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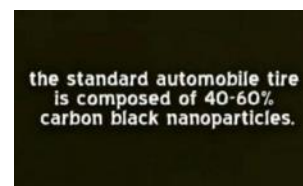
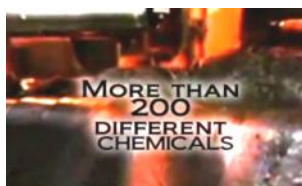
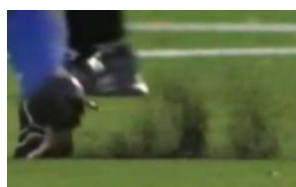
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Volume 5 Issue 3

April 2012

MUST SEE VIDEO

Are you concerned about synthetic turf particles? You should be!



A collection of select video cuts presents a persuasive concern about synthetic turf's crumb rubber — especially **carbon black nanoparticles**.

A recently released video featured on *YouTube* explores the questionable safety of tire crumb rubber used on synthetic turf fields. It may be one of the most engaging and thought-provoking videos to-date regarding growing concerns about the health safety of crumb rubber used on most synthetic turf fields.

The video includes comments from investigative reporters, medical professionals, researchers, professionals athletes, college athletes and parents on a subject that, for whatever reason, is not getting the media coverage it should.

The following are some of the individuals featured in the ten minute video:

- Charlie Gibson** — Reporter ABC News
- Jeffrey Schaub** — Reporter CBS Channel 5, San Francisco
- Ricky Stanzi** — Former University of Iowa quarterback currently with the Kansas City Chiefs
- Donald Driver** — NFL player Green Bay Packers
- Donovin Darius** — Retired NFL player
- Alge Crumpler** — Free agent NFL (formerly with the New England Patriots)
- Nate Kaeding** — NFL player currently with the San Diego Chargers

- Dr. Devra Davis**, MPH Epidemiologist, author "*The Secret History of the War on Cancer*" and Founder and President of Environmental Health Trust
- Jeffrey Grossman**, Exec. Dir. Center of Integrated Nanomechanical Systems, UC Berkley (Currently at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- Paul Alivisatos**, Director Material Science Division Lawrence Berkley Labs (Currently the Director of the Laboratory)
- Dr. Andrew Nelson**, University of Leeds, Professor in Nanotoxicology
- Dr. Thomas Hartung**, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Robert F. Kennedy** speaking at Mount Sinai Summit. "Raising Your Children in a Toxic World"
- Dr. Kim Mulvihill**, *CBS HealthWatch* Reporter
- Mary Kam**, reporter KOMO-TV Seattle, WA
- Luke Beardemphl**, high school soccer star diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma

Viewing this video is important, especially for athletes and parents of children who play on synthetic turf fields. Click on any of the images above or the link below to access the video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2USPTY_wVM

CLICK HERE to see the June/July 2011 issue of the TPI E-Newsletter for an in depth cover story on carbon black nanoparticles.



Greg Skotnicki of Manderley Turf Products in Nepean, Ontario.

TORONTO, Feb. 22, 2012 /CNW/ - **Manderley Turf Products** was named one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies for 2011. This prestigious national award is sponsored by Deloitte, CIBC, National Post, and Queen's School of Business.

"Manderley is proud to accept this celebrated business award while represent-

Manderley Turf Products Named One of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies

ing the farming and agricultural community, especially [Turfgrass Producers International's] sod producers from around the world," says Greg Skotnicki, President, Manderley Turf Products and a Director of the Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario (NSGA).

"With 51 years experience, Manderley has grown to be Canada's largest [turfgrass] sod supplier and an industry pioneer; helping to champion the NSGA Green Certification program for sod farms as well as water-saving, drought tolerant sod."

Established in 1993, the Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies is a national awards program, recognizing Canadian companies that have implemented world-class business practices and created value in innovative ways.

"Being named among Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies recognizes that Manderley has a world-class staff committed to creating world-class value for clients," says Skonicki. "We believe



PHOTO: Jim Novak

we can always improve the way we do things and are continuously seeking innovative new ways to improve both our internal processes as well as the way that we serve our professional and homeowner clients. It means a lot, having independent business experts analyze, compare and vet [sic] what we do."

Winners of the Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies award were honored at the annual Best Managed gala in Toronto on March 27, 2012.

