

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 5

SEPTEMBER 2011

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WELCOME

NEWEST MEMBERS!

U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy West

Jessica Cliff
6775 Memphis
Avenue
Brooklyn, Ohio 44144
216-351-3222
[kungfuacademy-
west@hotmail.com](mailto:kungfuacademy-west@hotmail.com)

LaVilla Conference & Banquet Center

Noelle Suleimen
11500 Brookpark Rd
Cleveland, OH 44130
216-265-9305
noelle@lavillacbc.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here I am on summer vacation with my family in sunny Hilton Head, South Carolina. We are enjoying the sun, the beach and the wonderful sites here on the island. We have also been keeping an eye on Hurricane Irene as it approaches the mainland. Kind of ironic since Brooklyn High School is the home of the Hurricanes. We were getting prepared to leave a few days early but we have been told that the storm has changed directions and may not be a threat after all.

Back in Brooklyn the Chamber staff is busily preparing for our Fall Fest that is scheduled for September 23, 24 and 25. We are expecting a wonderful weekend of fun, good food and entertainment. The entertainment includes several different choices of

music, including rock and roll and polkas. If you or your company would like to be a sponsor for the weekend or help volunteer please contact us at 216-288-5484 or asst-dir@brooklynohiochamber.org. It gives us and the City of Brooklyn one last chance to enjoy the wonderful weather that we have had all summer long!

The summer has been a fun one that included our golf outing which was a big success. Even though the weather was very warm, everyone seemed to have a great time. We are already planning next years outing which will be our 5th one that we have held. A lot of credit goes to Valerie Thompson and all the preparation she has done to ensure a won-

derful time. We would also like to thank all the sponsors of the event and the many gifts they donated to make the event enjoyable.

Lastly, be sure to check our calendar for other upcoming events that are scheduled for this fall. They include a luncheon and our annual meeting. Enjoy the rest of the summer and be sure to watch out for the kids going back to school. I hope to see you at the Fall Fest and as I have said in the past, "If our Indians are in first place I'll buy you a beer." Even if they aren't it was a very entertaining baseball season. See you soon.
El Presidente.

FirstEnergy

PEDAL CAR FUNDRAISER

Last chance to purchase raffle tickets for the 2011 Pedal Car Fundraiser....

Tickets for our 2011 Pedal Car fundraiser will be available at our September luncheon. They are also available for sale at Memphis Kiddie Park. In fact, if you want to check out the completed cars, you can visit Memphis Kiddie Park, located at 10340 Memphis Ave. They are on display in the train station. The last chance to purchase raffles tickets will be during our Fall Fest event on September 23rd, 24th, and 25th. We will have a designated area to display the pedal cars and sell raffle tickets. We have 10 pedal cars to win. Raffle tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held at 5pm on Sunday September 25th at Fall Fest. You do not need to be present to win. If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, please contact Valerie Thompson.

We would like to say a special thank you to Mike Kissel with Memphis Kiddie Park. Mike has coordinated the pedal car pick ups & displaying, and has been selling raffle tickets at Memphis Kiddie Park all summer. Thanks Mike!!

Ameriflag
Dollar Bank
Magic Custom Inc.
Memphis
Entertainment Group
Polaris Career Center
Roemer Motor Sport
Speed Exterm. Co.
State Farm Insurance
Superintendent
Cynthia Walker
Truckin' Vantastiks

**Thanks For
Your Support**





Parma Community General Hospital

GOLD

Parma Hospital

SILVER

Dollar Bank
KeyBank

BRONZE

EmbroidMe
Ferrous Metal Processing
Friends of John Bundy
Hampton Inn
State Farm Insurance
Zeisler Morgan/Ridge Park Square
Chuck Germana, Four Star Insurance

OTHER MONETARY DONATIONS

Mayor Richard Albier -
City of Brooklyn
JB Stamping Inc.



Brooklyn Animal Shelter

Nancy Kofron
8300 Memphis Ave
Brooklyn, OH 44144
216-741-1213
Email:
brooklynshelter@att.net
Website:
www.brooklynshelter.org

Mark your calendars for Fall Fest on September 23, 24, and 25th! The event will again be held in the parking lot of Memphis Kiddie Park, located at 10340 Memphis Ave. We hope you can join us for this fun, family friendly event!

