

**COLLECTING**  
**JUST ADD  
 QUARTERS**

**W**HO NEEDS AN arcade down the block when you can set up one in your home? Old-school machines from the '80s are hot again among collectors. "There isn't a day that goes by that I don't play something," says Pete Wanko, 36, who keeps 17 big arcade games like Centipede in his basement. Ready to join? Start your search at klov.com, the IMDb for players, with



titles, photos and dates. Then you'll need to pull a Mario and start collecting your coins. A new reissue includes Galaga and Ms. Pac-Man in a single cabinet (from \$2,875; [bmgaming.com](http://bmgaming.com)). But used is the way most collectors go. The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles arcade game (above) from 1989 sells for \$1,695 at [vintagearcade.net](http://vintagearcade.net). A few caveats: If you buy sight unseen, don't forget the warranty. Arcade games drop in value if they've been dented. And even if you find a great deal, add a few hundred more to cover shipping. Too bad Donkey Kong won't help with the lifting.

-RAMIN SETOODEH



**OUTDOORS**  
**IN BLOOMING COLOR**

**L**IKE BIRDING, WILDFLOWER viewing is a beloved form of tourism for nature lovers. This week, Crested Butte, Colo., holds a wildflower festival that promises to be one of the most spectacular in years, with mariposa lilies, Indian paintbrushes, wild irises and columbines along the historic mining town's vast network of hiking trails ([crestedbuttewildflowerfestival.com](http://crestedbuttewildflowerfestival.com)). Farther west, the Wasatch Wildflower Festival ([wasatchwildflowerfestival.org](http://wasatchwildflowerfestival.org)) (July 29 to Aug. 31) in Alta, Utah, includes music, food and guided hikes up Little Cottonwood

Canyon, tucked among the peaks outside Salt Lake City. Hikers on Vermont's Long Trail can search for one of New England's most beautiful sights through August: the lipstick-red cardinal flower. Or plan ahead to ride next year's wave, which starts with February's desert blooms in the Southwest, then rolls into California in March when the state flower turns the 1,700-acre Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve ([parks.ca.gov](http://parks.ca.gov)) a vivid orange. With summer nearly half gone, there's nothing like looking forward to it starting all over again.

-PAUL TOLME

**IN THE NEWS**

**'E' IS FOR  
 NO EFFECT**

Confused by the recent flurry of vitamin E studies? Last week researchers reported in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* that vitamin E supplements failed to protect healthy women against heart attacks, stroke or cancer. But, unlike a 2004 paper, it found that the pills did no harm. The JAMA study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, looked at 39,876 healthy women 45 and older who were randomly assigned to receive 600IU of vitamin E every other day (a dose found in many supplements) or a placebo.

What should you do? Get your vitamin E from foods like olive oil, nuts and avocados. Not only are they healthier than pills, but they taste a lot better, too.

-KAREN SPRINGEN



**MONEY**

**DON'T THROW CASH TO THE WIND**

**Y**OU KNOW YOU WANT A MOTORCYCLE on a beautiful summer day. But you can't really ride easy if you're spending too much money to insure it.

Motorcycle enthusiasts can spend hundreds of extra dollars to cover bikes that are frequently stolen or crashed, says Progressive Group, which conducted a survey. It's telling riders to stick to bikes that won't get boosted. That means not going for the racy Suzuki GSX-R series, most likely to be stolen and the most likely to be

crashed. A thirtysomething biker in Chicago could save \$1,432 a year simply by switching to the Suzuki Savage, found to be one of the least-often crashed and stolen. Other bikes popular with thieves are the Yamaha YZF's, the Suzuki Hayabusas, Kawasaki Ninjas and the Honda CBR series. Safer bets (and cheaper to insure) are the BMW R1200C and the Honda Rebels. Don't worry, you'll still feel the wind flying through your hair. Under your helmet, of course.

-LINDA STERN



**HOT STUFF:** Suzuki GSX-R