

Kamm's Corners

Magazine



Kamm's Corners Development Corporation
Volume 17, Number 1 ❖ Winter 2017

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Kamm's Corners

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From the Director

Spring will be here before we know it! Although the winter has been manageable in large part, I am still looking forward to those first crocuses in my front yard signaling that warmer weather is on the way.

A lot is popping in the neighborhood right now, with many businesses opened or opening soon, and many good things on the horizon. A couple of highlights are the opening of Hatfield's Goode Grub, and Only in Clev, both on Lorain Avenue. Check out "Biz Bits" inside by Ben Campbell for more information about these merchants and others on the way.

We want to thank former Cleveland Police First District Commander Tom McCartney for his years of service to West Park. The Commander has moved to the Third District. Please welcome our new First District Commander, Daniel M. Fay, to West Park. See the article on page 10 to learn more.

We are proud to announce that we received a Green Infrastructure Grant from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District that will provide funding to completely renovate our main municipal parking lot on West 168th Street and Albers Avenue, installing green infrastructure features to capture storm water runoff. We thank the sewer district for this transformational \$250,000 grant!

Our only fundraiser of the year, Wine in the Holidays, was again a great success. I want to thank our super organized Manager of Office Operations Jackie Wohleber for planning another sold out event, and especially thank our sponsors Rocksolid Stone Works, AMP 150, The Public House, and of course Puritas Nursery for their support. Mark your calendar for the Thursday after Thanksgiving to join us next year!

There are lots of other fundraisers coming up around the neighborhood supporting a wide range of good programs and causes. I encourage you to get out and support these events. It feels good to give back, and you might be surprised how much fun you have, too!

And, it's never too early to mark your calendar for the eighth (wow!) The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™ coming up May 13. Invite your friends to West Park's Homecoming Celebration, and join in the fun.

Stay warm, and as always, let us know how we're doing.

Our cover: In support of the axiom that "the best camera you have is the one in your hand," our wondrous winter cover photo was captured by noted area photographer Gary Yasaki using his iPhone. Gary happened to be driving through the Metroparks during the first snow of the season and pulled off the road to memorialize this special moment. It's not the camera that makes the shot – it's the photographer! Call Gary at 216-781-7330 for all your photographic needs.

Steve

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

The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™ returns on Saturday, May 13, so save the date to enjoy music, food, and fun for all ages from noon to 8 p.m. Businesses, organizations, and artists may apply now for booth space online. See the article on page 6 or visit kammscorners.com.

A **West Side High School Fair** takes place on Thursday, March 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at **John Marshall High School**, 3952 West 140th Street. Information about west side and downtown tuition-free options will be featured, including public, private, and charter schools. See the article on page 22.

A number of after-school programs are available through **MyCom**, a network that connects Greater Cleveland's young people with high-quality, neighborhood-based programs, locally working with **Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation**. These include dance, robotics, music, fashion, and more. Visit bpdc.org for a list of neighborhood youth programs and agencies.

The **West Park Kiwanis Club** offers a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, March 11, at the **Cretan Party Center**, 3853 West 168th Street, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Dinner includes a salad, roll and butter, dessert, and a beverage. Proceeds benefit local charitable organizations.

Sign up to **"Jig and Jog,"** a 5k race and 1-mile walk through Kamm's Corners on Saturday, March 25, at 10 a.m. The event begins and ends at **West Park Station**, 17015 Lorain Avenue, which is the host and title sponsor of the event. Proceeds this year will benefit the **Senior Services Fund** at KCDC. This is the event's sixth year. West Park Station will offer lunch specials following the event and a watch party for the **NCAA** basketball tournament. The first 50 registrations are available for \$3 off the \$20 registration for the race. The 1-mile walk is \$15. Register online at peaceracing.com.

Souper Market, 16804 Lorain Avenue, is under the new management of **Wes Daniels**. He worked for them for years and now has achieved his entrepreneurial dream of owning his own franchise. Give the new management a try! Read more local business news in the **Biz Bits** article on page 12.

Members of the starship **USS Challenger**, a West Park based charity, invites everyone to celebrate **Cleveland Star Trek Day** on Tuesday, February 28, at **P.J. McIntyre's Irish Pub**, 17119 Lorain Avenue, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Raffles and fun! For details, see facebook.com/clevelandstartrek.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 25, visit the grand opening of a **Little Free Library** at **Gunning Park Recreation Center**, 16700 Puritas Avenue. Donations of books, games, playing cards, coloring books, and crayons are being sought now. See the story on page 7.

On Saturday, March 25, celebrate the **7th Anniversary of Si Señor Mexican Restaurant**, 16800 Lorain Avenue. Warm up with sizzling fajitas or your favorite authentic Mexican dish while sipping a cold Margarita or your beverage of choice. The festivities include a **live Mariachi band** from 6 to 9 p.m. Call 216-941-4424 for details. See the ad on page 31.

Spring is around the corner, and program sign-up is underway at the **West Park Family YMCA** for aquatics, wellness programs, group exercises, and more. Membership is reasonable and pays for itself in improved health benefits. Visit the YMCA at 15501 Lorain Avenue or call 216-941-5410 for more information.

KCDC is proud to be a community outreach sponsor of the **Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF)** again this year. It runs from March 29 through April 9 at **Tower City Cinemas** and at neighborhood screening locations. For details including how to get \$2 off your ticket see the article page 11.

If you are a young professional, connect with others like you who are making a difference in West Park. It's fun and productive to join meetings of 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 email westparkyp@gmail.com for details.

Senior Transportation Connection offers senior citizens a way to get to doctor appointments or to make shopping trips. Simply call 800-983-4782 to find out how to register, hours of operation, and ride rates.

Cuyahoga County and the **Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition** offer free tax preparation services for low and middle income residents through April 15. Call **United Way** at 2-1-1 to get an appointment at one of the 25 sites offering this tax service free of charge.

Leadership Cleveland seeks recognized, senior-level positional leaders who are ready to become empowered with knowledge, skills, and relationships to advance and deepen their community impact. Apply online through March 15 at clevelandleads.org.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited offers area teenagers help in finding summer jobs. Register online at youthopportunities.org. While there, read about coming events and youth success stories. Call 216-566-5445 for more information.

GardenWalk Cleveland returns this summer and will feature West Park gardens as well as outstanding and interesting gardens across Cleveland, both east and west. See the article on page 25 for details about how to get involved.

To attend more arts events in the coming year, check out the **Cuyahoga Arts & Culture** website's Calendar of Events each month at cacgrants.org. KCDC is pleased to have received a \$5,000 grant for our **Summer Arts & Entertainment Series**, which kicks off with **The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™** on May 13.

Learn who won the **3rd Annual West Park Pizza Bake-Off** on page 26. The annual fundraising event for **St. Pat's West Park Church** attracted a large crowd that consumed well over 200 half-sheet pizzas of all types and cast more than 400 votes in total.

Iron Maidens women's rugby is looking for new members. No experi-

ence is required, but some athletic background is helpful. Practice begins at **Impett Park** on West 153rd Street at the end of February, usually from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To apply, visit their website clevelandwomensrugby.com.

River's Edge, 3430 Rocky River Drive, offers support in personal transformation. Do you want to be a better you? Check out the schedule of programs being offered to individuals on their journey to wholeness. Visit riversedgecleveland.com.

A **block club** is composed of neighbors who come together to share information, identify concerns, and act collectively to address the concerns. Members also develop friendships and hold social events. If you are interested in starting a block club, call **Julie Dahlhausen** at 216-252-6559, ext. 1300 for assistance.

The **First District Police Community Relations Board** welcomes residents to their monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at **Saint Ignatius of Antioch Church**, 10205 Lorain Avenue. Meet and talk with the officers who serve West Park.

Have you noticed a big improvement in snow removal on sidewalks in downtown Kamm's Corners this winter? Thanks to the **Special Improvement District** workers and the property owners who have pooled their funds for snow removal, litter control, graffiti removal, and more!

