

AMUSEMENT TODAY™

Vol. 16 • Issue 2

MAY 2012

A tale of two (more) towers

Carowinds, Kings Dominion introduce newest icons: Mondial WindSeekers

STORY: Scott Rutherford
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CHARLOTTE, N.C. and DOSWELL, Va. — Following the debut of WindSeeker tower swing rides at four of its parks in 2011, Cedar Fair continues the trend this season with the introduction of WindSeekers for two of its southeastern properties.

Amusement Today was on hand for the launch of both WindSeekers, which took place at Carowinds (March 31) and Kings Dominion (April 6). At each location, the new rides opened on schedule with major fanfare.

Supplied by Dutch

ride manufacturer Mondial, the new \$6.5 million WindSeekers' three minute cycle begins when the central carriage, supporting 32 two-passenger seats, slowly starts to rotate while climbing to the 301 foot level. Once aloft and traveling at full tilt, riders experience a sense of weightlessness as the arms extend outward at a 45-degree angle and reach speeds up to 30 mph.

Carowinds

Ranking as the tallest structure at Carowinds as well as the entire state of South Carolina, WindSeeker

▶ See **MONDIAL**, page 4



Cedar Fair officials gather at Carowinds for the debut of the company's fifth WindSeeker installation. Shown here, l to r are: Jamie Gaffne, Carowinds director of maintenance; Bob Dean, Leisure Labs, LLC, Mondial sales rep.; Bart Kinzel, Carowinds VP and GM; and Pat Jones, Kings Dominion VP and GM. AT/SCOTT RUTHERFORD

Wild Eagle soars over Dollywood

Ride fundraiser nets \$36,000 for American Eagle Foundation

STORY: Tim Baldwin
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PIGEON FORGE, Tenn. — After a media day on March 23 and a preview for season pass holders, Dollywood officially debuted North America's first wing coaster by Bolliger & Mabillard on March 24. Namesake Dolly Parton was on hand with a specifically written song for the premier of Wild Eagle — "Be an Eagle, Not a Chicken." The bragging rights to having the first of a new breed of coaster in the nation should be accolade enough, but the Smoky Mountains theme park didn't stop there.

Gracing the entrance to the new ride is a bold move for a park to include — art. You won't find just a fiberglass character positioned up front, but the largest eagle sculpture in the entire world. The massive steel sculpture stands two stories tall and has a six story wingspan. Crafted in a combination of stainless steel and mild steel, the two tone work of art is a triumphant masterpiece for a theme park. It's that striking.

Sculptor Kevin Stone from British Columbia welded over a thousand intricate feathers on the sculpture, making it weigh in at more than two tons. Dollywood invested \$250,000 for the symbolic icon of the new ride. "The sculp-

▶ See **DOLLYWOOD**, page 6



The first wing coaster in the U.S. opened on March 23, 2012 at Dollywood, following a short dedication and song by Dolly Parton. The coaster was supplied by Switzerland's Bolliger & Mabillard. COURTESY DOLLYWOOD DOLLY PARTON PHOTO/TIM BALDWIN



NEWSPAPER

POSTMASTER: Dated material. PLEASE RUSH! Mailed Thursday, April 26, 2012

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

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EDITORIAL: Gary Slade, gslade@amusementtoday.com

Horse trading



Slade

For individual's headed out West to pan for California gold, or the many Western settlers just wanting a fresh start it was common occurrence. When you needed something, and the deal was right, you traded goods so that both parties benefited. Most commonly were tales of horse trading, done to let a traveler keep moving by starting the next leg of the journey with a fresh, rested horse. Horse trading [of goods] became a way of life.

As a kid, I remember my grandfather trading fruits and vegetables off his farm in Carbon, Texas in exchange for flower, sugar, coffee and other goods at the Carbon Trading Company. Sadly, the days of horse trading are all but gone.

Enter Gary & Linda Hays, Cliff's Amusement Park in Albuquerque, N.M. and David Dean, Joyland Amusement Park in Lubbock, Texas.

Cliff's has an SCS Interactive waterplay structure that had become too small for its current park capacity needs. The park wanted to remove it to make room for a larger structure from WhiteWater West, one that would be the first phase of a small waterpark area. All the while, the park was shopping for another future coaster.

Joyland had in its possession the classic 1978 Anton Schwarzkopf-built shuttle loop coaster Greezed Lighting, moved to West Texas following Astroworld's closing. While Joyland's intentions were good to erect the coaster in the park, no one would have ever guessed that a high water table under a large area of the park would make it cost-prohibitive to erect.

As fate would have it, the two started talking and seeing that this horse trade of rides would benefit both parks, a full blown trade of these two attractions was done over a handshake, no money exchanged.

Cliff's will open its new waterplay area this summer and when time is right, it will resurrect a classic roller coaster that is sure to be a hit with its guests and coaster fans. Next summer, Joyland will open a much-needed waterplay structure in an area of the park where the water table is not an issue. Everyone wins.

It's nice to know horse trading is still alive.

—Gary Slade

Gary Slade is the founder and publisher of Amusement Today. His love for amusement parks began at age six when he first visited Pontchartrain Beach Amusement Park and Six Flags Over Texas. His long newspaper career helped lead to the launch of AT in 1997.

CARTOON: Bubba Flint



EDITORIAL: Andrew Mellor, amellor@amusementtoday.com

The magic of the pier



Mellor

The attractions industry is made up of a host of different venue types and among the more traditional and historic places of entertainment encapsulated within this great industry of ours are seaside piers.

In its previous two issues, AT has reported on the redevelopment of two such structures in the U.S., namely Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier in Texas and Atlantic City's Steel Pier in New Jersey, both of which are currently benefitting from multi-million dollar revamp and expansion programs. This work will see the piers transformed once again into major entertainment venues with a host of new rides, attractions and facilities that any inland park would be proud of.

But what exactly is it about seaside piers that makes them so appealing to visitors – and makes developers want to spend such huge sums of money on them? Many years ago, such structures were a real magnet for visitors to seaside towns, attracting throngs of people who enjoyed the simple pleasure of being able to

stroll along them as if they were walking out to sea and appreciated being over the water.

Here in the U.K., the coastline used to boast around 90 piers of various descriptions, but sadly only about half of these still remain, several facing uncertain futures. But against that, many continue to prosper and you only have to look at the superb Grand Pier redevelopment at Weston-super-Mare in the southwest of the country (and elsewhere too) to see that there remains much faith in this type of attraction, as is clearly the case in the U.S.

The way they are built and their very positioning over the water inevitably means that piers offer a very different experience to their land-based counterparts. There's really nothing quite like riding a roller coaster or Ferris Wheel on a pier, looking down at the ocean below or out over the water for as far as the eye can see.

Ever since the heyday of the seaside pier, these structures have provided a unique and magical form of entertainment. And there are clearly those who believe they can continue to do so in the future.

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Subscription rates are: 1 year (14 issues) \$75 in the USA; \$100 elsewhere; 2 years (28 issues) \$140/\$180; 3 years (42 issues) \$200/\$250. Send check or money order (U.S. funds only, drawn on a U.S. bank) to Amusement Today, P.O. Box 5427, Arlington, Texas 76005-5427. Your cancelled check is your receipt. Please allow up to six weeks for your subscription request to be processed and the first issue mailed.

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POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to Amusement Today, P.O. Box 5427, Arlington, Texas 76005-5427.

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2 MINUTE DRILL



COMPILED: Janice Witherow

Chris Ozimek, Schlitterbahn Kansas City Waterpark

Chris Ozimek is right where he wants to be. With a genuine passion and dedication for the amusement industry, Chris is in his fourth year as marketing director for Schlitterbahn Kansas City Waterpark, and he is loving every minute of it. Prior to Schlitterbahn, he held several positions within Cedar Fair and worked for Six Flags America for two seasons. Chris sits on the board for the Greater Kansas City Attractions Association, where he recently served as president. An avid musician, Chris is also known for his positive can-do attitude and efficient style of doing business.



Schlitterbahn's Chris Ozimek, joined by General Manager Keith Fontenot and World Waterpark Association's Aleatha Ezra during WWA's record-breaking 2011 national swim lesson. AT/TIM BALDWIN

Title
Marketing Director.

Number of years in the industry
18.

Best thing about the industry
Putting smiles on the faces of our guests and creating long-lasting memories.

Favorite amusement ride
X2 is my favorite roller coaster. That ride is CRAZY! King Kaw Rapids River is my favorite waterpark ride.

If I wasn't working in the amusement industry, I would be ...
A musician. I like to rock.

Biggest challenge facing our industry
Keeping our park offerings and guest services fresh each season so our guests return year after year. It is the lifeblood of our industry.

The thing I like most about amusement/water park season is ...
The people. When our doors are open for the season, we entertain legions of fans from all 50 states and beyond, and we get to see their smiling faces day after day. It reminds me of why I am dedicated to this industry. It is also wonderful to see our seasonal employees return. They bring our whole world to life.

The three words that best describe my office are ...
Stacked, sorted and organized (kind of).

Favorite dessert
A big cup of mint ice cream with chunks of Heath Bar.

My motto is ...
Today is someone's memory for tomorrow. Make it a good one.

I usually call it a night at ...
Midnight.

If my life was turned into a sitcom, it would be called ...
It's Always Sunny in Kansas City.

The one place I would rather be right now is ...
Relaxing on a beach.

Summer is here! My favorite thing to grill is ...
Burgers, with cheese.

My friends all call me ...
Chris O.

My first concert ever was ...
Pat Benatar during the Get Nervous tour.

At lunch time, you can usually find me ...
I dine at the park during the operating season. When the park is closed, you will find me in line at one of the many fast food drive-thru options near Schlitterbahn.

Growing up, I always wanted to be ...
A Chemical Engineer.

The last TV show I watched was ...
Family Guy.

Pick one: wine or beer?
Beer...mostly.

My commute to work is ...
Pretty painless. I live in the city, so I drive against rush hour traffic each way.

When I say Lady Gaga, you say ...
More than 20 million followers on Twitter? Gaga ooh la la!

You live in Kansas City. What three things should everyone see in your hometown city?

- Village West in Kansas City, Kansas. Not only is Schlitterbahn located near this area, but it is a complete family entertainment destination.
- Worlds of Fun amusement park.
- National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial.

The one thing I am always running to the store to get is ...
Cheese. I love it!

I wish people in general would be more ...
Considerate toward each other.

At the top of my "bucket list" is ...
Exploring Europe on a long vacation.



Ozimek

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

Presented by



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•**1905: Paragon Park**, a new 25-acre park in Nantasket Beach, Massachusetts, opened on May 30 with great fanfare. The \$500,000 park featured all the rides and attractions of the day, and competed directly with **Revere Beach**, just north of Boston, Massachusetts. Steamship service from Boston, made Paragon one of the premier resorts in New England. The park would survive until 1984, and be sold for a condominium development.

•**1906: Luna Park**, outside Washington D.C., opened on May 28. A large crowd opened the \$350,000 **Frederick Ingersoll** park, which featured a scenic railway, Shoot-the-Chutes, ballroom and other attractions. The park, at the intersection of Glebe Road and Route 1, in Arlington, Virginia would suffer from a fire, and was dismantled in 1915.

•**1918:** A fire on May 10 in **Coney Island**, outside Cincinnati, Ohio, destroyed the Dips roller coaster. Concessionaire **T.M. Harton** would lose both the Dips and Kiddie Dips in the fire, with an estimated total of \$90,000 in damages. The Dips would be rebuilt but eventually replaced by the Skyrocket in 1921.

•**1920: Starlight Park** opened for the first time on May 1, 1920, taking the place of **The Bronx Exposition Park** (1918-1919). It would consist of several coasters including the Dip the Dips and Giant Racer, and would serve the residents of The Bronx and its environs for over a dozen years, only closing after a devastating fire in August 1932. Today the intersection of the Cross Bronx and Sheridan Expressway's cover a majority of the site.

•**1935: Palisades Amusement Park** was purchased with a bid of \$150,000 at a Sheriff's sale on May 1. **Nicholas M. Schenck**, motion picture executive and a former owner of the park, would regain control of the Cliffside Park, New Jersey property. Within a year, he sold the property to the **Rosenthal Brothers**, for nearly \$450,000.

•**1986: Dollywood Theme Park** opened its doors for the first time on May 3. The Smoky Mountain theme park was named in honor of its new co-owner, country and western singer **Dolly Parton**. The park originally opened in 1961 as a small tourist attraction named **Rebel Railroad**, and featured a steam train, general store, blacksmith shop, and saloon. In 1970, Rebel Railroad was purchased by Cleveland Browns Football Team owner **Art Model** and renamed **Goldrush Junction**. In 1976, **Jack and Pete Herschend** bought Goldrush Junction and renamed it **Goldrush** (for one year) then **Silver Dollar City Tennessee** as a sister park to their original **Silver Dollar City** in Branson, Missouri. Since Dolly's involvement, the park has doubled in size, and annual park attendance has also nearly doubled from 1.3 million in 1986. In 2010, Dollywood was presented with the prestigious Applause Award, presented by **Liseberg Park**.

•**1995:** The Raven wood coaster at **Holiday World** in Santa Claus, Indiana opened on May 6. The moderate-sized woodie from Custom Coasters Inc. was well received by coaster enthusiasts who discovered a clean, wholesome, well-run amusement park that was relatively unknown outside of the region. The park gained national attention and continued to draw enthusiasts from all over the world. By 2000, The Raven was ranked the number one wooden coaster in the world by **Amusement Today's Golden Ticket** voters, a spot that it held for the next four years. Holiday World continued to grow and today draws more than one million visitors each year. The park also takes home a number of **Golden Ticket Awards** including friendliest and cleanest park.

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►MONDIAL

Continued from page 1

is located in the park's Carolina RFD section near the entrance to Snoopy's Starlight Spectacular. A portion of the lake near the Nighthawk roller coaster was filled in to accommodate the tower's massive concrete foundation.

WINDSEEKER

Guest reaction to the new ride has been as expected. Queues for a spin aboard WindSeeker stretched up to an hour during Carowinds' opening weekend, which coincided with area schools' spring break vacation.

"This is a must-ride attraction for both families and thrill-seekers alike as the sense of soaring thirty stories in the air is both exhilarating and breathtaking at the same time," said Bart Kinzel, Carowinds' vice president and general manager. "The im-

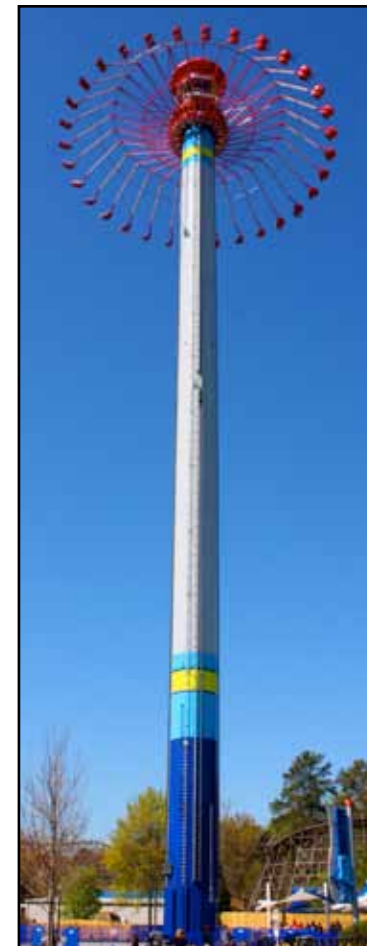
mense scale of this ride alone is truly stunning as it changes the skyline of Carowinds for the third time in as many years. The ride really acts as the park's own billboard for motorists driving down I-77. We believe its addition along with everything else the park has to offer could bring us another record-breaking atten-

dance figure this year."

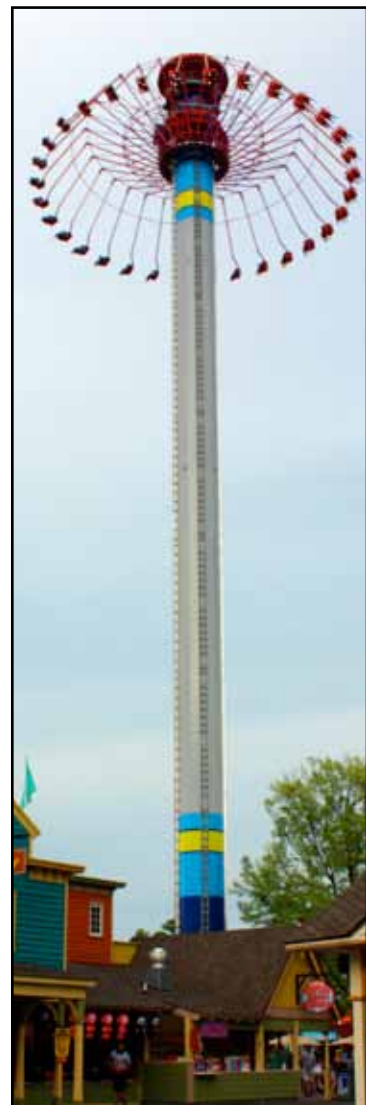
Along with the new brick pavers surrounding WindSeeker's perimeter, the park also installed a series of shaded benches that protect spectators from the hot Carolina sun.

Kings Dominion

Kings Dominion is no stranger to tall rides. In fact, the park was already home to three attractions that cracked the lofty 300 foot mark – Eiffel Tower, Drop Tower and Intimidator 305. The introduction of WindSeeker, located between



WindSeeker at Kings Dominion is the park's fourth ride to break the 300-foot mark. Towering over three of KD's wooden roller coasters, WindSeeker fliers can see a distance up to 30 miles of the surrounding Virginia countryside. AT/SCOTT RUTHERFORD



Carowinds' new 30-story Mondial WindSeeker ranks as the park's tallest ride as well as the tallest structure in the entire state of South Carolina. Located in the Carolina RFD section, WindSeeker's brilliant LED lighting package, above right, blends perfectly with the adjacent Snoopy's Starlight Spectacular. AT/SCOTT RUTHERFORD

Skyflier and the Juke Box Diner, gives the Virginia themer an even four high rides that raise guest 30 stories above the ground.

During our visit, AT happened upon Pat Jones, vice president and general manager of Kings Dominion, strolling the midway with her customary broom and litter scoop. Gazing up at WindSeeker, Jones said: "Initially, people approach this ride with trepidation; it really is intimidating at first. But once they gather their courage and give it a try, they're amazed how enjoyable it is. Up there you get to experience a gentle, graceful flight that is incredibly relaxing. If you get over the fact that you're 300 feet in the air, you really are able to just sit back and enjoy the view. It's a wonderful addition to the park."

Just as at Carowinds, guests visiting Kings Dominion during its season opener just could not seem to get enough of the unique experience offered by WindSeeker. The queue of eager fliers remained full for the entire opening weekend.

AT also caught up with John Taylor, KD's new director of marketing about the park's 2012 additions. "The response to WindSeeker has been phenomenal. We have three other 300-foot-tall attractions here but WindSeeker is a

class all its own. It's a unique ride in a park filled with incredible experiences. It fits in perfectly with our ride lineup," said Taylor. "Visitors are equally excited about our new Dinosaurs Alive! exhibit and *Dinosaurs: Giants of Patagonia* 3-D film presentation. With these two dinosaur-themed attractions, we seem to be teetering on the educational side of entertainment, which is a good thing. The 2012 season is shaping up to be a great one at Kings Dominion."

