with our table full of props! Once the New Year happened we finished the night with games, music, and dancing. It was a blast!!! The next morning parents didn't have to pick up their kids until 11:00 a.m.!! After breakfast, while waiting for their parents, the kids had a chance to decorate some handmade ornaments as fun memorabilia to the evening. Without the help of local businesses this event would not be nearly as exciting. If you or your business are interested in sponsoring the next New Years Eve sleepover, just let me know. I would love to find a way to get you involved! I can be reached at 216-351-3222 or [kungfuacademywest@hotmail.com](mailto:kungfuacademywest@hotmail.com).

Best,  
Jessica M. Cliff





## Chef "O" Honored with Educator of the Year Award

Chef Chris Olszewski, Polaris Chef Training Instructor, was recently honored with the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Cleveland Chapter's Chef Educator of the Year Award. Nominated by a fellow chef educator, Chef Olszewski was honored for his outstanding service to students both inside and outside of the classroom. The award pays tribute to an active culinary educator whose knowledge, skills and expertise have enhanced the image of the professional chef and who, by example, has given leadership, guidance and direction to students seeking a career in the culinary profession. The award ceremony took place earlier this month at The Country Club in Pepper Pike. Olszewski also received this award in 2008.

He is a 2009 recipient of the National Restaurant Association Teacher Excellence Award and has received the Ohio ProStart "Teacher of Distinction" designation for seven straight years. He was honored earlier this year with the Northeast Ohio Media Group's Crystal Apple Award. Olszewski has been a member of the American Culinary Federation for 25 years. **Way to go, Chef O!**

### Coming Soon: What's New in Adult Education at Polaris Career Center

Polaris features an exciting slate of new adult classes this spring. Adult Education catalogs are scheduled to mail after Christmas. Good news - you don't have to wait. You can register online TODAY [here](http://www.polaris.edu) or by phone at 440.891.7600. Visit [www.polaris.edu](http://www.polaris.edu), call 440.891.7600 for additional information or attend our Job & Career Training Program Open House on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM! #PolarisMeansJobs

Here's a sampling of what's new:

- 4 Ingredient Meals
- Accounting Fundamentals 1 & 2
- Business Communications
- Business Math Basics
- Certified Bookkeeper Exam Prep Course
- Chrome Browser, Extensions & Apps
- Google Gmail
- Google Tools Overview
- How We Beat Diabetes
- International Food Tour
- Keyboarding
- Project Management





**Contact Us:**

Phone: (216) 288-5484

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

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**RNC Supplier Guides...register your business today!!**



Are you a business owner interested in being considered for opportunities connected with the Convention? If so, sign up for the Cleveland 2016 Host Committee Supplier Guide – at no cost to you.

This resource is a guide for the RNC Committee on

Arrangements and other entities interested in doing business locally for their Convention-related activities and events. There are more than 100 vendor categories that include everything from florists, bakeries, shoe repair, caterers, transportation, etc. To register, please visit:

**www.2016cle.com/become-a-supplier**

# DUE it Right...

## 2016 Membership Dues

2016 invoices will be emailed out in December. If you pay by January 31st, you will receive a FREE luncheon coupon that can be used at anytime in 2016. 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.



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216.351.3222

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28142 Chardon Rd.  
440.585.4900

**Medina**  
3839 Pearl Rd.  
330.576.6352

**Shaker Hts.**  
20125 Van Aken Blvd.  
216.991.1200

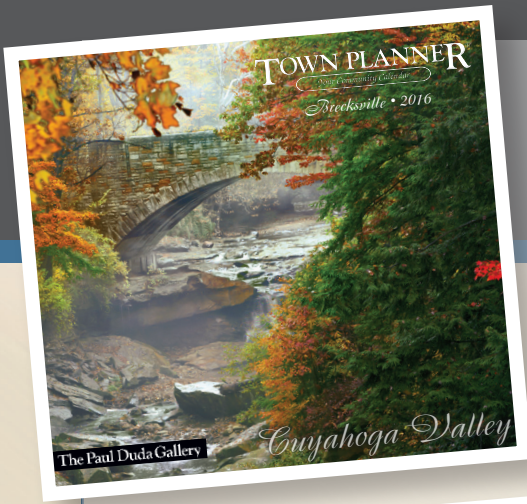
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## Did you know?

Nearly 75% of local households that receive a Town Planner hang it in their homes all year long!

## Introducing Nina Pukys

Nina has been a resident of Brooklyn and North Royalton her entire life. As a result, she knows the local shopping patterns and consumer tendencies. Nina is a graduate of The Ohio State University. She will be taking over local publishing responsibility and is anxious to get to know all current and future Town Planner sponsors.



## New For 2017

Our expanded circulation for 2017 includes all families and businesses in

- Brecksville + Richfield + Peninsula
- Broadview Heights
- Independence + Seven Hills
- Brooklyn
- North Royalton

## Set Up a Digital Web Profile and Post Your Events

Be sure to ask Nina for help in posting your business and events to [townplanner.com](http://townplanner.com)

## Call today to reserve your space!

Nina Pukys  
216.272.2064

Larry Paulozzi  
440.452.4292

**2017 Reservations Now Being Accepted!**

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# Mardi Gras

Tuesday, February 9 at 5:30pm  
Westside Jaguar, 9600 Brookpark Rd  
RSVP @GoMontrose.com







The Parma Area Chamber of Commerce & The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce  
*together with*  
The Power of More & NOCA  
*present a*

# Mardi Gras

Business Networking Event

Catering by Agostino's and Panera with Boutique Italian Wines by LA Dick Imports  
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Valet Parking Available  
No Cost to Attend

RSVP to [RSVP@GoMontrose.com](mailto:RSVP@GoMontrose.com)





*The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Proudly Presents*

# **A Taste of Brooklyn**

## **AND ALL THAT JAZZ**

### **2016**

**Saturday, February 27th**

**7pm - 10pm**

**Agostino's Banquet and Catering Center  
(formerly Ridge Manor)  
4630 Ridge Road (Brooklyn)**

**\$15 donation per person**



**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](mailto:exec@brooklynohiochamber.org) or (216) 288-5484.

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



## **10<sup>th</sup> 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 27, 2016. The event is being held at Agostino’s Banquet and Catering Center (formerly Ridge Manor) 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 \$175. 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 10<sup>th</sup> year hosting the event! This event has had great success in the past. Because of the proceeds made in 2015, we were able to increase the awards to three \$1,500 scholarships to Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn residents who will be attending an accredited college or university and \$1,000 worth of grants to Brooklyn City Schools. We are hoping to do the same in 2016.

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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](mailto:exec@brooklynohiochamber.org) 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 \$175. All sponsors receive 2 admission tickets for the event.**

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Total: \$175**

Pay by Check ☐

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**Please make checks payable to Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. If paying by credit card, please email [exec@brooklynohiochamber.org](mailto: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 216-288-5484 or [exec@brooklynohiochamber.org](mailto:exec@brooklynohiochamber.org).**

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