



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Picnic	2
Chamber Master	3
In Memory	3
Golf Outing	4
Host a Luncheon	4
Teacher Grant	5
Pedal Car	6
NOACC Game	7
Polaris	7
Scholarship!	8
Health Reform	9
Backpack Help	10
Sponsorship	10

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Chamber Members,

Summer days are here again! The summer wind, came blowing in-from across the sea. Summer lovin' had me a blast, summer lovin' happened so fast. Nothing tells the story of summer like a song. Roll out the hammocks, "picnics in the park", and good old fashioned BBQ. Long days, hot weather, and ice cream are also very familiar to the summer months. And, we can't forget Fourth of July fireworks! These are the days of summer.

Wherever you get your ice cream, whether it's at Menchie's, Honey Hut or McDonalds, just be sure to enjoy it. Speaking of McDonalds, Ray Kroc built McDonalds into the most successful fast food chain in the world. Why was he so successful, you might ask? Ray was humble, gracious, and walked the walk. He was known for visiting with regional employees; he would pitch in and help behind the counter if needed. So as we endure the long, hot, dog days of summer over the next couple months, be sure to support your employees and say "thank you" for their hard work and efforts.

I would like to thank Barb Stepic and the Brooklyn Historical Society for hosting our May luncheon. They presented a "before and after" presentation which was very interesting and informative. Also a "thank you" goes to Brooklyn Schools superintendent Cynthia Walker for hosting the June luncheon. She gave her state of the schools presentation to our members. Speaking of schools, I would like to congratulate the three scholarship awardees. They are Allison Byndas, Michael Byndas, and Brad McCormick. They were awarded their scholarships from the Brooklyn Chamber during June's luncheon. June's busy schedule also included a golf outing at Cherokee Hills golf course in Valley City. This event was co-hosted with the Middleburg Heights and Brook Park Chambers of Commerce. I want to thank all our sponsors and donators for helping to make this event fun and successful. In June, the Second Annual Mayor's Breakfast was held. Mayor Balbier continues to be a strong supporter of the Chamber, and for that we thank him.

Speaking of "picnics in the park", the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its Second Annual Picnic in the Park on Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>. This family friendly event is held behind Brooklyn City Hall at Veterans Memorial Park. This event includes live entertainment, "picnic" food, children's activities, and much more. Best of all, admission is free! So join us and enjoy a fun and relaxing time as summer hits its home stretch.

During the months of July and August, the Chamber takes a recess from its monthly luncheons. Our next monthly luncheon is being held at Key Bank Operations Center in September, hope to see you there. Until next time, have a safe and fun summer.

David Hill-Dollar Bank  
Chamber President



## Luncheon Reminders

Remember, there are no luncheons in July or August. Luncheons will resume on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at KeyBank Operations Center...more details to follow.



# Picnic in the Park Saturday August 17th... **FREE ADMISSION!!!**



Join us on Saturday August 17th 1pm-8:30pm, as we bring the community together for a "Picnic in the Park", sponsored by Dollar Bank & Hampton Inn. The event will be a family friendly celebration with live entertainment, children's activities, bounce house, corn hole tournaments, food, and more! A balloon artist will be providing entertainment and Funkology will be playing from 3-5pm AND 6-8pm! We will have raffle baskets and chances at 50/50 tickets. We will also be selling tickets for our pedal car fundraiser...winners will be chosen at 8pm that night. Food and non alcoholic beverages will be available for a small donation. Signups for the corn hole tournament will be available the day of the event. Each team will be charged an entrance fee of \$15...prizes for the winners!

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

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

We are looking for exhibitors that would be interested in participating in Picnic in the Park. The cost is \$25 for Chamber members and nonprofit organizations and \$50 for non members and for profit organizations. This is a great way to promote your business and/or product, while interacting with the community. If this is something you would be interested in, please contact Valerie Thompson at [asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org](mailto:asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org) and she can send you more information. Feel free to pass this on to anyone who might be interested, as well!