Friday, September 23rd 4pm-9pm

The Mediocres will be playing
Clowns will be on hand to do face painting

Saturday, September 24th 12noon-9pm

Funkology will be playing from 5-9pm

Sunday, September 25th 12noon-6pm

Family Fun Day
The Highlighters (Polka Band) will be playing from 2-5pm
NatureTracks from Cleveland Metroparks Zoo 12-4pm
Clowns & Face painting

The event will include LIVE entertainment, food vendors, exhibitors, games, and a beer garden. We will also be showcasing our pedal cars. Be sure to buy some raffle tickets for a chance to win one!

Sunday, September 25th, is Family Fun Day and will include even more activities centered around children and families, including clowns, face painting, and more. Plus, the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo will be on site from 12noon-4pm with their NatureTracks classroom. Be sure to check it out to learn more about animals from our area!

All day ride bracelets for Kiddie Park will be available for \$15.50. The cost to enter the food and beer gardens will be \$2, 12 and under are free. All Chamber members and their employees will also be free! If

you would like FREE admission tickets or flyers, please let Valerie Thompson know and she can get them to you.

We are currently looking for sponsors for the event. This is a great way to advertise your business, while supporting the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the surrounding community. The deadline for sponsorships is Wednesday, September 7th.

We hope you can join us for this fun, family friendly event! We would like to thank the following members for sponsoring the event! We would also like to thank KeyBank for donating all the printing for the event.



Brooklyn Animal Shelter Art Fair

The Brooklyn Animal Shelter will be holding an Art and Craft Fair at Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 4470 Ridge Road, on Saturday, Oct 15, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost will be

\$25.00 per table. Tables will be furnished by DML. Reservations will be taken on a first paid basis. Items should be hand-crafted. Applications and info can be requested by calling 440

-885-4004. The deadline for the Oct. Fall Craft Fair is Sept. 10th.



Golf Outing a Success!

The 4th annual golf outing, took place on Thursday, July 28th. 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. Golfers arrived at 8:30am for registration and breakfast, with a shot gun start of 9am. When golfers returned, there was a dinner, followed by the awards ceremony, door prize and gift basket giveaways.

We had a total of 6 foursomes from our Chamber, including, Brooklyn City Schools, Dollar Bank, Greg Frey State Farm Insurance, First Energy, Health-Solutions of Brooklyn, and John Patta Attorney & Counselor at Law. Congratulations goes to the winning foursome, which was from our Chamber, Brooklyn City Schools - Jon Holko, Jeff Jones, Annie Hostetler, & Jeff Lavendar

It was a fun day and the rain even held out so that everyone

was able to golf! We hope to see more members out next year for the 5th annual Joint Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing!!

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 and Doris Wroble with the Middleburg Heights Chamber of Commerce for all their help and support. It was another successful outing!

Birdie Sponsors

Brooklyn Education Association
Go Hurricanes! (Brooklyn High School, Jon Holko, Jeff Jones, Annie Hostetler, & Jeff Lavendar)
Hampton Inn of Brooklyn
Ridge Park Square (Zeisler Morgan)
Teamsters Local Union No. 436
The Knall Family
Walter & Haverfield, LLP

Par Sponsors

Greg Frey,
State Farm Insurance

Mayor Richard Balbier,
City of Brooklyn
Council President Kathleen Pucci, City of Brooklyn
Weleski Transfer
Westbrook Village Apartments (The K&D Group)

Goodie Bag & Raffle Donations

Brooklyn Adult Activities Center
Dollar Bank
Ferrous Metal Processing
John Bundy
John D. Patta, Attorney & Counselor at Law
KeyBank
Memphis Kiddie Park
Procter & Gamble
Ridge Park Square (Zeisler Morgan)
Westbrook Village Apartments (The K&D Group)

Volunteers

Jason Baran, Committee Chairperson, Dollar Bank
Denise Christescu, Westbrook Village Apartments (The K&D Group)
Kathy Gedeon, Dollar Bank
Greg Gens, Superior Products
John Bundy



Upcoming Luncheon at Aldo's

Join us on Thursday, September 8th for our monthly luncheon. Wayne Lawrence, Chairman of the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce (NOACC), will be doing a presentation on the advantages of being a Chamber member. Mr. Lawrence is also the Executive Director of the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce. He will be discussing the ways you are able to save money on high quality benefits that you may need for your business and employees.

