

THE GOLDEN AGE OF RESTAURANTS IN SUMMIT COUNTY

1930-1975



*A History
By
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As far back as the 1920's, the Akron area was known as a restaurant town. The heyday was in the 1950's and 60's.

The restaurant scene was booming in the 1940's despite food rationing and labor shortages because of World War II. In 1951, Kenny Nichols, Akron Beacon Journal columnist, said that it would be possible to feed 30,000 people at one time in Akron restaurants.

The golden age continued into the 1960's, but casual restaurants were coming into their own with dozens of fast-food restaurants and more and more drive-in restaurants. Restaurant food declined in quality as owners embraced the convenience-food trend.

The golden age ended in the 1970's and a new generation of restaurants began taking the place.

Special thanks to the Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society, the Hudson Historical Society, the Peninsula Foundation and the Richfield Historical Society and to Judy James and all the librarians in Special Collections at the Summit County Library! Also to Glenna Gereri, Barb Jenkins, Ray Sanginitti, Kendra St. Charles, Linda Martell, Paul Salem, Dave Yanko, Judy Amato and host of others who loaned items for the exhibit!

ALEXANDER MANOR

Located on Rt. 91 in Munroe Falls.

THE AMERICAN RESTAURANT

Located at 417 Kenmore Blvd. and owned by Harry and Cleo Andrews for 45 years.

THE AMERICAN HOUSE

The American House was located on N. Howard close to W. Market. The first owner was Florence Weber who came to America from Germany in 1832 and Akron in 1835 when he clerked at stores at Locks 4 and 16. He married Margaret Steinbacher, sister of Edward one of Akron's first druggists.

Weber housed many immigrants who came here looking for homes.



ANTHE'S

Charles and Pauline Anthe met in the 1930's at the Garden Grill where they both worked, he as a grill cook and she a waitress. They opened Anthe's Paradise in downtown Akron in 1954 and later were involved with the Canteen Restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls with Charles' brother Nick until a fire destroyed the restaurant. In 1969 Charles and Pauline built Anthe's on Manchester Road and operated it until 1975 when it was taken over by their sons, Jim and John. It closed in 2007

ANTONINO'S

Located at 1099 E. Tallmadge Avenue and opened by Anthony Bologna.

ART'S PLACE

Opened in 1930 by Art Corice at 20 W. Waterloo Rd. Purchased by Ernie Genovese in the early 1960's. Known for their bean soup. Closed in 2001 and is currently a gas station.

BALAUN'S

Started in 1929 by William J. Balaun Sr. They once had 19 locations in Akron, Canton, and Cleveland.



BAR-B-Q-MATIC

Owned by George, Kimon and Gus Papageorge, located at 52. E. Market Street. Rotisserie chicken and roast potatoes.



BARNHILL'S ICE CREAM PARLOR

Opened in 1969 in Fairlawn, designed to evoke the atmosphere of an old-time ice cream parlor, featuring every imaginable flavor of ice cream as well as penny candy. A second location was located in Quaker Square.

BELGRADE GARDEN

Founded in 1933 by Mike and Smilka Topalsky when they opened their farmhouse dining room and started the Barberton chicken tradition. Located at 401 State St. in Barberton it was Barberton's first chicken restaurant. Mike passed away in 1951 and their son Lewis and nephew Alex Suboticki took over. In 1963 daughter Sophia and husband Kosta Papich ran it for the next 50 years. It is currently operated by their son, Milos and family.



BOB'S HAMBURG

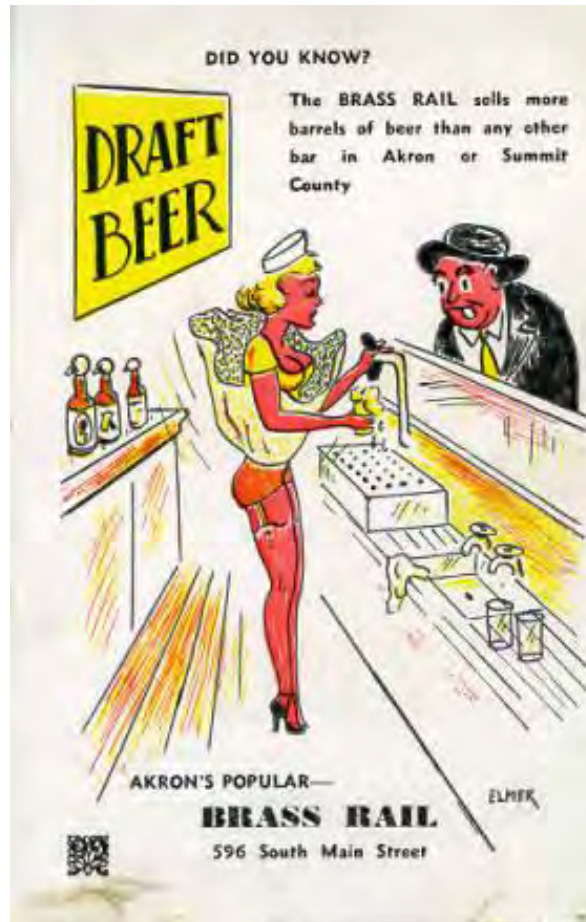


Founded in 1931 by Bob Holbrook at 1351 East Ave and still in business being the oldest hamburger restaurant in Akron.



BRASS RAIL

Located at 598 S. Main Street, it opened in 1946 and closed in 1968. The owner was William J. Balaun, of Balaun's Eatery and Cafeteria. Balaun owned several restaurants and stores in Akron, Canton and Cleveland, as well as the concession stands at Cedar Point in the 1940's. Located next to Goodrich, it was open 24/7. There was no key as it never closed. Around 1971 the Brass Rail opened at 207 S. Main Street under new ownership. The location is now occupied by the Lockview Restaurant.



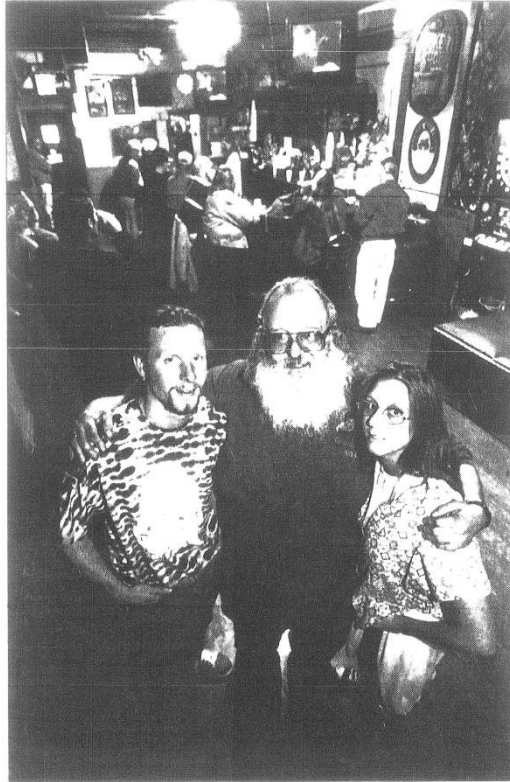
GUS GIRVES BROWN DERBY

The son of a Greek immigrant, Girves founded the Brown Derby Chain with the first one at 1157 E. Market Street in 1941 across from the Goodyear plant. Open 24/7 serving War-era workers who worked round-the-clock shifts. Girves went on to open Brown Derby Restaurants in PA, MI, FL and AZ. Six NE OH restaurants are still serving customers today and are managed by the son and grandson of Gus.



BUCKET SHOP

Louis Berrodin opened the Bucket Shop in Highland Square in 1934 in the midst of the Great Depression and Prohibition. Was the place a speakeasy? Who knows.



When Prohibition ended, rubber workers crowded into the Bucket. Louis' parents would put miniature tin buckets filled with popcorn on the tables – thus the name. The Bucket Shop closed in 2004.



BOULEVARD

Founded in 1939 by George Neemer and passed down, in the late 1960's to his nephew, Mike Jasser. Mike passed it down to his nephew Fares Jasser in 1981. Located on Chestnut Blvd. in Cuyahoga Falls.



BUN BOY

Opened by Joseph Barbuto at 984 S Arlington. Is currently an auto service station.

CANTEEN

Nick Anthe and his brother Charles, leased the Canteen in 1958 at 1612 State Rd from Garrett Brown who founded the restaurant in 1943. It was near the high level bridge in Cuyahoga Falls. It burned down November 25, 1962.



CANNOVA'S

Located at 1143 Lake Shore in a small remodeled house that used to be a speakeasy, across the street from the former Summit Beach Amusement Park until Charlie Cannova became the owner and featured chili. They were known for their "Daddy Ross' Chili" which was served over pasta. Owned by Joseph and Katherine Messer in the 1960's who bought the restaurant from the Cannovas. Long time waitress, Pearl Woods bought it in 1976 and was shot in the chest and killed by a robber in 1982. Her daughters operated the restaurant after her death until Elie Takla bought it in 1986 and it closed in 1993. Akron Metro Housing occupies the space currently.