If you are interested in being a sponsor, an exhibitor, or donating a raffle basket, please let Valerie Thompson know. We would like to thank the following members for their sponsorships:

## **Silver Sponsors**

Brooklyn Education Association

Kaplan Career Institute

KeyBank

Mayor Richard & Mrs. Balbier

Ridge Park Square

## **Gold Sponsors**

Dollar Bank  
Hampton Inn



## **Bronze Sponsors**

Greg Frey,  
State Farm Insurance

JB Stamping

Kathleen Pucci, Brooklyn  
Council President



# Mastering ChamberMaster

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!

Do you have an upcoming event?  
Are you trying to generate additional traffic to your store?  
Do you want your event to reach an audience outside our area?

It's free! It's easy! It's included in your membership!

**Advertise your event on our website!**

**Log into your chamber member portal** to submit your event for inclusion on the chamber calendar!

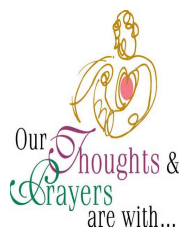
Access [www.chamberlogin.com](http://www.chamberlogin.com)  
Enter your login name and password.  
Click **Events** in the left-hand menu.  
Click **Add an Event**.  
Complete the fields in the **Request to Add New Event** screen.  
Click **Submit for Approval**.

Upon approval, your event will appear on the public website calendar which is viewed daily by potential customers from our community and around the world. Try it out and contact us with additional questions or for more information.

If you need your login information, please contact Valerie Thompson.



## In Memory of Judy Kissel...



On June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce lost a wonderful friend, Judy Kissel. Judy was the wife of Mike Kissel (Memphis Kiddie Park). Mike & Judy have been long supporters of the Chamber and have volunteered countless hours at our events for the past 11 years. They started several of the Chamber's fundraisers, such as Taste of Brooklyn, the Pedal Car Fundraiser, and the Annual Car Cruises, to name a few. Words cannot express how much the Chamber and the community appreciates everything that Mike and Judy have done for the Chamber. Judy will be truly missed by her family and friends. Please keep Mike and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

# Golf Outing 2013

## Goodie Bag & Raffle Donations

**Applebee's**  
 Auto Zone  
**Brooklyn Adult Activities Center**  
 CiCi's Pizza  
**Dots**  
 Dunkin Donuts  
**EmbroidMe**  
 Great Clips  
**Hallmark**  
 KeyBank Operations Center  
**Mr. Hero**  
 PNC  
**Ridge Park Square**  
 Rockne's  
**TJ Maxx**  
 Westbrook Village Apts./K&D



The 6<sup>th</sup> annual golf outing took place on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> and was another HUGE success!! We were able to raise over \$1,900! The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce teamed up with the Brook Park and Middleburg Heights Chambers of Commerce to make the outing a fun and successful event! The golf outing took place at Coppertop at Cherokee Hills Golf Course. We had a total of 5 foursomes and 2 threesomes from our Chamber, including, Dollar Bank, EmbroidMe, First Energy, Greg Frey State Farm Insurance, & KeyBank.

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following people and businesses listed below that donated time and resources to make the golf outing such a huge success. We would also like to thank Sharon Zimmer with the Brook Park Chamber of Commerce, Doris Wroble with the Middleburg Heights Chamber of Commerce, David Hill with Dollar Bank, Sam Watkins with PNC, Heather Miller with Brooklyn City Schools, and Adrienne Hanlon & Brandon Clason with Sprint and for all their help and support.

