



# BELLEVILLE NEWS-DEMOCRAT

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50 ce.

## St. Albert parishioners look back to church's beginning

Built in 1967, church will be demolished

By MARIA BARAN  
News-Democrat

Andy Kinsella remembers the day when 700 tons of concrete were poured continuously to form the dome roof on top of St. Albert the Great Catholic Church in Fairview Heights.

It was 1967, and the sight caused traffic to back up through the farm community. "On that day, people driving would stop and look. Some people even got into accidents,"

said Kinsella, 46, of Fairview Heights.

His father, the late Joe Kinsella, was the builder of the church that would become a landmark on the corner of Illinois 159 and U.S. 50.

Demolition on the circular, dark-brick building topped with a large white dome is expected to begin this week.

The church will be the last of three buildings cleared to make way for an upscale shopping center. Demolition began last

month on the St. Albert school and gymnasium.

Razing the round church at the busiest intersection in the city has been a passionate subject. Those in favor of the new development are eager to welcome additional shopping, but many parishioners will be sorry to see the end of the church they call a monument.

Norm Geolat, 79, helped design the church. The Belleville resident said tearing it down would be a "travesty."

In 1966, Geolat and his brother-in-law, Monsignor Clement Schindler, visited 14

churches in the St. Louis area to gather ideas to design a church for the growing Fairview Heights area. They were inspired by the round design of Priory in St. Louis County and the raised seating at a Jewish synagogue.

The result was a \$650,000 church-in-the-round with seating almost 180 degrees around the altar.

When the wrecking crews began demolition, "there'll be some tears shed that day," Geolat said. "I think Fairview

Please see CHURCH, A2



TIM VIZER/News-Democrat

Norm Geolat, 79, helped design St. Albert the Great Church in Fairview Heights in the 1960s.

## Autism group to build farm

Program would help adults living with disability

By ALIANA RAMOS  
News-Democrat

At 21, Wade Hillyer of Belleville faces an uncertain future. Hillyer, who has autism, will be too old to attend the Illinois Center for Autism's school in July, leaving his parents with few options in the metro-east.

Federal law only requires educational programs for children with disabilities until age 11, said Susan Szekely, director of the Illinois Center for Autism, which is based in Fairview Heights.

Autism is a lifelong neurological disability that affects a person's ability to communicate, understand language, play, and socially interact with others, according to the Autism Society of America.

Because there is so little programming in the metro-east for adults with autism after 21, parents are faced with

Please see AUTISM, A2

### How to help

Attend a trivia night fundraiser for the Foundation for Autism Today and Tomorrow on Saturday at the Leu Civic Center, 213 N. Market St. in Mascoutah. Tickets are \$10 per person. Call 825-0714 to reserve a table.

or

Donate by sending a check to FAST: P.O. Box 130, O'Fallon, IL 62269.



ZIA NIZAMI/News-Democrat

Wade Hillyer, 21, has autism. His father, Bart Hillyer, is president of the Foundation for Autism

## Historic fountain will be restored

New name honors ESL activist's legacy

By JENNIFER A. BOWEN  
News-Democrat

**EAST ST. LOUIS** — A 65-year-old lagoon fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park in East St. Louis is on its way to restoration, almost 30 years after one of the largest fountains in the metro-east was drained and closed.

The Emma L. Wilson King Foundation, a nonprofit civic and educational foundation in East St. Louis, has been named trustee of the fountain and entrusted with its rehabilitation and upkeep.

Please see PARK, A2

### How to help

For more information about making a donation to the foundation or purchasing a brick, call the foundation at (866) 766-1991 or visit the foundation's Web site at [www.emmalkingfoundation.org](http://www.emmalkingfoundation.org). Donations can be mailed to: The Emma L. Wilson King Foundation, c/o First Illinois Bank, P.O. Box 459, East St. Louis, IL, 62202. All donation are tax-deductible.

## Sharpton to appear at SIUE on Jan. 27

By NICKLAUS LOVELADY  
News-Democrat

The Rev. Al Sharpton, one of the most talked-about leaders in the African-American community, is scheduled to speak at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on Jan. 27.