Light up the night

As with their predecessors at the other Cedar Fair properties, the new WindSeekers offer yet another dimension once the sun sets. Both are equipped with elaborate light packages that come to life once darkness settles over the parks. Along with high-intensity colored spotlights positioned at the top and bottom of the towers, the rides' central carriages are lined with LED light strands that radiate out from the tower and down each of the ride's steel arms. As the carriage ascends to the top of the tower, the light display comes to life in a kaleidoscopic explosion of colorful patterns and shapes, all of which can be programmed by the operator. The bottom of each seat is outfitted with a pair of bright white lights that trace its path

through the night sky. In addition, WindSeeker is equipped with speakers that play up to 18 recognizable music tracks including themes from the Harry Potter films, Superman, E.T., and Star Trek.

Mondial speaks

During the launch of both rides, AT also spoke with Bob Dean, principal of Leisure Labs, LLC and sales rep for Mondial in North America, about the success of the new rides. "We are absolutely thrilled with the trust Cedar Fair put in us to supply these massive attractions. As you know, Mondial started out constructing fairground rides and attractions for Europe's traveling showmen. This ride's portfolio is based on Mondial's previous experience in that arena. The six Windseekers we built for Cedar Fair represent Mondial's largest projects to date."

Commenting on WindSeekers lighting effects, Dean added: "Though Mondial is well accustomed to adding spectacular lighting on all our rides, the WindSeekers' LED light package was specifically requested and designed by Cedar Fair itself. And as you can see, it turned out beautifully. We couldn't be happier with these rides!"



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►DOLLYWOOD

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ture is rugged and natural and certainly complements its environment and the surrounding architecture," says Brian Dudash, director of construction and development for Dollywood.

The station and queuing area also feature a noticeable attention to detail with a balance between function and flair. Architectural styling on the station is beautifully done and most theme parks worldwide would agree that Dollywood's design team has made an enviable home for the new coaster. Banners within the queuing area bring out the best attributes of the majestic eagle and make an association with the oncoming riders.

At its opening, Parton entertained the crowd with song and humor and even made an effort to do a Q&A with the media. One of the sources of pride with Parton is the park's dedication to the American Eagle Foundation. Thanks to an auction for the official first riders, Dollywood was able to present another check to the American Eagle Foundation for \$36,000. "We have partnered with the AEF since 1991," reports Pete Owens, director of public relations. "We are their largest benefactor and continue to house and maintain all of their facilities."

Parton says it is important for Dollywood to round out



Top row: Dollywood's Wild Eagle opened with much attention paid to detail such as this Eagle sculpture (left) and the theming found on the massive station building (right). At right, riders enjoy four inversions on the 3,127-foot-long coaster.

AT/TIM BALDWIN

the experiences for families that visit the park, and that young people, along with families enjoy roller coasters, so it was a good addition to the park. However, the legendary entertainer quipped, "You won't see me riding on it, because then you'd see what a real bald eagle looks like!" The opening of the ride certainly didn't find a lack of riders, as throngs lined up to participate in this new breed of ride. Passengers returned to the station with big cheers.

Since the wing coaster by B&M features vehicles cantilevered over both sides of the track, riders are situated to the sides of the rails. Although a few other companies have had previous endeavors in such positions, B&M's wing coaster brings the firm's own engineering finesse to the project. The first installation of this type of coaster debuted in Italy last season — Raptor at Gardaland. That particular coaster featured many "close clearances" with thematic objects. Dollywood has side stepped such concepts for more dimension. The lift climbs 190 feet above the station, making it the tallest such wing coaster by B&M. Following the dramatic debut of the first installation last year, B&M has constructed three more new coasters of this genre for 2012. Dollywood's Wild Eagle is the first to open in the U.S.

Overhead restraints feature wide bars far away from



riders' heads and a comfortable, soft vest like harness that safely hold passengers, but still offer a suitable amount of freedom. In contrast to other B&M coasters with a larger height requirement, Wild Eagle allows riders at only 50 inches in height.

Some of the coaster's statistics could be debatable among those who are adamant about such things, in particular, the height. Although the trains climb 190 feet above the station and are around 210 feet above the midway at the apex of the lift, a true height for the coaster is up to interpretation due to the fact that the ride utilizes the terrain of a hillside. Most statistics, however, are clear. The ride features a first drop of 135 feet and a track length of 3,127 feet. Among the ride's four inversions is a gigantic 110-foot loop. The others — an Immelmann, a camelback zero-g roll and a corkscrew flat spin — all allow the distinct vehicles to strut their stuff, which in the case of this style of coaster is to accentuate the articulation of each of these inversion maneuvers. With seats extended outside

the rails, the radius of these rotating inversions is one of the unique selling points to the wing coaster.

Following the four inversions, the ride concludes with a small speed hill and what the park calls a lazy eight, in which the trains negotiate a figure eight maneuver where one curve positions riders close to the ground while the other turn places them skyward once again. The smooth braking is noticeable and a nifty little snap turn onto the final break run adds one last touch of fun to what is a remarkable addition to Dollywood.

At Wild Eagle's opening, coaster enthusiasts were commenting on how the new installation was a good fit for Dollywood. The thrills are exhilarating and graceful without gut-wrenching forces. It would appear the choice of new attraction is a right one, of people of all types and ages were queuing up for what is the latest thing in coaster experiences.

When Craig Ross, vice president and general manager of Dollywood, came aboard last spring, the project was

heavily under development and in full design at that time. "I think the uniqueness of the ride — the first one in America is a phenomenal thing — I knew it was going to be a great ride." Ross adds, "I think it has a broad appeal. If you just look at the people riding — kids, young adults, parents — I think it is one of the things we are most excited about."

Commenting on working with B&M, Ross states, "They're first class. Their engineering is just phenomenal. They've been great partners. They are just a first class company all around." Ross admits he can already envision more B&M projects in the future, but is certainly thrilled with the park's first. "It's just a must-do; it's just a one-of-a-kind ride."

"The entire project really came together to create an experience from the time you enter the plaza and hear the sound track for the attraction to the queue line and finally to the unique ride that Wild Eagle is," beams Owens. "It is beautiful, powerful, graceful and uniquely Dollywood."

FAST FACTS

Type

Steel wing coaster

Stats

Height 190 feet above station grade; length 3,127 feet; first drop 135 feet; loop height 110 feet; 61 mph; 4 inversions; ride time 2:22; height requirement 50 inches

Capacity

Two, 28 passenger trains (seven cars, four-passengers per car)

Manufacturer

Switzerland-based Bolliger & Mabillard

Project cost/Opened

\$20 million/
March 23, 2012

2012 NORTH AMERICAN PARK PREVIEW

CANADA

Alberta

Calaway Park, Calgary...BSR Stinky Feet game

Manitoba

Brandon Best Western Hotel, Brandon...ProSlide Decktop Twister

Wawanesa Recreation Center, Wawanesa...ProSlide Kidz Topsy Turvy

Ontario

Canada's Wonderland, Vaughan...Leviathan — B&M 300-foot hyper coaster;

Dinosaurs Alive! Animotronic dinosaur park

Family Aquatic Center, Windsor...WhiteWater Family Python, Master Blaster, Whizzard,

AquaPlay AP1050, Wave Equipment, FlowRider Double, Children's Slide, AquaSpray

Monarch Park, Toronto...ProSlide Decktop Twister

Neb's Funworld, Oshawa...Sparetime Express — E&F Miler family coaster relocated from Jeepers (Maryland)

Quebec

Ski Bromont, Bromont...ProSlide 4-lane Octopus Racer, Tunnel Twister

La Ronde, Montreal...Vol Utime — 148-foot Funtime StarFlyer

MEXICO

Six Flags Mexico, Mexico City...Pandemonium — Gerstlauer spinning coaster

relocated from Six Flags Discovery Kingdom (late 2012 or 2013)

UNITED STATES

Alabama

Splash Adventure, Birmingham...four new attractions for rebranded park: WhiteWater Aqua Course; Amaze'n Mazes Aqua Maze; Spectrum Sports Zip Line and Dive-In Movies

Arizona

Family Fun Factory, Tempe...WhiteWater Constrictor, Multi Lane Mat Racer, SuperBowl, AquaTube Body Slide, AquaPlay RainFortress, AquaSpray, Kids' Slides

Golfland SunSplash, Mesa...ProSlide CannonBowl

Wet 'n Wild, Phoenix...ProSlide Kidz ProRacer, Kidz Topsy Turvy, Kidz Twister

California

Carnival Spirit Cruise Ship, San Francisco...Carnival Waterworks — WhiteWater AquaDrop, AquaPlay AP150, AquaSpray (ship is docked at San Francisco for installation of slides)

Disney California Adventure, Anaheim...Cars Land — new themed area with three attractions including Radiator Springs Racers (track system from Dynamic Attractions), Mater's Junkyard Jamboree (Zamperla) and Luigi's Flying Tires

Disneyland, Anaheim...Matterhorn Bobsled — Refurbishment of ride system and mountain and new coaster vehicles

DryTown Water Park, Palmdale...ProSlide 4-lane Octopus Racer

Golfland SunSplash, Roseville...ProSlide SuperLoop

Legoland California, Carlsbad...Pirate Reef — Themed area with Hopkins Rides Shoot the Chute

Pacific Park, Santa Monica...two Moser 2-seat Gryo Loops

Santa Barbara Zoo, Santa Barbara...Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Santa Cruz...KMG X-Factory; BSR Stinky Feet game and Balloon Bust

SeaWorld, San Diego...Manta — Mack Rides launched coaster; BSR Duck Pond game

Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Vallejo...Superman Ultimate Flight — Premier Rides launched loop shuttle coaster

Six Flags Magic Mountain, Valencia...Lex Luthor: Drop of Doom — Intamin drop ride using structure of existing Superman coaster

Universal Studios Hollywood, Universal City...Transformers the Ride — 3D dark ride

Colorado

Elitch Gardens, Denver...Tube Top — ProSlide Tantrum Twist; Zamperla Rockin' Tug and Tug Bikes; Cirque Innosta Verano — 360 degree stage performance; BSR Tub Toss game

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, Glenwood Springs...Cliffhanger — S&MC Hurricane coaster relocated from Celebration City; Wild West Express Coaster — Zierer Tivoli relocated from Wild Zone Adventures (Canada)

Hyland Hills Water World, Federal Heights...Mile High Flyer — ProSlide HydroMagentic Rocket and ProSlide Pipeline

Connecticut

Lake Compounce, Bristol...Riptide Racer — ProSlide 4-lane KrakenRacer

Quassy Amusement Park, Middlebury...Zamperla Tea Cup ride

Florida

Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, Tampa...Iceploration — 30-minute ice show; BSR Vertical Water game and building

Daytona Lagoon Waterpark, Daytona Beach...Pinfari Zyklon Z64 relocated from Blue Diamond Park, Del.; LED light package for Chance Wheel

Discovery Cove, Orlando...Freshwater Oasis — new themed attraction featuring up close encounters with otters and marmosets

Fun Spot Action Park, Orlando...Chance Rides 36-foot double decker carousel

Fun Spot USA, Kissimmee...new waterpark with attractions from SplashTacular; Kiddie Coaster — E&F Miler coaster relocated from Wonderpark, Cincinnati

Gaylord Palms Resort, Orlando...WhiteWater AquaTube Body Slides, Custom AquaPlay

Legoland Florida, Winter Haven...Legoland Water Park — remodeled, rethemed and expanded waterpark from Cypress Gardens; BSR water game

Magic Kingdom, Lake Buena Vista...Storybrook Circus — expansion to Fantasyland with new Zamperla Dumbo rides (2), rethemed Vekoma roller coaster and Little Mermaid dark ride

SeaWorld Orlando...Orlando, Turtle Trek, BSR games package: Mid-Range Basketball, Long Range Basketball, Balloon Bust

Universal Studios Florida, Orlando...Despicabe Me: Minion Mayhem — simulator ride;

Cinematic Spectacular — nighttime show and Superstar Parade

Universal's Islands of Adventure, Orlando...Amazing Adventures of Spiderman — transformed dark ride with new high definition animation

Wet 'n Wild, Orlando...Kid's Park — ProSlide RideHouse water playground

Georgia

Legoland Discovery Center, Atlanta...new FEC with ETF Ride Systems dark ride

Illinois

Bartlett Aquatic Center, Bartlett...WhiteWater Speed Slide, Poolsider, Inner-Tube Slide, AquaPlay AP350, AquaSpray

Six Flags Great America, Gurnee...X-Flight — B&M wing coaster

Iowa

Adventure Bay Waterpark, Altoona...Breaker Bay — 25,000 square-foot wave pool, kiddie pool with swim-up snack bar

Indiana

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari, Santa Claus...Mammoth — ProSlide HydroMagnetic slide with 6-person rafts; Sparkler — Zamperla Vertical Swing Ride

Kentucky

Beech Bend, Bowling Green...ARM/Larson Super Shot

Louisiana

Blue Bayou Waterpark, Baton Rouge...WhiteWater AquaLoop

Maine

Funtown/SplashTown USA, Saco...WhiteWater Flatline Loop, AquaDrop, Whizzard

Palace Playland, Old Orchard Beach...S&S Frog Hopper

Maryland

Jolly Roger, Ocean City...WhiteWater AquaLoop

Six Flags America, Upper Marlboro...Apocalypse — B&M standup coaster relocated from Six Flags Great America

Massachusetts

Six Flags New England, Agawam...Goliath — Vekoma giant inverted boomerang coaster relocated from Six Flags Magic Mountain

Southwick Zoo, Mendon...S&S Frog Hopper

Edaville USA, Carver...kiddie coaster from Miler, Schiff or Molina relocated from Enchanted Forest

Minnesota

Como Town, St. Paul...SBF/Visa Midi Pirate Ship

Nickelodeon Universe, Bloomington...Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shell Shock — Gerstlauer Sky Fly 12

Missouri

Legoland Discovery Center, Kansas City...ETF Ride Systems dark ride; Zamperla Magic Bikes

Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, Eureka...Bonzai Pipeline — ProSlide twin Super Loops with Skybox launching capsule

The Track, Branson...S&S Frog Hopper

Montana

Amusement Park Drive In, Laurel...Monster Mouse — Herschell monster mouse relocated from Family Funland

New Jersey

Breakwater Beach, Seaside Heights...ProSlide Topsy Turvey and BulletBowl

Casino Pier, Seaside Heights...ProSlide BulletBowl and Topsy Turvy; BSR Bazooka Blast game

Jenkinsons Pier, Point Pleasant...Zamperla Midi Discovery; BSR Lucky Duck and Balloon Bust games

Gillians Wonderland Pier, Ocean City...Fajume Wacky Worm; Wisdom Intruder; Zamperla Disco

Morey's Piers, Wildwood...Multiple expansions including ProSlide six lane mat racer; Chance Rides Pharaoh's Fury; Zamperla swing ride; revamped lazy river ride

Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson...SkyScreamer — 242-foot Funtime StarFlyer; Bertazzon Bumper Cars

Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, Jackson...King Cobra — Polin King Cobra dueling tube slide (first in North America)

Steel Pier, Atlantic City...Phase I of multiyear renovation: Fabbri Booster; Zamperla Jump Around and mini Rocking Tug; Bertazzon Swing Carousel; SBF/Visa Midi Dance, Party 360, Airborne Shot and Tea Cups; BSR games package: Stinky Feet Trailer, Whac-A-Mole Trailer, Roll-A-Ball Derby Trailer, Balloon Bust, Bazooka Blast

New Hampshire

Water Country, Portsmouth...Dr. Von Dark's Tunnel of Terror — ProSlide Tantrum Twist

New Mexico

Cliff's Amusement Park, Albuquerque...WhiteWater Inner-Tube Slides, AquaPlay RainFortress, Kids' Slides

New York

Darien Lake, Darien Center...Larson Flying Scooters

Great Escape, Lake George...Alpine Freefalls — ProSlide water slide tower with a 4-lane KrakenRacer and Freefall slide with SkyBox

Seabreeze, Rochester...ProSlide 4-lane Octopus Racer

Steeplechase Amusement Park of Coney Island, Brooklyn...New Park: Larson Bumble Bees, Mega Whirl; other rides to be announced

Martin's Fantasy Island, Grand Island...ProSlide 4-lane ProRacer

Nevada

Wild Island Family Adventure Park, Sparks...ProSlide 4-lane ProRacer

North Carolina

Carowinds, Charlotte...WindSeeker — 300-foot Mondial Wind Seeker

Ghost Town in the Sky, Maggie Valley...Possible reopening of park that has been closed for 2 years

2012 NORTH AMERICAN PARK PREVIEW

Oklahoma

Andy Alligator's Fun Park, Norman...WhiteWater Multi Lane Mat Racer, Inner-Tube Slide, Children's Slide

Frontier City, Oklahoma City...WhiteWater AquaPlay Rain Structure

Ohio

Cedar Point, Sandusky...Celebration Plaza — new show area with Luminosity evening show; Dinosaurs Alive! Animotronic dinosaur park; LED light package for Giant Wheel

Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati...Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train

Huber Heights Aquatic Center, Huber Heights...WhiteWater Speed Slide, AquaTube Body Slide, HydroStructure HS400, HydroDek

Toledo Zoo, Toledo...Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train

Oregon

Oaks Park, Portland...Bertazzon Bumper Cars; Zamperla Jump Around

Pennsylvania

Dorney Park, Allentown...Stinger — Vekoma invertigo coaster relocated from California's Great America; Dinosaurs Alive! Animotronic dinosaur park; BSR Stinky Feet game

Knoebels, Elysburg...BSR Balloon Bust game

Hersheypark, Hershey...Skyrush — Intamin winged seating hyper coaster; Gerstlauer trains for Sooperdooperlooper roller coaster; BSR games package

Kennywood, West Mifflin...Black Widow — Zamperla Giant Discovery 40 swinging pendulum ride

Sandcastle, Pittsburgh...Dragon's Den — themed ProSlide CannonBowl

Waldameer Park, Erie...Chance Rides C.P. Huntington train; Zamperla Happy Swing; BSR Balloon Dart and Duck Pond games

South Carolina

Ocean Reef Resort, Myrtle Beach...ProSlide Tunnel Twister

Tennessee

Dollywood, Pigeon Forge...Wild Eagle — B&M wing coaster

Lake Winnepesaukee, Chattanooga...Larson Fireball

Wilderness in the Smokies Resort, Sevierville...Adventure resort — 25,000 square-foot indoor dry park with laser tag, ropes course, mini-golf and bowling alley; WhiteWater AquaLoop

Texas

Aquatica, San Antonio...New waterpark at SeaWorld San Antonio with ProSlide TornadoWave, Mammoth, Kidz Zone

Fire Mountain Amusements, Tyler...Larson Tea Time; Hampton Rides Willie the Whale relocated from Wonderland Park; Eyerly Rock-O-Plane relocated from Cliffs

Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier, Galveston...New park with 16 rides: Iron Shark — Gerstlauer Euro-Fighter coaster; Funtime StarFlyer; Chance carousel and Giant Wheel; Bertazzon rides; Interlink flume; Larson Fireball lead the ride mix

Hawaiian Falls The Colony, The Colony...Whirlwind — Splashtacular 360 Rush
Hawaiian Falls Garland, Garland...The Abyss — Splashtacular 2-person-raft themed dark waterslide with lights, sound and projections