### Birdie Sponsors

**Brooklyn Education Association**  
**Hampton Inn**  
**KeyBank**  
**Ridge Park Square**  
**The Knall Family**



### Par Sponsors

**Greg Frey, State Farm Insurance**  
**JB Stamping**  
**Kaplan Career Center**  
**Kathleen Pucci, Council President**  
**Mayor Richard & Mrs. Balbier**  
**Teamsters Local 436**  
**Weleski Transfer**

## Host A Luncheon



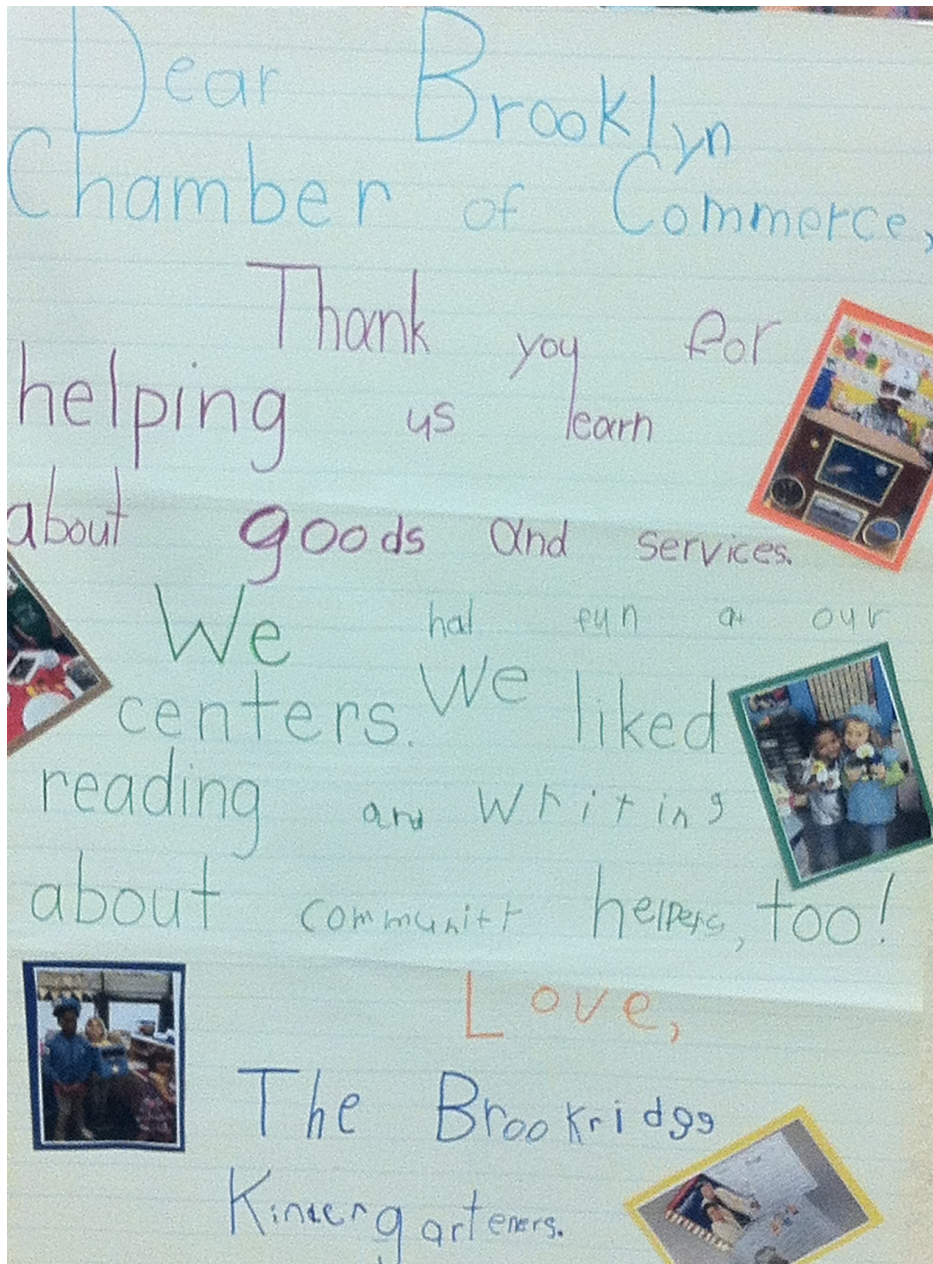
Have you ever thought about hosting a luncheon or after hours event or providing a speaker for one of our monthly luncheons? This is a great way to get local businesses and community leaders into your place of business to see all of your accomplishments! If you are interested, please contact Valerie Thompson for more information.

