



June, 2022

# *The Village Crier*

*A publication of the Strongsville Historical Society*

*www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org*

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## President's Message

We are so happy to be able to be open for tours and shopping at the Olds General Store once again. It has been a long time since "normal" happened at the Village. Please stop in and see what's new!

Our program schedule is filling up for the remainder of 2022 with a couple of extra programs added for the summer. Watch the newsletter calendar and the website for details.

We are always looking for help. If we don't call you, please contact us and offer to help. Whether you are a new member or a long time member we can always use help inside and outside!

Another video tour of one of our buildings is complete! We now have the Log Cabin and the Baldwin House tours on video! These were made originally to help keep the school tours on track and to provide a visual perspective of what life was like in the days of old. They also will serve to share our history with everyone! A project such as this takes many hands and a lot of preparation. It took many volunteers to write a script, plan the story board for the presentation, prepare the area, secure the videographers to make the recording and then countless hours of editing before the project was complete. We are grateful for everyone who helped. Many thanks to the team who took this on and did such a great job. Hopefully another building will be in the works soon.

*Ruth Brickleley*

## Yard Sale

Please be sure to stop by the Village on Thursday, June 23 from 9-4, or Friday, June 24 from 9-2 and do some shopping at our Yard Sale. Many items have been donated to the Society for this sale. The proceeds will help further our mission. Help is needed for set up Wednesday, June 22 at 11am. Take down will begin on Friday at 1:45. Volunteers are needed for sale days as well as for set up and take down. We also need people and vehicles to load leftovers to be delivered To Goodwill on Friday. Call or text Judy Gleason at 440-655-8040 if you can help. Also, if you are interested in selling some of your own goods, tables can be rented for \$15.00 per day. Contact Ruth at 440-572-0535 if you are interested in this.

If you have items to donate, please contact Judy. We'll make arrangements to meet you at the Village. Sale items should be placed in the Barn.

If you know anyone that might be able to walk up and down the sidewalk in front of the Village holding signs during the sale, please let me know. Scout troops would be great, we need adults as well.

# Harvest Festival News

Come ONE! Come ALL! We are starting up the Harvest Festival, after taking a small break due to Covid. Don't miss out, this is a one-day event packed full of fun!! September 24 from 11am - 5pm - mark your calendars! Enjoy entertainment as you spend a day walking back in time, visit demonstrators sharing their unique skill, while you tour the houses of the past. Shop at the Farmer's Market while the kids enjoy the farm animals and games. What a great way to welcome Fall! this is an extra special year for the Historical Society - it's our 60th Anniversary - so again 9/24 from 11am - 5pm - can't wait to see you!

## Trick or Treat!

Never too early to mark your calendars! Trick or Treat at the Village will be held on Saturday, October 22 from 2-3:30pm. This is a popular and fun event. Save the date! We will need lots of volunteers for the event and for decoration the Village, as well as take down. Details will follow in a later newsletter.

## Lathrop House Rentals

In the last Strongsville Historical Newsletter, we mentioned that something new was going on at the Lathrop House - that The Institute of Learning in Retirement (ILR) out of Baldwin Wallace was holding classes in our multipurpose room. We are happy to report it has been a resounding success. Winter and Spring sessions saw many people coming to the Village for classes in quilting, tea service, and sketching and drawing. Already quilting classes are being scheduled for the Fall with registration beginning August 14 at [www.ilrbw.org](http://www.ilrbw.org). Check it out and see what might interest you.

Remember, it is never too early to book the Lathrop House for your holiday gathering for this year. Already, rental requests are coming in for the Fall, and our summer is quite busy, but there are still a few open dates so get in touch if you are looking for the perfect place for your event.

For rental information and availability for the Multipurpose Room at the Lathrop House, call 440-572-0057 or go to our website at [www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.strongsvillehistoricalsociety.org) and click on the rental tab to be in touch with the Rental Coordinator.

And, we are happy to announce another new program coming to the Lathrop House at the end of August-

## Strongsville School for Strings- Violin and Viola Lessons at the Lathrop House

The Strongsville School for Strings is a new violin and viola program designed for students and families in Northeast Ohio. Its purpose is to enrich the lives of community residents by strengthening family and friendship bonds through shared music study and contributing to vibrant cultural life in Strongsville. It will offer both traditional and Suzuki violin and viola lessons. Anyone, from children to adults, who is interested in private violin and viola lessons is welcome.

Carol Ross, founder and director, has an extensive career as an artist-teacher and performer of violin and viola that has spanned over three decades. For more about the Strongsville School for Strings Program, please email Carol at [info@strongvillestrings.com](mailto:info@strongvillestrings.com) or call/text at (440) 452-5593.