TPI extends its sincere congratulations to Greg, his family and the entire staff at Manderley Turf Products.

"Resodding is a sound investment when selling a house."

Rachel Brown of the Washington Times reports that Ellie Shorb, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Chevy Chase, Maryland pointed out that fresh [turfgrass] sod shows well in photos. "Eighty to 90 percent of buyers are looking at houses online," she said, citing a recent statistic put out by the National Association of Realtors, and adding that buyers will then drive by the houses they've seen on the Internet. "The lawn makes the first impression. If people don't like what they see, they'll drive by and won't even come into the house."

Mehmet Halici, an associate broker with Weichert, Realtors in Bethesda, Maryland agreed that the front lawn is important, especially at this time of year. "Perception is reality - that's why exterior landscaping is so crucial," he said. "If the lawn is manicured and there's mulch and flowers - all of this says that the current owners are taking care

of their property. If the exterior is taken care of, the buyers will think the interior has also been taken care of."

Doug Del Gandio, president of Four Seasons Landscaping in Damascus, estimated that the average size of Washington suburban lawn is around 400 square feet, putting the cost of a resodding project somewhere between \$260 and \$800.

John Shorb, president of John Shorb Landscaping in Kensington is quoted as stating, "The bigger the lawn, the lower the unit price because of efficiencies of scale."

Both landscapers agreed that resodding is a sound investment when selling a house.

Rolawn®

Turfgrass for the
THREE BEARS



UPDATE

THE THREE BEARS FINALLY ENJOY THE FREEDOM TO ROAM ON ROLAWN TURF



Suzy exploring Rolawn turf in her NEW expansive enclosure.
Photo courtesy of Rolawn Limited.



Peggy enjoying the freedom of the wooded area, probably the first time she has walked down a stream.

Photo courtesy of Five Sisters Zoo

In last December's issue of the TPI E-Newsletter we featured a story regarding a new compound that was being constructed at the Five Sisters Zoo in West Lothian, Scotland in readiness for the arrival of three rescued bears (Carmen, Peggy and Suzy). The bears were saved from a defunct circus, homeless and confined to cramped cages measuring just 10 meters square at a holding center in Belgium.

We also reported that Land & Utility, LTD (a ground-work and landscaping specialists contractor) had laid Rolawn's Medallion turf in the new compound so the bears could enjoy their new spacious surroundings when they arrived.

We recently learned that the bears arrived at their new home on March 29th and the owners and staff at Five Sisters Zoo have been rewarded for their months of hard work and worry about the funding of the enclosure.

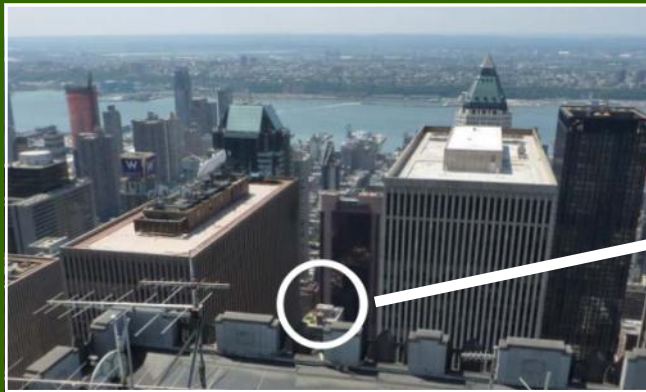
Brian Curran, the private owner of the zoo, commented "All three bears are now enjoying the freedom of roaming and foraging, possibly for the first time in their life, they have probably not walked more than a few meters in a straight line till now. All of this was only possible due to the hundreds of kind people who have donated funds and for the "local" companies willing to help with materials and manpower.

We have seen a tremendous increase in visitor numbers since the bears arrived which we hope will help with the on-going cost of looking after them."

Five Sisters Zoo reported that Rolawn discounted their turf in an effort to help the zoo with their fundraising efforts.

Thank you to Lorraine Willis, marketing executive for Rolawn Limited for bringing this update to our attention.

New York's Central Park isn't the only place that has turfgrass.



The above images were taken from atop Rockefeller Center in New York - PHOTO: Jim Novak



Interested in running a Classified Ad in *TURF NEWS* that includes a posting on the TPI website?

