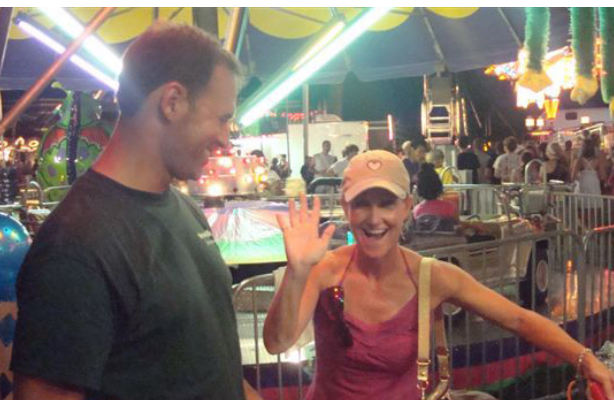


Homecoming July 18-21



The Women in Business Committee will be Hosting . . .

Diane Baker of Kraft Fluid Systems

Diane is a "Strongsville Success Story." A hometown girl and graduate of Strongsville High School, she is now CEO of KFS. Located on Foltz Parkway, KFS has been a part of the Strongsville business community since 1972. Diane will also share with us how KFS became an ESOP company (Employee Stock Ownership Plan). She'll tell us the story of how Bob and Marie Kraft announced their retirement and offered the employees an opportunity to buy the company.

Diane will share the journey... We hope you can join us.

Buffalo Wild Wings
8465 Pearl Road

Thursday, Aug. 23rd
5:30 - 7:30pm

~ \$20.00 fee ~

We encourage you to pay by credit card online when registering.
We will also accept cash or check at the door.

STRONGSVILLE

Chamber of Commerce

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

JULY 2012

NEWS

Seventy Years of Outstanding Volunteers

Annual Strongsville Homecoming Celebration Tradition with Rides, Food and Fun

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Strongsville Homecoming, made possible for so many years by the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers. Sponsored by the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce, the annual four-day festival on the Strongsville Commons celebrates community and the spirit of volunteerism.

"We have hundreds of people volunteer every year, just because they want to do it," said Tom Burichin, general chairman of the Homecoming. "I don't think that sort of commitment is found very often."

Approximately 30 tent managers, most of who are Chamber members, give about 80 hours of their time to the planning and execution of Homecoming activities. All tent managers from the 2011 Homecoming are back for the 2012 festivities and will be joined by a few newcomers, Burichin said.

Tent managers recruit scores of friends, co-workers and family members to help them serve food, operate carnival-style games and complete a host of other tasks necessary to stage the Chamber's largest annual fundraiser. About 90 percent of the money raised from Homecomings benefits Strongsville organizations and community events, such as the Strongsville Historical Society and the city's July 4th fireworks display.

This year's Homecoming will feature two new kiddie rides as well as the return of the Strongsville Police Department's popular D.A.R.E. dunk tank. Now that construction on the police station is complete, Westwood Drive east of Pearl Road will again be used for Homecoming activities.

The homecoming opens at 3 p.m. Wednesday July 18. The annual parade, featuring more than 100 entrants, kicks



off at 6:30 p.m. July 18 at the intersection of Progress Drive and Pearl Road. The parade will continue south on Pearl Road to the Commons.

Homecoming hours are 3 p.m. to midnight July 18-20 and noon to midnight on July 21. Winner of the prize dubbed 'Northeast Ohio's Largest 50/50 Raffle' will be announced near the end of the day on July 21. Tickets will be sold throughout the Homecoming, and winner need not be present at the drawing.

"Saturday (July 21) afternoon is a great time for people with little kids," Burichin said. "It's not as crowded, and there are a lot of freebies."

Musical entertainment will take the stage each night. Disco Inferno will play on opening night. The Avenue is set for Thursday July 19. Shout is scheduled for Friday July 20, and Chance will play on Saturday July 21. Daytime entertainment will be onstage Saturday afternoon only.

Food and beverage favorites like Elephant Ears, fresh-squeezed lemonade and cheesesteak sandwiches, along with a wide variety of eats to satisfy all tastes, will be sold throughout the event.

Parking is free. Admission to rides, provided and operated by a private company, can be purchased though an all-day pass or tickets.



A Note from Mayor Perciak

Dear Chamber Trustees:

The Strongsville Chamber of Commerce will again be serving as the host sponsor of “Families First” Homecoming activities. I commend the Chamber and their continued commitment to the community of Strongsville and especially thank the Homecoming committee and the Board of Trustees for their dedication and hard work. I especially appreciate the effort put forth by the General Chairman, Tom Burichin, and Co-Chairman, Mike Kalinich. Many thanks to all the generous sponsors and many volunteers who support this family event.

Best wishes,
Mayor Thomas P. Perciak



Strongsville Chamber Awards 19 Scholarships

The Strongsville Chamber of Commerce will donate \$36,000 this year to 19 deserving students from Strongsville High School. The Chamber seeks to reward and recognize students whose performance reflects the mission and values of its organization, particularly those who plan to pursue a career in a business-related field and those who have established a record of service to the community.

Funding for the annual scholarship program is raised at the Chamber’s Holiday Dance, held the first Friday of each December. This year’s event is scheduled for Friday Dec. 7 at Michaud’s Towne n’ Country.



