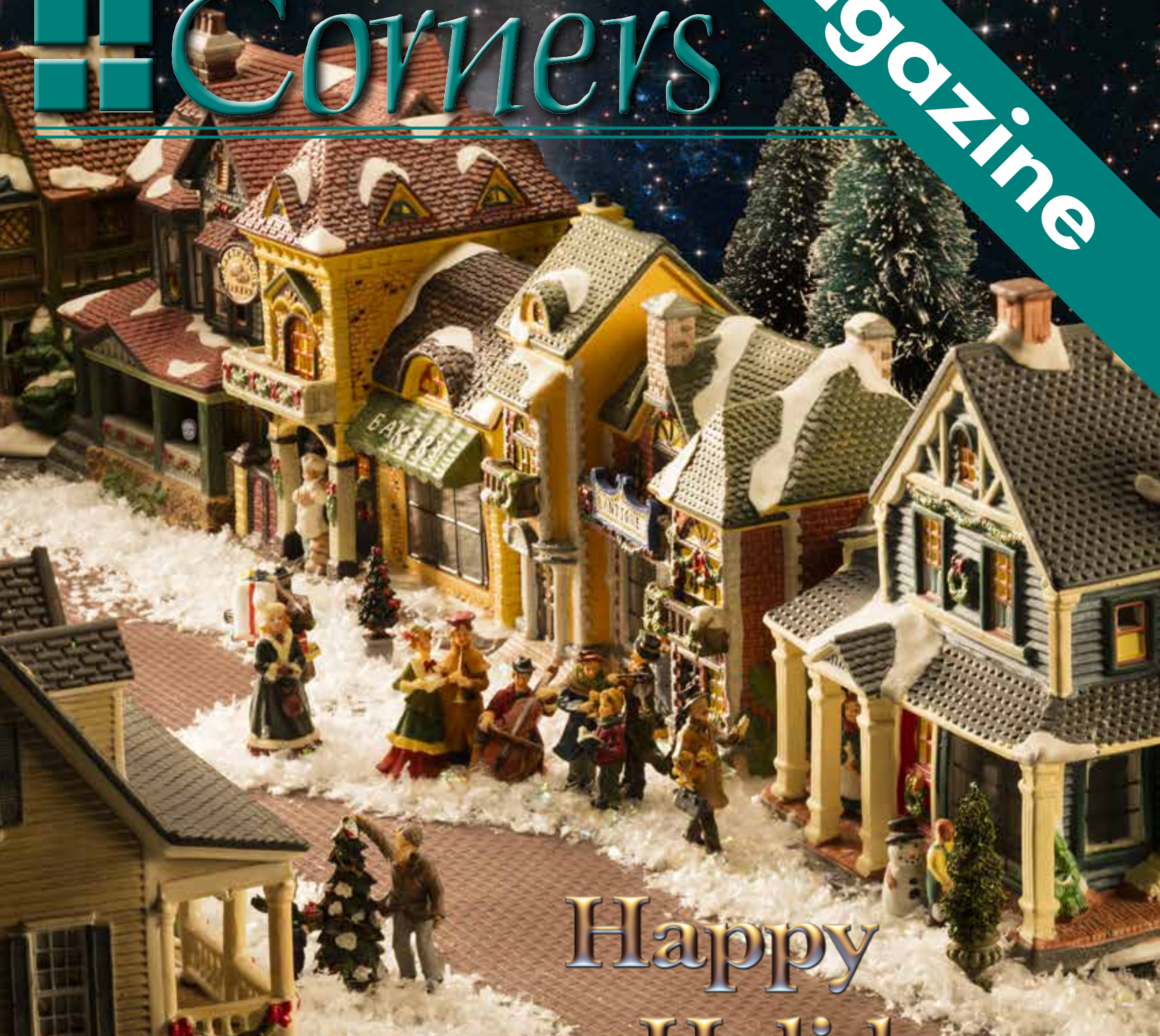


Kamm's Corners

Magazine



Happy Holidays



Kamm's Corners Development Corporation
Volume 15, Number 4 ❖ Holiday 2015

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KAMMS PLAZA

Where Neighbors go to Dine & Shop

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACE Hardware | Gene's Place Restaurant |
| Al Wilhelmy Flowers | H & R Block |
| Best Cuts | Kamms Barber Shop |
| Carol & John's Comic Shop | Kamms Plaza Pet & Supply |
| Cartridge World | Marc's |
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19th Annual Winter Wonderland!

December 4 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

• Complimentary Sleigh Rides! •

December 11 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

December 18 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sleigh rides depart from the tower corner below H&R Block sign.
Note! Inclement weather (heavy rain or ice) will stop the sleigh rides.

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Kamm's Corners

Magazine



From the Director

We've had a productive year here at KCDC, thanks to a hard working staff and Board of Trustees that always keeps the interests of our residents and businesses top of mind.

You have likely seen the newly renovated Alber Building at 17023 Lorain Avenue adjacent to West Park Station. KCDC owns the building and renovated it with the assistance of the City of Cleveland's Storefront Renovation program. See the details inside. The new first tenant in the building is the new Cleveland office of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur! We are very happy she chose Kamm's Corners for her office. Learn why and more on page 9.

One of the other big developments is the new Ace Hardware store at Kamms Plaza. Anytime the neighborhood attracts a national retailer such as Ace, it signals to other retailers that there is a strong market here in West Park. Look for additional merchants to follow!

KCDC is continuing to renovate land bank houses that were formerly bank owned or abandoned. Current projects are on West 139th Street, Woodbury Avenue, and West 165th Street. We renovate these houses to a high specification, often adding an additional bathroom and/or finishing the basement. Then we sell them to owners who intend to move into them. This helps to increase property values, strengthening the residential real estate market and returning properties to the tax rolls.

Our only fundraiser of the year, Wine in the Holidays, takes place December 3 inside the greenhouse at Puritas Nursery. With heavy hors d'oeuvres from AMP 150, and live music, this is always a great time to get together with neighbors and share in the festivities. Log on to kammscorners.com and join us!

As we swing into the holiday season, don't forget your local merchants. There is plenty of great shopping here and supporting the home team is more important than ever.

Watch out for your neighbors, especially our seniors, and have a healthy, safe, and meaningful holiday season. And, as always, let us know how we're doing.

Our cover photo presents a holiday village scene utilizing ceramic collectables provided by West Park resident and KCDC staff member Bill Markowitz. Bill and his wife Nancy have been creating an entire "Christmas Village" display in their home during the holidays for many years, and we appreciate their lending us the items used on our cover. Bill assisted long time cover photo contributor Gary Yasaki in creating the table setup for the cover photo. Final composition, editing, and layout was performed by Kamm's Corners Magazine designer Joe Outlaw. Photo provided by Yasaki Photographic, 216-781-7330.

Steve Lorenz
Executive Director

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Mission Statement

"To facilitate the development and promotion of the West Park neighborhood. In coordination with our partners, we will engage with residents, businesses, institutions, and visitors in elevating the quality of life in our community."

• Memberships are tax deductible •

Around the Corners

On Thursday, December 3, feel the magic and splendor of **Puritas Nursery** transformed into our annual **Wine in the Holidays** party place, from 6 to 9 p.m. Shake off winter chills and step inside 19201 Puritas Avenue amidst the sparkling trees and hundreds of poinsettias. Connect with friends and neighbors while sipping wine, tasting beer, and enjoying hearty hors d'oeuvres as well as live music. Tickets are \$45 each and may be purchased online at our website or by calling 216-252-6559, ext. 1000. Read the details on page 6.

Star Wars is the theme at **Winter Wonderland**, an event for the entire family on Friday, December 4, starting at 6 p.m. under the clock at Rocky River Drive and Lorain Avenue. Sing along with St. Joseph Academy's a cappella choir until Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at 6:25 p.m. on a horse-drawn sleigh to lead everyone to the indoor festivities at **Kamms Plaza**. See the details on page 7.

Have you ever ridden in a horse-drawn carriage? Dress warmly and queue up at the tower corner of **Kamms Plaza** for a ride around the parking lot, compliments of plaza management. The free rides are being offered at **Winter Wonderland** on December 4 and then again on Friday, December 11 and 18, from 6 to 8 p.m., weather permitting. It's fun for all ages!

Grab your shopping bags and visit the final indoor **Kamm's Corners Farmers Market** of the season! It takes place on the second Sunday of December, the 13th, inside the **Cretan Center**, 3853 West 168th Street. Hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The market will open again in June. See article on page 14.