Hawaiian Falls Mansfield, Mansfield...Cliff Hanger — WhiteWater West Boomerango and three-person raft slide

Hawaiian Falls Roanoke, Roanoke...Splashtacular Double Bowls Eye; WhiteWater West multi-slide complex with six body slides and two tube slides

Legoland Discovery Center D/FW, Grapevine...SB International driving car ride

Rainforest Café, Galveston...BSR games package: Short Range Basketball, Lucky Duck, Goblet Toss, Tub Toss, Ring Toss

Schlitterbahn Beach Resort, South Padre Island...New beachfront resort with indoor/outdoor convertible waterpark

SeaWorld San Antonio, San Antonio...BSR Whac-A-Mole game

Six Flags Fiesta Texas, San Antonio...SkyScreamer — 200-foot Funtime StarFlyer

State Fair of Texas, Dallas...Intamin 500' Gyro Tower (2012-2013)

Trader's Village, Grand Prairie...Wattman Train; Moser 8.5 meter spring ride

Trader's Village, Houston...Chance Rides Pharaoh's Fury; Larson Star Dancer; Wattman Train; Moser 8.5 meter spring ride

Hawaiian Falls Waco, Waco...New waterpark expanded from existing park on site with WhiteWater West Constrictor, Whizzard, Speed Slides, Inner-Tube Slide

Wonderland Park, Amarillo...Zamperla kiddie bumper cars; New food trailer; Velocity Magnetics braking system on Miler Mouse coaster

Utah

Lagoon, Salt Lake City...Air Race — Zamperla Air Race

Lagoon-A-Beach, Salt Lake City...WhiteWater Inner-Tube Slide

Virginia

Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Williamsburg...Verbolten — Zierer LSM launched coaster with indoor section and vertical drop

Kings Dominion, Doswell...WindSeeker — 300-foot Mondial Wind Seeker; Dinosaurs Alive! Animotronic dinosaur park; BSR Balloon Bust

Washington

Seattle Waterfront/Pier 57, Seattle...Chance Rides — R60 Chance Wheel

Wild Waves Waterpark, Federal Way...ProSlide CannonBowl

Wisconsin

Noah's Ark, Wisconsin Dells...Quadzilla — ProSlide 4-lane KrakenRacer

Mt. Olympus Theme & Waterpark, Wisconsin Dells...WhiteWater Boomerango, Champagne Bowl, Multi-Lane Mat Racer, AquaTube Body Slides, Inner-Tube Slide, AquaPlay Giant RainFortress, Kids' Slides

Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells...S&S Frog Hopper; WhiteWater AquaLoop, AquaDrop



CPI Amusement Bumper Collars Air-Retention Bladder System



8 Person Boat



12 Person Boat



Air Valve/D Rings

CPI AMUSMENT BUMPER COLLARS



AP - 8T



AP - 12T



OD # 3

AIR-RETENTION BLADDER SYSTEM

2012 INTERNATIONAL PARK PREVIEW

Albania

Tirana Waterpark, Tirana...new waterpark with 18 Polin attractions including Black Hole plus Turbolance combo, Kamikaze, Freefall, Wide Slide, Aquatower

Argentina

Republica de los Niños, Kouvola...Pinfari big apple coaster relocated from Aventura Center (Argentina)

Australia

Adventure World Perth, Perth...WhiteWater AquaPlay RainFortress
Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Center, Melbourne...WhiteWater/ADG dual Flow Rider
Warner Bros. Movie World, Gold Coast...Green Lantern — S&S Worldwide El Loco roller coaster (opened December 2011)

Austria

Familypark Neusiedlersee, St. Margarethen...Zierer Flying Fish

Belgium

Walibi Belgium, Wavre...Reopening of Turbine Coaster as indoor attraction with new Gerstlauer trains (2012-2013)

Brazil

Alpen Park, Canela...S&MC windstorm coaster relocated from Playcenter São Paulo
Hopi Hari, Vinhedo...Intamin 10-inversion coaster; SplashTacular Interactive Waterplay
Mirage Park, Manaus...Schwarzkopf Jet Star 2 coaster relocated from Beto Carrero World
Parque Mutirama, Goiânia...new park with 2 coasters: Happy Mountain — Wacky Worm style coaster; Super Jet — Pinfari Zyklon 64 relocated from Playcenter São Paulo

China

Changjiang Water World, Zhongshan...launched Golden Horse moto coaster
Chimelong Paradise, Panyu...WhiteWater Family Python; Wave Equipment
Chongqing Safari Park, Chongqing...Intamin 10-inversion coaster; Huss King King and Top Spin
Dino Watertown, Changzhou...4D Roller Coaster - S&S Worldwide 4th Dimension coaster
Fantawild Adventure, Nantong...Maurer Söhne Skyloop
Fantawild Adventure, Tong'an...new park with multiple rides including a family coaster
Fantawild Adventure, Xiamen...Vekoma Boomerang coaster
Fantawild Adventure, Zhengzhou...Vekoma Boomerang coaster; Maurer Söhne Skyloop
Fuzhou Waterpark, Fuzhou...WhiteWater AquaLoop, Family Boomerango, Family Raft Ride, Multi Lane Mat Racer, Speed Slide, AquaPlay RainFortress
Guei Yang Park (Guiyang), Baiyun...Vekoma I-Ride suspended seat cinema
Happy Valley Shanghai, Shanghai...new waterpark with WhiteWater Abyss, Python, Constrictor, AquaPlay Giant RainFortress, FlowRider Double
Happy Valley (Shenzen), Shenzen...Bullet Coaster — S&S Worldwide air launched coaster
Happy Valley (Wuhan), Wuhan...new park with 5 coasters: S&S Worldwide, Maurer Söhne, Golden Horse, Martin & Vleminckx; Multiple ProSlide attractions with HyrdMagentic Hornet
Hong Kong Disneyland, Hong Kong...Big Grizzly Mountain Runaway Mine Cars — Vekoma mine train
Jingling Happy World, Lu'An...11 Inversion Coaster and Seven Ring Suspended Looping Coaster — Hebei Zhongye; Surfing Boat — Golden Horse water coaster

Lanzhou Hengda Eco Park, Lanzhou...Big Roller Coaster (manufacturer unknown)

Nanjing Waterpark, Nanjing...WhiteWater AquaLoop, Master Blaster (Dueling), Family Raft Ride, Family Boomerango, Whizzard, Speed Slides, AquaTube Body Slides, AquaPlay RainFortress, Double Flow Rider

Ocean Kingdom, Guangdong...Mack Rides SuperSplash and water coaster
Ocean Park, Hong Kong...Arctic Blast — Mack Rides powered coaster; Hair Raiser — B&M floorless coaster (opened Dec. 2011)

Paradise Island...WhiteWater Abyss, AquaLoop, Family Raft Ride, Whizzard, Speed Slides, Kids' Slides, AquaTube Body Slides, AquaPlay RainFortress, Wave Equipment, FlowRider Double

Romon World, Ningbo...Chance Rides 50-foot carousel; Intamin indoor looping coaster

Titan Ark, Huainan...Speed Shuttle — Beijing Shibaolai suspended looping coaster

Triumph Kingdom, Wuging...new park with multiple rides: Mack Rides water coaster; Golden Horse spinning coaster and suspended looping coaster; Intamin Impulse Twister

Yanchen Chun-Qiu Land, Wujin...Speed Dragon — Zamperla volare coaster

Yantai Waterpark, Yantai...new waterpark with eight Polin attractions including Navigatour, Magic Hole, Aquatube, Family Rafting Slide, Family Turbolance

Zhigao Shenzhou Happyworld, Longyan...Beijing Shibaolai suspended looping coaster

Columbia

Parque Recreativo Piscilago, Villanena...ProSlide Bowling Alley

Play Center, Bogota...Two Wattman trains

Cyprus

Waterworld Ayia, Napa...ProSlide Pipeline

Denmark

Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen...new Russian themed area with Faberge egg exhibit and Trans Siberian train

Bakken, Klampenborg...Wilde Maus — Mack Rides compact wild mouse coaster; Zamperla Kang'A'Bounce

Djurs Sommerland, Nimtofte...Buffalo Bumper Cars — Bertazzon bumper cars; The Sun God — Zierer Flying Fish ride

Fårup Sommerland, Saltum...Pindsvinet — Zamperla family coaster

Lalandia, Rodby...ProSlide Pipeline and ProSlide Dark Tornado

Legoland Billund, Billund...Polar Land — new themed area with Polar X-plorer — Zierer coaster

Sommerland Syd, Tinglev...Himalaya — Zyklon/Galaxie-style coaster; Solhjulet — Huss Enterprise and Huss Rainbow both relocated from Serengeti Park

England

Alton Towers, Staffordshire...Nemesis: Sub-Terra — ABC Rides combination dark ride and drop tower; Ice Age — SimEx! lwerks 4-D cinema

Bayside Pleasure Pier, Bridlington...Mad Mouse — Fabbri spinning madness coaster; Big Apple/Wacky Worm coaster

Legoland Windsor, Windsor...Star Wars Miniland Experience

Paultons Park, Romsey...Magma — SBF/Visa 24m freefall tower

Pleasure Beach Blackpool, Blackpool...Wallace and Gromit — retheming of Gold Mine darkride

Pleasurewood Hills, Lowestoft...Moser drop tower; Huss Enterprise (relocated)

Thorpe Park, Chertsey...The Swarm — B&M wing coaster

Egypt

Reef Oasis Waterpark, Sharm el Sheikh...new water park with 4 Polin attractions including Black Hole, Space Boat, Flying Boats, Windingo

Finland

Särkänniemi, Tampere...Angry Birds-themed area with interactive games

Tykkimäki, Kouvola...Technical Park Loop Fighter

France

Aqualand, Frejus...Polin King Cobra and Aquatower

Aqualand, Saint Cyr Sur Mer...Polin Aquatower

Aqualand, Cap d'Agde...Polin Aquatower

Aqualand, Bassin d'Arachon...Polin Aquatower

Aqualand, Saint Cyprien...Polin Uphill Navigatour, Tunnel Body Slide and Aquatower

Aqualud, Le Touquet...Polin Pirate Ship

Aquariaz Leisure Pool, Haute Savoie...SplashTacular Aquatic Play Unit

Bagatelle, Merlimont...Triops — Vekoma invertigo coaster relocated from Sommerland

Camping Franceloc, Vendee...Polin Space Hole

Camping Franceloc, Imbours...Polin Tsunami

Camping Bahamas Beach, Saint Gilles Croix de vie...Polin Tunnel Body Slide

Camping Soleil de la Mediterranee, Saint Cyprien...Polin Aquatower

Camping Brunelles, Longeville...Polin Space Hole

Dennlys Parc, Dennebroeucq...Temp'O — Zamperla Mega Disk'O

Disneyland Paris, Paris...Disney Dreams! nighttime 20th anniversary show

Jacquou Parc, La Bugue...Corsaire — swinging ship

Luna Park, Cap d'Agde...Apocalypse — Vekoma Corkscrew with Bayern Curve coaster relocated from Flamingo Land (England)

Nigloland, Dolancourt...Air Meeting — Gerstlauer Sky Fly 12

O K Corral, Cuges-les-Pins...Gold Rush — Gerstlauer family shuttle coaster

Parc Astérix, Plailly...Oziris — B&M inverted coaster

Walibi Rhône-Alpes, Les Avenières...Bambooz River — flume ride

Walibi Sud-Ouest, Roquefort...Zamperla Samba Balloon, Mega Jumping Star, Crazy Bus

Finland

Tykkimäki, Kouvola...Technical Park Loop Fighter

Georgia

Aqaupark Anaklia, Anaklia...WhiteWater AquaLoop, Constrictor, Rattler, Master Blaster, Boomerango, Speed Slide, SuperBowl, Inner-Tube Slide, AquaPlay AP350, Wave Equipment

Germany

Autotechnik Museum, Sinsheim...ABC Rides Smart Swing

Europa Park, Rust...Wodan Timbur Coster — GCII wooden roller coaster

Freizeit-Land Geiselwind, Geiselwind...Maurer Söhne Wild mouse coaster

Galaxy Erding at Theme Erding, Erding...ProSlide eight waterslide package

Holiday Park, Hassloch...new entrance and Majaland — new themed children's area with 12 attractions including Zierer Flying Flowers (Flying Fish)

Inselsberg Funpark, Brotterode...Wie-Flyer — Wiegand wie-flyer

Legoland Deutschland, Günzburg...Flying Ninjago — Gerstlauer Sky Fly 12

Schwaben Park, Kaisersbach...Metallbau Emmeln Wave Runner

Serengeti Park, Hohenhagen...Savannah — Technical Park Typhoon

Sonnenland Park, Lichtenau...Zierer Wave Swinger

Skyline Park, Bad Wörishofen...Sky Jet — Zierer Starshape relocated from Pleasure Beach, Blackpool

NCL Breakaway Cruise Ship, Papenburg...WhiteWater AquaLoops (2), AquaTube Body Slides (ship under construction)

Wild- und Freizeitpark Klotten, Klotten...Rittersturz — ABC Rides flume ride

Wiegand Maelzer Nettebad, Osnabruck...ProSlide SuperLoop

Guatemala

Parque Acuático Xocomil, Quetzaltenango,WhiteWater AquaLoops (2), LIM Blaster

Honduras

Galindo Tropical Beach Park, Roatan...Arizona Railroad Depot Colt Trackless Train

India

Lonavela Park, Lonavela...WhiteWater Rattler, Master Blaster, Boomerango, Multi Lane Mat Racer, SuperBowl, Speed Slides, AquaTube Body Slide, AquaPlay RainFortress, Wave Equipment

Indonesia

Bugs Waterpark, Makassar...new park with 15 Polin attractions including Aquatube, Freefall, Multislide, Black Hole, Rafting Slide

Jawa Timur Park, Batu...Volcano Coaster — enclosed roller coaster

Jungleland, Sentul City...Mack Rides Splash Battle interactive boat ride; Zierer Force II coaster; Zierer Wave Swinger

Iran

Masjjad Shandiz Aquapark, Mashhad...new waterpark with 22 Polin attractions including Navigatour, Tunnel Freefall, Racer Twin, Space Hole, Black Hole

Qom City Waterpark,Qom...new waterpark with three Polin attractions including D-Wave, Navigatour, Space Shuttle

Italy

Carnival Breeze Cruise Ship, Trieste...WaterWorks Aqua Park — WhiteWater Champagne Bowl, AquaTube Body Slide, AquaPlay AP1050 (ship under construction)

Cinecitta World, Rome...Intamin 10-inversion coaster and Giant Drop

Etnaland, Belpasso...Gosetto interactive dark ride; Dragon River — Hafema Mini Flume

Gardaland, Castelnuevo del Garda...Mack Rides Twist 'n' Splash

Minitalia Leolandiapark, Capriate San Gervasio...Zamperla family roller coaster; Mediterraneana — Zamperla Water Fight

Mirabilandia, Savio...DiVertical — Intamin water coaster

Miragica, Molfetta...Huss Condor relocated from Gardaland

Rainbow Magicland, Valmontone...Bataglia Navale — Preston & Barbieri Splash Battle

Japan

Nagashima Spa Land, Nagashima...FunTime StarFlyer

Legoland Discovery Center, Tokyo...new FEC with ETF Ride Systems dark ride

Tokyo DsneySea, Tokyo...Toy Story Mania — Interactive 4-D dark ride

Universal Studios Japan, Osaka...Flying Snoopy — Zierer Snoopy-themed Flying Fish; SB International 90-vehicle driving school

2012 INTERNATIONAL PARK PREVIEW

Malaysia

Escape Waterpark, Penang...Polin King Cobra waterslide
Genting Theme Park, Genting Highlands...ProSlide HydroMagnetic Rocket
Legoland Malaysia, Nusajaya...new park with multiple rides: Mack Rides wild mouse; Zierer Force 190 coaster; Zierer Force 5 coaster; Intamin Super Gyro Tower
Sunway Lagoon, Selangor...WhiteWater Abyss

Netherlands

Adventurepark Hellendoorn, Hellendoorn...Tarantula Magica — Huss Enterprise
Duinrell, Wassenaar...Gerstlauer family coaster
Efteling, Kaatsheuvel...Aquanura — 60th anniversary nighttime water show; new Vekoma trains for Python coaster
Snow World, Landgraaf...Wiegand Alpine Coaster
Toverland, Sevenum...Mack Rides spinning coaster

New Zealand

Rainbow Springs, Rotorua...The Big Splash — Intamin water ride

Norway

Kongeparken, Ålgård...Zierer Wave Swinger
Tusenfyrd, Vinterbro...Western-ekspressen — Vekoma junior coaster relocated from **Mirabilandia**; Technical Park Tea Cups and Jumping Ship

Portugal

Slide & Splash, Lagoa...21 Polin attractions including Space Hole, Black Hole, Uphill **Flying Boats**, Uphill Navigatour+Black Hole combo; Looping Rocket; Turbolance

Romania

Terra Park, Bucharest...Trans-Siberian Express — wild mouse coaster

Russia

Central Park, Kaliningrad...Technical Park 45m Wheel; Technical Park Super Red Baron Interactive ride
Juna Life, Moscow...Whitewater/ADG Flow Rider
Piterland, St. Petersburg...new 82,000 sq. ft indoor waterpark.
White Sphere, Krasnodor...ProSlide SuperLoop, RideHouse, 2 FreeFalls, Topsy Turvy, BulletBowl, Pipeline

Saudi Arabia

Al Kur Waterpark, Taif...Polin Freefall waterslide (tallest in world)

Singapore

Safra Toa Payoh, Toa Payoh...Prime Play multi-level Balocity/Soft Contained play structure with interactive touchscreens

Equarius at Sentosa, Sentosa...ProSlide HydroMagnetic Hornet

South Korea

Everland, Yongin-si...steel roller coaster

Spain

Camping Franceloc, Montblanc...Polin Space Hole
Isla Magica, Seville...SBF/Visa monorial

Parque de Atracciones de Madrid, Madrid...Tren de la Mina — Gerstlauer mine train

Parque de Atracciones de Zaragoza, Zaragoza...El Torreón — Zamperla Flash Tower

PortAventura, Salou...Shambhala — B&M hyper coaster

Siam Park, Tenerife...ProSlide WorldAlley with Tantruma and Tornado Wave, Kidz ProRacer, Kidz MiniRiver

Sweden

Liseberg, Gothenburg...JukeBox — Gerstlauer Polyp; Liseberg Wheel — relocated 60 meter Bussink/Maurer Söhne Wheel of Gothenburg from Kanaltorget Square

Skara Sommerland, Axvall...ProSlide 6-lane ProRacer

Switzerland

Acquaparco, Ticino...ProSlide Dark Tornado, Topsy-Turvey, Cannonbowl, PipeLine, Giant Twister, Tunnel Twister

Switzerland

Sportbahnen Atzmännig, Atzmännig...ABC Rides Smart Swing

Tadjikistan, Citywide Recreation Park...Dushanbe, Preston & Barbieri roller coaster

Taiwan

Leofoo Village, Guanxi...new waterpark

Thailand

Ramayana Waterpark, Pattaya...new waterpark with WhiteWater attractions including Family Python (Double), AquaLoop, Master Blaster (Dueling), Family Raft Ride, Whizzard, Boomerango, Speed Slide

Turkey

Crystal World, Antalya...Polin King Cobra waterslide

Landora Theme Park, Istanbul...new park with multiple rides: I.E. Park family coaster and 20-ride package; Vekoma 335m junior coaster

Vialand, Istanbul...Intamin LSM launch coaster, family coaster and Spillwater 20

Ukraine

Aquatoria, Donetsk...new retractable dome waterpark with WhiteWater AquaLoop, Master Blaster, Boomerango, SuperBowl, Inner-Tube Slides, AquaPlay AP650, Wave Equipment

Central Park Maxim Gorky, Kharkiv...Zierer elevated seating coaster; Technical Park 55m Wheel

Koblevo Park, Koblevo...Polin Looping Rocket and Aquatower

Odessa Waterpark, Odesa...new park with 10 Polin attractions including Rafting Slide + Black Hole + Flying Boats combo, Looping Rocket, Rocket Freefall

White Sphere, Sudak...ProSlide SuperLoop

United Arab Emirates

Yas Waterworld, Abu Dhabi...Bandit Bomber — Vekoma custom-designed suspended family coaster; ProSlide HydroMagnetic waterslide and HydroMagnetic Tornado

Venezuela

Parque Italo Americano, Caracas...Technical Park Rock'n'Roll coaster (delayed from 2011)

ETF

ETF's rides and people movers help...

in creating the unforgettable experience

ETF TRACK BOUND MULTI MOVER



Phantasialand
Attraction: Maus au Chocolat

ETF MYSTIC MOVER



Legoland Discovery Centre
Attraction: Kingdom Quest

ETF SUSPENDED FLIGHT



Europa-Park
Attraction: Volo da Vinci

ETF MYSTIC MOVER



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Reporter's Notebook

Training course added to program at Asian Expo

CHINA — IAAPA has announced that it has added a comprehensive training course to its Education Conference program during the Asian Attractions Expo, June 5-8, 2012 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Institute for Attractions Managers Comes to Asia, June 3-5, will train aspiring managers in key areas of finance, marketing and human resources in a multi-day program that blends classroom instruction, audio presentations and case studies.

