



2016 Homecoming • July 13-16

## Business Expo Continues to Grow

The sixth annual Strongsville Business Expo, co-sponsored by the City of Strongsville, the Rotary Club and the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce, was held at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center on Thursday, October 29th. The Expo is open to the public from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. More than 100 businesses and organizations set up booths at the event. Special guest Mike Snyder, morning host of WTAM 1100 Radio will be the

Master of Ceremonies for the event. Thank you to the Strongsville DECA class and their teacher, Miss Frenchik, for helping the vendors set up and take down for the event.



## Mark Your Calendar for the Upcoming Events

- Nov 5th** Women in Business Meeting, Finkler & Co., CPA's, 7:30 am at Altenheim Meeting Room
- Nov. 17th** State of the Schools, Superintendent, Cameron Ryba, 11:30 am, at The Strongsville Holiday Inn
- Dec. 4th** Holiday Scholarship Dance, 7:00 pm at Michaud's
- Dec. 15th** Holiday Luncheon, SHS Music Group to perform, 11:30 am at Altenheim Meeting Room
- Jan. 19th** Luncheon, State Auditor Yost, 11:30 am at The Strongsville Holiday Inn

# STRONGSVILLE

## Chamber of Commerce

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

NOVEMBER 2015

# NEWS

## Chamber Holiday Scholarship Dance

The Strongsville Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual **Holiday Scholarship Dance** on Friday, December 4th at Michaud's Towne and Country, 16808 Pearl Road. Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and conclude about 12:00 midnight. This event has become the unofficial kickoff to the holiday season in Strongsville.



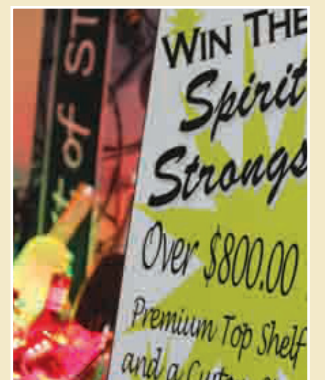
We are pleased to announce that SHOUT is back performing at the Scholarship Dance this year! Make sure to wear your dancing shoes and be ready to dance the night away to the music of SHOUT!

Several local restaurants will once again will provide a "Taste of the 'Ville" with food available on a cash basis from Don's Pomeroy House, B-Spot, Shinto and Michaud's. Shinto will also be hosting the popular Martini Bar. Get your holiday shopping done early at our Silent Auction,

and be sure to purchase your raffle tickets for a chance to win the "Spirits of Strongsville" raffle.

The Chamber has been sponsoring this dance for 48 years with the proceeds going to fund scholarships for high school graduates of Strongsville, a donation is made to Polaris Career Center, and Sts. Joseph and John School. This past spring the Chamber funded scholarships for 20 students with proceeds from the dance. All high school seniors residing in Strongsville may apply online for a Chamber of Commerce Scholarship.

Reserve your table early! \$350 (5 couples) or individual tickets (\$70 per couple). Call the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 or stop in at the Chamber office, 18829 Royalton Road. Tickets may also be purchased on the Chamber website [www.strongsvillechamber.com](http://www.strongsvillechamber.com).



## Chamber Welcomes New Members

The following businesses and individuals have joined the Chamber since the publication of our last newsletter. We remain grateful for their interest and support:

Blazmo Digital Studios	JML Pettie Perfect Servicing, Inc	Quantx Energy LLC
David W Grillo, LLC	Levin Mattress	Sports Bratz Photography
Friends of Frankie Goldberg for Judge	Munchkin's Klostet Inc.	Tommy's Chicken & Pizza
Friends of Nan Baker	Pring Chiropractic	
Goodwill Industries	Pro Sports Performance	
Goodyear Store #0558	Pro-Fire Safety, LLC	

Our Chamber encourages all of our members to patronize other members whenever possible. To obtain contact information for any of the above, please contact the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 or [info@strongsvillechamber.com](mailto:info@strongsvillechamber.com).



# Election of Trustees / Annual Meeting

The Chamber will hold its annual election of Trustees during the month of November. Beginning November 2nd ballots will be available at the Chamber office and also at the November 17th luncheon. The following slate of candidates has been approved to appear on the ballot. Eight positions are to be filled for a three year term commencing January 1, 2016:

## Jim Carbone

Jim Carbone has lived in Strongsville since 1978. Since his early years Jim has always been active in his school and his community. Jim is finishing up his first term as a city council representative for Ward Three and has initiated many community projects. In recognizing the importance of businesses to a city, Jim has actively established relations and has been proactive in trying to recruit new businesses to our community. Jim has been a police officer for 21 years, currently assigned to "Community Policing Unit". Jim is a member of The Chamber of Commerce, Optimist Club, Rotary, Historical Society and is a trustee of his Homeowners Association. For the past four years, Jim has raised thirty thousand dollars for the Prospect Road Improvement Project, placed American flags along Prospect Road, land scaped the corners of Westwood and Prospect to aesthetically improve the area. Jim's most cherished moments are spending time with his wife Alison and their three children Michael, Lucia and Dominic.

