

INSIDE:
Industry remembers Uremet founder, Mark Moore
SEE PAGE 38



August 2016 | Vol. 20 • Issue 5

www.amusementtoday.com

Breathless in Altoona Gerstlauer's Monster brings on the screams at Adventureland Park



AT: Pam Sherborne
 psherborne@amusementtoday.com

ALTOONA, Iowa — Even after a couple months of operation, Monster, the new Gerstlauer Amusement Rides Infinity Looping Coaster at Adventureland Park, is still raising breathless screams from riders.

The \$10 million coaster project, the largest single investment in the park's history, opened June 4. Molly Vincent, Adventureland's marketing director, said she still likes to stop and listen if she is by the coaster when a train peaks that first drop, then

▶ See **MONSTER**, page 4

This summer, Adventureland Park added The Mosnter, a \$10 million Infinity Looping Coaster from Germany's Gerstlauer. COURTESY ADVENTURELAND PARK

Europa-Park unveils themed land



Michael Mack checks out the extensive theming as the last details of Ireland are finalized.

▶ SEE PAGES 9 & 10

Shanghai welcomes Mickey & Co.



New \$5.5 billion Shanghai Disney Resort is one of the biggest foreign investment projects in China's history.

▶ SEE PAGE 12

First-of-its-kind from Mack Rides

Cobra's Curse slithers into Busch Gardens Tampa

AT: Tim Baldwin
 tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

TAMPA, Fla. — Coaster fans in Central Florida have more to celebrate than just the dynamic Mako at SeaWorld Orlando. Sister park Busch Gardens Tampa debuted Cobra's Curse to the public on June 17. With a modest size compared to other coasters among the park's offerings, plus the lack of any inversions, the new coaster manufactured by Mack is sure to reach a wide range among a family audience. But make no mistake, the ride has no shortage of thrills.

Spinning coasters have

▶ See **COBRA**, page 6



Riders on Busch Gardens Tampa's new Cobra's Curse come face-to-fang with a huge thematic sculpture at the top of the elevator lift. AT/GARY SLADE

NEWSPAPER

POSTMASTER: Dated material.
 PLEASE RUSH!
 Mailed Monday, July 25, 2016

PRSRST STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 FT. WORTH TX
 PERMIT # 2069

Amusement TODAY GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS 2016
 BEST OF THE BEST!
 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
 www.GoldenTicketAwards.com
 Cedar Point SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2016
 Amusement TODAY



NEWSTALK

EDITORIAL: Gary Slade, gslade@amusementtoday.com

Mark Moore, GTAs



Slade

When *Amusement Today* broke the news on July 11 that a motorcycle accident had claimed the life of Uremet's Mark Moore, memories of Mark's contributions to both AIMS International and the National Roller Coaster Museum (NRCMA) raced through this publisher's mind.

To the industry, Mark will be remembered for the hours he gave to AIMS and the foundation he provided to the safety association. His leadership and insight put the association on stable ground — just like they he did when Mark started Uremet Corporation in 1992, building it into today's globally recognized urethane wheel company for the amusement industry.

I had the opportunity to serve on both the AIMS and NRCMA boards of directors with Mark. After he left the AIMS board in 2014, Mark became more and more active with the NRCMA board. When NRCMA needed help on western U.S. vehicle acquisitions, Mark would jump in and help make the proposed acquisition a new reality — something our board enjoys today in our ever-growing collection of ride equipment in Plainview, Texas. His insight into other areas of running a nonprofit will never be forgotten.

Mark loved being active. Family, industry events, and fast transportation were his first love. His marriage to Carol two years ago made him the happiest and healthiest I've seen Mark since I've had the opportunity to know him.

We will all miss Mark for his wit, insight, behind-the-scenes support and instant help. The AT staff will miss him for his support of the Golden Ticket Awards, both in word of mouth throughout the industry and as a presenter. Mark was always wanting to be the first to know where the GTAs will be held next year.

Speaking of which, details on "The Networking Event of the Year" have been released and the amusement industry parks and suppliers are invited. The Golden Ticket Awards, presented annually by *Amusement Today*, and hosted this year by Cedar Point Resort, are set for September 9 and 10 at the beautiful Sandusky, Ohio beachside destination. To view the schedule of events or to register, visit: www.GoldenTicketAwards.com.

FLINT'S VIEW: Bubba Flint



INDUSTRY OPINION: Dean Lamanna, dlamanna@amusementtoday.com

The amusement industry is (and always will be) Orlando

This being a year in which election theatrics and shattering acts of violence trade places atop the news every 24 hours, it seems a distant headline that 49 people lost their lives at a nightclub in Orlando, Fla., in the deadliest mass shooting in the U.S.

It was barely two months ago.

In the span of just five days in June, this city — this sunny place that had spent decades building a global reputation for escape — was rocked by a series of tragedies.

Indeed, "The Theme Park Capital of the World" is the crossroads of our industry, our family experiences and virtually everything we collectively consider fun. So many great memories — the most important "things" we carry through life — have been made in Orlando and Central Florida.

In the wake of the nightclub horror, we can't allow the victims — they ranged in age from 18 to 50 — to get lost amid lone-wolf terrorism debates and an accelerated news cycle.

At least four of those killed had direct ties to the region's parks, with more than a dozen of the injured reportedly industry workers, as well. Oth-



Lamanna

ers were or are currently employed in the supporting tourism and hospitality sectors. Most were gay, most were Latino and all were fellow human beings.

This limited space precludes listing each of them. But they include Jerald Arthur Wright, 31, a Walt Disney World cast member known for enthusiastic guest service; Shane Evan Tomlinson, 33, lead vocalist of the group Frequency Band, who sang with the Joyful! holiday gospel celebration at Disney's Epcot; Xavier Emmanuel Serrano Rosado, 35, a father and an exuberant dancer with the Disney Live! touring show; and Luis Vielma, 22, who had worked at Universal Orlando Resort's Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

While many notables expressed sorrow over the tragedy, *Harry Potter* author J.K. Rowling was especially touched by Vielma's death, tweeting: "He was 22 years old. I can't stop crying."

As always, the shock and tears subside, and we carry on. In this case, we should be forever grateful to those who've helped make Orlando a welcoming and singular destination — and our lives a little happier.

Amusement TODAY
Your Amusement Industry NEWS Leader

Call **(817) 460-7220** for advertising, circulation or editorial inquiries



Amusement Today is an independent, privately-owned trade newspaper published 14 times per year by Amusement Today Inc., P.O. Box 5427, Arlington, Texas 76005. Print issues are \$50 per year and are mailed Presort Standard Postage (permit No. 2069) Pre-Paid Fort Worth, Texas. The entire contents of this newspaper, and its related websites, are Copyrighted and Trademarked 2016 by Amusement Today Inc., all rights reserved.

Address: P.O. Box 5427, Arlington, Texas 76005-5427, USA
Deliveries: 2012 E. Randol Mill Road #203, Arlington, Texas 76011, USA
Phone: (817) 460-7220
Fax: (817) 265-NEWS (6397)
Web Sites: www.AmusementToday.com, www.GoldenTicketAwards.com

Founder, Publisher and Editor
Gary Slade • (817) 460-7220 x3
gslade@amusementtoday.com

Accounting & Classified
Sammy Piccola • (817) 460-7220 x1
spiccola@amusementtoday.com

Advertising
Sue Nichols • (615) 477-5432
snichols@amusementtoday.com

Special Projects & Editorial
Jeffrey Seifert • (817) 460-7220 x2
jseifert@amusementtoday.com

Social Media & Editorial
Dean Lamanna
dlamanna@amusementtoday.com

Editorial
Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

B. Derek Shaw • (717) 650-8330
bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

Pam Sherborne • (615) 308-3310
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

Monthly Contributors
Dan Feicht, Bubba Flint, Andrew Mellor,
Richard Munch, Janice Witherow

Print Issue & Extra Extra Desktop Edition Production
John Robinson • (513) 256-1441
AT@whrobinsoninc.com

Website Maintenance
Stacey Childress
stacey@bakersfielddigital.com

Association Memberships
AIMS International, IAAPA, IISF, IRT/iROC, NAARSO, NEAAPA, NJAA, OABA, PAPA, PACE, TTIA, WWA

Industry Affiliated Charities
Give Kids the World Village,
Morgan's Wonderland,
National Roller Coaster Museum & Archives

2 MINUTE DRILL



COMPILED: Janice Witherow

Leah Koch, Holiday World & Splashin' Safari

Leah Koch is a fourth-generation owner of **Holiday World and Splashin' Safari**. Her beloved late father, **Will Koch**, was president of the popular theme park in Santa Claus, Ind., and he serves as an inspiration for Leah, her sister **Lauren** and brother **William**, along with their mom **Lori**, as together they are committed to continuing the tradition of providing family fun in a wholesome atmosphere. Leah's passion for perfection, sense of humor and creativity are assets that she brings to the job ... her dad sure would be proud.



Holiday World's Leah Koch has fun taking this selfie for the 2 Minute Drill. COURTESY HOLIDAY WORLD

Title:

Director of Research and Development, Board Member.

Number of years in the industry:

My whole life. But technically nine years seasonally, plus 2.5 years full-time for a total of 11.5 years.

Best thing about the industry...

We make magic happen every day. What could be more special?

Favorite amusement ride...

Haunted Mansion at Disney's Magic Kingdom.

If I wasn't working in the amusement industry, I would be...

My undergraduate degree is in Journalism, so I'd probably be a reporter.

Biggest challenge facing our industry...

Families' free time is increasingly limited. It's a battle now to win that time.

The thing I like most about amusement/water park season is...

I can hear Christmas music and the screams and laughter of our guests even from my office window! Some days I don't even mind the Christmas music.

Favorite cartoon character...

Phineas from *Phineas and Ferb*.

The world landmark I would most like to visit is...

The Taj Mahal.

Pick one: Steak or lobster?

Lobster.

If I could go back in time for a day, it would be to visit this time period...

The 1920s. I'm obsessed with *The Great Gatsby*.

Growing up, my favorite thing about school was...



Koch

I was (still am) that weird kid who loved learning anything. And I wanted to win every academic award possible.

The person I would most like to have dinner with is...

Stephen Dubner, co-author of *Freakonomics*. I love reading books like that.

All-time best advertising slogan...

"You bet your sweet Aspercreme."

When I want to unwind I...

Read a good book.

It's 8 p.m. Where could we typically find you?

Probably just sitting down to dinner – I like to cook but I always stay at work later than planned.

Neatest sport to watch in the Summer Olympics...

I live for the Olympics!!! If I had to pick just one ... table tennis... it's so intense!

When I say football season, you say...

When does Indiana University basketball start?

The last time I wore high heels was...

Last Sunday.

Three things on my life "to-do" list are...

Visit South Korea, learn a third language and take oboe lessons so I stop embarrassing myself on our Holiday World Podcast.

Are you a beer or wine kind of girl?

Wine.

On an airplane, I tend to...

End up delayed. It happens so frequently my family avoids flying with me.

The last thing I bought for under \$1 was...

99-cent popcorn refill bucket at Holiday World!

When I say vacation, you say...

When and where!?

You live and work in Santa Claus, Indiana... do you believe in Santa?

I don't just believe in Santa, I know where he parks his car and what he eats for lunch.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

Presented by the National Rollercoaster Museum

COMPILED: Richard Munch



AUGUST

•**1897:** The *Hartford Courant* reported that a young daredevil named **Carl Fradenburg** provided two exhibitions on August 16, where he rode his bicycle down the great wooden chutes, at the new **Chutes Park** in West Hartford, Conn. The article titled "A Daring Ride by a Bicyclist," said the ride for life proved even more exciting than management had promised. The young man certainly provided a distraction as he rode down the chute at lightning speed on his bicycle, skimming across the lagoon then sinking. His engagement would continue for the remainder of the season.

•**1905:** A panic stricken crowd rushed out of **Electric Park**, in Vailsburg (Newark), N.J., on the evening of August 22, the result of a lioness who had broken free from her cage. Frightened by a falling bicycle onto her cage, the big cat bolted into a crowd estimated at 5,000. Scores of park patrons were trampled in an attempt to escape from the danger. The incident happened at 10:30 p.m. and it took nearly two hours to recapture the great cat near the Vailsburg bicycle track. The exhausted lioness harmed no one and was found sleeping an hour after capture.

•**1919:** The second roller coaster to open in Manitoba, Canada, made its debut on August 2 at **Winnipeg Beach Park**, in Winnipeg. The Giant Coaster would open to a great weekend crowd who were anxious to ride the new side friction wood coaster, after its opening had been delayed nearly two months. The highly publicized ride would set attendance records and would become the signature attraction at the park during the next few decades. **Arthur Jarvis** is credited for the design, but many believe **John Miller** was also associated with the project. The Giant Coaster was the second coaster at the park and would operate into the mid-1960s.

•**1926:** The Sunday *New York Times* ran a full-length article on August 1 in the magazine section discussing the evolution of thrills at America's amusement parks. Author **Edward H. Smith** stated: "Mechanical devices that began with the Chicago World's Fair have revolutionized the public taste for amusements, changing the pleasure parks into thrill parks. When Labor Day comes round again 25 or 30 million Americans will have paid 200 million admission fees to the amusement parks of the country and spent more than twice that many millions of dollars on such hot-weather pleasures as these houses of bright folly provide." Smith would be proven correct, as the 1920s were considered the greatest era of growth in the industry up until that time, with over 250 new major wooden roller coasters opened in the country during that decade.

•**2016:** Roller coaster legend **Werner Stengel** turns 80 years old on August 22. Born in Bochum, Germany, the remarkable engineer had his first assignment working with **Anton Schwarzkopf** in 1963. Two years later he established **Stengel Engineering** and hasn't missed a beat since. His design of the Great American Revolution at **Magic Mountain**, Valencia, Calif., included the remarkable clothoid loop, which revolutionized the steel coaster. He has worked on nearly 300 projects in the United States, including coasters for **Cedar Fair** and **Six Flags Corporation**. It is impossible to cover all his work in a single paragraph, but to understand his importance in the industry, managing director **Andreas Wild** provided the fact that the firm is now working on its 700th coaster project. That's 700 coasters in 51 years, topping what many consider a remarkable career. Happy Birthday Werner!

KCL Engineering provides LED light show for new Monster

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa — Kris Kunze, managing principal, senior electrical engineer, KCL Engineering, West Des Moines, Iowa, feels the company's limited amusement ride light design experience actually benefited them when it came time for Adventureland Park officials to choose a company to install the LED lighting package on the new Monster roller coaster, which opened at the park June 4.

"I believe our limited amusement ride lighting design experience was our advantage to coming up with this design from scratch without starting at a point the rest of the industry is already doing," Kunze said. "Because the Monster is a very beautiful work of art, we had no trouble designing



Kunze

a lighting system that would adequately illuminate this masterpiece."

The Monster was built by Gerstlauer Amusement Rides and is the first of the company's second generation of Infinity Coasters. The overall LED project cost for Adventureland Park was \$1.1 million, and it is the park's fourth coaster.

Molly Vincent, park marketing director, said they had been in contact with KCL Engineering to install LED lighting packages on some of their existing rides. So, park officials asked the company for their ideas.

Kunze said a brainstorming session led by KCL Engineering team members Mike Lambert and Tom Kendrick resulted in the creation of the design program that produced the light show — a show that has the ability to follow the car.

"This was the idea we needed to pitch to Adventureland that ultimately land-



Iowa-based KCL Engineering provided this unique \$1 million LED light show to Adventureland for its new Monster roller coaster. The light show follows the car as it travels the 2,486-foot-long course. COURTESY ADVENTURELAND

ed us the job," Kunze said. "It was not until the lights were completely installed and commissioned that we began to program lighting shows and test them with the ride operational."

He said that Gerstlauer representatives described

the basis of the ride's design was to cause confusion to the riders. KCL used that basis while curating the lighting shows. One thing they came up with was how the lights were programmed on the first incline. As riders go up that first hill, the lights are

all aglow. As the train peaks and gets ready to take riders on that 101-degree plunge, the lights go out.

"What better way to confuse the riders than make the track disappear at the beginning of the ride," he said. "Future shows will be variations of the ability to have traveling light while continuing to add to the riders overall experience and thrill."

Kunze said KCL now has partnered with Ride Entertainment Group, the company which represents Gerstlauer in North America and Central America. He hopes they have more opportunities to work within the amusement ride industry.

"Our first design installation of the Monster lighting system is a testament to our experience and lays the solid foundation of where we can take amusement ride lighting in the future," Kunze said.

—Pam Sherborne

FAST FACTS

Name/Park

Monster/Adventureland, Altoona, Iowa

Type

Infinity Looping Coaster

Height/Length/Speed/Degree of First Drop

133 feet/2,486 feet/65 mph/101 degrees

Vehicles

3, 8-passenger cars

Number of inversions/airtime hills

5/10

Features

- First negative-G stall loop in the Western Hemisphere (*this is the ride's first inversion*)
- Crosses park's sky ride 8 times
- 46 ground, 137 track mounted RGB color changing LED fixtures

Suppliers

Coaster: Gerstlauer Amusement Rides GmbH, Muensterhausen, Germany

LED's: KCL Engineering West Des Moines, Iowa

► MONSTER

Continued from page 1

plunges down at a 101-degree angle.

"I just listen to the screams," Vincent said. "You wouldn't believe how many different types there are."

Yet, according to Adam Sandy, chief business development officer for Ride Entertainment, which represents Gerstlauer in North America and Central America, the coaster is extremely "rideable."

"I have been on many coasters that when you get off, even though it was an exciting ride, you feel sort of beat up," he said. "This one is so smooth. I spent a lot of time around this ride when I was at Adventureland and I saw so many people that as soon as that lap bar came up, they were running to get back in line."

The Monster is 133 feet tall (41 meters) and has a top speed of 65 mph (105 kmh). There are five inversions on the 2,486-foot length of track. It sports three, eight-seat trains.

The first incline takes riders up at a 90-degree angle. The first of the five inversions, instead of having more of a tear-drop shape, stretches out or straightens out — creating a Negative-G Loop, the first of its kind in North America, according to Vincent.

"It gives you the feeling of



Adventureland's new Monster posed unique design challenges for Gerstlauer — resulting in a track layout that goes over or under the park's sky ride eight times and sees sky ride riders pass through four of the five inversions. COURTESY ADVENTURELAND PARK

sort of hanging out there," Sandy said.

Another unique feature to the coaster at Adventureland is the layout. The coaster replaced a log flume ride park officials had installed 40 years ago. Because growth occurred around the flume ride, its footprint was somewhat unconventional.

"We brought people from Gerstlauer here and said this is

what you have to work with," Vincent said. "So, from that point, it was sort of a back and forth; I would say a labor of love for both Gerstlauer and us."

What resulted was a coaster track that goes under and over an existing sky ride eight times.

"You are kind of aware of that while you are riding the coaster," Sandy said. "You sort of feel like ducking at times. But, because

the sky ride goes so much slower than the coaster, riders of the sky ride really feel the effect of passing through the coaster."

This adds a whole new experience to the sky ride. The sky ride passes through four of the five coaster inversions.

Another unique feature that could be described as the coup de grace is the coaster's LED

► See MONSTER, page 5

►MONSTER
Continued from page 4

lighting package installed by a local company, KLC Engineering. According to Vincent, KLC representatives had been called in earlier to help with the installation of LED packages on some of their existing rides.

"When we started looking at lighting for the Monster, we asked them to take a look at it, to see what they would do," Vincent said. "What they came back with just blew us away. How could we not do it?"

KLC, located in West Des Moines, Iowa, provides mechanical, electrical, plumbing and lighting consulting services with a heavy emphasis in energy efficiency with an integrated design process. Projects have ranged from work in multi-family housing, giving energy analysis for a variety of businesses, office buildings to the new LED sport lighting at the Yankee Stadium

that was completed just before the end of 2015.

But, not until Adventureland officials asked KLC representatives to take a look at some of their amusement rides had that type of work been part of their project listing.

Vincent said lighting options for the Monster are abundant. In fact, she said, in mid-July, they were still working with folks from KLC who were helping them with the controls. Vincent loves the look of the red lights on the tracks that give the visual of chasing the trains.