# Teacher Grant Update



Earlier, this year, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce awarded a \$500 grant to the kindergarten team at Brookridge Elementary in Brooklyn. During the months of April & May, the kindergarten students spent time exploring community helpers, and the services they provide to meet our needs and wants. Their dramatic play centers were transformed into construction zones, post offices, restaurants, and more as students played the roles of service providers. The students and teachers were so grateful for the grant that they wrote a thank you note, which is pictured below. They also created a thank you video. If you are interested in viewing this video, please click on the link below.

<http://www.brooklyn.k12.nh.us/olc/page.aspx?id=23123&s=249>



# 2013 Pedal Car Fundraiser Underway!

**Thank you to the following companies who are sponsoring a pedal car:**

**Ameriflag**

**Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors**

**Brooklyn City Schools Administrators**

**Greg Frey, State Farm Insurance**

**Kiwanis of Brooklyn-Cleveland**

**Mars Trucking**

**Memphis Kiddie Park**

**Signs on Brookpark**

**Speed Exterminating**

**Truckin' Vantastiks**

For those of you that do not know, the Chamber held a Pedal Car fundraiser in 2009, 2010, & 2011. Last year, we were saddened to find out that the pedal car kits were on back order and we were forced to cancel the fundraiser. However, they are now in stock for 2013! We have 10 pedal cars that will be raffled off!

We will be selling raffle tickets over the next several months and the winners will be drawn at our Picnic in the Park event on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at Brooklyn Memorial Park at 8pm. The winner does not need to be present, but if they are, they get to have first pick of the cars.

Check out the link below to see pictures of the pedal cars that were donated to us in 2011.

<http://brooklynohiochamber.org/photo-gallery/2011-pedal-car-fundraiser/>

If you have any questions or if you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, please contact Valerie Thompson at [asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org](mailto:asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org) or 216-288-5484.

Raffle tickets are also available for purchase at the Dollar Bank branch located at Ridge Park Square.



## ***NOACC Goes To Ballpark***

[NOACC Indians Night Aug 5, 2013](#) NOACC Outing at Progressive Field for Cleveland Indians vs Detroit Tigers Game 7:05 pm and Pre-Game Mixer and Picnic at 6:00 pm on Budweiser Patio (capacity 500) Monday, Aug 5, 2013. Special NOACC Chamber price of \$48 per ticket (value \$84). Click link to download form to order tickets.

Make plans NOW to enjoy Food, Fun and Friendship with other chamber leaders and members from across northern Ohio! Cheer the Tribe to victory as they take on the Tigers!

### **SPECIAL REWARDS:**

The chamber that has the most tickets sold will RECEIVE 2 club seats at a game of their choice!! (Based on ticket availability.)

AND

All chambers that sell at least 10 tickets will be in the lottery to RECEIVE 2 club seats at a game of their choice (based on ticket availability)

GO TRIBE!!



## ***Start Your New Career Path***

Polaris can give you the skills and training you need to get started on a path to your new career in more than a dozen career fields.

Financial Aid is available to those who qualify for the following programs:

- Cosmetology Academy
- Dental Assisting
- Early Child Care/Child Development Associate (CDA)
- Graphic & Web Design Certification
- Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Billing & Coding (with electronic health records)
- Natural Resources/Ranger/Basic Peace Officer Academy
- Pharmacy Technician
- Precision/CNC Machine Technology
- Welding

An interest-free payment plan is available for the following programs:

- Cardiographic Technician
- Nursing Assistant (STNA)
- Phlebotomy Certification

CDL - Skills Training is also available in partnership with Great Lakes Truck Driving School.

To learn more about our training programs, please call 440-891-7653 or, attend our:

**Information Night**  
**Wednesday, August 7, 2013**  
**6 - 8 PM**

If you are a veteran, you may qualify for retraining assistance. To learn more and read frequently asked questions, visit [www.qibill.va.gov](http://www.qibill.va.gov).