NOACC negotiates discounts on benefits that businesses need, like health insurance, workers' comp, credit card processing, freight and much more. NOACC has saved chamber members MILLIONS of dollars since 1995 when it was created by chambers to harness the buying power of a large buying group, but through the more affordable membership in a local chamber. NOACC is now the largest independent chamber association in the State of Ohio with over 120 chambers from

Ashtabula to Indiana with more than 25,000 members eligible to SAVE \$\$\$\$. Join us for this luncheon so you can learn how your company can benefit from these savings!

The luncheon will be held at Aldo's, located at 8459 Memphis Ave in Brooklyn. Networking and registration for all of our luncheons begin at 11:30am and lunch will be served at 12noon. Please RSVP no later than September 2nd! Hope to see you there!



Mastering ChamberMaster with Hot Deals & Job Postings

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!!

Do you have a job vacancy that must be filled?

Looking for new employees?

Do you want to reach an employee pool from outside our area?

Do you want to move slow-moving merchandise?

Do you have a special to advertise?

Do you want to grab the eye of visitors on the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce website?

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

Post your job openings or specials on

[www.brooklynohiochamber.org!](http://www.brooklynohiochamber.org/)

Log into your chamber member portal to list your employment opportunities or advertise your own store special!

Access
<http://members.brooklynohiochamber.org/login/>

Enter your login name and password.

Click **Job Postings** or **Hot Deals** in the left-hand menu.

Click **Add a Job Posting** or **Add a Hot Deal**.

Complete the fields in the **Add a New Job Posting** or **Add a New Hot Deal** screen.

Click **Submit for Approval**.

Upon approval, your job posting will appear on www.brooklynohiochamber.org within your Member Information Page and by cate-

gory in a special location for job postings. Your Hot Deal will appear by your member name in the Business Directory, on your Member Information Page and by category in a special listing of Hot Deals.

Serious job seekers will take note of jobs posted on the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce website by active chamber members like you. And visitors will be drawn to your deal by its prominence.

To receive our weekly Hot Deals newsletter, visit <http://members.brooklynohiochamber.org/hotdeals/> and click on the link [Hot Deals eNewsletter](#). Fill on the information and you will begin receiving Hot Deals in your inbox!

Check it out and contact us with additional questions or for more information.



Zoresco Has The Answer

As a nationally recognized distributor of commercial, municipal, truck and storage equipment, Zoresco Equipment Company strives to provide solutions to all transportation and commercial truck equipment needs.

Zoresco specializes in service/utility bodies, platform stake bodies, dry-freight van bodies, dump bodies and custom bodies. Also available for rental or purchase

are ground level storage containers.

Most recently Zoresco has been targeting utility, refuge, gas/oil, delivery, service/repair companies, as well as transit authorities and municipalities to consider the many advantages of switching their fleet of vehicles from diesel to CNG (compressed natural gas) and other alternative fuels.

Additionally, the company offers a variety of Meyer®, Western® and Rugby® products which include snow plows, salt spreaders, dump bodies and a wide variety of recreational commercial truck accessories.

Celebrating 30 years in business, Zoresco has six convenient locations – one in Southwest Ohio, two in Northeast Ohio and three in Western Pennsylvania.