Other conference highlights include IAAPA Safety Institute (June 5), What's New in Asia? (June 6) and Maximizing Your Revenue Potential (June 8).

•iaapa.org

Quoted

"This is truly a special park, a special ride and a special day for us at GCII."

—Great Coasters International Inc. President and Owner Clain Hain, Jr. on his excitement of building Europa-Park's first wooden coaster

GCII supplies Europa-Park's first wooden coaster

Wodan Timbur Coaster makes anticipated debut

STORY: Scott Rutherford
srutherford@amusementtoday.com

GERMANY — Virtually every attraction Europa-Park introduces is executed with a style that can only be described as exquisitely European. Their latest high-profile endeavor — Wodan Timbur Coaster — is no different. This towering work of art, supplied by U.S.-based Great Coasters International, Inc. (GCII) in partnership with Mack Rides, is a true testament to the talented craftsmen involved in its conception, design and construction.

AT spoke with Europa-Park's own Michael Mack about the decision to finally add a wooden coaster and why GCII was chosen as its manufacturer. "After 10 steel roller coasters at Europa-Park, we thought it was about time to add a wooden coaster. We have a long history of producing wooden rides with Mack Rides, our production company in Waldkirch," said Mack. "Our first wooden coaster was built in 1921. As the majority of our rides were produced for showmen and fun fairs, wood was not practical in the long term and we began to produce steel coasters, which are much easier and especially quicker to set up and take down. Steel coasters are our core competence until today. Therefore, when we decided to build a wooden roller coaster, we were looking for a competent partner, which we found in Great Coasters International. We have long established business relationships with GCII through Mack Rides so it was an easy choice for us."

Constructing a God

Wodan is the Germanic version of the Norse god Odin, a prominent figure in Viking mythology. More than 26 carpenters including German colleagues working alongside experts from the U.S. took part in bringing the powerful warrior to life.

► See WODAN, page 12



Sporting a Viking theme based on the Norse god Odin, Wodan Timbur Coaster is Europa-Park's first wooden coaster. The 3,445-foot-long twister was designed and built by Great Coasters International, Inc. in partnership with Mack Rides. COURTESY EUROPA-PARK



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►WODAN

Continued from page 11

The choice of wood for the new coaster was subjected to rigorous criteria: the timber principally originated from German forests while internationally recognized certificates justify the origin of this perfectly ecological material from sustainable forestry.

Shoehorned into a relatively tight plot of real estate in the park's Iceland section, Wodan is an impressive sight to behold. But the Wodan "experience" begins long before guests reach the loading platform. Europa-Park's designers obviously did their research into Norse mythology in creating the ride's thematic aspects, most of which are on par with Disney or Universal attractions. The attention to detail is truly staggering. The ride's station and extensive labyrinthine queue is an amazing accomplishment thanks to the meticulously rendered wood and stonework as well as video projection mapping along with lighting, water, fire, mist and audio special effects. Equally impressive are the pervasive strains of a haunting and often rousing orchestral soundtrack that surrounds guests as they make their way to the station and onto the ride.

Chris Gray, GCII's manager of procurement, shared his experience in the creation of Wodan. "It has been an absolute pleasure working with Europa-Park. I really feel that Europa-Park and GCII came together to create one of the most amazing wooden coasters in existence. The ride fits into the back corner of the park and uses every ounce of space available, whether it be underground or over and under two other existing coasters," said Gray. "From the time guests walk up to the grand gates that make up the ride entrance and through the queue under the structure, you are amazed by this attraction before ever seeing the trains in the station. The ride experience is nothing short of a top-notch Great Coaster achterbahn. It's filled with great drops, turns and airtime hills, all taken at what feel like the speed of light on a set of smooth urethane wheels."

Riding the warrior

Physically, Wodan stands 131 feet tall with 3,445 feet



Wodan's massive support structure was constructed with timber acquired from sustainable German forests while the laminates for the 3,445-foot-long wooden track were imported from the U.S. COURTESY EUROPA-PARK

of track. The ride utilizes a trio of GCII's exclusive 12-car Millennium Flyer trains. In addition to ornate period detail applied to the vehicles' bodies, these are GCII's first trains to feature a soft urethane composite wheel setup as opposed to typical steel wheels. The company performed exhaustive testing using various combinations of soft wheels on Beech Bend Park's Kentucky Rumbler prior to installing them at Europa-Park. Armed with the knowledge they gained, Wodan was designed specifically to use the urethane wheels. The result is a smooth and relatively quiet wooden coaster experience.

After climbing 11 stories above the ground, the trains crest the lift and then swirl around and into a steep 123.3-foot drop that slices through the lift hill structure and plunges steeply into a covered trench. From here riders are treated to a rollicking collection of GCII's trademark, hops, dips and rapid directional changes that are executed with the grace and precision they have come to expect from the revered company.



With three 12-car Millennium Flyer trains operating simultaneously, Wodan can accommodate 1,250 people per hour. This efficiency is achieved by virtue of GCII's reliable T-bar restraints, which eliminate the need for cumbersome, time-consuming seat belt checks.

COURTESY EUROPA-PARK

In addition to multiple below-grade dives, Wodan's trains also closely interact with two other Europa-Park attractions by leaping over and diving under the Atlantica SuperSplash water coaster and the Blue Fire looping coaster. Another treat is the high-speed station flyby, which is a highlight on a number of GCII coasters. During the journey, the trains cover the convoluted layout in three minutes and 25 seconds and reach a top speed of 58.4 mph.

GCII President and Owner Clair Hain, Jr. adds his take on Wodan. "Europa-Park took our expertise and made it even better. It is a real pleasure to see a customer as a partner and collaborator, and not just a buyer. Their leadership elevated our product to a new standard. Their creative input has helped produce a wood coaster experience that will set new standards for product quality, attraction quality and a smooth, quiet and thrilling experience. At the same time, it says with tradition and, in Europa-Park's unique fashion, it is appealing to a very broad audience.

"This is truly a special park, a special ride and a special day for us at GCII."

FAST FACTS

Ride/Park

Wodan Timbur Coaster, Europa-Park, Germany

Type

Wooden twister coaster

Height/Length/Speed

115.8 feet/3,445 feet/
58.4 mph

Special Features

Elaborate Viking/Norse mythology and thematics applied to lengthy queue, station area and trains

Distinctions

Europa-Park's first wooden roller coaster

Ride Vehicles

Three 12-car Millennium Flyer trains

Designer/Builder

Great Coasters International, Inc, in collaboration with Mack Rides

Opened

March 31, 2012

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Parc Astérix adds new land; B&M thriller the highlight

STORY: Andrew Mellor
amellor@amusementtoday.com

FRANCE — The French themer Parc Astérix has added a brand new themed area for 2012, anchored by a major new inverted coaster, OzIris, from Swiss manufacturer Bolliger and Mabillard (B&M).

The new area, themed on Egypt, offers visitors more adventure on their day out as it retells the story of the celebrated comic book *Asterix and Cleopatra*. With existing Roman, Gaulish, Greek and Viking lands, the park is now immersing guests in the Land of the Pharaohs as they follow in the footsteps of Queen Cleopatra, Nuberobix, the architect, and Iris, the mesmerizing magician.

The new area promises fun and excitement for young and old alike. The highlight is the B&M coaster, the theming for which follows the storyline of Iris the magician returning to Egyptian soil after a trip through Gaul, to create a temple to his glory. To maintain his reputation, Iris casts a spell which mesmerizes visitors and makes them “fly and

whirl round like wild winged creatures.” With suitable theming throughout as they walk through to the ride itself, guests will eventually reach the boarding hall, with filtered light and dramatic music to set the scene for their imminent ride.

The experience lasts for two and a half minutes and incorporates 10 different maneuvers of which five are inversions, including a unique dive loop feature. With their feet dangling beneath them, riders are taken to a maximum height of 40 meters (114 feet) and travel along the track at speeds of up to 90 kph (56 mph). Minimum height requirement is 1.3 meters (4.2 feet).

Among the other attractions in the new area is a re-themed, Zierer-built, Tivoli family coaster, SOS Nuberobix, and the opening of Egypt enlarges the park by 2.5 hectares, providing 10 percent more space. An investment of €20 million (U.S.\$26.1 million) has been made in the project which began two years ago and remains faithful to the comic book it is based upon.



The theming and storyline surrounding the new Bolliger and Mabillard coaster at Parc Astérix is a big part of the overall experience. Riders reach a maximum height of 40 meters (114 feet) and speeds of up to 90 kph (56 mph) on OzIris.
COURTESY PARC ASTERIX



Australia's Dreamworld adds DreamWorks themed area

AUSTRALIA — In a tie in with U.S. animation studio DreamWorks Animation, Dreamworld on Australia's Gold Coast has opened a series of new zones in the center of the park under the new DreamWorks Experience banner.

Tagged by the park during construction as “the most exciting and extensive development currently underway in any Australian theme park,” Dreamworld is the only park in the country to feature DreamWorks Animation themed lands. The new DreamWorks Experience, which covers an area of 8,400 square meters (90,417 square feet) has transformed the heart of the park and takes guests into the worlds of their favourite DreamWorks characters from various DreamWorks films.

Guests begin their journey by crossing a bridge at the entrance to the new area to enter Madagascar Madness, an overgrown jungle where chimps hang from vines and penguins are on a wild mission, with King Julien in charge. Newly themed rides can also be found in this section, including the Escape from Madagascar kid's coaster which provides excitement for junior adrenalin seekers, while Mad Jungle Jam offers fun with foam ball cannons and a rainforest bridge.

King Julien's Theatre in the Wild houses the 20-minute Madagascar Live – Prepare to Party Show, while the Madagascar Cargo Hold merchandise outlet is also available to guests.

Following the Madagascar Madness area, guests enter the medieval fairytale land of Shrek's Fair Faire Away, themed around the loveable ogre and his friends and featuring more rides and attractions, including Donkey's Flyers, Gingy's Glider, Puss in Boots' Sword Swing and Shrek's Ogre-Go-Round.

Additional “zones” are still being added to the DreamWorks Experience and Po's Garden provides guests with a taste of what is to come later in the year when Kung Fu Panda Land is completed, featuring a selection of brand new rides and attractions.

To date, no new rides have been utilized in the new area – instead existing rides have been re-themed – while during construction a number of temporary rides and attractions have been in operation to ensure guests can continue to enjoy a full day's entertainment at the park.



Guests to Dreamworld Australia can now immerse themselves in new themed areas based on the DreamWorks film franchises and characters.

COURTESY DREAMWORLD/DREAMWORKS ANIMATIONS L.L.C.

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Severn-Lamb is continuing its long term relationship with U.K. Drayton Manor Theme Park, carrying out work in a variety of capacities at the park. Some of the attractions getting attention include (top to bottom) the Drayton Queen river boat, Chairlift gondolas and DMP train.

COURTESY SEVERN-LAMB



Severn-Lamb strengthens long-term relationship with Drayton Manor Theme Park

► SEE RELATED STORY - PAGE 45

UNITED KINGDOM — Severn-Lamb is continuing its long term relationship with U.K. Drayton Manor Theme Park, carrying out work in a variety of capacities at the park.

The company is making the most of its diverse range of design, engineering, manufacturing and refurbishment skills to provide Drayton Manor with a range of services for a number of different attractions, among them one of the park's oldest rides, the Chairlift. Severn-Lamb has completed the refurbishment of the Chairlift gondolas including the addition of new livery to match the decor on the park's new hotel (the ride passes close to the front of the hotel), as well as providing a replacement back-up engine and service schedule for the ride.

Additionally, during the 2011-12 winter, Severn-Lamb has been carrying out refurbishment work on the park's Buffalo coaster while the company has also recently fitted a new engine and stern drive to the Drayton Queen Mississippi river boat, which it originally supplied to the park back in the 1980s. And at the same time, Severn-Lamb was responsible for working with the Marine Coastguard Agency (MCA) to attain a certificate of operation for inland waterways for the boat on behalf of the park.

Other on-going work at Drayton Manor includes the maintenance of all the park's back-up engines on its rides and attractions, among them those on the roller coaster G-Force, the Thomas and Percy railway engines in the Thomas Land area and the back-up engine used in the ballroom entertainment venue.

"We are very proud of our on-going relationship with Drayton Manor which we have enjoyed for many years," said Severn-Lamb Managing Director Patrick Lamb. "We originally supplied the park with a Rio Grande train in the 1970s when my grandfather was running the business and have been involved there ever since in various capacities. The variety of work we are carrying out and the products and services we are supplying are a great example of what we are now offering parks and other venues as we further diversify and make full use of the varied skills and areas of expertise we have available."

For Drayton Manor, park operations manager David Bromilow commented: "There has always been a very good relationship between Drayton Manor and Severn-Lamb, which goes back to the beginning of the 1970s when the company supplied our first Rio Grande train. In addition to the manufacturing side, they also have all the facilities for refurbishing and servicing work on rides, attractions and other equipment so we are taking advantage of that. We were thrilled with the full refurbishment Severn-Lamb carried out on our Drayton Queen and we work very closely with them on what we want to achieve, with Severn-Lamb coming up with the solution(s). They also co-ordinate with our ride inspector, LTC, which is very useful too."

Innovative Leisure introduces Mobile Zip Line

UNITED KINGDOM — Interactive family attractions specialist Innovative Leisure celebrated the European launch of the latest addition to its product range at the IN-PAS Expo and Trade Show in March, when it officially unveiled the Mobile Zip Line.

Already proving a major success in the U.S., the new attraction is manufactured by Spectrum Sports International and will be distributed exclusively in the U.K. and Europe by Innovative Leisure. A fully operational version of the ride was on display at IN-PAS, which takes place at the Stoneleigh Park and Exhibition Centre in Warwickshire, U.K., on March 13 and 14.

The new attraction, which was the recipient of the Best

New Product Award at last November's IAAPA Attractions Expo, is the first commercially available portable zip line (with multiple patents pending). Access is via a 30-inch-wide staircase which meets OSHA and ASTM requirements and takes participants to a height of 28 feet. At the top of the stairs, riders enter the launch barrel which protects them from fall exposure until they are safely connected to the zip line. When ready to go, the operator opens a rotating safety gate and the rider is then able to take the "leap of faith."

At the opposite end of the attraction, an innovative, patent pending brake technology, the Auto-Retract, is employed to slow only the last part of the

ride in a smooth, carefully controlled action. This is a mechanized device that replaces the old method of stopping zip line riders by hand. Significantly it solves one of the most potentially dangerous aspects of any zip line — the stop — while also returning the trolley to the top of the attraction for the next rider, hence the name Auto-Retract.

Another key aspect is the easy set-up procedure. A 12 volt hydraulic lift system stands the tower in place at the touch of a button, the zip lines are secured and an inflatable wall is positioned at the lower end for a little "added rider intimidation." Total set-up time is approximately 30 minutes.

"The new Mobile Zip Line has taken the events and at-

tractions industry by storm," said Innovative Leisure M.D. Phil Pickersgill, "and has brought a revolutionary concept in mobile entertainment to the business. It provides operators with a brand new experience to offer their customers and one that will exceed the expectations of all who ride it."

"We've already had a tremendous amount of interest in the Mobile Zip Line and indeed have customers coming from throughout the U.K. and overseas to view it at the INPAS show. I know it's going to be a hugely popular attraction at venues and events of all kinds and the first one supplied by ourselves will be in operation in the U.K. in March, with others to follow."



Innovative Leisure recently launched its new Mobile Zip Line. The new attraction is manufactured by Spectrum Sports International and will be distributed exclusively in the U.K. and Europe by Innovative Leisure.

COURTESY INNOVATIVE LEISURE

NFAN 2012 conference marks progressive and successful year

UNITED KINGDOM — The annual conference and trade show of the National Farm Attractions Network (NFAN) was held at Drayton Manor Theme Park in Staffordshire on February 7-8. The event enjoyed strong support from both operator and trade members from throughout the U.K.

With the theme Moving Forward, this year's event was extended by a day to encompass two farm park visits, one to White Post Farm, in Nottingham, and another to Sacrewell Farm and Country Center in Peterborough.

The second, main conference day, offered a program covering several key areas of operation and legislation relating to farm park attractions. Proceedings commenced with an introduction from NFAN Chairman Matt Heast who welcomed all those in attendance before introducing the keynote speaker, Adam Henson, owner of the Cotswold Farm Park and a regular presenter on BBC TV's *Countryfile* and a co-presenter



Taking part in a debate and question time session was a panel chaired by NFAN President John Oliver (second left). Participants included (from left) Paul Sharpe from Kids Play, David Taylor of Taylor Design and Play, Adam Henson and Tim Rollings from Fishers Farm Park.

AT/ANDREW MELLOR

on *Lambing Live*.

In an enthusiastic and uplifting presentation, Adam provided his audience with an insight into the history and development of Cotswold Farm Park, as well as a look at the farm business from which it came. He revealed how he

got involved in presenting on *Countryfile* and *Lambing Live* and went on to discuss the importance of branding at venues and how Cotswold Farm Park is now branded as Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park, to make the most of his TV exposure.



The exhibition element of the conference proved as popular as ever with delegates.

AT/ANDREW MELLOR

Adam Henson's keynote presentation was followed by a debate and question time session, with various questions being put to a panel chaired by NFAN President John Oliver. This year's conference was again held in conjunction with a trade exhibition which

hosted approximately 40 companies promoting a variety of products and services, from children's play structures and costume characters to retail goods and insurance services. And by all accounts it was a very worthwhile occasion for those involved.