## Mike Catanzarite

Mr. Catanzarite is CEO of Darice/Pat Catan's Craft Centers. The company has been in business for 61 years. Mike has volunteered his time for many years at the Annual Homecoming and he also takes an active part in the community by serving on various committees. Mike and his wife Lori and four boys along with 8 grandchildren have resided in Strongsville for 32 years. Mike spearheaded the drive to build a new high school football stadium in record time of 79 days.

## Greg Drlik

Greg Drlik is a Police Officer for the City of Strongsville and has been employed there for the past 23 years. Greg is a graduate of Padua Franciscan High School and has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Marketing degree from Bowling Green State University. Greg and his wife Amy (a Strongsville native; nee Klotzsche) have lived in Strongsville for the last 15 years and have 2 beautiful daughters, Madison 14 and Marti 12. Greg would be much honored to be selected as a Strongsville Chamber of Commerce Trustee.



## Gordon Glissman

Gordy and his wife Beverly moved to Strongsville in 1986. They have two children, Tom and Allison. He is the owner of Countryside Inc., and has worked throughout the city for over 25 years. Two very visible projects include the Chamber sign (Pearl and 82), and Pat Catan Stadium. Gordy is a past Chamber president and is a member of the Homecoming committee.

## Brian Krusz

Brian grew up in Elyria where he attended St. Jude's grade school and Elyria Catholic High School. Upon graduation he enlisted in the Marine Corps. He served his country for eight years with a focus in the Aviation Field and as a Recruiter for Medina/Wayne/Holmes counties. Brian was awarded several service/achievement medals for his exceptional duty while enlisted and achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant. Brian has a degree from Kent State University in Business Management with a personal focus in Marketing. His purchase of Sgt. Clean's Car Wash brought him to Strongsville almost three years ago. He also took over the EZ Clean Car Wash on Pearl Road North, remodeled and changed the name to Sgt. Clean's Car Wash. Brian has recently moved to Strongsville with wife Melissa and 3 year old son named Ethan. Brian enjoys spending time with family, playing golf, hockey and tennis. Brian is seeking his first term as a Trustee.

## Joe Lucchese

Joe Lucchese has been a resident of Strongsville for more than 25 years. Joe and his wife Marcy have two sons, Joe and Andy. Both sons were graduates from Strongsville High School. Joe has been a Trustee for the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce for 9 years and currently sits on the Homecoming, Scholarship Dance and Strategic Planning Committees.

## Thomas W. Rakowsky

Tom has been a resident of Strongsville for over 30 years. He has been a Telecommunications Manager at the Ohio Lottery Commission since 1993; prior to that he spent 13 years with the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. He is also a graduate of Denison University. Rakowsky currently serves as a Trustee of the Chamber of Commerce, and is a Past President and Past Vice President as well. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of Echo Lake Community

Association and is currently President. Mr. Rakowsky is a former City of Strongsville Councilman and served on the Board of Trustees of the Southwest General Health Center. He and his wife, Daria have been working at Homecoming since 1985 and Tent Managers since 1996 and continues to participate in other community and civic organizations.

## Dr. Neil Sika

Dr. Sika is an optometrist and has offices at 14365 Pearl Road. He is also a staff optometrist at Metro General Hospital. He has been a member of the Chamber for more than 25 years and has been a Chamber Trustee for many years. Dr. Sika is a past president of the Chamber. He has been a manager of a tent at the Annual Homecoming for several years. He is past president of the Cleveland T.D. Club Charities and is a member of the Strongsville Lions Club. Dr. Sika is currently the Golf Committee Chairman and has served on and chaired several committees within the Chamber. He and his wife, Anita, reside in Strongsville and have 3 children.

## Dan Stroemple

Dan is a lifetime resident of Strongsville. He graduated from Strongsville High School. His mother and dad both graduated from Strongsville High School. He is general manager of Don's Pomeroy House and has been for the last 25 years. Dan and his wife Susan and their three children currently reside in Strongsville. Dan is active as a volunteer at the Annual Strongsville Homecoming and is the chairman of the Business After Hours Committee.

