



18829 ROYALTON ROAD
STRONGSVILLE, OH 44136



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DECEMBER LUNCHEON WILL FEATURE ELITE MUSIC GROUPS

Following a well established tradition, the program for our December luncheon will highlight two outstanding musical groups from Strongsville High School. The luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 18 at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center.

The program will feature Cantorum, a highly select group of 40 voices chosen from the Choral Department of 350 voices. The group typically performs classical and serious musical literature. Their director is Mrs. Vickie Eicher. For the luncheon, the group will be performing a combination of holiday favorites with traditional choral selections.

Also performing at the luncheon will be the Chamber Strings under the direction of Mr. Andrew Hire. This group is also highly selective and consists of the most advanced string students from the school's top orchestra. The group meets after school and is a supplement to the main orchestra.

The Chamber's Christmas Luncheon is a very popular event and members are encouraged to reserve early. Please call the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 to reserve your seat at this extraordinary luncheon. The luncheon is just \$12 per person, payable at the door. Deadline for reservations is December 14.

FUTURE LUNCHEON DATES

Tuesday, January 15	David Gilbert, Greater Cleveland Sports Commission
Tuesday, February 19	TBA
Tuesday, March 18	Mayor Perciak's State of the City Address
Tuesday, April 15	Distinguished Alumni Luncheon
Tuesday, May 20	Scholarship Luncheon



STRONGSVILLE
Chamber of Commerce
TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

November, 2007

Newsletter

Holiday Scholarship Dance is December 7

The annual Holiday Scholarship Dance sponsored by the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce will mark the unofficial kickoff to the holiday season in our community.



The festive annual event, which has been a tradition in Strongsville since 1964, is scheduled for Friday, December 7, 8:00 p.m. – Midnight, at Michaud's Town and Country Banquet and Conference Center, 16808 Pearl Road.

Over the years this event has provided funds which enable the Chamber to award thousands of dollars in scholarships to Strongsville High graduates and to benefit other educational activities in the city. This past May, the Chamber awarded thirteen scholarships to Strongsville graduates. In addition, the Chamber has been making an annual donation to the Sts. Joseph and John Interparochial School Media Center with proceeds from the dance.

Chamber Trustee Gregg Finkler, who serves as co-

chairman of the event with Trustee Mike Kalinich, said that last year more than 1000 residents and business persons attended the dance.

By popular demand the Chamber has brought back The Shout Band to provide musical entertainment. The group has been a consistent favorite for this event for several years.



Guests are invited to bring their favorite hors d'oeuvres and enjoy an evening of dancing and socializing. Several cash bars will be open throughout the evening. Ticket holders are automatically entered



into a drawing for a fully decorated Christmas tree which will delivered to and assembled at the winner's home or business.

To purchase tickets (\$60 per couple) or to make a contribution to the Chamber's Scholarship Fund, contact the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 or e-mail at info@strongsvillechamber.com. Those who purchase a table (five tickets) will receive a complimentary table sign that identifies your company or group.



CHAMBER WILL HOLD ANNUAL ELECTION

The Strongsville Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual election for Board of Trustees and officers at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27.

Seven Trustees are to be elected for three year terms. Voting will open at the Chamber luncheon on November 20 and continue through 12:00 noon on November 27. Those not present at the luncheon can call or stop in to the Chamber office to cast their vote. Following the election of Trustees, the board will elect officers for the year 2008.

Following is a biographical summary for each of the candidates:

MARC BITTINGER: Marc has served on the board of the Strongsville Education Foundation, serving as chair of the Golf and Trivia committees for the foundation. He and his family have lived in Strongsville for more than 15 years and all three children have attended the Strongsville City Schools. The oldest, Samantha, is a freshman at the University of Akron. Marc is a Registered Architect and a principal partner of CBLH Design, specializing in health care, library, and university projects.

KEN DOONER: Ken has been a resident of Strongsville since 1980. He and his wife, Anna, have three children – Katie (24), Kelly (22), and Kyle (20). He is the past president for two years of the Middleburg Hts. Chamber of Commerce where his business was located at the time. He is currently the president of KMD Sales, Inc. which fulfills the printing needs of many companies in northeast Ohio.

WALTER EHRRNFELT III: Walter Ehrnfelt III is a lifelong resident of Strongsville, graduating from Strongsville High School in 1970 and Wittenberg University in 1974. His wife, Annette, is a teacher in the Strongsville Schools. Walter and Annette are the parents of three children, all of whom are Strongsville High graduates. Walter is a shareholder in the law firm of Waldheger, Coyne.

DAVID GUSMAN: Dave Gusman has been active in the community since he moved here 20 years ago with his wife Candy and their two daughters. He has managed Homecoming Tents since 1998, including a five year stint as co-manager of the Car Tent. In addition to serving on the Strongsville Board of Education, Dave has also been a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Strongsville Education Foundation, and has been elected to the board of two homeowners associations. Dave is a Certified Project Management Professional and is currently Senior Project Manager for the Bristol West Insurance Group.