Contact:
Veronica Iwanski
847-649-5555
viwanski@TurfGrassSod.org
Or send mail inquiry to:
Veronica Iwanski
TPI
2 East Main Street
East Dundee, IL 60118

How effective is CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING when you use *TURF NEWS* and the TPI WEBSITE?

Actual correspondence of 4/2/12

Ian,
Please let me know if you would like to revise, rerun or pull the ad for the May/June issue of *TURF NEWS*.
“Used turf harvesters for sale: Automatic or hand-stack models available . . .”
Regardless of your decision the ad will remain on the TPI website through the end of April.
Thank you,
Veronica Iwanski
Membership & Marketing Manager

SOLD OUT



Veronica,
Let's pull it for now. I don't have anything else to advertise, you are doing too good of a job. Everything we had used has been sold!
Ian True, National Sales Manager
Trebros Manufacturing, Inc.

DID YOU KNOW?
As a *Premiere Classified* advertiser you can have a photo related to your ad featured on the TPI website.

An Unexpected “Thank You”



Clay Mooney of Design Associates, Asheville, NC.

When **Fred Pittillo** of Turf Mountain Sod Farm received a handwritten “thank you” note (see image on the right) from one of the guest speakers at TPI’s Midwinter Conference he was deeply touched. The handwritten note came from Clay Mooney of Design Associates, a firm that specializes in land planning and development projects in the Appalachian Mountains of the Southeast and mid Atlantic states. Clay participated on the Professional Landscapers Panel at the Conference. The following is an excerpt from Clay’s note.

Dear Fred and family,
I just wanted to send you a note and let you know what a great time I had participating in the TPI [Midwinter] Conference last week in Scottsdale. It meant so much to me to know that you recommended me to participate as a speaker. I hope I was able to contribute something of value to those attending . . . all of you made me feel so welcomed.”
Best regards,
Clay Mooney

NOTE: In response to Clay’s closing comment (hoping that he contributed something of value to those attending), the answer is a resounding YES. 92% of those members who attended the Professional Landscapers Panel discussion rated in Good, Very Good or Excellent.

*Dear Fred and family,
I just wanted to send you a note and let you know what a great time I had participating in the TPI conference last week in Scottsdale. It meant so much to me to know that you recommended me to participate as a speaker. I hope I was able to contribute something of value to those attending. I also wanted to thank you for inviting me to dinner with your family. All of you made me feel so welcome and it was great meeting Bob and your other friend whose name I can't remember. They were all great people just like your family and I'm so thankful that I can have friends like you.
Best regards,
Clay Mooney*

Our thanks to Linda Bradley for sharing this correspondence with us.

How Sweet it is!

Anyone who knows Bob Weerts of Blue Valley Sod in Winnebago, Minnesota knows that in addition to his successful turfgrass business he’s also involved in a variety of other business ventures; one in particular caught our attention . . . making homemade fudge.

Bob reports that what began as a small side business has grown considerably and they now sell well over 8,000 pounds of fudge annually from his Little Giant store.

To draw the attention of customers Bob purchased a somewhat weathered and neglected 8-1/2 foot fiberglass figure once used to sell hamburgers. He found a creative artist in the area and had him transform the figure into a Little Giant that stands in front of the store promoting the homemade sweets.

FROM THIS . . .



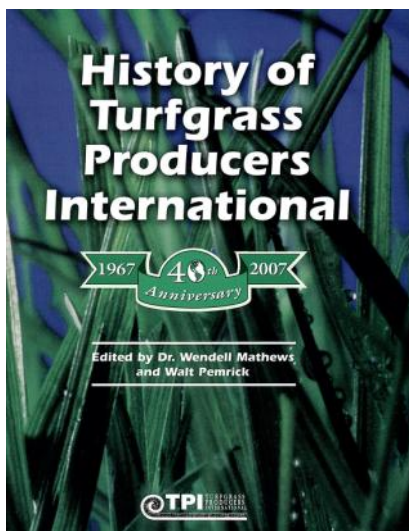
TO THIS!



Getting It Right

When TPI received a letter from Hermann Lindau of Hermann Lindau & Sons in Huntington, New York it sparked considerable interest. Hermann's letter reflected a great deal of family pride, and if nothing less, a wish to set the record straight on unintentional misinformation that appeared in the 40th Anniversary edition of the *History of Turfgrass Producers International*.

