



# City of Strongsville News and Updates



## City Again Earns Aaa Bond Rating

For the tenth year in a row, Strongsville has earned the highest bond rating from Moody's Investor Services.

Moody's rates commercial and governmental entities to show the agency's credit worthiness to potential investors, which makes the city attractive to companies looking to locate here, Economic Development Director Brent Painter said.

"They know they're making an investment in a strong community," Painter said.

The high rating also allows Strongsville to sell bonds at the best interest rates.

## Retail Growth Was Healthy in 2020 Despite Virus

Businesses all over the country took a hit from the coronavirus pandemic, but retail growth was surprisingly brisk here in 2020.

Strongsville saw a number of restaurants open this year, many at the new Royalton Collection across from South-Park Mall, including City Barbeque, Tropical Smoothie Café, Condado Tacos, Outback and Panera. Also expected there is Hot Chicken Takeover.

Restaurants elsewhere include Barrio (now under renovation in the former Molly McGhee's), Culver's (opened in January) and the newly built Burger King and Starbucks on Pearl Road.



Other retailers include Skechers, Spectrum, Red Wing Shoes and Sleep Number. Home Goods is expected to open in early 2021.

Also, Hobby Lobby opened in the former Pat Catan's site.

"We've been very fortunate our business community has come through the pandemic as well as it has," Economic Development Director Brent Painter said.

Other new or soon-to open businesses:

Primrose Academy, Progressive Quality Care, The Torsion Group, Statecrest Flooring, Viccarone Heating and Air Conditioning, Solutions Industries, Vitalia Senior Living, XL Screw Corp., Applied Industrial Technologies, We Buy Any Car, Great Lakes Brewery and Goldfish Academy.

## New Life for Former Burger King Building on Pearl Road

The abandoned building that once housed a Burger King is expected to see new life this year when another restaurant moves in.



The new owner is planning to renovate the existing building for a Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers.

The national chain currently has 10 locations in Ohio, the closest in Akron and north Canton.

It features crispy-edged burgers, chicken sandwiches, hot dogs and patty melts, plus sides like shoestring fries, onion rings and cheese curds.

It also specializes in frozen custard, served on its own, in sundaes, shakes or as "concrete" with mix-ins.

## Save the Dates

Many of the community's usual events are cancelled, but some are still taking place virtually. You can keep up with the action by checking out Livestream.com. City Council meetings and other local happenings are available to watch online — some as they occur and others after the fact. Go to [Livestream.com/Strongsville](https://www.livestream.com/Strongsville) for the latest selections.

Check [Strongsville.org](https://www.strongsville.org) or cable TV channel 21 (WOW) or 1020 (Spectrum) for more events.

## Fitness, Exercise Classes are Going Strong

Looking to get back in shape after the holidays — and the quarantine?

In addition to the cardio equipment available at the Ehrnfelt Rec Center — including ellipticals, treadmills and bikes — there are any number of exercise classes available.

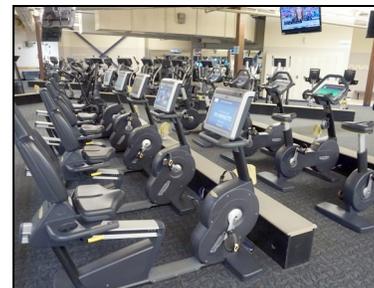
They include group classes like Zumba, Yoga Flow, BarreFire, Group Cycle, Muscle Mix and Pilates.

Or you can choose a personal training program, or take on group personal training classes like Hills and Drills or Barre Training.

There's also 42x82 Strength and Conditioning, with sessions starting in early January and also in February.

There are new youth fitness programs, too — Introduction to Youth Strength Training and Youth Sports Performance and Fitness.

To learn more, stop into the Rec Center or call (440) 580-3260.



### Karate for Kids, Adults at Rec

The Ehrnfelt Recreation Center has classes for children and adults interested in learning karate.

There are January and February sessions slated for Kiddie Karate 1, 2, 3 and 4, and also for Advanced Karate and Adult Beginners Karate.

For details, call (440) 580-3260.

## Pool and Gym at Rec Center Available for Private Parties

Did you know you can rent the pool or the gym at the Ehrnfelt Rec Center for private parties and events?

You can celebrate birthdays and other special events climbing on the pirate ship or shooting hoops on the basketball courts.

A number of packages are available in the aquatic center with various combinations of the pirate ship, slide and diving boards.

Swim & Gym packages are also available.

Temperatures will be taken upon entry, and masks are required.

The main pool is also open daily for lap swimming, and

the lap pool is open for water walking. The hot tub is open.

For reservations or more information, call (440) 580-3270.

### Businesses on the Move

**1of1 Sports Cards and Memorabilia** has opened in a vacant storefront at 13221 Prospect Road, just south of Westwood Drive. The store features new and vintage sports cards, pictures and other sports memorabilia.

**Discount Drug Mart** is ready to start building its second Strongsville store on Pearl Road near Whitney Road.

**Secure Indoor Storage** has opened at 12878 Pearl Road, in the former Catan Bridal Building. It offers all-indoor units with 24-hour access.

**Home Goods** is expected to open in early 2021 at the Royalton Collection. The discount retailer will anchor the Royalton Collection, located on Royalton Road across from SouthPark Mall.