# Scholarship Winners

We would like to congratulate our 2013 Scholarship winners. Each student received a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. The recipients were in attendance at our June luncheon to receive their awards. Below is an impressive list of their accomplishments.



## **Allison Byndas**

Allison is a 2013 graduate of Brooklyn High School, graduating 3<sup>rd</sup> in her class with an accumulative grade point average of over 4.1. During her four years in high school, she has played varsity soccer, basketball, and softball. She also served as captain for three years on the soccer team and one year on the basketball team. Outside of sports, Allison was a section leader and squad leader in the Brooklyn Marching Band and she was also part of the Jazz Band and Pit Orchestra. She was the President of the National Honor Society and member of the Brooklyn Key Club. Allison has volunteered countless hours to Relay for Life, breakfast with Santa, and fish fries, just to name a few. Her work experience includes coaching youth soccer for the Brooklyn Recreation Center and she was also an intern at Zircoa Inc. Allison will be attending the University of Cincinnati in the fall and plans to study Nursing.

## **Michael Byndas**

Michael is a 2013 graduate of Brooklyn High School, graduating 1<sup>st</sup> in his class with an accumulative grade point average of over 4.3. During his four years in high school, he was a member of the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Pit Orchestra. Michael held the position of Vice President of Bands his junior year and President his senior year. He also played on the varsity soccer and varsity basketball teams the last four years. During Michael's senior year, he was captain of both the soccer and basketball teams. He was a member of the National Honor Society and the Ambassador Club of Brooklyn High School. Michael has spent countless hours volunteering at the Barton Center Senior Citizen Activity Center, delivering holiday food baskets, and at his church. He has worked as an alto saxophone teacher, umpire for the youth baseball program at the Brooklyn Recreation Center, and referee for the youth soccer club at the Brooklyn Recreation Center. Michael will be attending Ashland University in the fall and plans to study Mathematics and Actuary Science.

## **Brad McCormick**

Brad is a 2013 graduate of Brooklyn High School with an accumulative grade point average of over 3.0. During his four years in high school, he played for the football and baseball teams. He was team captain for football this year, as well as honorable mention in their conference at center on the offensive line. Along with playing sports, Brad was a member of the Brooklyn Ambassadors program at Brooklyn High School. He has volunteered his time at youth football camps and with helping his elderly neighbors with their yard work. Brad has worked at the Brooklyn Recreation Center with the youth baseball program and in the maintenance department during hockey season. Brad will be attending Tiffin University in the fall and plans to study Criminal Justice.



## Health Care Reform

You may have heard about the employer mandate in the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a., health care reform law). But what exactly is it, and who has to comply?

The Department of Treasury has released some initial rules so companies can begin planning, until the Internal Revenue Service releases final rules. Here are some of the main rules:

### Impact on businesses:

Businesses with 50 or more full-time employees (including full-time equivalents) must offer a mandated minimum level of coverage that people can afford. These companies are considered “applicable large employers.”

This mandate goes into effect for new or renewing plans starting January 1, 2014.

### If “applicable large employers” don’t follow the employer mandate, they must pay:

\$2,000 per year per full-time employee (after the first 30) if any full-time employee gets government aid to lower his or her coverage cost through the health insurance marketplaces (a.k.a., exchanges) because minimum essential coverage wasn’t offered.

\$2,000 per year per full-time employee (after the first 30) – or \$3,000 per subsidized full-time employee, whichever is less – if coverage is not considered affordable (which has been defined as meaning that employee contribution costs for single coverage exceed 9.5% of the employee’s yearly earnings).

Here are definitions of a few key terms about the employer mandate:

**Applicable large employers:** Those with 50 or more *full-time employees* (including full-time equivalents). To find out if you are an applicable large group employer\*:

- Add the number, month by month from the past year, of all employees that are full-time, full-time equivalent and seasonal.
- Divide the total number of employees for the year by 12.
- If the result is not a whole number round down to the next lowest whole number.
- If the result is less than 50, the company is *not* an “applicable large employer” for the current calendar year.