ZORESICO
EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Zoresco Equipment
Company
8500 Clinton Road
Brooklyn, OH 44144
www.zoresco.com



Kung Fu Comes To Brooklyn

Dear Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Members

I would like to thank you first of all for being so welcoming to our new business in your city. U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy is affiliated with USSA out of Cupertino, California and we are happy to be able to provide martial arts to your families and businesses. To tell you a little about our school, we offer classes for children as young as three, young adults, and adults throughout the week. We offer classes that focus from traditional Kung Fu to cardio kickboxing. If you or anyone in your family has ever had any interest in pursuing fitness or discipline through martial arts I would encourage you to contact us today! For the children’s classes, the importance and focus on concentration and coordination will help them develop basic life skills. Discipline + focus = success. We offer an initial trial class for only \$9.95; from there we can discuss what the best option for you would be. We have monthly specials as well as family discounts. But, it doesn’t stop there. We have group discounts available for businesses, the city hero’s discount available for firefighters and policemen and women, and of course we have a Chamber of Commerce discount for those that are members of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

Our current business hours are:

Monday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
3:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday closed

Please feel free to call us at 216-351-3222 or through email at kungfuacademywest@hotmail.com. You can also find us on Facebook to get the most current up to date information on the school at U.S. Shuai Chiao Kung Fu Academy (West). We encourage you to stop in anytime we are here. We would love to meet you! Jessica M. Cliff and Daniel Cliff



CONFERENCE AND BANQUET CENTER

I would like to take this time to introduce our company, La Villa Conference and Banquet Center to you. We are located at 11500 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, Ohio. This location was chosen to revitalize the existing building and convert it into a lavish conference and banquet center. At La Villa, we strive to support local businesses, farmers, producers with hopes of sustaining our great community. From weddings to business meetings, La Villa has only the best of customer satisfaction. Our 58,000 Square foot facility can accommodate from 50-1200 guests. We offer great services at very competitive prices, working diligently with customers to create profound events. At La Villa, the quality of service provided leaves our customers coming back for more. La Villa is proud to be a part of this great community.

Be sure to mark your calendars for Thursday, September 29th for our upcoming Open House. The event is being held from 6:30pm to 8:30pm . There will be cocktails, food, as well as vendors to visit. The sales and catering team will also be on hand to meet and ask questions. Please call 216-265-9305 for more information.



Contact Us:

Phone: (216) 288-5484

Email:

asstdir@brooklynohiochamber.org

We are on the web!
www.brooklynohiochamber.org

Officers

PRESIDENT
Doug Hogan

VICE PRESIDENT
Ann Guess

TREASURER
David Hill

SECRETARY
Valerie Thompson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Key Bank Operations Center

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State Farm Insurance

Greg Gens
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Dollar Bank

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Eric Manfredi
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Mayor Richard Balbier
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David Nodge
Brooklyn Adults Activities Center

Glenn Skorko
Quantum Digital Solutions

Pam Vizer
Polaris Career Center

Cynthia Walker
Brooklyn City Schools

CHAMBER TIDBITS

What's Happening at the Brooklyn Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library in September and October.



There are plenty of programs and events that will keep you busy all autumn. On the first Friday morning of the month, September 9 and October 7 at 9:30 a.m., join Jennifer for good books and great conversation at the Friday Morning Book Discussion. On the first Monday of the month, September 12 and October 3, Mil hosts the Monday Evening Book Discussion which starts at 7:15 p.m. Sue takes care of our afternoon book lovers with her Monday Afternoon Book discussion which takes place on the third Monday, September 19 and October 17, at 1:30 p.m.

We're happy to have Joe Jones back at the Brooklyn branch, and he will be bringing and talking about some great books at the Senior Center on Wednesday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m. Mil will be at the Center on Wednesday, October 19.

The following programs all require advance registration and are sure to fill up fast so don't delay!

Eat Better for Less presented by chef and author Judi Strauss will be held on Thursday, September 15 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Judi will show you how to eat well and save money too! Her cookbooks will be available for purchase with a portion of the sales donated to the Brooklyn Friends of the Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Brooklyn Library.

Memory Fitness: What You Need to Know will take place on Tuesday, September 20th at 2:00 p.m. Learn how attitude, lifestyle choices and paying attention impact recall and what to include in your own memory fitness program.