CIRIELLO'S

Angelo Ciriello opened the restaurant at 2467 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls in 1962 and sold his share of the restaurant to partners John Brasko and James Fleming in 1974. In 1975 they filed bankruptcy.

Another group of seniors enjoying
a good time at CIRIELLO'S.



**CIRIELLO'S STATE ROAD
BAR AND RESTAURANT**

2467 State Road WA 8-0700

CLARK'S RESTAURANT

Clark's Restaurant opened in 1926 by founder J.B.I. Clark who had his first restaurant in 1896 in Cleveland and Clark's Restaurants became a chain! The restaurant began in the Howe Hotel at 9 S. Main Street. The original dining area was called the Apple Room and could seat 72, while the front counter could seat another 36.



In the 1930's the restaurant became a Jazz Age favorite with police officers and gangsters frequenting the place. Being open all night and being close to the theater, actors would come in after stage shows. In the 1940's servicemen and war-effort workers were the clientele.



In 1948 they were running out of space, so they moved to the Delaware Building to a 200 seat restaurant on S. Main near Bowery. The restaurant was said to have been very clean.

In 1964 its staff of 39 went on strike because a supervisor threatened to lay off a veteran worker. The Union got involved. The restaurant locked its doors and didn't reopen. One week after the strike, the owners decided to sell the business.

THE COLONIAL RESTAURANT

Opened in 1938 by Chester Igert and Hilton Jones, Jane and Doug Brown purchased the restaurant at 312 S. Main St. in 1962. Due to inflation, it closed in November 1975. The building was razed in 2010.



COVERED BRIDGE

Located at 1925 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd. it started as a custard stand in 1956 by Jean Falor. It grew into an ice cream parlor and in 1970 became a restaurant named for the nearby Everett Covered Bridge. Jane and her husband Bill Falor sold the restaurant to Frank Klieines in 1986.

The restaurant was decorated to resemble the inside of a covered bridge. Murals of tree tops peek over the rough wood paneling on the side walls. The two ends of the room were framed with beams to form the entrance and exit of the bridge, against a backdrop of murals of mountains and trees. The ceiling was beamed and red lanterns hung from rough-paneled support columns. It is most recently the Bistro at Hammond Corners



THE CRYSTAL RESTAURANT

In 1916 the building containing the Crystal Restaurant collapsed leaving nine dead and 24 badly injured and many slightly injured.

The restaurant was located on S. Main and Quarry [now Bowery] and with a loud roar at 6:05 PM the one-story structure caved in just as the place was filled with evening diners.



There was a blast just preceding the collapse just 5 feet from the restaurant wall. Two weeks previously, a blast caused the Strand Theater wall to spring about 3 inches. Rock was being blasted to build the Delaware Building next door to the restaurant.

The building was a narrow brick building that housed the Beacon Journal from 1898 to 1911. It became the Crystal Restaurant in 1913.

The collapse could be heard for blocks.

State inspectors determined that Franklin Bros. Co. had planted dynamite too close to the restaurant undermining the foundation. Franklin Bros. faced 42 lawsuits from victim's families. By 1917 the company had settled every case paying a total of \$75,000.

A New Crystal Restaurant was opened on N. Howard Street in late 1916 where they continued until the mid 1920's.

CY'S

Located at 2467 State Rd. in Cuyahoga Falls and owned by Samuel Skolnik. It opened about 1956 and closed about 1962 when Ciriello's opened in the same spot.

THE DANISH SMORGASBORD

This was located in what was a 3,000 acre estate which John Farnum started in 1812 and his son Everett patterned after an English manor. Everett was an eccentric, wealthy landowner who used the title of "Lord". He required visitors to circle his drive 3 times to signal their intentions were friendly. He practiced land use measures decades ahead of their time. The Manor House, built in 1934, has been used as a gambling house, possibly a brothel and a popular restaurant, The Danish Smorgasbord.



Everett planted thousands of trees at a time when forest clearing was common. He also rotated crops. The Smorgasbord opened in 1948 by Theodor and Anne Marie Kirk and it closed in 1972.

SMORGASBORD 'COLD TABLE'

- SHRIMP w/ SAUCE
- POACHED SALMON
- MARINATED HERRING
- TUNA SALAD
- SMOKED SALMON - LAX
- LEMON SLIKES
- HERRING IN SOUR CRM. w/ ONION
- EGG SLICES w/ ANCHOVIE
- SMOKED WHITE FISH
- SMOKED EEL OR FISH BALLS
- BEEF HERRING SALAD
- ?

- PRUNE + RICE PUDDING
- FRUIT BOWL
- DANISH APPLE CAKE
- FRUIT JELLO
- APRICOT COMPOTE
- LEMON CHIFFON
- WHIP CREAM
- ?
- DEVIL'D EGGS
- COLE SLAW
- SALAMI CREAM CHS.
- SLICED PORK
- LIVER PATE
- HAM ROLLS
- FRIKADEL w/ OLIVES
- POTATOE SALAD
- LINGON BERRIES
- DANISH CUCUMBER
- ?

- CHEESE CAKE
- PIES ?
- CAKE
- DANISH COOKIES
- BUTTER
- DANISH AM. CHEESE + CRACK'RS
- SPECIAL BREADS
- DANISH ROLLS
- MACARONI SALAD
- EGG + TOMATOE SLICES
- COOKED HEAD CAULIFLOW'R w/ CHEESE SAUCE + OLIVES
- STUFFED CELERY
- VEG. JELLO
- ?
- VEG. STICKS
- GREEN PEAS + PEANUT SALAD
- SALAD GREENS

- DESSERT PLATES
- SPOONS FORKS
- PLATE REST
- BAKED CHICKEN
- DANISH MEATBALLS
- SWISS STEAK OR BEEF SLICES w/ JUS
- SWEET SOUR RED CABBAGE
- VEG. ?
- MASHED POTATOE OR SWEET SOUR
- VEG. ? CASSEPOLE
- DRESSINGS
- SALAD BOWLS
- PLATE REST

WARM FOODS

DELUCA'S BISMARK RESTAURANT

Opened in 1933 by Anthony "Jack" DeLuca at 690 N. Main, it closed in 1957. DeLuca did a radio show called Koffee Kapers from the restaurant in the late 1940's and early 1950's. It is where Henry's Lamplite was and is now a car wash.



