

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3

July 2008

2008 SUMMER EVENTS



Summer Social at Rockne's on Monday, July 14th

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, along with Rockne's, will be hosting a summer social on Monday, July 14th from 5:30-7:30pm. Come join us for a relaxing evening at the upper bar of Rockne's. Appetizers will be provided and a cash bar will be available. Rockne's is located at 4754 Ridge Rd in Brooklyn. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by emailing Valerie Thompson at asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org or call 216-288-5484.

Brooklyn Home Days on August 8, 9, 10

This year, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce will again be purchasing spaces at Home Days for use by our membership. The Brooklyn Home Days is scheduled for August 8, 9, and 10. We are looking to schedule our members throughout the weekend to sit at one of the tents and pass out pamphlets, conduct give-aways, etc...basically, anything you want to do that will promote your business. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce pays for the registration fees and provides the tents, tables, and chairs. The scheduling is flexible. Therefore, you can come for 1 day for an hour or several hours. You can even come for more than 1 day if you like, whatever works for you and your business. Please email Valerie Thompson at asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org or call at 216-288-5484 no later than Friday July 25th if you are interested.

3rd Annual Cruisin' To Memphis Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, August 23rd

On Saturday, August 23rd from 8am-5pm, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its 3rd annual Car Cruise. All proceeds benefit our scholarship fund. This year, an automotive swap meet and car show will take place at American Greetings parking lot, located at 1 American Rd in Brooklyn. Eddie and the Edsels will be providing musical entertainment. Food concession, 50/50 raffles, door prizes, and face painting for the kids, are just a few of the events that will be taking place. The cost is \$5 per person, under 12 are free. We are also looking for corporate sponsors, door prize donations, and volunteers the day of the event. Please call Mike Kissel at 440-781-4495 if you are interested in participating or for more information.

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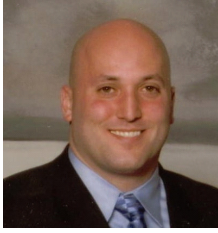
Youth Employment Initiative

For information on how your company can get involved with Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones's youth summer jobs program, visit our website at

www.brooklynohiochamber.org

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to give back to your community!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT JOE SALEM



Joseph D. Salem
The Sirak-Brockett Agency, Ltd.
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working with you to devise the best solutions for your business or personal needs. Those solutions may include:

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If you would like to know more about The Sirak-Brockett Agency or any of the services they provide, please contact Joe Salem at 440-443-0400 ext. 11 or 216-702-7494. Joe is also available via email at Joseph_Salem@glic.com.

1ST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING A SUCCESS!



The 1st annual golf outing, sponsored by Parma Community General Hospital, took place on Thursday, June 5, 2008. The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce teamed up with the Brook Park Chamber of Commerce to make the outing a fun and successful event! The golf outing took place at Coppertop at Cherokee Hills Golf Course. Golfers arrived at 8am for registration and breakfast, with a shotgun start of 8:30am. When golfers returned, there was a steak dinner, followed by the awards ceremony, door prize and gift basket giveaways. Thanks to Eaton Corporation, the winning foursome was each given a personalized set of golf grips, along

with gift certificates to Cherokee Hills pro shop. It was a fun day with beautiful weather! We hope to see more members out next year for the 2nd annual Brooklyn/Brook Park Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing!!

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following people and businesses that donated time and resources to make the golf outing such a huge success.

- Cheri Ashcraft, The K & D Group**
- Donna Thompson, City of Brooklyn**
- Doug and Cathy Hogan**
- FirstEnergy**
- Giant Eagle**
- Greg Gens, Superior Products**
- Jill Ludwig, City of Brooklyn**
- John Patta**
- Kaplan Career Institute**
- Lou Goodwin, Eaton Corporation**
- Mayor Ken Patton**
- National City Bank**
- Parma Community Hospital**

We would also like to thank all of our hole sponsors for the event:

- Brooklyn Mayor, Ken Patton**
- Greg Frey, State Farm Insurance**
- National City Bank**
- Superior Products**
- Valley Sterling Trucks**
- Vita Chiropractic & Wellness Center**

A special thanks goes to Sharon Zimmer and the Brook Park Chamber of Commerce for including us in their annual golf outing. We look forward to working with them in the future!



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



We would like to congratulate our 2008 Scholarship winners, Kevin Lachowski and Brian Sommers. Each student received a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Below is an impressive list of Kevin and Brian's accomplishments.

Kevin Lachowski

Kevin is a 2008 graduate of Brooklyn High School. Along with the Brooklyn Chamber scholarship, Kevin also received the Kiwanis Club, Academic

Booster Club, and Brooklyn High School Faculty Scholarship awards. During his four years at Brooklyn High School, Kevin played soccer and basketball. He was a member of Mu Alpha Beta and the Foreign Language Honorary. Kevin is currently working at Aeropastle in Parmatown Mall and is a youth soccer referee for Brooklyn Recreation Center. He will be attending the University of Akron in the fall and plans to study Emergency Management.

Brian Sommers

Brian is currently enrolled at Ohio

State University. He will be a sophomore in the fall. Brian is in the Honors Program at OSU and is majoring in Computer Science and Engineering. He was recently placed on the Dean's List in the College of Engineering. During his freshman year at Ohio State, Brian participated in the Ohio State Athletic Band. Brian graduated from Brooklyn High School in 2007. While at Brooklyn High School, Brian was a member of the marching band, concert band, pit band, and jazz band. He was in the top 10% of his graduating high school class.