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market returns every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., starting June 11. Entering its eleventh summer, the market features high quality, locally grown produce, live music, a cooking demo, art, healthy living help, and more. See why visiting our market should be your Sunday tradition. See more on page 26.

Keep informed about neighborhood events by following KCDC on social media. Find us on Facebook, Twitter @KammsCorners, and Instagram by searching Kamm's Corners Development Corporation. Subscribe to our e-newsletter by joining our mailing list. Enter your email address in the box at the bottom of our homepage at kammscorners.com.

Councilman's Corner

... by Councilman Marty Keane

News from Ward 17 and City Hall



Dear Neighbor:

Happy New Year! Here we go with the winter issue of Kamm's Corners Magazine. While it seems we have rounded third and are heading home in leaving winter weather behind, I really don't believe it. I'm confident a few big bursts of winter remain ahead. To that end, please keep in mind the safety of your neighbors and neighborhood. If you haven't seen a neighbor in a while, make a simple phone call. Also, during heavy snow, please keep the roadways clear. The snow plows are difficult enough to maneuver without having to navigate around obstacles.

Starting in March, Friday fish fry events happen and are open to all. What a wonderful opportunity to get together in the community. Proceeds benefit a number of charitable efforts that go well beyond a certain faith or church building. I know for sure that St. Mel, Our Lady of Angels, and St. Mary's Romanian will continue to offer delicious meatless options every week. St. Mark on Montrose will offer fish fries on March 10 and March 31. And, Bethany Lutheran on Triskett will offer fish dinners on March 17 and April 7. Please support these good institutions run by great volunteers for the betterment of our neighborhoods.

Last week, Mayor Jackson delivered the 2017 Mayor's Estimate to City Council. That means that between now and April 1, Council must hold budget hearings and pass a balanced budget for 2017. This year's budget hearings will likely prove to be interesting. The passage of Issue 32, the half percent income tax increase, the first here in over 32 years, means we are not flirting with the possibility of lay offs. What we will be focusing on is the level of service our neighborhoods expect and deserve: vast improvements to Public Safety and salvaging our departments within Public Works. From Streets to Forestry we must now show that support of Issue 32 meant something. Basic city services have suffered greatly these last few years. A structurally balanced budget

is possible, thanks to voters, and puts the pressure on to deliver real results in every corner of our great city.

At the end of last year, some changes occurred in the command staff of our First District Police Station. First, we express our gratitude for the service of Commander Tom McCartney. For more than 10 years, he was a great advocate for all the neighborhoods of the First District and the city as a whole. Commander McCartney has taken his talents to the Third District, and we wish him well.

Our new police commander is not new to many of us. Assigned to the First District in December of 2016, Dan Fay is now Commander of the First District. We welcome Commander Fay and offer him all the respect and support of West Park. Congratulations and welcome to Commander Fay!

That said, we also suffered a great loss on January 24. Officer David Fahey was killed in the line of duty while protecting us all and answering a call to duty. Officer Fahey was a true public servant. His passing should remind us of the dangerous job society asks of the men and women who serve on our safety forces every day. To his friends and family, we offer our deepest condolences.

On January 28, West Park showed its deep respect and true colors. I can honestly say I have never been more proud to call West Park home. The law enforcement community around Ohio and beyond descended on West Park to pay their final respects to an officer who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Community members lined the streets, ten deep at some points, to say thank you and to show all officers that they are not alone. We thank each and every one for their individual sacrifice and that of their families in an effort to keep us safe. God Bless Officer David Fahey!

Marty Keane

Vendors & Artists May Now Apply to be a part of The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™



West Park's Homecoming Celebration, The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™, is returning with great food, live music, children's shows and activities, Irish dancers, pipes and drums, and Fine Art Alley. Plan to attend the eighth annual event running from noon to 8 p.m. on Lorain Avenue between Rocky River Drive and West 165th Street on Saturday, May 13.

All West Park business owners are invited to participate, including new businesses, home-based businesses, and non-profit organizations. This is a prime opportunity to showcase your business directly to more than 30,000 visitors at this popular community event.

New this year are flexible booth options at an overall lower cost as vendors will provide their own tents, chairs, and tables for the first time. In addition, artists who wish to apply for Fine Art Alley, the handmade arts, crafts and gifts event inside The Hooley™ will contact Chelsea Jenkins of My Reclaimed Life. Details and online information are accessible on our website at kammscorners.com/TheHooley.

Completed applications and vendor fees must be received in our office by April 14.

For more information, email TheHooley@kammscorners.com or call 216-252-6559, ext. 1000.


Local Irish Dancers Win BIG

The World Irish Dance Championships in Dublin, Ireland, will take place during the week of Easter. Ten dancers from Brady Campbell School of Irish Dance will compete in what is considered the Olympics of Irish Dance:

Bela Burke
Charlie Brady Campbell
Lucy DeLeon
Aislinn Kane Elek (West Park)
Nolan Kane Elek (West Park)
Emma Fox
Caleb Grignon
Lizzie McGuire (West Park)
Alex Pratt
Abby Smith

Bela Burke's father owns West Park Barbershop, West Park Beauty Salon, and West Park Premier Lounge. And, Charlie Brady Campbell is the daughter of Patrick and Rebecca Brady Campbell, both teachers at the school. Both spent years dancing in the well-known Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance."

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"The kids have come a long way and are focused to put Cleveland on the Irish Dance map worldwide," said dance teacher Patrick Campbell. He and the two other primary teachers, Rebecca Brady Campbell and Bobby Masterson, couldn't be prouder.

The Dancers qualified over Thanksgiving weekend at the regional competition in Chicago.

"We have another 10-15 dancers that just missed qualifying," said Patrick. "It is a very tough competition, and they only select a limited number of dancers for the world competition!"

These high performance dancers are practicing four to five days per week. That is what it takes to get to the top anymore. Fans will have a chance to see them perform on May 13, on the Family Stage at The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™.

Also, stay tuned! Brady Campbell School of Irish Dance was asked to audition on NBC's "America's Got Talent" back in December. As we went to press they were waiting to see whether they will be invited to perform at the LIVE shows in Burbank, California. "Wow, what a great experience that was," said Patrick. "Whether we make it or not, America is blessed with so much hidden talent! The audition offered a great people watching experience."

Brady Campbell School of Irish Dance has been open since 2007, with two locations: one above P.J. McIntyre's in West Park and a studio in Avon Lake.

"We want to thank KCDC and the residents of West Park for their continued support of both the Brady Campbell Irish Dance School and P.J. McIntyre's," Patrick said.

For information about the school, call 216-926-4423, or visit bradycampbellirishdanceschool.com.



The Brady Campbell Irish Dance School dancers.

Little Free Library to Open at Gunning Recreation Center

Grand Opening on March 25 at 2 p.m.

Do you have any books, cards, checkers, coloring books, or crayons laying around or even one book that you don't want? The Hanley family of West Park is setting up a Little Free Library at Gunning Park Recreation Center, 16700 Puritas Avenue, and will gladly add your donations.

As a mom who home schools three sons, Mariah Hanley visits the rec center every weekday. "We moved near the rec center last Easter weekend," she said. "After watching the staff daily spend great time and energy with their patrons, we realized this was someplace special."

It is so special that it is not unusual for parents to drive their children from other neighborhoods to stay for the entire day or evening. According to Mariah, "These are good kids who need love and attention, but are bored from being here for hours even when there aren't programs at those times. Gunning also serves a large senior community who frequent the Benjamin Rose Center for Aging Well inside Gunning for socialization and exercise."

The Hanley family decided to tangibly show their appreciation for the services they enjoy at Gunning by engaging in a monthly community give back. Mariah explained, "This started with giving away hundreds of free bags of popcorn and then hundreds of popsicles when the weather got warm." Soon they were passing out bags upon bags of candy, coolers of bottled water, hot cocoa, candy canes, and even MORE popcorn."

