



## Strongsville City Club promotes community

For 40 years, the Strongsville City Club has promoted civic interests and the overall welfare of the town. Best known for its annual Rib Burn Off and the Breakfast on the Covered Bridge, the City Club has been in the forefront of community projects since its founding in 1968.

“We’re proud of the support we’re able to provide to the city as it changes over the years,” says David Knowles, president of the organization.

Among the notable contributions of the City Club are the building of the Strongsville Clock Tower on the Commons, the Strongsville Cemetery fence and the ongoing sponsorship of the Strongsville Special Olympics. The club also contributes regularly to the annual Independence Day fireworks, the high school after-prom party, recreation teams in the city and the Thomas P. Perciak Family Residential Hospice of Southwest General Health Center, along with supporting the construction of Pat Catan Stadium.

“We try to fulfill as many requests as possible for contributions to beneficial community projects,” Knowles says.

Two annual fundraisers make the City Club’s work possible. The Breakfast on the Covered Bridge, which started 25 years ago, is an event that promotes bonding among the city’s residents,” says Bob Jirik, the club’s treasurer. “It started with some of the long-time residents and continued to grow as new families were welcomed into the city,” Jirik says.

The event is held on the third Sunday in September. Many Strongsville families begin their day by enjoying a hot breakfast surrounded by nature in the Metroparks, then journeying down the road to enjoy a Day at the Chalet, sponsored by the Arts in Strongsville.

Like the Breakfast on the Covered Bridge, the Rib Burn Off, held each June for the last 22 years, is a Strongsville tradition. It attracts more than 15,000 people for a three-day festival of food and live entertainment. “It all started with a couple of vendors coming to us with the idea,” Jirik recalls. “They kept coming back along with more vendors, and it continued to grow from there.”

By attending these events, Strongsville residents support the City Club’s efforts while enjoying a great time with family and friends.

For more information about the City Club, contact David Knowles, at 440-238-5769.

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