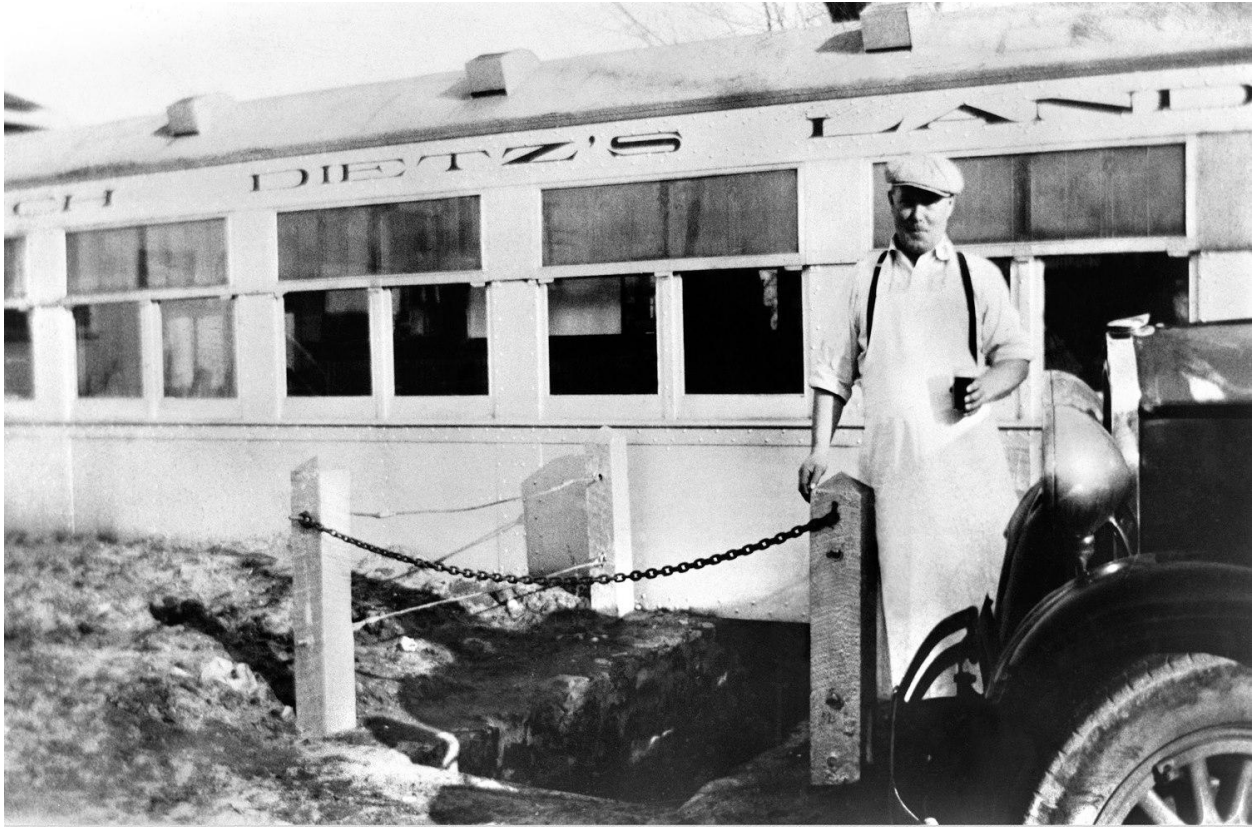
DIAMOND GRILLE

Opened by Nick Thomas, Sr. in 1942 at 77 W. Market, they are still in business. Destination for out-of-towners, including many PGA golf pros in town for tournaments. Currently operated by Nick's sons, Nick Jr. and Ted.

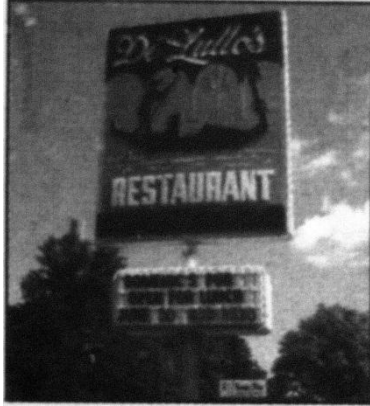


DIETZ

Incorporated in 1944 at 401 W. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd. Scroggy Dietz ran a diner in a street car coach as the first restaurant.



DILULLO'S



Opened in 1946 by John DiLullo at 2485 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, son Domenic closed the restaurant in 2009.

DODIE'S

Located at 808 W. Market St. Opened by Dodie Ridge in 1926, it closed in 2007 by new owner Vaughn Morrison after going through several owners.

DUFFY'S

Built in 1945 and expanded in the 1950's it was located at 231 Darrow Road. Purchased in 1978 by Robert and Diana Kimmerle and was destroyed by fire in 2009 and reopened 10 months later.



THE EMBERS

Opened in 1956 by brothers Thomas and Walter Garner at 1885 W. Market. It closed in 1970. They had Bunny Girls. Walt Garner and Charles Masino opened the Embers II at 1546 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls in 1968. In 1970 Masino and George Pappas owned it and it closed in 1972. In 1947 the brothers opened Garner Brothers Drive-In Restaurant at 1880 West Market. They opened another at 2637 State Rd. in 1958. The W. Market Embers is currently a Circle K.



GARDEN GRILLE

Opened in 1928 by Leo Bambour in the Lexington Building at Main and Mill Street. In 1938 the restaurant moved to the Ohio Building. Bambour's wife took over the operation after he died in 1942. She closed the bar in 1944 because she believed there was too much drinking. It was said to be Main Street's first cafeteria seating 450 or more for more than 20 years. It had a splashing fountain and a wall mural of Alice in Wonderland.

The Iacomini Brothers bought the Garden Grille in 1958. It was then sold to Emil Sarich in 1966.

GARERI'S

Joseph Gareri operated the Hub Café at 40 E. Mill St. from 1948 until his death in 1964. Earlier he had a café with the same name on S. Howard. Joseph Sr.'s son, Joseph W. operated the Hub Café until 1983. It is currently a parking lot for the John S. Knight Center.





His brother, Fred, operated a place of business at 376 S. Main St. for 46 years. After the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, Fred converted the business to a Spaghetti House. Fred passed away in 1966 and his son Aurie became the owner until it closed in 1977.





GEORGIAN ROOM

Located in O'Neil's Department Store, the Georgian Room projected a feeling of the 1930's style and elegance. It was a 225 seat restaurant with chandeliers, linen tablecloths and flowers. There was heavy crown molding and wainscoting painted Wedgwood blue.

The menu was small by today's standards – just 10 entrees, 7 salads and 18 sandwiches along with appetizers and desserts. Catering to children, chicken casserole was served in a ceramic red hen and milk came in a ceramic cow.



Every Friday there was a fashion show during lunch.

GRANDVIEW INN

Located at 207 Portage Lakes and owned by George Coldrick. It closed about 1959.

GUS' CHALET

Opened in 1974 at 938 E. Tallmadge Ave. by Gus Kanarios and closed in 2014. Gus originally worked for the Anthe's brothers.

HARBOR INN

On the West Reservoir of Portage Lakes at 562 Portage Lakes Dr., it was once a residential home. It is currently "On Tap".



HENRY'S LAMPLITE

Located at 690 N. Main Street and owned by Henry Waehner. It was country style with a rustic German air. It was previously DeLuca's and is currently a car wash.

HOPOCAN GARDENS

Founded in 1942 by Helen and William DeVore and currently owned by their grandson, Brian Canale. Located at 439 W. Hopocan Rd., Norton.



HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES

On Market Street, opened by Charlie Malinoff. Became the Embers.

HOWE HOTEL

Opened in 1915 the 11-story, 250-room Howe Hotel was the tallest building in Akron, located at 11 S. Main Street. The Green Room Cocktail Bar opened in the 1930's and with its live music it was a jumpin' joint for more than 30 years.



HULL'S BARBECUE

Hull's Barbecue, a drive-in restaurant, opened in 1927 by butcher Clinton Hull and his wife Fairy at 1334 Copley Rd. Dozens of drive-in restaurants followed Hull's into business – Swensons in 1934, Waterloo Drive-In 1946, Garner Brothers Drive-In 1947, Ladd's 1949 and the Sky-Way in 1952 just to name a few.



Hulls had the first carhops in Akron. The Hulls retired in 1947 leaving their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Hoffman to operate it until the building was sold in 1952.

HUNGRY I



James C. and E.A. Fulman opened the Hungry I at 1714 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls in 1958 and it closed in 1968. It is currently a hair salon.

IACOMINI'S

Opened in 1931 by August and Eletta Iacomini in the dining room of their home at 321 W. Exchange St. After a devastating fire, they constructed a new building on W. Exchange St. They had restaurants in three Holiday Inns in the area along with the main restaurant on W. Exchange. They pulled out of the Holiday Inns in 1967. One dining room had clouds, rain and sunshine projected on a wall. They also had a glassed-in kitchen.



In 1984 sole owner, Norma Iacomini filed for bankruptcy citing one-way traffic on West Exchange, declining population in Akron and the demise of the rubber plants as reasons for filing. In 1986 the restaurant closed and all restaurant items were auctioned off.

Joe Iacomini opened L'il Joe's Pub in Bath with his son Gene in 1968 and a location in Hudson in 1973. In 1986 he opened Papa Joe's at the former site of the Lodge Restaurant on the corner of Portage Trail and Akron-Peninsula Road. Papa Joe's is still operated by descendants of its founder, August, grandson Jeff Bruno, granddaughter Kim Bruno McLaughlin and Judy Iacomini Amato.



I DO CAFÉ

Opened in 1943 at 1537 S. Main Street by Michael Kostoff.



JACK HORNER'S

Opened in 1942 at 395 E. Market by Frank Wren and named after the nursery rhyme it was sold to William P. Owen in 1946 when Wren's health was failing. Originally a 29-seat restaurant, it was torn down to make way for a new 75-seat restaurant in 1960. Three more additions followed until in 1984 it seated 400. Son William J. Owen operated the restaurant until 1996 when it was sold to Suma Hospital.



JIMANDY'S

*For Sunday Dinner
Drive Out To*

JIMANDY'S

Cor. State Rd. and Broad Blvd.
Cuyahoga Falls — WA-9122

CHICKEN IN BASKET

RELISH DISH
TOASTED BUN AND HONEY
½ GOLDEN FRIED CHICKEN
FRENCH FRIES COFFEE

\$1.25

JIMANDY'S DANDYBURGER

Hamburger Served in Basket
French Fries, Celery, Pickle
Olive Coffee

50c

Opened by James Andrew Tisci and his brother-in-law Speranza Silecchia, at 1970 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls in 1948 and closed in 1972. It is currently the Blue Door.

JIMBO'S

Originally opened as Daverns in the 1930's by Dave McIntosh and Vern Slabaugh. It was purchased from Grant and Virginia Schlup in 1959 by James and Jack Georgiatis and the name was changed to Jimbo's. The Drive In closed in the 1990's and the property was purchased by Barberton Citizen's Hospital.