This opened the door to not only getting to know the people who come to the rec center, but also their stories. "We enjoy so many of the seniors who frequent Gunning and find them to be absolute treasures," Mariah exclaimed. They also became acquainted with the youth population and their stories.

To bring the two groups together with something for everyone, the Hanley family came up with an idea to benefit both: books and games for all ages.



John and Mariah Hanley with sons, Teyyah 13, Coniah 11, and Avishai 6.

When Mariah approached Gunning's manager Joe Munoz, he and the staff agreed to dedicate a specific area for the family to set up an official Little Free Library and Activity Center for the community. Said Mariah, "We then purchased a large hutch and registered with the non-profit Little Free Library organization."

Now they need to fill it with books, playing cards, basic board games like checkers, coloring books, and crayons. "We are looking for all these items, but most importantly books! We need a large number of books covering all ages and genres to add to the library when it starts to run low. We hope to impact the community by giving patrons another avenue for entertainment through the gift of reading, and to also occupy children while they wait for parents to pick them up."

Anyone with books or other items to donate may drop them off in the Book Donation Bin at Gunning Park Recreation Center during normal business hours, generally 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 216-420-7900 for more information. Please make a difference with your books by helping to get them in the hands of those who can truly use them.

Come join the fun, food, and free giveaways at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 25, for the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Little Free Library and Activity Center at Gunning Park Recreation Center, 16700 Puritas Avenue.



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- FAT TUESDAY 2/28

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Kids Choose Bridge at Riverside School

...by Marilyn Osborne

At the end of their day twice a week, sixth through eighth graders at Riverside School, 14601 Montrose Avenue, engage in a chosen educational elective such as web design, chess, diplomacy, or bridge. Although the average age of bridge players is closer to 60 than 12, a dozen students are picking up the basics of bridge under the tutelage of expert volunteers led by Doug Henderson, a life master bridge player four times over.

Assisting him on January 23, were Pat Koberg and John Woodward. All three offered exuberant advice, each covering a table inside the school library. Bridge is a partnership game requiring four players: two against two. As students filed into the library, player pairs sat opposite each other at tables. The basics, including bridge terminology and bidding, are learned through play. At each table, bidding got underway with help if needed. Knowledge and understanding grows as the weeks continue. By spring, a little tournament will be held among the players.

"Those who play, claim bridge is by far the most challenging and enjoyable of all the card games," said Doug. "It is also more complicated than other card games, which tends to discourage new players." Covered in the class are bridge basics, which lead to critical thinking. A contract is played based on the bidding. One partner makes the tricks to satisfy the contract. The opponents try to block the tricks.

"It's a mind-challenging game," admits Doug. "At the end of the class, they've played only a couple of hands, but continue building their knowledge."

Indeed, studies reveal that students who play bridge show improved standardized test scores in the following school year. While playing bridge, they think hard, interact face-to-face with other kids, meet some older folks who care, and have fun! And, despite bridge's "nerdy" reputation, the kids in this class are both smart with numbers and as engaging as any others. Riverside Elementary is the only Cleveland Metropolitan School that offers bridge lessons.

As indicated by the "senior" tutors, playing bridge im-



proves as one ages. The same can't be said for football, baseball, tennis, or gymnastics. "In bridge, your glory days are always ahead of you," said Doug, a member of the American Contract Bridge League and Ruby Life Master with 1,500 points. He's helping an 80-year-old friend attain her ranking as a Life Master (300 points). League standings go up to Grand Life Master with 10,000 points.

A bridge player since high school, Doug began playing in earnest after retiring and continues to play twice a week. In 2009, he began tutoring Cleveland school children in bridge after offering his services to the principals of two schools: Wade Park and Riverside School. Now Riverside is the only remaining school with a bridge program.

Compassionate about public education, Doug has served on the Cleveland Education Committee for years, chairs the meetings, and attends some school board meetings. He is the facilitator of the Neighborhood Education Committee, which meets every month at Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation. He is a member of the West Park United Church of Christ and serves on the stewardship and finance committee. Scottish by birth, he is an active member of the Clan Henderson Society, which "fosters fellowship and friendship among kith and kin and all clans focusing on heritage." Doug plans to continue tutoring at Riverside as long as the children are willing to learn.

Principal Paige Baublitz-Watkins pops in on the bridge class regularly. "I am always impressed by the level of thinking taking place here," she said.



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Welcome to the New First District Commander

On Monday, December 12, Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson was joined by the Director of Public Safety Michael McGrath, Chief of Police Calvin D. Williams, and other public safety members to congratulate and administer the oath of office to four police officers given new command positions for the City of Cleveland Division of Police.

Two commanders were laterally transferred to new command positions within the Division and two were promoted to the rank of Commander. Mayor Jackson swore-in Daniel M. Fay, who recently served as the Commander of the Bureau of Support Services, as the Commander of the First District. Thomas N. McCartney, who most recently served as the Commander of the First District, now takes on the role of Commander of the Third District.

"It is an honor and privilege to be assigned as the Commander of the First District," said Commander Fay. "I would like to take this opportunity to articulate two important goals. The first goal is safety. I will strive for a safe environment for officers and citizens based on established policies, teamwork, and training. The second goal is daily community engagement that is professional and respectful. Every interaction with our citizens is an opportunity to strengthen relationships."

Commander Fay has been with the City of Cleveland Division of Police for more than 20 years. He was promoted to sergeant in 2003, to lieutenant in 2011, and to commander in 2014. His supervisory assignments include the Fourth District, Office of the Chief, Internal Affairs, and the Bureau of Support Services. He earned his bachelor's degree in education from the University of Toledo, and was a 2015 graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy. He was honored with the Division of Police Distinguished Service Medal twice. He transferred from his role as Commander of the Bureau of Support Services to become the Commander of the First District.

He said, "I look forward to working with the men and women assigned to the First District, our many community partners, and citizens to make our neighborhoods great places to live, work, and play."

We welcome Commander Fay to the First District, and we thank Commander McCartney for his many years of service, wishing him all the best on his move to the Third District.



Remembering Judge Ray Pianka

...by Steve Lorenz

We at KCDC are mourning the loss of Cleveland Municipal Housing Court Judge, and friend, Ray Pianka.



I first met Judge Pianka through mutual friends and found him to be an intelligent man with encyclopedic knowledge of Cleveland's neighborhoods and history. He had an easy smile, and every conversation I had with him left me feeling that he learned more about me than I learned about him. He had a large circle of friends and really cared about people.

That may be the reason he was perfect as Cleveland Municipal Housing Court judge. He was keen at discerning the story tellers from those who really needed help. He would bring the gavel down on the miscreants and bring a network of help to those without resources. He was fair and compassionate. He was widely admired for his fine work on the bench and in the community.

Judge Pianka made a considerable donation to the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market to help get it up and running nearly 11 years ago. It was a donation we didn't ask for; he simply heard we needed help. In December, he brought more than 20 members of his staff to our fundraiser to thank them for their work. It was a thoughtful way to reward his staff while benefiting KCDC.

Judge Pianka was a revered friend of KCDC and all of West Park. He will be missed. Our deepest sympathy to the Pianka family on this great loss.

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Wine in the Holidays Recap

Big thanks to our many supporters who came out for our annual fundraiser, Wine in the Holidays! What a great night of sipping wine, tasting beer, and enjoying hearty hors d'oeuvres in a festive atmosphere. Rocksolid Stone Works (RSW) provided generous support. They carry and fabricate one of the widest selections of hard surfaces and granite in Cleveland. Located at 4031 West 150th, RSW offers outstanding craftsmanship and top-notch products. Consider them for your kitchen countertop needs.

We appreciate their event support along with that of AMP 150, Public House, and Puritas Nursery. Proceeds will be used to continue the revitalization of Kamm's Corners and West Park.



KCDC board members Gino Bompiede, Mary McGraw, and Sean DeCrane volunteering at the Wine in the Holidays.