"When you go up that first incline, the lights turn green," she said, of the current programming. "When you get to the top of that hill and have the couple of seconds of just thinking about going over, the lights go dark. It is complete darkness. I couldn't think of a way they could have made it any scarier.

"This ride is our show piece," she said.

For July 4, colors were red, white and blue. Vincent said they are just beginning to learn all the possibilities.

Site preparations for the Monster's installation began after Labor Day weekend in 2015. The first thing that had to happen was the demolition of the existing Log Ride. The boats were sold off and the wooden platform was given to a local company called Reclaimed Rail Brewing Company, located in Bondurant, Iowa. That wood is now the brewery's outdoor deck and there is a new beer called the Lager Ride.

Throughout the winter the site was prepared while Gerstlauer worked on the coaster. Vincent said the first piece of steel track was installed in April of this year.

Adventureland hasn't had a new roller coaster installed since the wooden coaster the Outlaw was installed in 1993. The Monster is the fourth coaster.

"The Gerstlauer people have been great," Vincent said. "Gerstlauer's design and engineering was impeccable and we would not hesitate to work with their team again in the future."

"This was a fantastic project for us," said Siegfried Gerstlauer, managing director of Gerstlauer. "This is the first of our next-generation Infinity Coasters to open in the Western Hemisphere and we were proud to partner with Adventureland."

Gerstlauer's Infinity Coaster is designed to master the endless number of layout designs. It is available with chain left as well as with LSM-Launch or both.

Sandy said the Gerstlauer company began its operations working with family-owned parks and "it has been a huge pleasure for us to continue that tradition."

"It is great," Sandy said. "One of the biggest coasters in North America is now in a family-run park."



Adventureland's new Monster coaster reaches a height of 133 feet before sending riders down a 101-degree plummet – reaching speeds of 65 mph.
COURTESY ADVENTURELAND PARK

Visit us at the
EAS 2016
in Barcelona,
Sept. 20-22
Booth: 1814



Gerstlauer Amusement Rides GmbH
Industriestraße 17
D-86505 Münsterhausen
Tel. (49) 8281 - 99 68 0
Fax (49) 8281 - 99 68 33
www.gerstlauer-rides.de
info@gerstlauer-rides.de



Infinity Coaster
„Monster“,
Adventureland Park
United States

Infinite thrill!



► COBRA

Continued from page 1

had a huge surge in popularity in the new millennium, dotting the theme park landscape worldwide. Busch Gardens, however, has created something not only unique, but artistic and creative as well.

Known for their efforts of conservation, Busch Gardens has repurposed an existing building that was originally built in 1996 when the park was introducing its Egypt section and its major thriller, Montu. At that time, the building was known as Tut's Tomb, and offered a walk-through experience of artifacts and thematic storyline. Now, the building serves as an engaging queue line which sets the stage of the myth of the Snake King.

Inside the queue building, a wall of hieroglyphics comes to life as riders queue through the room. In addition, an enraged sculpture of the Snake King challenges would-be trespassers before they board the customized trains. An adjacent room features a snake habitat where guests can search for and observe a variety of snake species within. Themed objects and branches form an environment for which the snakes are able to writhe and slither. Informative signage helps educate riders on the types of snakes within.

Phil Hillary, manager of



Busch Gardens Tampa's Cobra's Curse begins with a unique vertical lift (left). Once the train clears the second lift, the trains switch to free spin mode (right), with the spinning cars darting over spectator walkways (above). AT/GARY SLADE



zoological operations, told *Amusement Today*, "We were brought in when it was fleshed out that it would be a snake-based ride. They knew they wanted a new ride, and our direction from (CEO) Joel Manby is that all new rides should have an animal element to them."

Hillary added, "I've loved animals my whole life. My part of the zoo is over reptiles, kangaroos and birds. The fact they decided to make a ride that allowed us to share our love for snakes — which is oftentimes a vilified animal — it

was really exciting for us. You have people who are very inquisitive about reptiles and those that have been taught their whole life to fear them, so this is an awesome platform for us to bring in people who might be more ride centric, and be able to share what we think are really cool animals."

Hillary reported (with a wink) that there is a way for guests to bypass the exhibit if they have a hyperphobia of snakes.

Busch Gardens/SeaWorld Entertainment partnered with The Producers Group (Los

Angeles) as the theming evolved. Bob Chambers, co-CEO for The Producers Group (TPG), said, "TPG's role on Cobra's Curse was show producer and media producer. We have a pretty long history with Anthony Esparza, the chief creative officer of SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment. Plus, we have worked with Brian Morrow, the VP of creative development as well. We were excited to be chosen to work on this challenging project, and to be involved from the early stages through construction to grand opening."

"The most exciting aspect about working on Cobra's Curse was that Busch Gardens Tampa and SeaWorld wanted to do something new and different at the park," said Andrew Rubio, TPG project manager on Cobra's Curse. "They wanted to create an immersive guest experience and push the envelope for theming on this attraction. This was the first time that Busch Gardens was willing to take a chance on creating something very different from what they had in their park."

Once through the queue to be seated and locked in, eight passengers set course on a two-car train. Directly forward is a one-two punch of "cool factor." A vertical elevator lift is utilized rather than a traditional chain lift. Once at the top of the 70-foot lift, riders stare directly into the gaze of an enormous sculpture of the Snake King. Soon, guests are tilted toward the threatening serpent in an outwardly banked maneuver. A large swooping drop zips the train to its top speed of 40 mph. Appropriately fitting, the track layout is very sinuous, slithering through multiple curves.

Upon entering a block brake, things change. As the trains move forward, the seats rotate to a backward position before snaking through

► See COBRA, page 7

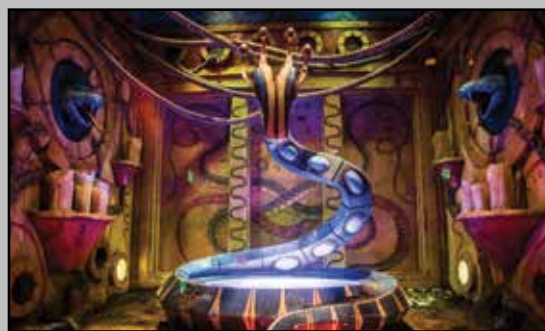
The Producers Group brings expertise to U.S. and beyond

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — "The Producers Group [TPG] is a company lead and staffed by individuals who have real life, real practical knowledge on how to get the job done," said Edward S. Marks, executive producer and co-CEO of The Producers Group. Based in Los Angeles, the company also has international offices in Shanghai China and Dubai UAE.

The company celebrated its fifth anniversary recently, however the principals have more than 75 years of combined experience.

Two major projects with the Busch and SeaWorld Entertainment companies include Mako at SeaWorld Orlando and Cobra's Curse at Busch Gardens Tampa.

Rob Palmer, producer for Cobra's Curse, was excited to work with the Busch team. "The project really came alive during on-site programming. It was the culmination of years of hard work and coordination. Watching it come to life, knowing what the final guest experience will be



— it's inspiring." Palmer added, "The idea for the giant snake icon was the brainchild of Brian Morrow. It is such a fantastic, creative addition to the ride when

guests come face to face with the snake god."

Soon to open are Step-Up Dubai: All In! at Motiongate Dubai and the Dabangg Stunt

The Producers Group provided Busch Gardens Tampa with creative theming details for its new Cobra's Curse spinning coaster. Above, while in the queue, a wall of hieroglyphics comes to life and a sculpture of the Snake King becomes menacing. Left, the ride's main entry. COURTESY BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA

Spectacular at Bollywood Parks Dubai.

The company provides consulting, design and production services to the theme park in-

dustry. TPG specializes in a variety of media-driven, IP-based attractions including dark rides, nighttime spectaculars, parades, lagoon shows, 5D theater shows and other types of attractions.

"We are experts in dealing with complex attractions all around the world," said Andrew Rubio, project manager.

The Producers Group works with several clients, including Disney and Universal Studios. In addition to theme park operators, TPG works with developers around the world.

"The Producers Group is a different type of design and production firm," said Bob Chambers, executive producer and co-CEO. "Our roots are in production first, and we are known for creating attractions that will see an opening day. It gives us a unique perspective. Even when we were in design, we were thinking about how the production could go more smoothly and how we could improve the guest experience."

•producers-group.com

► COBRA

Continued from page 6

a round of banked turns. Following this, a tire-driven lift takes the trains to an elevated height once more, with riders still facing backward.

The ride's third act truly makes Cobra's Curse a signature coaster. Once off the lift, the cars are free spinning. Like most spinning coasters, the weight distribution causes each ride to be different than one taken before. Here, riders may just find themselves facing family and friends in the adjoined car. Once back in the station, cars are positioned back in the forward direction before unloading.

"When we were developing Cobra's Curse, we were just about to open Falcon's Fury. That's a great ride for thrill-seekers. We wanted something that would be thrilling for the whole family," said Jeff Hornick, senior director of design engineering. "It's also a great complement to the seven other coasters we have here at the park.

"The experience truly starts when you set foot in

the queue. It's the most story-driven ride we have here at Busch Gardens," added Hornick. "The story behind Cobra's Curse is 2,000 years ago in this area of Egypt, the villagers at the time worshipped a Snake King and built idols to it. Eventually the Snake King's power grew too great and turned against the people. The villagers chopped off the heads of all the idols and moved on. Now, the archeological dig team uncovers the secrets."

"The design team has done a great job of continued mystery around every corner," said Hillary. "As you come down through the chamber, you never quite know what is around the corner. You can learn what this archeological dig is supposed to be about. It's the best display for snakes we've ever had."

Being the artistic craftsmen that they are, the Busch team relies on its legendary strength of incorporating the non-rider with the attrac-

tion. As the trains of screaming thrill-seekers dart around the rails, onlookers can move about within the attraction to fully watch the entire ride. The course takes riders above and below the spectators by use of elevated stunts and excavated canyons.

"We have had a great longstanding relationship with Mack Rides over the years," said Hornick. "When we were developing Cobra's Curse, we looked to the industry for experts in spin-

ning coasters. We had ridden a number of them out there and we wanted to set the bar higher and really elevate that experience. We partnered with Mack Rides to develop a number of unique elements that have never been put together for a roller coaster before. The ride vehicles have a completely new design that look like a mine train. They are staring face to fang at the top of the elevator lift. It's a spectacular experience for the guests."

FAST FACTS

Type

Spinning Coaster
featuring vertical lift

Height/Length/Speed

70 feet/2,100 feet/40 mph

Capacity

8 riders per train,
8 trains

Ride Time

3 minutes, 30 seconds

Height Restriction

48 inches or
42 inches with adult

Queue Line

Air-conditioned queue features a snake exhibit with live snakes, interactive elements and projection mapping technology to tell the story of the Snake King

Snakes on Exhibit

Angolan Python, Gaboon Viper, Jameson's Mambas, Rhinoceros Vipers

Opened

June 17, 2016

Suppliers

Theming:
The Chambers Group
Ride: Mack Rides

the PRODUCERS GROUP
LOS ANGELES | SHANGHAI | DUBAI
THE INTERNATIONAL THEME PARK PRODUCTION COMPANY

FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TO INSTALLATION AND OPENING,
WE KEEP YOUR HIGH-TECHNOLOGY GUEST EXPERIENCE
ON SCHEDULE AND ON BUDGET.

Turn-key Design Build Vendor (DBV)
Technical | Project Management
Show Production Management
Technical Design | Documentation
IP | Owner's Representation

CRANE DANCE

JURASSIC PARK RAPIDS ADVENTURE

THE FORTUNE DIAMOND

THE SIMPSONS RIDE

OPENING 2016

COBRA'S CURSE
BUSCH GARDENS, TAMPA, FLORIDA

DABANGG
BOLLYWOOD PARKS, DUBAI

Step Up
MOTIONGATE, DUBAI

CONTACT US AT INFO@PRODUCERS-GROUP.COM

COBRA'S CURSE - BUSCH GARDENS TAMPA



FREE & FIX
YAW
COASTER



MACK
RIDES GmbH & Co KG

Learn more about our spinning rollercoaster and other attractions
Visit us at Euro Attractions Expo 2016 in Barcelona at booth 1118

© **MACK**
INTERNATIONAL™



INTERNATIONAL

► Furuvik to debut Vekoma family boomerang in 2017— Page 11 / 2016 AAE recap — Page 11

Ireland a completion of park's strategic goal

Europa-Park opens 14th European country-themed area

AT: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

RUST, Germany — Guinness stout once used an advertising campaign in the U.K. claiming “Good things come to those that wait.” Nothing could be more fitting than the opening of Ireland, Europa-Park’s 14th themed land based on a European country. Ireland is a “World for Children” in the park, and as such, one wouldn’t think the development of the area would be so challenging.

Amusement Today asked Roland Mack, co-founder of the park, why Ireland was chosen as the country to represent the new area. “It’s an island!” he immediately said. And indeed it is. The rivers that run through Europa-Park formed an island where the previous spot of Children’s World was located. “We had to reach the island through the living areas of the town,” he added. “We also had to stop for four weeks to work with a problem with the water in case of a flood. Fifteen years ago, that was a zone that no one would ever have thought possible we could do this much construction on an island.” Mack also indicated the distinctive buildings and colors factored into the choice.

Children’s World was a playground style section of the park originally built in 1990. Consisting primarily without major rides, it was one of the quieter sections of the park. This was one reason to focus attention on that particular area of the park, but not the only reason. Michael Mack, managing partner and son of Roland Mack, said it accomplished several things.



Clockwise from top left: The Mack family takes the first ride on Ba-a-a Express; fun slides intertwine with distinctive architecture; Zierer provided one of the new rides in the Ireland section and kids take the front seat of huge tractors that drive along a whimsical journey. AT/TIM BALDWIN

“Ireland finishes a strategic goal we started eight years ago,” said Michael Mack. “We wanted to offer more for the kids, and Ireland completes that. Also, the building we used for Arthur blocked off the noise to the city with a big building. The neighbors said it was so much quieter. Now with Ireland, the back of it blocks off noise for other neighbors. We also now have more indoors to offer during the winter.” He went on to comment on how

the former Children’s World was somewhat of a “lost area” as it didn’t fit the rest of the park and was less busy.

On July 12, the new area was launched with a flurry of green balloons, streamers and confetti, and even green smoke with suitable fanfare with Irish singers, dancers, musicians and performers. The Ireland area is more than 10,000 square meters and used 75 outside companies consisting of 400 workers during its construction. The walk-

ways feature more than 130,000 cobblestones (approximately 3,000 square meters).

The retheme to Ireland repurposed the area, keeping a few attractions along the way. Giant steel slides were retained, but relocated, as was a small children’s boat float and a spinning teacup style ride. New children’s rides were added, new playground activities and an indoor multi-level area for children to explore with great imagination put into the details.

The new look concentrates on Irish farming, with touches of a harbor and castle ruins. The village also features an Irish pub and detailed architecture.

In the center is the Ba-a-a Express, a roller coaster built for the youngest of children. Mack Rides supplied the coaster; ironically of which, after close to two and a half centuries in business, it is the first children’s coaster the company has pro-

► See IRELAND, page 10



ITAL
International
LLC

Major, Family and Spectacular Rides





Swing Ragoon



Bertazzon: Park Model & One-Trailer Rides



Technical Park: Park Model & One-Trailer Rides

Check out the hundreds of new and used rides at www.italintl.com

Ital International LLC | Phone: 615-383-3986 | Fax: 615-383-9244 | E-Mail: sales@italintl.com



For the 2017 season, Sweden's Gröna Lund will add Ikaros, a 95-meter-tall Sky Jump tower ride from Intamin. COURTESY GRÖNA LUND

Gröna Lund is launching a Sky Jump for 2017

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — For the 2017 season, Gröna Lund will add another white-knuckle ride to the amusement park. Ikaros will stand 95 meters tall, and will drop riders in a 90-degree angle (completely horizontal) towards the ground. Supplied by Intamin, this will be the world's second attraction of its kind and it will be unique by design.

Riders can imagine sitting in a seat, with over-the-shoulder restraints, and their legs dangling high above the beautiful city of Stockholm. Suddenly, the chair is tilting more than 90 degrees, putting riders in a totally horizontal position, facing

the ground. Then comes the drop.

When Gröna Lund opens the amusement park for the season of 2017, Ikaros will definitely challenge the courage of most visitors.

"I have pretty much experienced all that there is in an amusement park. So I can honestly say that this is one of the most terrifying drop towers in the world, but also one of the most exhilarating. The feeling of adrenalin pumping through your system as you fall towards the ground, is hard to beat. I would really recommend everyone who has the courage, to try Ikaros," says Johan Tidstrand, majority owner of Parks and Resorts Scandinavia.

Icarus arrogance became his fall

The name of this new Sky Jump is borrowed from the Greek mythology, where the master craftsman Daedalus, and his son Icarus attempted to escape their imprisonment from Minos, by constructing wings from feathers and wax. As he was flying towards his freedom, Icarus flew too close to the sun. The wax in his wings melted and he fell towards the ground. The top decoration of the drop tower will therefore consist of a golden sun, because the closer you get to the sun, the closer you get to the fall.

FAST FACTS

Name/Park	Ikaros/ Gröna Lund
Total height	95 meters
Maximum speed	90 km/h
Fall angle	More than 90 degrees
G-force	3.5
Height requirement	140 centimeters
Capacity per ride	2 gondolas with 8 seats
Ride type	Sky Jump
Manufacturer	Intamin
Opening	2017 park season

IRELAND

Continued from page 9

duced. At 80 meters in length, the gentle coaster is aimed at children three years and older and is intended to be a child's first coaster. The train seats 10 passengers, including adults. Two laps around is expected to provide an hourly capacity of 400 riders per hour. The theme, of course, fits into the fanciful sheep characters spread throughout the area.

As indicated by the Mack family, much discussion went into the tractor ride, Old MacDonald's Tractor Fun, and what kind of experience it should be.

Roland Mack said, "We finally decided we needed a visual piece and we wanted a ride where grandparents, parents and kids could ride," said Roland Mack. All new rides placed in Ireland accommodate both children and adults.

The tractors are extremely large, and families can pile in with kids in the drivers' seats. Six tractors navigate the 115-meter pathway for an hourly potential capacity of 600. When poured, the concrete trail was embedded with tire marks to give a more authentic look. The journey takes riders past many animated farm animals, all done in whimsical fashion, as well as some real vegetables being grown within the ride. The manufacturer of the ride is Metallbau Emmeln.

Dancing Dingle is a Kontiki ride by Zeirer. Placed indoors to offer a shaded attraction as well as one out of any inconvenient weather elements, the rocking boat rotates as it navigates from side to side of a curved track. The height requirement is 100 centimeters and hourly capacity is 720 per hour.

"We had a very good understanding with Zeirer with their rides in our park," said Michael Mack. "We used [Zeirer] for our drop towers in Arthur and have zero problems with them."

Sheep Rock is a rotating boat ride where passengers gently tip back and forth. Amusingly adorned at the top of the ride are humorous sheep atop a mountain. Both Sheep Rock and Spinning Dragons are built by Mack Rides.

The relocated paddle boats, as well as a Heege Tower Tow, cater to small children as well.

Various playground structures will certainly wear down active children as they climb, crawl and slide. But summariz-



Above, The new Ireland section include this heavily-themed Irish pub, for guests wanting a liquid refreshment. Below, humorous animal characters populate the Ireland section. AT/TIM BALDWIN



Other new additions to Europa-Park for 2016

- Coastality — a VR virtual reality experience on Alpen Express and Pegasus roller coaster.

- Spices — a new restaurant featuring exotic cuisine that will change quarterly throughout the season.

