

THE KENDALL-GRAM



Volume 21 Issue 03

March 2021

A Monthly Publication for the Members of VFW Post 3873



Commander Tom Parker

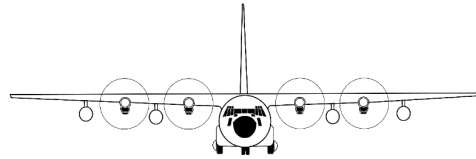


Every year around this time, I start to get spring fever. As a sales rep, I'm usually outside travelling to the many customers I have and yearning for warmer days, more sunlight, and less snow. While this winter hasn't been one of the worst on record, I haven't missed driving in the snow or dealing with wind chills during the recent winter storms we've had. I guess working from home does have some advantages. This past week, however, it's been great seeing the sun and noticing it's staying light outside well past 5:00 pm. These have been stark reminders that nicer weather is right around the corner and its time to start planning for another busy and rewarding year at the Post and in the community.

We're finally able to start gathering in larger groups and as more and more people gain access to vaccinations, I'm optimistic that this trend will continue. With any luck, we'll be able to start resuming many of the yearly events we had to put on hold last year and we'll be back to normal (or as close as we're going to get) soon. To help kickstart this, the Post and Auxiliary are having a Ham Raffle and we hope some of you will be able to join us. We'll take a measured approach to how we do it, but it will be an opportunity to get out of the house if you need a break. If nothing else, plan to stop by the Post to buy a few tickets and join us online.

Also this month, we'll start putting together the slate of officers for the coming year. In addition to the key leadership positions, we'll be looking for individuals to be on several of our committees. I know I've mentioned this a few times, but if you've been giving thought to getting more involved in the Post, this is a great time to do so. As additional members get involved, we gain additional insight and ideas into how we can continue to best help fellow veterans and assist others in our community while adapting to the new challenges we are bound to encounter.

As the weather continues to get better, I look forward to seeing you around the Post. Let's hope that the sunnier and warmer days are a sign that we're finally on the other side of the craziest year ever.

**Senior Vice Commander
Todd Schuneman**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently released the 2020 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report. It found no significant increase in the average suicide deaths per day or total suicide rate from 2017-2018. The good news is that there was a positive trend related to VA health care and suicide prevention efforts. The report included an analysis of veteran suicides from 2005-2018 and findings from ongoing monitoring of VA health system suicide-related indicators during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The data presented in the report is an integral part of the VA's "Public Health Model for Suicide Prevention", which combines evidence-based clinical interventions and proactive community-based prevention strategies to address veteran suicide. The data showed that the rate of suicide among veterans who recently used VA health services has decreased by 2.4% and the average number of veteran suicides per day was 17.6 in 2018 compared to 22 in 2010.

Suicide is a complex, national, public health issue that affects communities nationwide, with more than 45,000 Americans, including over 6,000 veterans, dying by suicide every year. Suicide is preventable, and special training is not required to prevent it. Everyone can play a role by learning to recognize the warning signs, showing compassion to veterans in need, and offering support. The following are actions anyone can take to **Be There**:

- Reach out to veterans to show them you care. Send a check-in text, cook them dinner, or simply ask, "How are you?"
- Learn the warning signs of suicide:
 - Hopelessness, feeling like there is no way out
 - Anxiety, agitation, sleeplessness, or mood swings
 - Feeling like there is no reason to live
 - Rage or anger
 - Engaging in risky activities without thinking
 - Increasing alcohol or drug use
 - Withdrawing from family and friends
- Watch the free [S.A.V.E. training video](#) to equip yourself to respond with care and compassion if someone you know indicates they are having thoughts of suicide.
- Check out the [VA's Social Media Safety Toolkit](#) to learn how to recognize and respond to social media posts that may indicate emotional distress, feelings of crisis or thoughts of suicide.
- Contact VA's [Coaching Into Care](#) program when worried about a veteran or loved one. A licensed psychologist or social worker will provide guidance on motivating your loved one to seek support.