Cleveland International Film Fest Returns

The 41st Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF), presented by Dollar Bank, opens on March 29, and runs through April 9, at Tower City Cinemas downtown and select neighborhood screening locations. CIFF 41 program details will be announced on Friday, March 3, at clevelandfilm.org.

Program Guides will be available at all Dollar Bank branches and throughout the area the week of March 6. Tickets will go on sale to CIFF members on Friday, March 10, and to the public on Friday, March 17.

If you are interested in attending the Festival this year, become our Facebook Friend and follow us on Twitter @KammsCorners! A limited number of film vouchers will be offered from our office on a first come, first served basis. We will also be posting a special code on our website that will provide a savings of \$2 per ticket purchased.



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Biz Bits

...by Ben Campbell

opening in the afternoon and closing at 7 p.m. For more information, call 440-385-7457 or visit firesidecandlesandmore.com.

Souper Market at 16804 Lorain Avenue is under new management. Wes Daniels worked for Souper Market for years and now has achieved his entrepreneurial dream of owning his own franchise. Souper Market makes soups and stocks in small batches with fresh meats and vegetables. Wes buys all of his produce from Brothers Produce at the West Side Market to offer fresh, locally sourced salads. Vegan menu items are available. Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. The restaurant is closed on Sunday. For more information, call 216-303-9240 or visit [the-soupermarket.com](http://thesoupermarket.com).

Ben Kim DDS, has relocated his dental practice, A Caring Dental Group, to 3736 Rocky River Drive in Kamms Plaza. For more information, call 216-438-8375 or visit acaringdentalgroup.com.

Fireside Candles and More is open for business in the storefront at 15903 West Park Road. The company produces highly scented, hand poured wax candles made with lead-free wicks and offers more than 50 different fragrances. In addition, the store will stock small antiques, greeting cards, and other interesting items. Initially, store hours will be Tuesday through Saturday,



Crazy Tommy's Car Audio has opened at 15716 Lorain Avenue. (The space was formerly occupied by Lorain Triskett Locksmith, which recently relocated a few doors down to 15802 Lorain Avenue.) The company's goal is to offer high quality car electronics at the lowest prices possible. For more information, call 800-597-6901 or visit crazytommys.com.

Mashawi Darna Restaurant has opened in the former space of Cafe Falafel at 3843 Riveredge Road (located across from Fairview Hospital). The restaurant offers Mediterranean cuisine favorites such as hummus, falafel, and chicken shawarma and features lunch specials. Call 216-688-0330 for more information.

Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches has signed a lease for space next to T-Mobile at 17510 Lorain Avenue. Watch for a late-spring or early summer opening. In order to view the menu, see jim-myjohs.com.

Mattress 4 Less recently opened their newest store at 17430 Lorain Avenue in Kamms Plaza in the space next to Dollar Tree.



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Only In Clev Comes to Kamm's Corners

...by Ben Campbell

Having outgrown its Lakewood store, local apparel company Only In Clev has relocated to the Alber Building at 17025 Lorain Avenue. The store had its soft opening at the new location earlier this month. The grand opening is scheduled for Saturday, March 4.

While looking for a new location, owner Brian Lynch believed--given the business name--it was important that the store have a Cleveland address. Based on his positive experiences as a vendor at The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™ festivals, his search focused on the Kamm's Corners retail district.

With roots in the West Park area, Brian said, "We're excited to be back in West Park. It feels like coming home." Rich Carey, Brian's business partner, is a long-time Kamm's Corners resident.

The company's specialty is Cleveland themed t-shirts, sweat-shirts, and hats with an emphasis on Cleveland neighborhoods and ethnicities. Only In Clev got its start in 2012 with production taking place in Brian's basement at home and sales at festivals as well as events at venues such as the West 78th Studios. The Lakewood store was rented in late 2014 and saw sales increase rapidly even without a significant marketing campaign.

The new space is twice the size of their former storefront and offers opportunities to expand their sales and production areas. Their goal is to evolve from an apparel company to more of a gift shop with added offerings such as jewelry, glassware, and canvas products. Only In Clev uses local artisans and always seeks to identify new ideas and talented people to work with. For example, the store features the art of Shaun Kinley, an art teacher at Saint Edward High School, including the debut of his depiction of Cleveland's Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

Apparel will remain a main staple of the business. With more than 125 Cleveland themed designs, the store is always adding new ones, usually based on customer requests. Brian highlighted multiple West Park designs, a recent t-shirt design of 22 great Irish pubs in Cleveland (including several here in our neighborhood), and a first ever Kamm's Corners design.

"Our goal is to continue to expand our inventory until it fully reflects the diverse ethnicities in Cleveland," said Brian.

In addition, the store stocks bandanas, bags, greeting cards, bumper stickers, and wall designs. New production equipment will allow the store to offer much more in the way of customized, limited run orders including designs introduced to them by customers. Also, now offering embroidery, custom products will be available including their coats of arms and family crests programs.

Only In Clev is a family affair. Brian's son Tim does all of their design work. Son Connor and daughter Maura both work at the store. Soon to be empty nesters, Brian and his wife Deb are thinking about returning to their roots by relocating from the suburbs to buy a house in West Park.

For more information, visit the store, call 440-315-0357, or go to onlyinclev.com.



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Hatfield's Goode Grub is Open for Business

...by Ben Campbell

Hatfield's Goode Grub opened for business on December 5, at 16700 Lorain Avenue (located on the north side of the street across from U-Haul and Chipotle).

Hatfield's menu includes BBQ, burgers, tacos, quesadillas, stews, mac and cheese, chili, soups, and breakfast dishes all conceived and prepared with an emphasis on their southern comfort approach to cuisine. Customers can enjoy a variety of brewed coffees from the coffee bar or choose from an array of soft drinks. Breakfast is served all day on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"When we selected this location for our restaurant, we were confident we would be a good fit for the Kamm's Corners neighborhood," said owner Ken Hatfield. "However, we have been pleasantly surprised by the overwhelming response and support we have gotten from the community in the few months we have been open."



Since opening, Ken and his wife Jessica have introduced some new additions to the regular menu. On the first and third Saturdays of the month, beef brisket is the special of the evening. On the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, barbecued baby back ribs are featured. Both of the specials run from 4 to 9 p.m. And, since the dishes are prepared the day they're being served with all fresh ingredients, they are offered until they sell out.

Another addition to the menu is Mystery Thursdays which features a special mystery entrée each week. Followers on Facebook and those who have signed up at the restaurant to be on the guest email list can find out on each Wednesday what the Thursday evening special will be. Jamaican jerk chicken served with Caribbean cabbage salad and coconut rice and peas is an example of a recent Mystery Thursday selection.

As an extension of the Hatfield's food truck, restaurant customers order and pay for their meal at the counter in front and then listen for the call when their order is ready to eat from the open kitchen at the back of the restaurant.

For more information, follow Hatfield's Goode Grub on Facebook, sign the guest register at the restaurant, call 440-263-5221, or go to hatfieldsgoodegrub.com.



Spacious family friendly dining at Hatfield's Goode Grub.

Kamm's Corners Housing Prices on the Rise

...by Julie Dahlhausen

It is commonly known that the housing market is a leading indicator of the strength of the economy, locally, and nation-wide. Beyond being a place of memories and warmth, a home is typically the biggest part of a family's or individual's wealth. It is easy to see why a strong, stable, and predictable local housing market is so important to a neighborhood's well-being.

When the economy is strong and people are confident about the future, they are more inclined to buy houses, upgrade their current homes, or buy larger houses. When they are more concerned about the economy, new home construction, remodeling, median prices, and housing sales are all depressed. We are continuing to see pockets of Cleveland regain the value they lost in the aftermath of the real estate bust. Excitingly, a few city neighborhoods, including Kamm's Corners, even hit new highs during the past few years.

