

## CROWN POINT

## 'Dogs for a Cause' collect for food pantry



**Crown Point High School football players** (from left) Conrad Deedrick, Evan Wilson, and Jordan Jurasevich wait at the corner outside the high school for donations during the Dogs For a Cause food drive on Saturday. — PHOTOS FOR THE STAR BY SCOTT R. BRANDUSH

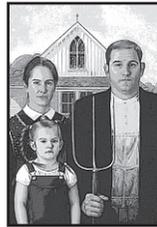


**Conrad Deedrick (left) and Quinton Klingberg** add bags of food outside Crown Point High School on Saturday, June 12th during the Dogs for a Cause Food Drive. CPHS football players were stationed in neighborhoods collecting foods and funds.



**Crown Point High School football players** stand out in the rain collecting money and food items for the Dogs For a Cause food drive on Saturday.

## ART ADVENTURE | SAM DALKILIC-MIESTOWSKI



# Art an important part of making a house a home

**R**ecently the Building Industries Association of Northwest Indiana hosted its annual Parade of Homes. This year 27 homes were scattered throughout northwest Indiana including the towns of Cedar Lake, Crown Point, Dyer, Highland, Hobart, Lowell, Merrillville, and St. John.

As a Northwest Indiana art dealer, I have personally been involved with several Parade of Homes events in the past. Usually, this meant bringing in art and placing it where there was a fire place, blank wall, or sofa.

Many times, I never worked with the actual builder, but worked with a team of people who were staging the home to sell.

More times than not, most parade attendees merely walked by the art, commenting on what I would call minor features; things like faux finishes, table cloths, and silk wreaths. The art was supposed to fill in the blank walls. It was an afterthought, not the focal point.

That is why I was thrilled that St. John architect Nick Georgiou of G&K Development and builder Steve Kelly featured one of their custom-built homes in Lake of the Hills subdivision located very close to The Steeple Gallery.

At the request of their clients, Georgiou and Kelly created a home which featured the personal art collection of the clients.

I asked architect Georgiou what was the concept of the house.

"The overall house design was laid out to take advantage of the lake and park views to the northwest at the rear of the house, and utilize the sloping lot for a ranch level home with a lower level walk-out.

"The rooms at the rear of the house were staggered in an effort to allow lake views from all the rooms at the back of the house, which include a bedroom, great room and dining area and master bedroom on the main floor, and the family room and entertaining area on the lower level.

"All three spaces on the main floor access a continuous deck that allows for views to the park and lake. The large windows with transoms were done to maximize both daylight and 'open feeling' at the rear of the house.

"The house does not have a separate dining room and the kitchen, dining area, and great room were designed as an open concept to provide the light, airy feeling in the house.

"Architecturally speaking, the procession of someone entering through



Roland Kulla original painting custom Framed at the Steeple Gallery.



Artist: Peter Xiao  
Title: Co- Exist  
Custom double frame



Original oil paintings, limited edition prints, framed and hung and arranged by The Steeple Gallery in St. John.

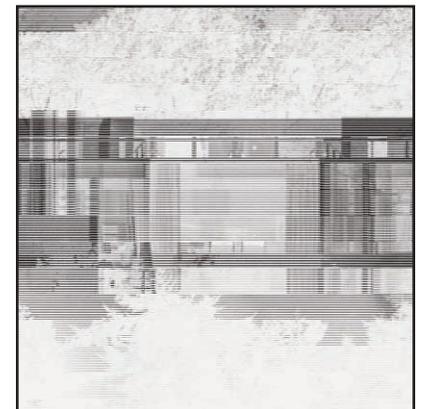
the front door and what they see initially, and the progression of spaces opening up as they enter the house was considered in the design.

"The other major element, besides the views, was to incorporate an art wall in the great room that would be lit and highlighted as one enters from the front door and walks into the great room. The paint finishes for the walls and over the fireplace were selected in earth tones to allow for the display of framed pieces that would not conflict with any of the framed art.

"We also created a featured fireplace wall with flanking built-in cabinets and display cases to showcase various smaller art pieces. The owners also felt strongly about utilizing the space above the fireplace that could showcase a featured art piece. We felt that the area above the fireplace should not be a location for the television.

"The design did incorporate a space for the TV in the built-in cabinetry to the side. The lower level of the house is also being finished to an extent that there will be ample wall space to continue the display of framed photos, artwork, and other displays."

I asked Georgiou if his clients had a favorite architect who contributed to



The Douglas House by Richard Meiers American architect.

the home's design.

"American architect Richard Meier," Georgiou answered. "His early works including the Douglas House, the Smith House, and the Atheneum."

I hope more architects and builders emulate the very successful "Kathleen" model in next year's parade. Incorporating a specific "art wall" adds dramatically to the uniqueness of the entire project. The design services of Nicole Terpstra from By Design Interiors were wonderful and, again, added just the right touch.