Buy a farm-fresh Christmas Tree from **Boy Scout Troop 293** at **St. Mark School**, 15800 Montrose Avenue. They will be sold on December 5, from 5 to 9 p.m., December 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and December 7, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Proceeds from the sale of these Fraser Fir trees will fund scouting events for the coming year.

"**Cakes, Crafts, & Claus**" comes to **Newton D. Baker School** on Saturday, December 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the cafeteria and hallways. Enjoy pancakes for a donation and holiday crafts. Tables are available to crafters for \$25,

or \$30 if electricity is needed. Call 216-548-9686 or email wendy.rose-geiling@clevelandmetroschool.org.

West Park Station, 17015 Lorain Avenue, is holding its annual **Christmas Craft Fair** on Saturday, December 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafters interested in participating may call 216-476-2000 to inquire about a table.

On Sunday, December 13, enjoy the music of the season featuring the **chorale and hand bell ensemble** from **St. Joseph Academy**. The \$10 concert is at **River's Edge**, 3430 Rocky River Drive, from 2 to 3 p.m. with a reception and raffle following the performance. All proceeds benefit **River's Edge Women's Outreach Center**.

Lotty Designs and Alterations, 15901 West Park Boulevard, opened on October 3. The shop offers custom tailoring services, expert alterations, and made-to-order dream gowns for special occasions, such as proms, weddings, and quinceaneras (sweet 16 parties).

Kim Kinder and her daughter **Heather** have returned to the dog grooming business as **Groomingdales**, 4076 Rocky River Drive. Phone 216-200-2955 for an appointment for services. Hours are by appointment Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

West Park Dental (17001 Albers Avenue) is a drop-off location for the **U.S. Marine Corp Toys for Tots** campaign through December 12. Members of the local **Federation Star Trek fan club**, the **USS Challenger**, will also be collecting toys at **Savor the Moment** (4080 Rocky River Drive). The mission of Toys for Tots is to help needy children throughout the United States experience the joys of Christmas. The Reserve Unit in Brookpark will be distributing the toys. Drop off unwrapped new toys anytime during business hours. You may call West Park Dental at 216-941-5535 for more information.

Wellness Challenge 2016 begins on January 18 at **West Park Station**, 17015 Lorain Avenue. More than \$3,000 in prizes will be offered this year, including \$500 to each overall male and female winner. There will be 24 boot camps for around \$5.25 a class. Call 216-476-2000 for details on how to join.

Our Lady of Angels Federal Credit Union is now offering additional financial services to its parishioners as well as to those of **St. Mark Catholic Church** and the **Friends of Kamm's Corners** following a merger with **Sts. Margaret and Gregory Federal Credit Union**. See the ad on page 12 for more information.

Teens from any school are welcome to the **West Park Teen Job Club**, meeting Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at **John Marshall High School**. Register online at bpdc.org or call 216-671-2710 for more information.

Calling music performers ages 13 to 21! **Young Musicians Coalition (YMusic)**, a west side not-for-profit group that supports aspiring young original artists and industry techs, is offering free mentored workshops with music industry professionals. Learn how to apply by visiting the YMusic Facebook page. Sponsored by **Westown Community Development Corporation**. For more information, call 216-941-9262.

The **West Park Historical Society Calendar, Rails Through West Park**, is now available. It features vintage images of trains, trolleys, streetcars, and interurbans along with stations and bridges in West Park. The price is \$8.50. Purchase at **Gene's Place, Puritas Nursery**, or **K&K Portage Market** or online, by e-mailing WPHS-News@earthlink.net.

After serving two years as **Chief Operating Officer** of **Sheikh Khalifa Medical City** in Abu Dhabi, **Janice Murphy** (RD, MSN, FACHE) has returned to Cleveland as **Chief Operating Officer** of the **Cleveland Clinic's Regional Hospitals and Family Health Centers**. She previously served as Fairview Hospital President. Welcome back, Jan!

Connect with like-minded young professionals who want to make a difference in West Park. Join the **West Park Young Professionals** on the fourth Thursday of every month. See the membership form on the **KCDC links page** at kammscorners.com or e-mail westparkyp@gmail.com for more information.

Holiday trains return to **Puritas Nursery**, 19201 Puritas Avenue, for the 13th consecutive year, starting November 27 and running daily through December 31. In addition, **Santa** is visiting on Saturday, December 5 and 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. offering a perfect photo opportunity. Call 216-267-5350 for details. See the article on page 24.

Take your children to **breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, December 19 at **West Park Station!** The event is from 8 to 10 a.m. and includes breakfast, a craft activity, and a photo on Santa's lap. The fee is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. All proceeds benefit the **West Park YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign**. Seats are limited, so register early in person at the YMCA, 15501 Lorain Avenue. For more information, call 216-941-5410.

The **Be Well, West Park** fitness challenge ended October 10, with 50 out of 80 original participants completing the full 8-week program. The top winners were Kate O. (\$250), Rachel B. (\$150), and Joe O. (\$100). All three made significant strides in the four categories of weight loss, diet changes, exercise minutes, and participation in educational sessions. The community partnership among **Fairview Hospital, Gunning Recreation Center, Key Bank, West Park YMCA, and Kamm's Corners Farmers Market** brought healthy results! Another challenge is being planned for next year.

The West Park branch of the **Cleveland Public Library** is offering a variety of **computer classes** throughout the region. Pick up a schedule at the branch, 3805 West 157th Street, or call 216-623-7102 for more information.

Festive lights and banners in downtown **Kamm's Corners** are made possible through fundraisers like **Wine in the Holidays**, taking place this year on Thursday, December 3rd. While the tree lights will be illuminated just prior to Thanksgiving, a **special lighting ceremony** to officially illuminate downtown will be held in conjunction with **Winter Wonderland** under the clock on December 4 at 6 p.m. Please join us for the fun!

Chase away the winter cold with savory, hearty, thick, or spicy soup from **Souper Market**, 16804 Lorain Avenue. Call 216-941-4604 for the daily menu. Hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Vegan options are always available, too.

To accommodate the renovation work at River's Edge, **certified hypnotist Jerome Masek** has moved. He now sees clients at **West Park Massotherapy**, 4168 Rocky River Drive. He can be reached at 216-210-5504.

The **Second Annual West Park Pizza Bake-Off** is set for January 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. at **St. Patrick Church** gym. Tickets for all you can eat pizza and a beverage are only \$10 for adults (12 and older), \$5 for children (5-12), and free of charge for 5 and under. A big screen TV raffle will take place. Pizza shops in West Park may enter by e-mailing stpatshns@gmail.com.

Neighborhood Connections offers small grants to groups of residents in Cleveland to do projects that improve the quality of life in their communities. Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000. The next grant deadline is 5 p.m. on Friday, February 12. For more information, visit neighborhoodgrants.org.

Councilman's Corner

... by Councilman Marty Keane

News from Ward 17 and City Hall



Dear Neighbor:

Mid-November in Cleveland certainly has a lot to offer. Most importantly, it offers a welcome reprieve from road construction and orange barrels. It has been a busy couple of years with more to come. From street projects to utility work we have seen our fair share of road obstructions and commute interruptions. Believe me, we have heard from many of our great neighbors. Overall, people in West Park exhibited great patience and understanding. The end result will be welcomed, with improved traffic signalization and roadway conditions that ease access for our residents.

A couple of projects remain in the queue. We can expect interruptions along Lorain Avenue from West 140th Street to West 150th Street next year. We continue to seek funding for Munn Road and Chatfield Avenue. And, a Warren Road improvement project from Munn Road to I-90 is making its way through the planning process. Funding for these projects is very competitive and difficult to obtain. Working with our multiple partners and continued patience is the game plan. The needs are great concerning our infrastructure, but committed parties remain at the table to search for solutions.

Thanksgiving and the holidays bring the need for volunteers. Our neighborhood and our city has many families in need. Please check in with your respective places of worship or social service groups to find volunteer opportunities. Everyone from seniors to students can make a positive difference in helping those less fortunate. One way I know for sure is through the St. Pat's Hunger Center, which is preparing to serve more than 300 families a Thanksgiving meal this year. On Saturday, November 21, volunteers are needed to pack and deliver groceries throughout our neighborhood. Please meet at Thorpe Hall at 9 a.m. if you can help. Donations are always welcome, whether nonperishable food items or monetary contributions. Please contact the rectory at 216-251-8286 for further information or show up on the 21st if you are able.