"Last year homes sold quickly with some in multiple offers. Values continued to appreciate," said RE/MAX agent Kevin O'Malley. He continued, "I expect an extreme sellers market this year with prices continuing to trend up. I have several buyers looking in all price ranges in West Park and very little inventory to show them. I actually just sold the last listing in my inventory yesterday, and I need more!"



RE/MAX Agent Joseph Rutkowski had similar thoughts, "Kamm's Corners is as strong as ever! We haven't seen these numbers since before the housing crash. Housing inventory is a bit low, values are up along with millennial buyers wanting to be in the city of Cleveland. We are sitting pretty."

More good news for Kamm's Corners was found in a Cleveland.com article published shortly after the new year. Focusing on Cleveland neighborhoods with home sale prices topping \$100,000, the article outlined Kamm's Corners growing housing market. The article reported that Kamm's Corners, where there have been hundreds of sales each year (386 in 2016), has experienced steady growth for four straight years. Beginning in 2012, the annual median price for home sales in Kamm's Corners were \$82,000, \$95,000, \$101,500, \$103,500 and \$113,000. Top areas for sales of at least \$100,000 included Kamm's Corners with 238 sales.

In the real estate industry, it is always "location, location, location." These positive numbers prove yet again that Kamm's Corners is a great place to buy a home. As we turn our eyes towards spring, we look forward to seeing the growth of the new season reflected in our most valuable asset – our homes.



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Helping the Homeless

Four years ago, West Park resident Scott Demko met a man who was living outside that changed his life and how he viewed homelessness.

"Meeting Andre broke my heart. He had been living in a plywood house he had constructed himself in a skating park and had nothing," said Scott. "I went home that afternoon and gathered as many items as I could - boots, socks, blankets and more and dropped it off for Andre." And, Scott continuously brought Andre food and clothing, whatever he needed to get him through. Andre's luck changed thanks to Scott's intervention and help from the Homeless Outreach team from Care Alliance. Andre is now living in permanent supportive housing that he was able to obtain with the help of Jim Schlecht at Care Alliance. And, Scott and Andre are still keeping in touch and the two of them have become friends.

Scott who has worked for Dominion Gas Company for 16 years started reading meters from North Olmsted to East 105th Street. Not only did he meet Andre, but many other homeless people living in tents and under bridges, including one man who lived in a house made of tires and pieces of wood. When Scott asked if he could help him, the very first thing he asked for was socks.

Scott's two sons, Lucas and Jacob were so inspired by their dad's compassion, that they said, "Let's punch up our support." Scott's acts of kindness have now turned into a calling and passion for him and his two sons. Scott said that he has been collecting items for the homeless from his Kamm's Corners neighbors who have really stepped up. This is a wonderful reflection of the generous spirit and kind hearts of the residents so willing to extend a hand of help during a time of great need. Scott sees that same spirit from students at Our Lady of the Angels School who had a major campaign to collect socks, a hallmark of their generosity. Also, West Park



#SocksPLUS

West Park Resident Scott Demko and his sons Lucas and Jacob.

Station at Kamm's Corners has joined the Demko's and is collecting socks and other items for the homeless.

"The response from the Demko's to SocksPlus has been overwhelming and we are very grateful," said David T. Dombrowiak, Community West Foundation President and CEO. There are many paths that lead to homelessness, and each person has a different story. So many people who, through whatever circumstance, have found themselves in this position. There are men, women, and children living outside because they do not have access to the home they need.

The winter season is extra-long when you are living on the streets. A donation can help provide some basic necessities to our homeless neighbors. You can help the homeless and our entire community at #SocksPlus.

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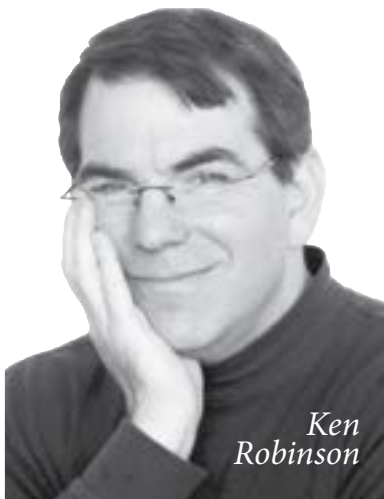
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Tips for Talking to Your Cardiologist



Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital

An appointment with a cardiologist can be stressful, especially when you're concerned about your health. In order to make the most of your cardiology appointment, there are things you can do ahead of time to ensure a more productive and positive experience for both you and your cardiologist.

"It always helps when patients come to their appointment prepared with any questions they have, and a list of any information that they want to share with or obtain from me," says Anthony Vlastaris, MD, a cardiologist who sees patients at Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital West Valley Medical Building. "The relationship between a patient and their cardiologist is a true partnership – to achieve the best outcomes, we need to work together."

Take control of your heart health by taking these proactive steps to ensure the success of your cardiology appointment:

- Get copies of your recent medical records and test results. The actual films on a CD, especially echocardiograms and catheterizations, are the best for doctors to review along with the written report.
- Write down your symptoms, when they occur, and what makes them worse or better.
- List your cardiac risk factors – family history is especially important.



Anthony Vlastaris, MD

- Compile a list of your medications – include prescription medications and over-the-counter medications, including any vitamins and supplements.
- Also include a list of medications to which you may have experienced an allergic reaction.

Prepare a list of any questions.

"Patients should bring all of this information with them to their appointment. I also encourage them to bring a spouse or someone they trust as a second set of ears, as they may think of additional questions or provide insight from a caregiver's perspective," says Dr. Vlastaris.

It can be hard to remember everything, so take notes during your appointment. And before you leave, ask how often you'll need to follow up with your doctor, and what phone number to call if you have questions once you get home.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Vlastaris or another Cleveland Clinic cardiac physician at Fairview Hospital call 440-333-8600. Cleveland Clinic offers same-day appointments.

Colon Cancer Screening Can Save Your Life

The American College of Gastroenterology recommends a first colonoscopy, or colon cancer screening, at age 50, or sooner if you have a family history of colon cancer, precancerous polyps, or inflammatory bowel disease. African American patients are advised to begin average risk screening at age 45.

"Colon cancer is one of the most common cancers in the U.S., but it is preventable," says Bradley Champagne, MD, a Cleveland Clinic colorectal surgeon at Fairview Hospital. "A colonoscopy can detect precancerous polyps which are immediately removed during the procedure. For many patients, this may be the only treatment needed."



Bradley Champagne, MD

For a successful colonoscopy, the bowel must be clean. Patients are required to drink a prescribed solution to clean the bowel the day before the procedure.

"Drinking the bowel preparation causes anxiety for many patients," adds Dr. Champagne. "Now smaller amounts of laxatives are needed, and it does not have to be consumed at one time – drinking at least half of the prep solution the morning of the exam is the best way to clean the colon."

During the procedure, patients are relaxed by conscious sedation or a "twilight" sleep, and a colonoscope (a long, flexible instrument about one-half inch in diameter) is inserted and advanced through the large intestine. As the scope is withdrawn the entire lining of the colon and rectum is carefully inspected and polyps are removed. The procedure takes about 20 to 30 minutes.

According to Dr. Champagne, the best-case scenario is a normal colon or finding benign polyps at a precancerous stage.

It typically takes two to three years for a colon polyp to become cancerous. Symptoms of colon cancer may include blood in the stool, weight loss, and changes in bowel habits. But many patients don't have symptoms; that is why screening is so important.

"Most patients who develop colon cancer have no obvious risk factors," says Dr. Champagne. "If you have a colon, you are at risk."

To schedule a colonoscopy or an appointment with a Cleveland Clinic colon cancer specialist, call 216-444-7000. Cleveland Clinic offers same-day appointments.

Women's Classic (45+) Softball League

Sign up and enjoy the fun in a new women's league where there are no standings, no scorekeeper, and no play-offs. Single games will be played on Monday evenings in the Metroparks beginning in early June for eight weeks.