- Happy Family 4D — a new cinematic experience produced by Mack Media in the park's Magic Cinema, which also showcases 2015's film The Time Carousel.

ing the area into just physical capital doesn't convey the essence of what is really created here. The village area contains the relocated slides, but also offers an ingenious area called Limerick Castle where children can explore, find goblins, dive into a ball pool, climb, use a small stage area and engage in all sorts of imaginative play. The area is 30 meters tall, and encloses 600 square meters of play space. Adjacent, on the second floor is O'Mackey's Pub. Accented with all the furnishings and touches of an authentic bar, the juxtaposition to the play area is ideal. While chil-

dren scramble and have fun, parents are nearby enjoying an opportunity to relax — a brilliant formula. The indoor maze-like play area was created by Künstlerische Holzgestaltung Bergmann. An outdoor playground for very small children is called Little Lamb's Land and was supplied by Ziegler Spielgeräte.

"I think the Irish pub is a great addition," said Miriam Mack, wife of Michael Mack, at the new land's preview. "There is not a real Irish pub anywhere in this area."

Chip Cleary, former IAAPA CEO and senior consultant for Europa-Park, was surprised at the opening with one of the storefronts named after him. In tribute to his friendship and counsel to the park, Chip O'Cleary's Toys and Trains graces one of the facades.

"This was a complete surprise to me, and it was a very emotional moment that I will not ever forget," Cleary, flabbergasted, told AT. "I thank the Mack family for this over-the-top gesture and share this honor with my Europa-Park team."

Jakob Wahl, PR spokesman for the park, noted, "We even added real sheep in this area." He laughed, "If they don't work out, we'll just take them out."

Furuvik set to debut Vekoma family boomerang in 2017

AT: Andrew Mellor
amellor@amusementtoday.com

GÄVLE, Sweden — Furuvik, on Sweden's east coast, is set to debut a new family coaster in 2017 with the addition of Fireball, a Vekoma family boomerang rebound ride.

The attraction will be the first such ride in the Nordic countries to run forwards and backwards and will be the largest single investment at the park to date. It will also be the tallest and fastest coaster at Furuvik, which is part of the Parks and Resorts group.

The park consists of an amusement park, zoo, water park and concert venue and with visitor numbers rising over recent years, considerable investment is planned for the venue both in the short and long term, in all areas.

Last spring Furuvik launched two new attractions, Små Grodorna and



Gungan, which was the first step in a more extensive development of the amusement park. For 2017, Fireball will add further to the choice of rides, offering a thrilling experience for almost all the family with a minimum rider height of just 95 centimeters. The investment in the new attraction will be over SEK 30 million (\$3.5 million).

"We're constantly working to push the boundaries of what can be experienced in our parks. This is why we're particularly proud to introduce a new kind of ride. Fireball is the first roller coaster of its kind in the Nordic countries and will be perfect for Furuvik," said Parks and Resorts' majority owner Jo-



The new Fireball family boomerang rebound coaster is due to open at Furuvik in the spring of 2017. The coaster train (left) will carry up to 20 passengers.
COURTESY JORAVISION AND VEKOMA

han Tidstrand.

The length of the ride will be approximately 210 meters (689 feet) and it will reach up

to 23 meters (75 feet) at its highest point. Capacity in the single train will be 20 riders, seated in two-seater vehicles,

giving a theoretical hourly capacity of 750. Top speed will be 60 kph (37 mph).

"Furuvik is a family park with a zoo and amusement park, as well as a water park and concerts, and is continuing to grow," said Peter Osbeck, senior rides manager of Parks and Resorts. "We are therefore trying to put in attractions for younger children and family members. We already have a Schwarzkopf Jet Star coaster and a Whacky Worm style coaster so with this new coaster we will have something that is fun for everyone. Quite young children can ride it together with their parents and older children so it will add a lot to the park. Vekoma makes very nice coasters and we think this will attract a strong family audience."

A circus theme is planned for the new coaster, along with landscaping of the surrounding area, and opening is scheduled for spring next year.

Another record-breaking year for Asian Attractions Expo

AT: Andrew Mellor
amellor@amusementtoday.com

SHANGHAI, China – It was a record-breaking year once again, the sixth in a row, for the Asian Attractions Expo (AAE) in 2016 with this year's event attracting a total of 11,500 participants according to the organizers' preliminary results.

Held at the Shanghai New International Exhibition and Convention Center June 14-16, the attendee figures included 8,100 buyers, and for the sixth consecutive year, the event broke records for the size of the trade show floor and the number of exhibitors taking part. AAE also provided a comprehensive educational program and featured successful networking events at Shanghai-area attractions, including the newly opened Shanghai Disney Resort.

This year's participant numbers were the highest in the event's history and represented a 365 percent increase when compared to the last time AAE was held in Shanghai 10 years ago, a clear sign



Canadian-based Triotech's booth was once again a popular place to visit for AAE attendees. COURTESY IAAPA

of the growth in the industry in the region since then and of the current strength of the market generally around the world.

A record 414 exhibiting companies took up 12,339 net square meters of space on the show floor, creating the largest ever exhibit space at AAE, with participating companies coming from 34 nations.

The educational program also created much interest and was strongly attended, with industry leaders from around the world addressing topics such as: What's New in

Asia; Implementing Effective Human Resource Strategies; Creating Risk Management Programs and Developing a Business Recovery Strategy. The IAAPA Institute for Attractions Managers and IAAPA Safety Institute was also held and again proved popular elements of the overall event, while the Leadership Breakfast sold out with almost 300 registrants and featured a keynote address by Jim Seay, ICAE, 2016 Chairman of the IAAPA Global Safety Committee and president of Premier Rides.



Simuline provided attendees with the opportunity to try the company's X Rider simulator. COURTESY IAAPA

"Wow, Shanghai certainly proved to be a great location for Asian Attractions Expo 2016," said Paul Noland, IAAPA President and CEO. "The industry's growth in the region was on display this week with a record-breaking number of participants, buyers, and exhibitors. As I walked the show floor and listened to education speakers, it was clear the energy was high and the attendees were engaged in every aspect of the show."

Comments from partici-

pants were equally enthusiastic. At Zamperla, for example, the company's Chief Operations Officer Antonio Zamperla, commented: "The show helps us to connect with customers. It's better than last year. It's growing. We have different leads and new opportunities. China is our biggest market and we are actually building up relations for next year."

Asian Attractions Expo 2017 will be held at the Sands Exhibition and Convention Center at Marina Bay Sands Singapore, June 14-16.

\$5.5 billion destination a long-planned endeavor

Mainland China welcomes Shanghai Disney Resort's charms

AT: Dean Lamanna
dlamanna@amusementtoday.com

PUDONG, Shanghai, China — The Walt Disney Company has plenty of reasons to super-celebrate the recent opening of Shanghai Disney Resort, its first theme park-centered destination in mainland China and sixth worldwide.

More than 15 years in the planning and building, with actual construction begun in April 2011, the resort represents Disney's largest investment to date outside the U.S. and one of the biggest foreign investment projects in China's history. The completed first phase lies within a 963-acre parcel (about 11 times the size of Disneyland in California), with additional land available to accommodate future expansion — including an additional theme park or two.

The resort has been realized through the company's long collaborative relationship with the Shanghai Municipal Government and joint venture partner Shanghai Shendi Group (SSG), and it offers a new world-class tourism draw for guests from China and around the world. The owning partnership, with shares split 57 percent SSG and 43 percent Disney, has poured more than \$5.5 billion into the project.

(Disney has retained a 70 percent stake in the resort's management company.)

"The grand opening of Shanghai Disney Resort is one of the proudest moments in the history of The Walt Disney Company," said Bob Iger, Disney chairman and CEO, at the climactic ribbon cutting and dedication on June 16. "We look forward... to sharing this extraordinary, authentically Disney, distinctly Chinese destination with the world."

On June 14, following a six-week trial run primarily for media and invited guests, a three-day lineup of parties, parades and presentations began with the global premiere of the first Mandarin production of the Broadway hit *The Lion King*. (The show is staged regularly at the 1,200-seat Walt Disney Grand Theatre, located in the Disneytown, an entertainment and retail district just outside the theme park's main gate.)

The festivities continued June 15 with a two-hour, nationally broadcast grand opening gala concert led by award-winning composer Tan Dun, known for scoring films such as *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. This was followed by a Starlight Celebration dessert party in Tomorrowland.

All of this culminated a day



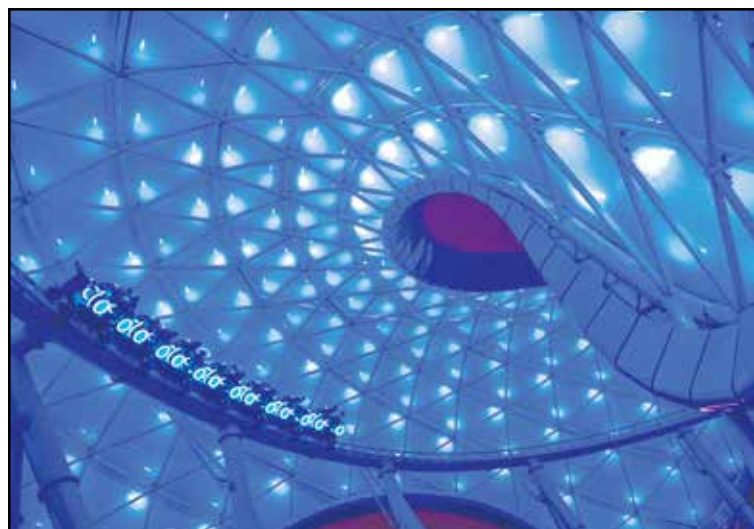
Shanghai Disney Resort's grand opening in June included a nationally broadcast performance at the foot of Enchanted Storybook Castle (right). The park's Pirates of the Caribbean (below) is the most technologically advanced Disney ride of its type, while other attractions, such as Adventure Isle (below right), distinctly reflect Chinese culture.

COURTESY WALT DISNEY PARKS AND RESORTS



A first among Disney parks, Tron Lightcycle Power Run is the centerpiece of Shanghai Disneyland's Tomorrowland section. The movie-themed launch coaster features trains comprised of two-wheeled "Lightcycles" that negotiate a soaring, undulating domed course before diving into a game world of futuristic lights, images and sound effects.

COURTESY WALT DISNEY PARKS AND RESORTS



later with the resort's official public opening and dedication ceremony in front of the Enchanted Storybook Castle, which is billed as the tallest, largest and most interactive of any Disney park castle and houses a high-tech walk-through attraction that tells the story of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves."

Tens of thousands of guests flooded into the park soon after. Once the initial excitement settles, industry observers estimate that the resort will attract between 10 and 15 million visitors in its first year.

With six themed lands, Shanghai Disneyland itself boasts a number of attraction "firsts" — all tailored to, and influenced by, Chinese culture. They include:

- **Adventure Isle**, a mysterious land with an ancient legend about a native tribe, a reptilian monster and the mighty Roaring Mountain.

- **Garden of the Twelve**

Friends, where animals of the Chinese zodiac are re-imagined as Disney and Disney-Pixar animated characters.

- **Treasure Cove**, the first pirate-themed land at a Disney park, utilizing innovative technologies in the new Pirates of the Caribbean — Battle for the Sunken Treasure ride. A stunt spectacular, called "Eye of the Storm," starring Captain Jack Sparrow, incorporates a wind tunnel to raise sparring performers into the air.

- **Tron Lightcycle Power Run**, Tomorrowland's strikingly domed centerpiece — shielding a swooping, blue LED light-traced launch coaster themed to the Disney movies of the same name; it combines high speeds, storytelling and a breathtaking view of the park.

- **Voyage to the Crystal Grotto**, an excursion into classic Disney tales of magic and imagination as it navigates the waters of Fantasyland, going beneath Enchanted Storybook Castle for a surprise, special effects-filled finale.

The resort also features a free 98-acre recreational area, complete with a lake, called Wishing Star Park. On-site accommodations are offered by the 420-room Shanghai Disneyland Hotel, an elegant Art Nouveau-inspired resort with Disney touches, and the 800-room Toy Story Hotel, which

immerses guests in a world inspired by the Disney-Pixar animated films.

Disney's Iger said his company's collaboration with SSG on the project was "a process of combining global standards and local best practices, [during which] we integrated with each other and established mutual trust and effective communication."

Shanghai Disney Resort has adopted a number of new technologies to reduce its environmental impact and supply the resort with heating, cooling and compressed air. This is anticipated to improve the property's estimated energy efficiency by 300 percent and, in a country working to solve its pollution problems, reduce greenhouse emissions from the resort by 60 percent.

Just as important to Disney, the new destination will extend the six-decade legacy of the company's parks around the globe.

"Shanghai Disney Resort is a celebration of creativity and collaboration, a triumph of imagination and innovation, and a testament to the strong partnership between Disney and China," Iger said. "It is our sincere hope that this spectacular place will inspire wonder and create joy for the people of China for generations to come."

•shanghaidisneyresort.com



GET DOWN TO BUSINESS, THEN JUST GET DOWN!



We promise to give you all kinds of opportunities to learn, network, shop and grow your knowledge – all while experiencing the rich flavors of our historic host city, New Orleans! But first you need to **BOOK** your flight, **BOOK** your room at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside and **REGISTER** online – advanced prices are available now!

Visit WWASHOW.org today to check off your registration list.

World Waterpark Association Show
October 11-14, 2016
New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.
+1-913-599-0300





WATER PARKS & RESORTS

▶ Tropical Plunge expands KI's Soak City — Page 16 / SeaWorld San Antonio opens Discovery Point — Page 18

DelGrosso's expands water park footprint in 2016

Largest single expansion project in the park's 69-year history

AT: B. Derek Shaw
bdshaw@amusementtoday.com

TIPTON, Pa. — DelGrosso's Park and Laguna Splash doubled the size of their water park area this season with a project that has been a few years in the making. Groundbreaking on the southeast side of Business Route 220 was held in February, 2015 for the \$12.5 million dollar water park and front entrance expansion. A 15-month construction phase was completed in time for the May 28 opening of their water park.

Amusement Today asked Park President Carl Crider Jr., when expanding the water park area first developed.



Crider

"The water park expansion idea started many years ago but really ramped up for us about five years ago as we saw the amusement industry continue to add more and more water attractions as a way of adding more visitors. My family recognized that trend and decided to seriously investigate the addition of a multi-million dollar water park complex in order to continue the legacy of their mother (Murf) and father (Fred) and advance DelGrosso's Park for many more years to come," he said.

Crider talked about the challenges this expansion generated: "Maintaining and operating our existing water park and relocating our ticket booths and making a temporary entrance into the park during the 2015 summer season" were the main concerns. To keep on top of daily progress, a web camera was installed, which documented everything. "Numerous owners (and one in particular) spent a lot of time pacing the bridge and get-

ting a firsthand view of construction updates so he was always on our video camera," said Crider.

The new entrance building includes a new ticket plaza, guest services office, restrooms and changing facilities along with four new food concessions. The front entrance area is also home to an eight-ton, three tiered, Italian-inspired fountain, along with numerous Roman frescos. Laguna Splash is America's only Italian-themed water park.

A pair of water elements are the centerpieces for the expansion project. They include a wave pool called Wave Oceano. This nearly 315,000-gallon pool features a hand-painted mural wall, designed by local artist, Michael Allison (Hollidaysburg, Pa.). Allison created the underwater themed painting in four weeks, which features various aquatic animals and Neptune, the Roman God of Water.

A 25-foot-tall Leaning Tower of Pisa replica is the centerpiece of the lazy river attraction, spraying water at those who pass by. River Lazio takes its name from the Italian region of Lazio, the ancestral home of Marianna Pulcino, mother of Mafalda DelGrosso and creator of the original pasta sauce recipe that led to the creation of DelGrosso pasta sauce.

In keeping with the DelGrosso Family obsession with high quality food, the new water park expansion project included four new food venues. The food selections were created via a partnership with Altoona Blair County Development Corporation and Penn State University's Center for Food Innovation and the DelGrosso Food Service team. This public-private partnership is designed to grow regional business and elevate the quality of goods and services



DelGrosso's doubled the size of its Laguna Splash water park with a \$12.5 million front entrance and water park expansion for 2016. Italian-themed Wave Oceano (315,000 gallon wave pool) and River Lazio (lazy river) that features a 25-foot-tall Leaning Tower of Pisa are the centerpieces to the project along with four new food stands and a new front entrance. COURTESY DELGROSSO'S PARK



for citizens of the region.

The four food stand options include Pasta Fresca, where park guests can create custom pasta dishes by choosing their own pasta, different meats, vegetables, and then topping it off with their choice of one of six DelGrosso sauces.

Cheesesteaks Delizioso features Philadelphia-style cheesesteaks complete with Cheez Whiz, grilled onions and chopped steak on

a Philly-style roll. Fresh cut fries will be available at this location.

Grill Americano allows guests to enjoy classic American favorites, including marinated char-grilled chicken breast sandwiches, char-grilled angus burgers, and grilled hotdogs. Fresh cut fries will also be available at this location.

Pizza Famosa rounds out the new options. This place features stromboli with sev-

eral filling choices, as well as numerous flatbread pizza combinations, including white pizza, buffalo chicken, and sweet chili BBQ chicken.

The new attractions, entrance area and food stands were built into the existing water and amusement park parking area; however, the net result ended in a gain of spaces. Crider explained, "We lost approximately 50

▶ See DELGROSSO'S, page 15

FAST FACTS**Name/Opening/Location**

Laguna Splash water park expansion/May 28, 2016/
DelGrosso's Park and Laguna Splash, Tipton, Pa.

2016 Expansion Highlights

New entrance building/plaza:
guest services office, restrooms/changing facilities; four new
food concessions; 8-ton, 3-tier plaza fountain

Wave Oceano/Wave Pool

14,604 square feet, 311,500 gallons of water,
525-person capacity

River Lazio/Lazy River

Nearly one-quarter mile long;
328,123 gallons of water; 880 person capacity;
16 feet wide with eight feet as Lazy River side and
eight feet as Crazy River side;
Crazy River incorporates a number of interactive water fea-
tures, including tipping wine barrels and vases.

Additional Staffing

150 (added to the 500 hired each season)

Project Length/Cost/Total Waterpark Acreage

15 months/\$12.5 million/8 acres, approximately
(largest investment in DelGrosso's Park 69-year history)

Contractors/Sub-Contractors

Leonard S. Fiore, Inc., General Contractor, Altoona, Pa.;
USA, Inc., Wave Pool/Lazy River Contractor, Downers Grove, Ill.;
Wizard Works Product Development Company, Inc.,
Lazy River Features Contractor, Albany, N.Y.;
Aquatics Group (div. of Weston & Sampson,
Architect of Record, Peabody, Mass.;
Fernsler Hutchinson Architecture, LLC,
Owners Rep., State College, Pa.;
Keller Engineering, Site Engineer, Hollidaysburg, Pa.

► DELGROSSO'S
Continued from page 14

parking spaces with the construction, but we purchased additional land adjoining the existing parking lot. We gained additional spaces by utilizing an area of the parking lot that had previously been used for storage."

The Laguna Splash expansion project has created nearly 130 seasonal jobs in addition to the current 550 seasonal employees that the park hires each year. Roughly half of the new employees are lifeguards for the water park expansion. In preparation for the expansion, four full-time employees were added to the staff.

DelGrosso's Park remains a free parking and free admission park. Guests without paid admission will be able to walk into the amusement park area, as well as three of the new Laguna Splash food stands and the new Laguna Gift Shop. The new water feature areas and park rides require wristbands. Fair pricing is very important to the DelGrosso

family and management. "My grandfather even included the words 'fair pricing' in his mission statement 69 years ago, and we are going to honor that by keeping the free parking and free admission into the ride park," said Crider, Jr.

Scott Crider, vice president of Operations and third generation DelGrosso family member, is thrilled with the results. "This was the largest expansion in our company's history. I am proud that my family had the foresight to take the risk to make this investment to carry on the legacy of what my grandpar-

ents started in 1947. We are a showcase for family fun and famous food in central Pennsylvania."

"When you add the sum of the parts, you get a whole, wonderful, exciting attraction that should make those who participated in its construction proud. We could not have taken on a project like this without the support of my family and our staff who embraced the changes and challenges that come along with such a large venture," said Crider, Jr., eldest of Ferdinand and Mafalda DelGrosso's 23 grandchildren.