With cold weather and dark nights upon us, please keep your safety and the safety of your neighbors in mind. For example, turn on your outdoor lights in the evening and keep your car doors locked. Calling the police when suspicious activity is witnessed remains essential. Our First District Police Station will not know about such activity unless we call it in. We live in a great community, but we must remain vigilant and keep an eye out for each other.

We also extend a great big West Park welcome to Congresswomen Marcy Kaptur. The Alber Building on Lorain near Rocky River Drive is now home to Congresswomen Kaptur's District Office. What a valuable resource in the middle of our neighborhood!

Some great public meetings and block watch meetings recently took place. Welcome back to the Laverne Avenue club! It looks like a strong beginning for the Ernadale Avenue club west of Rocky River Drive, too. We are entering the season where block club activity slows down. For help in establishing one, please contact me or Julie Dahlhausen at KCDC for assistance in finding a suitable meeting place. The West Park YMCA and the West Park Library have always been gracious hosts, as has Gunning Recreation Center, if needed. Let us know how we can help.

Now that the weather is changing, please refrain from raking or blowing your leaves into the street. The piles pose significant hazards from blocked catch basins to pooling storm water. We also have had some dumping in our parks and green space. Please know that the negative impact of such activity is great when trying to get these areas ready for the next season. Also, once the snow flies, please refrain from parking your vehicles on the street. We have focused a lot of attention and resources into an improved snow removal plan for this year. Last year's calamity can not be revisited.

Please have a happy and safe holiday season! Shop locally and enjoy everything West Park has to offer!

God Bless,

Marty Keane

A Delightful Evening to Support KCDC

Enjoy the magic and splendor of our 12th Annual Wine in the Holidays event at Puritas Nursery, transformed for us from an historical retail garden center into a party place filled with sparkling lights and holiday decor. From 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, December 3, why not sparkle just as brightly as the holiday lights? Whether you're more about subtle shine or glamorous glitter, dress comfortably or chic and shake off the winter chills by joining the fun at 19201 Puritas Avenue.

Pleasures of the palate bloom fully "under glass" at our only fundraiser of the year. Select among six wines and a choice of specialty beers. Indulge in hearty hors d'oeuvres from our caterer AMP 150, the fine farm-to-table restaurant inside the Marriott on West 150th Street. Hear the strains of a live combo providing just the right mix of upbeat and relaxed music to set the mood for the evening. Let the child in you enjoy the twelve sets of trains traveling through the live greenery at this adult event.

**Thursday, December 3
6-9 p.m.**

Bring your friends and make new ones while supporting your neighborhood. Reservations for this KCDC fundraiser are \$45 per person in advance. Make yours at kammscorners.com or by calling 216-252-6559, ext. 1000. When you purchase tickets, your name will appear on our RSVP list, which will be checked off as you enter the greenhouse on Thursday night.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors AMP 150, Public House, Puritas Nursery, and Rocksolid Stone Works. Proceeds will be used to continue the revitalization of Kamm's Corners and West Park. Throughout the evening, feel free to purchase poinsettias, Christmas cactus, wreaths, and greens. They will be put aside for you until the end of the evening. Plan now to be among the guests enjoying this delightful event!

Free parking is available at Westropp Elementary School, MacArthur Elementary School, and along Valleyside Road, West 192nd Street, West 191st Street, and in the Puritas Nursery lot.



Whether you are looking for a great place to host your company's holiday party or seeking a dining experience a cut above the rest, AMP 150 is the place to go! Featuring modern American cuisine, built upon foundations of flavor, freshness, and innovation, AMP 150 is a 200-seat restaurant and bar with an open casual feel, playing classic rock and roll and serving tasty selections, many priced under \$20. There is also a private dining room that accommodates up to 30 people.

At AMP 150, the chef turns to the talents of regional farmers and artisans to collect foodstuffs raised, crafted, and harvested locally! The result is contemporary innovation and deep flavors at their peak of quality. All who sampled the food at the KCDC fundraiser Wine in the Holidays last year would agree.

AMP 150 is at 4277 West 150th Street in the Marriott Hotel.
Call 216-706-8787.



We Wish you a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

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The Force
Awakens!

Lighting
Ceremony!

Sleigh Rides!

Family Fun!

KAMMS
PLAZA



Winter Wonderland Returns to Kamm's Corners

Thank Santa and Mrs. Claus for making Kamm's Corners one of their first stops this winter by joining the fun under the clock at 6 p.m. on Friday, December 4, as friends and neighbors gather for a mini-concert and sing along under the stars. It begins at the corner of Rocky River Drive and Lorain Avenue as the Academy Chorale of St. Joseph Academy performs a capella and invites everyone to join in crowd favorites.

Sip hot chocolate provided by the West Park Kiwanis Club and enjoy the ceremonial turning on of the lights, too. The singing continues until Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive from the north by horse-drawn sleigh! They'll leave the sleigh behind to greet the families assembled there. And, with his bells jingling, Santa will lead everyone Kamms Plaza.

May the force awaken us at this Star Wars themed Winter Wonderland! The Star Wars themed evening runs until 8:30 p.m. Meet and greet Yoda, Darth Vader, storm troopers, and other Star Wars characters while Santa and Mrs. Claus pose for instant photos with children. Free comic books will be given away. Face painters and a balloon twister add to the fun. Popcorn, cookies, pretzel light sabers, hot chocolate, and cider will be served by volunteers of the St. Joseph Academy Key Club. Peace, Love, & Little Donuts will offer their colorful sweet treats.

There will be a Chinese raffle and valuable door prizes, including several flat screen TVs and two large gift baskets. The drawing is for adults only, and raffle ticket holders must be present to win. This free event is sponsored by Kamms Plaza Shopping Center with the support of KCDC.

Sleigh rides around Kamms Plaza are set for that night and continue free of charge on Friday, December 11 and 18. The complimentary sleigh rides depart from the tower corner at 6 p.m. with the last trip leaving around 7:40 p.m. Heavy rain or ice will cause the rides to be cancelled. Bundle up and enjoy this family friendly treat!

Festive Lights Return to Kamm's Corners

Downtown Kamm's Corners brightens up with a combination of white tree lights and festive red banners for 20 light poles – making spirits bright!

The tree lights are brightly lit LEDs, which use little electricity and last for many years. They will remain in place throughout the holiday season.

While the tree lights will be illuminated just prior to Thanksgiving, a special lighting ceremony to officially illuminate downtown will be held in conjunction with Winter Wonderland under the clock on Friday, December 4. Please join us for the countdown at 6 p.m.

Funding was made possible through events like Wine in the Holidays (coming up December 3, see article on facing page!), as well as membership dues from area merchants.



Santa and Mrs. Claus return to Kamm's Corners again this year.



The West Park Kiwanis Club offers free hot chocolate under the clock at Rocky River Drive and Lorain Avenue as the crowd sings prior to Santa's arrival.



The window at Wilbelmy Florist in Kamms Plaza adds to the festive spirit of the season.



Enjoy free horse-drawn carriage rides around the plaza at Winter Wonderland and on December 11 and 18, weather permitting.

Where the Neighborhood Comes Together!

17015 Lorain Ave. (Kamm's Corners)
Cleveland, Ohio
216.476.2000



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Local Partnership Set to Engage and Inspire West Park Dog Lovers

Purebreds get all the attention, from dog shows and competitions to movies and books.

That's all about to change given the recent launch of ShednPooper, a brand devoted to the health and happiness of mixed breed dogs and the mutt-lover community at large, according to ShednPooper owner and West Park native, Dan Stryffeler.

ShednPooper – a lighthearted nickname for “mutt” that captures a mixed breed's two favorite pastimes – was coined years ago as Dan walked the late Hogan, a Blue Tick Hound and Labrador mix, who proved to be his most unflappable friend.

Today, Hogan lives on as a witty cartoon dog that serves as a mutt advocate by offering canine facts, tips, and resources through blogs, social media feeds, and newsletters that promote dog safety and health initiatives.

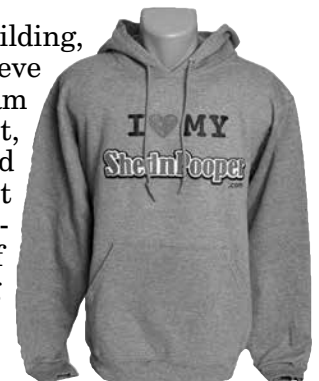
For instance, here's a recent ShednPooper blog excerpt that was penned through Hogan's lens:

“As a ShednPooper, there are two things I love to do. I think you can guess what they are, so let's focus on the first: shedding, and the grooming that comes with it. My human loves pulling out the ShednPooper Dog Brush to combat my handfuls of fur, but he has some other tricks to control my never-ending hair production as well. Here they are, plus some tips to keep your home – and yourself – fur free...”