Players are placed by position and skill level, with a minimum of 10 players per team. There are no team registrations. Instead, players register individually for \$35 per player. The fee covers games, ball, and t-shirt.

The registration deadline is April 21 and is open to Cleveland and Lakewood residents. Register online at lakewoodrecreation.com, over the telephone at 216-529-4082, or in person at the Lakewood Recreation Department, 1456 Warren Road. Anyone who wants to be placed on the same team as a friend should state that when registering. For more information, contact Rick Wallenhorst at 216-529-4082 or richard.wallenhorst@lakewoodcityschools.org.



Keep in Touch with Your Neighbors Through NextDoor.com

A helpful website for keeping neighbors abreast of issues and events is NextDoor.com. This private social networking site is useful for a host of items from lost dogs to petty crimes, or garage sales, but can be particularly useful for staying in touch with people in your immediate vicinity during the winter months when people don't see each other as often.

More than 1,300 of your West Park neighbors are already using this site.

Tri-league Expands to Serve Kamm's Corners

Four Corners Baseball folded last year, but filling the void for Youth Baseball and Softball in West Park is Tri-League, with an office at 4462 West 130th Street. In-person registrations begin on Wednesday, March 1, and end on Saturday April 15. Office hours are Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (After April 15, all registrations will be charged a \$10 late fee.)

The league accepts youth from 4 to 18, and new this year is an adult league for anyone 18 and over with no age restrictions. This is a fun way for adults to help get in shape during the summer months!

Registrations are also offered online now at trileague.org for all divisions. Call 216-476-8456 for more information.



West Side High School Fair Happens March 2

Time is running out for eighth graders to make their Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) high school choices for the 2017-2018 school year. Open enrollment closes March 13, and families are encouraged to make their selections now to give their child the best possible chance of getting into one of their top choice schools.

To help families with this important decision, Bellaire-Puritas Development Corporation (BPDC) is hosting a West Side High School Fair at the John Marshall Campus on Thursday March 2, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This event will give families a look at the 16 CMSD high school options on the west side and downtown, including four new schools opening this fall. Students at charter and private schools considering enrolling in CMSD are highly encouraged to attend, as are sixth and seventh grade families looking to get a head start on the high school selection process. Current high school students who are considering transferring are also welcome.

During the event, parents and students will be able to visit with staff and student representatives of the various high schools to learn more about academics, extracurricular activities, support services, and school culture. The event will also feature a Q & A panel with current high school students, tours of the John Marshall Campus (including the IT, Engineering, and Civic and Business Leadership schools), dinner, and a raffle. Staff will also be on-site with laptops to help families navigate CMSD's school choice portal, choosecmsd.org, to submit their high school selections on the spot.

The John Marshall Campus is located at 3952 West 140th Street. For more information on the West Side High School Fair, contact BPDC staff members Ian or Vanessa at 216-671-2710.

Join in the St. Patrick's Day Festivities Here

From the early morning Irish breakfasts to live bands performing into the night, Kamm's Corners is THE place to celebrate before AND after downtown Cleveland's 175th Anniversary St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade starts at 1:04 p.m. at the intersection of Superior Avenue and East 18th Street and travels southwest to East 3rd Street, turning right onto Rockwell Avenue.

Remember to "go green" in more ways than one by leaving your car at home. Take public transit and walk to our fine establishments. If you must drive within Kamm's Corners, please park in the municipal parking lot or specially designated areas. Cars will be towed from Kamms Plaza by Marc's if their drivers are not shopping at Marc's. Stay safe!

Kegs & Eggs is offered at **West Park Station**, 17015 Lorain Avenue, at 6 a.m. FREE Irish Breakfast to the first 50 people through the door (with the purchase of a beverage). There's a \$5 Irish breakfast till 10 a.m. Authentic Irish music and pipers from 6 a.m. throughout the day. Plus, Burke School of Irish Dance, face painters, Irish menu, and drink features. Try their Reuben wrap and Auntie Kathy's famous soda bread.

The **Red Lantern Kitchen & Bar**, 17446 Lorain Avenue in Kamms Plaza, opens at 9 a.m. The menu features Irish Stew, Rueben Tater Tots, Corned Beef Hash, Irish Breakfast Sandwich, Rueben Sandwich, Corned Beef Sandwich, and Corned Beef & Cabbage. Various Irish Drink Specials include a full menu of Irish beer and ales along with Irish whiskey spirits.

At **Public House**, 17219 Lorain Avenue, feast on the corned beef dinner special or sandwiches. Plan to visit Survivor Day – the day after – for New Barleycorn.

Smedley's Bar and Grill, 17004 Lorain Avenue, offers a band in the evening as well as corned beef all day. Bagpipe players will be stopping by.

P.J. McIntyre's Irish Pub, 17119 Lorain Avenue, opens at 7 a.m. for an Irish breakfast. The first 100 people in the doors receive a free t-shirt. Bag pipers and Irish dancers perform. Mary's Lane starts playing at 1 p.m. Look for a Lucky Charms eating contest with prizes! Get a chance to win a trip for two to Ireland or \$2,000 cash when you buy a Guinness. Winner must be present.

Hatfield's Goode Grub, 16700 Lorain Avenue, is putting a new spin on an Irish meal with hickory smoked corned beef that day! Try their version of corned beef and cabbage plus garlic potatoes for something deliciously different.

Coming Soon to Kamms Plaza: Working Class Brewery ...by Ben Campbell

Work is underway on Working Class Brewery, Cleveland's newest and Kamm's Corners first micro-brewery and taproom. The business is slated to open in the spring of 2017 at 17448 Lorain Avenue, the vacant storefront next to the Red Lantern Kitchen & Bar in Kamms Plaza.

Founded by Richard Skains and Carmen Russoniello, the partners both have years of experience in the micro-brewery business. Richard is an award-winning brewer and Carmen has worked in a brewery and managed a taproom.

Working Class Brewery's mission is to operate an environmentally respectful and socially conscious company committed to crafting fresh, flavorful, high quality beer for the enjoyment of their customers.

Initial plans call for a regular taproom menu of five styles of beer plus a rotation of seasonal beers throughout the year. Some of the regular staples will likely include a pale ale, imperial ale, IPA, porter and/or stout. Customers of the tap room will be able to enjoy these styles as well as Richard's special one-off editions and experimental brews. Canned six-packs of their beer will be available for carry-out.

World Class Brewery's products will be distributed in kegs and six-pack cans to retail outlets such as grocery and specialty stores as well as restaurants and taverns throughout the Cleveland region.

Assistance for the start-up of Working Class Brewery was provided by the City of Cleveland, Councilman Martin Keane, and Kamm's Corners Development Corporation.

For more information, follow Working Class Brewery's Facebook page or contact them at workingclassbrewery@gmail.com.



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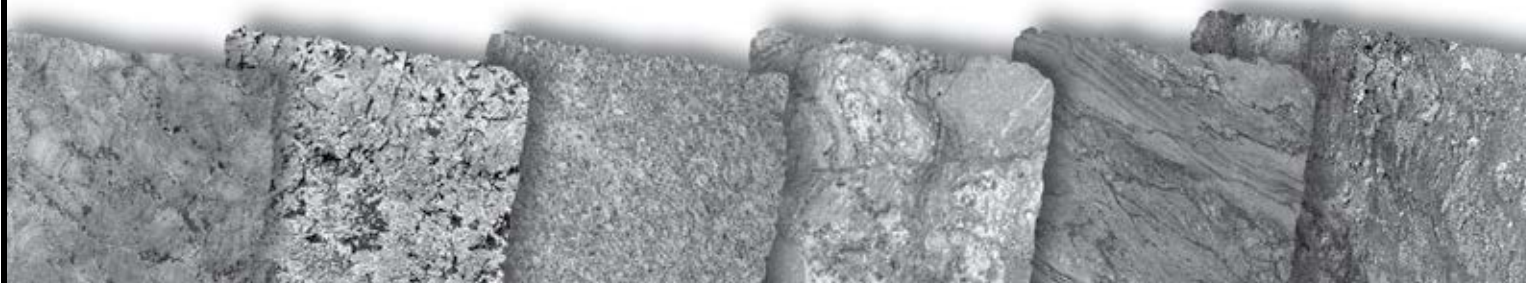
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GardenWalk Cleveland is Back!