The following is Hermann's letter in its entirety. It is our hope that in sharing this letter with our readers we honor his request to set the record straight regarding his father and those early pioneers of the turfgrass industry. - Jim Novak



March 21, 2012

Dear Mr. Hunter,
There is something that I have been dwelling over for some time. I am a proud member of TPI and respect what TPI has done in the past decades for our industry. I do not want to take up much of your time but I feel as time goes on, facts that are not accurate will cause the truth to be lost.

My father Hermann Lindau came to New York in 1927, 21 years old from Germany, a bricklayer by trade. In 1929, my father saw men laying

sod, 1'x1' squares, started a conversation with the men and explained that he moved sod around in Germany as a young man and it was easy work. The owner of the company said, "let's see what you can do" and my father started to lay the sod with ease and cross bond like bricks in brick work. The owner was amazed and said to my father "don't quit your brick-laying job, but if you ever need a job call me, I'll give you \$3.00 a day more (\$10.00 a day)". Within a few months my father was working for the owner and a long friendship was started, with many sodding projects from parks to the 1939 NYC World's Fair. The owner was George Probeck, one of the earliest sod men in the business in our New York area, early 1900s.

In TPI's *History of Turfgrass Producers International* pages 15, 19, 21 there are pictures of my father harvesting field sod with the men working for Probeck Sod. Page 19 (see photo above) has the best picture of the men, my father bottom row second from right, behind him George Probeck Jr. and George Sr. to the left center. My father was never a farm field manager for DeLea as stated on



Hermann Lindau second from right, behind him George Probeck Jr. and George Sr. to the left center.

page 21, only for Probeck Sod and yes he did like a beer after work (see photo on next page). These are the men/companies that started the industry before others had the idea and sad to say never received any recognition for the life they lived, not being members of any associations-because there were no associations.

The early pioneer's went on with their lives doing what they did best and as time goes on will be forgotten. Thankfully, TPI saw the need to put in print this story.

After the WWII, my father continued with harvesting sod and installations but because of the increase demand for sod installation, that's the direction life took for him and later for me.

(Cont'd on page 7)

Getting It Right—cont'd from page 6



George Probeck Jr. in the driver seat with the loaded truck.

In the New York area, from the 50s-90s, growers did not do installations. My father's reputation from the early 50's till now was based on the quality installation on many projects both in and out of state, including the NYS Taconic Parkway, Northern State Parkway, Maine State Turnpike, many athletic fields and larger residential homes. My father always remained close friends with the earlier growers, graded and installed sod on the new homes of Mr. McGovern, page 20 and Mr. L. DeLea Sr. & Jr., page 21. Both growers, referred installation projects to my father for all types of projects which required quality installation.

We still have my father's first sod cutter used to harvest the field sod, a K&N machine shop #0003, later as you know, called Ryan sod cutter.

When my father gave these pictures to Mr. DeLea, and the TPI *History of Turfgrass Producers International* was printed, I was surprised that the information was not correct about George Probeck Sod and that my father was noted as a field manager for DeLea, rather than George Probeck.

I did not want to raise any issue with that, but as time has passed and now I am nearing 60, I think the information is important not to be forgotten. I do not want TPI to change print, but keep this information where it cannot be forgotten. Also, I have attached the last picture from that 1930's day of harvesting sod (see photo on left above), TPI kept the other pictures. It shows George Probeck Jr. in the driver seat with the loaded truck, same loaded truck as in the other pictures. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this and for caring about the TPI roots.

Best regards,
Hermann A Lindau
Hermann Lindau & Son, Inc.



Hermann Lindau (lying down in the front) takes a break at the end of the day with other farm workers.



Hermann Lindau Sr.

Excerpt from Kirk Hunter's personal letter to Hermann Lindau

March 29, 2012

Dear Mr. Lindau,

Thank you very much for contacting TPI regarding the information contained in the "*History of Turfgrass Producers International*" book. We appreciate your continued membership in the association and look forward to continuing to serve you and the industry in the future.

I appreciate the facts and clarification that you have provided regarding your father's role in the early days of the turfgrass sod industry . . . I will save your letter so that corrections can be made in any future historical publications.