To learn more about the **Be There** campaign and access resources to help support veterans, visit www.BeThereForVeterans.com.

Veterans who are in crisis or having thoughts of suicide, as well as those who know a veteran in crisis, can call the Veterans Crisis Line. Confidential support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. Call 800-273-8255 and Press 1, text to 838255, or chat online at www.veteranscrisisline.net/chat.

Junior Vice Commander
Leo Jaime



Thank You and Welcome Home!

In our January Post meeting, our comrade Wayne Fisher reminded us that March 29th has been proclaimed as National Vietnam War Veterans Day, signed into law on March 28, 2017 by President Donald Trump.

On March 29, 1973, combat and combat support units withdrew from South Vietnam after almost two decades transcending five presidents. Only now, many decades later, veterans of this era and conflict are finally given the proper welcome and respect they were denied when they returned home back then.

Vietnam veterans now have a national day, on par with other national holidays such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, Armed Forces Day, Navy Day, and National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day. It's a national holiday when we can fly our flags while proudly remembering more than 58,000 fallen comrades and showing appreciation to the more than 9 million men and women who served between 1955 and 1975.

The proclamation designating this day as a national holiday will not fix all wrongs, but it is a strong step to help our veterans heal, assert self-respect, and live proudly. This March 29th, thank a Vietnam veteran and welcome him or her home! Take a Vietnam veteran out to lunch! Above anything else, let these veterans know how important they really are to us and to our nation.

Dates to Remember

Mar 2 – Hines Outreach Team Visit, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mar 11 – VFW Meeting, 7:00 pm

Mar 14 – Time Changes - Move Clocks Forward

Mar 29 – National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Mar 18 – Auxiliary Meeting, 7:00 pm

Mar 20 – Legion Dinner, 6:00 pm

Mar 27 – Ham Raffle, 6:00 pm

*** As events resume, please continue to observe all required mask and social distancing requirements. Please confirm events are occurring before arriving.**

National Home for Children from Mike McGrath

One of the benefits offered to families at the National Home is Case Management Services. Our thanks go out to the dedicated Case Managers who steadfastly work with families and spouses of veterans to help overcome the many challenges brought on by the pandemic and to help these individuals build a better life.

It is important to realize that the economic impact of Covid-19 has hit the military community hard, as minority and women veterans report greater levels of need for items like food, housing, clothing, financial assistance, and childcare. Women veterans are more likely to be balancing these responsibilities with work and finances.

A heartfelt “Thank You” to the case managers at the National Home and to our members. As always, your support has been tremendous. Remember, the National Home for Children receives no government funding, so every dollar counts in the daily effort to improve the lives of the families and children of our nation’s heroes. Your ongoing support continues to be greatly appreciated.

Post Plant Sale by Marcy Maughan

It is hard to imagine spring when you are surrounded by huge mounds of snow, but eventually it will come. Won’t we be thankful to see green grass and pretty flowers after all this winter white? Soon, we will be able to actually get outdoors again! “Into the garden I go, to lose my troubles and find my soul.”

Despite all that is going on, the Post will be holding its annual flower sale again this year. The order form is included in this edition of the Kendall-Gram and pictures of the different plants that will be offered are available in the online edition. There are some new plants this year like Meezos trailing red, as well as favorites such as geraniums and gorgeous hanging baskets, all at very reasonable prices.

By purchasing from our wide assortment not only are you getting gorgeous, hardy flowers, but you are helping the VFW. Most of the income for the VFW comes from hall rentals. Now with the pandemic, the rentals are few and far between, but the expenses are still there. The flower sale provides needed income to help keep the Post solvent. So, when planning for your spring landscaping needs, plan to order through the Post Plant Sale and be generous with your order.