Hogan also appears in ShednPooper's online store, which is filled with apparel, accessories, toys, and “SnP Club” memberships that are geared toward the under represented community of mutt lovers and their dogs.

“I wanted to build something fresh, relevant, and somewhat comical,” said Dan. “ShednPooper is principally a dog resource to build up the bond between people and mutts, an online shop, and a club that I can use to connect with thousands of like-minded mutt lovers who, like me, have wished that their mixed breeds received a little more recognition.”

To kick off the community building, KCDC's Executive Director Steve Lorenz introduced Stryffeler to Pam Alerine, the owner of Style Mutt, opened here in 2013 and located at 3525 Warren Road. Style Mutt offers daycare and grooming services as well as a wide variety of in-store merchandise, including clothing, toys, accessories, treats, and more.



Even though the ShednPooper store lives mostly online, Dan and Pam recently partnered up to offer SnP apparel, including the “I ♥ my ShednPooper” hooded sweatshirt, pictured above.

“I'm a strong believer that entrepreneurs have to help each other. And, given our connection to mutts, the partnership was a great fit,” said Pam. “Dan and I are

dedicated to the community, so anything we can do to further local business is a benefit to everyone in the neighborhood.”

As the president and longtime co-owner of the Red Seal Electric Company on West 150th Street – a business started by his grandfather, Samuel, in 1946 – Dan is deeply rooted in the West Park community. Yet, as he approaches retirement leaving the day-to-day operations of Red Seal in capable hands, he’s eager to focus his attention on the new venture.

“Mutts and our purebred pals, too, add something meaningful to the lives of dog owners,” he said. “I really want to continue building and focusing on that bond for years to come through this startup.”

In addition to news and tips, Dan has also partnered with Island Safe Harbor Animal Sanctuary and often promotes dog adoption sites on ShednPooper social media feeds to both save mutts and enrich the lives of people who benefit from their company.

Experience ShednPooper at *ShednPooper.com*, and be sure to sign up for Hogan’s digital newsletter to receive free dog news, tips, and facts every month.

Kamm’s Corners Welcomes Office of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur

Kamm’s Corners has a new neighbor and she’s here to serve! Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur recently opened a brand new district office at 17021 Lorain Avenue, right in the heart of Kamm’s Corners, providing services and support to residents and business owners in Ohio’s 9th Congressional District. Congresswoman Kaptur’s new office and full-time staff are on hand to help constituents in a variety of areas, including Veterans services, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, as well as issues involving education, taxes, workforce or labor issues, and any federal agency. The office can also help businesses and non-profits identify possible grant opportunities or connect with federal business and economic development resources.

Congresswoman Kaptur has shown her enthusiasm for the new office location: “Thank you to Kamm’s Corners Development and our new friends and neighbors in the community here for this warm welcome! I am so pleased to have a new home for our Cleveland regional office and our experienced and friendly team that is ready to serve the people of Cleveland’s West Side. I hope everyone in Kamm’s Corners, whether you live, work, or own a business here, will stop by, meet the team, and let us know how we can help you.”

Constituents may contact the office by phone at 216-767-5933. To find out more about the Congresswoman, check out her official website, *Kaptur.house.gov*, or find her at *facebook.com/representativemarcy*, *Twitter, @RepMarcyKaptur*, or Instagram, *@RepMarcyKaptur*.



KCDC Executive Director Steve Lorenz and Ward 17 Councilman Marty Keane welcome Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur to the newly renovated historic Alber Building.

The doctor is now in your neighborhood



Melanie Golembiewski, MD is providing care at the new W. 117th community health center located at 11709 Lorain Ave. (corner of W. 117th and Lorain)

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ACE Hardware Opens

Hundreds of eager customers shopped the grand opening of the spacious new ACE Hardware store in Kamms Plaza, 3780 Rocky River Drive, on November 3. Family owned and locally operated E&H Hardware Group, part of a team of nearly 4,700 locally-owned and independently operated ACE stores across the globe, is pleased to be offering West Park a spectrum of hardware and more!

When asked about the decision to open here, E&H President & Chief Operating Officer, Scott S. Buehler said, "We already have stores in Rocky River, Westlake, and Independence. We like having a contiguous location to our others, and the demographics were good." Based on his research and additional details from KCDC Executive Director Steve Lorenz and Director of Commercial & Industrial Development Ben Campbell, "I was sold!" he explained.



Store manager Dale Smith and his team of trained, knowledgeable employees are making exceptional customer service a part of their day-to-day experience. The Paint Department features Benjamin Moore and Valspar paints, and has a fully computerized color matching paint system. The local Wooster Brush Company painters' tools are also featured.

Unlike stores in neighboring communities, the Kamms Plaza ACE Hardware features a Garden Center with bagged mulch, soil, and seasonal live outdoor plants. The Lawn and Garden Department inside the store offers a full line of Stihl power equipment, Craftsman lawn mowers, pressure washers, and hand-held outdoor equipment. They also offer a full service small engine repair shop. Additional brands carried in the Lawn and Garden Department include Scott's, Ortho, Victor, Weber, and Charbroil.

The Tool Department features hand and power tool brands from Craftsman, Dewalt, Makita, and Milwaukee. Hardware customers will also find a large selection of fasteners, nuts, bolts, hinges, and hangers. The Electrical and Plumbing Departments carry products to complete nearly any project for the homeowner or the professional installer.

In addition, ACE offers hunting and fishing licenses and an array of services from mending screens and cutting glass to making keys, including automotive chip keys. A distinctive Gift Department showcasing seasonal gifts, candles, greeting cards, and hard-to-find items rounds out the one-stop shopping features of this newest ACE Hardware location. With convenient "close to the door" parking, the ACE team enjoys serving Kamm's Corners and West Park.

Store hours are Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 9 to 5 p.m. For more information, call 216-251-4223 or visit acehardware.com.

E&H Hardware Stores, established in 1929, are locally operated and proudly owned by the Buehler Family of Wooster, Ohio.



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New Historical Marker Installed

...by Jeanne Anderson
West Park Historical Society Trustee

With the guidance of the Ohio History Connection, The West Park Historical Society unveiled a historical marker dedicated to Puritas Springs Park.



On August 30, a large gathering assembled under the shade trees at the Parkridge Apartments on the corner of Puritas Avenue and West 194th Street, just a few steps away from the new Puritas Springs Park Ohio Historical Marker.



Pictured from left: Mark Sundlov, local history office manager of the Ohio History Connection and Christine Rafalke, Elaine Staley and Ellie Mapson, the three West Park Historical Society Trustees who were instrumental in bringing this distinctive addition to West Park.

The marker details how this picturesque, valley side property evolved from a mineral spring water bottling company into the amusement park that so many fondly recall.

Once known to area resident as the Puritas Mineral Spring Company, the area was developed into a picnic grove complete with a dance hall and pavilion.

John E. Gooding bought Puritas Springs then added an indoor roller rink and amusement rides, including the noteworthy Cyclone roller coaster. This legendary thrill

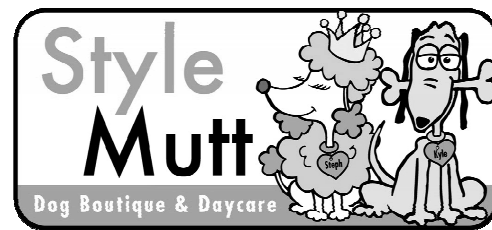


ride was created by the famous coaster designer, John A. Miller. The Cyclone is featured on one side of the historical marker.

Shown below are members of the Gooding family who helped celebrate!



Following the dedication, all were invited to enjoy light refreshments and a video presentation at the Terrace at Big Met Grille to celebrate the West Park Historical Society's Ten-Year Anniversary.



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Storefront Renovation!

Rebate grant dollars are available to renovate commercial properties via the Storefront Renovation Program. In order to determine if your building is eligible, please contact Ben Campbell of KCDC at 216-252-6559 ext. 1200 or ben.campbell@kammscorners.com.

Be Sure to Attend Kamms Plaza Shopping Center's 19th Annual

Winter Wonderland THE FORCE AWAKENS!

