

# Bee Weddings & Engagements

## Couple honeymoons in Dominican Republic

Amanda Suzanne Payne married Michael Gregory Shamrock in an afternoon ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006 at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Lockport. The Rev. Dr. Duane Priset officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Claudia and Jud Payne of Depew. The groom is the son of Marjorie and Michael J. Shamrock of North Tonawanda.

The bride was escorted by her father.

She wore a white organza gown with red accents. Her veil was white with red trim and she carried a bouquet of red and white roses with stargazer lilies.

The maid of honor was Jennifer J. Kostek, friend of the bride. The bridesmaid was Kimberly Sabol, friend of the bride.

The best man was Eric M. Traugott, friend of the bride and groom. The groomsman was Jay Jenkins, cousin of the groom. The ushers were Matthew C. Payne, brother of the bride, and Brennan H. Payne, cousin of the bride.

A reception was held at Sean Patrick's in Amherst.

After a honeymoon to the Dominican Republic, the couple is at home in Cheektowaga.



**Mrs. Michael G. Shamrock**



**Mr. and Mrs. Mark C. Rappleye**



**Ryan J. Fike and Natalie M. Leising**



**Christin Ratzel and Justin Young**

## Couple wed in groom's parents' home

Connie Carter Previtte married Mark Christopher Rappleye in an evening ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006 at the home of the groom's parents in Depew. The Rev. C.E. Piger officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Charles Locklear of Red Springs, N.C. and the late Judy A. Carter. The groom is the son of Suzanne and George Rappleye of Depew.

The bride wore an off-white satin gown and carried a bouquet of white roses.

The maid of honor was Trish Dempsey, friend of the bride.

The best man was George Rappleye, father of the groom.

A reception was held at the home of the groom's parents in Depew.

The couple is now at home in Hope Mills, N.C.

## Leising-Fike

Mary and Edward Leising of Clarence announce the engagement of their daughter, Natalie Margaret Leising, to Ryan James Fike, son of Linda and Richard Fike of Clarence.

Miss Leising is a 2003 graduate of Clarence High School. She will earn her bachelor's degree in marketing communications from Canisius College in 2007. She is an assistant manager at NOCO Energy Corp. and a public relations intern at Studio Arena Theatre.

Her fiance is a 2002 graduate of Clarence High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in computer science from the University at Buffalo in 2006. He is a software engineer for Lockheed Martin in Manassas, Va.

A June 2007 wedding is planned.

## Ratzel-Young

Michele Ratzel of Getzville and Thomas Ratzel of Williamsville announce the engagement of their daughter, Christin Ratzel, to Justin Young, son of Diane and Mark Young of Cheektowaga.

Miss Ratzel is a 2004 graduate of Williamsville North High School. She is a full-time student at Daemen College where she is earning her bachelor's degree in physical therapy.

Her fiance is a 2003 graduate of Cheektowaga Central High School. He is a full-time student at Buffalo State College where he is earning his bachelor's degree in secondary education (biology).

An August 2008 wedding is planned.



**Erin Kendall and Michael Callahan**

## Kendall-Callahan

Sandra Gostkowski of Amherst and Dennis Kendall of Lancaster announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin Kendall, to Michael Callahan, son of the late James Callahan.

Miss Kendall is a 1997 graduate of Maryvale High School. She earned her associate degree in medical office technology from Bryant & Stratton College in 1999. She works for Univera Healthcare.

Her fiance is a 1994 graduate of Christian Central Academy. He works for Black Hat Chimney & Fireplace.

A September 2007 wedding is planned.



**Craig Keller and Kelly Greiner**

## Greiner-Keller

Lynne and Keith Greiner of West Seneca announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Greiner, to Craig Keller, son of Barbara and Christopher Keller, also of West Seneca.

Miss Greiner is a 2003 graduate of West Seneca East High School. She is a senior at Buffalo State College, majoring in social work and religious studies.

Her fiance is a 2003 graduate of St. Mary's High School. He is a senior pre-med student at the University at Buffalo.

A June 2008 wedding with a reception at Samuel's Grande Manor in Williamsville is planned.

## Weddings • Engagements • Anniversaries

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## Travel Trends

It's that time of year when we dust off our crystal balls, brush up on our prognostication, and peer through the mists of the future. What are the trends in travel for 2007?

How the heck would I know? Oh, wait, that's the realist in me. Give me just a minute to get in touch with my gypsy self...

Take, for example, the changing traveler. No, not Americans! The Chinese and Indian populations, by 2020, are paced to overtake the current kings of travel (Americans, Japanese and Germans), traveling to Europe and the Middle East. Changes in the economies of these countries have made middle class citizens in increasing numbers. You might think the U.S. would stand to gain from an influx of travelers, but so far the Chinese have not given approval for group trips to the U.S. And Indian tourists are more likely to fly to Dubai, Paris, London, Switzerland and Austria.

Technology, which insistently changes daily, will make translation virtual and easy. The computerized language translations we have now will become wearable. It's expected the miniaturized devices will be sunglass-like devices which, when aimed at a street or store display, for example, will read out to you in your native language. That's neat. If it's speed you need, technology will be there to help you race through checkout and airport security lines, restaurants, and track you should you get lost. (That would come in handy if you get waylaid in a foreign port, and the ship is trying to account for you.) Such RFID (radio-frequency identification) technology is being used now on toll roads, though refinement is needed to work out serious glitches currently bugging the system.

Changes especially within the hospitality industry are expected, measures against potential terrorist attack. Regrettably, this industry is among the most likely to be on the receiving end of attacks, and staunching that trend will be a necessary and costly goal. Some of the changes you're likely to see you, er, won't exactly "see." More careful screening of every



one, like the kitchen dishwasher, will be needed to stem this trend. Staffs will need specialized training. More security cameras, lights and security staff will be the visible changes.

As to travel hot spots, one site cites Pamukkale in Turkey, Parga in Greece, Ayr in Scotland, Campeche in Mexico and Marrakech in Morocco among the top five rising stars. In the U.S. it's Anna Maria and Siesta Key in Florida, Kailua, Hawaii, Macon in Georgia and Breckenridge Colorado.

Boomers are still making news. They are retiring soon, and living longer. Their travel desires are not like their parents, wanting to push the envelope of their aging selves. They will not go quietly, but rather will hike and kayak their way in retirement. Adventures for this senior crowd will require some adjustment on the part of those supplying the fun. It may also mean larger knobs and handles on doors, enhanced text on phones and signs and accommodation for hearing-impaired.

Speaking of retiring, so goes my crystal ball for another year.

(Christine Hicks-Usta has enjoyed more than 30 years of globetrotting as a member of the travel industry in various capacities. Direct questions to her at Bee Group Newspapers, P.O. Box 150, Buffalo, N.Y. 14231-0150.)

## Wedding announcement guidelines

All engagement, wedding and anniversary announcements received by Bee Group Newspapers are published in all nine editions as a service to our readers. There is no charge.

- The deadline for announcements is noon on the Wednesday before next week's publication. The Bee does not guarantee a publication date and reserves the right to edit all material. A preferred publication date must be written on the form.

- The Bee cannot guarantee the return of photos.
- The form is available at [www.beenews.com](http://www.beenews.com), by calling The Bee at 632-4700, or at the office, 5564 Main St., Williamsville.