BROOKLYN LIBRARY SUMMER EVENTS



Looking for some cool ways to beat the heat this summer? Stop in the

Brooklyn Branch Library and join our Summer Reading Game. Adults, teens, and children can play...the more books you read the more chances you get to win some fantastic prizes!

Need more cool ideas? We are offering programs galore:

Wednesday, July 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. we'll be hosting a Career Planning Workshop presented by one of

our nationally certified Career Center counselors.

Saturday, July 12 from 2:00-3:15 p.m. the Boomerangs Are Coming Back! Join Gary Broadbent for everything boomerang including an outdoor demonstration.

Tuesday, July 15 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. the beautiful sounds of La Bella Quarta String Quartet will serenade you in our indoor garden area. Light refreshments will be provided.

Saturday, July 26 at 2:00 p.m. Mary J. Shafer, author of *When in Doubt... Inspirational Ideas to Lift You Up and Dust You Off*, will be here to help inspire a positive outlook on life.

Tuesday, July 29 at 7:00 p.m. Erlene Trsek from NASA will discuss space

exploration and how astronomy and space technology are used to explore the furthest reaches of space.

Thursday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m. we will be hosting A Good Night's Sleep is Not Only a Dream, and on **Thursday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m.** we will have Maximize Your Memory; both programs are part of University Hospital's Health program series.

Registration is required for all programs except La Bella Quarta; please call **216-398-4600** to register or for more information. We look forward to seeing you!

BROOKLYN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Chamber's May luncheon featured a presentation from the City of Brooklyn's new Economic Development Director, Fran Migliorino. Below is a synopsis of her presentation.

The focus of the City of Brooklyn's Economic Development Department is that of business retention and growth. "To accomplish great things, we must not only plan, but also dream, not only plan, also believe."

The City of Brooklyn is presently initializ-

ing the formation of a Community Improvement Corporation. A CIC is an economic development tool which works as an agent of the City to help redevelop the vacated, underutilized properties and bring them back into the tax base. In identifying the underutilized real estate, Brooklyn is presently working with the Cuyahoga County Economic Development in tandem with Cleveland State University, to review all of our sites that are presently vacant and ready for reuse. We will be building an inventory of avail-

able sites to be listed with ODOD and Team NEO so that when site selectors, real estate brokers, and developers are looking for opportunities for clients, we will have the information on hand. If your business is looking to expand here in Brooklyn, we will have ready information on real estate opportunities.

The City is also actively engaged with the First Ring Suburbs Development Council. We are not an island unto ourselves from

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

NE Ohio. We need to be engaged in discussions that lead to these changing times...marketing the region, identifying core competencies, and although we are all different in our composition, we need one voice when state legislators look at economic development tools to retain our business; one voice when the federal government makes policy changes that will include ring suburbs to core cities; and one voice when the rules are written under the new Ohio State Jobs Stimulus Package. We face the same challenges that the core city faces and we need to be on legislative radar screens.

Cuyahoga County recognized the council and has given it administrative rights to the Development Council to oversee the Storefront Renovation Program. If you are a store owner, there are funds and pro bono architectural consulting services available to assist you with renovations and upgrades/design. These funds come with a 40% grant component, and can be phased in.

I also took a look at the new programs that Cuyahoga County has to offer through their Economic/Community Development departments:

- The Economic Development Loan Program
- Manufacturing Assistance, Development, and Expansion Loan Program
- Grow Cuyahoga County Fund
- New Product Development & Entrepreneurship Loan
- They also have their traditional Brownfield Programs



The Ohio Department of Development also still maintains their traditional programs: fixed asset loans, business development grants (still very competitive), and tax incentives in the form of new jobs creation. The Treasurer's Office is back offering the former Link Deposit Program - called GrowOhio. This is a rate reduction program through the banking industry. One of my focused areas will be to watch carefully the State Job Stimulus Package: Two funds that will be of keen interest is the \$400 million infrastructure fund available that is designed to spur business development projects. Addressing the needs of the west end of Memphis Avenue would be considered one project.

This office will work in tandem and align itself with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. I will be doing a walking campaign within the business community to those businesses that I have not met with or I don't know to date. If you do not see me over the summer, please call me at 216-635-4289. I am very interested in working with the business community here in Brooklyn, and I look forward to a bright and prosperous future.

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

Remember, there are **NO** luncheons scheduled for **July and August**. Our next luncheon will be on Thursday September 18th at Agostino's. The topic at the September luncheon will be "The Big Creek Trail and Neighborhood Connector Plan". This plan will identify preferred alignments for a 3-mile all-purpose trail expansion through the City of Brooklyn seeking to connect the Metroparks Zoo and Brookside Reservation to the Big Creek Reservation south of Brookpark Road. It will examine connecting parks, neighborhoods, civic and commercial areas throughout the City of Brooklyn. The \$75,000 study is being funded by a \$60,000 Federal Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative Grant Program administered through the Northeast Ohio Coordinating Agency (NOACA) with local matches from the cities of Brooklyn, Cleveland and Parma, Cleveland Metropark, and the Friends of the Big Creek. Dennis Mersky from The Floyd Browne Group will be at the luncheon to present the various possibilities of trail connections throughout the community.