2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Aaron Caputo	Ohio Weslyn	Business
Alena Casella	University of Akron	Neuroscience
Gina Cooney	Tri-C/Baldwin Wallace	Education
Kristen Cornelius	Ohio State University	Molecular Genetics
Kristen Giesler	Capital University	Marketing
Taarika Hegde	Ohio State University	Engineering
Brian Herrmann	Notre Dame	Engineering
Steven Liska	Cuyahoga Com. College	Auto Mechanics
Justine Mroczka	Cleveland State	Marketing, Sports Management
Jonathan Nelson	Wheaton College	Economics
Erin Nestor	University of Dayton	Business
Taylor Powers	Ohio State University	Business
Edward Reehorst	Ohio State University	Computer Engineering
Christian Silva	University of Rochester	Neuroscience
Nathaniel Smith	University of Toledo	Mechanical Engineering
Shriya Srinivasan	Undecided	Biomedical Engineering
Daniel Stewart	Miami University	Business
Erica Toth	Ohio State University	Marketing
Colin Wilson	Duke University	Business

Business Expo - 2012

In partnership with the Economic Development Committee and the Strongsville Rotary Club, the Chamber will sponsor the Business Expo on Wednesday, November 14 at the Ehrnfelt Recreation and Senior Center. Last year more than 90 local businesses took advantage of the opportunity to meet potential new customers and market their goods and services.

More information will be coming, but save the date on your calendar now!

Annual Golf Outting

The Chamber will host its 44th annual Golf Outing on Monday September 17, 2012 at Columbia Hills Country Club. The event is open to all Chamber members and their guests.

Once again, Pete Baur Buick GMC dealership will sponsor a hole-in-one contest that will sharpen the competition. Thank you, Pete!

A separate registration form with more information about registration and participation will be mailed to Chamber members in late July. Visit www.strongsvillechamber.com/events or call (440) 238-3366 for more information.

Partnership with Columbia Hills Country Club



For the fourth consecutive year, Chamber members are permitted to use the facilities at Columbia Hills Country Club as part of their Chamber membership. The club is located at 16200 E. River Road, Columbia Station.

On a limited basis, Chamber members can use the golf, pool and dining room facilities on a “pay-as-you-go” plan. Members can use the dining room up to five times per year. Use of the pool and golf course is permitted twice each year.

For more information, call the Chamber office at (440) 238-3366 or Jim Wise at Columbia Hills at (440) 236-5051.

Welcome New Members

The following businesses and organizations have joined the Strongsville Chamber since our last newsletter:

A1 Wireless, Inc.	Merry Maids
Advantage Tax & Accounting	MetLife-Partners Financial Group
Aflac	Ohio Solas
Alessio Eye MD	Old Navy
Alexis Exhibits	Paul Monahan Coaching & Consulting
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield	Petrulis, Robert
Antonius Bros. Carpet Cleaning	Pheasant Run Association
Arthur’s Shoe Tree	Proximity Marketing
Beauty Enhancement Center of Ohio	RediGo Foodmart
Bernauer, Carol	Republic Rings
Buckeye Ins. Agency	Rick Yusi’s Automotive LLC
Buckingham, Doolittle , Burroughs,	Ridgewood Preschool
Anthony Vacanti	Royalton Music Center
Catanzarite, Nick	Salem Design & Mfg. LLC
Century Federal Credit Union	Seal Realty Co
Cloonan Design Services	Sems & Associates Limited
Dirt Dawg Excavating, LLC	Shaheen Moving
Fantastic Sam’s Hair Salon	Stelfast, Inc.
Funflicks of Ohio Outdoor Movies	Strongsville Football League
Gall, Steve	Strongsville License Bureau
Golf Inside & Out	Sweet Kiddles
Hasek Automotive Service	Swim Strongsville
HPC Manufacturing	WordJack
Larry A. Weiser, Co, LPA	World Champion Taekwondo
Liberty Mutual Group	Zaib, Inc.
Luna Bakery Café LLC	Zimmerman, Barry
Marathon Coffee Co.	
Merrill Lynch	

Business After Hours - Mark Your Calendar Now!



Plan now to join us for terrific networking and socializing with the Strongsville Chamber! Business After-Hours is free and open to all Chamber members. Come as you are to this relaxed, friendly gathering of individuals from our very diverse business community.

The next Business After-Hours is as follows:

Location: FIAT of Strongsville, 11800 Pearl Road
Date: Tuesday August 15
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Please call the Chamber office at (440) 238-3366 or email to info@strongsvillechamber.com by Aug. 10 to confirm your plans to attend. Many thanks to FIAT of Strongsville for hosting this enjoyable event!

Come As You Are!

All events sponsored by the Chamber are “come as you are.” Some of our members seem reluctant to attend our luncheons, after hours programs, and other events because they are wearing their “work clothes” and may feel out of place when others are more formally dressed.

Please know that everything we do is designed to be helpful to all of our members, and we want to encourage everyone to feel welcome and be an active part of this vibrant and growing organization.

Come As You Are!

Fall Luncheon Schedule

In keeping with tradition, the Chamber luncheons are not being held during the summer months.

For your planning, we have set the dates for the luncheons for the remainder of this calendar year as follows:

September 26, October 16, November 13, December 18

All luncheons begin with networking at 11:30 a.m., lunch at 12:00 noon, and program conclusion at about 1:15 p.m. We are always looking for suggestions for speakers or programs that would be interesting for our members. Call the office at 440.238.3366 if you have an idea for a luncheon program.