The Village of BROOKLYN HEIGHTS
small village, big community

Golden Outlook...a publication for Senior Citizens

Thea M. Guilfoyle, Editor
Community Services Department

Issue 89, October, 2020
Michael S. Procuk, Mayor

Editor's Message

I hope this newsletter finds you well and continuing to stay active and reaching out to family and friends. As we continue to have constraints on our typical day-to-day activities, we are trying to be creative and find ways to keep in touch and connect with you. Our Senior ZOOM Sessions are off to a good start despite technical difficulties during our last one. We have rescheduled our social worker presentation for October 20th and I hope you'll join us for this important information.

We are very excited to offer three holiday drive-thru events thanks to partnering with Daniel P. Seink Co., Ltd., Ohio Elder Law and Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living & Memory Care. We will have a holiday themed treat for those who sign up to drive through our community center lot! Deliveries will made to shut ins. Please see the article in this issue outlining these events!

Grocery shopping will resume on Thursday mornings beginning the week of October 19th. To continue safety protocols, we will practice social distancing on the bus and masks will be necessary during travel. Please call our office if you need this service!

Our Meals on Wheels program welcomed new participants and they are enjoying delicious meals thanks to Lori's Custom Catering. One senior shared that "she didn't realize how poorly she was eating until she started our program". Any senior can sign up to receive daily meals, Monday through Friday or twice weekly, Monday and Thursday only.

Annual programs and events beginning this month include senior snow removal sign up, Shop with a Cop ticket sales to support our disadvantaged kids and the Men's Service Club nut and candy sale. Details are included in this issue!

Stay well!

Thea M. Guilfoyle
Director, Community Services

Community Services Department
Office: 739-3702 ~ Email: cmtyserve@brooklynhts.org
Located in the Service Building, 233 Tuxedo Avenue
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday
Be sure to leave any message in the General Mailbox, Ext. 0

Holiday Drive-Thru Events for Seniors!

We have scheduled three **Holiday Drive-Thru Events** celebrating the Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays!

Seniors will drive through the Community Center parking lot at the corner of Tuxedo Avenue and Schaaf Road beginning at 1:00 p.m. and receive a holiday-themed gift. These events are thanks to the generosity of **Daniel P. Seink Co., Ltd., Ohio Elder Law** and **Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living & Memory Care**.

Please - only enter from Schaaf Road, follow the sign, remain in your vehicle, we will hand you a gift. All vehicles will exit to Tuxedo Avenue.

You MUST sign up by calling call (216) 739-3713 and leave your name and which date(s) you will participate in the drive-thru event. This phone number is only used for specific purposes and is not monitored for day-to-day department calls. Please continue to call (216) 739-3702 for regular department business.

If you cannot drive, please ask for delivery of the gift and give us your address when you call to sign up.

Please note the deadline dates for each of the drive-thru events! We have to abide by these deadlines due to the number of people involved in the planning!

Halloween Drive-Thru / Sweet Treat
Wednesday, October 28

Sign Up Deadline: Thursday, October 22

Thanksgiving Drive-Thru / Soup
Wednesday, November 18

Sign Up Deadline: Tuesday, November 10

Christmas Drive-Thru / Poinsettia
Wednesday, December 16

Sign Up Deadline: Thursday, December 10

Many thanks to Daniel P. Seink Co., Ltd. And Brooklyn Pointe for making this possible!!

Daniel P. Seink Co., Ltd.
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
OHIO ESTATE PLANNING AND ELDER LAW RESOURCE CENTER
www.OhioElderLaw.com

BROOKLYN POINTE
Assisted Living & Memory Care

WATCH OUT FOR ENERGY SCAMS

Energy scams occur when scammers pose as utility company representatives and threaten to discontinue service to the customer unless the consumer provides personal information or immediate payment for utility service.

As COVID-19 related protections from utility disconnections begin to lift, many consumers who are economically insecure may be feeling increased pressure to make any form of payment in order to retain electric, water and gas service to their home. Scammers will increasingly try to take advantage of this insecurity to pressure consumers to pay.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be your utility company, here are some things to keep in mind:

- If you are on the phone with the caller, hang up and then call your energy company using contact information on your bill or the company's website.
- Even if the representative is threatening to discontinue services immediately, never give banking information over the phone to someone who has contacted you unexpectedly.
- If the caller demands payment by gift card, cash reload card, wiring money or cryptocurrency, it is likely a scam.
- If the caller says you are entitled to a "rebate" from your energy company, hang up and then call your local utility or your current supplier using contact information on your bill or the company's website. The caller may be trying to get you to switch to a third-party supplier.
- Be especially careful not to provide your account number unless you know for certain you are speaking to your local utility or that you are speaking to a third-party energy supplier and have chosen to switch. Always do your homework and compare offers if you want to participate in an energy choice program.

