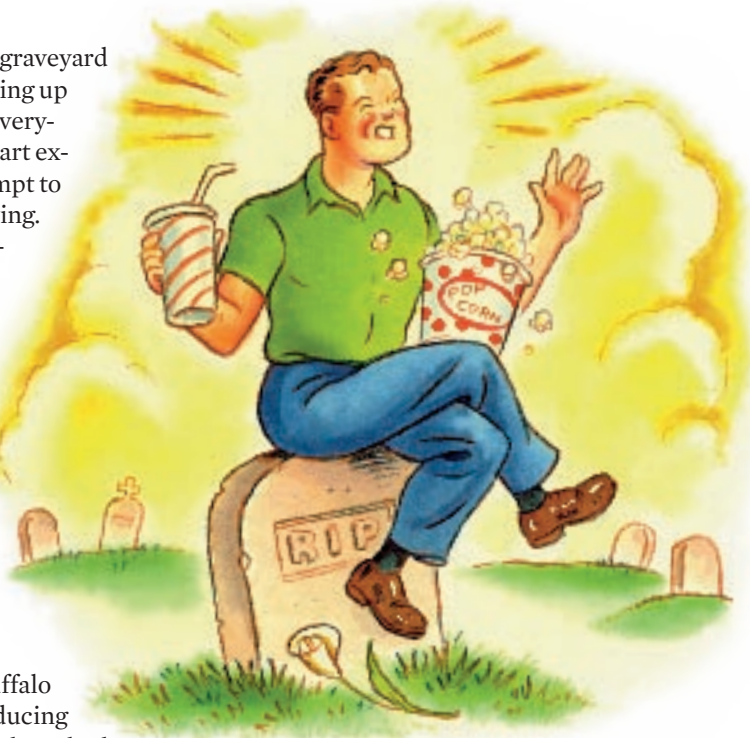


The Scoop

Rest in Peace (Unless It's Movie Night)

• Here's a new spin on the graveyard shift: Cemeteries are opening up their parklike venues for everything from game nights to art exhibits, in a surprising attempt to attract—wait for it—the living. Hollywood Forever Cemetery in Los Angeles is famous for its summer movie screenings (films are projected onto a mausoleum); it also holds music concerts. In Memphis, Elmwood Cemetery hosts docent-led walking tours of its 80-acre scenic grounds, along with “lunch and lecture” presentations about historical events. Mount Calvary Cemetery near Buffalo offers a monthly stress-reducing “laughter club” in its chapel. And other locations feature bird-watching, charity 5K runs, sock hops, and even weddings.

Cemetery directors are happy to bring community members together with free and low-cost events, but they also want people 50-plus to get comfortable on their grounds. “It’s good business to be a good neighbor,” explains Elizabeth Fournier, a funeral director and educator in Boring, Oregon. “They hope some visitors will think, ‘Hey, this is a place I want to hang out at while I’m alive...and maybe after.’” —*Laura Daily*



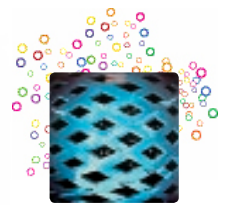
BROWSING FOR BUDDIES

If you enjoy social networking—the number of folks 50-plus on sites like Facebook has doubled over the past year—you might be ready for friendship sites. They connect strangers seeking companionship, in contrast to many other networking sites, which link those who are already acquainted. Women can try SocialJane.com (monthly plans start at \$20) or Girlfriend Social (girlfriendsocial.com) to meet like-minded ladies, while men and women can find pals at Companion Tree (companiontree.com). And anyone can join the AARP Online Community (aarp.org/community) for friendly conversation. —*Leslie Quander Wooldridge*



CULTURAL CONFUSION

The new Mindset List from Wisconsin's Beloit College reveals how freshmen see the world (they know Fergie the singer—but not the duchess). In our opinion, students should know that:



The Pinball Wizard... does not appear in Harry Potter books.



A slide carousel... does not have revolving horses.



An 8-track... is not a place to run.



The Bee Gees... do not live in a hive.



A Princess phone... is not a pink BlackBerry. —L.D.