

# City of Strongsville News and Updates



# Breakfast on the Bridge, Day at the Chalet Both Sept. 17

he annual Breakfast on the Bridge and A Day at the Chalet will both take place Sept. 17 in the Cleveland Metroparks.

The Strongsville City Club will serve eggs, bacon, ham, sausage, hash browns and other sides on the Ehrnfelt Covered Bridge on Whitney Road from 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Arts in Strongsville will host its popular art and music festival that day from noon to 4 p.m. at the Metroparks Chalet. Admission is free.

For either event, take a free shuttle from the RTA lot on Pearl near the turnpike.

### **Ground Broken for Town Center Enhancement**

ayor Tom Perciak joined other officials in breaking ground for the Town Center Enhancement and Walkability project Aug. 16.

"This is a historic day in the city of Strongsville, " Perciak said.

Perciak was joined by other Strongsville officials, State Rep. Tom Patton and Cuyahoga County Councilman Mike Gallagher for the groundbreaking.

Grants from Cuyahoga county, the state of Ohio and NOPEC are paying a signifi-



cant part of the cost.

Improvements will include an interactive fountain, a community pavilion with fireplace, a playground for kids of all ability levels, and new tennis, pickleball, sand volleyball and half-court basketball courts. There will also be a

food truck area with a pavilion and a large open green space for community events and nature play.

New walkways will better connect the amenities and promote walkability in Town Center. New wayfinding signs will also be added.

# Fender Retires; O'Deens is New Police Chief

Thomas O'Deens, a police officer here for nearly three decades, has taken over the helm of the Strongsville Police Department.

Mayor Tom Perciak has appointed O'Deens the new chief. City Council confirmed the appointment.

O'Deens, who has previously served as a patrol officer, detective, sergeant and lieutenant, said he is humbled by the appointment and looks forward to "keeping our department the best around."

Outgoing Chief Mark Fender, who has been with the department since 1988 and has served as chief for six years, focused on training and professionalism and said he is "grateful for the opportunity to have led this department."



Fender, right, honors O'Deens for 25 years of service in this 2020 photo.

#### Save the Dates

- Kids Garage Sale (Recreation Center) —
  October 7
- Preschool Trick or Treat in the Village (Historical Village) — October 21
- Trick or Treat (citywide) October 31, 6-8
  p.m.
- Puzzle and Book Sale (Senior Center) —
  November 9-10
- Winter Wonderland Lighting Celebration
  (Commons) November 19
- Fun and Photos with Santa (Rec Center) —
  December 2

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

## **Council News: New Projects Keep City Strong**

e have had a very busy and exciting summer in Strongsville!

We continue to improve roads in the city, with the repaying of Prospect and Howe and now Whitney road.



The City Council is very excited about the recent groundbreaking for our new Town Center, which will include the long-waited splash pad, along with tennis, pickleball and sand volleyball courts. It will also include spaces for food trucks, a new pavilion and common area for community events.

We continue to work to make Strongsville the best city in Northeast Ohio to live, work and play in. We welcome your thoughts on how we can continue to keep Strongsville Strong!

- Ward 4 Councilman Gordon Short



# Business Expo Set for Oct. 18 at Rec Center

he annual Strongsville Community Business Expo will return Oct. 18 at the Ehrnfelt Rec Center.

The popular event gives local businesses a chance to showcase their products with displays, samples and demonstrations.

It's free and open to everyone.

# 'Daily Safety Call' Checks Up on Seniors who Live Alone

Senior citizens who live on their own are the focus of Strongsville's Daily Safety Call program.

The program is designed to check in with seniors daily to make sure they're doing all right – and send help if there's a problem.

Those who sign up for the program will receive an automated call every morning. If they answer the phone, the system will note they are fine.

If there's no answer, though, the system will call again in a few minutes – maybe the resident didn't hear the phone. If there's still no answer, the system will call or text the resident's emergency contact, who can then either check on the senior personally or ask the police department to do so.

Safety forces would visit the home.

Brochures and sign-up forms are available at the Strongs-ville Senior Center.

#### **Businesses on the Move**

**Tan with Kare Too** hosted a ribbon-cutting event July 26 at its new location, 19820 W. 130th Street. The all-natural spray tan service operates inside Studio 3, which celebrated its third anniversary in Strongsville in July.

**Thai Dynamite**, which offers Bangkok street food, has opened at 10917 Prospect Road (at Albion).

**Giovanni's Pizza and Chicken** has reopened at 19772 West 130th Street. It offers carryout and delivery of pizza, subs, wings, salads, calzones and sides.

The former Village Motel on Pearl Road is expected to be razed and replaced with Strongsville's third **Dunkin'**.