For more information about utility regulations, consumer rights and energy choice programs visit the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel. If you suspect a scam or an unfair business practice, contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at www.OhioProtects.org or 800-282-0515.
Reprinted from Dave Yost, Attorney General Consumer Advocate Website Page

HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH

S V A M P I R E Z O M B I E B
L N R E T N A L O K C A J Y O
U B C B N G R A V E Y A R D E
O G A K C O F F I N D A W N M
H O N C T I T N K R C F E A U
G B D I N O I E A S U G R C T
W L L T N K M C L L A W E Y S
I I E S P E U B L E O M W R O
T N M M K L T M S R K B O E C
C S U O A U O H C T A S L T S
H P M O F O L E G T O O F E E
E R M R N A R L S I H N P M L
S P Y B M A E R C S R G E E P
L E T A C K C A L B S F I C P
G H O S T S S R E D I P S N A

APPLES
BATS
BLACK CAT
BROOMSTICK
CANDLE
CANDY
CEMETERY
COFFIN
COSTUME
DRACULA
FRIGHTENING
FULL MOON
GHOSTS
GHOULS
GOBLINS
GRAVEYARD
JACK O LANTERN
MASK
MUMMY
NIGHT
PUMPKIN
SCARECROW
SCARY
SCREAM
SKELETON
SKULL
SPIDERS
TOMBSTONE
VAMPIRE
WEREWOLF
WITCHES
ZOMBIE

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS SENIOR ZOOM SESSIONS

Unfortunately we had technical difficulties on our end during our last ZOOM session. Due to it being an important presentation by our social worker, we have rescheduled it for October 20th.

Remember, you can access the session on your computer, tablet or through your smartphone. If you called and gave us your email, you will receive an invitation to join the session. All others can simply log in or call in to participate.

To log in from **email** from us: Simply click the link in the email and follow the prompts

To log in by **smart phone**: Dial 1 (929) 205 6099 and enter meeting ID: 299 558 1082 and pass code: 2vrrUD, then follow the prompts

To log in from a **computer or tablet**: In search bar type https://zoom.us/j/2995581082?pwd=YlUzZnQzdlBYMGZ3ZS9wL3JKNlJ0dz09, in the upper right corner click "Join a Meeting", follow prompts to add meeting ID: 299 558 1082 and pass code: 2vrrUD.

SENIOR ZOOM SESSIONS - ALL AT 12:30 P.M.

October 20	Medicare Part D Presentation /Social Worker	Rescheduled
November 10	BINGO & Conversation	MUST call to sign up by Friday, Nov. 6th
November 24	All About You Day	Share your Pets & Hobbies!
December 8	Dennis Sutcliff / Lost Cleveland Memories	Presentation on Bloody Corner & Beyond, Cleveland's Prohibition Era Mob Bosses

We hope you will join us and enjoy presentations and seeing your friends!

Senior Chair Yoga Stretches

SENIOR SNOW REMOVAL

Seniors, age 65+ and, disabled residents (with proof from a medical doctor) can apply. Cost is $150 for the season, unless approved for HEAP for the 2020-21 year. HEAP-approved applicants will pay $60. The HEAP discount will be applied after your acceptance letter is received by our office. The application and outline can be found on our village website, and at the Community Services and Municipal offices. Applications can be dropped off or mailed to Community Services, 233 Tuxedo Avenue, Brooklyn Hts., 44131.

TRICK OR TREATING

Brooklyn Heights will have it's annual Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours on **Saturday, October 31st between 6-8:00 p.m.** We suggest that you DO NOT PUT BOWLS OF CANDY OUT for children. During 'pandemic" times, having different little hands dipping in and out of bowls is risky. Use caution when choosing to participate in trick-or-treating events that put you in close contract with people outside of your immediate family and friends.

TIPS TO SHOP SMART DURING BLACK FRIDAY SALES

Check store hours: Stores that have previously been open may have reduced hours or may have limits on the number of customers in the store. Be sure to call or check the store's website to confirm their hours and regulations.

Research products and sellers carefully: Search for complaints filed with the Ohio Attorney General's Office and the Better Business Bureau. Also, look up customer reviews online and find out what previous customers have said about the product or seller especially if it's your first time shopping with a particular seller.

Beware of scams: Watch out for phony Black Friday coupons, such as those offering hundreds of dollars to spend at a store and other claims that sound too good to be true. Be wary if someone asks you to pay using high-amount gift cards, which are commonly requested by scam artists.

Know stores' return policies: Under Ohio's consumer protection laws, sellers can choose to set their own return policies, including policies of no returns, but they must clearly tell you their policies before you complete the purchase. Also, ask if a return policy is different due to COVID or around the holiday season, as some stores increase their return periods during this time.

Important exclusions and limitations should be disclosed: Ads should clearly disclose important exclusions and limitations of an offer, so check to see if limited quantities are available, if a sale is valid only during certain hours or if other terms and conditions apply.