The former presidential candidate and political activist has been invited by the Black Student Union to address students and the community on the issues facing



Sharpton

### Want to go?

The Rev. Al Sharpton is scheduled to speak at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville at 7 p.m. Jan. 27 in the Meridian Ballroom at the Morris University Center. The event is free to the public.

"I'm pretty sure it's going to be a great experience," said Tairisha Sawyer, vice president of events for SIUE's Black St



# PARK | Historic ESL fountain will be restored

Continued from Page A1

The group is dedicated to improving public parks, gardens, buildings, neighborhood organizations and community centers in East St. Louis and providing scholarships to students in the city.

The foundation is named after East St. Louis resident Emma L. Wilson King, a mother of 12 and longtime community activist who died Nov. 20, 2004, at age 82.

The foundation has been working to raise the \$300,000 needed to restore and maintain the fountain.

King was an avid gardener who never finished high school but encouraged all of her children to finish high school and go to college.

"We would drive through the park because it was near our house and mom always thought of it as a beautiful place," said Jerome Francis King, ninth of the 12 siblings and executive administrator of the founda-

tion. "She loved parks and open space and she loved the water, so I think the fountain is a fitting tribute to her. I think she would be honored because she loved East St. Louis so much."

The fountain known as the Jones Park Fountain in its heyday, has been renamed the Emma L. Wilson King Memorial Fountain at Jones Park Lagoon.

The concrete fountain is largely intact but needs major repairs along the entire pipe and electrical system and requires an overhaul of the fountain's area grounds.

The fountain is located in the 130-acre Jones Park near the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Center and is accessible from MetroLink and a bike trail.

"The park used to be the jewel of Southern Illinois," King said.

The fountain project is expected to be completed by spring 2008.

The foundation has held several fundraising events including bowling and golf tourna-

ments, dinner sales, raffles and corporate sponsorship and has raised about \$18,000 so far.

People who would like to be part of the fountain restoration can purchase commemorative bricks engraved with names, memorials or favorite quotes. The bricks will be used as part of the architecture around the fountain.

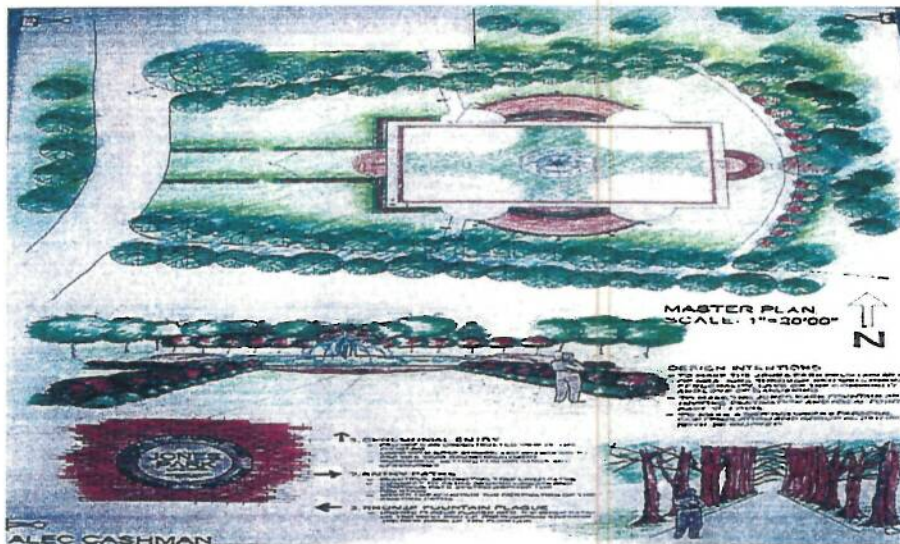
The design of University of Illinois landscape architecture student Alec Cashman was selected for the park area around the fountain because the family thought it best captured who their mother was and the vision the family has for the fountain.

"This is our big push to solicit from the community, foundations and the private sector," King said. "The community response has been marvelous. They have been very supportive and they are saying we are doing the right thing."

Contact reporter Jennifer A. Bowen at [jb Bowen@bnd.com](mailto:jb Bowen@bnd.com) or 239-2667.

