

# On a mission to help keep residents safe

## Bionic Barracudas find that Strongsville needs to improve its bicycle safety

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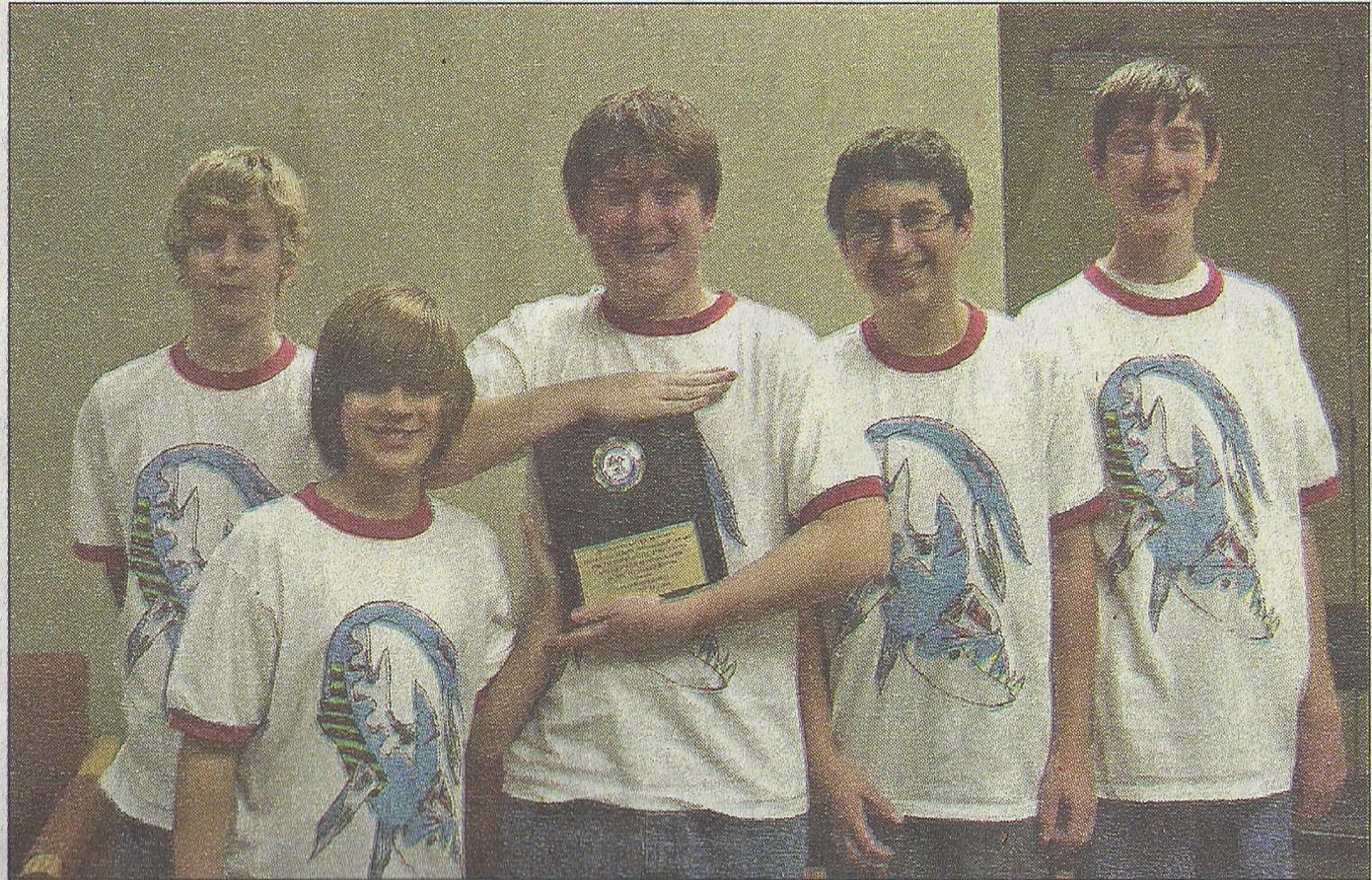
**STRONGSVILLE** — A group of middle school students are campaigning to improve bicycle safety in Strongsville.

The five seventh-grade boys who make up the Bionic Barracudas Lego team gave a 20-minute presentation at the Dec. 21 City Council's Public Safety and Health Committee meeting.

After months of research, the Barracudas concluded that safety needs to be improved in three areas: public education, city ordinances and at intersections.

"We've been researching three or four hours a day every day since September," Barracuda member James Reese told Sun News. "What we found is that people don't know the proper safety procedures for riding a bicycle and that Strongsville is not really a safe place to ride a bicycle."

James and the other Barracudas— Eli Homan, Chad Mrocza, Zach Zoloty and



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**The Bionic Barracudas, from left, Eli Homan, James Reese, Chad Mrocza, Zach Zoloty and Andy Rygalski. Mrocza finished in the top six at the local FIRST Lego League tournament.**

Andy Rygalski— are part of the FIRST Lego League. FIRST, an acronym meaning For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technol-

ogy, requires participants to do a research topic each year, said Michelle Reese, who coaches the Barracudas along with her husband, Doug.

This year's research theme was transportation, Reese said.

"We decided to go with bi-  
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