BIG SQUIRT!
WATER SQUIRT TOY

WHAT DO YOU SELL FOR
FUN?

bigsquirt.com

Gift Shop • Waterpark • Amusement • Resort
Redemption • Carnival • Events/Games • Parks & Rec

GET A FREE SAMPLE at
www.bigsquirt.com/freesample
or call 1-888-388-8872

Big Squirt! Inc.
1741 Torrance Blvd., Ste. D
Torrance, CA 90501



We'll give your guests'
taste buds a thrill.

Your hungry guests will flip over pulled-pork sandwiches featuring our world-famous Montgomery Inn Barbecue Sauce.



WWW.MONTGOMERYINN.COM

Tropical Plunge slide complex expands Kings Island's Soak City

AT: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

MASON, Ohio — A simple observation will tell the story: Cedar Fair is finding big success in the six-slide complex manufactured by WhiteWater West. So far, there have been multiple installations of similar arrangements at sister parks within the chain. Typically, they consist of three drop capsule slides and an assortment of tube slides.

"The general concept is similar, but a little different and unique to each park," says Erica Rowcliff, manager, Rides & Park Services. At Kings Island, the installation is titled Tropical Plunge.

When asked why this particular style of installation appears to be resonating with Cedar Fair, Rowcliff told *Amusement Today*, "It is so large and offers a variety of ride experiences, whether it be on the tube slides or the body slides. I think that is something that is a great addition to any of the water parks in our company."

Tropical Plunge's highest thrill comes from the drop capsule slides. Positioned at the top level of the 65-foot tower, this popular slide experience delivers thrills by riders entering chambers placed at the top of the near-vertical slides. Once the Aqua Launch capsule is closed, it is mere seconds before the floor drops

out causing thrill-seekers to plummet onto the slide and zip through translucent tubes that feature many curves and flat loops.

"Our guests are loving it," said Rowecliff. "They go up there – and it's new for this [region] – and they freak out for a second looking straight down. Once that door goes, you're gone."

One tube is enclosed that features four 360-degree turns along the 449-foot journey. Two others feature dramatic plunges at the finale of the chute — one a double-down and the other a large, high-speed plunge. These dueling slides are 337 feet in length.

"Constrictor is the enclosed one," said Kaci Overly, area manager for Soak City. "It's constantly turning 360s. You can ride single or double in all three tube slides."

"The other two turn on themselves and have these cool pieces that people think light up," added Amanda Onderko, area supervisor. "People think there are lights in them, but what it actually is are clear colored strips in the fiberglass. It's a cool 'lighting' feature."

The one with the big drop at the end is our most popular tube slide," said Overly.

With this addition, Soak City now boasts a total of 36 slides, two wave pools, two coves, a lagoon and an action river.



Tropical Plunge is a complex comprised of six new slides: three feature body slides with drop capsules, while the other three utilize single and double tubes.

AT/TIM BALDWIN, JEFFREY SEIFERT



"Our guests have told us this addition is so unique and different than the other slides we have to offer," said Rowcliff. "The sheer height and the sheer dynamics of the different rides...having that drop floor is so totally

different than any of our other attractions. They have told us this addition is exciting for them. It's unique."

Kings Island originally opened the water park in 1989 as WaterWorks. It was included in the price of admission to the theme park and had a handful of attractions on 12 acres. At that time, it would have been virtually impossible to imagine the size of the property today, now having grown to 35 acres. Of note, a few of the original slides are still a part of Soak City.

New car plaza

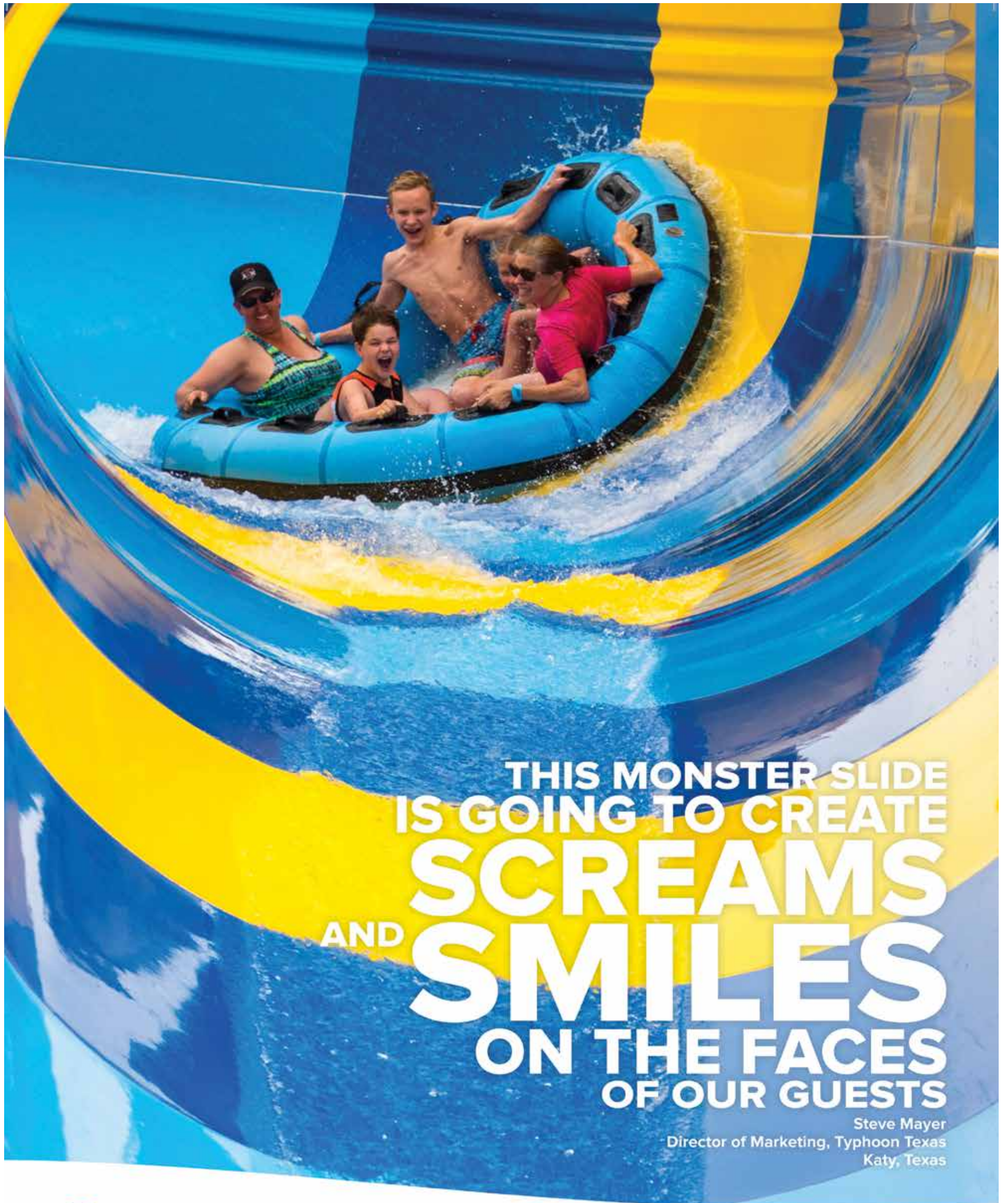
While not necessarily a big addition in terms of marketing advertisement, the theme park has also invested in a new car plaza entrance, which will serve Kings Island well into the future.

Working with the City



Kings Island's new entry plaza increases ease and throughput for arriving guests, and it includes automated lanes for season pass holders. COURTESY KINGS ISLAND

of Mason, the park team has enjoyed a renovation of Kings Island Drive which took place prior to the opening of the 2016 season. Replacing the outdated entrance toll plaza is a more welcoming park entrance with 13 new lanes, built on the north end of the parking lot, creating a much-improved traffic flow. The new entrance replaces the previous north and south toll plazas. Particularly popular are the self-automated lanes where visitors with season passes can quickly gain access through gates activated by scanning passes.



THIS MONSTER SLIDE
IS GOING TO CREATE
SCREAMS
AND
SMILES
ON THE FACES
OF OUR GUESTS

Steve Mayer
Director of Marketing, Typhoon Texas
Katy, Texas

SeaWorld San Antonio opens interactive Discovery Point

AT: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — The SeaWorld team accomplished something revolutionary in July of 2000. With Orlando being a year-round destination — and open daily — the concept of an all-inclusive theme park attraction was like nothing ever seen before. With limited attendance, park guests to Discovery Cove were able to have animal encounters, including swimming with dolphins, as part of their day's experience. Food, towels, and several amenities were all included. Even today, it is a thriving success.

The next step for SeaWorld was figuring out how to modify this experience for its sister parks that don't have quite the tourist influx that Orlando sees. SeaWorld San Antonio has marvelously accepted that challenge with the new Discovery Point, the largest capital investment in the park's history.

Since opening in 1988, the San Antonio park has grown and evolved. With the park's new water park, Aquatica, being adjacent to SeaWorld, as well as now being a separate gate, the grand entrance has two admission gates beyond the portal, one for the sea life park, and one for the water park. Interestingly, due to its atypical shape and layout, the property causes SeaWorld guests to find the new Discovery Point technically doesn't reside within the boundaries of either. Granted, guests arriving to the facility have plans to visit one park or the other. This loose flexibility allows visitors to either property to step into Discovery Point, which stands further to the left from the grand entrance.

"We put out a campaign that told people they could experience Discovery Point in two ways," said Lindsey Campbell, public relations manager. "We wanted to eliminate any confusion that you needed a separate ticket for Discovery Point. You can see the dolphins from one side of the habitat and watch them in the underwater viewing, and we have zoo staff that tell you about the animals. The only pay side is for the interaction."



Casual observers into the area find Discovery Point has much to offer for a short period of time. The key focus is the new dolphin habitat that has doubled in size, has a more aesthetic thematic appearance, and now offers an all-new underwater viewing area.

"Most of a dolphin's life is spent underwater, so why not give guests the opportunity to view them to see what a dolphin is all about," Steve Aibel, assistant curator at Discover Cove, told *Amusement Today*.

For the first time in Texas, individuals can have a nose-to-nose dolphin encounter. The interactive sessions are limited, requiring reservations. Once arranged, the encounter includes the use of wetsuits, changing facilities, and in-the-water experiences with dolphins. As in Orlando, the real thrill is being able to get up close and actually swim and ride along with a dolphin.

"You'll be able to touch them and see what they feel like; you'll be able to hear them and experience a deep water interaction," said Aibel. "I saw people swimming with killer whales in 1986, and I went home and said 'That's it! I have to do that some time in my life.' All our ambassadors are here to make an ani-



All guests can enjoy the underwater viewing, as seen on the left. At right, guest encounters include beluga whales in addition to dolphin experiences.

AT/JEFFREY SEIFERT; COURTESY SEAWORLD



Above, SeaWorld San Antonio Discovery Point guests enter the encounter habitat at a beautiful new beach front. Below left, up close and personal experiences are enjoyed with the marine life. At right, guests engage in touching, feeding and swimming with dolphins.

AT/TIM BALDWIN, JEFFREY SEIFERT

mal's life better. And we are sharing all that knowledge and education with the public. We are showing the public what these animals are about and what they need."

For other options, Discovery Point is also the hub for sea lion and beluga whale interaction programs. Interactions with the sea life range from \$125 to \$155 per person.

Also nearby, Explorer's Reef went through a renovation during the 13-month construction process of Discovery Point. The updated

coral aquarium features multiple viewing areas of popular sharks and 350 species of fish. In all, Explorer's Reef contains 750,000 gallons of water.

The dolphin lagoon setting is beautifully constructed and includes a sandy beach as guests enter the shallow end for their interaction. Adding to the tropical ambience is landscaping comprised of 80 different species ranging from native trees and palms to tropical ferns and bamboo — more than 7,100 plants in

all, SeaWorld said. A variety of shells, natural materials and recycled glass and stone were used as building materials throughout the area.

"As a world leader in animal care and conservation education, we are revolutionizing the way our guests learn about marine animals and ocean health," said Carl Lum, SeaWorld San Antonio's president. "Now more than ever, we're creating experiences that can inspire and change minds, hearts and lives forever."



WE WERE IN THE BLACK WITHIN THE FIRST YEAR

Kevin Abbate, Parks and Recreation Director
Sailfish Splash Waterpark,
Martin County, FL





Artist's rendering of the newly planned \$150 million Great Wolf Lodge in LaGrange, Georgia.
COURTESY GREAT WOLF RESORTS

Great Wolf Lodge Georgia planned

MADISON, Wisc. — Great Wolf Resorts Inc. announced that it is expanding its paw print into the Peach State.

Great Wolf Lodge plans to open its 15th property in LaGrange, Ga., in 2018. The centerpiece of the resort will be a 93,000-square-foot indoor water park. Specific attractions have not yet been announced but signature lodge attractions such as the water play structure, Fort Mackenzie, are expected to be included, along with a wave pool, lazy river and kids play areas. Guests can also expect multiple thrill slides, typical of a Great Wolf Lodge, such as family raft rides, tornado slides and/or bowl slides.

The announcement was made on Great Wolf's Twitter page saying: "America's largest family of indoor water park resorts is coming to LaGrange, Georgia! Great Wolf Lodge will soon offer families of the southeast an amazing family getaway destination."

Great Wolf is investing more than \$150 million in the 456-room resort which will feature the usual assortment of entertainment options that have made Great Wolf Lodges so successful. Attractions will include:

- **Great Wolf Adventure Park** — a full service family entertainment center, complete with over 40,000 square feet of fun featuring Howlers Peak Ropes Course, a multi-level climbing attraction, and Howl in One indoor miniature golf, Ten Paw Alley mini bowling and several new attractions exclusive to this resort;

- **MagiQuest**, — the brand's exclusive live-action, interactive game complete with magic wands that takes place throughout the resort;

- **Scooops Kid Spa**, offering ice cream-themed manicures and pedicures;

- Many children's activities including Yoga Tails, the Forest Friends Show, Wiley the Wolf and his character friends, and more as part of the resort's daily **Great Wolf Kids Program**; and

- **Story Time**, a Great Wolf Lodge tradition by the fireplace in the Grand Lobby that brings everyone together in their pajamas each evening.

As is typical for these properties, Great Wolf Lodge Georgia will cater not only to families, but also meeting and event planners with 16,000 square feet of flexible conference space that includes built-in audio and video technology.

Admission to the water park will be exclusive to those guests staying at the resort and is included with each room reservation.

Great Wolf Lodge Georgia will be located in LaGrange, Georgia, off I-85, just over an hour's drive from the Atlanta airport. LaGrange is close to West Point Lake, a 26,000 square-foot reservoir with 500 miles of shoreline that is popular with water sports enthusiasts. The LaGrange/West Point area is also home to the first North American Kia automotive manufacturing facility.

Great Wolf Resorts is opening its 14th property in Colorado Springs, Colorado, later this year. Great Wolf Lodge Georgia will be the company's 15th resort in North America. It is expected to open in 2018.

Great Wolf Lodge previously planned a resort in Peachtree, Ga., in 2015, but city officials voted down the proposal.

—Jeffrey Seifert



NEWS SPLASH

COMPILED: Jeffrey L. Seifert
jseifert@amusementtoday.com

Killens Pond State Park in Felton, Del., unveiled a \$3 million slide upgrade to the **Killens Pond Water Park**. A new 54-foot slide tower features two spiral slides and two speed slides. The new complex replaces older slides that were about half the height of the new slide tower. The new slides should help rejuvenate the park by providing attractions that appeal to older teens and adults. The older slides had fallen out of favor and guest attendance had started to wain. The state park is in the midst of a multi-year, five-phase plan for enhancements, with the water slide addition being part of phase one. The second phase will likely consist of a splash pad for smaller children.

The former **Hawaiian Falls Water Park** in White Settlement, Texas, reopened July 1 as **Splash Dayz Water Park**. Formerly a joint venture of Hawaiian Falls and the city of White Settlement, the city terminated the agreement earlier this year after the city claimed Hawaiian Falls owed more than \$900,000 in lease payments. Hawaiian Falls says the park had been operating at a loss since it opened in 2014, but the company had been making strides at improving the financial performance of the park and they were determined to work with the city to find a long-term solution. Following the lease termination, the city assumed control of the park and began making preparations to reopen it for the summer. The event center is also open for weddings and community gatherings with Z's Cafe and Catering of Fort Worth providing food service at both the event center and the park. The park will be open daily through August 21, then weekends only through Labor Day. Both the event center and a 20,000-square-foot indoor arcade were designed to be operated year round, but the city has not announced any plans for those facilities beyond Labor Day.

A proposed water park in Manatee, Fla., is meeting with objections from local residents. Citizens of Manatee County have banded together and formed a protest group to express a number of concerns over the construction of **Lost Lagoon** on a 20-acre parcel of land. Along with usual issues of increased traffic and noise, residents also question the ability of the developer to build what is termed a "world class" water park, including a ropes course, wave pool, and multiple slides on a mere 20-acre plot of land. The fear is that the park will not be successful, file for bankruptcy, and the county will be left with a failed water park on its hands.

Residents also believe the proposed park is too close to Tampa's **Adventure Island** and cannot compete with the large water park owned and operated by **SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment**. In its 2015 annual report SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment company reported \$2.44 billion in assets. Adventure Island has been the go-to water park for Tampa-area residents and tourists for 36 years.

The seemingly land-locked **Knott's Berry Farm** in Buena Park, Calif., plans to purchase 1.1 acres of developed property to allow for a \$5 million expansion of its **Soak City** water park. The parcel is in the 8100 block of Stanton Ave. and appears to house a couple of buildings right next to the park's existing parking lot. Plans call for the buildings to be demolished to expand parking. The Soak City expansion would occupy the southeast portion of the existing Knott's parking lot. Initial plans show a multi-slide tower, similar to, but slightly larger than what has been added to other Cedar Fair properties. Two of the buildings appear to be already vacant, and aerial photos show parts of the removed Screamin' Swing ride stored in one of the building's parking lots.

The pool venue built for the U.S. Swimming trials at the **CenturyLink Center** in Omaha, Nebraska, used **Neptune Benson** products to provide the filtration system. Neptune Benson and its Defender filter and ETS-UV disinfection products filtered and disinfected the water at this year's U.S. Swimming trials held in Omaha, Nebraska. The temporary pools were installed in the existing CenturyLink arena and Spear Corporation, Benson's partner, installed Defender Regenerative Media Filters and ETS-UV disinfection systems on pre-made skids so they could be easily installed for the event, then removed once the competition was complete.

At the other end of the spectrum, the **U.S. National Whitewater Center** in Charlotte, N.C., has been closed after officials detected high levels of a deadly amoeba. *Naegleria fowleri* is an amoeba that can enter the body when water is forced up the nose such as when swimmers jump into the water or overturn their kayak, canoe or raft. In June, an Ohio teenager died a week after returning from a rafting trip at the Whitewater Center. The commonly called "brain-eating amoeba," enters the nasal cavity then works its way into the brain where it can cause a lethal infection. The disease is rare, and is more common among young males. It is not known whether young males are more susceptible to the amoeba or if they are just more likely to engage in activities that allow the amoeba to enter the nasal passages. The amoeba thrives in warm bodies of water and is common in the southern states. Infections tend to occur in the warmest months of the year.

The Whitewater Center does clean the water with ultraviolet radiation and chlorine, but because the waterways are made to look natural, they collect dirt and debris from the banks which can interfere with the sanitation process. Dirt in the water made it turbid or murky and if the UV light cannot penetrate the water, it cannot kill pathogens. A plan to clean the water channel is underway.