## Emma L. Wilson King Memorial Fountain at Jones Park Lagoon

### University of Illinois Student Design Proposal: East St. Louis Action Research Project at Urbana-Champaign



### The Memorial Fountain~2005





Posted on Mon, Jan. 16, 2006

## **Historic fountain to be restored**

**New name honors activist's legacy**

**BY JENNIFER A. BOWEN**  
News-Democrat

**EAST ST. LOUIS** - A 65-year-old lagoon fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park in East St. Louis is on its way to restoration, almost 30 years after one of the largest fountains in the metro-east was drained and closed.

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Contact reporter Jennifer A. Bowen at [jbowen@bnd.com](mailto:jbowen@bnd.com) or 239-2667.



MONDAY

July 16, 2007

Partly cloudy, hot  
High 93 Low 71

# BABY BASICS

## TIPS FOR NEW ARRIVAL

LIFESTYLE C1



**ECHO BOOMERS**  
BELLEVILLE LOOKING AHEAD WITH  
PLANS TO CATER TO GENERATION Y  
BUSINESS B1

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## Scheel Street Development



City Centre Associates scrapped a plan to build 32 townhomes on a site which included the old Elevator restaurant, which will be demolished.

A second group plans to build 16 condos on this vacant site.

Before building townhomes and condos, developer City Centre Associates wants the city to demolish the commercial buildings and put in water and sewer lines and other infrastructure.

JIM MOELLER/News-Democrat

## Rival visions stall Scheel Street plans

Developer should share results of study, mayor says

By LISA P. WHITE  
News-Democrat

**BELLEVILLE** — The developer of a stalled residential project near the Belleville MetroLink is willing to mix the apartments if the city agrees to demolish several commercial build-

ings and put in side-walks, water and sewer lines and other infrastructure.

But Mayor Mark Eckert says he won't even discuss the proposal until the developer hands over an engineering study and feasibility report for which the city has paid \$43,000.

Steve Scott, of Indianapolis-based developer City

Centre Associates, said he can replace the proposed 285 apartments in the Scheel Street project with condominiums, but he can't sell them without creating a "sense of place" to impress prospective buyers.

He urges the city to proceed with creating a tax increment financing district to generate the funds to relocate Belleville Recycling and Gerold Moving & Warehouse.

Please see PLANS, A3

## EXPANSION AT SIUE



## Foundation endeavors to restore fountain in an East St. Louis park

About one-third of \$300,000 goal has been raised

By CARA ANTHONY  
News-Democrat

**EAST ST. LOUIS** — Finally watching water gush out of an old fountain will mean more than just the restoration of a park — it will mean one family doing its part to restore East St. Louis.

The Emma L. Wilson King Foundation wants to bring back the 65-year-old fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park in East St. Louis that has been drained for nearly 30 years.



DERIK HOLTSMANN/News-Democrat

The 65-year-old lagoon fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park in East St. Louis is something the Emma L. Wilson King Foundation wants to repair to get it working again.

The original spring 2008 completion date might be pushed back to 2009 because of a lack of money for the

Please see FOUNTAIN, A3

## INSIDE

Lottery	A2
Opinion	A4
Nation/World	A5
People	A8
Local	B3
Obituaries	B2
Business	B1
Lifestyle	C1
Sudoku	C2
TV, Movies	C3
Comics	C4
Weather	C8
Sports	D1
Scoreboard	D4

C4-D9-B CLASSIFIED

SPORTS Gateway Grizzlies and home team D1



## Fairview eyes TIF to revive Lincoln Trail

Targeted area would run from Illinois 159 to Bunkum Road

By LAURA GIRMESCH

## O'Fallon residents question mall density

Planned shopping center opposed in neighborhood

By JENNIFER A. BOWEN  
News-Democrat

**O'FALLON** — The neighborhood could soon get a bank, coffee shop, pharmacy, deli and medical clinic, but the neighbors are saying if city leaders let it happen, there goes the neighborhood.

Residents gathered more than 340 signatures on a petition in an attempt to stop de-

velopment of a 40,000-square-foot shopping center at the corner of Kyle Rd. and Lincoln Ave.

More than 300 O'Fallon residents are trying to stop a proposed 40,000-square-foot shopping center at the corner of Kyle Rd. and Lincoln Ave.



velopment of a 40,000-square-foot shopping center at the corner of Kyle and Lincoln streets in O'Fallon. Plans call for five buildings on eight acres on the

Please see O'FALLON, A2



# FOUNTAIN | Goal is raise total of \$300,000

*Continued from Page A1*

project.

