#### JULY 2020



# City of Strongsville News and Updates



## City Hall Closed Fridays due to Budget Cuts

S trongsville's Municipal Office building on Foltz Parkway and other city offices, including Mayor's Court, are closed on Fridays this summer due to budget cuts.

Non-union employees, as well as service department workers, building inspectors, the mayor and department heads, have been placed on a 32-hour work week, resulting in a 20 percent salary reduction.

The furlough does not affect safety forces.

Strongsville has seen a drastic drop in income tax revenue due to coronavirus business closings.

## Drug Mart, Other Projects Create North End Boom

D iscount Drug Mart is seeking to build a new store on Pearl Road near Whitney, the latest in a series of projects helping to revitalize the north end of Strongsville.

Drug Mart, which already operates a store at the corner of Royalton and Prospect roads, has submitted plans for a 27,778 -square-foot building next in front of Lowe's.

It's the fourth project announced in the last year that will serve residents in the northern end of town with dining and retail options by redeveloping properties and filling vacancies.



Also under way:

**Arby's** has submitted plans to build a restaurant in the former Mad Cactus location at the corner of Whitney and Pearl. That site has been vacant since Mad Cactus closed in 2013.

WXZ Development, which built O'Charley's and Sheetz,

has razed the La Siesta Motel, with plans to build a **Burger King** and **Starbucks.** And **Culver's** opened its new restaurant last year across from Walmart.

Economic Development Director Brent Painter said he expects to see other projects proposed in the north end of town this year.

## **Rec Center has Reopened on a Limited Basis**

The Ehrnfelt Recreation Center reopened June 8 with members able to access some areas of the facility.

Cardio machines are open for use, as is the track for walking only. Weight machines are also available.

The main pool is open for lap swimming, while the activity

pool is open for water walking.

The Senior Center remains closed, as does the gym; the steam room, sauna and hot tub; and the free weights. Neither the Tot Room nor the Crossroads Café has reopened, in accordance with the governor's COVID-19 directives.



Guests' temperatures are taken at the door, and rec staff is on the floor constantly to sanitize equipment.

## Save the Dates

 Medwish Medical Supply Drive (Service Center) — July 11

#### **Cancellations:**

- Homecoming The annual festival set for mid-July has been cancelled by the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce due to the state of Ohio's coronavirus safety requirements.
- Fireworks The annual Fourth of July fireworks display will not take place this year.
- Brush chipping The city is unable to collect residents' branches this summer.

Check Strongsville.org or cable TV channel 21 (WOW) or 1020 (Spectrum) for details.

## **Business Spotlight: Square 22 Fills a Niche**

Step into Square 22 and there's a good chance you'll see someone you know.

The casual upscale restaurant in Westwood Commons, with its sophisticated vibe and menu that includes traditional fare and new takes on comfort food, has become a social hotspot.



"Strongsville is gifted to have a

variety of upscale restaurants," said Dan Stroemple, who co-owns the business with Mike Catan. "We're happy to be part of the Strongsville restaurant community."

When Stroemple, who grew up in Strongsville and still lives in town today, partnered with Catan to invest in a restaurant, there was no question where it would be. "Both my partner and I knew it had to be here," Stroemple said.

"Our Town Center has changed dramatically in the last few years, thanks to businesses like Square 22," Economic Development Director Brent Painter said. "We're grateful for their investment here."



## Worried about Wildlife?

f you don't like the idea of raccoons, skunks and other critters in your yard, you can animal-proof your property, Animal Warden Chuck McCleary says.

There are simple steps you can take to block access to your deck, shed, etc.

Visit the Animal Control page at Strongsville.org for more.

## Scammers Trying to Make Money from COVID-19 Crisis

S cammers are contacting people claiming to be tracing COVID-19 contacts, local authorities say.

While legitimate health agencies, including the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the Cleveland Department of Public Health, are calling people to complete contact tracing, they will never ask for your Social Security or bank account information.

Do not click on links or respond to texts saying you have been exposed to COVID -19. Please report suspicious calls or texts to (216) 443SCAM.

And as always, be wary of anyone who contacts you by phone, text or e-mail and asks you to provide personal information or to send payment. Many scammers now ask their victims to buy gift cards and read the numbers to them over the phone — a red flag, police say.

### **Businesses on the Move**

**City Barbeque** has opened in the Royalton Collection. The restaurant, which features barbecued meats and a variety of side dishes, had its official ribbon-cutting ceremony June 1. Also open are **Spectrum, Red Wing Shoes** and **Sleep Number**.

Outback Steakhouse has also opened in the Royalton Collection on Royalton Road across from SouthPark Mall. Other restaurants expected to open in the new retail development include **Tropical** Smoothie Café, Panera Bread (relocating from its current site on Royalton Road near Howe Road) and Condado Taco.

**Primrose School** is building a 12,119-square-foot daycare center at 18713 Pearl Road, a little north of Petitti's.