PADDING

ALL TYPES OF SLIDE & POOL SIDE PADDING



PADDING FOR ANY LOCATION



WATER TRAMPOLINES



TUBES



FLOATATION COLLARS



INLINE RAFTS



UPHILL RAFTS



ROUND RAFTS



RAFTS



SIDEWINDER BUMPER



SIDEWINDER TUBES

+1(513) 829-5533
FAX +1(513) 892-7466
ZEBEC@ZEBEC.COM
WWW.ZEBEC.COM



Heavy-Duty Single, Double, Tear-Drop, 3 and 4 Person Clover Tubes made in USA with extra heavy material and overlapped, heat-welded seams

HEAVY DUTY TUBES



Diamond Raft



BUMPER BOAT TUBES



INFLATABLE BARRIERS



HT Heavy Triple Tube



RAPID RIVER RAFT



FOAM MATS



SNOW TUBES & RAFTS

LILY PAD WALK



COMPLETE LILY PAD WALK SETUP
• FOAM Lily Floats
• Overhead Netting
• Entry Pool Side Padding



PLAY NETTING



ROPE & NETTING



PARKS, FAIRS & ATTRACTIONS

▶ Six Flags summer products offer wet and dry — Pages 26, 27 / Fairs — Pages 28-32

'Walking Dead' leads latest wave of development

Universal Studios Hollywood loses zombies, expansion plans

AT: Dean Lamanna

dlamanna@amusementtoday.com

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. — Like the familiar movie logo, the world of Universal Studios Hollywood (USH) continues to turn. And that revolution signifies ongoing evolution.

Although finally, if casually, described as a "theme park" by the end of the last century while attractions sprang up around its original Studio Tour, USH only in the last decade or so began embracing that categorization seriously — improving parking and access to its multilevel hillside backlot, repurposing structures for optimal use and adding new rides and experiences at a frenetic clip.

Cable TV giant Comcast Corp., which bought NBCUniversal in 2011, has ramped up its visioning and expenditures here and at adjoining Universal CityWalk, as well as at Universal Orlando Resort. The company's massive investment — culminating with the introduction on both coasts of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter themed lands — has paid off with an increase in theme park revenue of more than 50 percent.

With its primary push to become a world-class destination complete, USH is not content to rest on that laurel. The park is sharpening its marketing with a new, slicker logo and play-up of its status as the top tourist destination in Los Angeles as it embarks on a new five-



While unveiling a new logo (above), Universal Studios Hollywood also unleashed *The Walking Dead*, an attraction based on the AMC cable TV show. At the June media debut were (clockwise from right) a horde of zombies, key series / attraction creative force Greg Nicotero, and series actors Michael Traynor and Yvette Nicole Brown.

COURTESY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD/DAVID SPRAGUE



year expansion plan. And it continues to foster mutually profitable creative alliances with the likes of Warner Bros. and the cable TV channel AMC, with which it has just rolled out an attraction based on the monster-hit series *The Walking Dead*.

"This is a very exciting time for Universal Studios Hollywood, and as an economic leader we are excited

about the impact our revitalized theme park will continue to have on L.A.'s thriving tourism," said Larry Kurzweil, park president. "The dramatic changes that have taken place over the past five years have substantially altered the look, feel and experience of our park to redefine us as an entirely new destination, and we look forward to welcoming visitors from

around the globe."

Within the scope of its transformation, USH also has added cohesive architectural theming throughout the park that combines Old Hollywood Art Deco glamour with modern touches. This aesthetic is evident in the recently overhauled 37,000-square-foot Universal Plaza outdoor piazza and the entry portal for the 50-year-

old Studio Tour. (Last year, the tour itself rolled out a fleet of new contemporary trams.)

In the days leading up to the official unveiling of The Wizarding World of Harry Potter last spring, Comcast announced that it was spending well north of \$3 billion to acquire Glendale,

▶ See ATTRACTION, page 25



Intermark Ride Group

- Fabbri Group
- Gosetto
- Moser Rides
- Waltman Trains
- Used Ride Equipment

www.intermarkridegroup.com
TEL 615.370.9625

Creating Memories & Profitability



Moser Rides, Revolving Towers



Gosetto, Dark Rides/Fun House



Fabbri Booster 24 Seat



Turning your world upside down...
GIANT LOOP



...and Whirling it around!
TILT-A-WHIRL

PO BOX 638 • PLAINVIEW, TEXAS 79072 • (806) 293-1353 • LARSONINTL.COM

Photos courtesy of Six Flags Fiesta Texas



Cedar Point will host the annual Golden Ticket Awards, presented by *Amusement Today*, on Sept. 9-10. COURTESY CEDAR POINT

2016 Golden Ticket Awards event information, registration now online

Event includes fundraiser for National Roller Coaster Museum

SANDUSKY, Ohio — Save the date for “The Networking Event of the Year!” The red carpet will be rolled out for the amusement industry at the beautiful Cedar Point amusement park and resort in Sandusky, Ohio, for this year’s “don’t miss”

event on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 9-10. Visit with long time industry friends and enjoy meeting new colleagues during *Amusement Today’s* annual Golden Ticket Awards. The complete itinerary, registration and hotel information are now available

at: GoldenTicketAwards.com.

The Golden Ticket Awards event will officially kick off on Friday, Sept. 9, with specialty tours of Cedar Point, networking opportunities, a festive cocktail reception and Chef’s Table Food Feast. On Saturday, Sept. 10, attendees will enjoy play time in the park, an optional – and unique – Lake Erie cruise with amazing vantage points of Cedar Point (proceeds of the \$75.00 ticket price will benefit the National Roller Coaster Museum & Archives) and finally the awards show itself, which will be an Academy Awards theme... literally walk the red carpet and dress the part if you wish!

To check out the itinerary and hotel information for the Golden Ticket Awards, as well as to register, please log on to GoldenTicketAwards.com. This event is reserved for working professionals in the amusement industry. Representatives from parks and location-based attractions, ride manufacturers and suppliers will come together to network and celebrate another industry season.

The lakeside Hotel Breakers at Cedar Point will serve as the host hotel for the event. Please refer to GoldenTicketAwards.com for specific information and rates.

This is the 19th annual year for the Golden Ticket Awards; they are presented to the “Best of the Best” in the amusement industry and are calculated from an international poll conducted by *Amusement Today*.

Complete results of the 2016 Golden Ticket Award winners will be released on GoldenTicketAwards.com and AmusementToday.com at the close of the awards ceremony.

► ATTRACTION

Continued from page 22

Calif.-based DreamWorks Animation — whose film properties, including *Kung Fu Panda* and *Shrek*, will bolster the attractions potential not only of USH but of Universal parks existing and proposed worldwide.

The lively 'Dead'

USH launched its next phase of post-Harry Potter development in earnest July 4 with the official opening of *The Walking Dead*, a permanent, daytime walk-through attraction. The immersive experience brings guests face-to-face with hordes of zombie walkers and some of the living characters from the show.

To elevate the authenticity of the immersive experience, the park partnered with the award-winning TV program's creative team, including visionary executive producer and director Greg Nicotero and his special effects company, KNB Efx.

"After six years of working on *The Walking Dead* [TV series], we have this great opportunity to take [the show] out of the studio, off the soundstage and into this amazing and truly one-of-a-kind attraction," said Nicotero at the walk-through's June 28 media preview. "I am thrilled to be a part of it."

Joining Nicotero and a number of actors from the series at the press preview were no less than 100 zombie performers who were trained and made up especially for the event.

Nicotero's crew, responsible for masterfully creating the show's realistic decaying zombies, utilized original molds to construct animatronic prosthetics and create makeup effects for the attraction's live performers. The effects are showcased and enhanced by the queasy atmospherics of the sets — rendered with the assistance of, among others, Pasadena-based Wyatt Design Group and housed in a customized theatrical structure just inside the park's gate.

USH has brought *The Walking Dead* to life previously during the park's annual Halloween Horror Nights (HHN) seasonal



Universal Studios Hollywood's *The Walking Dead* attraction features live "undead" performers as well as animatronic ones lurking within darkly creepy sets.

COURTESY UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD



event, which is geared toward teens and adults. The new year-round experience, which has a similar degree of extended, graphically gory intensity and is not recommended for visitors under age 13, represents untested "terror"-tury for a regular park attraction — though the Studio Tour historically has featured some scary moments.

Stepping in to raise the fright factor at the park's HHN event this fall will be a new maze based on the classic 1973 horror film *The Exorcist*. It promises a host of head-spinning, supernaturally-flavored live horror effects, including (ack!) smells. The attraction represents another intellectual property collaboration between Universal Creative and Warner Bros. following the park's success with Harry Potter.

Key to USH's general expansion over the next five years will be the relocation of most of its TV and film production facilities. This will entail the demolition of 13 smaller stages (some dating to the first half of the last century) near the attractions area of the lot and the construction of 10 larger soundstages farther east on the 400-acre property.

Speculation has been that an attraction based on the new animated film *The Secret Life of Pets* will be among the next park-specific plans announced.

Talk of the CityWalk

Next door to USH, Universal CityWalk is undergo-

ing the biggest revitalization in its 23-year history. The landmark urban entertainment complex is introducing new eateries and shops while undertaking a state-of-the-art renovation of its 18-screen / Imax 3D movie theater.

The dancing water fountain at the heart of the promenade recently got a makeover from Los Angeles-based WET, designer of the spectacular Fountains of Bellagio in Las Vegas and The Dubai Fountain at the base of the Burj Khalifa skyscraper in the U.A.E. The choreographed display incorporates over 230 individual water jets illuminated by programmable LED lights.

Dining options abound with recent or soon-to-be-introduced offerings, such as LudoBird, featuring the famous fried chicken of world-renowned and award-winning Chef Ludo Lefebvre; Blaze Fast Fire'd Pizza, a fast-casual artisanal pizza place; and Dongpo Kitchen, serving authentic Sichuan and traditional Chinese fare.

CityWalk's varied menu also will include two newcomers to the L.A. market: Jimmy Buffett's celebrated, Caribbean-themed Margaritaville and the Portland, Ore.-originated Voodoo Doughnut. Both are slated to open this fall.

• universalstudioshollywood.com

AMUSEMENT MARKET PLACE



SERVING THE AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY
WITH SPECIALTY STEEL FABRICATION

Phone 801.489.3652

Fax 801.489.5852

P.O. Box 686

Springville Utah, 84663

WWW.INTERMOUNTAINLIFT.COM

Aerial Tramway Design & Manufacture



SkyTrans Mfg., L.L.C.

106 Burnham Intervale Road

Contoocook, N.H. 03229

Phone: (603) 746-4446 Fax: (603) 746-4447

- Specializing in sales & refurbishment of used aerial tramways
- Replacement parts for aerial tramways and amusement rides
- New ride control systems and modifications
- Rebuilt used chairlifts - one year guarantee

Parts and Service

(603) 746-4446

Jerry Pendleton or Dan Pendleton

WAPELLO is the One!

Built in the USA to Your Needs!



Let Wapello high-performance products go to work for you. Give us a call or write today. Custom sizes, shapes and colors.

Wapello Fabrications Company
201 North Second Street • Wapello, IA 52653
(319) 523-8371 • wafabco@louisacom.net



Amusement TODAY Your Amusement Industry NEWS Leader

Follow us:



Keep our amusement park industry strong!
Buy products and services from these suppliers.

Six Flags parks offer new summer product: wet and dry

AT: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

NORTH AMERICA — Continuing Six Flags coverage from our previous two issues, the chain of parks continues to roll out new product even as summer continues.

Six Flags Over Texas Arlington, Texas

Debuting Memorial Day weekend, two new rides from Zamperla beef up the Gotham City section of the park. With a longstanding relationship between Six Flags and Zamperla, this marks a departure away from the typical purchases of family and children's rides to new, bigger thrill rides. The Endeavor 48 is the first ride of its kind ever built. Called Catwoman Whip, the spinning wheel eventually raises up to a near-vertical position. Suspended below with feet hanging, riders sit side by side on the new thriller.

"It's somewhat reminiscent of the old Spinnaker (Schwarzkopf Enterprise) ride we had in the center of the park," said Steve Martindale, park president. "It's an enhanced experience from that. Younger people don't remember it, but there were a lot of people over the years."

Even taller, Riddler Revenge stands 90 feet tall, but the swinging pendulum soars up to 147 feet in the air. Forty passengers rotate to experience various views, whether it is looking skyward, seeing themselves going beyond 90 degrees with the horizon, or gazing straight down at the earth below.

"We chose these rides for several reasons. Obviously they are great, thrilling rides, but we were looking for something different than our other parks. I was looking at something that had good capacity for a flat ride," said Martindale. "I came across these rides, and I couldn't find them (in this region) which I thought was a plus. Now we've got the very first Endeavor 48."

A previous ride (Crazy Legs, a Huss Troika) has been renamed Harley Quinn Spinsanity and has received a fresh new look. A new sound stage was added mid-summer in time for a 4th of July celebration and a new refreshment



Catwoman Whip (above), and Riddler Revenge, both from Zamperla, add capacity to Six Flags Over Texas' Gotham City lineup.
AT/TIM BALDWIN

stand was installed. Johnny Rockets, the area's principal dining option received a significant upgrade.

"The sales of our all season dining passes have just skyrocketed this year, Martindale told AT. "There's much more demand on food entrees and snacks, so we wanted to increase capacity at Johnny Rockets and at the same time refurbish and upgrade the facility. The dining room, kitchen, and food equipment have all been upgraded and have put in all new furniture." Points of sale at the counter have increased from six to 10. He feels the capacity of the restaurant has nearly doubled with the new investments.

At night, LED lights on the new rides bring a vibrancy to the corner of the park. "I wanted this area to pop at night. It really is a dead end. I wanted them to see the action in this area. The light packag-



Six Flags White Water's new Wahoo Racer (above) is one of the park's highest capacity attractions. Six Flags Over Georgia worked with Vekoma to debut Blue Hawk, after the five-inversion coaster received a serious upgrade.
COURTESY SIX FLAGS



es that Zamperla put together are amazing; they really give a sense of activity and excitement."

Six Flags Over Georgia and Six Flags Whitewater Atlanta, Ga.

Six Flags Over Georgia seems to have enjoyed a continual flow of 2016 improvements. Previously, the park had opened the new Bugs Bunny Boomtown area (replacing the Spanish section of the park) and a new DC Super Friends area, all of which added six new rides and enhanced others. An upgrade



Six Flags America introduced this Splashwater Falls play fortress to the park's popular water park.
COURTESY SIX FLAGS AMERICA

JBs Smokehouse offered a new patio bar and The New Revolution on Daredevil Dive introduced the new VR Coaster system to the U.S. With summer in full swing, the park unveiled Blue Hawk, a reimagining of the park's 1992 coaster, Ninja. The new moniker came through an online renaming voting contest, and the new experience opened June 9.

The ride reopened with two new coaster trains that feature soft-vest restraints, enhancements were made to the track for a smoother ride, and the ride was completely repainted in shiny blue with silver supports.

"Listening to the guests and revamping Ninja to Blue Hawk was the right decision, and it's paid off," said Trent Turner, marketing director. "Guests consistently talk about the noticeable change in the coaster — much smoother and seems faster than before. With two new trains, new appearance and improved ride experience, Blue Hawk is a top tier thrill ride."



Across town in Marietta, Six Flags White Water opened up Wahoo Racer, a six-lane mat racer slide. Built by WhiteWater West, the colorful new attraction stands visible from the adjacent I-75.

"Wahoo Racer is a great addition to the phenomenal lineup of slides and water rides at White water," Park President Dale Kaetzel told *Amusement Today*. "Especially important is the slide's high capacity in that we can send six riders off at once in a battle to see who the winner is. The throughput allows more of our visitors to experience the new ride."

Six Flags America Largo, Md.

As the summer began in early June, the Washington D.C. area theme park delivered a pair of new experiences. As one of three Six Flags parks to utilize the Superman-branded storyline, the Superman Ride of Steel coaster offered a VR Coaster experience.

New in the water park was Splashwater Falls. Provided by WhiteWater West, the play fortress features seven slides, dozens of geysers, jets, sprays, wheels and more. There are more than 100 play features, the granddaddy of them all being the giant tipping bucket atop the fortress.

"Splashwater Falls fits the mid-range family demographic for Six Flags America. Smaller slides and zero depth water for the youngest guests, plus open and enclosed slides for older children," said Debbie Evans, marketing director. "And, of

► See **SIX FLAGS**, page 27

►SIX FLAGS

Continued from page 26

course, the gigantic tipping bucket that everyone loves. What's more, the theming is a blend of traditional tropical elements, and special additions that give a local nod to our Chesapeake Bay region."

Later in 2016, the park will debut Holiday in the Park for the first time.

Six Flags Great America Gurnee, Ill. and Six Flags Mexico, Mexico City

Following its IAAPA win for Best New Ride, Justice League: Battle for Metropolis opened at both Six Flags Great America and Six Flags Mexico.

"We are really proud of our new ride," said Hank Salemi, park president. "In partnership with Sally, we used state-of-the-art technology to produce a new generation of dark ride that our guests have told us they love."

Learning from the previous two installations in St. Louis and Arlington in 2015, the two new rides for this

season have minor additions and enhancements, but still feature the six-person vehicles that have guests taking aim at villains, Lexbots and henchmen throughout the 3D experience. Scores are tallied and riders compare their skills at the finale of the attraction. The Justice League attractions feature Sally animatronic figures, gaming from Alterface and vehicles from Oceaneering.

Coming later in the summer was a VR Coaster experience on Six Flags Great America's Raging Bull, the popular B&M mega coaster. It was the tenth Six Flags coaster to debut the system this year.

La Ronde Montreal, Canada

"2016 is an amazing year for La Ronde, with two new family rides: Phoenix, a two passenger flying scooter type ride and Gravitor, a 40 passenger gondola, in a new section called Avenue Aventure. They are a great complement to our two new thrill attractions: The New Revolution, Canada's first virtual reality coaster, and

Vampire Backwards" said Phil Liggett, park president of La Ronde.

Four new experiences makes for a popular year with returning visitors. Phoenix, a Larson Flying Scooter is paired with a Chance Falling Star, which the park has dubbed Gravitor. Phoenix reaches a wide demographic and the interactive element to it gives the rider control of their level of thrill. Gravitor provides riders with the feeling of weightlessness as they are thrust in a circular arc.

Using two existing rides, the park has also offered new variations. Goliath is the park's B&M mega coaster, and the VR Coaster option is now available for that ride. The theme of The New Revolution is also found at five other Six Flags parks. Six Flags also has a set of Batman The Ride trains re-worked to fly along the rails with passengers in a backward facing position. This season, La Ronde has their opportunity to market this experience. The B&M inverted coaster at the park is called Le Vampire.



Above, Phoenix, a Larson Flying Scooter, is one of four new ride experiences La Ronde is offering this season. Both Six Flags Mexico and Six Flags Great America received Justice League Battle for Metropolis, an award-winning ride from Sally Corp. COURTESY SIX FLAGS



SFGA rethemes coaster to Harley Quinn



Beginning with Six Flags Great Adventure's 2016 season and the introduction of The Joker, a new 4D, free-fly S&S coaster, Blackbeard's Lost Treasure Train was re-themed as Harley Quinn Crazy Train. The ride was re-named after DC Comics super villain, Harley Quinn. Installed in 1999, the Zierer serpentine Tivoli coaster seats 40 for a one minute, five second, 22 mph coaster ride, along its double figure eight layout. Total track length is 1,185 with a maximum height of 26 feet. The coaster located beside The Joker has a throughput of 1,250 riders per hour.




COURTESY SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE




CONGRATULATIONS


Six Flags

on your award-winning dark ride

**JUSTICE LEAGUE:
BATTLE FOR METROPOLIS**



TAKE A RIDE

SALLY
CORPORATION

The Dark Ride Specialists

JUSTICE LEAGUE and all related characters and elements are trademarks of and © DC Comics. (x16)

Two California fairs report increases

AT: Pam Sherborne
 psherborne@amusementtoday.com

DEL MAR, ALAMEDA, PLEASANTON, Calif. — The 2016 San Diego County Fair, Del Mar, and the 2016 Alameda County Fair (Pleasanton) are now history, and crowds at both fairs demonstrated that they were ready for the fair.

In fact, the San Diego County Fair, which ran June 3-July 4, set an all-time attendance record this year, drawing 1,609,481 visitors. The previous attendance record was set in 2012, with a total of 1,517,508 guests. The 2015 attendance was 1,503,538.

The 2016 Alameda County Fair ran June 15-July 4 and drew 450,806 visitors and that is above the 444,923 attendance number from last year. The fair's annual 4th of July celebration drew a crowd of 51,376 and horse racing drew 44,443.