## Tours– More Changes

We keep evolving based on guide limitations. Open tour season is May through August, the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Saturday of the month. Reservations are NOT required, but instead of walk-ins, there will be two start times: 10am and 12 noon. Tours cost \$5 for visitors age 12 and older, \$3 for ages 6-11, and are free for age 5 and younger.

## Historical Tidbits– Albion

From the book *Men of Grit and Greatness*, by W.F.Holzworth-

“In 1827, the road (Pearl) became a stagecoach turnpike, known as the Wooster Pike, over which stagecoaches and huge Conestoga wagons drawn by several teams of horses carried passengers and freight to and from Cleveland. A settlement called Albion was a principle stop over for stagecoaches.”

“It had the prospects of becoming an important hamlet before Strongsville and Berea developed. In 1820, J.S. Strong, for whom Strongsville was named, built the first saw mill, (and) the first grist and flour mill in Strongsville to be operated by the waters of Rocky River.”

“Around 1834, Benjamin Northrup arrived from Albion, New York, and erected a mill for carding (wool) and a fulling mill for preparing cloth. The little settlement given the name of Albion grew rapidly and soon boasted three churches, a school, five stores, two taverns, three blacksmith shops, a tin shop, and a resident doctor, Dr. R. Trask.”

“The stagecoach tavern run by Ebenezer Pomeroy was the first stop south from Cleveland. Josiah Graves operated a tavern with a liquor license. Neil Porter and Co. operated a stagecoach line between Cleveland and Wooster. A factory to manufacture cloth-making machinery employed a score of people. In 1843, a fire destroyed most all of the business buildings.”

## In Memoriam

The Strongsville Historical Society recently lost two longtime members - Anne Ehrnfelt and Ethel Evans. Anne was very active and interested in the Society and in the history of Strongsville. She was always there volunteering to help with Harvest Festival, and loved decorating the Cabin at Christmas. She also helped with and enjoyed our teas. She was always willing to help when help was needed.

Ethel Evans and her husband Gordy did the cooking for the Chicken Dinner at the Harvest Festival for many years. They were the reason we were even able to have a Chicken Dinner! Ethel was a doll collector and just loved collecting lots of things.

Both Anne and Ethel were such vital members of our Society. We will miss them! Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

# July and August Programs

Tuesday, July 26 7PM at Strongsville Library

## **“I Remember When: Recollection of Strongsville as a Small Farm Town”**

This will be a “fireside chat” with Jim Jerome who lives in the Frank Strong House on Stone Hill at the intersection of Pearl and Boston Roads. He is a former fire department chief, and a business owner. He will recollect his memories of Strongsville when his family moved to the township in 1938 when it was still a small farming community.

Tuesday, August 23 7PM at Strongsville Library

## **“A Guide to Researching Your Home”**

Are you interested in learning how to research the history of your home and neighborhood? Jamil Miles (Preservation Programs Associate with the Cleveland Restoration Society) will discuss how to use the variety of resources available to you to trace your property’s chain of ownership, learn about its builder or architect, find out how your neighborhood developed over time, or educate yourself on your home’s historic style and architecture. Dig in and get started on your research!

# Come Back to the Olds General Store

It’s time to renew your support for the Village and the Olds General Store. The store is open on the days the Village is open and on the days there are tours. And the store will be open during the yard sale.

You can still call Marty at 440-879-1092 for a private shopping experience at your convenience.

Items for graduation, weddings, Father’s Day gifts, Strongsville books and prints, moments for leaving home, and Christmas in July gifts are ready for purchasing. Like shabby chic? Check out the vintage red kitchen utensils. Like fleece? Ours are half price. Like afghans? Ours are reduced to \$25.00. Like vintage or antique glassware? We have lots. Check out the latest finds. Be sure to see the pottery piece of the month made by Westerwald Pottery just for us.

All purchases are carefully wrapped and sent with you in our decorative bags.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 23 Yard Sale at the Historical Village 9AM - 4PM
- June 24 Yard Sale at the Historical Village 9AM - 2PM
- July 26 Public Program 7PM Strongsville Library  
"I Remember When: Recollection of Strongsville as a Small Farm Town"  
Presented by Jim Jerome
- August 23 Public Program 7PM Strongsville Library  
"Guide to Researching Your Home"  
Presented by Jamie Miles
- Sept. 24 Harvest Festival Historical Village 11AM - 5 PM
- Oct. 22 Trick or Treat at the Village 2PM - 3:30PM

**Strongsville Historical Society**

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**Strongsville, Ohio 44136**