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Reporter's Notebook

SeaWorld San Diego wins recycling award

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — SeaWorld San Diego has been selected as one of the "Recycler's of the Year" from the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department for waste reduction and recycling programs.

The awards ceremony took place at the San Diego Zoo on April 20, 2012 with Mayor Jerry Sanders presenting the awards.

In 2011 SeaWorld's culinary operations department recycled a record 389.4 tons of food scraps with no loads rejected by the landfill; the Landscaping department recycled a record 277.45 tons of greenery with no loads rejected by the landfill; cardboard recycling rates were up 16 percent with 386.2 tons of material recycled; and the Manta construction project recycled more than 3,514 tons of mixed materials.

Quoted

"The popularity of the A-Maze-N Fun-House for families has exceeded our expectations."

—EnterTrainment Junction owner Don Oeters said on the FEC's latest expansion of the circus-midway themed funhouse

Gerstlauer SkyFly takes flight at Mall of America's Nickelodeon Universe

STORY: Scott Rutherford
srutherford@amusementtoday.com

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Nickelodeon Universe at the Mall of America recently became home to the first U.S. installation of Gerstlauer Amusement Rides' new SkyFly.

Dubbed Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shell Shock, the new attraction features 12 single-seat gondolas suspended together from a boom attached to a central column. Once riders are secured with comfortable shoulder restraints equipped with redundant hydraulic cylinders, the boom takes off and the gondola brakes are released. Thanks to individual instruments, riders control their own wings and decide whether the trip turns into a looping adventure or simply a scenic flight through the air. When the boom is tilted, riders attain a top speed of 25 mph and fly up to a height of 72 feet during each revolution.

AT spoke with MOA Public Relations Manager Jennifer Lauerman about why this particular ride was chosen and how guests are responding. "We selected this Gerstlauer ride because we wanted to offer our guests something they can't get anywhere else. This is the first ride of its kind in the U.S. That combined with the unique theming of the ride provides a truly unique experience," said Lauerman. "Guest reaction to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shell Shock has been extremely positive. Riders love that they can control their own experience on the ride, whether it's mildly rocking their seat back and forth or doing a full 360 spin."

To celebrate the grand opening of its new ride, the Mall of America and Nickelodeon Universe broke the standing Guinness World Record for the world's largest gathering of Ninja Turtles. An adjudicator with Guinness World Records confirmed the crowd of amassed turtles numbered 836. The previous record was 786. Organizers



Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shell Shock at the Mall of America is the fourth attraction supplied to Nickelodeon Universe by Germany's Gerstlauer Amusement Rides. COURTESY MALL OF AMERICA

provided everyone in attendance with a free face mask and a T-shirt, and they were allowed to ride the new attraction for free.

Adam Sandy of Ride Entertainment Group, which represents Gerstlauer, commented on the installation: "The SkyFly at Nick Universe in the Mall of America works very well because it was fit into such a tight space. It is unusual in that it is hemmed in by a family coaster, a walkway, structural support columns, and a gigantic 'Peep' that sits atop a key store," explained Sandy. "All of this made the design and installation more difficult, but the end result is a fantastic attraction. The theming the park did exceeds our expectations and the custom-designed

statues that adorn the entrance look fantastic."

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Shell Shock ranks as the fourth attraction Gerstlauer had supplied to Mall of America. Gerstlauer Managing Director Siegfried Gerstlauer talks about the company's approach to fulfilling customers needs. "We are opening three of our new SkyFly rides and roller coasters of all sizes around the world. We have worked to offer our clients new and unique ways to thrill their guests, and this is why we see parks coming back to us for more innovative attractions," said Gerstlauer. "The SkyFly fits a unique niche because it allows guests to control their own experience, which is what more parks are requesting."

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Legoland Discovery Center D/FW adding SB International car ride

Lego City: Forest Ranger Pursuit to open this summer

GRAPEVINE, Texas — Legoland Discovery Center Dallas/Fort Worth recently announced Lego City: Forest Ranger Pursuit, their first new interactive ride since the facility opening in April 2011. The new 5,000 square-foot driving experience is scheduled to open summer 2012.

Children will be able to take part in their own driving adventure as they are let loose upon forest pathways in their own off-road Lego vehicles to chase robbers who have escaped with gold bars from the city. There will be nine different scenes in which kids freely drive around a specially built Lego course in one of 20 vehicles supplied by SB International. Age and height restrictions apply. The new attraction will be located in a newly constructed space near the Legoland Discovery Café.

There will be no additional fee to participate in the



A new 5,000 square-foot driving experience will open this summer at Legoland Discovery Center D/FW in Grapevine, Texas. COURTESY LEGOLAND DISCOVERY CENTER

driving experience. Entry is included in the overall price of admission.

The \$12-million, 35,000-square-foot indoor attraction is the second Legoland Discovery Center venue to open in the U.S. and the fifth

in the world. It offers a fun, highly interactive and educational two to three hour indoor experience, which is ideal for families with children.

• www.legolanddiscoverycenter.com

Wow Factory features Prime Play unit

COCONUT CREEK, Fla. — Opening this spring in Coconut Creek, Florida, Wow Factory will offer the largest ropes course and Ballocity in southern Florida, provided by Prime Play. This Sky Trail ropes course will challenge guests to traverse through a 20 foot (6 meters) high, 42 foot (13 meter) long and 64 foot (20 meters) wide attraction, while harnessed in a closed-tracking safety system.

Wow Factory will also feature Prime Play's ever popular Ballocity attraction and an exciting climbing wall. The Ballocity attraction will showcase custom Wow Factory theming and three levels with multiple activities that pro-

mote interaction between the levels as well as between guests. Activities include a vacuum system from the ground floor to the third level, as well as a dumping bucket where dozens of kids can assist in filling it up before the timer goes off, dropping hundreds of foam balls!

The integration of the Ballocity, Sky Trail ropes course, and climbing wall attractions will cater to a wide demographic since the Ballocity best caters to younger kids and their parents, while the Ropes Course and climbing wall cater to older kids, teens and adults.

• www.primeplay.com



Prime Play has designed a custom themed Ballocity attraction for the Wow Factory in Coconut Creek, Florida. COURTESY PRIME PLAY

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Chance trains to Toledo Zoo

TOLEDO, Ohio — The Toledo Zoo's Safari Railroad will feature three new C.P. Huntington Locomotives when it resumes regular operation this season. The Toledo Zoo recently purchased one new locomotive and refurbished two 2003 model locomotives that they already owned.

"The team at Chance Rides helped in developing an affordable plan and following through with three beautiful Locomotives," said Harry Prentice, assistant director of facilities maintenance for the Toledo Zoo.

The refurbishment process for the locomotives took place over a period of six months and involved a complete disassembly and rebuild to bring the locomotives to Chance's current production



The Toledo Zoo's Safari Railroad will feature three new C.P. Huntington Locomotives this season. Two refurbished engines along with a brand new locomotive will ride the rails when the line resumes regular operation this season.

COURTESY CHANCE RIDES

standards. Each refurbished train received a new engine, transmission, axles and rebuilt gearboxes. The entire body was sandblasted and

repainted while the brass trim was stripped, polished and clear powder coated. All brake hardware was repainted and zinc plated.

IAAPA announces new IP policy

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) is taking steps to protect its members from patent, trademark, and copyright infringements. Effective June 1, 2012, IAAPA member and non-member companies that exhibit, purchase advertising, or sponsor an event must comply with IAAPA's policy and procedures on Intellectual Property (IP). The new rules, which apply to activities taking place under the IAAPA umbrella, require companies own the intellectual property of their featured products or have the rights to sell that product on behalf of the owner.

The program includes an agreement that all companies doing business with IAAPA must sign. In addition to attesting to owning their products' IP (or having the rights to sell the product), each company agrees to a binding arbitration process for dispute resolution. The arbitration is conducted by an independent third party who will address viable claims of infringement formally filed with IAAPA.

"Protecting the attractions industry's innovation and creativity is essential to maintaining its integrity and long-term success," said IAAPA President and CEO Chip Cleary. "The IP problem was one of the first issues brought to my attention when I joined the IAAPA staff; after many meetings with our manufacturer and supplier members and in consultation with several other associations who have developed similar IP programs, we felt this new policy was in the best interest of IAAPA, our members, and the global attractions industry."

Full policy viewing: www.IAAPA.org/IPPolicy



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Mr. Freeze: Reverse Blast launching at two Six Flags parks

At Six Flags Over Texas and Six Flags St. Louis

ARLINGTON, Texas and ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Six Flags Over Texas and Six Flags St. Louis, in partnership with Warner Bros. Consumer Products and DC Entertainment, recently announced the debut of an all-new ride experience, Mr. Freeze: Reverse Blast. Launching in May 2012, riders on both parks' Mr. Freeze steel looping coasters will be launched backwards through a 190-foot tunnel, into a 180-degree top hat inversion before climbing more than 200-feet in the air where they will find themselves pausing briefly at the highest point of the ride, before repeating the entire chilling experience in the opposite direction.

"Reversing the direction of the trains on two of our most popular coasters is a fun twist on the ride experience," said Al Weber, Six Flags chief operating officer. "Mr Freeze: Reverse Blast demonstrates Six Flags' commitment to continually push the envelope and deliver new and innovative thrills to our guests."

The rides will maintain the original Mr. Freeze theme, patterned after Batman's cold-hearted arch rival in the DC Comics Batman series.

Both rides opened in 1998. They were supplied by Premier Rides, Baltimore, Md.

Zamperla coaster thrilling guests at Fun Spot

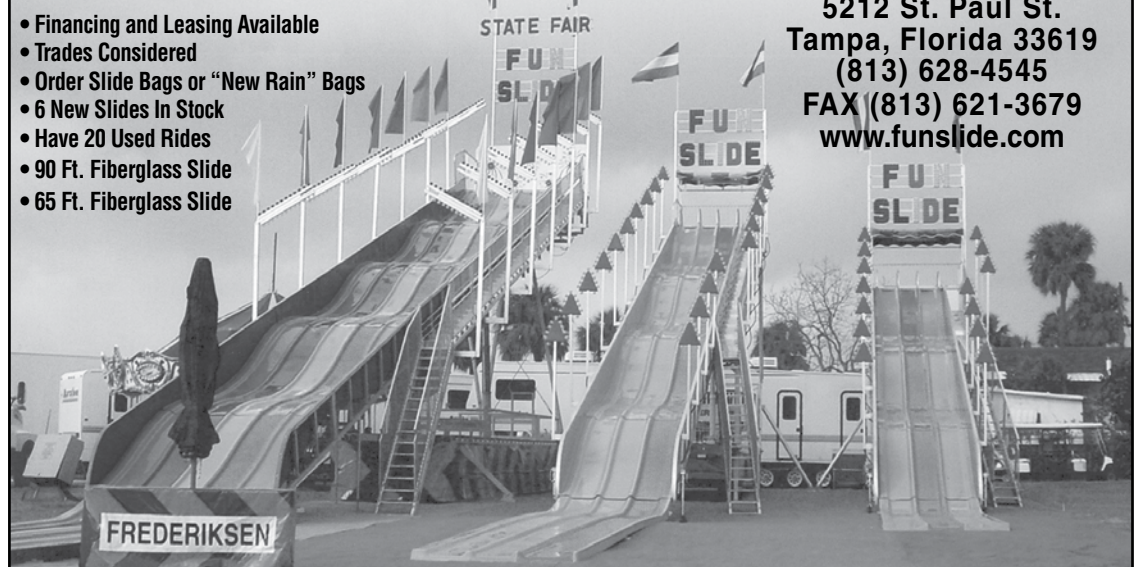


Fun Spot USA, Kissimmee, Fla., scored a major hit with its first roller coaster, Power Trip. Formerly known as Galaxy Spin when it operated at Cypress Gardens (2005-08), the Zamperla Spinning Wild Mouse (Twister Coaster 420STD) is sponsored by Power Trip energy drink. The ride has been a park favorite since its debut last July.
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Showboat Branson Belle launches new shows in 2012

BRANSON, Mo. — The Showboat Branson Belle, “America’s Most Entertaining Dinner Cruise,” launches two new shows for the 2012 season. *Made in the USA* kicked off March 30, featuring Janice Martin, the world’s only violin-playing aerialist, and the male vocal group the ShowMen, in a new show celebrating all-American music. The

show and a three-course meal are featured on all cruises aboard the authentic 700-seat paddlewheeler, which cruises Table Rock Lake March through December.

Martin, a world-class violinist, pianist and vocalist whose artistry has been heralded worldwide by The New York Times, Miami Herald and Washington Post, performs

new selections, including an aerial act high above the stage as she plays the violin. The ShowMen, five talented male vocalists and dancers, fill the stage with a powerful blend of contemporary harmonies and standout solos, all accompanied by the Showboat’s signature live band Rockin’ Dockers. Comedian and magician Christopher James is the

master of ceremonies.

Debuting in late May is an all-new *Made in the USA* show presented on noon and Sunday cruises, featuring master pianist Julie McClarey and talented fiddler Dean Church, plus the female quartet The ShowBelles, along with the Showboat’s live band The Castaways. Comedian David Hirschi, two-time Branson Comedian of the Year, emcees and performs.

Also new, the Showboat presents *Cruising With The Classics* featuring top names in Southern Gospel on noon cruises Aug. 26 – 31.

The menu from the Showboat’s chef includes slow simmered Beef Roast and Honey-Dijon Glazed Chicken, and the chef’s own Golden Brittle Lemon-Berry Torte, all prepared onboard in the ship’s galley. The Showboat Branson Belle cruises Table Rock Lake in Branson, Missouri, March 30 through Dec. 31.



The Showboat Branson Belle launches two new shows for the 2012 season. *Made in the USA* and the male vocal group ShowMen. COURTESY SDC

New funhouse attraction opened March 1 at EnterTrainment Junction

WEST CHESTER, Ohio — EnterTrainment Junction officials announced that visitors can now experience an all-new attraction in the A-Maze-N FunHouse. Called Crazy Caper, this walk-through attraction (the newest of five-themed areas) features a chaotic journey fraught with assorted alarms, tricks, gimmicks, black lights, air blasts, moving floors and other wild distractions assaulting the senses.

This latest expansion of the circus-midway themed funhouse comes only one year after the attraction’s grand opening in March, 2011. “The popularity of the A-Maze-N FunHouse for families has exceeded our expectations,” said EnterTrainment

Junction owner Don Oeters. “Guests of all ages love the concept and over all fun experience, so we thought we would expand the attraction right away.”

In Crazy Caper, guests search for a magic key, the possession of which makes them official ringmasters of the entire FunHouse attraction. But the road is not an easy one, as guests must negotiate a bewildering array of distractions, including a black-lit rope maze, holograms, wall tiles that change shape and floors that confusingly change colors, vibrate, and squish beneath one’s footsteps.

Crazy Caper opened March 1.

Kennywood hopes to get beer in park

WEST MIFFLIN, Pa. — Visitors to Kennywood Park may soon be able to enjoy a beer while spending a day at the park.

Since opening in 1898, Kennywood has never sold beer during the season — the exception being two weekends in September for an Oktoberfest-themed event.

On April 11, the West Mifflin council approved a liquor license transfer to Kennywood from a closed restaurant in McKeesport.

“We’re certain that we can still offer beer in a family-friendly environment because we’re committed to serving it in a responsible manner,” spokesman Jeff Filicko said.



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Splash Adventure announces new attractions

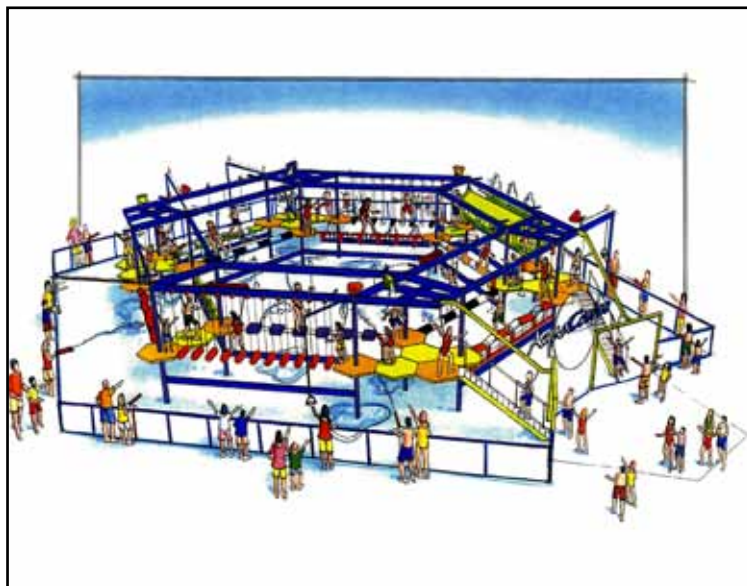
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Fun will take a new direction this summer as Splash Adventure (formally Alabama Adventure) opens this season entirely as an adventure-style, family-friendly waterpark.

“We are creating a new generation of waterpark with the new attractions we will add to Splash Adventure,” explains Kent Lemasters, president. “Our guests will discover a fresh, exciting, hands-on approach to interacting with the water elements, not found in any other park. They will also welcome the news that there is a 25 percent reduction in the general admission price from last year.”

New attractions

The new attractions include an aqua course, water maze and a zip line, as well as the introduction of dive-in movies. Attraction names will be announced at a later date.

The Aqua Course (WhiteWater West) is a water-based obstacle course, featuring edgier thrills for the more adventurous, as well as easier chal-



Two new and cutting edge attractions for waterparks are on tap for Splash Adventure’s 2012 season including this Aqua Course from WhiteWater West (left) and the Aqua Maze from Amaze’n Mazes (right). COURTESY SPLASH ADVENTURE

lenges for those seeking less of a thrill but just as much fun. Foot-activated water elements, as well as water cannons and other hand-operated effects, such as splash buckets, create interaction not just between the guest and the course, but also each other. The Aqua Course also includes a damp and dry deck, so even those not seeking to get wet can see the action.

The Aqua Maze (Amaze’n Mazes) is just exactly that. Guests will explore the various nooks and crannies of the labyrinth set in water, but that’s not all. They will literally soak up the fun of the surprising splashes that await around the corners.

Strap in to the Zip Line and let go! A breezy trip sends guests soaring down the zip line from Spectrum Sports.



Family members of all ages will enjoy the new Friday night Dive-In Movies. Set against the back wall of the wave pool, movie-goers can grab an inner tube and float through the movie or stay dry on land. These nights will feature family-friendly fare, so everyone can attend.

General Attractions, LLC headed by Kent Lemasters, the company that recently pur-

chased the park, plans to open the SplashAdventure Water Park in mid-May with its new water-oriented adventure attractions. The amusement rides are being sold to make way for new investments in the waterpark. These changes come after extensive market research showed that 70 percent of the guests attending the park were doing so for the existing waterpark.



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Reporter's Notebook

Elitch Gardens adding ProSlide slide, Zamperla rides, BSR game, shows

DENVER, Colo. — Elitch Gardens Theme and Water Park announced three new rides to open this summer. Tube Top, a twisting, twirling, totally-enclosed tube slide from ProSlide is going into Elitch Gardens' waterpark while a fresh new look for the theme park's KiddieLand will feature two new Zamperla's children's rides, the Rockin' Tug and Tike Bikes. New custom-produced shows, that bring the audience into the act, promise yet another season of exciting entertainment in downtown Denver.