Rain checks apply only in certain situations: If a seller advertises a product at a certain price but sells out of that product by the time you respond to the ad, you may have the right to a rain check. However, sellers are not required to provide rain checks if they clearly disclose the number of goods available at that price or if they clearly state that no rain checks will be given.

Understand differences between gift cards: Gift cards are the most requested type of gift, according to the National Retail Federation, but not all gift cards carry the same protections. A gift card that is branded by a credit card company and can be used almost anywhere may reduce in value faster than a single-store gift card. Also, promotional cards, such as those that come free with a purchase, may not carry the same protections as other cards and may last only a short period of time. If you receive a gift card, it's generally best to use it as quickly as possible to reduce the chance it will be lost, stolen or diminish in value. Be aware that if a business stops operating, you may not be able to use the gift card or receive a refund.

Keep cybersecurity in mind: When shopping for deals online, don't use free public Wi-Fi when entering sensitive information like your credit card number. Keep apps, software and operating systems up to date and use secure websites when you need to enter personal information.

Paying with a credit card usually offers greater protection: In general, with a credit card, your responsibility for unauthorized charges is limited to $50, and you have certain rights to dispute charges that you may not have with a debit card or other forms of payment.

If you suspect a scam or an unfair business practice, contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at www.OhioProtects.org or 800-282-0515. *Reprinted from Dave Yost, Attorney General Consumer Advocate Website*

TIME TO FALL BACK!

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 1st, 2020, at 2:00 a.m. Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night to "fall back."

This is also the time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms. The fire department will assist anyone that needs help. You can request this service online at http://www.brooklynhts.org/en-US/Smoke-Detector-Program.aspx or call (216) 351-3542 and leave a message.

MEN'S SERVICE CLUB HOLIDAY NUT SALE

A long standing tradition, the MSC holiday sale proceeds provide funding for various village charities such as Meals on Wheels, Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts, scholarships for graduating seniors and more. **The deadline to order is Sunday, November 22nd** and orders will be ready on Saturday, December 5th. Please visit the village website for the order form and additional details. You can call Rocky Schuckert at 216.906.9828 with any questions.

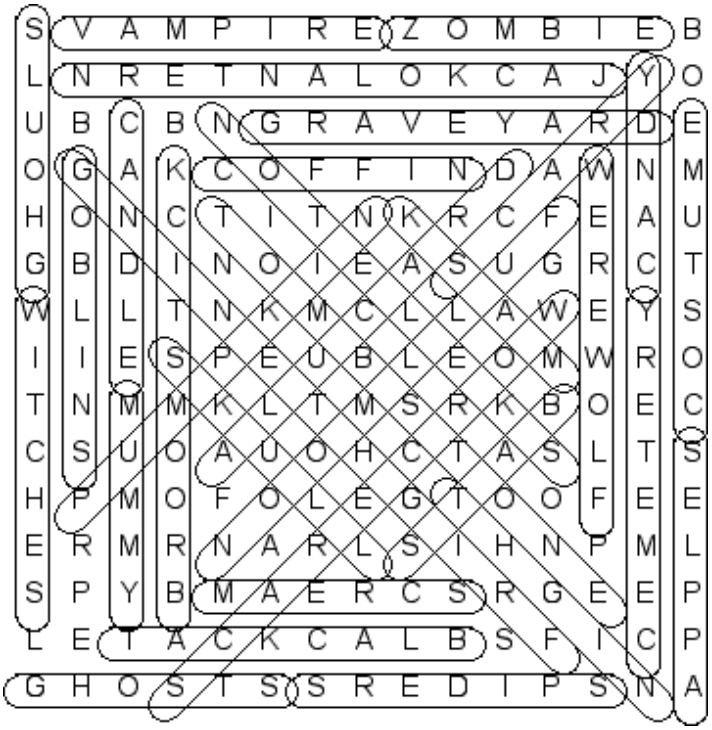
MEDICARE PART D - ENROLLMENT BEGINS

It's not too late to turn in your list of prescriptions for an annual review! Enrollment has started and ends on December 7th. Drop off or mail your form to Community Services, 233 Tuxedo Avenue, Brooklyn Hts., OH 44131 for a confidential review of the Part D plan for you personally. It could save you money!

PPE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS

We have a well stocked inventory of personal protective equipment such as masks and face shields. The masks were generously donated by a resident who hand made them and we have a supply we received from Cuyahoga County. If you need any, please call our office. We can have them available for pick up or deliver them to you.

HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH SOLUTION



SHOP WITH A COP TICKETS

The Brooklyn Heights Police Department along with the Fraternal Order of Police is sponsoring a raffle with the proceeds going to **The Shop with a Cop** program. Raffle tickets are $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. Tickets and money need to be turned in by November 30th, 2020. The Grand Prize is a 50" Big Screen TV, Second Prize is an iPad, Third Prize is $100. You can either call or stop in the Community Services office to purchase tickets or contact Sgt. Chris Leahy at 216.741.1327 for more information (leave a message of no one answers your call).