Autumn Moon: A Concert of Traditional Chinese Music will be held on Sunday, September 25 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. One of the most important events in the Chinese calendar, the Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble will present a program of melodious Chinese music. Following the concert traditional mooncakes and fine black tea will be available to sample.

Memory Fitness: Impact on Multitasking, will be held on Wednesday, October 19 at 2:00 p.m. In this crazy, busy world of the 21st century multitasking can have a significant impact on personal health and wellbeing. You will learn some tips on how to better handle situations that require multitasking.

Celebrate Octavofest! with us on Saturday, October 22 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Liz Mautgans, co-founder and managing director of Zygote Press, and Bruce Taylor from the Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory will help celebrate the book and paper arts known as Octavofest, and will help you make your own beautiful card and bookmark to take home. Sponsored by the Friends of the Brooklyn Branch Library.

And last but surely not least, come and meet author and legendary meteorologist **Dick Goddard** who will talk about his remarkable 50 years on television. His new book, **Six Inches of Partly Cloudy** will be available for purchase and signing. Join us on Saturday, October 29 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of the Brooklyn Branch Library. Please call **216-398-4600** to register or for more information.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON



Join us on **Thursday, October 13th** for our monthly luncheon. David Turkovic with the State of Ohio Treasurers office will be the speaker for this luncheon. He will be discussing several programs currently available for businesses through his office. The State Treasurers Economic Development team manages linked-deposit programs and will focus on strategic investments that target job creation, job retention, and local economic stability by supporting Ohio's small businesses, farmers, and homeowners. These programs include GrowNOW, ECO-link, AgLink, and SaveNOW. We will also be giving a short presentation on the basics of using ChamberMaster to enhance your business directory listing. The luncheon will be held at TGI Friday's, located at 10320 Cascade Crossing in Brooklyn. Hope to see you there!

BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

FALL FEST

FRI 9-23 4 PM-9 PM 2011 SUN 9-25 12 PM-6 PM
SAT 9-24 12 PM-9 PM

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce will be holding its 2nd annual Fall Fest, sponsored by Parma Hospital. This three day event will take place in Kiddie Park's parking lot on Friday September 23rd, Saturday September 24th, and Sunday September 25th. Fun for everyone with Kiddie Park for the kids and the beverage and food gardens for the adults.

Family Friendly Event!

- 2\$ per person
- Kids 10 and Under AND Chamber Members Free
- Kiddie Park all day wristbands for \$15.50
- Live Entertainment
- Sunday Family Fun Day (Clowns, Face-painters, Polka Music, & much more!)

Parma
Community
General Hospital

memphis
KIDDIE PARK
10340 Memphis Ave. Brooklyn, OH 44144

KeyBank

Fall Fest 2 for 1
\$\$ SAVE \$\$

Please present this coupon for discounted admission into the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Fall Fest.

 **BROOKLYN**
OHIO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Better Business Benefits

It's one thing to start a business; it's another to keep it going. The Northern Ohio Chambers of Commerce helps companies thrive.

Although the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce isn't involved in attracting new business to the region, it plays an important economic development role by helping thousands of companies stay in business and thrive through membership in their local chamber of commerce.

NOACC achieves this goal by providing substantial discounts on benefits, products and services that lower business-operating costs on health care insurance, workers' compensation, shipping and freight services, office supplies, merchant credit card services, web design and a host of other services.

What's more, NOACC is rolling out a new Approved Vendor program that is expected to help local companies attract new business in their communities or throughout the northern Ohio region.

NOACC, headquartered in Independence, was founded in 1995 by the Beachwood, Euclid and Solon chambers of commerce. Since then, its membership has grown to more than 120 chambers of commerce from 24 counties in Northern Ohio. NOACC is now the nation's largest independent chamber association providing benefits to almost 30,000 employers. Because of different membership needs or demands, local chambers freely choose which NOACC benefits to offer their members.

"Our primary mission is to help and promote small and midsize businesses throughout our region," says Vicky Hawke, NOACC's executive director. "Large businesses have always had the benefit of shopping around and negotiating for discounts that help them control or reduce their business operating expenses. NOACC offers the mom and pop stores, local retailers, the local service

providers the lower cost benefits of discounts because of our group buying power."