Tracy Durham, Elitch Gardens' director of marketing said, "We chose Tube Top, the awesome new water slide, to deliver high-octane excitement this summer while keeping things cool when the temperature is hot. Refreshing KiddieLand, and adding two more new rides just for little ones, gives families with small children something they can enjoy together."

Families will be delighted to see the fresh, new look at Elitch Gardens' KiddieLand. A colorful new entrance, brand new theater, and two new rides will bring renewed excitement to the popular kids' area which includes a total of 14 rides.

Elitch Gardens also announced it is adding a new Tub Toss game from Bob's Space Racers.

Highlighting the immersive show entertainment is *Cirque In-nosta Verano*, a full 360-degree stage experience designed to dazzle guests and make them part of this unique show. Best-in-class performers will display acts of aerial artistry and amazing strength as they fold audience members into the kaleidoscope of intrigue. *Rock School for Kids* features Johnny Rocket Pop and Darla Drumstick take their music and dance while a new summer night show, *Reflections* will light the sky with a spectacular wash of color, drama and special effects.

Elitch Gardens is managed by Herschend Family entertainment.

Burleson, Texas camp-resort adding waterplay area

Arihant-supplied waterplay area to open May 4

BURLESON, Texas — Pirate's Cove, Burleson's first waterplay park, is scheduled to open May 4 next to the North Texas Jellystone Park Camp-Resort.

"We're pretty excited about it," said Steve Stafford, general manager of the North Texas Jellystone, which is developing the 4-acre family entertainment center with both wet and dry play areas as well as a food court with varied menu options.

Pirate's Cove features a 26,000-square-foot, 36-foot high interactive waterplay park with seven waterslides. Along with the numerous interactive features, the play area includes a pirate themed structure, a floating lily pad, a ropewalk, 28 cabanas and an activity pool.

The waterplay structure was supplied by India-based Arihant Industrial Corporation Limited. Amusement Aquatic Management Group (AMG) headed by Kent Lemasters is the consulting manager for the waterplay and FEC areas.

Pirate's Cove General Manager Steve Stafford, left, and Amusement Aquatic Management Group's Kent Lemasters are overseeing the construction of the waterplay and entertainment areas.
AT/GARY SLADE



The entertainment complex also has a 13,500 square foot family entertainment center called Pirate's Cove Fun Zone. It includes a 24-foot climbing structure, mini bowling, laser frenzy, a Frog Hopper and more than 40 interactive and arcade games.

The Pirate's Cove water playpark, slated to open on May 4, will be open to the public for a nominal admission price, while the Pirate's Cove Fun Zone and food court can be visited without an admission charge.

"We want to be able to cater to the

needs of waterpark enthusiasts as well as people who simply want to drop by and have a place for their children to play or enjoy a meal without getting wet," Stafford said.

Pirate's Cove is also expected to provide a boost to the local economy. Stafford said applications are being accepted for 30 to 40 full- and part-time positions, including lifeguards, cooks, food servers, security and maintenance personnel.

• www.PiratesCoveFunZone.com

Hyland Hills Water World to add ProSlide HydroMagnetic Rocket ride for 2012

STORY: Jeffrey L. Seifert
jseifert@amusementtoday.com

FEDERAL WAY, Colo. — The popular Hyland Hills Water World, already one of the top-ten waterparks in the U.S. in terms of attendance, is adding two new products from ProSlide, including a \$4.5 million HydroMagnetic Rocket. The two attractions will occupy 2.3 acres at the front of the park.

The Rocket, named Mile High Flyer, will be equipped with rafts that can accommodate four passengers seated inline. As with all HydroMagnetic waterslides, the rafts have a thin conductive metal plate along the bottom that engages a magnetic field created by Linear Induction Motors (LIM) along the waterslide channel. This allows the rafts to slide uphill much like a roller coaster. The Mile High Flyer attraction will have uphill sections of up to 45 feet in length.



There are currently only four HydroMagnetic Rockets in the U.S., although one is standing idle at the closed Kentucky Kingdom theme park, but is expected to reopen in 2013.

An 800-pound weight limit is imposed on each raft, and groups of guests will be required to step on a scale to check their combined weight. A simple red or green light will indicate if the group is a go or no-go, so guests do not have to worry about having their weight displayed.

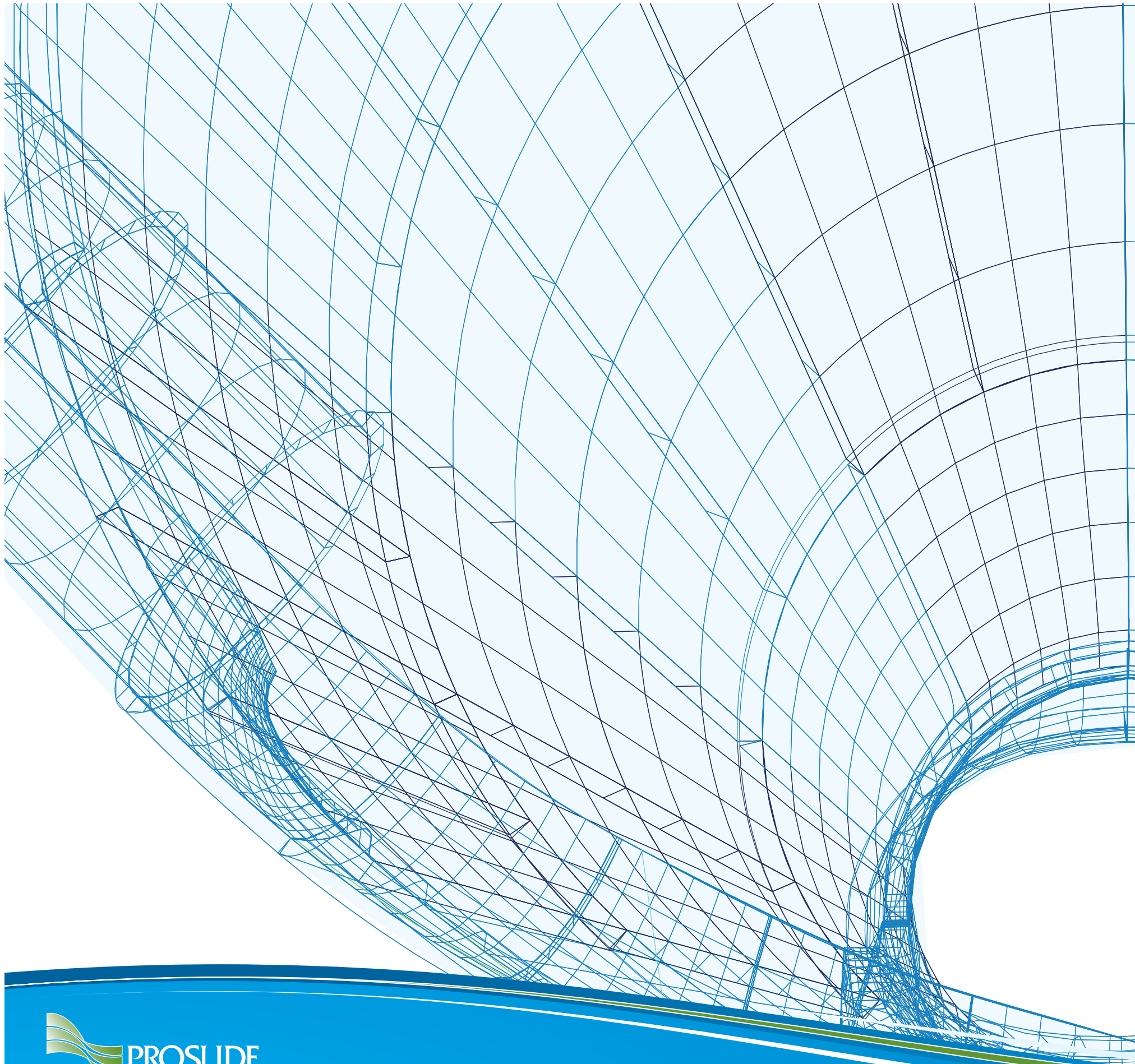
Construction is currently on

track for completion in April. Testing of the electrical systems and fine-tuning of the LIMs can take up to an additional six weeks. Park guests can follow the construction progress by viewing a webcam on the park's website, but an official opening date has yet to be announced.

Double Dare, the second attraction, is a dual ProSlide PipeLine. Although specific details haven't been made available, the PipeLine typically features one, two, or three-person innertubes that traverse a winding or straight course. Views from the webcam indicate that the Water World PipeLine will feature both open and enclosed tube sections. It also appears to be more of a speed-slide type with long straight downhill sections.

Water World opens for the season on May 26, with daily operation (weather permitting) continuing through August 19.

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Wild Rivers could reopen in two years

IRVINE, Calif. — Wild Rivers Waterpark is on track to reopen in two years on county-owned land next to Irvine, California's planned Great Park.

The water-ride amusement park was forced to close down after 27 years at its previous 14-acre location in Irvine, when the landowner decided to build apartments on the property.

After several months of

discussions and planning, the county and Wild Rivers Irvine LLC are closing in on a final agreement. The county Board of Supervisors gave government staff the authority to negotiate a lease agreement in February, on 17 acres of a 100-acre parcel the county owns.

The initial lease for the county land would likely be for 20 years. It will cost about \$30

million to \$35 million to build the park and the financing is already lined up. The park plans to operate about 110 days a year, starting with weekends in May, full weeks from June through early September and weekends again into October.

"We are negotiating terms and hope to bring a lease to the board for approval next month," said James Campbell,

manager of land development with the county.

Wild Rivers has agreed to contribute \$3 million up front, some of which the county would use to demolish buildings and grade the property. The current structures include a mess hall from the 1940s and '50s.

The new Wild Rivers waterpark will feature all new wa-

ter slides, attractions, themes and layout. With the exception of a few novelty items, all of the slides, attractions and structures at the former park were demolished.

Construction of Wild Rivers would begin in May of next year and the plan is to open the park in May 2014.

Wild Rivers provided about 1,200 summer jobs for Orange County, many of them being filled by local teenagers, before it closed. The new park will employ slightly less than that because of new design efficiencies being implemented.

Wild Rivers LLC is also negotiating to buy city land in Temecula to build a new waterpark there.

—Jeffrey Seifert

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Kentucky city moving forward with splash park

CARROLLTON, Kentucky — The city is moving forward with plans for a splash park near Point Park. The city council heard proposals from two splash pad construction companies on April 9.

Vortex and Water Odyssey presented their visions of what the splash park could be. Both offered two options — with the water running off into the sewer system or with the water being recirculated.

The budget for the project is about \$158,000. To have the funds to begin the splash park, the city will have to obtain grant money from the Land and Water Conservation fund.

That proposal has already been submitted and the city could get up to \$60,000 if the grant is approved, but \$45,000 in pledged donations from the community must first be obtained. As of April 9, about \$21,000 in donations had been pledged.

Lose and Associates, the architects overseeing the river-front project master plan, originally said the budget for the splash park would be \$350,000. Because of the miscommunication of the budget, Vortex and Water Odyssey will have to go back to configure a more realistic splash park design to meet the smaller budget. The council will give both companies input about what they like about each of their designs before they submit a new proposal.



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Polin awarded Cartoon Network deal



Turkey-based Polin has been named as the official waterslide supplier for the new Cartoon Network Amazone waterpark, currently under construction in Bang Saray, on the East Coast of Thailand. Scheduled to open in 2013, the park will feature signature attractions including a gigantic family wave pool, a winding adventure river, speed-racing slides, family raft slides and one of the world's largest interactive waterplay fortresses for kids. Polin will supply unique and thrilling waterslides throughout the park, all impressively themed.

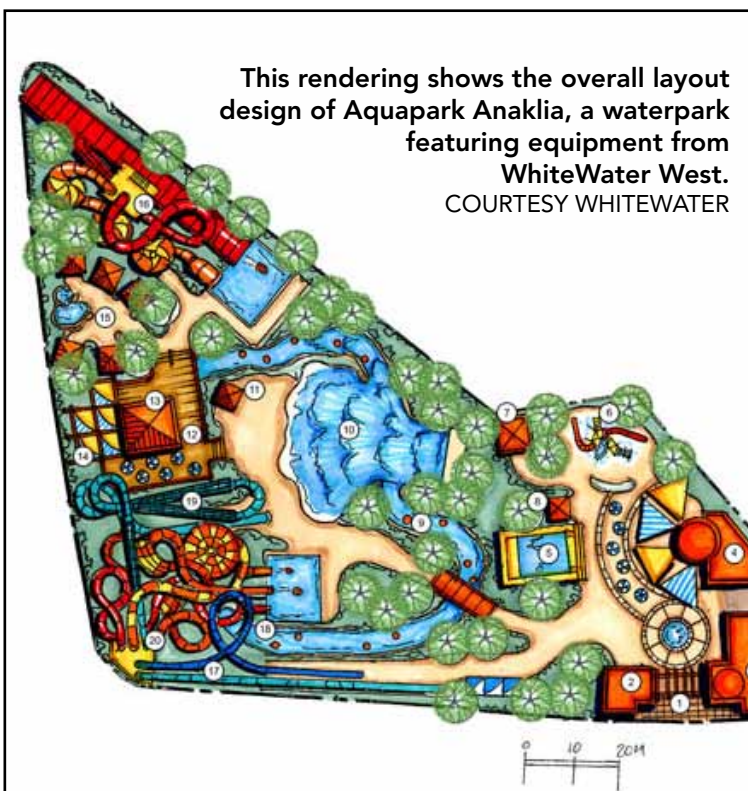
COURTESY POLIN

WhiteWater to supply multiple slides to Black Sea waterpark

GEORGIA — WhiteWater West will supply several major attractions to Aquapark Anaklia, a new park that is under construction at the Anaklia City Resort, a luxurious seaside resort on the shores of Georgia's Black Sea.

Designed by WhiteWater's in-house team of architectural design experts, AquaPark Anaklia will feature one of WhiteWater's newest waterslides, the Constrictor — the first in the region. The Constrictor's flume expands from 4.5 feet (1.3 meters) to 7 feet (2.1 meters) and back again, delivering a spine-tingling series of spirals which allow riders to experience among the tightest, highest banking turns in the industry.

The new park is expected to open in August 2012, and will feature a host of WhiteWater attractions.



This rendering shows the overall layout design of Aquapark Anaklia, a waterpark featuring equipment from WhiteWater West.
COURTESY WHITEWATER



NEWSPLASH

COMPILED: Jeffrey L. Seifert, jseifert@amusementtoday.com

Hersheypark's Boardwalk Waterpark received the prestigious Platinum International Aquatic Safety Award given by **Jeff Ellis & Associates, Inc.** (E&A), a leader in aquatic safety. Earning this award demonstrates the aquatic facilities at The Boardwalk at Hersheypark consistently exceed industry standards in risk management and epitomize aquatic safety excellence.

Responding to concerns from pool industry experts and a hotel/ lodging industry coalition, the White House issued a 60-day extension for compliance with requirements under the **Americans with Disabilities Act**.

The extension was granted March 15, two days after Senator Jim DeMint introduced a bill which would prevent enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act relative to commercial pools and spas. Pool operators now have until May 15, 2012 to comply, but the time could be extended further.

While operators now have more time to meet the requirements, pool industry experts say the extension does not address the larger concerns raised when the Department of Justice (DOJ) issued an interpretation of the ADA Act restricting use of portable lifts. The ADA originally passed in 1990. In 2010, the DOJ released the Standards for Accessible Design, which specified how the law should be implemented in many arenas, including public pools and spas. A sloped entry or lift is required on most public pools, with a second means of access needed on those measuring more than 300 perimeter feet. Spas must have a lift, transfer wall or transfer system. Lifts have been the most popular choice because of their cost and the relative ease of adding them.

Until recently, most hotel owners had portable pool lifts available. Now, each pool or hot tub must have a separate lift. The cost of a lift is about \$5,000, which can add up if a property has multiple pools and hot tubs. A few hotels are permanently closing pools and filling in the ground to avoid the expense.

Great Wolf Resorts has launched a new 'Behind the Howl' blog to give their readers a behind the scenes look at how Great Wolf creates a positive guest experience. For anyone who has ever wondered what it takes to plan special events or learn what new attractions or amenities are being added, the new blog provides the answers. Guest bloggers from outside the Great Wolf family also add perspective about the resort brand, and guests of the Lodge may submit their own posts, providing content for readers written by fellow readers.

Sahara Sam's Oasis Indoor Water Park has been awarded the prestigious Silver International Aquatic Safety Award by **Jeff Ellis & Associates, Inc.**, based in Ocoee, Florida.

Ellis & Associates tests each of its Comprehensive Aquatic Risk Management Program members with unannounced safety audits four times per year. Ellis auditors test the facility's emergency action plans with real-life emergency scenarios. They also test each of the lifeguards on staff for their rescue proficiency and safety knowledge. Only those organizations scoring in the top 30 percent of the audit criteria receive this award.

Investors in Madison, Wis.-based **Great Wolf Resorts**, which announced in March that

it was selling to **Apollo Global Management**, have filed a lawsuit to stop the sale. Investors claim the proposed sale to the private equity firm undervalues the company. The proposed sale would pay shareholders \$5 per share. Great Wolf's own financial advisor has placed the value as high as \$7.98 per share.

A similar situation arose in 2010 when the Cedar Fair entertainment company attempted to sell to Apollo Global Management. Investors successfully blocked that sale, and the stock has more than doubled in value since the sale was called off.

Canada's **WhiteWater West** is busy outfitting cruise ships with what will become waterparks at sea.

The **Carnival Spirit** was dry-docked in January to receive the new Carnival Waterworks, including an AquaDrop and AquaPlay. **Carnival Breeze**, under construction in Italy is also getting a Carnival Waterworks including a Champagne Bowl and AquaTube body slide. Not to be outdone, NCL's **Norwegian Breakaway**, under construction in Germany, is getting outfitted with two AquaLoops and AquaTube body slides. The two Carnival cruise ships should be in service by summer. The NCL ship is scheduled for delivery April 2013.

The Village of Gurnee board members gave **KeyLime Cove Waterpark** permission to operate Spring Community Days from April 16 to June 12. Participants under the program will receive daily access to the **Lost Paradise** waterpark for \$25. Typically access to the waterpark requires a hotel stay, but during this fundraising effort, KeyLime Cove can sell up to 5,000 tickets. Proceeds of the sale benefit the Gurnee Police and Fire departments.

Season Pass holders to **The Beach Waterpark** in Cincinnati, Ohio won't be getting refunds after the park announced in March that it was closing. Instead, the waterpark has entered into a partnership to provide pass holders with more than \$200 in alternative experiences at local attractions. Pass holders will receive free or reduced admission at nearby Kings Island, Coney Island, Countryside YMCA, Cincinnati Zoo, Morgan's Outdoor Adventures, Ozone Pipeline Adventures, Dave & Busters and the City of Mason recreational facilities. The park claims all of the money generated from pass sales has been spent, and utilities and vendors are still owed money. Some of the 8,500 customers who paid anywhere from \$45 up to \$89 for passes are not happy with the arrangement and have already contacted the Ohio Attorney General's office.

Audio visual integration firm **Technomedia Solutions** announced it has been awarded the audio visual systems design-build for Merlin Entertainment's new **Legoland Florida** waterpark that will adjoin the new Legoland theme park in Winter Haven, Florida. Scheduled to open in time for summer 2012, the water park will feature a wave pool, Build-A-Raft lazy river, tube slides, body slides and an interactive water-play structure.