The foundation is named after East St. Louis resident Emma L. Wilson King, who was a longtime community activist who died in November 2004 at 82.

The foundation has raised about a third of its \$300,000 goal for the project and hopes to raise more money at the third annual Emma L. Wilson King Memorial Celebrity Golf Tournament in August.

"We will take all the help we can get," said David King, vice president of the foundation.

David King, son of Emma L. King, said he will continue his rally for churches, schools and community members to join in the foundation's efforts.

"This is an organization that virtually every dime is ac-

## How to help

For more information about making a donation, the golf tournament, or purchasing a brick, call the foundation at 866-766-1991 or visit the foundation's Web site at

[www.emmalkingfoundation.org](http://www.emmalkingfoundation.org).

Donations can be mailed to:

The Emma L. Wilson King Foundation

c/o First Illinois Bank

P.O. Box 459, East St. Louis, IL, 62202

counted for," David King, 63, said.

His sister, Willa King Allen, 64, who is the president of the foundation, said she is dedicated to giving back to the community.

"We would have liked to be

a lot further along; but we can't complain," Allen said.

Along with the golf tournament, people can make donations or buy commemorative bricks with engravings. The bricks will be used as a part of the architecture around the fountain.

Renee King Jacobs, 47, a member of the King family, wants to see the park become a place where families gather for weddings and reunions.

The fountain in the park has been renamed the Emma L. Wilson King Memorial Fountain at Jones Park Lagoon.

"I think East St. Louis is trying to turn around," Jacobs said.

Contact reporter Cara Anthony at [canthony@bnd.com](mailto:canthony@bnd.com) or 239-2655.

**Water Gardening**  
the magazine for pondkeepers  
MAY / JUNE 2002

**Fish Food Innovations**

Sedges  
Ammonia  
Stone Edging Tips



MONDAY

August 25, 2008  
Mostly sunny and pleasant  
High 84 Low 60

**EVENING GAMES**  
**FUN FOR KIDS AT NIGHT**

LIFESTYLE C1



**SHOPPING**  
**CUTTING MORE**  
**EXPENSES**  
BUSINESS B1

# BELL EVILLE NEWS-DEMOCRAT

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## Principal looks to mold character

### Takes reins at Wolf Branch Elementary

BY RICKEENA J. RICHARDS  
News-Democrat

SWANSEA — Wolf Branch Elementary Principal Nicole Sanderson has a reputation for boosting students' standardized test scores, but she said there's much more to education than the numbers.

"We are developing young men and women who will one day be taking care of all of us," she said. "Character education is important... and making sure we're not only up to par but that we have excellence."

Sanderson, of East Carondelet, came to Wolf Branch Elementary from Cahokia School District 187, where she started her career in education more than a decade ago.

She served the past four years as principal of Elizabeth Morris Elementary School. Under her leadership, students' Illinois Standards Achievement Test scores showed significant improvements in math and reading.

For example, when Sanderson became principal in 2004, 50 percent of third-grade students were meeting the state's standard for reading, and 79 percent were meeting the math standard. By 2007, the scores increased to 84 per-



Nicole Sanderson, principal of Wolf Branch Elementary School, greets students in a hallway on a recent class day at the school.

INSIDE: New metro-east school administrators.  
PAGES A2, A3

cent in reading and 98 percent in math, according to the state.

While Sanderson was principal, the school received an Academic Improvement Award and was twice named a Spotlight School by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Sanderson said raising test scores required a great deal of homework on her part, including looking at data to determine the school's weaknesses and then building healthy, team-oriented relationships among the staff and students in order to tackle those weaknesses.

"I really tried to use the data to drive what my goals were, and in turn, what I wanted the school to em-

brace as school improvement goals," Sanderson said. "My No. 1 goal the first year was to build relationships, to touch hearts and inspire dreams in these little guys."

Wolf Branch Superintendent Scott Harres said Sanderson's test score reputation was a "big factor" in her selection as Wolf Branch principal. He said although the elementary school's students have al-

ways produced high test scores, that's no reason to get settled.

