



March, 2024

# *The Village Crier*

A publication of the Strongsville Historical Society

[www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org)

## President's Message

Hello everyone, we're coming off a successful 2023 and heading into a 2024 that has started off with a mild winter, something many of us find appealing unless you are a winter sports person. We only had to use our new snow blower twice. It was a nice touch to be able to clear a clean path through the entire Village up to the entrance of every building for those who faithfully inspected our buildings throughout the winter.

It is very exciting to see things starting to happen with the construction of all the new amenities in the Town Center project! A nice benefit for the Historical Village will be the addition of two beautiful new signs at the Zverina Road entrance and at the entrance across from the library. This will give us prominent, eye-catching signage into our Village from three different directions.

We are pleased to report the Historical Village will be open for business a little earlier this year. People can come for tours every Wednesday starting on March 6. The Village will also be open for tours on Saturdays starting in May. If you are interested in scheduling a tour you may call Marty Shaw at 440-409-5925.

Access to the Historical Village will be challenged at times by all the construction that will be happening between March and September. We will do our best to provide updates as information becomes available to us. The nice thing is that we have access from multiple points in the Village so hopefully people will still find their way to us even when one or a couple of our access points are temporarily closed.

We're always looking to add to our volunteer ranks. Please give thought to whether you might know friends, family members, or neighbors who have an interest in history and might have time to get involved with our organization to help our cause.

*Scott Maloney*



FACILITY ID - DOUBLE-SIDED  
Non-Illuminated (external lighting by others)

# Lathrop House Rentals

It is definitely rental season at the Lathrop House. We had a slow start in January, however February through May has filled up quickly. If you are looking for a place to hold your next bridal shower, baby shower, birthday party or graduation party we are the place. Please share this info with friends and family. Our rates remain low at \$25 an hour for members and \$35 an hour for non-members. There is a \$100 deposit to reserve. To reserve, call Diann at 440-554-1886 or email me at [strongsvillehistoricalrentals@gmail.com](mailto:strongsvillehistoricalrentals@gmail.com).

As many of you know during a rental we have a house manager present to unlock for the rental as well as be there if there are needs during the rental. Our house managers assure that clean-up is completed and that renters remove all trash at the end of the rental. House managers also assure the room is set up as it was prior to the rental and lock up. This is a volunteer role that is very important to our rentals. If you are interested in helping out in this role please reach out to me and I can explain further about the role. This is a great way to give back to the Village. House managers can read or scroll their phones during the rental if you wish, again, it is just important to have someone there to unlock, answer questions, assure all goes well and lock up at the end. The commitment is as you are available and generally 1-4 hours. Thank you for considering helping us in this capacity. I look forward to hearing from you. Diann Jurcago, Volunteer Rental Coordinator

## Military and Veterans Exhibit

The Strongsville Historical Society's military and veterans exhibit was completely refurbished and moved to the first floor of the Ebenezer Pomeroy House during the summer and fall of 2023. The new exhibit opened to the public on November 11, 2023, in commemoration of Veterans Day. The exhibit has permanent displays of artifacts and histories of Strongsville veterans from the Civil War to the present. Additionally, some artifacts will be periodically placed in storage and replaced with new material to ensure our entire collection will be exhibited over time. New artifacts for 2024 will go on display beginning on Memorial Day, May 27, 2024.

The Society is seeking donations or loans of military artifacts and histories to improve and expand our current collection. We are especially looking for artifacts from the Vietnam War, Gulf War, and Global War on Terror periods. If you have items and/or stories you would be willing to share through a donation or loan please contact us at 440-572-0057 or fill out a Contact Us form on our website.

## Memorial Day

Please mark your calendar for May 27, Memorial Day, as the Village again will be open to honor this special day. All houses will be open from 11:30 until 2 pm. There will once again be a large tent to host crafts for children and the Goldstar tree will be in the Pomeroy House. The Lathrop House will have refreshments, and in the dining room will be the white table in honor of our fallen heroes. In reference to the gold stars, if you know of someone whose name should be added but family or a friend can't attend, please send their name to Grace Hardison at [gmhdesign78@gmail.com](mailto:gmhdesign78@gmail.com), and I will be honored to fill out a star for them.