Order forms **must** be returned by April 26, 2021 and checks should be made out to “VFW Post 3873.” You can either drop your order form off at the Post or mail it to the Post (908 W. Jackson, Naperville, IL 60540). Plant pickup will be on Friday May 7, from 1:00 – 6:00 pm. If you have any questions, call me at (630) 357-3440 or email me at marcymaughan@wowway.com.

Service Officer Updates from Dennis Lukavsky

Here are some benefit changes I think many of you will be interested in reading about:

1. The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA 2021) has been passed into law. The bill has additions to its list of presumptive Agent Orange diseases. The additions are bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and parkinsonism or Parkinson like symptoms. If you were in Vietnam and have any of these diseases (even if you are not sure you were exposed to Agent Orange), you should file a claim with the VA. Contact me for help with the filing.

2. The VA is now offering assistance for caregivers. The assistance includes:

- The COVID-19 tip sheet offers advice on staying safe during the pandemic.
- Caregiver support programs offer resources to all caregivers enrolled in the VA Healthcare system. The programs include education, training, self-care courses, respite care, and more.
- Connecting with other caregivers.
- Monthly educational calls.

Contact me for additional information and details.

3. COVID-19 continues to be an important factor in our daily lives. As of Feb 1st, Hines has administered over 10,000 vaccinations to veterans and healthcare workers. For those who have not scheduled, now is the time. It's a simple process. I called the vaccination hot line number ((708) 202-7000) and got an appointment for a week later. I spent very little time on hold as well. The point is get vaccinated or get COVID. Sounds like any easy decision. The vaccinations are administered in the Hines Auditorium with designated parking almost in front of the Auditorium. I have maps of the auditorium location and parking if you need them.

4. For Persian Gulf Veterans the VA is offering a FREE physical. You DO NOT HAVE TO BE ENROLLED IN VA HEALTHCARE to get the physical. It is a thorough exam and worthwhile. If you have any problems resulting from the burn pits, now is the time to find out and get them fixed.

5. Hines Outreach is up and running again at the Post. The next session is March 2nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please note the new start time.

6. Finally, the VA has opened a new Veterans Home in Chicago. This 200-bed facility is now taking applications for new residents.

Thanks for reading this section. If you have any questions at all about anything in this article please call me at (630) 272-9064 or email me at dlukavsky@yahoo.com.

Quilts of Valor Presentation

On February 17, 2021, Lloyd McKee was honored for his service to our country with a Quilt of Valor made and donated by the loving hands of the Quilts of Valor Foundation of Illinois. Lloyd is a Vietnam era Navy veteran who served our country in the submarine service.



Ham Raffle

The Post and Auxiliary will host a Ham Raffle fundraiser on Saturday, March 27. The event will be streamed on Facebook Live and will begin at 6:00 pm. Limited seating will be available in the upstairs hall and in the downstairs area, provided the guidelines for group gatherings do not change. If you would like to attend in person, you may sign up while purchasing raffle tickets. The cost to reserve a seat is \$5.



Raffle tickets will be sold in the Canteen Wednesday through Saturday between 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Ticket sales will begin on Wednesday, March 3 and will continue through Saturday, March 27. Tickets are available for the following items:



- Hams - \$1 per ticket
- Prime Rib - \$5 per ticket
- Baskets (Booze/Restaurant/Easter) - \$1 per ticket
- 50/50 Drawing - \$5 per ticket

Winners do not have to be present to win and no prizes will be given out on Saturday evening. Instead, winners will be contacted over the phone and names will be posted on the Post Facebook page. All prizes must be picked up on Sunday, March 28 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

Hines Hospital Visits

The Chairman of the Hospital Committee would like to remind everyone that the Post visits the Hines VA Hospital every second Tuesday of the month. Visits are not made in July and August. We leave the Post at 6:15 p.m. and return at approximately 9:15 p.m. Transportation is provided. Everyone is invited to attend, so why not come out to spend quality time with some very appreciative veterans?