Tony Miceli, Technomedia's senior project manager, commented, "Together with the Legoland team, we have helped create a park experience that will captivate people of all ages for many years to come."

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JOANN CORTÉZ, WATER WORLD

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KARI TJADER, COCO KEY WATER RESORT-ORLANDO

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Reporter's Notebook

Prairie Financial launches new website

LEE'S SUMMIT, Mo. — Prairie Financial has announced the launch of their updated website.

The new website reflects Prairie Financial as the Outdoor Amusement Division of Boulevard Bank. In June 2011, Boulevard Bank, a full-service community bank with consumer and business retail and loan operations, purchased the assets of Prairie Financial.

The updated website provides customers and industry contacts with a wealth of information about the company and its capabilities. In addition, customers can now make loan payments online and apply for a loan online, as well.

- www.blvdbank.com/outdoor-amusement
- www.prairiefinancialinc.com

Quoted

"Remember, these people buy your shoes. They are important to us. Make their experience here wonderful."

—Nino Berni, Canobie Lake Park, telling his young son Anthony Berni, Jr. on how to treat guests at the park

NEAAPA Annual Meeting enjoys strong turnout



New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions officers were officially approved for two-year terms at NEAAPA's 86th annual meeting of the organization. From the left: President Cory Hutchinson, Funtown/Splashtown, Saco, Maine; First Vice President David Sugrue, Ocean Beach Park, New London, Conn.; Second Vice President Ryan DeMaria, Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.N.; Treasurer Charlele Conway, Carousel Family Fun Center, Fairhaven, Mass.; and Secretary Ed Hodgdon, Funtown/Splashtown. COURTESY RON GUSTAFSON/NEAAPA

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. — More than 100 persons were in attendance March 27 at the 86th Annual Meeting of the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions at the Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside.

The highlight of the event was the induction of four owners of Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.H., into NEAAPA's Hall of Fame. The 2012 inductees were: Anthony Berni, Jr., Carl Berni, Christine Ulaky, and Raymond Captell.

Also, NEAAPA's new officers (2012-13) were installed during dinner meeting. They are: President Cory Hutchinson, Funtown Splashtown USA, Saco, Maine; First Vice President David Sugrue, Ocean Beach Park, New London, Conn.; Second Vice President Ryan DeMaria, Canobie Lake Park; Treasurer Charlene Conway, Carousel Family Fun Center, Fairhaven, Mass.; and Secretary Ed Hodgdon, Funtown/Splashtown.

During the day, numerous educational seminars took place with speakers including Katie Bruno of WDD Online, Bill Carlson of U-Profit

▶ See NEAAPA, page 39

Three parks in finals for 2012 Applause Award

SWEDEN — Liseberg Amusement Park has announced that it has narrowed the field down to three finalists to win the 2012 Applause Award.

The Applause Award honors a park whose management, operations and creative accomplishments have inspired the industry with their foresight, originality and sound business development.

After an intensive process, evaluating several nominations from all over the world, The Applause Award Board of Governors has now revealed the candidates for The Applause Award for 2012: Ocean Park, Hong Kong, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, Calif. and Puy du Fou, France.

The Applause Award Board of Governors will now begin site visits to the three finalists. The winning park

will be announced at the Kick Off Event at the IAAPA Expo in Orlando, on November 13, 2012.

Members of the Applause Award Board of Governors are: Bob Masteron, Golden Planet Leisure; Peter Herschend, Herschend Family Entertainment; Sascha N. Czibulka, Intamin Amusement Rides; Tim O'Brien, Ripley Entertainment; Amanda Thompson, Pleasure Beach Blackpool; Ira West, Ira West Inc.; John Wood, Sally Corporation; Michael Mack, Europa Park; Andreas Andersen, Liseberg and Pelle Johannisson, Liseberg.

The Applause Award is presented biannually by Liseberg Amusement Park, Gothenburg, Sweden. The 2010 Applause Award was received by Dolly Parton, representing the winning park, Dollywood.

Applause Award previous winners

- 1980 Magic Kingdom
- 1982 Opryland
- 1986 Epcot
- 1988 Knott's Berry Farm
- 1990 Europa Park
- 1992 Efteling
- 1994 Universal Studios Florida
- 1996 Cedar Point
- 1998 Silver Dollar City
- 2000 Hersheypark
- 2002 Busch Gardens Williamsburg
- 2004 Holiday World & Splashin' Safari
- 2006 Islands of Adventure
- 2008 Xetulul, Guatemala
- 2010 Dollywood

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Lake Compounce chosen as Business of the Year

BRISTOL/SOUTHINGTON, Conn. — Lake Compounce Theme Park, located in Bristol and Southington, Conn., has been chosen as the Business of the Year for Autism Day at the State Capitol, by State Representative Catherine Abercrombie, her staff, and the advocates for Autism. Jerry Brick, the park's general manager was presented with the park's award on Autism Day, April 4 at the Capitol.

Lake Compounce has prided themselves on working closely with the non-profit Autism Speaks, to train their employees on how to recognize and assist families dealing with Autism in the park.

"Each year our managers attend an Autism Boot Camp led by an Autism Speaks representative, where they learn understanding and compassion" says the park's General Manager Jerry Brick. "The program is always well received, and our team members consistently comment on how beneficial the training is." This year's Autism Boot Camp took place on April 7 at the park for the 2012 managers.

Sister parks like Storyland in Glen, N.H. and Splash Splash in Calverton, N.Y. have been inspired by the Lake Compounce's Autism programs and are beginning their own community programs as well.

Storyland's General Manager Eric Dziedzic says "Lake Compounce has fostered strong relationships with leaders in the Autism community, and we have seen what a positive difference this commitment has made to the families who visit." He continues, "It's no surprise that they received such an accolade, and we hope to do the same in our park."

Lauren Joyce of Autism Speaks comments "When we were asked what businesses in Connecticut have helped support our mission and our families, Lake Compounce came to mind right away. We are so pleased they are being honored in this way."

The park also hosts an annual Autism Day, set for June 24.



FAST TRACK

COMPILED: Scott Rutherford,
srutherford@amusementtoday.com

Disney's **Epcot** theme park is opening Tutto Gusto, a new wine bar adjacent to Tutto Italia Ristorante, in the Italy pavilion at the World Showcase this month. The wine bar takes over the former lobby area of Tutto Italia and extends back toward Via Napoli.

Mississippi's **Hattiesburg Zoo** celebrated its 62nd birthday this spring by opening two new attractions – a petting zoo and a mining sluice.

Madame Tussauds Waxworks Museum has opened a branch in Sydney with Australian personalities Cate Blanchett and Nicole Kidman sharing the stage with Barack Obama and Lady Gaga. The world-famous London attraction opened in Darling Harbour after 56,000 hours of work creating the 70 figures on display.

Garner Holt Productions, Inc. becomes a Diamond Sponsor of the **Themed Entertainment Association** as they honor the past and celebrate the future during their 20th year anniversary. Garner Holt Productions, Inc. is proud to help sponsor the work the TEA strives to accomplish.

Robert L. Ripley, creator of the famous **Believe It or Not!** cartoon and Odditoriums, has been inducted into Coney Island's prestigious **Sideshow Hall of Fame**.

The Wildlife Conservation Society's Prospect Park Zoo recently debuted a new exhibit – Australian dingoes. This is a perfect addition to the zoo's Australian Walkabout on the Discovery Trail. These are the first dingoes in a New York City zoo in 40 years.

Oklahoma businessman Scott Fischer is paying \$12.7 million for **Dippin' Dots**. The company's operations and management will remain in Kentucky.

Give Kids The World is marking National Volunteer Week by honoring 83-year-old Joe Koch, who has logged more than 20,000 hours volunteering at the charity. He is one of 42,000 volunteers who have contributed more than two million hours of service to the facility since it opened in 1986.

Morey's Piers wants to turn the Wildwoods into a premiere special event destination and create the most memorable milestones of a lifetime through Memoreys, a new venture offering limitless options for weddings and related events, family reunions, graduations, anniversaries and more – all set against the backdrop of five miles of award-winning beaches and two miles of boardwalk.

Six Flags Entertainment Corporation has announced a new partnership with 7-Eleven, Inc. for its Slurpee drink to be the official frozen carbonated beverage of Six Flags. Guests can enjoy Slurpees at all 11 Six Flags U.S. theme parks, marking the first time in history the beverage has been widely distributed outside 7-Eleven retail stores.

Disneyland fireworks have returned to a weekends-only schedule now that spring break crowds have subsided. Nightly shows are expected to resume in June.

The Funplex East Hanover (N.J.) was named Best Indoor Family Entertainment Center at the Excellence in Family Entertainment Awards held at the **Amusement Expo 2012** in Las Vegas.

Rush Laser Tag Arena Master Builders by **Art Attack** have announced the opening of a new post-apocalyptic themed laser tag at **Belmont Park** in San Diego, Calif.

Amusement Advantage, Inc., a provider of guest experience measurement services to the attractions industry, has become a member of the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC). Amusement Advantage will be providing custom-tailored mystery shopping and guest experience consulting services to ASTC members in U.S. and Canada.

Skyline Mini-Golf has opened in Woodbridge, N.J. The 18-hole miniature golf course at the Woodbridge Community Center offers a view of the New York City skyline. It was funded with \$428,000 in unused bond money.

Coca-Cola Bottling Company United (CCBCU), which services 30,000 machines on 120 different routes from Mississippi to Tennessee, has successfully deployed **MEI EASITRAX** with telemetry in three of its ten markets, totaling 7,000 online machines. CCBCU has been able to increase route efficiencies by 25 percent. Drivers and other employees are now able to spend their time more productively, leading to improvements in customer satisfaction due to increased machine uptime.

The San Antonio Scorpions FC, the newest team in the North American Soccer League (NASL), will compete for a community that's eager to see soccer played at a high level and for **Morgan's Wonderland**, a unique theme park designed with special-needs individuals of all ages in mind."

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History has unveiled "American Stories." The exhibit chronicles American history from 1620 to 2008. It features pop culture artifacts ranging from Ben Franklin's walking stick to Dorothy's red shoes from the 1939 *Wizard of Oz* film.

Hong Kong's Ngong Ping 360 Cable Car has reopened for the first time since it stalled in late January stranding about 800 passengers. The incident was blamed on wear and tear that caused vibrations and triggered a sensor to stop the system. Several improvements have been implemented, including vibration monitoring, additional staff, and a hotline to address inquiries about service disruptions.



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NEAAPA inducts four into its Hall of Fame

STORY: Ron Gustafson
Special to Amusement Today

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. — Four owners of Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.H., were formally inducted into the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (NEAAPA) Hall of Fame on March 27 during the association's 86th Annual Meeting.

The 2012 inductees are: Anthony Berni, Jr., Carl Berni, Christine Ulaky and Raymond Captell. All help oversee daily operations of the lakeside property, which has been owned by their respective families since 1958.

Canobie Lake Park is one of only a handful of traditional "trolley parks" still operating in the nation. It opened in August of 1902 under the ownership of The Massachusetts Northeastern Street Railway Company.

Since being purchased by the Berni, Ulaky and Captell families, Canobie Lake Park has seen vast improvements, including the addition of state-of-the-art rides and attractions. At the same time, the property has maintained much of its rustic heritage.

Anthony Berni, Jr.

Anthony Berni, Jr. is the vice president of operations for the park, a position he has fulfilled for more than 10 years.

Most in the industry understand that "operations" covers every problem in every area in this business from general community relations, to security, to safety, to value analysis, to customer service and its flip-side customer complaints.

Anthony would be the first to say that he learned all his life lessons from his father. Nino Berni's mantra was: "Remember, these people buy your shoes. They are important to us. Make their experience here wonderful." Anthony applies his father's advice every day.

Anthony continues his role

►NEAAPA

Continued from page 37

Mentoring, Sheryl Bindelglass of Sherylgolf, Steck Johnson of SummerWork USA, Erik Beard of Wiggin and Dana LLP, Dr. Kate Wall of Training Matters & Central Connecticut State University and Steve McPherson of Canobie Lake Park.

The event concluded March 28 with the President's Breakfast.

—Ron Gustafson



New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions 2012 Hall of Fame inductees (from the left): Christine Ulaky, Anthony Berni, Jr., Carl Berni and Raymond Captell. All four are from Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.H., and were inducted into NEAAPA's Hall of Fame Tuesday evening at the 86th annual meeting of the organization in Portsmouth, N.H.
COURTESY RON GUSTAFSON/NEAAPA

all developments in the park.

Virtually every building since 1960 bears Raymond's indelible mark.

His vision and attention to detail can be seen. He has most recently been recognized throughout the industry as bringing from concept to fruition one of the most beautiful roller coaster projects in the country: Untamed.

The detail is astonishing from laurel wooden pickets enforcing the queue's banister to smaller hand-carved brown bears on the lintels which duplicate the enormous bear at the entrance.

His strong and determined mission is to constantly press forward and bring everything to the "next level."

When asked about a project, his consistent reply is: "We have a great team here. I can't do anything without their great help."

In this day and age where amusement facilities compete with smart phones, computer systems and video games, Ray has always designed and constructed projects so impressive that they remain unmatched in beauty and grandeur.

His recent major projects include the restoration of the Dance Hall Theatre to its Art Deco splendor, the Main Entrance Complex with a steeplechase design reminiscent of the "Trolley Heritage" of Canobie's beginnings, and the Castaway Island Waterplay Area. They follow his first major ride, The Sky Ride in 1960, The Village with the Flume and Timber Splash, The Boston Tea Party, and many more.

them!"

Under his leadership, Canobie Lake Park has become bigger, better and more beautiful than ever.

Christine Ulaky

Christine Ulaky is the treasurer of Canobie Lake Park Corp. and its director of information services.

Although born into the amusement industry to Rita and Kasmir Ulaky, Christine developed her own style by serving on boards of directors and committees for the Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce, the New Hampshire Travel Council and other business and community service groups.

At one point she decided to focus her volunteer time on amusement industry matters, so Christine joined the NEAAPA Board of Directors in 1993, worked on a variety of committees and served as interim treasurer when needed.

After 17 years she opted to rotate off the board to encourage new talent to shape NEAAPA, ensuring its relevance to the contemporary New England amusement business scene.

Chris was also an IAAPA director for the term ending in 2005. She worked on IAAPA's Small Parks And Attractions Committee and when in Washington, at IAAPA headquarters, took meetings with representatives in the capital and with industry lobbyists.

In 2011, IAAPA designated her a distinguished "certified attractions executive."

A tipping point occurred one day in 1988 when Chris brought a quirky little Macintosh computer to the office and built a simple database for school outing reservations.

Today, her information technology department manages mission-critical systems such as payroll and ticketing, in addition to nearly 100 proprietary databases which track everything

from employee schedules to customer satisfaction surveys.

When Christine was appointed treasurer of Canobie Lake Park Corp. in 1999 it was a position for which she was well-prepared, having learned payroll, bookkeeping and office administration from her mother, Rita, and executive matters from her father, Kas, including assisting him with his treasurer duties throughout the years.

Raymond Captell

Raymond Captell has contributed to the amusement industry for more than 60 years.

As a child he worked in Norumbega Park in Newton, Mass., at an arcade owned by his parents, Stella and Louie. In 1958 the Captells bought Canobie Lake Park with the Berni and Ulaky families.

His official title is vice president of design and development.

As a visionary, his partners have given him artistic license in

NEAAPA Hall Of Fame past inductees

Since 1998, NEAAPA has inducted 25 people into the Hall of Fame. The past inductees are:

Roger Shaheen, Shaheen Enterprises

Anthony Pero, Ocean Beach Park

Edward J. Carroll, Jr., Riverside Park

Henry Bowen, Whalom Park

Edward J. Carroll, Sr., Riverside Park

Lawrence Stone, Paragon Park

Alton Lipkin, NANCO / Nancy Sales Co.

George Frantzis, Quassy Amusement Park

Anthony "Nino" Berni, Sr., Canobie Lake Park

Claude "Lou" Captell, Canobie Lake Park

Kasmir "Kas" Ulaky, Canobie Lake Park

Kenneth Cormier, Funtown Splashtown USA

Tom Morrow, Canobie Lake Park

Ed Connor, Riverside Park

John Frantzis, Quassy Amusement Park

Robert & Ruth Morrel, Story Land

James P. & Eleanor R. Brady, Six Gun City

John F. Naughton, Naughton Insurance

Wayne McCary, Eastern States Exposition

Conrad Ferla, Rocky Point Park

Suzanne McHugh Piscitello, Canobie Gifts

Fred L. Markey, Dodgem Corp.

Kate Horner-Wall, Lake Compounce and Riverside Park

Fresh Look — IAAPA: Funnel Sticks

STORY: Tim Baldwin
tbaldwin@amusementtoday.com

THIRD IN A SERIES

ORLANDO, Fla. — Fresh Look is an *Amusement Today* feature that spotlights first time exhibitors at the recent IAAPA trade show. *AT* sought out new and engaging vendors that may not have caught the eye of everyone attending the expo. As *AT* continues this feature throughout spring, be sure to take note of some new ideas that just might be a great fit for your park.

What is it?

Funnel Sticks is an individual portion of a funnel cake on a stick. Numerous toppings or dips were offered. The portable nature made it easy to walk and enjoy the snack at the same time.

What made *AT* take notice?

The constant line of people clamoring to give the tasty treat a try lasted the entire show. There was

also a buzz among attendees asking "Have you tried the Funnel Sticks yet?" This exhibitor had no difficulty in getting people to try their product.

Amusement Today caught up with Tomi Newberry, co-owner of TNT Confectionery, Inc. while at the show. Following IAAPA, Newberry had this to share:

How was your first IAAPA experience?

As a first time vendor, we found IAAPA to be everything we hoped it would be. Our experience was wonderful — a perfect arena to expose our new product to the industry. We sampled Funnel Sticks from the time the show opened through the last hour of the last day!

Did the show meet your expectations?

We had initially hoped to sample 4,000 Funnel Sticks, but in reality, we kept our



Tomi Newberry
Co-owner,
TNT Confectionery, Inc.

fingers crossed that our customers would be able to find us, being that the show was enormous! Not only did our customers find us...we never stopped cooking the entire show! For IAAPA 2012, we'll have more "cooks" so we can spend more time with our customers. The IAAPA show far exceeded our expecta-

tions and we were thrilled with the exposure and the interest in our product!

What does your product bring to the industry?

Funnel Sticks is a new product that brings excitement and instant consumer acceptance to the industry. Because we've taken an old favorite and finally made it easier for consumers to enjoy a delicious fried-dough treat, Funnel Sticks are the only fried-dough product on a stick that offers portability, variety, single portion size, less greasy, perfect price point for today's economy, virtually no prep, no special equipment and great profitability.

Did you learn something from the experience, or would you have advice for future first-time exhibitors?

As a first time food vendor...we listened to the industry insiders! They told us some tricks of the trade... many buyers will look for the booths with the longest

lines. And they will continue to come back and monitor the lines and ask people that are sampling the food items their opinion. Buyers believe that if the people within the industry enjoy the product and are willing to stand in long lines — then obviously their guests/customers will do the same!

What is your biggest success story from the show?

The show could not have been any better for Funnel Sticks as we were featured in *FunWorld's Show Daily*, *USA Today*, a host of trade publications, interviews from local television stations and In The Loop from You Tube. We are also featured in the January 2012 edition of *Fun-World Magazine*. From the IAAPA show alone, we had over 250 inquiries and are finalizing our largest single order for four concession carts and 200,000 Funnel Sticks. We are gearing up for a very busy 2012!