GEORGE JARDINE: George is a lifetime resident and owner/operator of Jardine Funeral Home, a family-owned business that has been a member of the Chamber since 1953. George is a long time Chamber member, Trustee, and former President. His father, Millar Jardine, was also a Trustee and past President of the Chamber. Also a member of the Strongsville City Club, George plays an active role in many Strongsville events, including the Rib Burn Off, Homecoming, and the Breakfast on the Bridge. George and his wife Sandi are the parents of two grown children, Jason and Joni, and enjoy the company of their six grandchildren.

ROBERT KALFAS: Bob has lived in Strongsville for more than 25 years with his wife, Andrea, and their three daughters. He is the owner of R.A. Kalfas Construction and a current Trustee of the Chamber. His company works primarily in Strongsville and surrounding area doing new construction and remodeling projects. He has been a Tent Manager at Homecoming for many years and volunteers at many Strongsville events and activities. He and his company were instrumental in helping to build Pat Catan Stadium in 2002.

DOUGLAS KAWIECKI: Doug has been a resident of Strongsville for 18 years. He served as Chamber president in 2003, 2004, and 2005 and has been a Trustee for more than 10 years. Doug is currently the chairman of the Homecoming Sponsorship Committee, as well as serving on the Holiday Dance Committee. He is married to Connie and they have three children – Alanna (19), Colton (15), and Madison (13). Doug is the owner of ACM Signs & Graphics, which recently completed the purchase of their newly expanded headquarters, located in the West Park neighborhood of Cleveland. Doug has been longstanding member of the Capital Improvement Committee and is a Trustee for the Education Community Foundation of the Berea City Schools.

ROBERT McGRATH: Bob is the owner of Olympia Candies on Pearl Road. He has cultivated strong ties with local companies, schools, churches, and sports teams by collaborating on fund raising projects, supplying corporate gifts, coaching youth teams, and volunteerism through the Chamber of Commerce. As a contribution to the community, Bob and his staff have provided free horse-drawn wagon rides during holiday times for the children. He has been an active member of the Chamber board for 11 years, chairing the Homecoming Food Committee, and serves on the Holiday Dance Committee. Bob and his family live in Strongsville and his children have attended Strongsville City Schools. He is a member of the Greater Cleveland Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, the Strongsville City Club, and the Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland.

JEFF SMUTEK: Jeff has lived and worked in Strongsville since 1990 and has been Homecoming Tent Manager since 1998. He is employed with RE/MAX Realty at 14092 Pearl Road.

CHILI OPEN GOLF CLASSIC

Chamber members Heather Dodig of National City Bank and Larry Frawley of RE/MAX Realty, are co-chairing the Corporate Sponsorship Committee for the 17th annual Chili Open Golf Classic.

Scheduled for February 23, 2008 at the County Fairgrounds, the event offers an outstanding opportunity for area businesses to promote themselves, while providing vital support to area charities that give care and joy to thousands of children and adults. The Classic typically draws more than 1000 golfers to compete in the often blustery winter weather.

For more information about the corporate sponsorship opportunities, call Heather at 440.876.2161, or Larry at 866.248.1538.

CHAMBER GOLF OUTING A HUGE SUCCESS!

The annual Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing was held on Monday, October 1 at Columbia Hills Country Club and was one of the most successful in recent years.

With nearly 90 golfers participating this year, the event included brunch, 18 holes of golf, locker room facilities, and hors d'oeuvres during a brief prize ceremony at the end of the day.

Golf Chairman, Dr. Neil Sika, thanked Pete Baur Pontiac for sponsoring a car on the Hole in One contest for the third consecutive year. (Readers may recall that Chamber member Dave Czerniak won the car with a Hole in One on hole number 15 in the 2006 outing!).

Dr. Sika also thanked all of the hole sponsors for their support in making the event a success.



The Chamber's Golf Committee will be meeting soon to make plans for the 2008 outing. Watch for more information.

2008 DUES TO REMAIN THE SAME

The Trustees of the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce have voted unanimously to retain the same dues structure for next year's members. This will be the fourth consecutive year that the dues have not been increased.

For 2008, the dues will be as follows:

1 -50 Employees	\$100
51-100 Employees	\$150
101+ Employees	\$200
Civic Members	\$ 75
Civic Seniors (60+)	\$ 50
Civic/Non-Profit Organizations	\$ 75

Membership invoices will be mailed to all members in January. Any current member wishing to pay the dues before the end of this year should contact the office at 440.238.3366.

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP GOES OVER THE 500 MARK

For the first time in the history of the Strongsville Chamber, our membership rolls have exceeded the 500 level, with 520 members as of November 1, 2007.

It's important for every organization to try to grow its membership, but it's especially critical for Chambers of Commerce to work on membership all the time.

New members represent new ideas, extensive volunteer investment, and added financial strength for Chamber programs.

Our Chamber will continue in 2008 to "take care of business" in ways that promote economic development, advocacy for our members, and an ever-increasing list of member benefits.

The Strongsville Chamber – it's the place to be!