Canteen Hours

| | Open | Close |
|----------|-----------|----------|
| Mon—Thur | 1:00 p.m. | 10:00 pm |
| Friday | Noon | Midnight |
| Saturday | Noon | 10:00 pm |
| Sunday | Noon | 6:00 pm |

The bartender may elect to close the Canteen early due to low patronage. The bartender will give a last call and close the Canteen 15 minutes later.

NO ONE is allowed behind the bar except the Bartenders.

THE BARTENDER IS BOSS

Kendall-Gram Submission Policy

Post members are encouraged to submit articles and photos. Give the article and/or your photo to the on-duty bartender. It is important to put your name and phone number on the item in case there are any questions. All photos MUST include where and why it was taken and the names of those in the picture. Photos without captions will not be used. Please submit all articles by the 10th of the month. Items submitted after the 10th will be considered for the following month.

Kendall-Gram Editor: Tom Parker
(630) 280-9347

Post Information

Mailing Address: Judd Kendall VFW Post 3873
908 W. Jackson
Naperville, IL 60540

Phone Number: **(630) 420-9820**

Website Address: napervfw3873.org

Facebook: Naperville VFW Judd Kendall 3873

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the upstairs hall of the Post.

Judd Kendall Post 3873 Officers

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Commander | Tom Parker | (630) 280-9347 |
| Sr. Vice Commander | Todd Schuneman | (815) 791-4178 |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Leo Jaime | (773) 441-3887 |
| Quartermaster | Phil Maughan | (630) 383-1974 |
| Ass't Quartermaster | John Shaw | (630) 961-3479 |
| Ass't Quartermaster | Paul Quinn | (312) 340-4424 |
| Adjutant | Josh Kramer | (440) 864-6988 |
| Judge Advocate | Lawrence Goss | (630) 728-9641 |
| Surgeon | Bill Howland | (630) 369-0087 |
| Service Officer | Dennis Lukavsky | (630) 272-9064 |
| Officer of the Day | Lou Kuelto | (630) 898-8760 |
| Guard | Roger Budny | (630) 205-8745 |
| Chaplain | Jim Oftedal | (630) 357-4030 |
| 1-Year Trustee | Lloyd McKee | (630) 922-8804 |
| 2-Year Trustee | Bob Bronson | (630) 886-9102 |
| 3-Year Trustee | Craig Frier | |

Committees

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Americanism | Tom Parker | (630) 280-9347 |
| Blood Drive | Ingrid Kanady | (847) 951-3300 |
| Buddy Poppy | Bob Colby | (630) 301-2664 |
| Building | Mike Rechenmacher | (630) 961-1377 |
| Color Guard | Jim Sarns | (630) 234-6292 |
| Communications | Nina Petru | (630) 871-9596 |
| Eighth Grade Awards | Tom Benton | (630) 579-8514 |
| Facilities Manager | | |
| Grounds | Phil Maughan | (630) 357-3440 |
| Honor Guard | Jim Oftedal | (630) 357-4030 |
| Hospital | John Shaw | (630) 961-3479 |
| House | Ron Beata | (630) 717-9007 |
| House | Bob Colby | (630) 301-2664 |
| House | Bob Tallon | (630) 561-9902 |
| Membership | Todd Schuneman | (815) 791-4178 |
| Legislative | Frank Haynes | (630) 357-2906 |
| National Home | Mike McGrath | (630) 357-2680 |
| Patriot's Pen | Leo Jaime | (773) 441-3887 |
| Safety | Mike McGrath | (630) 357-2680 |
| Scout Liaison | Todd Schuneman | (815) 791-4178 |
| Social Media | Dave Angelus | (630) 596-3245 |
| Voice of Democracy | Leo Jaime | (773) 441-3887 |


