



City of Strongsville News and Updates



Celebrate an Old-Fashioned Christmas in the Historic Village

The Strongsville Historical Society will once again re-create an old-fashioned holiday during Christmas in the Village, which runs two weekends in December.

The event runs Dec. 1-2 and Dec. 8-9 in the Historical Village, 13305 Pearl Rd. Hours are 2-5 p.m. each day.

The buildings and grounds will be decorated for the season, and guests can visit with Santa, shop the Olds General Store and see the huge model railroad display.

It's free, but donations are accepted.

2018 Was a Healthy Year for Retail in Strongsville

No year will likely top 2016 for restaurant openings in Strongsville, but 2018 saw its fair share of new eateries and businesses.

Among the restaurants to open this year were Mitchell's Ice Cream, Goldie's Deli, Raising Cane's, Starbucks, Soul Fo Real BBQ, Fired Up Taco Shop, 808 Shave Ice, Wine Down & Sweets Café and Sweet Frog Frozen Yogurt.

Three of those – Starbucks, Mitchell's and Raising Cane's – were new construction.

Also opening here were Altenheim Memory Care & Rehabilitation Center, Chase Bank, Vitalia Senior Residences and Spavia.



"It's been a dynamic year for retail in Strongsville," Economic Development Director Brent Painter said.

Next year promises some new retail and dining choices with the start of construction anticipated for Royalton Collection, an upscale retail development of four buildings totaling 67,874 square feet at 17800 Royalton Road, in front of the former Medical Mutual site.

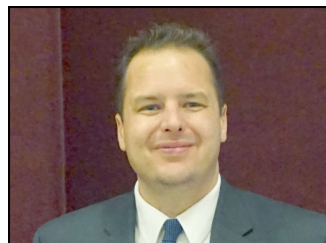
In addition, voters in November approved a rezoning that will allow for construction of a GetGo gas station and convenience store on Royalton Road at Webster Road.

In 2016, Strongsville saw at least a dozen new restaurants open, including The Rail, Pita Pit, Hot Head Burritos, Square 22, Master Pizza, Core Life Eatery, Brew Garden, Bar Louie, Johnny J's and O'Charley's.

Economic Development Director Awarded Certification

Economic Development Director Brent Painter is one of seven people in the state of Ohio to earn certification as an Ohio Certified Economic Developer.

Painter completed rigorous coursework that included 50 classroom hours in the areas of real estate development,



finance and business retention, followed by 24 hours of elective education. His cap-

stone project, as presented and approved by the Ohio Economic Development Association, was the creation of a Workforce Assistance Guide. Certification is not mandatory, but Painter said he elected to pursue it to ensure Strongsville stays in the forefront in attracting and retaining companies.

Save the Dates

- Christmas Teas (Historical Village) — **Dec. 1 and 2**
- Strongsville Community Band Concert (Recreation Center) — **Dec. 9**
- Celebration Ringers Handbell Concert (Senior Center) — **Dec. 13**
- Father-Daughter Dance (Recreation Center) — **Feb. 8**
- Kids Garage Sale (Recreation Center) - **Feb. 23**
- Strongsville Rotary's Chili Open (Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds) — **Feb. 23**

Check Strongsville.org or cable TV channel 21 for information on these and other events.

Take a Stroll through the Winter Wonderland

The Winter Wonderland Lighting Celebration drew hundreds of people to the Commons Nov. 18, and the celebration continues in the center of town through the holiday season.

Everyone is invited to get in the holiday spirit by taking a walk through the festive park, where lights are twinkling and music is playing each evening.

The lights will be on through New Year's Day.



Holiday Hours at the Rec Center

The Ehrnfelt Recreation and Senior Center will be closed on Christmas Day Dec. 25 and on New Year's Day, Jan. 1.

On Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, hours will be 5 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, hours are 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Don't Be a Victim this Holiday Season: Strongsville Police

Thieves are out in force over the holidays, taking advantage of crowds of distracted shoppers.

Police say you should:

Guard your wallet — Make sure your purse is zipped or snapped shut, and never put it in a shopping cart. Pickpockets can reach inside in a flash. Men should carry wallets in a front pocket or zipped jacket pocket.

Don't leave stuff in the car — Bags of merchandise are too tempting for a thief. Put your purchases in the trunk.

Shut out thieves at home — Burglars know you have gifts in your house. Make sure your doors and windows are locked, and leave lights on. Don't leave valuables in your

car, and lock your car doors.

Don't give till it hurts — Fake charity scams are everywhere this time of year. Double check before donating.

Businesses on the Move

Jeff Ellis' International Karate Centers has relocated from a free-standing building on Pearl Road to the former Family Video storefront at 17748 Pearl Road.

The former **Mad Cactus** at the corner of Pearl and Whitney roads has been torn down. The building has been vacant since the Tex-Mex restaurant closed in mid-2013 after a 28-year run. Demolition crews razed the structure Oct. 29. The once-popular restaurant enjoyed a resurgence — and the national spotlight — in 2011 after it was featured on the Food Network's "Restaurant Impossible" show, receiving a makeover and a new menu created by a celebrity chef, but nonetheless closed less than two years later. The property has been for sale since 2013 and remains on the market.