6:00 p.m. - 6:20 p.m. - At Kamm's Corners under the Clock

St. Joseph Academy choir group "Academy Chorale" performs yuletide songs. Santa & Mrs. Claus will arrive by sleigh. Hot chocolate provided by the West Park Kiwanis Club. Star Wars characters will be on-hand to help Santa & Mrs. Claus lead the way to the Winter Wonderland at Kamms Plaza!

6:20 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - At Kamms Plaza

Complimentary photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus! Meet & Greet with Star Wars Characters! Free Comic Book! Face Painting! Balloon Twister! Peace Love & Little Donuts! Cookies! Pretzel Light Sabers! Hot Chocolate, Hot Cider, and Federation Station Star Trek Themed Coffee will be served! Sleigh Rides in the Plaza! Great Family Fun for One and All!

8:15 p.m. - Chinese Raffle & Valuable Door Prizes

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NOTE! You must be present to win the drawing! The drawing is for ADULTS ONLY please.

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Sleigh Rides at the Plaza!

December 11 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

December 18 • 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sleigh rides depart from the tower corner below H&R Block sign.
Note! Inclement weather (heavy rain or ice) will stop the sleigh rides.





NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT!

Cliff LaRocque Honored at May 20 Senior Day



Ward 17 Councilman Marty Keane, honoree Cliff LaRocque, and Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson.

Cliff LaRocque was one of 17 special Cleveland seniors recognized by the Cleveland Department of Aging on Senior Day May 20, for contributions made to improve the lives of others. Cliff is a proud lifelong resident of the City of Cleveland. Born in 1938 in West Park, he is the eldest of five children. Cliff married his loving wife Jean in 1966. Together, they have three sons and nine grandchildren.

Cliff attended St. Vincent Elementary School and graduated from St. Edward High School. After graduating, he joined the Ohio National Guard and was honorably discharged as a Demolition Sergeant. He began a long career in automobile sales with Spitzer in 1965, and in 1972 joined Commander Ray at West Park Chevrolet. He retired in 2000.

He is a caring member of the community who enjoys helping those in need. A dedicated member of the West Park Kiwanis Club, he has served as its president three times and is currently the Lieutenant Governor, overseeing all 10 clubs in the division. Through Kiwanis, Cliff helps raise funds for Meals on Wheels, the West Park YMCA, and St. Joseph Academy through events such as Dine & Donate, pancake breakfasts, and spaghetti dinners. The Kiwanis supports numerous multi-cultural schools by donating to their educational programs.

In his free time, he enjoys gardening and traveling with his family. When asked what he loves most about Cleveland, he replied, "It is getting stronger!" Cliff believes the strength of the community makes Cleveland, "a nice place to live."

Alber Renovation Complete ...by Ben Campbell

Construction has been completed on the facade renovation of the Alber Building located at 17019-25 Lorain Avenue. The goal of the facade renovation project was to retain the historic character of the building while enhancing the building's curb appeal to a level consistent with the other renovations that have taken place in the district in recent years. With assistance from the City of Cleveland's Storefront Renovation Program, the renovations included replacing all of the storefront windows and doors, uncovering historic building details, installing decorative light fixtures to illuminate the front of the building, and masonry repairs.

The remodeling of the interior of the center storefront was completed in late summer and is now the new home of the Cleveland office of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. The westerly storefront, totaling 2,600 square feet, and 3,600 square feet of space on the second floor remain available for lease.

KCDC purchased the building in late 2014 with the intent to bring renewed vitality to a "tired" property and the opportunity to upgrade one of the few remaining buildings in the downtown Kamm's Corners district that had not been renovated. Other improvements completed to the building include replacing the old boiler heating system to individual HVAC units, repaving the rear parking lot, and updating the building's electrical service.



The newly renovated historic Alber Building

For more information about the building or the Storefront Renovation Program, please contact Ben Campbell of KCDC at ben.campbell@kammscorners.com or (216) 252-6559 ext. 1200.

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Visit the Indoor Kamm's Corners Farmers Market at the Cretan Center on December 13



...by Bill Markowitz, Market Manager

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market

Our popular neighborhood market began its seventh indoor season this month on November 8, and it will be open again on Sunday, December 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Shop inside the Cretan Center at 3853 West 168th Street, where more than twenty market members will bring the best foods and products Ohio has to offer.

City Club Catering Master Chef Steve Nikolakis will once again have his famous home made chicken noodle soup on hand to complement his gyros and Greek specialties. Our famed market musicians will be donating their time to perform holiday music.

The impressive array of local foods include Ohio eggs, cheeses, maple syrup, honey and a variety of preserved foods such as peppers, pickles, jams, salsas, and sauces. Farmers also offer hydroponic greens, storage crops such as apples, winter squash, potatoes, and other root vegetables. Area vendors will provide baked goods, pasta, prepared food, spices, tea and coffee, soaps and lotions, local art, and hand crafted items for you and your pets.

Some vendors, including Smith Fruit farm and Quiroz Farm will be outside, weather permitting.

Supporting a local food system means supporting your region, the environment, the community, and the local economy. Eating local food is healthier for our environment because it requires less fossil fuel to transport and little or no chemical fertilizers or pesticides. Locally grown food is healthier, and lasts longer than food imported or transported over long distances, because it is both fresher with more nutrients and less susceptible to contamination due to its short journey from farm to plate.

This will be our last market of the 2015 season. Keep up to date with market news! We will be posting pictures from the indoor market and providing advance news about the 2016 season!

Please check our web site frequently:

kc-fm.org

Credit, debit, and EBT cards are accepted. You can also make your Ohio Direction card go further at the market with Produce Perks!

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Music of the Market II CD – The Ideal Holiday Gift!

For that special music lover in your life, Music of the Market II features 18 fabulous songs donated by musicians who have played at the market. Several of the musicians on the CD will be performing at

the December indoor market and will be available to autograph your purchase! A great value at only \$10 each, you can take advantage of special holiday pricing of two CD's for \$15 or four CD's for \$20.

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For more information about the market, call market manager Bill Markowitz at 216-252-6559 ext. 1400, or email him at kcfarmersmarket@gmail.com.



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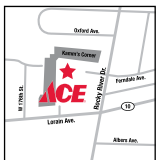
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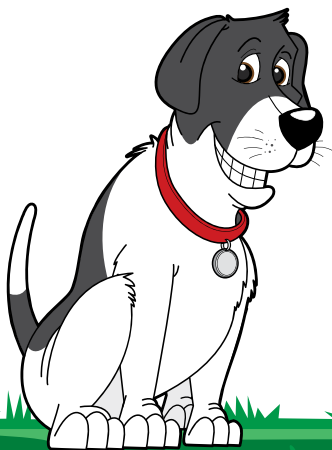
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Community West Foundation Honors Dr. James and Lois Magisano

Community West Foundation paid tribute to its loyal donor family – The Legacy Society Members – at its annual Legacy Society Dinner on October 8. The foundation’s most prestigious award for outstanding philanthropy was presented at the dinner to Dr. James and Lois Magisano who embody characteristics of altruism at its very best!

Dr. Magisano has served on the Board of Directors of the Community West Foundation since 2005. With a platform that encouraged growth of the Foundation, he served as chair of both the Advancement and Development Committees and as a member of the Executive Committee. Dr. Magisano currently serves on the Advancement and Grants Committees and contributes his thoughtful understanding to the meetings. As philanthropists, the couple supports many charitable causes that enhance and enrich the community. Through the Foundation, they created the Dr. James A. and Lois Magisano Donor Advised Fund and have given grants to many organizations.

The Magisanos have been involved in Fairview Hospital’s growth for many years, juggling careers and many altruistic endeavors. Medicine was more than a profession to this couple, it was a calling to serve others. Dr. and Mrs. Magisano dedicated their lives to the great purpose of healing and helping others. Dr. Magisano had an impact on countless community members through his work as a surgeon at Fairview Hospital for over three decades. Lois Magisano served as the clinical supervisor of the Intensive Care Unit at Fairview Hospital for eleven years.

The Magisanos continue to leave an indelible mark wherever they put their energies and resources. Their humility and compassion have a profound effect on everyone that meets them. What a gift Dr. James and Lois Magisano are to Community West Foundation and our community!



Congratulations to 2015 Art of Caring Award recipients Dr. James and Lois Magisano.