Auxiliary Officers

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| President | Kristen Jungles | (630) 816-6841 |
| Sr. Vice President | Bernadette Budny | (630) 717-9471 |
| Jr. Vice President | Darlene Kwarta | |
| Treasurer | Maryann Groner | (630) 363-8138 |
| Secretary | Nancy Marinello | (630) 464-3696 |
| Chaplain | Tita McLaughlin | |
| Guard | Carol Gloor | |
| Conductress | Marti Linnert | (630) 857-9707 |



Post 3873 Calendar of Events March 2021



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| | | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Hines Community Outreach Team Visit | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | 7:00 pm - VFW Meeting | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Daylight Savings Time Begins (clocks change) | | |  | 7:00 pm - Auxiliary Meeting | | 6:00 pm - Legion Dinner |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| | | | St. Patrick's Day | | | 6:00 pm - Ham Raffle |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | Passover Begins |
| | National Vietnam War Veterans Day | | | | | |

VFW Plant Sale, 2021

Name _____

Orders are due April 26; Pickup on May 7 from 1 - 6 PM

Note: The VFW is not responsible for any plants not picked up by 6 PM on May 7.

Hanging Baskets \$15.00

| | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|
| Bacopa | white | _____ |
| Begonia Tuberos | | _____ |
| | orange | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | yellow | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| Begonia Dragon Wing | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| Begonia Minstral | | _____ |
| Bridal Veil | | _____ |
| Calibrochia | blue | _____ |
| | orange | _____ |
| | purple | _____ |
| | yellow | _____ |
| Geranium | | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| Geranium Ivy | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| Geranium Combo | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| Euphorbia | | _____ |
| Fushia | | _____ |
| Fern, Boston | | _____ |
| Impatience Bounce | | _____ |
| New Guinea Impatiens | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| | purple | _____ |
| Petunia | blue | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| Sunpatiens | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | rose | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| Wandering Jew | | _____ |

Flats of 48 plants \$15.00

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-------|
| Ageratum | | _____ |
| Alyssum | | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| | mixed | _____ |
| Begonia Green Leaf | | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| Begonia Red Foliage | | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | mixed | _____ |
| Cleome | | _____ |
| Dianthus | | _____ |
| Impatiens | | _____ |
| | orange | _____ |
| | lt pink | _____ |
| | dk pink | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | lt mixed | _____ |
| | dk mixed | _____ |
| Marigold Short | | _____ |
| | bicolor | _____ |
| | yellow | _____ |
| Marigold Tall | | _____ |
| | gold | _____ |
| | yellow | _____ |
| Petunia | | _____ |
| | deep blue | _____ |
| | red | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| | patriotic mx | _____ |
| Portulaca | | _____ |
| Salvia | | _____ |
| | red tall | _____ |
| | victoria blue | _____ |
| Snapdragons | | _____ |
| | short mix | _____ |
| | tall mix | _____ |

Geraniums 4.5" pot \$4.00 ea

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------|
| | red | _____ |
| | dk pink | _____ |
| | lt pink | _____ |
| | violet | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| Total Geraniums | | _____ |
| Total \$ amount | | _____ |

Geraniums 6" \$6.75 ea

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| | red | _____ |
| | pink | _____ |
| | white | _____ |
| Total 6" geraniums | | _____ |
| Total \$ amount | | _____ |

Specialty Plants 3.5" \$3.00ea

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| | English Ivy | _____ |
| | Spikes | _____ |
| | Vinca Vine | _____ |
| Total for 3.5" plants | | _____ |
| Total \$ amount | | _____ |

Specialty Grasses \$7.00 ea

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| | Vertigo | _____ |
| | Purple Fountain | _____ |
| | Fireworks | _____ |
| | Cyperus,Prince Tut | _____ |
| | Toffee Twist | _____ |
| | Skyrocket | _____ |
| Total grasses | | _____ |
| Total \$ amount | | _____ |

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Total Flats | _____ |
| Total Dollar Amount | _____ |

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Total Hanging Baskets | _____ |
| Total \$ amount | _____ |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| First Page \$ amount | _____ |
|-----------------------------|-------|