The 2016 San Diego County Fair celebrated Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, the classic story written by Lewis Carroll. The official theme was "Mad about the Fair," and new attractions and events were

FAIRS

created to go along with it with the main theme attraction being an interactive exhibit taking guests through the "rabbit hole" and meeting some of the book characters.

Also presented was a "Hatter's Mad Tea Party," a nightly dance party. Many fair guests actually showed up in costume.

An independent midway fair, this large county fair offered a total of 83 rides brought in by 21 different ride operators. New rides were: the Chance manufactured Freestyle, and Wisdom's Monster Truck, both brought in by Ray Cammack Shows; Flipper, S & J Entertainment, and Zamperla's Happy Swing, Helm & Sons.

The largest single day attendance this year was on Sunday, July 3, when 96,501 people came through the gates.

The San Diego Fair's 67th annual Livestock Auction raised \$432,031 for 4-H and FFA youth.

Other fair facts from the

2016 San Diego County Fair are: the International Beer Festival welcomed 8,500 guests over the three-day event; the Toast of the Coast Wine Competition and Festival entertained 926 guests at two tasting sessions during the one-day event; and the event 2016 Distilled: Spirit and Cocktail Festival welcomed 1,033 guests at the one-day event.

Food facts at the San Diego fair include: Dixie's Donuts fried more than 188,000 mini donuts; Country Fair Cinnamon Rolls used 15,000 pounds of cinnamon roll flour; Corn Star grilled 50,000 ears of corn; Pink's sold more than 20,800 hot dogs; Australian Battered Potatoes used more than 14,000 pounds of potatoes; Tasti Chips used 25 tons of California-grown potatoes for chips; Grilled Cheese A-Fair cooked 600 grilled cheese sandwiches every day; and Chicken Charlie's sold 10,000 "Chicken in the Waffle on A Stick," 2,000 orders of Shrimp Fried Rice and 7,000 pounds of Kool-Aid Hot Wings.

▶ See FAIRS, page 31



Here is just a part of the midway presented by Butler Amusements at the 2016 Alameda (Calif.) County Fair, held June 15-July 4. Butler Amusements fielded over 50 rides this year including new rides the Inversion, manufactured by KMG, and the Quasar, by A.R.M. Seen in this view are the Vertigo, by A.R.M., as well as the Orbiter, by Tivoli, the Pole Position Spinning Roller Coaster by Fabbri, and the Ring of Fire by Larson International, among others. This year's fair drew 450,806 visitors, just over 2015's numbers. COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR



The Alameda (Calif.) County Fair, held June 15-July 4, presented its annual 4th of July celebration the last day of the fair. There were 51,376 visitors in attendance that day to watch the show. COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

"The #1 Leading Slide Manufacturer in America"
"World's Largest 5 Lane, One Trailer Slide - 108 Ft."

- Financing and Leasing Available
- Trades Considered
- Order Slide Bags or "New Rain" Bags
- 6 New Slides In Stock
- Have 20 Used Rides
- 90 Ft. Fiberglass Slide
- 65 Ft. Fiberglass Slide

STATE FAIR
 FUN SLIDE
 FUN SLIDE
 FUN SLIDE

FREDERIKSEN INDUSTRIES, INC.
 5212 St. Paul St.
 Tampa, Florida 33619
 (813) 628-4545
 FAX (813) 621-3679
 www.funslide.com

LED LIGHTING
 www.amusementline.com
 800-336-8977

HIGH POWER LED BULBS
 COLOR CHANGING LEDS
 STRIP & TUBE LIGHTING
 MONITORS & FLOODLIGHTS

UNIFORMS | FLAGS | LED LIGHTING

"We specialize in products that help you look your best."

CHESTNUT
AMUSEMENT LINE
 by Chestnut Identity Apparel, Inc.
 www.amusementline.com
 800-336-8977

Amusement TODAY
GOLDEN TICKET AWARDS
 2016
 Register today at
GoldenTicketAwards.com!



Follow us on Twitter!
@Rides_4U



Unlimited Thrills & Fun Available Under One Roof!



**RIDES
4U**

Supplying Amusements New to Used



221 EVANS WAY, SUITE E • SOMERVILLE, N.J. 08876
(908) 526-8009 • FAX: (908) 526-4535 • www.RIDES4U.com

MIDWAY MARKET PLACE



P.O. Box 238
Merino, CO. 80741

800-634-6097 970-522-7515 Fax: 970-522-2902

info@wisdomrides.com www.wisdomrides.com

AUDIO INNOVATORS INC.



YOUR ONE SOURCE FOR ALL DIGITAL MESSAGE REPEATERS & COMMUNICATING EQUIPMENT NEEDS.



**WATER PARK SAFETY - GO-KART PIT SAFETY - KIDDY RIDES
FRONT GATE - COASTERS - GROUP GAMES
SAFETY MESSAGES SYSTEMS OF ALL KINDS.
ALL ARE WITCH TURN-KEY.**

**WE SERVE AMUSEMENT PARKS OF ALL KINDS.
AIRPORTS, WATER PARKS, TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES.**

VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND VIDEO DEMOS
WWW.AUDIOINNOVATORS.COM

OFFICE 800.222.9929 - FAX 813.200.4600 - SALES@AUDIOINNOVATORS.COM

Whatever your Industry...
ITC
INDIANA TICKET COMPANY
Design / Quality / Security
Manufacturers of Quality Tickets For over 70 years

1-800-428-8640

- Redemption Tickets
- Admission Tickets
- Direct Thermal Tickets
- Reserved Seating
- Wristbands
- Credentials



www.muncienovelty.com
info@muncienovelty.com

A MUNCIE NOVELTY INC. COMPANY

We've got your Ticket.

TRI-COUNTY SERVICES

MIKE McDANIELS

630-717-9117
cell: 815-549-6005

Emergency Repair for
Electronic and Hydraulic Rides

1720 Aspen Lane, Joliet, Il 60433-9604
mikemcdaniels@yahoo.com

Keep our amusement park industry strong!
Buy products and services from these suppliers.



CARNIVAL LIGHTS

COMPILED: Pam Sherborne
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

Owners of **Lake City Amusement Park**, Guntersville, Ala., have shuttered the facility permanently.

Owners **Billy and Stacy Tucker** had just opened for their first season on April 15, but issued a statement last month stating: "Our apologies to our community and our customers. LCAP is closing permanently due to the fact that we lost our financial backing. We have exhausted all avenues in the search for another investor and we simply don't have the resources to carry on."

The Tuckers also own **Dixieland Amusements**, a carnival company based in Phenix City, Ala. The carnival's arsenal includes about 25 rides but can offer fairs a larger midway by booking independents. It plays a variety of county fairs and other dates throughout the year.

According to a local Alabama news agency WAAY 31, which originally had received the statement, about 50 employees are being affected by the closing.

Those who had purchased season passes were to reach out to park management to get their money refunded.

Lake City Amusement Park officials posted on its Facebook page June 27 that it was closing for a few days because of heat and a need to do maintenance for the 4th of July weekend.

Officials of the 2016 **California State Fair**, Sacramento, July 8-24, at the first of July, were hoping new midway rides, new attractions, and expanded amenities set for this year's fair would help boost attendance over 2015. Last year's fair drew 579,338 paid attendees over its 17-day run and that was a 4.1 percent increase over 2014's figure of 556,440.

New rides on **Butler Amusements** midway included the Inversion, manufactured by **KMG**, and 1001 Nachts and the Quasar, both by **A.R.M.** Butler also opened its new \$1.1 million Sky Ride, a permanent 1,315-foot attraction featuring 77, three-seat gondolas.

New attractions included both new exhibits and shows such as the new Interactive Transportation Exhibit and the new High Dive Show, New Family Fun Stage and the California State Cornhole Championship.

New amenities included more seating and added shade areas.

Despite devastating flooding in parts of Greenbrier County, the **State Fair of West Virginia**, Fairlea, will begin, as scheduled, in August.

"We had a lot of friends, family and neighbors that weren't so lucky, but here at the state fair, we only suffered minor (flood) damage," **Kelly Tuckwiller Collins**, CEO, State Fair of West Virginia, was quoted as saying last month on the Metro News site.

The State Fair of West Virginia will run from August 12-21.

Tuckwiller Collins reported that support for flood and relief efforts will be part of the 2016 fair, along with all the traditional entertainment the fair offers.

Accommodations were being made for those who would be delayed in entering ag-

ricultural items for State Fair consideration because of flooding.

Some past entrants, though, will likely not be participating at all with farm animals and crops lost in floodwaters.

"We represent the entire state of West Virginia and feel that it's important to continue this tradition," Tuckwiller Collins said.

"West Virginia's going to prove to the world that we're strong and resilient and this is a chance for us to prove that we're going to go on."

The **DuQuoin (Ill.) State Fair**, set this year for August 26-September 5, will begin charging a \$2 admission fee this summer. Visitors under age 13 will still be admitted for free.

Illinois Department of Agriculture Director **Raymond Poe** said the fee is aimed at reducing the amount of money the event loses each year.

DuQuoin Mayor **Guy Alongi** said the decision to charge a fee wasn't easy. He hopes it will help keep the fair in Southern Illinois for years to come.

The fair is holding several theme days when some guests, such as college students and veterans, will get in free with proper ID.

Parking will remain \$12 daily inside the fairgrounds and \$7 outside the grounds.

Laura Schloesser, who for the past 17 years has worked as chief of administration and external affairs at Milwaukee County Parks in Wauwatosa, Wis., has been tapped to be the new leader of **The Fairgrounds Nashville**.

Schloesser replaces **Buck Dozier**, who retired in the spring after serving as fairgrounds director for eight years.

Nashville's 117-acre fairgrounds, which includes a speedway and expo center and hosts the annual state fair, has been a source of controversy in recent years after Nashville's former mayor failed to redevelop the property. Nashvilleans voted via public referendum in 2011 to keep the status quo at the site by making it harder to ever redevelop the property.

Looking ahead, Schloesser said she has been struck by the absence of a strategic plan for the fairgrounds. She said now is the time to create one that would take into account \$12 million in future fairgrounds upgrades that are carved into the current approved city budget.

This year's **Tennessee State Fair** is set for September 9-18.

The **Nebraska State Fair**, Grand Island, August 26-September 5, will feature an array of new attractions and exhibits this year as well as the tried and true.

A focus on sustainability this year has led to the new Marketplace Sustainability Pavilion as well as a Recycled Garden Contest Display.

The fair will have an abundance of grounds entertainment: aerial and acrobatic acts, the Banana Derby, motorsports and racing pigs, among many more.

Wade Shows will provide the midway with about 40 rides including new ones to the fair such as: Rock Star and Quasar, both by **A.R.M.**; Monster Trucks and Centrifuge, by **Wisdom**; Farm Tractors, **Dalton**, and Beach Shack, **Zamperla**.

► **FAIRS**
Continued from page 28

The San Diego County Fair's July 4th fireworks show lasted 20 minutes and used 1,007 total aerial shells.

Highlights of the 2016 Alameda County Fair include: the fair's first Red, White & Brew Fest, a craft beer festival held on Saturday, July 2, that drew more than 1,300; the newly expanded Action Sports Arena featuring different shows each weekend including Extreme Rodeo, Monster Trucks and Demolition Derby; a new record-setting livestock auction took place when a pig was sold for \$108,000; and the third annual Snackdown produced a new Grand Champion for 2016 — the Churro Gelato Sandwich.

Other top Snackdown winners included the Chile Relleno Burrito, Pickled Cheese on a Stick and Deep Fried Nachos. "The Elvis," a big burger topped with peanut butter and jelly, thick-cut bacon and a fried egg, didn't take the prize, but did win a lot of foodie hearts and media attention.

Butler Amusements provided the midway with about 55 rides including some new rides to fairgoers. Those included: the Inversion, manufactured by Fabbri; the Quasar, manufactured by A.R.M.; Dalton's Quad Runner and the Wind Surfer by Wisdom Manufacturing.

Additional featured attractions at the Alameda event included the Budweiser Clydesdales, Acrobats of Hebei, China, and the Gold Star Tribute Wall, a traveling memorial to fallen soldiers.

The San Diego County Fair, Del Mar, Calif., drew a record crowd of 1,609,481 this year during its run of June 3-July 4 run. The independent midway included over 80 rides and there were another seven attractions such as the Super Bungee where an estimated 2,600 took the plunge. The largest attended day this year was on July 3, when 96,501 people packed the midway.

COURTESY SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR



Affiliated with Allied for over 30 years.

800.235.8774

www.alliedspecialty.com

At Allied Specialty Insurance
we know your business.



*We offer innovative and affordable coverage.
You can count on our 24/7 claims service.*

Proudly serving the Amusement, Entertainment
and Leisure Industries since 1983

FAST FACTS

**2016 Top 5 Rides
San Diego County Fair**

Crazy Mouse,
S & J Entertainment,
Reverchon;

Grand Wheel,
Ray Cammack Shows
Carousel Holland;

Skyride,
Ray Cammack Shows,
Seatrek;

G-Force,
Southern Cross Rides,
KMG;

Magnum,
Wood Entertainment,
Mondial

XL Group and Allied Specialty Insurance are global brands used by XL Group plc's insurance subsidiaries. Coverages are underwritten by the following XL Group plc insurance companies: Greenwich Insurance Company, Indian Harbor Insurance Company, XL Insurance America, Inc., XL Specialty Insurance Company and T.H.E. Insurance Company. Coverages not available in all jurisdictions.



America's Premier
Amusement Ride Manufacturer



1506 Fernwood Road • Winterville, OH 43953 • Phone: 740-264-6599
WWW.AMRIDES.COM



BUSINESS, SAFETY & CLASSIFIED

▶MarketWatch — Page 37 / Obituaries — Page 38 / Safety — Pages 39-42 / CLASSIFIED — Page 43

RWS & Associates acquires Binder Casting

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Emmy Award-winning New York City-based entertainment firm **RWS & Associates** (Ryan Stana, CEO and **Bruston Manuel**, COO) recently announced the acquisition of **Binder Casting**, the 12-time Artios Award-winning Broadway casting office led by industry veteran Jay Binder, along with his associates **Mark Brandon** and **Jack Bowdan**.

"We are thrilled to have Jay and his team join the RWS family," said RWS COO **Bruston Manuel**. "This acquisition is the first step of a long term strategic plan for RWS to expand into commercial theater production. This move will also position RWS to become a one-stop shop for development and production."

"RWS has built an impressive, multi-faceted entertainment company and I look forward to working with them to build upon what Binder Casting has done," said Jay Binder. "Their resources and infrastructure will be infinitely valuable to us as we look to expand our reach and we look forward to being part of the company's bright future."

With this acquisition, Binder Casting becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of RWS & Associates. Binder Casting's operations will continue seamlessly and the company will keep its midtown office location. The acquisition is effective immediately.

•rwsandassociates.com

At Universal Orlando Resort

Loews Royal Pacific Resort unveils all-new guest room design

ORLANDO, Fla. — Inspired by the adventurous spirit and exotic destinations of the Golden Age of Travel, designers have completed the renovation of guest rooms at **Loews Royal Pacific Resort** at **Universal Orlando Resort**. The new look captures the tranquil serenity and bold heritage that embodies the spirit of the islands. With its on-site location at Universal Orlando Resort, the hotel offers guests a modern sense of adventure, filled with the magic and excitement of two world-class theme parks — **Universal Studios Florida** and **Islands of Adventure**.

"Our new rooms are vibrant and luxurious, evoking the romance of traveling to the South Pacific," said Complex Managing Director **Barb Bowden**. "Combined with an extensive upgrade and renovation to the bathrooms, it is an entirely new room product for our guests to experience."

The guest rooms reflect the magic that exotic destinations in the South Pacific cast



The Loews Royal Pacific Resort has unveiled all-new guest room designs at its 1,000 room property located on the grounds of the Universal Orlando Resort. COURTESY UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

over traveler's hearts at the turn of the 20th century, as well as today. The color palette was inspired by the islands, with sandy neutrals punctuated with hints of turquoise and tangerine reminiscent of sand, water and flowers. Gray and charcoal accents tie back to the lava and harder elements of the islands. Custom furniture pieces make use of leather strapping details, metal corner guards, buckles and rivets, all elements found in vintage luggage, steamer trunks and ma-

gestic steamships. A focal point in the new rooms is the accent wall, where a custom graphic creates an art moment showcasing the flora, fauna and native motifs of the South Seas.

Guests staying at Loews Royal Pacific Resort at Universal Orlando receive an exclusive package of theme park benefits at Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure, including free Universal Express unlimited ride access to skip the regular lines in both theme parks (theme park

admission required) and early park admission. The 1,000-room hotel is located a short walk, complimentary water taxi or shuttle bus ride away from both Universal Orlando Resort theme parks. Guests also enjoy exceptional cuisine in a variety of restaurants and lounges, complimentary Wi-Fi, a weekly luau dinner and show and a lagoon-style swimming pool with private cabanas.

•loewshotels.com/
royal-pacific-resort

Legoland Florida Resort expanding solar energy collection efforts



WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — **Legoland Florida Resort** and **Tampa Electric** recently announced they are partnering on a 2-megawatt solar energy project that will produce electricity — and shade — for visitors at the popular vacation destination.

Beginning this spring/summer season, Tampa Electric started installing a canopy of solar panels over the resort's preferred parking lot, adjacent to the theme park entrance. When operational later this year, the solar photovoltaic installation is estimated to produce enough electricity to power up to 250 homes annually, while shading more than 600 vehicles. Tampa Electric will own and maintain the solar array, with all power entering TECO's electrical grid for the benefit of its more than 725,000 customers, including Legoland Florida Resort. The solar energy project is one of several ongoing environmental initiatives at the resort. In order to manage resources in a sustainable and responsible way, the resort has established a "Green Wave" committee to coordinate the efforts of multiple departments.

EUROPEAN SPARE AND REPLACEMENT PARTS IMPORTER

SINCE 1982

WAPI

NORTH AMERICAN PARTS INC.
61C AERO DRIVE,
BUFFALO, NEW YORK
USA 14225

PHONE: (716) 839-4791

FAX: (716) 839-4506

EMAIL: parts@nap-inc.com
www.nap-inc.com

The turnstile never lies.

We make the turnstile spin.



TURNSTILE
ADVERTISING

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JOHN SEEKER AT (214) 210-5981

Index Promotions expands marketing services to include parks, resorts

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — **Index Promotions**, a global promotional product and marketing agency, has officially announced the launch of its service offerings into the theme park and resorts industry. The agency, which has headquarters in Los Angeles as well as oversees offices in London and Hong Kong, specializes in the design and manufacturing of high quality premiums, promotional merchandise and

toys that advance brand marketing and sales goals. Now, their services have expanded to include theme park clientele, beginning with contracts with **Merlin Entertainment Attractions** and **Cedar Fair**.

Prior to its expansion into the theme park and resort industry, Index Promotions has serviced some of the largest brands in food, entertainment and commerce. Among its current client roster includes



Burger King, MetLife, Macy's, Aflac and Cereal Partners Worldwide (CPW). The agency's specialty in product design and creation as well as expert knowledge working with entertainment licensed properties, make expanding into the theme park and resort

arena a natural extension for the company.

"For over a decade, our agency has developed strong relationships with entertainment licensed properties, which we have strategically leveraged for our clients in a variety of marketing campaigns," said **Charlie Gaffney**, CEO of Index Promotions. "It is only natural that we broaden our customers to include theme parks, who regularly

include branded characters and popular movie icons into their sales merchandise."

A two-year veteran at Index Promotions, **Todd Israel**, was enlisted to head the agency's expansion into new distribution channels including theme parks and resorts. In addition, Israel is also spearheading the agency's entrance into the sports arena, with clients like the **San Francisco Giants**. The agency's investment is already paying dividends with a 2015 campaign with the San Francisco Giants that was recently named a PRO Award finalist under the "Best Local/Regional Campaign."

• indexpromotions.com



www.theinsco.com

Kaliff Insurance Company has been placing select risks with T.H.E. Insurance Company since 2014. As Kaliff enters their 100th year of business we look forward to our continued affiliation uniting two long standing insurance families. Combined, we have over 133 years of experience in this wonderful industry.