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- 11 ✦ Mother/Son Nerf Battle!
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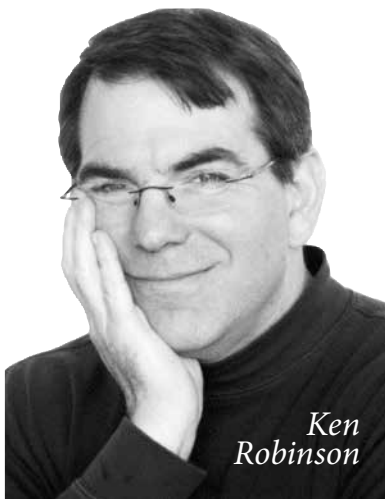
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In addition, Fairview Hospital is designated a Level II Trauma Center, Chest Pain Center, Primary Stroke Center, and a Level III Neonatal and Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for mothers and their infants, if needed.

At Fairview, patients with a serious illness or a complicated surgery are treated in the medical and surgical intensive care units.

“Our intensive care units are staffed by nurses certified in critical care, nurse practitioners, and intensivists (critical care physicians) who provide high-acuity care to the critically ill,” says Dr. Taylor. As Magnet® nurses, Fairview’s nurses are recognized for quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice.

In addition to its highly trained staff, Fairview Hospital recently expanded its emergency department and intensive care unit to offer improved access to emergency and critical care services. The expansion includes a 55-bed emergency department and a separate 16-room pediatric emergency department, two Level II trauma rooms, and an expanded intensive care unit with 38 private patient rooms.

“The new facility provides unique capabilities,” says Dr. Taylor.

Perhaps most impressive is a system that provides monitoring of all ICU patients from the Cleveland Clinic main campus, where additional critical care intensivists and nurses use high-resolution video, audio, and electronic charting to monitor patients.

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The Latest Options in Prostate Cancer Treatment

Improvements in the effectiveness of prostate cancer treatments are changing the outlook for men diagnosed with the cancer for the better.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men, and the second leading cause of cancer death among men in the United States. One in six men is likely to be diagnosed in their lifetime; most cases are found in men over age 65.

Today's prostate cancer treatments include surgery, radiation and drugs that slow cancer cell growth. The safety and effectiveness of these treatments are steadily improving.



Rajan Ramanathan, MD

"Each treatment has its own benefits and risks, and choosing the right approach can be complicated," says Rajan Ramanathan, MD, a Cleveland Clinic urologist who sees patients at Fairview Hospital and Richard E. Jacobs Health Center in Avon. "Narrowing treatment options depends on the stage of the cancer and how quickly cancer cells are growing."

In some cases, no treatment might be the most appropriate first step. Called "active surveillance," this strategy allows men with early-stage or very slow-growing prostate cancer to avoid treatment and its side effects. The patient's cancer is regularly monitored so that action can be taken if the cancer grows or spreads.

Radiation therapy is a treatment option that kills cancer cells and shrinks tumors. Radiation can be produced from a machine outside the body (external radiation) or by putting materials (often referred to as radiation "seeds") that produce radiation into the area where the cancer cells are found (internal radiation or brachytherapy).

One of the most common surgical treatments for prostate cancer is radical prostatectomy, which involves the removal of the entire prostate. This can be done through an incision in the lower abdomen (open approach), or using the newer robot-assisted surgery. Robotic prostatectomy is a type of minimally invasive surgery that uses robotic equipment and allows surgeons to operate through small ports rather than large incisions.

"Unlike many cancers, prostate cancer usually allows the patient a significant window of time to consider their options," says Dr. Ramanathan. "Make sure you understand all of the information before you and your physician agree on a course of treatment."

Download a free prostate cancer treatment guide at clevelandclinic.org/prostatecancer. Call our Cancer Answer Line at 216-444-HOPE for answers to your questions or to schedule an appointment with a Cleveland Clinic prostate cancer specialist. Cleveland Clinic offers same-day appointments.

Citizens Police Academy

Have you ever wanted to ride along with the police or go to the police firing range? That's exactly what the group of residents shown in the photo below are experiencing during an eight-week informational course, sponsored by the City of Cleveland. The group meets each Tuesday under the instruction of Police Officer Tim Riley.

The free course covers the gamut from the structure and role of the police department to OVI traffic stops, use of force, and rape aggression defense training.

Participants are given a firsthand look at what rules, regulations, and policies the police follow as well as a better understanding about the person behind the badge.



At the Citizens Police Academy, this group of residents learned about the police department, its mission and goals, and those who serve the community each day.

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Coloring Books Offer Relaxing History Lessons

Drawings and activities featuring Historic West Park places fill the pages of coloring books donated by the West Park Historical Society to one grade in every West Park elementary school.

The books feature word games and sketches of various historic West Park places and buildings suitable for coloring. Each recipient is encouraged to learn the history of his or her own family through personal photo albums and discussions with parents and grandparents.

"It is our hope that we've stimulated some youngsters to embrace a love of history, starting with the very neighborhood where they attend school," said West Park Historical Society trustee, Jeanne Anderson. She worked with volunteers to distribute the book at the start of the school year.

The project was funded by a grant from Neighborhood Connections, an affiliate of the Cleveland Foundation and the Ohio Arts Council.



Meg Colwell, Principal of Puritas Community Elementary School, holds "Historic West Park," a coloring and activity book.



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Shopping Here Makes Us Richer

All year long, but especially during holiday shopping, keep in mind how locally owned independent businesses return a great deal to the community. It is called the multiplier effect: one dollar spent at a locally owned business comes back to the community through city taxes, employer wages, and contributions to local non-profit organizations. Also, the unique character of our community is defined in large part by the businesses we have here – and that plays a big factor in your overall satisfaction with where you live and the value of your home and property. We want our local businesses to thrive!

An added bonus to shopping locally is the customer service is better because it is more personal. After all, you see your local merchants day after day both in their shops and around town – and they see you! So, you matter more to them, too. Shop for gifts or services at the local stores that add to the character that is Kamm's Corners. Each time you choose to spend your dollars here, you increase the vitality of your neighborhood. While on your holiday outings, dine at local owner operated restaurants and leave your server a nice tip, too. Spread the happiness! Remember, too, that gift certificates are available from our many fine neighborhood businesses.

Here are just a few shopping ideas:

- All American Karate Studio:** Private and group lessons
- ACE Hardware:** Garden and household tools, seasonal gifts
- Carol & John's Comic Book Shop:** Comic books, action figures
- Carpet Center USA:** Rugs, carpeting, natural candles
- Common Grounds:** Specialty coffee drinks, varieties of tea
- Dad's Smoke Shop:** Tobacco, humidors, smoking accessories
- Groomingdales:** Grooming and pet supplies
- K&K Portage Market:** Meat, wine, fresh bakery, gourmet sauces
- Kamms Plaza Pet & Supply:** Pets, supplies, pet grooming
- Lorain Trisket Cycle & Fitness:** Bicycles and fitness equipment
- Memberships at Anytime Fitness, Euphoria Health/Fitness, Fitness 19, or the West Park YMCA**
- Mike's Diecast & Collectibles:** Diecast vehicles, hot wheels, vintage toys, action figures
- Puritas Nursery:** Poinsettias, wreaths, Christmas trees & cactus
- Savor the Moment:** Fine roasted coffees, specialty teas, custom cards, novelty gifts
- Seven Seas Seafood:** Fresh seafood, gift cards
- Skater's Edge:** Ice skates, roller blades, boots, accessories
- Starship Earth:** Jewelry, incense, costumes, collectibles
- Style Mutt:** Pet treats, grooming, doggy daycare
- West Park Massotherapy:** Massage, exercise, ballroom dancing, Zumba, skin care products, soy candles, accessories
- Wilhelmy's Florists, Affordable Florals, and Floral Images:** All have flowers, plants, gifts
- Yvonne's Jewelers:** Watches, gems, jewelry

Other good holiday gift ideas include:

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market: Open Sunday, December 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendors offer fresh produce, meat, bakery, and other unique items.

West Park Historical Society: Calendars, local history books, and memberships.

Happy Neighborhood Holiday Shopping!



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The Puritas Nursery Holiday Trains

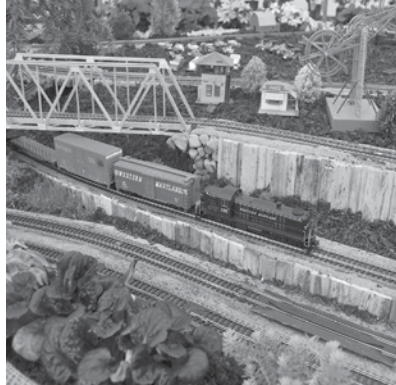
Fun for the Entire Family!

Puritas Nursery proudly presents, for the thirteenth consecutive year, truly unique holiday model train displays that capture the spirit of the season and bring out the kid in all of us.