JOE'S DINER

Built in 1935, it was originally located in Salem, OH. In 1955 Joe Robichaud moved the diner to West Center Street in Akron. In the mid 1980's the City of Akron purchased the diner and the property it was on as the site was in front of Canal Square. The diner was then sold for \$1 to the Summit County Historical Society and moved to the former B.F. Goodrich building at S. Main and Cedar. In 1991 there was talk of restoring the diner to the tune of \$300,000.



KAASE'S

Located at 53 East Mill Street. In 1945 Kaase's Dining Room was managed by Louise Masino. It closed in 1968.



In the late 1920's the Restaurant was redecorated with a Russian theme, a Bohemian atmosphere and artistic detail everywhere. The owner was F.A. Sweet.



Artists painted the walls to depict Russian scenes taken from Balieff dances of the Chauvre Souris. Each panel shows dancers in different poses in peasant costumes.



The color scheme was mauve and magenta with silver leaf on the panels and ceiling and a gray rug with blocks showing modernistic designs. The draperies were celanese satin, taffeta and gauze in magenta. Ms. Masino imported clever Russian costumes for all of the waitresses.



The restaurant served dainty salads, fruit and gelatin salads and Club sandwiches. People would stand in line for their creamed chicken in potato baskets.



KEARN'S

Located at 307 Highland Rd. and opened in 1959 by Ray Kearns.

KEWPEE HOTEL/HAMBURGERS

This was a chain that began in Michigan during the post-WW I years. By WW II 400 restaurants were located in the Midwest. One was at 15 S. High Street which is now a parking lot for the Art Museum.

KIPPY'S

The Akron Kippy's at 103 S. Main opened in 1938 by Bob Heath and his mother, Gail. It was below street level across from the First National Tower. In 1947 they moved to 45 South Main Street. Kippy's in Cuyahoga Falls opened in 1940 and closed in 1984. Akron Kippy's closed in 1979. There was also a Kippy's at Norton Center and Arlington Plaza.



Who was Kippy? No one. The Heaths liked the sound of the name after getting the idea from Skippy, a newspaper comic strip in the 1930's.



Heath was also a professional boxer and brought many famous fighters to Akron, including Sugar Ray Robinson for bouts at the Akron Armory.

Kippy's Downtown Family
LUNCHEON AND DINNER MENU Restaurants



DOWNTOWN CUYAHOGA FALLS
 2097 Front Street
 OPPOSITE ONEIL'S
 CUYAHOGA FALLS
 WA 8-0630



DOWNTOWN AKRON
 45 South Main Street
 NEXT TO THE PALACE THEATRE
 AKRON
 JE 5-5893

Open Day and Night!
 WE NEVER CLOSE!



Our 27th Year

got STEAK on your mind?
 ORDER A T-BONE STEAK DINNER!
 THEY ARE DELICIOUS!

LACONI'S

Opened in 1934 by Don and Velia Laconi, the restaurant closed in 1999 when their son, Sam, retired.



LADD'S

Opened in 1949 on the corner of State Rd. and Phelps Ave. in Cuyahoga Falls by Jim and Mary Procaccio with 16 stools and three tiny booths.



People came from all over for the coney dogs – Jim Brown, Johnny Mathis and Robert Stack. In the early years the restaurant offered curbside service. Ladd's closed in 1999.

LAKEVIEW TERRACE

Located at 3134 S. Main.

LANNING'S

Located at 826 N. Cleveland Massillon Rd. and opened in March 1970, it was fashioned after founder, Frank Lanning Barnett's favorite restaurant in Pittsburgh, the Colony. Barnett purchased the old El Mar Restaurant and hired a decorator from Cleveland. The bar area has the brick and the horse in the middle of the bar from the old El Mar which was built in 1961 and owned by Mrs. Martha Simmons.

Barnett hired Elias, the chef from the Colony to come to Akron and start Lannings. He also hired a Dutch cruise-line manager to manage the restaurant. The French Pastry Shop at Wallhaven supplied the deserts. There were only 6 items on the original menu.

Around 1972 Joseph Jesse Cecil took over the restaurant and his daughter and her husband, Chris and Jeff Darnell, run it today.

Lanning the Grate, a disco dance club opened in the early 1970's. It was located where Ray's is now on Ghent Rd.



LAVITA'S

Located at 555 E. Cuyahoga Falls and opened by Elmer Ross. It was owned by J.P. Sansonetti and Ramond Boshara in the 1970's and was sold and opened as Dontino's 1976.



LEON'S



Opened at 1349 E. Tallmadge Rd. by Leonard Kubalak in 1943. It closed in 1980. It is currently a McDonalds.

LOU & HY'S DELI

Opened in 1965 on West Market by Louis Kay and Herman Potrock it was famous for its beef brisket with potato pancakes, chopped liver platters, and corned beef. They sold 3,000 pounds of corned beef a week.

The deli attracted stars like Martha Raye, Red Skelton, Milton Berle, Rocky Graziano, Kay Starr, and Gene Barry.

The restaurant shut its doors in 1998 to make way for a CVS.

LOYAL OAK TAVERN

Located at 3044 Wadsworth Rd., Norton, it was built around 1840 as a hotel. It was a stagecoach stop with hidden rooms and a secret tunnel that runs between the tavern and the County Store across the street. It was also known as Adam's Place in the 1930's and 1940's when Adam Pinter was the owner. Contraband alcohol was snuck in and an illicit speakeasy was in operation in the basement. Beer was cooled in an underground stream in the basement. In the early 1900's the building was said to be used as a children's infirmary.



LUIGI'S

Opened in 1949 by Nick Ciriello in a former steak house on North Main Street that sat 60 people.



LUJAN'S



Ron Lujan opened his first restaurant in 1956. In the end he had 12 restaurants.



MALLO'S BAR

Offie Mallo opened Mallo's Bar in the 1940's on U.S. 224. It then moved to South Main St. in Coventry Township, and in the 1950's the bar moved to 1655 S. Hawkins Ave. near Wooster Ave.

MARCEL'S GRILL

Located at 663 E. Exchange and opened in 1943 by Charles M. Moreland. By 1944 Michael Neman was running it, as Moreland was off to the South Pacific for WW II, and in 1946 it was Michael's Grille. Then in 1953 this was the site of the original Tangier.



MARCEL'S



Three partners, Maden E. Hall, Richard Vogel and Charles Marcellus Moreland purchased, what was then, Hauser's Tavern in 1952. They sold the restaurant to Attorney Ernie Genovese November 3, 1975. Genovese ran it as Art's Place and it was demolished in 2004 and made into a parking lot for an Auto Parts store.



Marcel's Lounge 1952

Dick Vogel was the chef, Maden Hall ran the luncheon crowd and Marcel ran the dinner crowd to closing. Cuyahoga Falls artist, Jack Richard painted several paintings for the restaurant. Several artists hung their artwork in the restaurant from time to time, including Marc Moon.



The January 28, 1954 Falls News reads as follows: "Three men have developed one of the finest restaurants in northern Summit County during the few short months that they have been in business at Marcel's on State Rd. Dick Vogel, M.E. Hall and Marcel Moreland are the three partners in the thriving enterprise. Probably the biggest reason for their success is that all of the men have been in the restaurant business all of their lives and have learned through long experience at some of the finest restaurants in the country how to put out a really good dinner at a reasonable price.

For instance, one of the owners, Dick Vogel, probably has more friends in the northern part of the county than any other restaurant man in the area. He was associated with Lake Forest Country Club for 10 years, two years with the famous Grubers Restaurant of Cleveland. He has also been at the Latin Quarter and Ghent Rd. Inn of Akron. Through these associations, Dick has made many friends because of his polite, old-world manners and his ability to make patrons comfortable and see that they enjoy their food. Many people, some as far away as Cleveland, come to see Dick at the restaurant. He has also worked at such other famous places as the Ambassador Hotel in Washington, DC.



The three men have all worked together at various times in the past. M.E. Hall and Marcel Moreland were partners in a restaurant once before in Barberton until they had to go into the Army. [Marcel was a Mess Sergeant for 4 years in the South Pacific] Vogel and Moreland worked together for 7 years at the Lake Forest Country Club and at the Rainbow Room of the now defunct Semler's Tavern in Cuyahoga Falls. Consequently, when the three men formed the present company, they could feel that the partnership brought together some of the best men in the business, because they knew each other's capabilities.



M.E. Hall, in considering some of the reasons for the phenomenal success of Marcel's said, "We have tried our best to put out a really good meal at a price attractive to the Cuyahoga Falls family. Our steaks and beef cuts are the best. And there are very few places in the country where a really good steak dinner can cost as low as \$2.75. Of course, we are always looking for an even better way to do things and ways to serve our customers even better."