Best regards,
T. Kirk Hunter
Executive Director
Turfgrass Producers International

To order a copy of the book
"*History of Turfgrass Producers International*"
[CLICK HERE.](#)



North Carolina Turfgrass Proudly Promotes TPI's 2012 Summer Convention in Asheville, North Carolina

The May/June issue of **North Carolina Turfgrass** magazine features an impressive cover photo and two-page spread promoting TPI's upcoming Summer Convention and Field Days. Our sincere thanks to Liz Nutter, Managing Editor of Leading Edge Communications (publisher of North Carolina Turfgrass) for doing such a great job in promoting our event.

upcoming event

2012 TPI Summer Convention

Coming to Asheville, NC! July 30 – August 2

Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) will hold its 2012 Summer Convention and Field Days on Monday, July 30, through Thursday, August 2, in Asheville, NC, and there's already a great deal of excitement surrounding the upcoming event. The scenic wonder of the Blue Ridge Mountains that surround the host hotel, The Grove Park Inn, is sure to be a welcoming site for turfgrass producers from around the world, including the United States, Canada, Australia, Europe, Asia and Africa. And a nice balance of business and social functions are planned throughout the week to provide all in attendance with a variety of informative, educational and fun activities.

Pre-Conference attendees will have the option to participate in a behind-the-scenes agricultural tour. The tour will include (1) exploring a privately owned green-house operation that encompasses more than 37 acres of greenhouses and grows over 150 varieties of plants, including bedding plants, foliage, hanging baskets, African violets, mums, poinsettias, spring bulb crops, perennials and many other flowering indoor plants, (2) visiting a fifth-generation, family-owned apple business that is one of the largest volume shippers of fresh apples in the entire state of North Carolina, (3) a stop at one of North Carolina's most successful tree nursery farms and (4) a visit to Super Sod (a division of Patten Seed), one of the South's largest producers of quality turfgrass sod.

Among the other planned activities are a Next Generation Leaders Breakfast and The Lawn Institute Memorial Golf Tournament, which will take place at the legendary Grove Park Inn Golf Club. For non-golfers, there's a planned tour of the beautiful Biltmore Estate, the famous George and Edith Vanderbilt 250-room family home and country retreat nestled on 8,000 beautiful acres.

Pre-conference attendees can tour the famed Biltmore Estate on July 31. Photo credit: Glenn Decker

In addition to numerous Working Group and Committee meetings throughout the week, the tentative schedule includes:

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Monday, July 30

- Appointments: Turf & Insect**
- Working Group Meetings**
- Early Bird Reception

Tuesday, July 31

- Prayer Breakfast*
- The Lawn Institute Memorial Golf Tournament*
- The Biltmore Estate Tour*

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday, July 31

- First-Timer's Meet & Greet**
- Welcome Reception
- TPI Banquet*

Wednesday, August 1

- Next Generation Leaders Breakfast**
- Women's Forum*
- Information & Idea Exchange
 - "Leveling the Playing Field — Synthetic vs. Natural Turfgrass: The Player's Point of View"
 - "TPI: Your Turfgrass Industry Advocate"
 - "Labor & Immigration: Issues Facing Turfgrass Producers"
- TPI Annual Business Meeting
- Turf Town Hall & Lunch
- Tabletop Displays & Dinner

Thursday, August 2

Field Day at Turf Mountain Sod

- * Optional activity, requiring separate registration.
- ** Invitation-only event.

TO REGISTER

To register for the event or more information, visit TurfGrass-Sod.org and click on TPI Summer Convention & Field Days.

North Carolina Turfgrass Council of North Carolina 11

Another highlight of the convention will be the popular TPI Banquet, which will take place at the "private" Pancheron Camp Creek Ranch. This unique location features a replica of a western town, complete with a gas station, general store, post office, bank and hotel.

An Information & Idea Exchange session will include valuable education presentations on the pressing issues facing the turfgrass industry. The TPI Annual Business Meeting will bring members up to date on TPI activities and include the appointment of new officers and trustees. Attendees will also have an opportunity to visit manufacturers and supplier exhibits, talk to knowledgeable company representatives, see what's new for 2012 and ask questions about equipment, products and/or services that can support their turf business.