For example, Hawke says NOACC saved a 40-employee company and a 100-employee law firm \$11,000 and \$10,000, respectively, on health care insurance.

"For small businesses, this is a significant savings, and it also helps them continue to offer good benefits for their employees," Hawke says. "Our health care insurance program offered through Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield has been and continues to be our most successful program that has benefited thousands of businesses across Northern Ohio."

Recently, NOACC began offering members deep discounts for shipping and freight services provided by FedEx. Members can save up to 27 percent on select FedEx Express and regular services and at least 70 percent on less-than-truckload freight shipments.

And the new Approved Vendor program will increase NOACC's ability to help chambers promote local and regional businesses.

"Anyone can create a business by putting up a simple website. But how do you really know if there is anything behind that website that makes it a business in good standing," says Hawke. "They may have a wonderful website, but that doesn't necessarily mean their creditors are happy with them or that they are reliable."

Businesses that choose to participate in the new program undergo a background check through Dun & Bradstreet and Better Business Bureau re-



Vicky Hawke, Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce executive director, works to keep companies in business by helping them lower operating costs.

ports. Once the background checks are completed and there are no outstanding issues, companies will be provided an Approved Vendor designation through their local chambers that choose to participate in the program.

"The Approved Vendor designation means that the company is a viable entity and is safe to do business with," Hawke explains. "What we are trying to accomplish with this program is to encourage businesses to buy from businesses in their own communities or throughout the Northern Ohio region. We also hope that this program makes it easier for chambers of commerce to shop for businesses to promote to their members for more savings."

In addition to benefits and savings programs, NOACC recently launched what is becoming an ongoing campaign to "Join Your Local Chamber of Commerce" to focus on the value of chamber membership.

Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce

4200 Rockside Road, Suite 210
Independence, OH 44131
216-447-9900
noacc.org



Your Chamber Plus Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

Get more for less

Your chamber of commerce has partnered with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield to provide group medical insurance as well as discounts on dental, vision and other coverage. Anthem's suite of products is designed to meet you where you are. Whether you're looking to keep costs down without compromising quality, or you desire richer benefits, you can count on Anthem for sound solutions from the brand America trusts.

Health – Anthem offers a full range of HMO, POS, PPO and EPO products, including consumer driven health plan design by Lumenos. Groups 2-50 can receive up to a 4% discount on any of health plans; groups with 51 - 199 employees may qualify for a 1% alliance credit. Both discounts are available with your chamber membership.

Dental - Dental Blue® offers members access to an extensive national dental network that includes more than 85,000 provider locations. Dental Blue has comprehensive plan designs that include discounts on non-covered services and discounts after annual maximums have been met.

Vision - Blue View VisionSM gives employees access to one of the largest national vision networks with more than 44,000 provider locations, including independent practitioners, as well as popular retail locations like Lens Crafters,® Target Optical, Sears Optical, JCPenney Optical and Pearle Vision locations. Our flexible plan designs include extra member discounts like savings off the balance over their frame allowance.

Life and Disability – With more than 50 years of experience and an A.M. Best rating of A (Excellent), Anthem life has the expertise and experience to provide secure life and disability insurance options. Our products include extra member assistance benefits like the Resource Advisor program which helps with services like online will preparation and identity theft, and provides face-to-face counseling for beneficiaries and disabled employees.

EAP - Anthem EAP puts convenient resources within your employees' reach with access to toll-free 24/7 telephone counseling, as well as legal, elder care, child care, and financial consultation referral services. Anthem EAP also offers supervisor/management training and workplace trauma response

Anthem members also can receive discounts on over-the-counter drugs, books, health and beauty aids, hearing aids, health club memberships, and more through SpecialOffers@Anthem at www.anthem.com.

Over the next few months, we'll bring you a series of cost-saving tips, designed to help you make the most of your budget and benefits. In the next issue, we'll talk about the benefits of an HSA versus an HRA, and when one of these plans is right for you.

This information is brought to you through collaboration between your chamber, NOACC and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.