THE MARK

Opened in 1965 by Mark Figetakis, eventually expanding to 24 restaurants, including a West Market Street and Cuyahoga Falls location.

MARTINI'S

Opened in 1933 at 1414 Copley Rd. in West Akron by Galiano [Joe] Martin, the restaurant came back after a devastating fire in 1979 only to close in 1983 under the ownership of his brother, Robert Martin.



Around 1959 Martini's Wonder Bar added the new Weathervane Room and updated the kitchen. On April 9, 1979 would-be burglars torched the restaurant and reconstruction of the 150-seat establishment, heavily damaged by fire took several months.



MARY COYLE'S

Opened in 1938 at 780 W. Market Street in Highland Square by Mary Coyle, the restaurant has seen many owners. Jack Coultrap owned the restaurant from 1963-1984. He sold it to the "Mary Coyle Corporation" and they filed for protection under Chapter 11. Then it was purchased by Michael Trecaso in the mid 1980's.



MARY AND TED'S

In 1946 Francis Thomas built the restaurant and called it Thomas'. He sold it to Howard Creekbaun who opened Howard's and then Jack Peace purchased it and called it Peace's. Mary and Ted bought it in 1951 and son Mike took it over in 1976. It had pinball machines and jukeboxes originally. It was a coffee shop with a lunch counter. It is currently Hudson's Restaurant.

MATTHE'S

Opened 1958 at 1641 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls by Helen and Ludwig Masse. Helen ran the restaurant after Ludwig's death and then their son Walter managed it until it closed in 1972 and a Ponderosa Steak House was built there.

Free!

COFFEE

TO EVERY GENTLEMAN WITH BEARD DURING
SESQUICENTENNIAL

AND BETTER YET

A FREE MEAL TO EVERY GENTLEMAN
WITH BEARD ACCOMPANIED BY HIS
- FAMILY -

CUYAHOGA FALLS
1812
1962
SESQUICENTENNIAL

SERVING FALLS FOR 34 YEARS

MATTHE'S RESTAURANT

1641 STATE ROAD WA 8-0893

MAYFLOWER HOTEL



When the Mayflower Hotel on Main and State Streets opened its doors on May 18, 1931 the main dining room was called "The Puritan" – and it looked the part!



Waitresses wore long, gray dresses and neat white caps of Priscilla Alden. This was the finest hour of Prohibition, of the speakeasy and the magic words at the peephole "Charlie sent me."

In 1934 the Puritan costumes were sent packing and were replaced by Hawaiian grass skirts of a sort. There was a miniature storm over a rug-size island. The display was called "Storm over Diamond Head" and it ended the floor show presented for the diners. Shirley Temple and Katherine Hepburn were some of the celebrities that dined here.



Ballroom

By the end of World War II the dining room was transformed from the worn bamboo of the "Hawaiian Room" to the plush elegance, glitter and class of "The Terrace".

In 1956 the legend of the Merry Man as told in P.P. Cherry's manuscript about the Western Reserve and early Ohio, became the theme of the new "Merry Man" dining room that looked like the interior of a large log cabin.



The "Merry Man" dining room closed in 1971 when the Mayflower felt that they no longer needed food service in the hotel.

MERLITTI'S

Brothers Dominic and Henry Merlitti opened the North Hill Café at 928 North Howard Street after World War II. Around 1956 they bought the West Bar at 256 W. Market where they opened Merlitti's. The restaurant closed in 1972.

MICHELI'S

Located at 1295 E. Tallmadge Ave. and founded in 1955 by Adamo Adelio Giovanni Micheli or Ed Micheli. He purchased an 18-seat, one-room restaurant and named it Ed's Hamburg. By 1957 the restaurant expanded to a full-fledged drive-in, and by 1963 to Ed Micheli's Restaurant. In the late 1960's they added a banquet room and a liquor license and lounge and changed the name to Micheli's Restaurant and Lounge. The restaurant closed in 2005.

MILICH'S VILLAGE INN

Founded in 1955 by Mirko and Katie Milich and located at 4444 Cleveland Massillon Rd. in Barberton, the restaurant closed in 2014.

MILLER'S COLONIAL RESTAURANT

2033 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls.

MITCH'S LOUNGE

Located at 246 E. Exchange Street, Mitch's opened in 1963 by Mitch Nikola. It was then taken over by Tom Nikola. The restaurant closed in 2003.



NEW ERA

Opened at the corner of E. Market and Massillon Rd. in 1938 by Lucille Juric. The restaurant sat 70 people. In 2005 the old restaurant was razed and a new one, seating 200, was built on the same spot.



NIAM'S

Located at 338 Locust Street. Founded in 1953 by Ed and Gerrie [Salem] Niam. The restaurant was attacked by a robber with a hatchet in 1994. In 1999 it was sold and opened as Meekers. It closed in 2012 and the building was torn down in 2013 to make room for additions to Children's Hospital.

NICK ANTHE'S

Nick started his restaurant career as a bus boy at the Garden Grille downtown Akron.

In 1958 Nick and his brother Charles, opened Anthe's Canteen at 1612 State Rd., near the high level bridge in Cuyahoga Falls until it burned in 1963. Then he moved to East Tallmadge Ave. and opened Nick Anthe's in 1964.



He sold the Tallmadge Ave. restaurant in 1975 and opened the North Main location a few years later.

He sold the restaurant to Douglas Robinson in 1989 and retired. Anthe passed away in 2004 and Robinson closed the restaurant in 2011.

OLD HEIDELBERG

Kraker's Old Heidelberg was opened in 1934 at 116 ½ S. Main Street by John Kraker, an Austrian immigrant.

PAPA JOE'S

Located at 532 W. Market Guiseppe Murgida opened the restaurant at 532 W. Market in 1939. By 1958-59 Elinor and Stanley Jacobs owned it and by 1960 it was closed. The location became today's Tangier.

PHELPS RESTAURANT

Opened by Ben and Alice Phelps and located on Main Street and then Perkins Street. The restaurant closed in 1969.

POLSKY'S TEA ROOM



PORTAGE HOTEL



Located at 10 N. Main Street on the corner of Market, the Portage replaced the Empire House Hotel, a famous stopping point for travelers on the Pennsylvania and OH Canal.

The Portage was the only Georgian Revival building in downtown Akron, being 8 stories, 250 rooms and a cost of \$600,000 in 1912.



LOBBY, THE PORTAGE HOTEL, AKRON, OHIO.





The Rubber Room Bar opened in 1936. It was 4 tons of rubber, floors, walls, and doors were covered with rubber. Tables were topped with rubber. Ceiling lights were rimmed in real tires – one for each of the six manufacturers of tires in Akron.





The Hotel was demolished in 1991. It had closed as a hotel in 1969 and became a nursing home in 1978.



RED PEPPER STEAKHOUSE

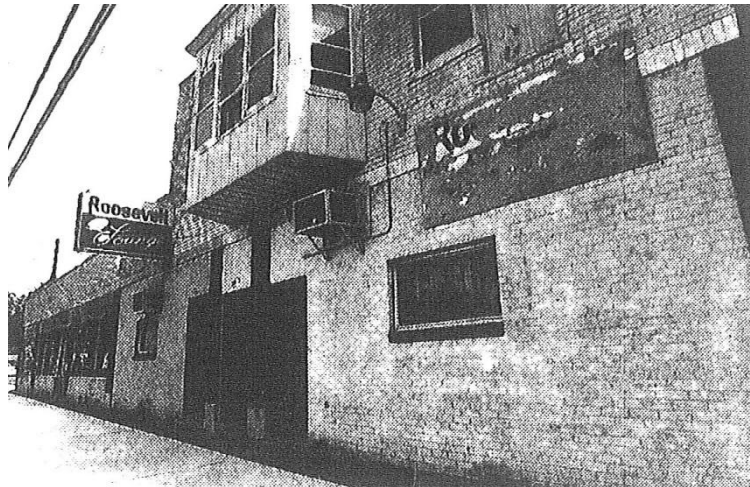
Founded by Katherine and Louie "Bony" Juhasz. It opened after WW II, and son William L ran it after the death of his parents in 1981 and 1994. It was on the corner of Rt. 261 and Barber Rd.

RESERVE INN

Opened in 1960 in Hudson by Leon Wagner, former owner of the Tip Top Restaurant in Stow and in Twinsburg. It closed in 2012. It is currently Lager and Vine.

ROOSEVELT LOUNGE

The building on Darrow Rd. and Newton St. that dates back to the 1920's was linked to folklore surrounding the 1930's-era criminal "Pretty Boy" Floyd. Charles Floyd supposedly crashed on occasion in one of the two apartments upstairs from the Lounge. Floyd was an Akron regular who lived in a house at 447 Lodi Street where he was arrested in 1930 while living under the alias of Frankie Mitchell. Floyd was later killed in a 1934 shootout with the FBI in East Liverpool. The lounge closed and the building was torn down in 2002.