The week will come to a close with the TPI Field Day at Turf Mountain Sod in Hendersonville. Attendees can expect to see plenty of equipment on exhibit, including harvesters, mowers, tractors, fertilizers, tillers, installers, cultivators, etc. Field demonstrations always draw a crowd, as do field exhibits where attendees can view and learn about a wide range of products and services that can help grow their business and improve productivity. *

The convention will close with a Field Day and equipment demonstrations at Turf Mountain Sod. Photo courtesy of Linda Bradley.

**REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE
EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MAY 15, 2012**

Click Here to Register

Where in the world is TPI represented? **EVERYWHERE!**

An on-going series featuring photos and copy from TPI member websites.

Southport, Merseyside, England

<http://www.turfland.co.uk/>



Turfland has been supplying quality turf for over 45 years and we have worked hard over the years to research the most well balanced blends for both professional and domestic requirements. We pride ourselves on our long and established history as turf suppliers and growers, producing the finest quality grass, for both commercial and private use, at an affordable price.

All Turfland turf is grown on free draining Grade I soils ranging from the rich, organic loams to mineral sand soils enabling us to harvest all year round. A network of drainage ditches provides virtually unlimited irrigation providing Turfland customers with healthy green turf even in the driest months. Our grass seed mixtures contain the very best, top rated cultivars available - as recommended by the Sports Turf Research Institute.

We offer three distinct varieties of turf, each of which had been developed to suit different needs and functionality. We run our own fleet of trucks all equipped with ride-on forklifts and offer next day delivery nationwide. Our experts will gladly advise you as to which is best for your requirements.



Turfland is a proud member of Turfgrass Producers International



TurfSide-UP

Some turfgrass producers really know how to **DRIVE** their business!



Weighing-in It's Time to Walk It Off On Some GREENSPACE

“Childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years. Active living is one solution to turn back this trend. Trees and lawns contribute to perceptions of more walkable streets, which can promote more physical activity in children and youth.”⁽¹⁾



Research shows that today's families would benefit tremendously if more greenspace was available to encourage a healthier lifestyle.

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) recently ran an article in their publication “THE DIRT” that addressed the need for walkable greenspace. They reported that Dr. Richard Jackson, Professor and Chair of Environment Health Sciences, UCLA, said the current environment in the U.S. was designed in a way that is “fundamentally unhealthy” in a talk at the New America Foundation, a think tank in Washington, D.C.

The environment is now making it difficult for people to achieve well-being. It's getting so bad that this generation growing up may be the first in American history that has “a shorter life span than their parents.” Communities have to be redesigned to “make us all healthier – young or old,” according to Jackson.

As host of the new four-hour PBS series *Designing Healthy Communities* and author of the companion book, Dr. Jackson knows what he's talking about. In comparison with past generations, the average American is now 25 pounds heavier and the average kid, 14 pounds heavier. In some states, 30 percent of the population is severely obese. The problem is particularly depressing with kids, but, again, one can point directly at

the built environment as a primary cause of the weight gain. “One generation ago, 2/3 of kids walked or biked to school. Now, it's 1 in 8.”

Jackson reports that primary care doctors are now inundated with young, overweight, depressed patients. These kids are sent to weight loss programs, told not to watch TV, and drink less soda, but they can't really lose any weight because “they have no place to walk.”

Jackson believes that every school should have a garden and every community should have a farmer's market. Walkable green spaces should be used to fight mental health issues. Kids should live in walkable, bikeable areas so they can further their own “autonomous development.”

The challenge to community activists and medical professionals should be to engage local, state and federal decision-makers and encourage them to make walkable greenspace for people of all ages a priority.

To read the ASLA article in its entirety [CLICK HERE:](#)

1. Naderi, J.R., and J.-H. Kim. 2006. Reconceiving Typical Standards for Public Space: Implementing Enhanced Walking Environments for Children. In: P. Mooney (ed.), *Shifting Ground: Landscape Architecture in the Age of the New Normal*. Proceedings of the CSLA/CELA 2006 Congress. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

American Journal of
EPIDEMIOLOGY

To view the Abstract in
[CLICK HERE:](#)

A somewhat related study on greenspace and health in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* offered more promising evidence in a recently published study. Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania studied a 10-year project in Philadelphia to convert vacant lots into park space. They found that gun-related assaults significantly declined in areas around the lots that had been greened. Vandalism and criminal mischief also significantly fell off. The other unanticipated benefit, residents in some areas around these newly converted green spaces also reported feeling less stress and getting more exercise.