ThrillCorp Inc. inviting public to become investors

ORLANDO, Fla. — **ThrillCorp, Inc.**, the newly-formed company of successful attraction entrepreneur **Bill Kitchen**, announce on June 29 it is going public and inviting thrill-loving investors to "own the thrill" by investing in its newest creations, Polercoaster vertical thrill parks and SkySpire observation attractions. Kitchen previously invented and developed Skycoaster giant swings and iFly indoor skydiving venues which have hosted millions of riders and generated more than \$2 billion in revenue. Kitchen's new company, ThrillCorp, intends to repeat that success by developing, owning and operating Polercoaster and SkySpire attractions across the United States.

In an innovative twist, the company plans to fund its efforts by raising up to \$50 million via a new SEC rule, called Regulation A+, that allows companies to sell shares directly to investors.

Its crowdfunded offering is intended to provide the capital to develop one or more of its thrilling projects. "We believe there are 30 to 50 viable markets in the U.S. alone," said **Michael Kitchen**, the company's Chief Development Officer.

Individuals interested in investing can find more information at the company's website: www.thrillcorp.com.

At **T.H.E. Insurance Company** we understand your business and its risks better than any of our competitors. Our coverage is innovative and affordable. Our **24/7 claims service** lets you know that you can count on us. **So relax... we have you covered.**

800.235.8774





EVERY EXPERIENCE MATTERS

IAAPA ATTRACTIONS EXPO 2016

Conference: Nov. 14-18 • Trade Show: Nov. 15-18 • Orlando, FL, US

IAAPA Attractions Expo 2016 is dedicated to helping you exceed the expectations of your guests. Supporting you with new products, solutions, technology, and connections that allow you to completely immerse yourself in a powerful learning environment, customized for your professional needs.

Take that inspiration back to your facility, recreate it for your guests, and deliver an experience that keeps them coming back for more.

IAAPA
Attractions
Expo



REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!



www.IAAPA.org/IAAPAAttractionsExpo/AT

Disneyana Fan Club taps Garner Holt for Legend Award

S A N BERNARDINO, Calif. — **Garner L. Holt**, founder and president of **Garner Holt Productions, Inc.** (GHP), is the recipient of the Disneyana Fan Club's (DFC) 2016 DFC Disney Legend Award.



Holt

animatronics and attractions in the style of Walt Disney. I'm moved and proud that my company and life's work has been deemed a major contributor to that great man's legacy."

Holt founded the company which bears his name based largely on his love for the audio-animatronics attractions at **Disneyland**. In 1977, at age 16, he incorporated GHP in California to design and produce animatronic presentations. Since then, GHP has created nearly 5,000 individual animatronic characters for leading theme parks around the world, including work at all six Disney theme park resorts, **Universal Studios**, **Knott's Berry Farm** and dozens of other theme parks and corporate clients (**Hershey**, **Mattel**, **Chuck E. Cheese** and **Lockheed Martin** among them). Today, GHP is the primary supplier of animatronic figures for Disney parks worldwide.

The Disneyana Fan Club, founded in 1984 as the National Fantasy Fan Club to celebrate its members' love of all things Disney, presents the annual award to individuals whose accomplishments have helped to make an extraordinary and lasting impact on the entertainment, educational and cultural legacy of **Walt Disney**. Honorees are nominated by their peers, former recipients and members of the club, and are selected by the club's Legends Committee.

"I'm humbled by the DFC's award," said Holt. "The entire focus of my company has been to create high-quality entertainment and educational

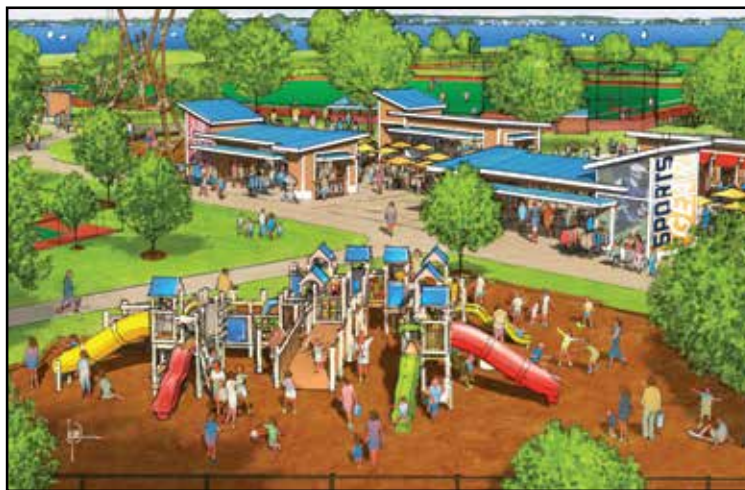
The award was presented to Holt at DFC's annual convention in Anaheim, Calif., on July 14.

—Dean Lamanna



Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center consists of four NCAA regulation baseball fields, eight NCAA regulation soccer and lacrosse fields and eleven youth baseball and softball fields. The complex also features fun for families like miniature golf, ropes courses, trampoline structures, dining options and more.

COURTESY CEDAR POINT, SPORTS FORCE PARKS



Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center underway

SANDUSKY, Ohio — Construction of **Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center** is on track and ahead of schedule, as crews continue to build the Midwest's premier youth sports facility located just miles down the road and across the bay from **Cedar Point**. The Sandusky park, expected to open for tournament play in March of 2017, will provide a "Best Day" experience for athletes and their families and will offer Erie County exposure to the rapidly growing, recession-resilient youth sports tourism industry.

Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center consists of four NCAA regulation baseball fields, eight NCAA regulation soccer and lacrosse fields and eleven youth baseball and softball fields. The complex also features fun for families like miniature golf, ropes courses, trampoline structures, dining options and more.

Construction on Sports Force Parks at Cedar Point Sports Center is scheduled to wrap up this fall.

•sportsforceparks sandusky.com

living range • indoor attractions • outdoor attractions • games • new games • gaming systems • equipment • equipment
 chases • rides • security • signage • merchandise • party rooms • conference rooms • inventory • pavilions • hard ric
 D video simulators • water features • inventory purchases • electronics • juke boxes • coin operated cranes • pho
 xths • video arcades • arcade games • video games • pinball • air hockey • redemption games • vending • coin-
 usement rides • amusement lighting • maintenance equipment • redemption stores • redemption counters • re
 plays • sport simulators • virtual reality • interactive games • hands-on museums • children entertainment center
 et routes • new construction • leasehold improvements • technology upgrades • facility management software
 ipment upgrades • maintenance & repairs • amusement construction • partner buyouts • improvements
 dernization • renovations • refinance • working capital • remodels • acquisitions • cosmetic upgrades • facility upgrad
 ogrades • real estate • expansion • relocation • construction • arena design • dark rides • card systems • coin operat
 nes • live animal exhibits • succession planning • children's museums • climbing walls • roller coasters • redempti
 chandise • bowling alleys • Work with a bank that understands your business. rters • pinspotters • ball retur
 umpers • furniture groupings • Visit us online to experience the Live Oak difference. • masking units • flooring
 nampoline parks • trampolines • ball pits • bungee • zip lines • eurobungee • water pa
 ater attractions • water rides • water slides • roller skating • roller skating centers • roller skating rinks • rink equipme
 ates • food and beverage • food se vending machines • oven & cooktops • pi
 ns • hoods • fixtures • concession snack bar seating • carpet • fo
 beverage • laser tag centers • ta tag equipment • laser tag design • cine
 ovia theater • digital projection equ seating • debit systems • swipe ca

WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE.

LOANS FROM \$75,000 TO \$5 MILLION

Work with a bank that understands your business.
 Visit us online to experience the Live Oak difference.

liveoakbank.com/fec

LIVE OAK BANK

Copyright 2016 Live Oak Banking Company. All Rights Reserved. Member FDIC

MARKETWATCH



COMPANY	SYMBOL	MARKET	PRICE 07/05/16	HIGH 52-Week	LOW 52-Week
The Blackstone Group	BX	NYSE	23.25	41.79	22.31
Merlin Entertainments Group/ Legoland	MERL	LSE	456.70	477.10	316.79
Cedar Fair, L.P.	FUN	NYSE	58.28	62.00	48.45
Comcast Corp./ NBCUniversal Media	CMCSA	NASDAQ	65.01	67.95	50.01
The Walt Disney Company	DIS	NYSE	97.66	122.08	86.25
Dubai Parks & Resorts	DUBAIPAR:UH	DFM	1.58	1.63	0.86
Fuji Kyoko Co., Ltd.	9010	TYO	1486.00	1568.00	1043.00
Haicahang Holdings Ltd.	2255HK	SEHK	1.65	1.84	1.21
Leofoo Development Co.	TW:2705	TSEC	9.12	11.70	8.22
MGM Resorts International	MGM	NYSE	22.55	25.29	16.18
Parques Reunidos Servicios Centrales S.A.	ES:PQR	MCE	13.15	15.53	12.735
SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.	SEAS	NYSE	14.17	21.84	13.48
Shenzhen Overseas Chinese Town Co., Ltd. (OCT)	000069	SZSE	6.68	11.09	5.88
Six Flags Entertainment Co.	SIX	NYSE	56.61	62.69	41.6
Skyocean International	00593HK	SEHK	8.10	12.4	7.95
Tivoli A/S	DK:TIV	CSE	473.50	499.50	330.40
Village Roadshow	VRL	ASX	5.36	7.68	4.95

STOCK PRICES ABOVE ARE GENERALLY QUOTED IN THE FOREIGN CURRENCY IN WHICH THE COMPANY IS LOCATED

Worldwide Markets: **ASX**, Australian Securities Exchange; **CSE**, Copenhagen Stock Exchange; **LSE**, London Stock Exchange; **NYSE**, New York Stock Exchange; **NASDAQ**, National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations; **SEHK**, Hong Kong Stock Exchange; **SZSE**, Shenzhen Stock Exchange; **TSEC**, Taiwan Stock Exchange, Corp.; **TYO/TSE**, Tokyo Stock Exchange

—SOURCES: Bloomberg.com; Wall Street Journal

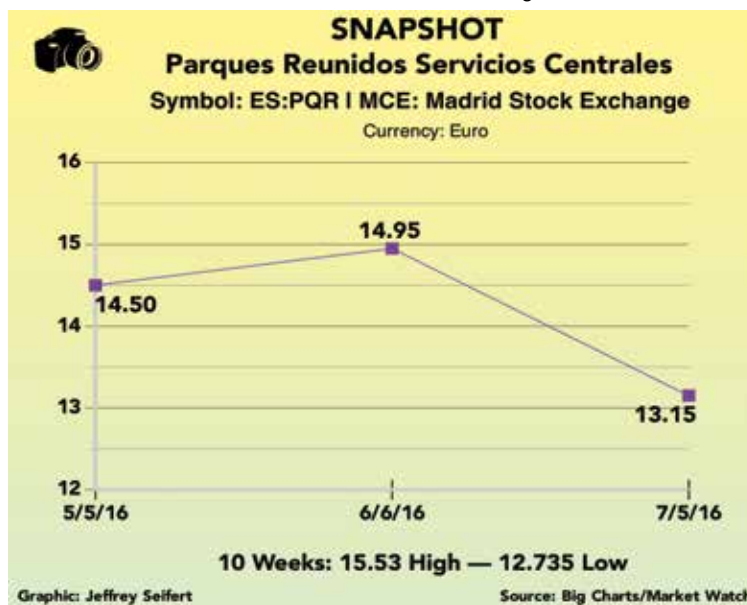
DIESEL PRICES

Region (U.S.)	As of 07/11/16	Change from 1 year ago
East Coast	\$2.424	-\$0.491
Midwest	\$2.385	-\$0.319
Gulf Coast	\$2.261	-\$0.447
Mountain	\$2.445	-\$0.342
West Coast	\$2.596	-\$0.323
California	\$2.798	-\$0.335

CURRENCY

On 07/14/16 \$1 USD =

0.9027	EURO
0.7548	GBP (British Pound)
104.42	JPY (Japanese Yen)
0.9862	CHF (Swiss Franc)
1.3136	AUD (Australian Dollar)
1.3031	CAD (Canadian Dollar)



BUSINESS WATCH

Six Flags in discussions for Saudi park

GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas — **Six Flags Entertainment Corporation** (NYSE: SIX) announced on June 28 that it has initiated discussions with the government of Saudi Arabia to pursue development of Six Flags-branded theme parks in that market. The discussions follow earlier meetings that were held with The Deputy Crown Prince while he was traveling in the United States to promote the Saudi Vision 2030.

"We are honored to have this opportunity to bring Six Flags to Saudi Arabia," said **John Duffey**, president and CEO of Six Flags. "We look forward to supporting Saudi Arabia's efforts to expand tourism by creating new world-class entertainment destinations in the Kingdom."

SFOT, Hurricane Harbor see wage increase

ARLINGTON, Texas — **Six Flags Over Texas** and nearby **Hurricane Harbor** (NYSE: SIX), announced on June 15 a wage increase affecting more than 90 percent of its team members. The increase from \$7.25 per hour to up to \$9.00 per hour went into effect on Monday, June 13, 2016.

"Our team members are our most important asset," said **Steve Martindale**, Six Flags Over Texas and Hurricane Harbor park president. "This wage increase is a reflection of our ongoing commitment to them and the higher wages will also help us recruit new team members who want to work in a fun environment, while creating lasting memories for our guests."

Six Flags announced it will release its 2016 second quarter financial results on July 27, 2016.

SeaWorld announces quarterly dividend

ORLANDO, Fla. — The board of directors of **SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.** (NYSE: SEAS) declared on June 8 a cash dividend of \$0.21 per share of common stock. The dividend was payable on July 1, 2016 to shareholders of record at the close of business on June 20, 2016.

SeaWorld announced it will release its 2016 second quarter earnings report on Aug. 4, 2016.

In brief...

•New York City — Parks using **PR Newswire** to help distribute the news releases to local and area media should know that on June 17, PR Newswire announced that it has been acquired by global media intelligence leader **Cision**. Cision provides not only software and services for PR professionals to research and engage the media, but also tools and resources to the journalism community. Cision owns **Help a Reporter Out** (HARO), another leading community similar to **ProfNet**, that connects journalists and new media creators to sources for their articles and content. HARO has over 475,000 active sources and experts to help journalists complete their stories. More information at: www.prnewswire.com.

•LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The **Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory** celebrated its 20th Anniversary July 17 with 1996 pricing of \$4.00 for the day, a mayor's proclamation, other events and the showing of the baseball movie *Soul of the Game*.

•BURBANK, Calif. — **The Walt Disney Company** (NYSE: DIS) will release fiscal third quarter 2016 financial results on Aug. 9, 2016 after the close of the trading day.

•SANDUSKY, Ohio — **Cedar Fair Entertainment Company** (NYSE: FUN), reported on July 6 preliminary net revenues through July 4, 2016 of approximately \$517 million, an increase of \$20 million, or 4 percent, when compared with the same period a year ago. This period traditionally represents approximately 40 percent of the company's full-year net revenues. The higher net revenues are a result of a 3 percent increase in attendance, a 1 percent increase in average in-park guest per capita spending and a 7 percent increase in out-of-park revenues, including resort hotels. Cedar Fair also recently announced it will hold its quarterly conference call with investors to discuss 2016 second-quarter earnings on Aug. 3, at 10 a.m. Eastern Time.

SIPPERS BY DESIGN

(800)395-9980
www.SippersByDesign.com
sales@SippersByDesign.com

AS LOW AS \$.35/EACH
Includes Custom Full Color Print
Minimum 25k for print

32 OZ
48 OZ
64 OZ

NEW

AS LOW AS \$.99/EACH

Stackable Yard
\$.88/each

\$.34/EACH

OBITUARIES

Ride owner James (Jamie) Prather dies at 64

CASSELBERRY, Fla. — James (Jamie) Arthur Prather, IV, 64, of Casselberry, Fla., died on June 12, 2016. Born October 31, 1951 in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, he was the son of James Arthur Prather, III, and Rebecca Demory Prather.



Prather

Following graduation from school, Jamie soon turned his aspirations of owning his own business into a reality. Starting with **Art Amusements**, an amusement ride company co-owned and operated with his father, which was based in Coney Island, N.Y. and later Orlando, Fla. He later went to work for **Venture Rides**, an amusement manufacturing company, before once again owning his own business **Premier Vending**, which started out as a snack company and turned into his most recent venture of arcade gaming systems.

Fun Spot USA's John Arie, Sr. remembered Jamie telling *AT*: "I met Jamie in 1980. Jamie truly loved the amusement industry. This love was part of his DNA. In 1981, he moved to Orlando Fla. from Coney Island. After years in Coney Island, he believed Orlando was going to be the epicenter of the amusement world, so he moved his operation to Orlando! In Coney Island he and his family owned and operated a **Reverchon Himalaya** carnival ride. Then in Orlando, he and his family owned and operated **Wild & Crazy Bumper Kars** at **Fun'N Wheels**. To Jamie, the **Eyerly** bumper cars weren't just bumper kars, they were **Wild & Crazy Bumper Kars!** This was evidence of Jamie's showmanship and exuberance of life, which, again, was part of his DNA. Jamie also owned and operated a **Wild Mouse Roller Coaster** in Orlando, the first such attraction on world famous International Drive. Yes, Jamie loved the amusement industry."

Continuing, Arie said: "After Orlando, he sold rides for **Jerry Barber** and **Venture Rides** through out the United States. He got to know many smaller parks and carnivals in his traveling salesman role for **Venture**. Jamie was a friend of mine, and of the amusement industry."

Memorial donations may be made to: Save the Music or FutureStage music charities.

Worldwide Ticketcraft's Jerry Love passes

BOYNTON BEACH, Fla. — **Worldwide Ticketcraft** is saddened to announce the passing of its long time phone greeter and sales person **Jerry Love**. Jerry has been "the voice" of Worldwide for the past 17 years and his greetings made people laugh and smile no matter what mood they were in before they called. In his former careers Jerry was a music producer and disc jockey. He wanted everyone to hum a tune all day every day.



Love

Erik Covitz, president of Worldwide Ticketcraft said, "Jerry was our friend, colleague, advisor, calming influence, cheerleader and maintained the most positive upbeat attitude of any individual I have ever had the pleasure of knowing."

Jerry joined Worldwide Ticketcraft in 1999, the year the company was founded. He ensured calls were answered by a person and not a machine. Jerry truly enjoyed greeting callers and often people would say, "tell me more about the wonderful guy that just answered the phone."

Jerry's bio on **ThirdStoneArtists.com** (Production and Artist Development Company) details his radio history before joining Worldwide:

"Early in his career Jerry Love worked in the radio world programming WOR-FM and as "Jebadiah" on WNEW-FM in New York City. Love was one of the first free form D.J.'s syndicated on CBS-FM and all seven affiliates plus KALK in Oklahoma City. In 1975 Love teamed up with Michael Zager. They began Love-Zager Productions/Sumac Music and went on to produce many hits with The Spinners, Michael Zager Band, Cissy Houston, Andrea True Connection, Ronnie Dyson, and Afro Cuban Band."

Motorcycle accident claims the life of Uremet founder Mark Moore

SANTA ANA, Calif. — **Mark Moore**, founder and president of the **Uremet Corporation**, passed away tragically on July 10 at the age of 64.

Mark, a true pioneer in the amusement industry, founded Uremet Corporation in 1992. Through his tireless commitment to polyurethane wheel development and the amusement industry, Mark will always be known for his far reaching achievements on roller coasters and amusement rides throughout the world. His unparalleled commitment to quality and service are the foundations that he instilled in the development of the Uremet Corporation, which will always be the driving force behind the company's ongoing success.

Located in Santa Ana, California, Uremet supplies replacement wheels for more than 300 different rides in over 70 amusement parks and 12 suppliers throughout the world. The company name is derived from the process of bonding the urethane to metal, hence Uremet.

Uremet management issued the following company statement on Mark's passing:

"Mark's presence will be sorely missed at Uremet as well as with all of our amusement customers. Above all else, he was a dear friend to many.