RUBBER BOWL CAFÉ

Located on Triplett Blvd., close to Derby Downs and the Airdock. Opened by Frank and Clara Masiella

SALEM'S RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

Opened in 1958 at 1458 E. Market by Ed and Paul Salem. It closed in 1974-75 and Paul opened Tall Paul's at 1624 W. Exchange.

SANGINITI'S



Located at 207 E. Market, Sanginiti's was a first-class Italian restaurant that was no longer in a first-class neighborhood in the late 1970's. The dining room décor was of an older elegance with chandeliers providing soft overhead lighting. Red candles decorated every table.



Frank Sanginiti founded the restaurant in 1952. It closed in 1990. He was previously the owner of Frank's Café. It is currently the Haven of Rest.

SCHROEDER'S

Schroeder's Café was amid the campus of the University of Akron. The bar was the oldest in Akron in 1973. Charles Schroeder came to the U.S. from Berlin in the 1890's and bought a neighborhood tavern, called the Buckeye Café. After a while he moved the original building further back on his property and built a new establishment containing a hotel of 20 rooms above the first floor tavern. The long bar, mirror, booths and tables were kept from the old place. The building was torn down in 1976.

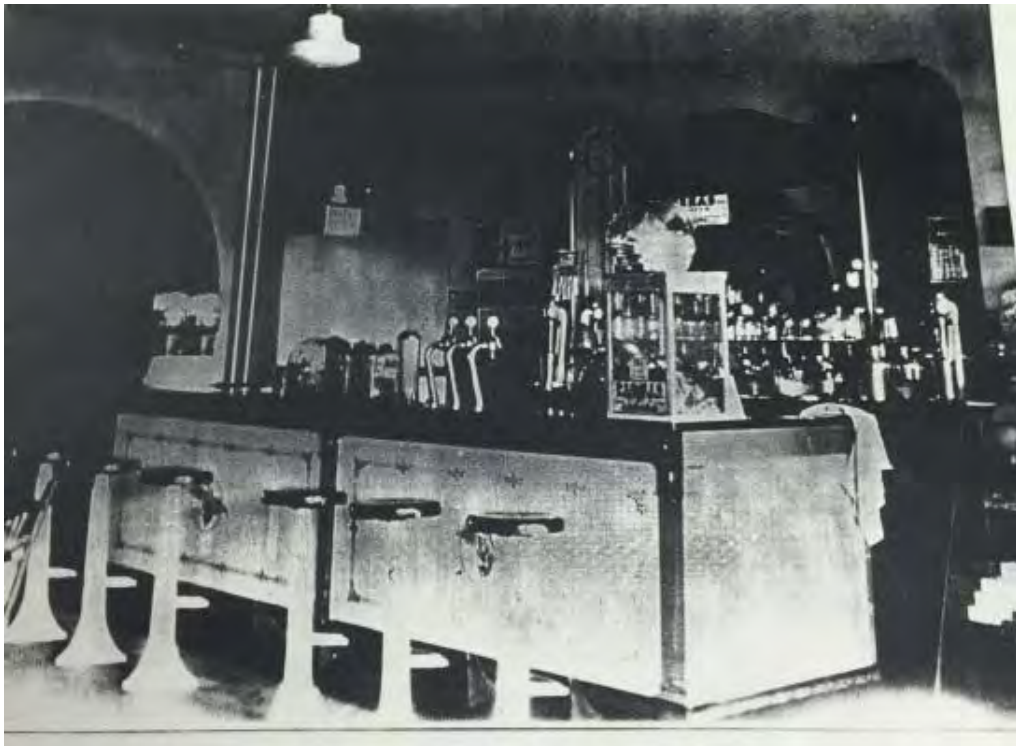
SEMLER'S TAVERN

Akron industrialist, Clyde Semler, opened the 50-room hotel and tavern on State Rd. in Cuyahoga Falls in 1929. It was a rip-roaring resort and a clattering whirl of gambling, booze and jazz in the 1930's.



In 1930 manager Jean Lehman hired orchestras to perform six nights a week in the ballroom. Public dancing was illegal on Sundays in Cuyahoga Falls. An ordinance required musicians to stop playing at 11:30 PM on Saturdays. Officers paid a surprise visit to Semler's at 12:50 AM and found heathens swaying on the Sabbath. Lehman was arrested.

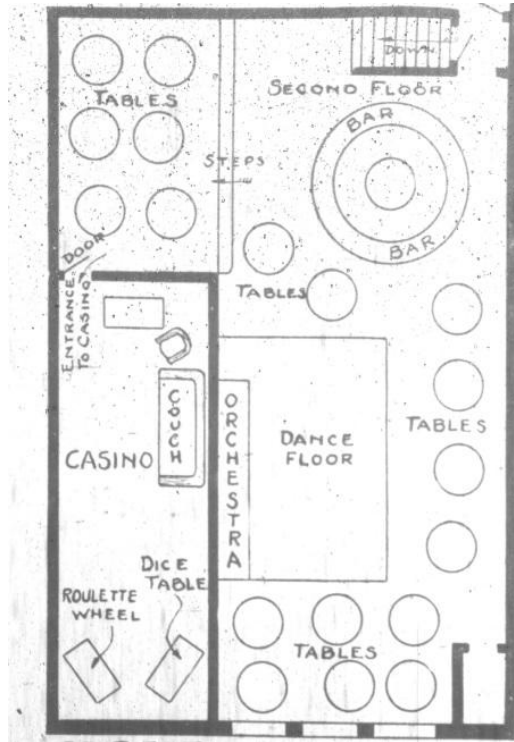
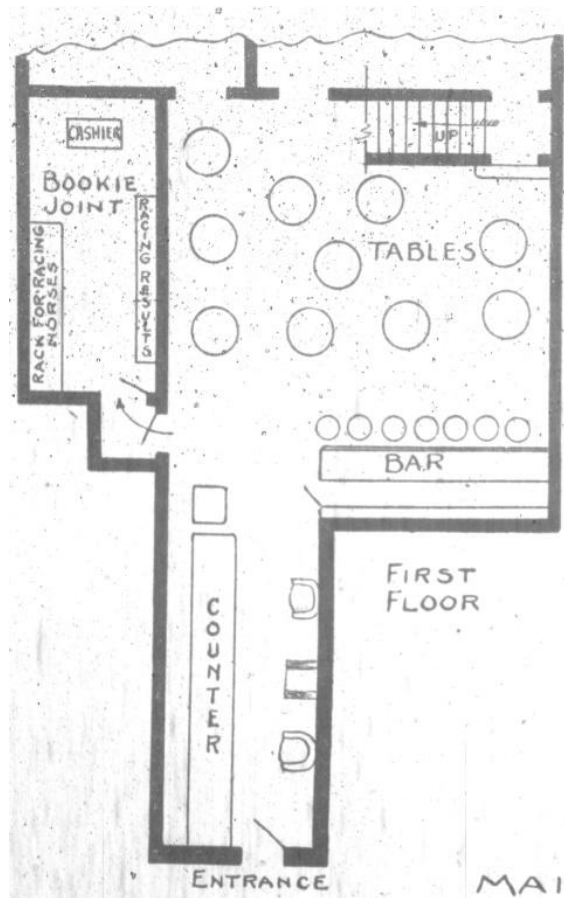
To avoid future trouble, the Tavern became a private nightclub in 1932. Tony Masino opened the Castle Club, a swanky casino that packed in crowds. Prohibition was still the law, but alcohol flowed freely. Gambling was illegal. In 1933 police officers arrived with sledgehammers and smashed the door down, while Masino was inside smashing booze bottles.



Officers seized gaming equipment and a few whiskey jugs that Masino missed. Over the next few years the Tavern was raided more times than a cookie jar! In 1936 officers lobbed tear gas into the club and a crowd of 300 scrambled out. Masino eventually left and opened up the Merry Go Round and Semler's was managed by the Walbridge Club from 1936-1938. Then Semler brought back Masino to run the Keno operation.



The huge wooden circular bar in the Merry Go Round actually rotated around the bartender in the center.



Masino was called the "sweet prince" of the colorful, corrupt and concealed era in Akron. He was labeled a racketeer by the U.S. Government. He lived above his father's candy and ice cream shop on Mill Street where he had an established bookie joint in the late 1920's. He was

always nervously energetic. He founded a dynasty in Akron based on horse betting, race wires, and plush gambling casinos.

In 1936 the U.S. Government sued him for \$1,000,000 in back income taxes from 1929-1932.