After a brief hiatus in 2016 to raise much-needed operating funds, GardenWalk Cleveland (GWC) is in full blossom again, taking place the weekend of July 8 and 9.



GardenWalk Cleveland is a free, self-guided tour of more than 200 private neighborhood gardens within Cleveland's city limits. Its purpose is to invite people to connect through the love of gardens. Roughly 1,200-1,500 people toured the gardens in 2015.

West Park's first foray with GardenWalk was a great success with 22 gardeners showcasing their labor of love to neighbors and people from all over the city, county, and state! About a dozen people from other countries toured the gardens as well!

West Park will once again be featured on the walk this year after a great turnout in 2015. Due to suggestions from both gardeners and walkers, the GWC committee's goal this year is to have more clusters of gardens. That way walkers can park their cars and view many gardens at one stop instead of driving garden to garden. (Of course a bike is a great way to see the gardens without the hassle of parking!)

So, gardeners, bee keepers, chicken raisers, plant lovers, veggie growers, don't be shy -- join us on the walk! It's a great social way to meet new neighbors and friends, and share your little bit of paradise with the community.

If you would like to be involved this year, as a gardener or volunteer for the event, please email or call David Horneck at dhorneck1@gmail.com or 216-543-4277. Thank you to all of the past participants and walkers! Please mark your calendar for this year's event!

Local Lenten Fish Fries Abound

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1, so you can count on enjoying a variety of local Friday fish fries and meatless offerings in West Park. Here are a few options:

Dante's Pizza, 4176 Rocky River Drive, 216-251-0744
 Gene's Place, 3730 Rocky River Drive, 216-252-1741
 Hatfield's Goode Grub, 16700 Lorain Avenue, 440-263-5221
 K&K Portage Market, 3364-A Warren Road, 216-941-8029
 Our Lady of Angels Church, 3644 Rocky River Drive, 216-252-2332.
 P.J. McIntyre's Irish Pub, 17119 Lorain Avenue, 216-941-9311
 Public House, 17219 Lorain Avenue, 216-252-6608
 Red Lantern Kitchen & Bar, 17446 Lorain Avenue (Kamms Plaza), 216-331-1458
 West Park Station, 17015 Lorain Avenue, 216-476-2000
 St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Cathedral 3256 Warren Road, 216-941-5550
 St. Mel Church, 14436 Triskett Road, 216-671-9833
 Seven Seas Seafood, 15725 Lorain Avenue, 216-941-1359
 VFW Hall, 3791 West 150th Street, 216-671-5849



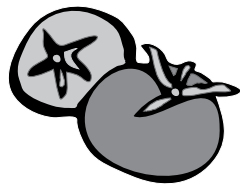
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Kamm's Corners Farmers Market



Kamm's Corners Farmers Market Heads into Our 11th Season

All this winter weather makes one almost nostalgic for the warm sunshine and goodies The Kamm's Corners Farmers Market! Events are being planned, musicians are being booked, and most of your favorite vendors, as well some new ones, will soon be signing up as the market moves into its eleventh season this summer. Be sure to visit the market every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., starting on Sunday, June 11. It sets up in the municipal parking lot at West 168th Street and Albers Avenue, behind Walgreens.

Market growers are busy readying their land for the large variety of fresh and high quality fruits, vegetables, and plants produced in this region. Most of the products visitors see are produced by the growers and their families. Shopping the market is a great opportunity to meet the produce growers, many of whom are your neighbors!

If you do some of your shopping with an Ohio Direction Card, you can double your purchasing power at the market! Each week, you can get up to an extra \$10 in shopping coins to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables just by using your card to shop!

All fresh food lovers look forward to the bounty that starts coming in mid June and builds to an enormous variety as summer continues. Crowds who are familiar with the arrival of new potatoes, sweet corn, peaches, and blueberries, visit each Sunday in search of their favorite delights, so they always gather what's offered at the peak of perfection.

Over the past 10 years, the community has been very supportive of Kamm's Corners Farmers Market. Grower-customer friendships have developed over the past decade and will continue to thrive. Plan to welcome back your favorite vendors and musical entertainment on Sunday, June 11 – and make finding what's fresh at the Kamm's Corners Farmers Market your Sunday tradition.

Athens Pizzeria Wins First Place in Bake-Off

The Third Annual West Park Pizza Bake-Off was held on Monday January 23, at Saint Pat's gym and school cafeteria. A steady stream of people sampled all they could eat pizza from the six participating pizza shops (Athens, Bella, Brothers, Mr. Patino's, Primoz, and Romeo's) throughout the evening.



The large crowd consumed well over 200 half-sheet pizzas of all types, and cast more than 400 votes in total for West Park's Best Pizza – People's Choice.

The Winners of the People's Choice awards were: First place Athens Pizzeria, Second place Brothers Pizza, and Third place Bella Pizza.

Patty Harken-FOX 8 in the Morning, Carmen Angelo-WTAM News Radio 1100, and Ross Keller-owner of Italian Creations in Lakewood, were the celebrity judges of West Park's Best Pizza. The winners of West Park's Best Pizza are: First Place Athens Pizzeria, Second Place was Brothers Pizza, and Third Place went to Romeo's Pizza.

"Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all the participants, you are part of what makes West Park great," said Jeff Quinn of St. Pat's Holy Name Society and the event organizer. He was very pleased with this year's bake-off and said, "We learned a lot in our first two years which helped make this year go smoother."

He credits moving the pizza shops to the cafeteria and the use of warming carts as just two of the reasons for the improvement. He also said, "But most important to the event's success was the support from West Park's residents, the generosity of the pizza shops, and all of the volunteers who donated their time and energy to the event."

Jeff is looking forward to next year's bake-off, which is held the Monday after the NFL's Championship Sunday. He expects it to be even better next year. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact the organizers on Facebook @West Park Pizza Bake-Off.



West Park City Hall ...by Gary Swilik

West Park did not become part of Cleveland until 1923 after residents voted to approve annexation. For many, the most intriguing part of the story is that we once had our own city hall, containing the offices of West Park's mayor, city council, police force, and jail.



West Park City Hall. Photo circa 1914. Bonnard & Parsson Collection. Courtesy of Craig Bobby.

containing a single cell. It was not very secure. In 1907, two hobos, arrested for stealing beer, escaped by picking the lock with a bit of hay wire.

This first city hall was heavily damaged by strong winds and rain in March 1913 forcing the city to sell the building at auction. It sold for \$46 to a local contractor who presumably dismantled it for the building materials. Plans were immediately made for a new West Park City Hall on the same site.

Cleveland architects Bohnard and Parsson designed the new building; a two-story red brick structure, with stone trim and a full basement. Estimated to cost \$15,000, the exterior dimensions were 50 by 64 feet. From the front entrance a wide corridor ran back to the council chamber, which extended across the entire width of the building. On one side of the corridor were the offices of the water department and the town clerk. On the other, two offices for the use of the mayor.

From the front vestibule a wide stairway led to an assembly hall, with a stage, two dressing rooms, and modern lighting. The marshal's office, six jail cells, and the heating plant were in the basement. Since the basement was partially above ground, the jail was well lit with windows nearly as large as those on the upper floors.

The new West Park City Hall, at 15619 Lorain Avenue, opened on the evening of October 14, 1914. Harris R. Cooley, Director of Cleveland's Charities and Corrections, gave the dedication address. West Park Mayor William Dahm presided over the ceremony.

When West Park was annexed to Cleveland in 1923, our former city hall became Station No. 17 of the Cleveland Police Department. In 1938, Safety Director Elliot Ness reorganized the police force and the old West Park City Hall became the First District police station. Most West Parkers, including the author, grew up without ever knowing our police station had once been city hall.