"We needed somebody who understands how to take a program... from the development stage to the implementation stage," he said.

Sanderson said while increasing test scores at Wolf Branch is her "No. 1 goal," she also has the goal of cre-

Please see PRINCIPAL, A2

## Group plans to restore fountain

Fundraiser to be held to improve ESL park fixture

BY SCOTT WUERZ  
News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — A group hoping to collect \$300,000 to restore a grand old fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park will hold a golf tournament next month to try to raise money for the project.

The 65-year-old fountain, which hasn't been in working order for about 30 years, has been renamed in honor of community activist Emma L. Wilson-King, who died in 2004. Her family, along with former East St. Louis Mayor Carl Officer, is spearheading the effort to restore the fountain to its long lost beauty.

"We would like to raise \$10,000 to \$15,000 through the golf tournament," said Willa King-Allen, Wilson-King's sister, who added that the group currently has collected about one-third of the money needed to rehabilitate the fountain. "That would be a big step."

The golf tournament will be held Sept. 6 at the Grand Marais Golf Course in Frank Holten State Park. The entry fee, which includes a meal, is \$100, according to Wilson King's daughter, Renee King-Jacobs.

The concrete fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park has a large, shallow pool. The water in the pool once was covered with lily pads. Organizers want to re-

Please see FOUNTAIN, A2

## Police agencies to vie on the court for charity

### Fundraiser to aid Glen Ed Pantry

By HOLLY MEYER  
News-Democrat

EDWARDSVILLE — The Edwardsville and the Glen Carbon police departments will battle it out on Edwardsville High School's hardwood to see who's got more game.

Tickets are on sale for the Second Annual Battle of the Badges, a charity basketball game sponsored by the Greater Madison County Federation of Labor, with all proceeds going to the Glen Ed Pantry.

Despite which police department scores the winning basket, the game plan for the Sept. 13 basketball game is to raise money to pay off the loan for the new

Glen Ed Pantry location. Pantry member Dianna Wurth said the pantry still needs about \$54,000 before the loan comes due in May. The pantry has assisted low-income families in what is essentially the Edwardsville District 7 area for more than 25 years, Wurth said.

A fundraiser last year brought in \$17,000 and 620 pounds of food, but the publicity of the pantries need probably generated even more financial support, according to Rick Stamer, reading clerk with the Greater Madison County Federation of Labor.

Wurth said the basketball game is the pantry's most significant fundraiser

### If you go

What: Second annual Battle of the Badges to raise money for the Glen Ed Pantry

When: 7 p.m. Sept. 13  
Where: Edwardsville High School, 6161 Center Grove Road

"It's gotten the whole community together," Wurth said. "It is a complete community effort to help this pantry pay for this building."

NCAA official Ed Hightower, also the superintendent of Edwardsville District 7, will referee the game.

Last year, Edwardsville police beat Glen Carbon police by about five points, according to Glen Carbon Patrol Officer Wayne Wright.

Even though the trash talk is all in jest, White said the Edwardsville police not only scored the most points but they also racked up the most fouls.

Despite their loss, White said he and the rest of his team will be on the floor in 1970s-style uniforms ready to take down the Goliath-like Edwardsville players.

"They are a department about three times our size,"

people as Edwardsville has, they beat up on little old Glen Carbon."

White said last year's ballgame was fun to play, but more importantly, it helped out the pantry.

"It raises money for a really good cause," White said. "And, it's a way to connect with the community."

Tickets are \$5 plus a canned good, and can be purchased at the door or in advance at Glen Ed Pantry.

The Battle of the Badges will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 13 at Edwardsville High School.

For questions about the event contact Rick Stamer at 406-1730.

Contact Holly Meyer at hmeyer@bnd.com or at 406-2222

### How to help

What: A golf tournament fundraiser for the restoration of a fountain in Kenneth Hall-Jones Park in East St. Louis.

When: Sept. 6  
Where: Grand Marais Golf Course in Frank Holten State Park.  
Cost: \$100  
Info: www.enmalking-foundation.org or 866-766-1991



## FOUNTAIN | Fundraiser

*Continued from Page A1*

store what was the largest lily pond in the area and to surround the fountain with trees and flowers — especially roses, Wilson-King's favorite plant. Fundraisers say it would make a beautiful site for wedding ceremonies and family reunions.

