

## FIFTH THIRD BANK: A VALUED COMMUNITY PARTNER



### Fifth Third Bank

For the sixth consecutive year Fifth Third Bank has generously agreed to sponsor the Homecoming Parade and entertainment for the Families First Homecoming. This year's festivities begin with the parade on July 19. Homecoming runs through Saturday, July 22.

The bank's sponsorship makes it possible for the Chamber to bring top notch entertainment to the annual event which is held on Strongsville Commons. The bands that play are always considered a highlight of the four day Homecoming experience.

As another important contribution to the Homecoming, volunteers from Fifth Third will handle all of the finances for the Homecoming. The volunteers will be on the Commons every day of the event to account for all of the money.

Chamber Trustee Tom Burichin, the general chairman for Homecoming, said, "Fifth Third has become a key player in this event and this community. Homecoming is a huge part of the community's success, and Fifth Third makes that happen. We couldn't do it without them."

Other sponsorship opportunities are still available for the Families First Homecoming. An estimated crowd of more than 30,000 attends

the four day event every year. Sponsorships range from \$250 - \$5000. Any person or company wishing to add their name to the sponsor list, should contact the Chamber office at 440.238.3366

Volunteers are also needed to help with the games, food, and rides available at the Homecoming. Again, contact the Chamber office if you are interested in helping in any way.



## CHAMBER; LUNCHEON IS APRIL 25; ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY IS APRIL 26!

Have you been looking for something really nice to do for your secretary or administrative assistant to celebrate the day that has been set aside for that special person?

In celebration of Administrative Professionals Day on April 26, the Chamber will dedicate their monthly business luncheon to the administrative assistants who make your jobs so much easier! The monthly luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 25, beginning at 11:45 a.m., at the Strongsville Holiday Inn.

The featured speaker will be Gretchen Ludwick, the Health and Wellness Specialist at Southwest General Health Center. She will focus her remarks on dealing

with stress in the workplace and offer some much needed advice on maintaining balance in your life.

A small token of appreciation will be given to each administrative assistant who attends the luncheon and a drawing will be held for gift certificates to local spas and salons.

Reservations will be needed for the luncheon. Either e-mail ([info@strongsvillechamber.com](mailto:info@strongsvillechamber.com)) or call the Chamber office at 440.238.3366. Be sure to give us your name as well as the name of your administrative assistant guest. Luncheon cost is just \$12 per person, payable at the door.

## CHAMBER SUPPORTS ISSUE 38

The Chamber believes that passage of Issue 38 on Tuesday, May 2 is important for the continued growth of our community. A new, modern police station and municipal complex will add to the overall effectiveness of our community and make Strongsville an even better place to live and do business.

Strongsville already has a reputation for its excellent quality of life. Approval of Issue 38 will do much to build upon that reputation. The Chamber urges you to support issue 38 on May 2.



## HOMECOMING PARADE POLICY

Businesses or organizations wishing to be a part of this year's Homecoming parade on July 19, should be aware of the Chamber's new policy regarding participation.

There will be no participation fee for organizations in the following categories:

Members of the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce  
Homecoming Sponsors (any level)  
Strongsville Non-Profit Organizations

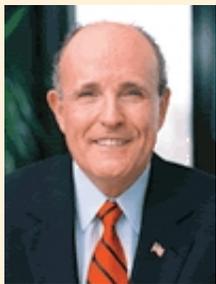
For businesses or groups that do not fall into one of these three categories, there will be a participation fee of \$250, payable with the application.

Please call the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 if you have any questions about this new policy.



Chamber President Dave Jager thanks the showcase speaker, Cathy Klemencik of REB Marketing.

## GIULIANI TO SPEAK AT OHIO CHAMBER MEETING



All members of the Strongsville Chamber are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting and Reception of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. The meeting will be held in Columbus on Tuesday, May 9.

This year's featured speaker is Rudy Giuliani, former mayor of New York City and

author of the recent bestseller "Principles of Leadership." His remarks will focus on what he learned as a leader in the days and weeks following the September 11 attacks. He will begin speaking at 4:00 p.m. A legislative reception will follow from 5:30 – 7:00.

Tickets for the event are \$125 each. Please contact the Chamber office (440.238.3366) for information about obtaining tickets. Deadline for registration is April 27.

# Quality of Life Survey .....

In December, 2005, the local Economic/Community Development Committee mailed a "Quality of Life" survey to 16,000 Strongsville homes. More than 5800 people responded for a very reliable return rate of 36%!

A few of the results are summarized:

- Top Four Reasons for Living in Strongsville
- Quality of Housing (20%)
- Safe Environment (19%)
- Schools (14%)
- Access to Family (12%)
- Road repairs and improvement of transportation thoroughfares were noted as most in need of attention.
- More than 60% of the respondents indicated they were willing or possibly willing to pay more for police and safety services.
- More than 90% of the respondents rate the quality of life as Good to Excellent here, with nearly as many indicating that they recommend Strongsville to others as a place to live.
- 84% would still choose to live here if they had the choice to make over again!



The committee conducting the survey was co-chaired by Ward 1 Councilman Michael Daymut and Dr. Richard Pinkerton, Professor Emeritus, California State University

## **NETWORKING/BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

All Chamber members are cordially invited to attend our next Business After Hours networking event:

The Goddard School  
13590 Falling Water Road (behind Border's Book Store)

Wednesday, May 17  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Refreshments will be available.

R.S.V.P. to the Chamber office at 440.238.3366  
by May 12.

Any member business interested in hosting a Business After Hours should contact the Chamber office to discuss dates and details.

## V.I.P. TICKETS AVAILABLE

Tickets are available at the Chamber office for the annual V.I.P. Party for Mayor Tom Perciak. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 25 at Michaud's Party Center, 16808 Pearl Road. Ticket price remains at \$50 per person.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

As a result of our very successful Holiday Dance, the Chamber will be awarding 10 scholarships to deserving high school seniors this year. The students will be introduced and the awards given at our May 16 luncheon.

Mark your calendars now to attend this important program. Meeting these students, and hearing about their plans for the future, is very encouraging.

Watch for the May newsletter with more information about the luncheon.



## CHAMBER WELCOMES 10 NEW MEMBERS

The Chamber is pleased to welcome the following as new members, approved at the March meeting of the Board of Trustees:

**American National Bank**  
**William Green**  
**eBlueprint**  
**Nikken Global Wellness**  
**Freedom Wireless**  
**Sydy Enterprises**  
**1st Rate Finance**  
**Beth Ann Schenz, Esq.**  
**RDM Home Improvement**  
**HomeMaster Realty**

**W e l c o m e !**

*Strongsville Chamber of Commerce members are invited to submit information regarding news about their businesses to the Chamber Newsletter. A short note and the name of the contact person can be submitted to the Chamber Office, 18829 Royalton Rd., or e-mail at [info@strongsvillechamber.com](mailto:info@strongsvillechamber.com). Deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication.*

**Strongsville Chamber of Commerce**  
**18829 Royalton Road**  
**Strongsville, Ohio 44136-5130**  
**(440) 238-3366 / Fax (440) 238-7010**  
**[www.strongsvillechamber.com](http://www.strongsvillechamber.com)**

## Board of Trustees

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**Bob McGrath, Vice President**  
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