VFW Plant Sale Page 2

Orders are Due April 26, Pickup is May 7, 1-6 PM
VFW is NOT responsible for orders not picked up by 6 PM

4.5" pots \$4.00 ea

- Angelonia _____
- Bacopa white _____
- blue _____
- Begonia Dragon Wing _____
- Begonia Minstral red _____
- Bidens _____
- Calibrochia _____
- pink _____
- blue _____
- purple _____
- red _____
- white _____
- Cleome _____
- Coleus Kong _____
- Coleus Sun _____
- Dahlia _____
- Euphorbia Diamond Dust _____
- Gerbera Daisy _____
- Isotoma Laurentia _____
- Lantana _____
- Mezzo, trailing Red _____
- New Guinea Impatiens _____
- white _____
- red _____
- Ruellia Machu Morado _____
- Osteospermum Daisy _____
- Sedum lemon coral _____
- Setcresea _____
- Strobilanthus _____
- Supertunia red _____
- black cherry _____
- blue skies _____
- giant pink _____
- Limoncello _____
- Sweet Potato _____
- lime _____
- blackie _____
- Verbena Superbens _____
- Wandering Jew _____
- Wave Petunia _____
- pink _____
- blue _____
- red _____
- Zinnia _____

Veggies @ \$3.00 ea

- Cucumber _____
- Peppers _____
- bell _____
- jalapeno _____
- Tomato _____
- cherry _____
- big beef _____
- sauce type _____
- better boy _____
- Zucchini _____

Total Veggies _____

Total \$ amount _____

Herbs @3.00 ea

- basil _____
- oregeno _____
- parsley curly leaf _____
- rosemary _____

Total # of herbs _____

Total \$ amount _____

Side two plant totals _____

Side two \$ amount _____

Total plants side 1 _____

Total plants side 2 _____

Total \$ amount side 1 _____

Total \$ amount side 2 _____

Total \$ for both sides _____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

All orders Must be received by April 26, Pick up is May 7
Orders can be dropped off or mailed with your check to

VFW Flower Sale
908 W Jackson
Naperville, IL 60540
Checks should be made payable to the VFW

Total 4.5" plants _____

Total \$ amount _____

For questions or information, call Marcy Maughan, 630.357.3440
or by email at marcymaughan@wowway.com

Ageratum



Alyssum



Angelonia



Bacopa



basil



Begonia Dragon Wing



Begonia Green Leaf (Shade)



Begonia Minstral



Begonia Red Foliage (Shade)



Begonia Tuberous (shade)



bell pepper



better boy tomato



Bidens



big beef tomato



Bridal Veil



Calibrochia



Cherry Tomato



Cleome



Coleus Kong (Shade)



Coleus Sun



Cucumber



Cyperus, Prince Tut



Dahlia



Dianthus



English Ivy



Euphorbia



Euphorbia Diamond Dust



Fern, Boston (Shade)



Fireworks



Fushia (Shade)



Geranium



Geranium Combo



Geranium Ivy



Gerbera Daisy



Impatiens Bounce



Impatiens (Shade)



Isotoma Laurentia (slow to bloom)



Jalapeno pepper



Lantana



Marigold Short/Tall



Mezzo, trailing Red



New Guinea Impatiens



Oregano



Osteospermum Daisy



Parsley curly leaf



Petunia



Portulaca



Purple Fountain



Rosemary



Ruellia Machu Morado(mexican petunia)



Salvia



Sauce type tomato



Sedum lemon coral



Setcreasea (Moses in the Cradle)



Skyrocket



Snapdragons



Spikes



Strobilanthus



Sunpatiens



Supertunia



Toffee Twist



Verbena Superbens



Vertigo



Vinca Vine



Wandering Jew



Wave Petunia



Zinnia



Zucchini



Veterans of Foreign Wars
Judd Kendall Post 3873
908 W. Jackson
Naperville, IL 60540