## Jim Wood

Jim Wood moved to Strongsville in 1994. He is a graduate of metallurgical engineering and is currently the Executive Director of the Ductile Iron Society located at 15400 Pearl Road, Suite 238, Strongsville, OH. The Ductile Iron Society has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since 2010. The Ductile Iron Society is a professional trade organization that covers the world and promotes the interest of the ductile iron (a type of cast iron) industry through advertising, research, education, technological advancements and quality control. Jim has been in the foundry/casting industry for 37 years. He and his wife, Pam have 3 daughters and 3 grandchildren. Jim and Pam's daughters were raised through the Strongsville School system. Jim is a Tent Manager for the Strongsville Homecoming Festival and has been involved with the Homecoming for the past 5 years.

# Golf Outing is Successful

The Chamber's annual golf outing was held on September 11th at Shale Creek Golf Club. No one won the car this year, but the golfers still enjoyed a beautiful day at the 47th annual golf outing. Dr. Neil Sika, Golf Outing Committee Chairman would like to thank Pete Baur Buick GMC, sponsor of the Hole in One contests, Buffalo Wild Wings, Altenheim Senior Living and Shoreline for being the Cart Sponsors, all of the Hole Sponsors, those who donated door prizes and Shale Creek Golf Club for making it a successful day.

The winners of the course Games were: Closest to the Pin – Patti Jennings and Steve Combs, Longest Drive – Kelly Smith and Dave Hurd. The foursome that came in 1st Place included Tom Di Carro, Chuck Hollingsworth, Matt Finkler and Gregg Finkler.

**Thank you to everyone that participated in the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing.**

## Thank you hole sponsors:

ACM Signs & Graphic  
Altenheim/Shurmer  
Arts in Strongsville  
Back Stage Bar & Grill  
Boosters for Perciak  
Brooker Insurance  
Buffalo Wild Wings  
Centerline Carstar Collision Center  
Countryside Landscaping, Inc.  
Cuyahoga Community College



Domino's  
Edward Jones-Brian Kljun  
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Fay Industries  
Finkler & Co., CPA's  
First Federal Lakewood  
Giant Eagle  
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Old Carolina Barbeque Company  
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Pete Baur Pontiac  
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Shoreline Logistics, Inc.  
State Farm Insurance - Tom Burichin  
State Representative Mike Dovilla  
Stephan Financial Services, Inc.  
Strongsville Mini Storage  
Strongsville Rotary  
Strongsville VFW Post 3345  
Third Federal Savings & Loan  
Tommy's Pizza & Chicken  
Waldheger-Coyne Co., LPA



## Thank you for your Donation:

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Domino's  
Don's Pomeroy  
Hooley House/Islander  
Kraft Fluid Systems  
Old Carolina Barbecue Company  
Sgt. Clean's Car Wash  
Weymouth Golf Club



## THERE ARE MANY BENEFITS OF BEING A CHAMBER MEMBER

Benefits gained by being a chamber member are available in many ways. Remember to take advantage of excellent opportunities for your business to attract new customers and share information with our community and the world.

### Log in today to your chamber member portal to take advantage of these features!

- **Online Payments** - Pay your membership fees by credit card online. Go to the [www.strongsvillechamber.com](http://www.strongsvillechamber.com), Members Info, Online Bill Payment Option and complete the form. Register and pay for events online.
- **Business Directory Listing** - Your business information is available to consumers through the chamber's website.
- **Job Postings** - Add your own job openings to the Chamber's website.
- **Hot Deals** - Include store coupons and special offers on the Chamber's website.
- **Event Posting** - Add your business' events to the Chamber's Online Events Calendar.
- **E-Mail Blasts** - Members may purchase (2) email blasts per calendar year. The first email is \$250.00, the second \$100.00.
- **Monthly Luncheon Meetings** - Monthly luncheon meetings provide members the opportunity to network with each other. A networking table is available for members to display their company brochures.
- **Women in Business Meetings** - The Women in Business Committee sponsors four events per year. All are welcome to attend the events.
- **Business After Hours** - These events are great opportunities to network with others in the business community after the workday is over.
- **Strongsville Young Professionals** - The "Strongsville Young Professionals Committee hosts activities that are non-traditional Chamber events, in addition to becoming involved with current Chamber activities.

### Group Benefit Discount

As a chamber member with 2-50 employees, you can get a discount on any health plan from Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield - including industry-leading HSAs, HRAs and HIAs. \*While your competition is busy cutting corners, you get preventive care programs, prescription drug coverage and one-stop shopping for a complete benefits. \*Discount only applies to Chamber members who do not already have Anthem insurance.



With its affiliation through the Northern Ohio Association of Chambers of Commerce (NOACC), group benefits give our members access to discounts on insurance, worker's compensation plans and much more. Contact 216-447-9900, [director@noacc.org](mailto:director@noacc.org)