"For those of us who were lucky enough to know Mark, the one thing we all came to know and love is that he lived life to the fullest. Always on a new adventure, whether it was hiking, or flying an airplane, Mark lived with a certain zeal that most people only dream of. He was on a motorcycle trip with his brother cycling up the California coast to Alaska when he so tragically came to the end of his life's journey."

Mark was also active in the amusement industry by donating his time for two great causes: safety and preservation.

He began serving on the **AIMS International** board of directors in the early 2000's; was president 2009-2011 and served as executive director until 2014.

He was also an active board member with the **National Roller Coaster Museum & Archives**, a position he had held since 2009.

He was an accomplished pilot and loved fling his Stearman plane as well as riding his motorcycle.

With his company Uremet, Mark was very active in the **North American Eagle** project, contributing both engineering and the rear wheels to the Supersonic vehicle as the crew continue its attempt to set the land speed record in Black Rock Desert. Uremet's latest wheel



Mark Moore doing what he loved the most, flying his Stearman plane over the California desert.

COURTESY PATTY SULLIVAN

design was designed to withstand speeds of up to 950 mph. The team's goal is to break the existing record of 763 mph by reaching 800 mph.

Mark leaves his wife, Carol Dugger Moore, a son Brett Moore and daughter Brooke Moore, one sister, Laura Moore (all in Calif.) and one brother Dan Moore in Washington.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. For friends and industry associates of Mark that would like to send a card to his

wife Carol Dugger Moore, please address it to her at:

Uremet Corporation
3026 S. Orange Ave,
Santa Ana, Calif. 92707

The Uremet Corporation will continue to be the industry leader in polyurethane wheel development because of Mark's continued influence. In his absence please direct any company business inquiries to **Steven McAllaster** or **Thom Cammarota** at (714) 641-8813.

Remembering Uremet's Mark Moore

"Mark was as big-hearted and supportive as they come. I recall talking with Mark at an ASTM meeting in Scottsdale in October 2010. I was telling him how proud I was of my son Bradley who had just passed his Boy Scout Eagle board examination. His court of honor was to be held in a few days. Mark instantly said, "I'm going!" He changed his travel plans and spent the rest of the weekend attending the court of honor and celebrating Bradley's accomplishment with our family. He was always spontaneous and surprising in that way. His support of the industry through ASTM and AIMS was beyond generous. No one will ever know how dedicated he was to AIMS. He volunteered countless hundreds of hours molding and pushing AIMS to be more organized and structured. It was through his leadership that the organization thrives today. Because of the selfless person he was, he would figure out a way to give the accolades of all of his accomplishments to others involved. He will truly be missed.

—Brian D. King, PE, Recreation Engineering, Inc.

"Perhaps one of my favorite memories of Mark, which I related to the AIMS board, was the Stearman Rides/Salmon Cook-off at the airport in Corona just prior to an ASTM meeting several years ago. Mark and I did the cooking. The airport manager let us use the kitchen there as well as the grills. We grilled Patty Beasley's "Jack Daniels Salmon" (Patty was having chemo at the time, but we used her recipe) and my "Salmon on a Cedar Plank" as well as side dishes for the crowd.

Mark and a friend of his both gave rides in their Stearman planes. It was a beautiful afternoon-evening event and it is still remembered and talked about at meetings now! Mark was a great guy who not only chased new adventures like flying his Stearman Plane but made it possible for many others to experience the adventure, too!"

—Patty Sullivan, Eli Bridge Co.

"Mark was one of those rare people who would always put the good of others ahead of his needs. His contributions to industry safety through AIMS, ASTM, and NAARSO were well beyond what anyone could expect and he never wanted credit. He defined passion."

—Jim Seay, Premier Rides

FAA releases small unmanned aircraft systems (drones) final rule

WASHINGTON, D.C. —

On June 21, the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

SAFETY

released its final operational rules for the commercial use of small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS or drones) weighing under 55 pounds. The final rule will go into effect in late August 2016.

Among many of the provisions, the final rule will create:

- A requirement to avoid operating UAS over people not directly participating in the operation;
- A requirement for non-recreational remote pilots to pass a written knowledge test and to go through the same security vetting process as traditional manned-aircraft pilots;
- A requirement for UAS to stay at least 5 miles from airports and, among other restrictions, generally fly at an altitude below 400 feet, creating a safe buffer between unmanned and manned aircraft, which can generally fly no lower than 500 feet; and
- A requirement for remote pilots to keep unmanned aircraft within visual sight at all times.

"We are part of a new era in aviation, and the potential for unmanned aircraft will make it safer and easier to do certain jobs, gather information, and deploy disaster relief," said U.S. Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx**. "We look forward to working with the aviation community to support innovation, while maintaining our standards as the safest and most complex airspace in the world."

Although the new rule does not specifically deal with privacy issues in the use of drones, and the FAA does not regulate how UAS gather data on people or property, the FAA is acting to address privacy considerations in this area. The FAA strongly encourages all UAS pilots to check local and state laws before gathering information through remote sensing technology or photography.

As part of a privacy education campaign, the agency will provide all drone users with recommended privacy guidelines as part of the UAS registration process and through the FAA's B4UFLY mobile app. The FAA also will educate all commercial drone pilots on privacy during their pilot certification process; and will issue new guidance to local and state governments on drone privacy issues.

•faa.gov

Legoland Florida releases safety guidelines for guests playing Pokémon Go at resort

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — Legoland Florida Resort recently released the following safety statement for guests wishing to play Pokémon Go during their visit at the park:

"At Legoland Florida Resort we believe #AwesomeAwaits for kids seeking to "catch 'em all" as they play Pokémon Go, the tremendously popular new app. Pokémon have been spotted throughout the resort and guests are welcome to play during their visit, but the resort has issued a few ground rules to ensure a safe search.

"Rules for a safe Pokémon Go quest at Legoland Florida Resort:

- "Even a Pokémon Master must stay within guest areas. Please don't climb any fences or follow any

SAFETY

Pokémon into employee only areas.

- "No catch is worth sacrificing your safety. All play must pause throughout the duration of your ride until you exit the ride.

- "Be sure not to bump into one of our more than 60 million Lego models – that could hurt!

- "With more than one hundred Pokémon to catch, be sure to stay hydrated.

- "If you find a Pokémon at the Fun Town Pizza Pasta Buffet, let the nearest Model Citizen know, we prefer pepperoni over Poké Balls.

- "If hours of play have unleashed the power of your phone, recharge in the Imagination Zone.

- "If your wild encoun-

Kennywood issues Pokémon Go warning

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — As Pittsburghers get all caught up in Pokémon Go, **Kennywood Park** issued a warning via Twitter warning that there are some places guests just can't go in search of those cute characters.

The tweet read: "If you are playing #PokemonGo at Kennywood, please do not enter restricted areas looking for Pokemon. It's dangerous and will get you kicked out."

ter leads you to Wyldstyle, keep in mind she may need to stop for a selfie with another guest before you can make your catch."

•Legoland.com

Amusement TODAY
Your Amusement Industry NEWS Leader

Follow us:



WILLIAM H. ROBINSON, INC.

The Big Idea People!

513.737.9012 • www.TheBigIdeaPeople.com

**CREATIVE
MARKETING...
BRINGING
SMILING FAMILIES
TO YOUR DOORS!**



A Creative Services Company Serving the Amusement, Water Park & Support Industry for over 50 Years!

From Great Coasters International Holiday World's the Legend gets track makeover

AT: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

SANTA CLAUS, Ind. — The Legend roller coaster at Holiday World was part of the "Class of 2000" for Custom Coasters, International that year, the defunct company debuted seven wooden coasters. There were more wooden coasters built in 2000 than any other year, not only in the new millennium, but for decades prior. While the park has maintained the woodie for 16 seasons, for this year, they felt it was time for an upgrade.



Above, riders on The Legend at Holiday World dive into a new tunnel, themed to resemble a sagging covered bridge. Right, the coaster's first drop is part of the 1,400 feet of structure and track that has been rebuilt and retracked with ipe wood under the direction of Great Coasters International. AT/TIM BALDWIN



MAINTENANCE

Great Coasters International was consulted on the new work. "The ride turned out fantastic," said Clair Hain, president. "Great Coasters was there until the end. We gave 200 percent."

When built, The Legend was a high-profile attraction for the park's Halloween section, based on the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. The layout, designed by Dennis McNulty and Larry Bill, has a strong emphasis on lateral forces, particularly in the double helix three quarters of the way through the course. During its tenure at the park it has been a solid contender in *Amusement Today's* annual Golden Ticket Awards, even placing in the top 10 in some years. While the lift is just a hair shy of 100 feet, the first drop utilizes the park's sloped terrain for a 113-foot

drop. Here again, the curving descent into a darkened tunnel features lateral forces.

"Halfway through the 2015 season, we knew that ride had the most amount of track-work coming up," said James Olliver, vice president of development and maintenance. "We thought if we were really going to tackle the project and improve the ride quality, let's make sure to get as much bang for our buck out of this. When we started that discussion, one of our maintenance techs had some old files from the late-Will Koch about some tweaks to some of the less dynamic parts to the ride. It opened our eyes to where we said, 'Let's go all in and really tackle The Leg-

end.' We wanted to do a complete overhaul and a fun new element."

Mack Eckert, president and CEO, said, "We haven't pushed it out in our commercials or paid advertising, but it's been a huge talking point for us."

Following 2015's huge project — Thunderbird, the highly thrilling B&M launched wing coaster — the park wasn't planning to add a big new ride. "We realized we wanted to do so much more with The Legend. We recognized we needed to put a significant amount of capital in it," said Eckert. "The significant change in the rider experience has been huge. We get guest comments time and

time again. It's still the same Legend, but we call it The Legend 2.0. It was the right thing for Holiday World & Splashin' Safari."

"We wanted to make it great for the next 15 years," added Olliver. "We were looking at this long term. That's when the ipe lumber came into the picture. Compared to the traditional pine, all of its properties are better from a rider standpoint and a long-term maintenance standpoint. It's denser, it's harder, it's more rot resistance. Over time, the ride is going to maintain that smooth feeling it had right when it was built."

The park admits the new, harder Brazilian ipe wood is more expensive in terms of raw material and labor, but they feel it is the smartest approach. "It's so hard, you have to pre-drill each nail hole. But when you feel that smooth first drop, it confirms it was the right move for us," said Olliver.

Great Coasters International employees, Holiday World staff and local carpenters were involved on the extensive project. 1,400 feet of track were reworked, which is a little more than a third of the ride. The park feels good that they can offer so much employment opportunity for the community.

A new addition to the ride is a themed tunnel which resembles a covered bridge, but looks like it has sagged over time. In reality, the drop is plunging under the park's log flume, Frightful Falls. The ride now boasts five tunnels.

Dynamic Attractions launches new service for iconic attractions. Service provides full integration of theming with ride systems.

SHANGHAI, China — Dynamic Attractions, a leader in media-based attractions for major theme parks, has launched an "industry first" service called Unlimited Attractions. The announcement was made at the recently concluded Asian Attractions Expo in Shanghai, China.

"Unlimited Attractions turns a ride into an iconic attraction," states Guy Nelson, Dynamic Attractions president and Empire Industries CEO. The new service includes all of the components of a major attraction, including story concept, lighting, scenery, media, and special effects. "By coordinating the development of the storytelling along with our highly sophisticated ride systems, attractions become more impactful," adds Nelson.

The company had been receiving requests for this full attraction development service, especially in newer markets such as Asia. Nelson explains, "Unlimited Attractions is desirable because it ensures that guests receive a seamless, heightened experience that maximizes all of the elements that make an attraction unforgettable."

In May, the company opened its Attractions Development Center. The 40,000 square foot facility in Orlando, Florida, will house design teams, media developers, and test equipment for research and development.

Dynamic Attractions is comprised of 400 engineers, designers, fabricators and theme artists based in Orlando, Vancouver, Toronto, Arlington (Texas), Dongguan and Shanghai. To date, the company has helped create 50 attractions in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the United States.

SPIDER-Man!

- 24 Seats
- Up to 48 Children
- Holds Adults Up to 200 lbs.
- Simultaneous Loading/Unloading
- Set-up Fast and Easy!
- Pull with Pickup

Another "family ride" also available...
Big Eli Construction Zone

ELI BRIDGE COMPANY
Building the people have enjoyed for generations

1-800-274-0211 fax 217-479-0103
info@elibrige.com elibrige.com

Amusement TODAY Your Amusement Industry NEWS Leader

★Subscribe Today!
14 issues
1 year \$50!

Congratulations Holiday World on a Huge Success!!

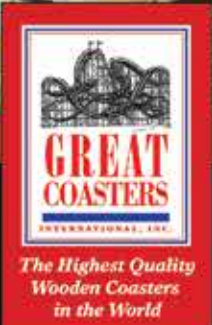
Thank You for Choosing Us to be a Part
of Your Legend!



Holiday World



The
Legend
ROLLER COASTER



Great Coasters International, Inc.
2627 State Rt. 890 • Sunbury, PA 17801 • 570.286.9330 • www.greatcoasters.com





NEWS & NOTES

www.aimsintl.org

Amusement Industry Manufacturers and Suppliers International, Ltd.
 P.O. Box 92366 • Nashville, Tenn. 37209
 Phone: (714) 425-5747 • Fax: (714) 276-9666
Karen Oertley • k.oertley@aimsintl.org
Holly Coston, (714) 697-6654, h.coston@aimsintl.org

AIMS International mourns the loss of Mark Moore

The amusement industry woke to terrible news just as this issue of *Amusement Today* was being put to bed. **Mark Moore**, president and founder of **Uremet Corporation**, lost his life in a motorcycle accident on Sunday, July 10, 2016 at the age of 64.



Moore

Mark was doing what he loved, being an adventurer. He and his brother were on a motorcycle trip up the California coast to Alaska when the accident occurred.

Mark had tremendous impact on **AIMS International** and industry safety where he tirelessly and selflessly supported AIMS' mission to improve industry safety through leadership in education. He wholeheartedly contributed his service to AIMS beginning in the early 2000's, served on the board of directors for more than a decade, served as President of AIMS International from 2009 to 2011, and was AIMS' Executive Director until 2014. Loved by his friends and colleagues, Mark truly cared about safety in the amusement industry and was also a long time active member

of **ASTM F24** as well as other industry organizations including **IAAPA, NAARSO, and BALPPA**. He also held a board position with the **National Roller Coaster Museum & Archives**.

We will all miss him greatly.

•See obituary Page 38

Early registration is open!

The **2017 AIMS Safety Seminar** will be held January 8-13 at the Doubletree by Hilton at SeaWorld Orlando. Early registration is now open at \$595 and includes all class materials, two breaks and lunch for five days, plus an opening reception on Sunday night. Register now to lock in last year's rate at www.aimsintl.org. Those who register and prepay will have early access to complete class selection when registration opens in early September. Once registration is open, students can also sign up for AIMS Certification testing on Levels I-III in Maintenance, Operations, Ride Inspection and Level I Aquatics.

Many exciting events and classes are being planned as well as additional safety and security classes and certification. The seminar is a must attend for both operators and manufacturers and

suppliers who need to stay abreast on the latest trends and topics surrounding the industry's #1 priority worldwide - SAFETY.

AIMS International announces new safety award!

The first **AIMS International Safety Award** will be presented during the **Golden Ticket Awards** on September 10, 2016, at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio. The award will be presented to an individual or organization that demonstrates leadership, innovation, and foresight in improving safety in the amusement industry. We have received many excellent nominations from individuals in the industry and the recipient will be selected by a vote of AIMS International's board of directors. Stay tuned! If you can't be there, you can watch the actual awards show live on September 10 at 8 p.m. Check goldenticketawards.com and amusementtoday.com for web-cast details.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe!

—Karen Oertley

Space for this AIMS page is provided courtesy of *Amusement Today* as a corporate partner of AIMS Intl. Content is provided by AT & AIMS.

Safety is the #1 Priority in the Amusement Industry!



AIMS SAFETY SEMINAR & CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

JANUARY 8-13, 2017

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON AT SEAWORLD

NEW CLASSES ADDED FOR 2017!

Register EARLY at 2016's price: only \$595!

Supported throughout the industry!

Classroom and hands-on learning!

CERTIFICATION & TESTING:

**MAINTENANCE • OPERATIONS
 RIDE INSPECTION • AQUATICS**



(714) 425-5747 • www.aimsintl.org





CLASSIFIEDS

AUCTION

**NORTON
AUCTIONEERS**

THE INDUSTRY EXPERTS!
Professional Auctioneers & Appraisers
*Carnivals • Parks • Carousels
FEC's • Museums • Tourist Attractions*

P.O. Box 279, Coldwater, MI 49036
517-279-9063
Fax: 517-279-4899
www.nortonauctioneers.com
E-mail: Dan@nortonauctioneers.com

AUCTION

Pier Park

SILENT AUCTION
EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:

- 1973 SDC Galaxy Coaster "Sand Blaster"
- Chance Century Wheel (park model)
 - 2008 Zamperla Sky Tower
 - 1956 Eli Bridge Scrambler
 - 1959 Sellner Tilt-A-Whirl
 - 2009 SBF/Visa Tug Boats
- Visa Compact Spinning Coaster (park model)
 - Allen Herschel Horse & Buggy Ride
 - 1997 Frederiksen Fun Slide
 - 1972 Theel Carousel
 - 1988 Wisdom Tornado
 - Allen Herschel Kite Flyer

Bidding runs through September 6, 2016!

RIDES 4U
Supplying Amusements New to Used

**DETAILS & INFORMATION OR TO PLACE A BID:
LEN, EARL, OR JOHN AT (908) 526-8009
OR MARK BLUMHAGEN (509) 990-2968
EMAIL: INFO@RIDES4U.COM**

FOR SALE

IRM

Check out the latest premium new and used rides at:
facebook.com/internationalridesmanagement
or call (609) 425-1220 to receive a current list.

FOR SALE

RIDES 4U
Supplying Amusements New to Used

ARM Family Himalaya T/M.....	\$79,000
Zamperla Tea Cups T/M.....	\$49,000
New SBF Groovy Bus on used Frederiksen Trailer.....	\$69,000
Hurricane T/M.....	\$139,000
Spinout T/M.....	\$249,000
Moser Top Spin T/M.....	\$299,000
Zierer Wave Swinger T/M.....	\$399,000
SBF/Visa Super Truck T/M.....	\$29,000
Fabbri Kamikaze T/M.....	\$239,000

Call Len or John
(908) 526-8009
FAX: (908) 526-4535

FOR SALE

**GALLEON
(1985)**

**Manufacturer:
Zamperla**

Available as a
Parts Package
for \$35,000

*Additional work needed
for ride to operate!*

**For additional
information, contact:
Rick Knoebel
rick@knoebels.com
(570) 854-1387**

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - **Calypso \$18,000**

FOR SALE - **Paratrooper \$18,000**

FOR SALE

**FAMILY
ROLLER
COASTER**

**Manufacturer: Zierer
Height: 55 feet
Ground Space: 215'x170'
Track Length: 1,279 feet
Storage Track: 39 feet**

2 trains w/ eight 2-passenger cars
- total of 16 people each train
Capacity of 800 pph

Chain lift system with magnetic
induction brakes and pneumatic
operated release system.

**For pricing, please call
Len Soled at Rides 4 U
(908) 526-8009**

**Amusement
TODAY** Your Amusement
Industry
NEWS Leader

YOUR FRONT SEAT VIEW OF THE INDUSTRY

SUBSCRIBE
14 ISSUES: 1 YEAR \$50

*Print subscribers also receive FREE Digital Edition
of each issue for viewing on computer, tablet or phone.*

amusementtoday.com/subscribe • (817) 460-7220
Amusement Today • P.O. Box 5427 • Arlington, Texas 76005-5427

50

ZAMPERLA®

The Amusement Ride Company since 1966

AIR RACE



ENDEAVOUR



WINDSTARZ



zamperla.com

Antonio Zamperla Spa Vicenza - Italy Phone: +39 0444 998400 e-mail: zamperla@zamperla.it