



City of Strongsville News and Updates



State of the City Address will be Delayed in 2021

Mayor Tom Perciak usually delivers his annual State of the City address in March, but the event will be pushed back this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The mayor is tentatively scheduled to speak this year on May 11. That date could change.

The speech is part of the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon and takes place at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center. The public is invited to the lunch.

Social distancing and mask requirements will be followed at the event.

Fire Department Marks 50 Years as Full-Time Unit

The Strongsville Fire Department is celebrating its 50th anniversary as a full-time unit in 2021.

Back in 1971, when the department transitioned from volunteer to full-time, the firefighters had a decision to make: leave their current careers to take on \$8,000-a-year positions with the city or remain volunteers, assisting when needed.

Ultimately, 16 men chose to come on board full time, led by Chief Charles Graves, who left his slaughterhouse business to serve the community.

That first year, they made 171 EMS runs and responded to 124 fire incidents — but



more important, laid the foundation for the 61-person department Strongsville has today.

Last year, the highly trained crew of Strongsville firefighter-paramedics handled a total of 4,085 medical calls and 1,699 fire-related incidents.



Coyotes are on the Move This Time of Year: Watch Pets

It's mating season for coyotes, making the animals more active and likely to be seen during daylight hours.

Animal Control Officer Chuck McCleary advises residents to take extra precautions when letting their pets outside.

First, scan your yard to make

sure no coyotes are lurking before letting your dog out. Don't leave your dog unattended, and if you have cats, don't let them outside — especially overnight.

There are also ways to animal-proof your property so coyotes and other wildlife don't hang around.



For more, see the Animal Control page at Strongsville.org or the Ohio Division of Wildlife website.

Save the Dates

Here are TENTATIVE dates for some of this year's major events. Please bear in mind each is subject to be changed or cancelled due to the ongoing coronavirus situation.

- Strongsville City Club Rib Burn Off — **June 17-19**
- Fourth of July Fireworks — **July 4**
- Strongsville Homecoming — **July 14-17**
- Homecoming fireworks — **July 17**
- Duck Race and Kids Fest — **Aug. 21**
- Breakfast on the Bridge — **Sept. 19**

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

Police to Host Safety Village for Kindergartners

Last summer, the pandemic forced the city to cancel the popular Safety Town program, designed for kids about to enter kindergarten.

But kids who have completed kindergarten and will be entering first grade next fall can attend Safety Village, a one-day event that will cover many of the lessons taught in the traditional Safety Town, including stranger danger, calling 911, and bus, bike and fire safety.

Three sessions will be held on June 19. You can register online at Strongsville.org (click the Police tab) starting March 15.

The traditional Safety Town for kids about to enter kindergarten will also take place this summer. Because of social distancing guidelines, the classes will be smaller and more sessions will be offered.



Plastic Food Tubs Can Be Recycled

Residents can now start recycling plastic tubs. Facilities here -- including Republic Waste's -- are accepting containers for butter, sour cream and yogurt.

You can start putting those items in your curbside recycling.

Have a Private Pool or Gym Party at the Rec Center

Want to impress your guests at your next party? Have the pool or gym all to yourself at the Ehrnfelt Rec Center.

The Rec is now offering various packages for private parties -- like the Swim & Gym, which gives you two hours in the pool and gym for your guests to climb on the pirate ship and then shoot baskets.

You can also pick one of the two venues for your event, and you can even choose which areas you want to use -- maybe the pirate ship, slide and activity pool.

Want to get better at basketball or volleyball? You can also rent out the gym for some private practice time rather than a party.

For details on pricing, availability and booking for private rentals and parties, visit Strongsville.org (Parks and Rec tab) or give the Rec Center a call at (440) 580-3270.

Businesses on the Move

Hot Chicken Takeover is planning to open this spring at the Royalton Collection on Royalton Road. The restaurant specializes in Nashville hot chicken with sides of mac and cheese, slaw and baked beans, and banana pudding for dessert.

Pho & Beyond is remodeling the former Goldie's location on Pearl Road at Westwood for an Vietnamese restaurant.

Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers is taking over the former Burger King building on Pearl Road. The national chain offers burgers, chicken sandwiches, hot dogs and patty melts, plus sides like shoestring fries, onion rings and cheese curds. It also has its own frozen custard, served alone or with mix-ins.