This year there are a total of 12 trains, two different gauges (sizes), running on two distinct layouts.

The main HO gauge layout is a beautifully landscaped 8'x30' table with six trains and two trolleys chugging through hills and valleys of live trees, shrubs, and flowing water. Children delight in using the two carpeted "tunnels" beneath the display as "kids-only" shortcuts to cross from one side of the layout to the other.

The G scale layout will feature several theme scenes including Wizard of Oz, Lion King, the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, a Circus, and a Fairy Garden. Scavenger hunts will delight kids and parents alike! Children will also be sure to enjoy the O-scale track that allows them to run Thomas the Train themselves! Football fans will love the new Browns train.



The size, extent, and variety of the displays make for great family photos and cherished holiday memories. Cameras are welcome. It is remarkable that these original works of art are designed and created by a team of passionate volunteers and model railroad hobbyists between Halloween and Thanksgiving.

The main HO display was designed by Dan Gryczan, an ardent model railroad enthusiast and a good friend to Puritas Nursery. Gryczan, Dale Heyink, owner/operator of Puritas Nursery, the entire nursery staff, and numerous volunteers put hundreds of hours into the construction of the displays.

The train layout, which uses real vegetation, is set up in a heated greenhouse. Vegetation includes miniature evergreens and conifers, herbs, and junipers. Poinsettias add color and may be sold right off the train layout. The layout will evoke fond memories of Christmases past when downtown stores like Sterling-Linder, Halle's, and others featured model trains in their toyland displays.

Children may visit with Santa Claus from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, December 5 and 12. The public may take pictures with Santa free of charge using their own camera.

Photo galleries of past year's layouts may be viewed at puritasnursery.com.

Date: November 27 through December 31, 2015

Time: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Weekends, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Note! Closed at 3 p.m. Christmas Eve & New Years Eve

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The master suite includes a walk-in closet and a full bathroom – one of two full baths. The kitchen is all new, including appliances. There is a new attached deck in the backyard with access from the dining area.

This home is move-in ready! It is conveniently located near major free-ways, the airport, and the Cleveland Metroparks. We will only sell the home to an owner occupant.

Down payment assistance may be available through the CityLift program. Interested? Please call Bill Markowitz, Manager of Residential Property Redevelopment, at 216-252-6559, ext. 1700.



216-252-4500

4117 Rocky River Drive
Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Obstacle Course Offers Unique Training Experience

...by Marilyn Osborne

Did you know that an outdoor training course exists right here in the neighborhood? In 2008, Certified Personal Trainer Kyle Amsdell opened Euphoria Health and Fitness at 20455 Emerald Parkway Drive off Grayton Road as a triathlon training center with a full complement of indoor training equipment.

Kyle successfully competed in over 250 triathlons and two full Iron Man contests and realized that training indoors is one thing. But, to participate in serious competitions like the Tough Mudder and Warrior Dash means practicing outdoors on tracks that mimic the wide spectrum of the grueling obstacles seen in those races. Nothing like that existed nearby.

At the same time, outdoor adventure parks were taking off. "I had the land, so I developed an outdoor obstacle training course outside our front door," said Kyle. The one-mile loop spreads over 25 acres and is loaded with a wide spectrum of challenges including hills, stairs, wall climbs, cargo net climbs, balance beams, pull-up bars, and more! Plans are underway to add at least two new obstacles next year.



Certified Personal Trainer Kyle Amsdell opened Euphoria Health and Fitness in 2008.



The staff of the West Park YMCA recently sampled the rigorous obstacle course at Euphoria Health and Fitness with help from personal trainer George Najjar (at right), who specializes in youth coaching and weight management.

Groups come to the course such as boy scouts, corporate teams, high school sports teams, military units, and police academies. Euphoria's personal trainers provide group instruction and aid in getting everyone through the course. Recommended for ages eight and older, the course can be done by children as young as four with modifications and assistance.

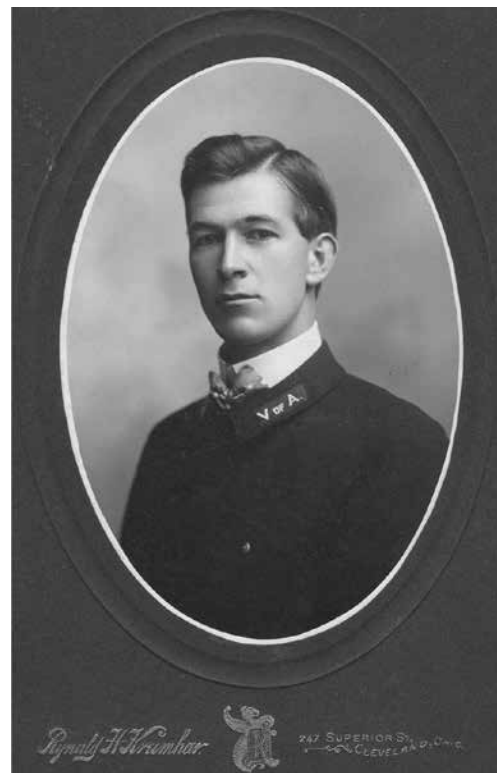
Recently, staff members of the West Park YMCA went through the course, flipping monster truck tires, traversing ropewalks, and helping teammates over obstacles and through tunnels. "The course is challenging, but also fun," said Linda Cattani, Active Older Adult Coordinator at the West Park YMCA. "I would like to bring my small group training classes here to chart their progress as the course becomes easier with each try."

What a way to foster an incredible sense of self-belief, camaraderie, and personal accomplishment! Interested in learning more? For obstacle course information at Euphoria Health and Fitness, call Meg Shea at 216-265-3689 or visit euphoriahealthandfitness.com.

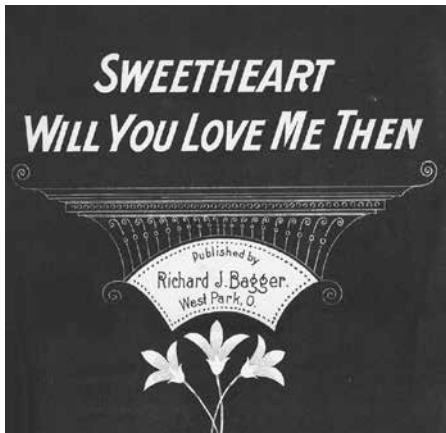
West Park Music Man

...by Gary Swilik

Among the many items in the archives of the West Park Historical Society is a four-page booklet of sheet music for a song titled "Sweetheart Will You Love Me Then." Here's a sample of the lyrics:



Young songwriter Richard J. Bagger at about the time he wrote "Sweetheart Will You Love Me Then." Courtesy of the Matthei-Leinweber families.



Sheet music published in West Park over a century ago. West Park Historical Society Collection.

The sun was sinking low and the sky was all aglow, as two lovers strolled beside a silvery stream. As he told love's story sweet, her heart with rapture beat, for there is nothing half as fair as love's young dream.

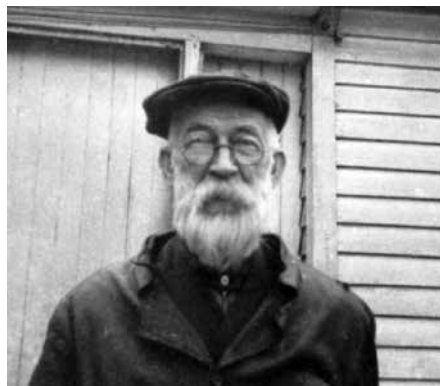
The song bears a copyright date of 1908 with words and music by "Richard J. Bagger of West Park, Ohio." We set out to learn more about this mysterious music man who labored in West Park over a century ago. A search of the Plain Dealer archives uncovered only a single cryptic reference stating Richard Bagger was one of Cleveland's "song poets."

Digging deeper, we discovered Richard Bagger was born in Rockport (West Park) in 1880, the son of Nelson and Catherine

Bagger, who operated a basket factory here. He went to school through the 8th grade, which was common for the times. He was in his late 20's and living with his parents at 3299 Warren Road when he wrote the song we have in our collection.

By 1934, Richard was manager of the Warren Road Nursery near the Bagger Family home. He never married. In 1948, he died of a heart attack at age 67 at his sister's house on Triskett Road and was buried in Alger Cemetery. His death certificate lists his occupation as "retired florist."