In addition to the golf fundraiser, project supporters are trying to collect money to rehab the fountain by selling commemorative bricks that cost \$100 for up to four lines of text, and \$200 for up to eight lines. A logo, such as a fam-

ily crest, can be added for another \$100.

Organizers originally planned to have the fountain back in working order by this year. But delays in collecting the needed money pushed the target date for the renovation back at least a year.

To sign up for the golf outing or to buy a commemorative brick, call 866-766-1991. Also for more information, go online to [www.emmalkingfoundation.org](http://www.emmalkingfoundation.org).

Contact reporter Scott Wuerz at [swuerz@bnd.com](mailto:swuerz@bnd.com) or 239-2626.





TUESDAY

April 28, 2009

## LOCAL NEWS

BUSINESS  
BIG CHANCES  
LOOM IN GM'S  
FUTURE

PAGE B5

B

BELLEVILLE NEWS-DEMOCRAT

## CAHOKIA

Dump-truck driver  
released from jail

The driver of an overloaded gravel dump truck that malfunctioned and crushed to death a 13-year-old boy Saturday has been released from custody pending further investigation, the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department announced Monday.

Authorities have not released the driver's name. Sheriff's investigators presented the results of their investigation to the state's attorney's office, which has asked for additional information. Meanwhile, the state of California has declined to extradite the man, who is wanted on an outstanding warrant there.

Authorities said the driver picked up a load of gravel at the Falling Springs Quarry Co., and pulled the truck over at the corner of Triple Lakes Road and Stolle Lane near Dupo about 12:30 p.m. Saturday to adjust the uneven load.

Benjamin Curren, the 15-year-old friend of Ryan Hennemann, said the driver offered the boy \$5 apiece for their help. He said the driver told him to hold the truck's clutch and press on the gas pedal. The driver was doing something underneath the truck when the entire dump bed of the truck tipped onto him. Police said the truck's hydraulic system malfunctioned.

Visitation for Ryan will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Braun Colonial Funeral Home, 3701 Falling Springs Road, Cahokia. A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

## REGION

Interstate 270 lanes  
to be restricted

Motorists can expect to encounter lane restrictions in the westbound lanes on Interstate 270 Chain of Rocks Canal Bridge.

Weather permitting, the lane restrictions will occur daily during daytime working hours only, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

One lane will be closed at a time during daytime working

## Homicide victims remembered

## Annual candlelight vigil held in ESL

By CAROLAN P. SMITH  
News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — A gamut of emotions were part of a 15th annual candlelight vigil Monday to remember homicide victims and their pain-filled families.

The event, held at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall rotunda, drew about 100 family members. It was sponsored by the Community Coalition Against Violence.

"We want grieving family members to know that we have not forgotten about them or the pain they're in," mistress of ceremonies Francella Jackson said. "We wanted them to hear from policemen that they are still working hard to solve their cases."

We wanted to make counseling available to them and we have that here this evening."

As names were called, family members walked to a small tree of remembrance in the front part of the room and hung the tags on it. Some clung to pictures of loved ones. Others carried their photographs to a small table.

Some in the crowd looked from one photo to another and shook their heads. Many prayers and gospel songs of encouragement were shared. Some audience members cried and others sat in stillness. One family came with about 21 members to show the love they had for their loved ones.

One mother, Jewel Johnson, was overcome with emotion and

Please see VIGIL, B3



DEREK HOLTMAHN/News-Democrat

Alexandra Marques and DeNashia Brownlee hold their candles Monday during the 15th annual victims of crime candlelight vigil in East St. Louis. Brownlee's father, Cardell McCoy, was a homicide victim in 2008.

## Golf event will aid effort to fix fountain

Named for longtime  
community activist

By ELIZABETH SCHMITT  
For the News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — Family efforts to restore a 65-year-old inactive fountain as a tribute to their mother continues with the fifth annual Emma L. Wilson King Foundation golf tournament.

The fountain, originally known as the Jones Park Fountain and located in Kenneth Hall Jones Park in East St. Louis, hasn't gushed water since 1977.