# Harvest Festival 2024

The annual Harvest Festival will take place on September 28, 2024 from 11am - 5pm. Plans are already underway for the entertainment, demonstrators, exhibitors, and petting farm. There are many moving parts to this wonderful festival that we host each year so, of course, many volunteers are needed. Please contact Grace Hardison at 440-862-1129 or gmhdesign78@gmail.com if you are interested in joining this fun committee.

## Annual Yard Sale

Due to the road construction by the Village during the Town Center project, the yard sale will be held later in the year. The date is to be determined. Donations will still be accepted. Please contact either Grace Hardison at 440-862-1129 or Marty Shaw at 440-409-5925. Further information will be available on the web site.

## School Tours

Happy Spring to everyone and welcome to those who are about to join us for 3rd Grade School Tours. These will take place in May again this year. Most schools use this as a field trip at the end of the school year. This year we are including the Chapman House Museum along with the Academy, the Baldwin, the Cabin and the Olds General Store. We are working on a script that will be a 15 minute tour of the Chapman House. Our founders, Howard and Velda Chapman were always looking forward to educating and enlightening all local citizens to learn the history of our town and its surroundings. Be involved my fellow Villagers. I promise it will make you smile. Elaine Cairns, Laura Schlegel, Jean Wittrock

## Welcome Back to the Olds General Store Member Sale

To celebrate the opening of another year and just in time for Easter and Mother's Day, all pottery from Westerwald is 10% off for members through the end of May.

Come visit the Olds General Store to view pottery items used for utensil holders, soup and coffee mugs, pitchers, and vases. Consider a piece of personalized pottery as a wedding gift, or graduation gift, or teacher/co-worker gift. The Olds Store is the only place in town with these items made just for us. Green Strongsville afghans are still available for \$30.00.

Take a look, too, at the beautiful newly acquired pewter tableware items, and the sparkling stemware to mix in with it.

The Olds General Store is open on Wednesdays starting April 17 (10am-2pm) for shopping or tours, and always open whenever the Village is open. You can also call Marty at 440-409-5925 to arrange a shopping time or a time for a tour of the Village.

And if you are considering adding to the items for the annual yard sale, please contact Marty (440-409-5925) for a time to drop off on Wednesdays. More details about donating for the yard sale will be forthcoming.

# Spring Programs

Tuesday, April 23, 7pm

Strongsville Branch Library

18700 Westwood Dr. Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**“Transformation of the Strongsville Fire Department: From Bucket Brigade to Professional Fire and Emergency Services” -**

**Presented by Lieutenant Brian Tomcany, Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services**

This presentation will discuss the evolution of the fire department in Strongsville. From the bucket brigade efforts as early as 1820, to the volunteer firemen who organized the Strongsville Fire Protection Association in 1922, to the transformation into one of the most respected and accomplished fire departments in Cuyahoga County. We will discuss some of the biggest fire events within the Strongsville borders and highlight some of the founding fathers and leadership that helped shape the fire service into the great fire department that it is today.

Tuesday, May 21, 7pm

Strongsville Old Town Hall

18825 Royalton Rd, Strongsville, Ohio 44136

**“The Care and Handling of Treasures at Home” -**

**Presented by Holly Witchey, Executive Director at ICA, Intermuseum Conservation Association**

Join Holly Witchey, Executive Director of ICA-Art Conservation, for an evening of discussion about how to handle, care for, and eventually pass on your family treasures. **\*\*Attendees are encouraged to bring a small object, photograph, document or item that is meaningful to exhibit in a “Pop-Up Museum” of family treasures.\*\***

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 17      Olds General Store open Wednesdays 10am-2pm
- April 23      Program - "Transformation of the Strongsville Fire Department:  
From Bucket Brigade to Professional Fire and Emergency Services"  
Presented by Lieutenant Brian Tomcany  
Strongsville Library 7pm
- May            Village will open for tours on Saturdays
- May 21        Program - "The Care and Handling of Treasures at Home"  
Presented by Holly Withey, Executive Director of ICA  
Strongsville Old Town Hall 7pm
- May 27        Memorial Day Village open 11:30am-2pm  
Military and Veterans Display

**Strongsville Historical Society**

**13305 Pearl Road**

**Strongsville, Ohio 44136**