We can find no evidence Richard ever wrote or published another song. What inspired his single musical composition remains a mystery. A lost love? Someone he admired from afar? We'll never know. However we did find someone who person-



Songwriter Richard J. Bagger on Triskett Road in the 1940's. Courtesy of the Matthei-Leinweber families.



Bagger family home on Warren Road. Early 1900's. Courtesy of the Matthei-Leinweber families.

ally knew our song writer. Wallace "Red" Matthei, 82, owner of Trucking Vantastiks, is Richard Bagger's grand-nephew.

"My Uncle Richard always had a beard when I knew him," Red remembers. "His nursery was opposite the shopping center on Warren Road and went all the way through to Triskett. I used to sell tomatoes on the roadside for him. He paid me in stamps. That was fine with me as my Uncle and I were both avid stamp collectors. I never knew he wrote any music but he may have been a photographer. He took some of the old photos I've donated to the historical society."

Richard's song probably hasn't been heard in over a century but, since we have the words and music, we need only find a musician to play it for us. In effect, we'd be taking a musical time-trip back to 1908 to hear the way things used to be.

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Cancer Survivors Live Strong With Help from the YMCA

LiveStrong at the West Park YMCA is a free, twelve-week program tailored to help adult cancer survivors reclaim their health and well being before, during, and after treatment. It is a gentle and supportive program designed to foster camaraderie among people with similar experiences. Membership in the West Park YMCA is not necessary to participate.

By focusing on the whole person and not just on the disease, LiveStrong at the West Park YMCA helps participants move beyond cancer in spirit, mind, and body.

Meetings occur twice a week in small groups of six to eight. Each 90-minute session takes place on Wednesday evening and Saturday morning and is led by a certified instructor who has completed specialized training in the elements of cancer, rehabilitative exercise, and supportive cancer care.

The focus is on:

- Building muscle mass and strength
- Increasing flexibility
- Improving confidence and self-esteem

No one experiences cancer in the same way. LiveStrong at the West Park YMCA provides each participant with personalized attention to target areas needing the most improvement.

To sign up, please e-mail livestrong@leelandy.org or call Lauren at 216-941-5410.

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Kamm's Calendar

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market

Sunday, December 13

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In the Cretan Center, South of Lorain Avenue on West 168th Street

Wine in the Holidays

"Uncork the Fun!"

Thursday, December 3, 6-9 p.m.

Our annual fundraiser held at Puritas Nursery. Purchase tickets at kammscorners.com or call 216-252-6559 x1000

Winter Wonderland

Ceremonial Holiday Lighting and Singing Under the Clock followed by Santa & Star Wars at Kamms Plaza Friday, December 4
6 to 8:30 p.m.

Kamms Plaza Sleigh Rides

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December 11 & 18, 6 to 8 p.m.

For information regarding events call 216-252-6559, x1500



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We appreciate our Friends of Kamm's Corners – neighbors just like you! With generous support from the community, we continue to promote, develop, and guide the Kamm's Corners neighborhood.

If you are not currently a Friend, please send in the membership form on this page with your membership donation of \$20 or more to receive a membership card that may be used for discounts on goods or services at participating businesses in Ward 17.

KCDC has been working for you and your community for over 35 years. We are responsible for administering the Storefront Renovation program, producing Kamm's Corners Magazine, and planning neighborhood events like Asphalt Cinema, the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™, and many more.

To continue our good work, we need your continued support. Please become a Friend of Kamm's Corners!

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- Puritas Nursery
- RockSolid Stone Works
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Your donation supports KCDC's mission to facilitate the development and promotion of the West Park neighborhood.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation in the amount of:

- \$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other _____

All amounts are greatly appreciated. Please use "Other" for amounts less than \$20. Donations of \$20 or more receive a Friend of Kamm's Corners Discount Card good at participating neighborhood merchants.

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Centers of Influence Luncheons Foster Greater Communication

Each quarter, KCDC hosts a "Centers of Influence" luncheon, an informal discussion with leaders of groups that share similar goals.

For example, on October 21, we hosted non-profit organizations serving the youth of West Park, and shared information about our various programs and upcoming events. Red Lantern Kitchen and Bar catered a great lunch!

In January, we will be meeting with education professionals about shared challenges and opportunities here.



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Annual Christmas Concert

featuring the Choral & Handbell Ensemble from

St. Joseph Academy

Sunday, December 13

2:00pm-3:00pm

Reception and Raffle following concert

Fee: \$10

All proceeds benefit River's Edge Women's Outreach Center

River's Edge
A Place for Reflection and Action
A Ministry of the Congregation of St. Joseph



www.RiversEdgeCleveland.com



May your Holidays be Bright

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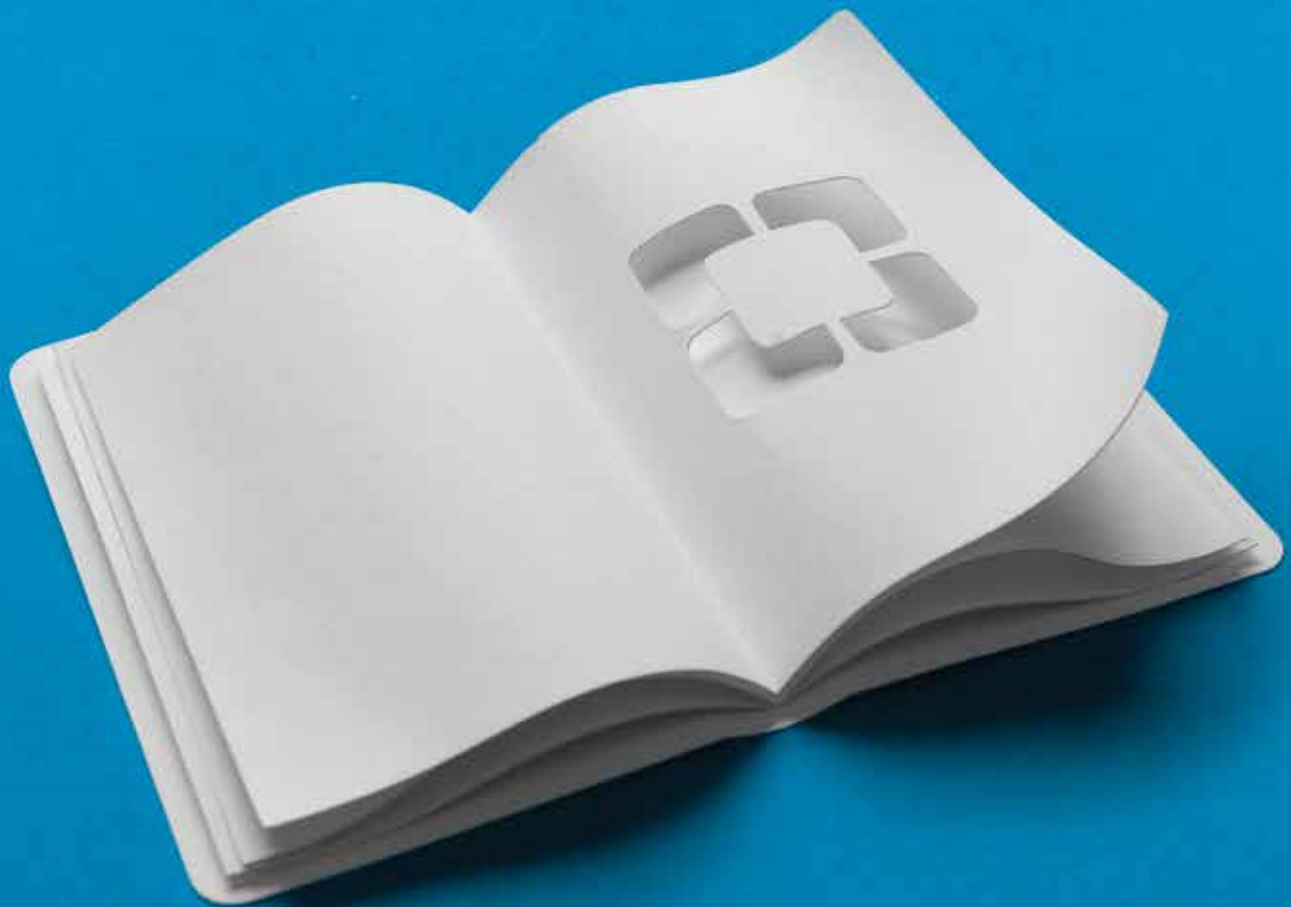
Monday – Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Friday – 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Saturday – Noon to 10:30 p.m.
Sunday – Noon to 9 p.m.

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