West Park's first city hall was located on the south side of Lorain Avenue, 115 yards west of Triskett Road. It was a two-story brick building, 28 by 36 feet, built in 1867 as Rockport District School No. 1. The building served as city hall from 1893 to 1913.

The jail, quaintly referred to as the "calaboose", was an adjoining wood-frame structure con-



West Park City Hall (center) was only two years old when this photo was taken in 1916. West Park Fire Department at right. Courtesy of Raymond J. Kinkelaar.

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In January 1975, First District moved to a new police station on West 130th Street where it remains today. This left the former city hall empty. However, the old jail in the basement was destined to hold one more prisoner.

In April 1975, some teenagers were prowling around in the abandoned building and accidentally locked a 15-year old boy inside one of the jail cells. It took police 20 minutes to free him with a cutting torch. The building stood for a few more years before being demolished. Today, the eastern section of Cleveland Fire Station No. 39 stands on the site once occupied by West Park City Hall.

The only known surviving relic of West Park's City Hall is now at the Cleveland Treasurer's office on Lakeside Avenue in downtown Cleveland where an old safe, which once served West Park, is now used to store office supplies.

History Buffs! There is now a Facebook Group focusing on West Park memories, old photos, local history and nostalgia – with no politics! To sign up, go to Facebook and enter the search term "West Park Then-and-Now." The group is administered by Julieanne Appleson Phillips, a retired professor of American History who grew up in West Park. Julieanne, Gary Swilik, and other members of the West Park Historical Society contribute to the group regularly.



The former West Park City Hall as it looked in June 1971 after serving as Cleveland's First District Police Station for decades. Barbara Unterzuber Collection.



NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT!

Jules Salerni Volunteer Treasurer Extraordinaire



Last September, Franciscan Village dedicated the newest of their three buildings to Jules Salerni and his wife Therese. Jules is the founding treasurer of Franciscan Village and served on its board of trustees since 1979, only recently retiring from this volunteer position.

More than 125 friends and family members gathered for the grand celebration that lasted the entire weekend in conjunction with Jules's 90th birthday! Guests arrived from all over the United States to mark the occasion. Cleveland Diocesan Bishop Anthony Pilla, now retired, and Mary Rose Oakar, former member of the United States House

of Representatives from Ohio, attended the dedication. Both were at the building's groundbreaking in 1979.

Property manager Cathy Sabolik described Jules as the heart and soul of Franciscan Village. "He has been the most loyal and dependable volunteer that anyone could ever want on a board. His guidance was instrumental for nearly four decades."

Originally from Bolivar, Pennsylvania (population 810), Jules and his wife Therese moved to West Park in 1956. They have been members of Our Lady of Angels Parish for 60 years. In 1990, Jules retired from Ford Motor Company after 34 years of service. Therese taught at Our Lady of Angels school for 28 years and retired in 1985. They have one daughter, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Next month, they will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary!

Kamm's Calendar

Keep the following dates circled on your social calendars!

The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™

Saturday, May 13

Noon to 8 p.m. Lorain Avenue between Rocky River Drive and West 165th Street.

Kamm's Corners Farmers Market

The market re-opens on Sunday, June 11 in the Municipal Lot at West 168th Street & Albers Avenue, behind Walgreens.

For information regarding events visit

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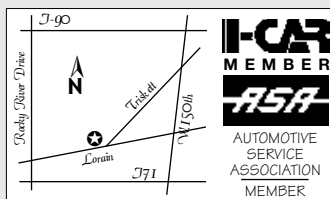


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Simply send in the form at the right with your donation of \$20 or more. You will receive a Friend of Kamm's Corners membership card with our thanks. Businesses in the box below offer discounts on goods or services to our Friends – ask them for the details.

For nearly 40 years, KCDC has been working for you and your community. We administer the Storefront Renovation program, bring new businesses to the community, produce Kamm's Corners Magazine, and conduct neighborhood events such as Kamm's Corners Farmers Market, Asphalt Cinema, and The Hooley on Kamm's Corners™.

Thanks for your support.

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Your donation supports KCDC's mission to facilitate the development and promotion of the West Park neighborhood.

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Ms. Margaret Mary Patton
Rachel Roberts
Maggie Walsh
Stu & Nita Wardrope
Kathleen Whitford
Jon T. Wirts & Maureen F. Wirts
Ms. Teresa Wright

Additional donations received in the name of Alex Seidman.

KCDC Awarded Grant for City Parking Lot Improvements

The board of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District has approved a Green Infrastructure Program Grant of \$249,583 to KCDC for improvements to the public parking lot at West 168th Street and Albers Avenue. The lot is behind the businesses on Lorain Avenue and has been a key component in the rejuvenation of the Downtown Kamm's Corners retail district.

The project will include a much-needed resurfacing of the lot. Planted bio retention areas will be installed to capture storm water runoff, resulting in a reduction of almost one million gallons of storm water runoff annually.

Construction is slated to take place during the late summer and fall of this year and will be carried out in phases to minimize disruptions for parking lot users.

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Dr. Michael E. Gallagher
Dr. Gregory M. Beten

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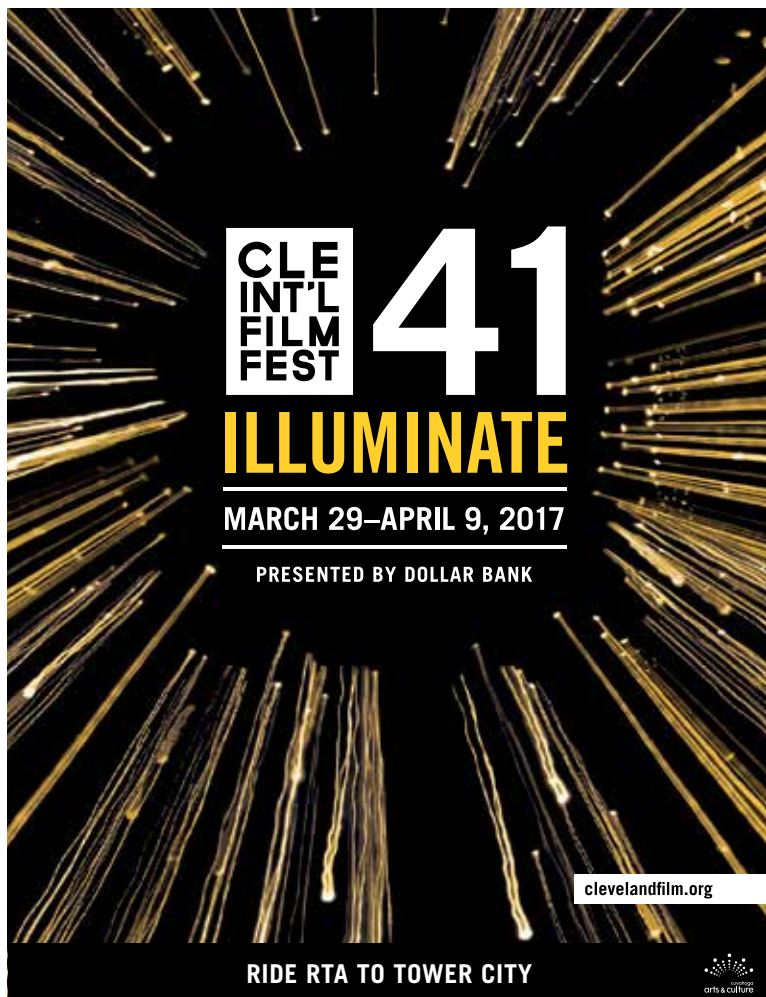
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- comprehensive care**
- :: white fillings
 - :: implants
 - :: crowns, bridges, partials
 - :: root canals
 - :: tooth whitening
 - :: pediatric dentistry
 - :: cosmetic dentistry
 - :: dentures and denture repairs
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