Masino's trial – left to right: A.J. Bianchi, Masino's attorney; Tony Masino, former host at the Castle Club; Arthur Julius Erra, arrested in both the Castle Club and the Semler Tavern raid; Alphonso Gareri, faced trial on liquor and gambling equipment possession charges as a result of the raid on Semler's.

In 1942 the U.S. Army commandeered the hotel to serve as a training center for World War II. In 1948 Semler sold the hotel to William Smith and after a remodel, it was renamed the Chesterfield Inn with a 56-room addition in 1959. In 1963 Gus Girves signed a lease and refurbished the hotel as the Brown Derby Inn. That lease expired in 1977 and Smith's family renamed the hotel the State Road Inn. In 1999 the building was sold and a CVS drugstore was built.



STONE'S GRILL

Located at 207 S. Main and opened by Samuel H. Stone. It is currently the Lockview Restaurant.

STOW SMORGASBORD

Opened in 1939 by Lillian Jae at 3983 Darrow Rd. It had more than 100 dishes, 4 dining rooms with white tablecloths and a fireplace. John Baran was the owner when it closed in 1973. It is currently Parrasons.





THE SUMNER HOUSE

Julius Sumner erected a tavern at N. Howard and Tallmadge Avenue which was the town's leading hotel and opera house for many years. In 1883 E.D. Ely was the owner and it closed in 1885.



THE SURREY

Built at 80 W. Streetsboro Rd., Hudson, in 1964 by Charles Samie. August, 1966 the Brown Derby purchased the old Surrey building. Today it is Yours Truly.

SWENSON'S

Opened in 1934 and still operating!





TANGIER

Ed George came to Akron from Lebanon in 1929 and opened the first Tangier at 663 E. Exchange Street in 1950. It burned down on December 26, 1958 and he opened the current location, which was a small steak house called Papa Joe's, on W. Market. The beginning of the mideastern flavor to Tangier began in 1964.

THE TAVERN OF RICHFIELD

Located at OH 176 and Rt. 303, it was built by OH Canal boat builder Lewis Ellas in 1885. The three-story Victorian building was a hotel and a restaurant. It was once used by Cleveland oil baron John D. Rockefeller as a summer home.



In the early 1920's, during Prohibition, Mike Gyenge owned the property. After the repeal of Prohibition the building became a popular eating and drinking establishment known as the "Underground".

Other owners followed until Mel Rose purchased it in 1977. In 1998 Dr. Doty purchased the building for use for his dental offices, but that idea fell through and he leased it to the Stancato family who opened Stancato's Café in 1998 and closed in 2006.

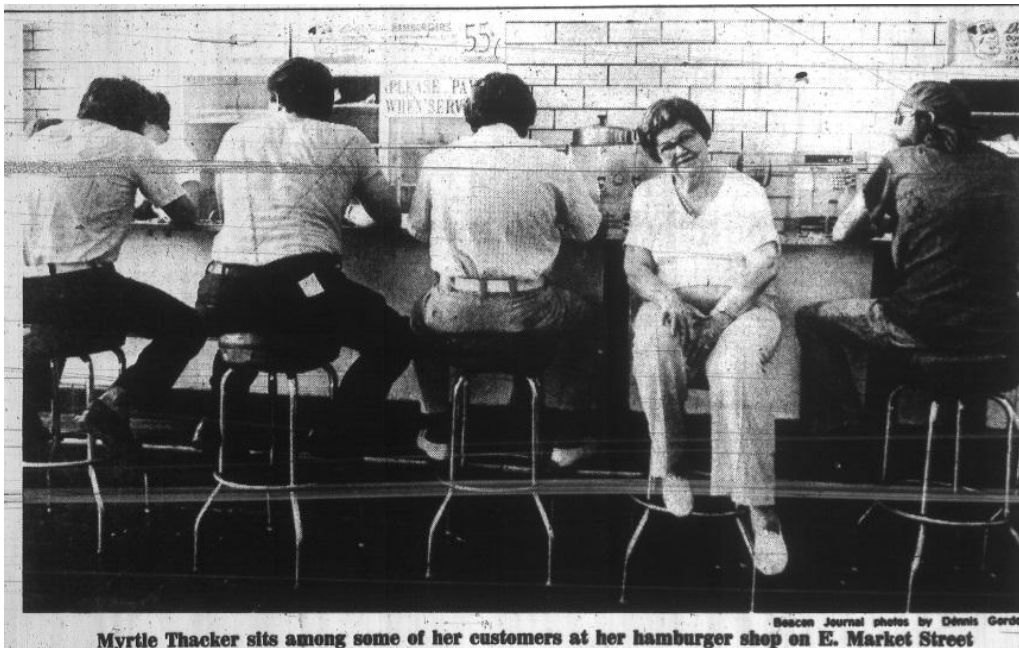


TERRACE GARDENS

Opened in 1962 by Eileen Johnson as one of the fried-chicken restaurants in the Barberton area AT 288 Hillside Ave., the restaurant closed in 1997.

THACKER'S

Marvin Thacker, former rubber worker, opened the restaurant in 1921 in a one-story concrete block building on E. Exchange near Bowery. They later moved to 1300 E. Market and Kelly Ave in 1926 where it became a beacon for Goodyear workers and East High students. That building was replaced in 1939 by a larger one of yellow brick and tile. Thacker's closed in 1980.



Myrtle Thacker sits among some of her customers at her hamburger shop on E. Market Street

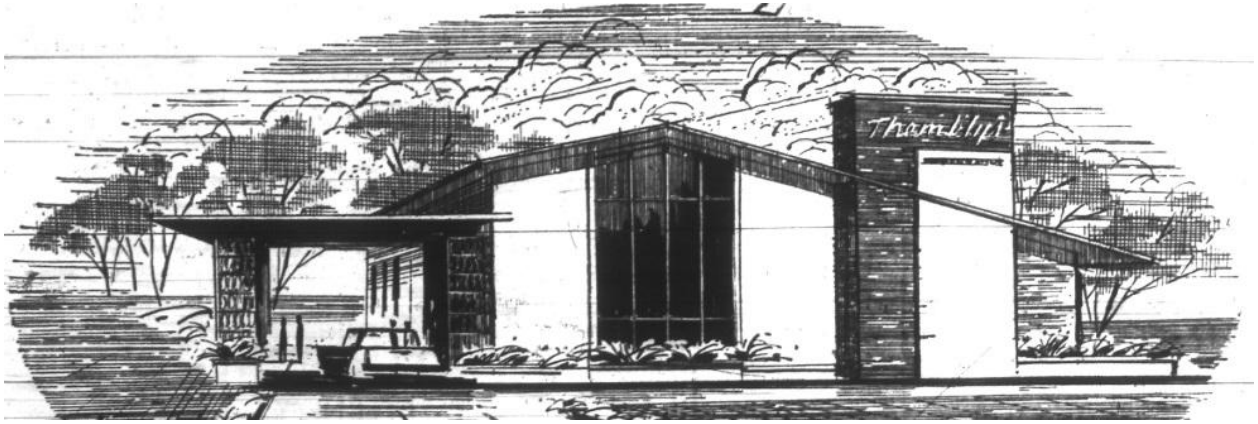
Beacon Journal photos by Dennis Gordon



1974

THEMELY'S

Opened in 1960 at 2914 W. Market by Thomas Themely. The restaurant closed in 1970.



Chinese tapestries two-centuries old adorned walls of Texas ranch wood. Gold lame draperies, antique furniture, thick, soft carpets welcomed you in the foyer. Waterfall walls divided the foyer from the dining room and intimate cocktail lounge with leopard décor. There was a three-level dining room divided by sculptures and screens. Cars were parked by attendants and guests had a wide shelter canopy at the entrance of the restaurant.



Count Basie and the Inkspots were some of the celebrities that played at Themely's. It is currently Rockne's.





During the 1940's and 1950's Mr. Themely owned the Westgate Lounge on W. Market where Ken Stewart's currently is.



TOMMY'S



Opened in the 1940's at 2225 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls, by Tommy Bruno. It closed in the mid 1970's.