It was renamed the Emma L. Wilson King Memorial Fountain at Jones Park Lagoon in memory of East St. Louis resident Emma L. Wil-

The annual Emma L. Wilson King Foundation golf tournament in May will raise funds to repair the fountain in Jones Park.



son King, a mother of 12 and longtime community activist. King died in 2004.

The Emma L. Wilson King Foundation, formed in 2005, titled their efforts "Pathways

to Peaceful Waters."

"My mother loved gardening," said Willa King-Allen, eldest daughter and foundation president. "She saw the fountain when it was working and thought it was fantastic. We thought it would be a fitting tribute."

When efforts began, the restoration was estimated to cost about \$300,000. Recently, after further inspection revealed deteriorated pipes, the projection has grown to as much as \$750,000.

The foundation has raised \$250,000 so far, and the family's commitment has not wavered despite the new cost estimate.

"It's almost as if we have to start over, but we are still

Please see FOUNTAIN, B3

Belleville OKs  
contract for  
museum work

By LAURA CIORESCH  
News-Dem.

BELLEVILLE — Historical items waiting throughout the city in garages and other storage spaces finally will have a home in the expansion of the Labor and Industry Museum.

The City Council, at a special meeting to approve end-of-year bills Monday, also approved a \$180,000 contract with O'Neil Buildings for construction. Mayor Mark Eckert said the cost should be covered by \$115,000 in state

grants, the museum's funds, and donations of money and labor. The council must approve the contract because the city owns the museum property.

The planned expansion, which has not yet been scheduled, will be added to the existing building at 123 N. Church St., architect Randy Mitchell said. It will

Please see MUSEUM, B7

## Adjusting to missing mailboxes



A COUPLE  
OF weeks  
ago, I walked  
to some mail-

or something.  
Then I walked on to work  
and posted my letter later in  
another place.

Anyway, a couple of days  
ago, I tried to use a drop box  
that used to be on East St. in  
Cain Street, and it was gone.



## FOUNTAIN | More money is needed

*Continued from Page B1*

committed to this project, however long it takes," King-Allen said.

The family foresees the fountain as an asset to the community — a meeting place for families and a venue for weddings and concerts, King-Allen said.

The family hopes to see the fountain working by 2011 but are aware lack of funds may cause setbacks.

The golf tournament is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. May 22 at Grand Marais Golf Course, 5802 Lake Drive in East St. Louis.

There is a \$75 entry fee per four person team. Proceeds will benefit the foundation. Food and prizes will be available immediately following the tournament. Nixon Insurance Agency is sponsoring a hole-in-one prize, a new car for the first golfer to hit a hole in one.

For more information about the tournament, call 271-7004 or 398-2772.

What: Fifth annual Emma L. Wilson King Foundation golf tournament.

When: 1:30 p.m. May 22

Where: Frank Holden State Park, Grand Marais Golf Course, 5802 Lake Drive, East St. Louis

Cost: \$75 per four-person team

Visit: [www.emmakingfoundation.org](http://www.emmakingfoundation.org)



## CELEBRATING MILES DAVIS' 84TH BIRTHDAY



ZIA NIZAMU, News-Democrat

Eugene Redmond listens to East St. Louis Senior High School student Brady Lewis perform music from Miles Davis' catalog Wednesday afternoon during the celebration in honor of Davis' 84th birthday at East St. Louis City Hall.

## HEALTH | Carbon dioxide affects plants

Continued from Page B1

versity have developed a new mouse model of Lou Gehrig's disease, which they hope will speed research into the disease.

"As far as we know, this is the first mouse model that recapitulates 'typical' ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) to be produced in more than a decade," said Dr. Robert Baloh, an assistant professor of neurology who detailed his team's work in a recent issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. "That could make it very helpful for our efforts to better understand and identify treatments for this terrible disorder."

Like humans with ALS, the new genetically engineered mouse develops progressive paralysis; loses muscle mass and nerve cells that control muscles; and dies of the disorder, which is currently fatal in humans.

The mouse was bred with a tiny mutation in the gene that regulates a protein called TDP-43. Washington University scientists' Nigel Cairns and Allison Graessle sequenced this mutation from a St. Louis

mouse model. Baloh hopes it turns into an important tool for screening new drugs.