**Full-time employee:** Employee who works an average of at least 30 hours per week.

**Hours of service:** Hours paid for performing work, or the right to be paid when no work is done – e.g., for paid time off for illness, vacations, holidays, etc.

We will keep you up-to-date on how this mandate may affect you as the final rules are released by the government. For more information about the employer mandate and other health care reform topics, visit [www.anthem.com/healthcarereform](http://www.anthem.com/healthcarereform) any time.

\* **Offer of coverage, affordability safe harbors and assessable payments** – [Notice 2012-58](#) lists methods employers may use when calculating coverage offerings, conditions for using an affordability safe harbor and assessable payments. The rules depend on a variety of factors such the type of employer and employees (hourly, salary, seasonal, etc), unpaid employee leaves, look-back periods, etc.

*This content is provided solely for informational purposes. It is not intended as and does not constitute legal advice. The information contained herein should not be relied upon or used as a substitute for consultation with legal, accounting, tax and/or other professional advisers.*



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

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Cynthia Walker  
Brooklyn City Schools

Samuel Watkins  
PNC Bank

## Adopt A Bookbag



Staff from the Brooklyn City Schools initiated a program called Brooklyn Cares to help Brooklyn families in need. We have our holiday Adopt a Family program where families receive support and help with gifts and food in December. We also have Adopt a Bookbag where families receive school supplies in August.

We understand that some families have difficulty fulfilling the list of school supplies that students are expected to have at the start of the school year. This year, with support from local businesses, the Brooklyn City Schools staff members, and Brooklyn community members, we would again like to help families who are struggling financially.



If your business would like to help, we are accepting donations of ANY new school supplies. Or your business could help by participating in the Adopt a Bookbag Program and fill a book bag with specific school supplies. To participate in the Adopt a Bookbag Program, select a grade level, purchase all items listed on the supply list, and put them in a new book bag. Indicate the grade level and gender with a note on the bag.

Supplies or filled backpacks can be dropped off at the Brookridge School Office between July 29<sup>th</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup>. Office hours are 8:00 – 3:00 pm. Any new school supply items would be appreciated.

If you are participating or have concerns or questions, you can email Suzy Marquis at [suzy.marquis@brooklyn.k12.oh.us](mailto:suzy.marquis@brooklyn.k12.oh.us) or call 216-485-8100 ext. 8323. Click link below for supply lists and more information.  
[Adopt a Bookbag 2013...](#)

## Sponsor Local Youth Programs

The Brooklyn Recreation Center is in need of corporate sponsors for their youth sports program. The Chamber of Commerce would like to be the first ones up to the bat in sponsoring a youth program. We would like to encourage all Chamber members to support the youth sports programs in the City of Brooklyn.

As a member, you are entitled to a discount on the sponsorship fee. The fee for this year is \$200. **The Chamber will pay for \$30 of your sponsorship fee, which means you will only owe \$170.** Your company name, along with the Chamber's initials, will appear on the back of the teams' shirts. It is a great way to promote your business.

This year, you have the option of sponsoring several different youth programs: spring soccer (deadline 3-25-13), youth baseball (deadline 4-15-13), day camp (deadline 5-25-13), or fall soccer (deadline 7-24-13). If you are interested in participating in this sponsorship program, please let me know via email or you can call me at (216)288-5484.

[Click here for sponsorship form](#) that the Recreation Center sends out to local businesses for more information. Make sure you review the deadline date for your desired sponsorship program. If you have already sent in your form and paid the total \$200, you are still eligible for the \$30 discount. Be sure to email me if this is the case, so I can send your discount check directly to you.

**Please note on your form that you are a Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce member.** Make checks payable to "Brooklyn Recreation Center" and mail forms & payment to the following:

Maria McGinty  
c/o Brooklyn Recreation Center  
7600 Memphis Ave  
Brooklyn, OH 44144



Thank you in advance for your support!!