

# THE REST OF THE STORY

## Naperville banker loves to hit the road, skies

**BY ANNA MARIE KUKEC**  
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Don't define Lou Petritz by his new position as president of First Community Financial Bank-Naperville.

For someone with a pilot's license and a love for motorcycles, he doesn't exactly fit the conservative banker mold.

"I like machines that move the body and the spirit," the Naperville resident said. "There's something so refreshing and exhilarating and yet very practical about taking these methods of transportation."

He also didn't start out in banking. Instead, he was a repo man with a consumer financial company where he



Lou Petritz

learned a lot about business.

"For a twenty-something, it was a good job," Petritz said. "It gave me a

lot of time out of the office, too. That's where I learned a lot about business and about people. It even taught me how to look someone in the eye and decide if they're telling me the truth."

He later attended night classes, earned his MBA and went into banking as a career. He held leadership roles at American Chartered Bank, U.S. Bank and Gary-Wheaton Bank of Fox Valley before replacing J. Patrick Benton at First Community in Naperville.

"This was a good opportunity to continue in banking. It was the right job at the right time," he said.

When he's not in the office, he loves to hit the road ... or the sky.

When he was about 40, he took flying lessons at an airport in Bolingbrook and eventually earned a pilot's license.

He'll rent a Cessna 172, a single-engine plane with four seats. He and his wife, Judie Caribeaux, take trips around the Midwest, a nice perk for pilots, he said.

"There's a joke among pilots about the \$100 hamburger," he said. "You fly somewhere just for the day and have lunch and the hamburger costs you \$5, but the fuel costs are \$95."

"There's something about flying an airplane that it's like a brain flush. You can't think of anything else at the time and you must focus on what you're doing."

He also owns two motorcycles, a Yamaha V-Star and Honda Shadow and he often goes on road trips with one of them. But he doesn't drive them to the office.

### People:

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#### Tenny helps travelers after storm

**Debbie Tenny**, a corporate travel agent for Options Travel in Des Plaines, was honored by the American Society of Travel Agents for the work she did on behalf of one her clients during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, which hit the New York-New Jersey area on Oct. 29, 2012. Over a three-month period following the Sandy disaster, Tenny was hit with challenge after challenge in booking over 5,900 room nights in the middle of a disaster



Anna Morgese

in home cooking.

#### FastTrack

**A. Denise Farrugia**, youth services manager at the St. Charles Public Library, was inducted as an Illinois Library Luminary by the Illinois Library Association. ... **Anna Morgese**



Melissa Mrkvicka



Teresa Mackintosh



Joseph L. Weidenbach

to the board of trustees of The Morton Arboretum in Lisle.

**Sue Miller**, managing broker with Coldwell Banker Honig-Bell in McHenry, received the Illinois Association of Realtors 2013 Distinguished Service Award. It honors individuals who have provided outstanding con-



Steven Hoeft

College. He graduated from North Central in 1973 with a degree in both English studies and political science. Hoeft and six others will be honored during the college's homecoming convocation at 4:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, at Wentz Concert Hall at the Fine Arts Center, 171 E. Chicago Ave. in Naperville. Hoeft specializes in construction and real estate litigation at the law firm of McDermott Will & Emery LLP in Chicago.

**Jennifer Fisher** has opened Jen Fisher Books in Roselle, fulfilling her dream of owning a bookstore, despite the digital world. ... **Jeremy Cai** and **Peter Bernardi**, 2013 graduates of Hinsdale Central High School, have launched a startup company called