## Food quality concerns

Rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere interfere with the ability of plants to convert nitrate into protein, which could threaten food quality, according to a new study at the University of California-Davis.

The scientists suggest that, as global climate change intensifies, it will be critical for farmers to carefully manage nitrogen fertilization in order to prevent losses in crop productivity and quality. The study, which looked at the impact of increased carbon dioxide levels on wheat and the mutant plant *Arabidopsis*, was published in the May 14 issue of *Science*.

"Our findings suggest that scientists cannot examine the response of crops to global climate change simply in terms of rising carbon dioxide levels or higher temperatures," said Arnold Bloom, the lead author. "Instead, we must consider shifts in plant nitrogen use that will alter food quality and even

pests to consume more plant material to meet their nutritional requirements."

## Cell phone study

European scientists recently blundered what they call the biggest and best study yet to answer a question that continues to worry many high-tech lovers: Do cell phones cause brain cancer and other nerve disorders?

The Cohort Study on Mobile Communications wants to follow at least 250,000 people in five European countries for up to 30 years in hopes of finding a definitive answer.

The study will follow the volunteers in real time by using data from their phone bills and health records. Until now, studies have asked participants to describe their cell phone usage from months and even years back, which can result in unreliable data.

The new study currently is recruiting participants in Britain, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands. So far, groups such as the World Health Organization, the American Cancer Society and the National Institutes of

## Woman charged in accident

By JENNIFER A. BOWEN  
News-Democrat

One person has been charged with improper lane usage in connection with a head-on collision Monday near Fairview Heights that sent two people to the hospital.

The head-on crash happened on Illinois 159 north of Interstate 64 just before 10 a.m. Monday and north of The Fountains at Fairview development.

Collinsville, was cited in the collision. Drizque was driving a 2008 silver Ford Taurus traveling south on Illinois 159 and passing the intersection at Milburn School Road as a 2002 Saturn driven by Michelle L. Schmittke, 38, of O'Fallon was traveling north at the same intersection. According to the police report, Drizque swerved to the right, striking the guardrail before traveling across all lanes of traffic and hitting the vehicle head-on.

Schmittke was driving. Schmittke had to be extracted from her vehicle and she was taken to Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis with serious injuries. She remains hospitalized.

Drizque was taken to Anderson Hospital in Maryville. She was no longer listed as a patient Wednesday.

Both drivers were wearing seat belts, according to the Illinois State Police accident report.

## Golf benefit tees off Friday in ESL

By MARIA BAKAN  
News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — Organizers hope Friday is a perfect afternoon to play a little golf to kick off the Memorial Day weekend.

The sixth annual charity golf tournament in the name of the Emma L. Wilson King Foundation will be held Friday at the Grand Marais Golf Course in Frank Holtzen State Park.

A portion of the proceeds will go to assist in the restoration of the 67-year-old fountain at Kenneth Hall-Jones Park.

Although it has been dry for more than three decades, the fountain was renamed after community activist Emma L. Wilson King, who died in 2004.

Her family, along with city officials, have spearheaded the effort to restore the concrete fountain and large, shallow pool that was once covered with dirt pads.

Restoration of the fountain and rejuvenation of the park is a matter of "civic pride," said Jerome King, one of King's 12 children and the executive administrator for the foundation.

"The golf campaign that we do each year, it pulls people together from East St. Louis and outside East St. Louis, as well," he said. "We can't do this on our own."

The nonprofit group needs about \$700,000 to repair the fountain, more than double original estimates of \$300,000.

"Of course, the budget keeps changing," said Willie King Allen, Emma King's sister and president of the foundation. "All of the pipes had eroded and we almost have to start from scratch."

Donations and past golf tournaments have netted about \$150,000. Another \$150,000 is in escrow from city and park funds, she said.

The entry fee for the golf tournament is \$85, including lunch and prizes. The shotgun start is at 1:30 p.m. at 5802 Lake Drive in East St. Louis.

The goal is to raise about \$25,000 through the golf tournament.

"We just appreciate anything the community is able to give," Allen said. "Times are kind of tough now, but we are doing OK."

For more information, visit [www.emmlkfountain.org](http://www.emmlkfountain.org).

LOCAL FLASHES