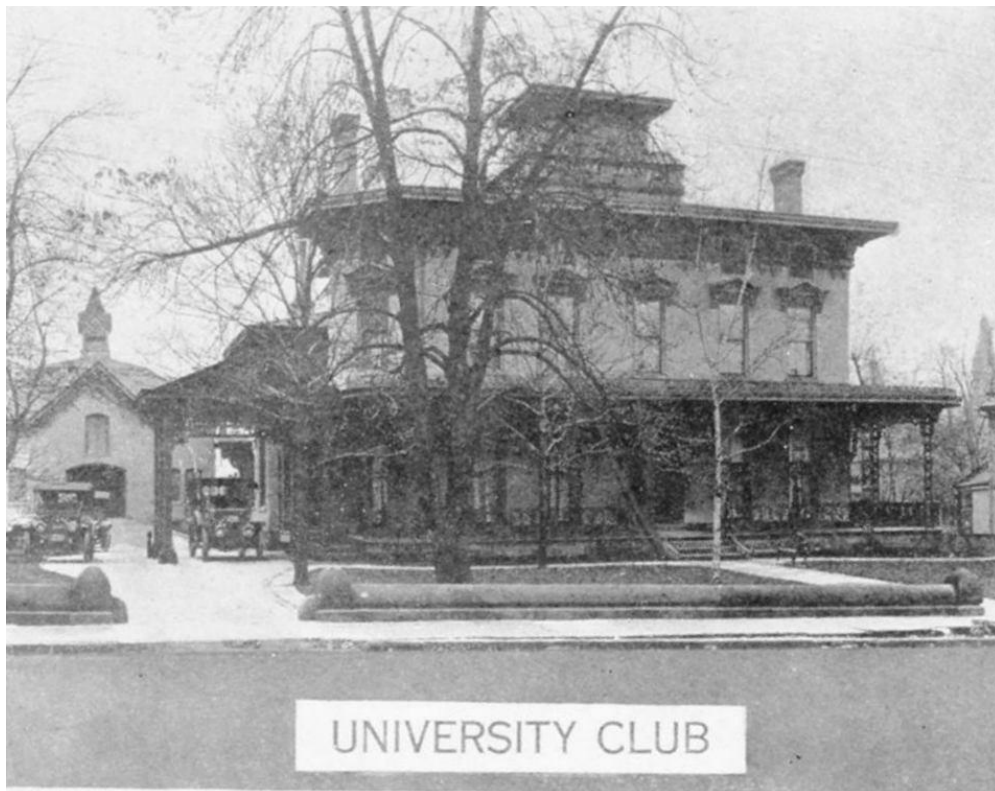


There was an apartment upstairs that was turned into the "Skylight Room". It was run by Anita, Tommy's wife, and was said to be the place that attorneys and bankers went for lunch.



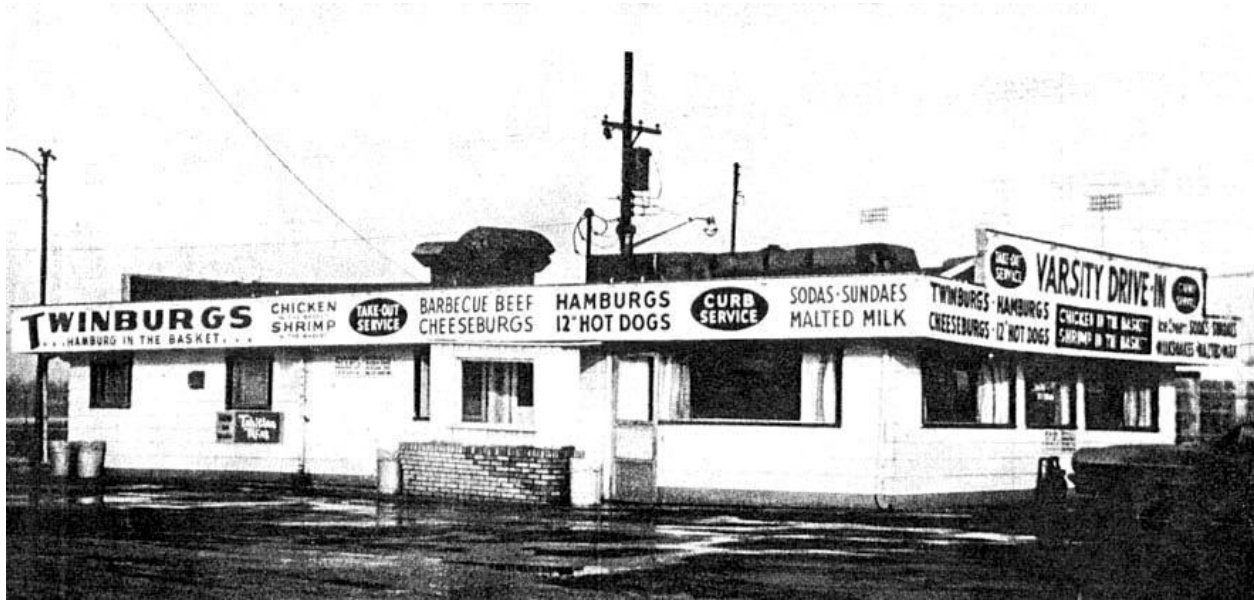
THE UNIVERSITY CLUB

The Club was formed in 1910 and in 1918 the stately old building on Fir Hill opened its doors as a residential club for young bachelors. Women were not permitted to join until 1975. In 1978 the building was turned over to the University of Akron.



VARSITY DRIVE-IN

A favorite of Barbertonians.



VON'S NIGHT CLUB

Located at 1307 Grant and owned by Fred Von Gunton. Pando Peshoff owned the Club for a long time before he retired in 1991.

WATERLOO

In 1957 John Bahas purchased a small drive-up restaurant on Waterloo Rd. He converted the drive-up to a sit-down restaurant and now his son, John, runs the restaurant. In 1958 they were famous for a "gallon of chicken" – 12 pieces, French fries or onion rings and a whole apple pie for \$3.50. Then there was the bottomless cup of coffee, the foot of fish, the Big Apple pie and the Long John milkshake.

WHITE HOUSE [Upper Deck]

Built in 1820 by George Rex at 357 W. Turkeyfoot Lake Rd, it was a stage coach inn. It was purchased by John Thornton in 1849 and passed on to son Samuel upon his death. It was originally built in the shape of an L. In 1871 Sam tore down one wing. In 1925 it was still owned by the Thornton family.



WHITEHOUSE CHICKEN

Opened in 1942 at 180 Wooster Rd., N. It is now owned by Brian Canale, whose family founded Hopocan Gardens.



YANKEE INN

Located at 231 W. Exchange and owned by George Zennallis. It was famous for live entertainment, like the 4 Freshmen, Four Lads, Johnny Ray, Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme.

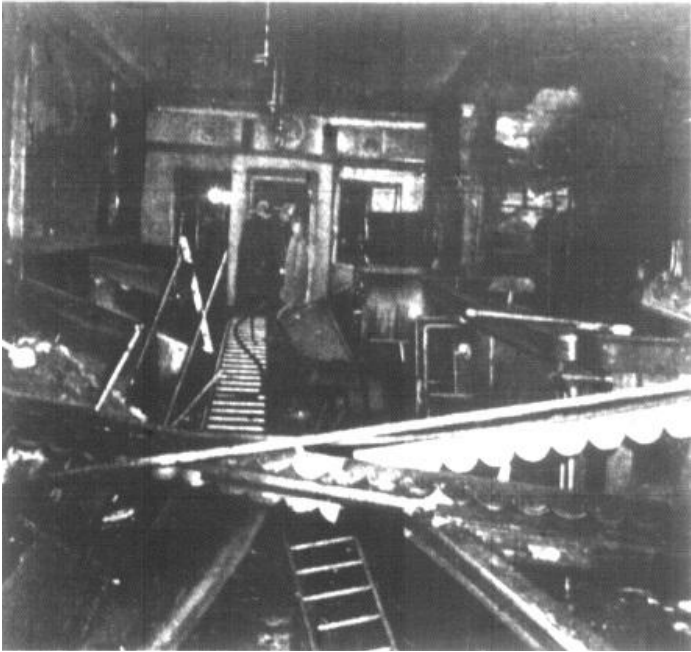
YANKO'S



Nick Yanko opened the Bubble Bar Café at 346 W. Market in Highland Square in 1940 after buying the Oregon Restaurant that was there.



On March 29, 1951 the Café suffered a fire and the restaurant grew into a 400 seat plush restaurant after that fire.



The Bubble Bar Café after the fire







Flaming shish kebabs and shrimp Vesuvius were served at the table over a brazier. There was also a large maître d' outfitted in a turban and Arabian garb who would visit each table and bow as the entrée was served.



'Red Cochrane Nite' - May 8, 1973 - Gardner Student Center AU
Nic and Mable Yanko display a picture of The Buchteleat, campus eatery of the 30's

Yanko began his restaurant career at the Buchteleat, by Akron U. before Gardner Student Center was built.

Another fire on December 4, 1969 closed the doors forever.



The Brown Derby was right next door and bought the shell that was Yanko's in the 1970's to expand.

YOUNG'S

Young's evolved from a tavern and grocery on Manchester Rd. overlooking Nesmith Lake, founded by German immigrant John Young in 1850. Later the hotel was built.



In 1907 a fire entirely destroyed the place. It was rebuilt in 1908 and destroyed by fire again in 1909. It was rebuilt again and closed in 1992. The building was torn down in 2004.