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AIMS Education Committee planning 2013 safety seminar

Patty Beazley

When Pigs Fly

AIMS seminar director and educational chairperson
beazleyp@comcast.net

Spring is the time of rebirth and fresh starts. For those of you reading this article, many of you have already opened your venue or are in the final preparations to do so. Just like spring, the opening for a new year is a fresh start.



Beazley

At AIMS, the education committee is responsible for the seminar's curriculum and perceives the upcoming Safety Seminar as a fresh start as well. The AIMS Safety Seminar will be held January 13-18, 2013, in Orlando, Florida, at the Doubletree Resort at SeaWorld. The date may appear to be a long way off, but like you with your parks, there is a great deal of preparation that must be made in advance to offer a stellar seminar.

The AIMS Education Committee met in March in preparation for the 2013 AIMS Safety Seminar. The committee consists of industry ex-

perts who are committed in developing a solid curriculum for AIMS attendees while keeping current with issues in the amusement business.

After a day-long meeting, it was decided that the maintenance, operations and carnival/mobile Industry tracks will be overhauled to ensure that we are delivering fresh material to AIMS students.

The maintenance curriculum will have new classes in areas of welding and hydraulics. Classes that have been a staple will be revisited and revamped such as NDT and electrical. The operations track is also being retooled and will be adding

more management classes such as *Business Ethics* and *Business Basics & Budgeting*, to name a few.

Overall, there will be 50 new classes added to our curriculum! A sampling of the new classes consist of: *Catch the Green Wave*, *Power Transmissions*, *Codes and How to Apply Them*, *Arborgraphs for Maintenance*, *Documentation 101*, *Six Keys to Success* and *Amusement Ride Fires*. Class favorites such as *ADA*, *ASTM*, *Human Engineering*, *Dynamic Ride Forces* and *Visual Inspection* will be returning as well.

Safe and prosperous starts to the new season for all.

AIMS member spotlight: Tony Bonaviso

Editors note: This is a series of articles to run in AIMS News & Notes that spotlight an AIMS member who has been active in the annual AIMS Safety Seminar. To suggest a future spotlight on an AIMS member contact Steve Laycock at: steve.laycock@rides.com

Tony Bonaviso

(Rye) Playland Park
Maintenance Mechanic

Tony Bonaviso, senior maintenance mechanic for Playland Park in Rye, New York, has learned that the AIMS Safety Seminar has brought a bunch of different people from all around the world together and when that many people who all have the same passion for the amusement industry are put together friendship bonds are bound to happen. These friendships allow for the sharing of knowledge that enhances all of the different facilities represented. That is what the networking time at AIMS is all about and Tony knows that first hand. He took his networking time seriously at the 2011 AIMS Safety Seminar but also took some time to answer questions for the AIMS News & Notes.



Bonaviso

How did you get started in the amusement business?

I had a friend who was working at Playland Park. He was the assis-

tant superintendant of the park and when a job opening came up he asked me if I would like to work at the park. I accepted the challenge, changed jobs and careers, and never regretted the change.

What did you do before you were in the amusement business?

I worked in the offshore oil industry. I was a commercial oil field diver (saturation diving) and supervisor. I worked for a variety of different companies including Exxon, B.P., Oceaneering Industries, and American Oilfield Divers.

What do you do in your free time?

I still enjoy scuba diving but along with that I also enjoy photography and of course spending time with my family.

Tell us something about yourself that is not commonly known by your amusement industry peers.

Prior to working in the offshore oil industry I was in the medical field. My medical training goes back to the time I spent in the U.S. Army. I also was a paramedic with the New York City Emergency Medical Services.

What is so special about the facility for which you work?

Playland Park is a small facility with a rich heritage. The park's roots run deep with a lot of historical significance. Playland is listed on the National Historic Registry. It is a beautiful place with Art Deco structures and eight historic rides. One of these is the Dragon Coaster

which was built in 1928 by Frederick A. Church who was a pioneer in the amusement industry during that time frame.

How long have you worked at your present facility?

I have now been there for nine years.

Tell us one thing you have learned from the AIMS Safety Seminar.

I have learned a lot of helpful things during the AIMS Safety Seminar with a good bit of that coming from the networking time that I have with other park and vendor personnel. This networking time has allowed me to develop a very good relationship with the maintenance staff from Morey's Piers as well as the people from Chance Rides. This good relationship allows me to call on and share ideas with different people who may have answers to questions that I have.

What was your favorite class at the AIMS Safety Seminar?

My favorite class was the nondestructive testing class. A lot of my background from the offshore oil industry carried over to the amusement industry so although I had some knowledge of nondestructive testing it is always good to hear of new techniques or just to brush up on the current ones.

Why should someone attend a training seminar and particularly the AIMS Safety Seminar?

It is a great place to get some

knowledge from some of the people in other parks and shows. A lot of the people you can talk to have over 20 years of experience in the amusement industry. These people are a wealth of knowledge and are willing to share this knowledge. Anyone who doesn't come away with something just wasn't willing to listen.

In general, how was your overall experience at the AIMS Safety Seminar and how prepared were your instructors?

Overall, AIMS is a great experience whether you are a seasoned veteran or a newcomer to the industry. My instructors were prepared and for the most part right on point with all they had to offer.

Tell us one person you have met here during a networking opportunity time that has made an impact on you and why.

From my first visit to AIMS one person who has stood out to me was Kent Maulsby. I have taken his "Steel Coaster Inspection" class and he has always made me feel right at home. Kent is a soft spoken individual with a pleasant demeanor. Any question I had, Kent fielded and he is always there for any class member. Thanks to AIMS, over the years Kent and I have socialized together on several occasions and during that time I have been able to talk with and listen to him regarding his experiences and knowledge. I am honored to know him and consider him a true friend.

—Steve Laycock

IALDA elects officers, Bryan Pope as new president

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The International Amusement and Leisure Defense Association elected a new slate of officers at its annual meeting at IAAPA this past November.

Tabbed as the association's new president of the organization was Dallas attorney, Bryan Pope. Pope has been defending the amusement industry for more than 25 years and has been voted a Texas Super Lawyer for each



Pope

leas attorney Joe Hassinger made a presentation to the International Health, Racket and Sportsclub Association on Making Your Facility ADA Compliant. Members of IALDA are currently involved in keeping their clients abreast of the changes required by the recently amended American with Disabilities Act laws and many other cutting edge in-

dustry issues.

IALDA was initially formed in 1994. The founding members included attorneys Michael Amaro and Boyd Jensen, II from California, Kurt Anselmi from Michigan, Lary Zucker from New Jersey, Tom Sheehan, from Florida and Wayne Pierce from Maryland. Additionally, Pat Hoffman, who at the time was with K

& K Insurance and is now with Six Flags Entertainment Corporation was a founding member of IALDA.

Other current board members include Kurt Anselmi from Michigan, Joseph Brownlee of Arizona, Sean Hannon of Pennsylvania, Joe Hassinger and David Daly of Massachusetts.

A number of IALDA's

members serve the industry through other organizations. For example, Boyd Jensen, II and Tom Sheehan serve on the IAAPA Safety Committee and Lary Zucker serves on the IAAPA Government Relations Committee. Gaylee Gillim is on the Board of the WWA. Numerous IALDA members serve on ASTM committees.

•www.IALDA.org



of the last five years.

IALDA's new vice president is Denver attorney, John Grund. Gaylee Gillim, a Louisville, Kentucky attorney will remain as secretary and Dave Bennett, a Chicago barrister will continue as treasurer of the organization.

IALDA is a non-profit association whose mission is to serve and defend the amusement and leisure industry. It consists not only of attorneys but other persons involved in managing risks for members of the amusement and leisure industry. IALDA currently has 53 members in 25 states.

A key component of IALDA's mission is to provide educational programs to the amusement and leisure industry. To that end, IALDA has put on numerous symposiums, seminars and other presentations at key association meetings, including presentations for IAAPA, the World Waterpark Association, the Bowling Proprietors Association of America, the Roller Skating Association, the Amusement Industry Manufacturers and Suppliers annual safety seminar and many other industry forums. Members of IALDA have recently made several presentations on safety issues, social networking issues and crisis management. For example, in March, California attorney Michael Amaro and New Or-





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➤ **Safety in the Classroom** TIP #2
of 4

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ANSWER:
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MARKETWATCH

RIDING THE MARKET



Company	Prices		52 Weeks	
	One Month Ago	04/12/12	High	Low
Cedar Fair L.P.	\$27.99	\$28.97	\$29.98	\$16.44
MGM Mirage	\$13.41	\$13.86	\$16.05	\$7.40
Six Flags Ent. Corp.	\$45.26	\$45.04	\$49.04	\$24.72
CBS Corp.	\$29.79	\$32.18	\$34.17	\$17.99
Walt Disney Co.	\$41.75	\$42.15	\$44.50	\$28.19
Great Wolf Resorts, Inc.	\$4.22	\$7.33	\$7.58	\$2.02
Blackstone Group	\$14.90	\$14.79	\$19.63	\$10.51
Village Roadshow	\$3.10	\$3.25	\$4.35	\$2.41
NBC Universal	\$18.77	\$19.30	\$21.00	\$14.02

CURRENCY FUEL PRICES



Region (U.S.)	As of 04/09/12	Change from year ago
East Coast	\$4.190	\$0.108
Midwest	\$4.055	\$0.015
Gulf Coast	\$4.063	\$0.062
Mountain	\$4.129	\$0.032
West Coast	\$4.377	N/A
California	\$4.440	\$0.043

TOP 7 MOST TRADED CURRENCIES



On 04/13/12 \$1 USD =

0.7607 EURO
0.6274 GBP (British Pound)
80.9237 JPY (Japanese Yen)
0.9146 CHF (Swiss Franc)
0.9628 AUD (Australian Dollar)
0.9996 CAD (Canadian Dollar)

PEOPLE WATCH

Hershey adds Joe Senser to board

Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company (HE&R) announced that **Joe Senser** has been elected to the company's board of directors effective February 13, 2012.

Senser is a 1974 graduate of the Milton Hershey School and has served on the Hershey Trust Company and Milton Hershey School boards since 2001. Senser is an accomplished businessman, owning and operating a chain of sports bars and restaurants in Minnesota. He played in the National Football League for the Minnesota Vikings from 1979 to 1985 before retiring. Senser is active in a number of community organizations and charities and was named one of the Ten Most Outstanding Minnesotans for Charity work in 1996 and 1997.

"Working together, Hershey Trust Company and HE&R will ensure that the company continues to remain vibrant and provides benefit to Mr. Hershey's greatest legacy, the Milton Hershey School," said Bob Cavanaugh, chairman of the boards of Hershey Trust Company and Milton Hershey School. "As an MHS graduate and long-time School and Trust Company board member, Joe Senser is the perfect person to succeed Roy Zimmerman as the Trust's representative on this board."

"Joe Senser's background in the restaurant business and his long-standing association with the Hershey Entities, in addition to his unbreakable connection to the Milton Hershey School, will greatly benefit our company and board, and will assist us in achieving our mission," said Ted J. Kleisner, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of HE&R.

Jim Seay re-elected chairman of ASTM F24

Jim Seay, president of Premier Rides, Inc., has been re-elected as chairman of ASTM Committee F24 on Amusement Rides and Devices. The 500-member committee is responsible for global safety standards that cover design, manufacturing, maintenance, inspection, and operations for traditional amusement rides, water-related rides and devices, and special rides and attractions.

A third-time chairman of F24, Seay has been an ASTM International member since 1989. He is an active contributing member of Committee F24 and serves on several subcommittees. "I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to lead the F24 committee



Seay

as we advance the development of a globally-accepted set of safety standards," said Seay.

"I have been incredibly fortunate to be part of a passionate committee that volunteers literally thousands of hours year-round to develop and refine F24 standards to ensure the amusement industry has the most comprehensive standards available that can easily be adopted anywhere in the world and, in many cases, at virtually no cost," Seay continued. "F24 standards are now accessible in French, Spanish, Russian, and Chinese as a result of translation initiatives. This past year has seen ASTM standards expanding from one end of the globe to the other in places like Australia and Colombia."

Seay's term will run for two years. "One of the key focuses over the next two years will be to raise communication among those that are passionate about safety to the highest level. ASTM already provides advanced online tools such as online collaboration and balloting to make the committee environment a 365-days-a-year experience. The plan is to enhance member communication with social media updates, allowing real-time input on member activities. Doing so allows ASTM to focus on areas of the globe where the adoption of safety standards can have the biggest impact."

Cedar Fair names Craig Grimes to new position

Cedar Fair, Sandusky, Ohio, announced **Craig Grimes** as the company's corporate vice president, food service — a newly created position.

In this new role, Grimes will be responsible for enhancing the guest experience at the company's parks by ensuring high quality and consistency in the production and delivery of food service items throughout the Cedar Fair system. He will also develop and introduce innovative new concepts and processes, establish ongoing training programs for the food service teams, monitor safety and health compliance, and oversee the selection of food service products and equipment.

"We are thrilled to have Craig join our team," said Richard Zimmerman, Cedar Fair's chief operating officer. "Our focus is to provide our guests with a high-quality food service experience at our parks and we believe Craig has the ideal combination of food service knowledge and management expertise to lead this initiative. I am confident Craig will be an asset to our operations and to everyone who dines at a Cedar Fair park."

Grimes has more than 20 years of experience in the hospitality management industry, including 14 years with Levy Restaurants.

Cedar Fair retains Spencer Stuart

SANDUSKY, Ohio — The board of directors of Cedar Fair Entertainment Company announced that it has retained Spencer Stuart, one of the world's leading executive search consulting firms, to assist the company in reviewing the composition of its board of directors in advance of the company's 2012 Annual Meeting of Unitholders.

As part of this process, Spencer Stuart will work with the company's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to identify and evaluate qualified individuals to be considered as potential nominees to its board of directors.

"We look forward to working with Spencer Stuart as we perform our annual review of our board composition and its alignment with the company's long-term growth strategy," said Eric Affeldt, chair of Cedar Fair's Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. "It is important that our board has the appropriate expertise and diversity to continue to deliver long-term growth and value creation for all unitholders."

Spencer Stuart is one of the world's leading executive search consulting firms. Privately held since 1956, Spencer Stuart applies its extensive knowledge of industries, functions and talent to advise select clients — ranging from major multinationals to emerging companies to nonprofit organizations — and address their leadership requirements.

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Lowell Harvey Stapf, 82, instrumental in Texas Fair carousel restoration

AMARILLO, Texas — **Lowell Harvey Stapf, Jr.**, 82, of Amarillo, Texas, died Sunday, March 18, 2012.

Stapf spent his life working in the outdoor amusement business industry.

Born Aug. 4, 1929, in Amarillo, where he lived his entire life, he grew up working with his father and developing a love for machines and the carnivals. He was described in his local newspaper as someone who loved to share his stories about his adventures on the road.

Michael Wood, Wood Entertainment Co. Inc., San Antonio, Texas, told AT that his colleague Stapf had his hand in many aspects of the industry. He was a partner with Dwayne Steck and Charles Nolan in Amusements Inc., which was the largest supplier of rides to the State Fair of Texas for over 30 years.

"He was a ride manufacturer, building Flying Coaster rides from his Amarillo plant and the importer and operator of one of the first Mack German Funhouses traveling with Conklin Shows, Goodings Million Dollar Midway,

and Royal American to name a few," Wood said. "Lowell was an eternal champion for America's sideshow business. He single-handedly held together the group at the Texas fair for years. He and Ward Hall were close on the preservation front for the sideshow business."

In 1998, Stapf was a driving force in getting the 1923 Dentzel carousel, owned by the State Fair of Texas, restored. The carousel had been on the fairgrounds since 1957. Stapf and colleague Kary Barnett took on the carousel restoration project under Stapf Amusements Inc. Stapf recruited The Finishing Touch to restore the pieces.

Stapf also served on the Outdoor Amusement Business Association board some 30 years ago. He was a member of the Music Box Society, Antique Tractor Club, Old Car Club, Harley Owner's Group, Amarillo Club and Amarillo Historical Society.

During his retirement years Stapf could often be found mid-mornings at Wonderland Amusement Park in



Lowell Harvey Stapf, Jr., above, is credited with his efforts in getting the 1923 Dentzel carousel at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas, right, restored.

COURTESY
STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

Amarillo. "Lowell came out to the park nearly every day for coffee," said Paul Borchardt, park president. "As a result we become good friends."

Services were held on March 24 at the Polk Street United Methodist Church, Amarillo.

He was preceded in



death by his parents, Lowell Stapf Sr. and Esther Anderson Stapf; his sister, Ann; his stepmother, Dorothy Stapf; and three brothers, Alan, Lee and Don Stapf.

Survivors include a sister, Sylvia and husband Keith Sims of Amarillo; two nieces, Carrie Sims of Beeville and Jeanne Sims of Tempe, Ariz.;

and two cousins, Phillip and Ronald Gotlin, both of Colorado.

The family had suggested memorials be to Polk St. United Methodist Church Youth Program, 1401 S. Polk Street, Amarillo, Texas 79101 or ASPCA of Amarillo, 11901 S. Coulter St., Amarillo, Texas 79119.

Michael Severn Lamb, 63, loses battle with cancer

UNITED KINGDOM — Severn-Lamb, the U.K.-based specialist transport engineering systems manufacturer, has announced the death of former Chairman and Chief Executive **Michael Severn Lamb**.

Michael was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer at the end of November 2011, but sadly lost his battle with the disease on February 7, 2012, aged 63. A celebration of his life, friends and accomplishments was held at a civil ceremony on February 16.

Michael was the son of Severn-Lamb founder Peter Severn Lamb and his wife Rita and was born in Stratford-upon-Avon. He began his career as an interior designer but joined the family business in 1975 as Chairman and Chief Executive following the untimely death of his father at the age of 53.

He was a truly larger than life character and under his leadership the company grew and prospered significantly. What had at one time been a relatively small model making company, which also built miniature railway equipment, developed into a major player in the leisure transportation business worldwide, supplying trains and other transport systems to places as close to home as Drayton Manor Theme Park as well as many others throughout the world, including such famous names as the Walt Disney Company.

Under Michael's dynamic leadership, the company built ever grander trains, as well as highly sophisticated monorail systems and specialist road vehicles, creating a fine reputation for its magnificent

designs, attention to detail and the skill and expertise of its loyal workforce.

In 1995 Michael won the title of Businessman of the Year and during the same year Severn-Lamb won the Queen's Award for Export, Michael accepting this prestigious award from Her Majesty the Queen at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

During the late 1990s and early 2000s the company enjoyed continued success although unfortunately during this period the challenges of the business took their toll on Michael's health. On-going health issues led to his retirement as Chairman of Severn-Lamb in 2004, at which point his oldest son Patrick took over at the helm of the company.

In tribute to Michael, long-standing friend and industry colleague Colin Bryan, managing director of Drayton Manor Theme Park, said: "The connection with Severn-Lamb began in 1971 when they supplied us with their first Rio Grande train along with what were called Drayton coaches, which are still used today. Michael's father was an excellent engineer and when Michael took over the company he showed a great ability to adapt what his father did to the changing requirements of the industry, as well as continuing to manufacture and develop the company and its products and services further.

"I've enjoyed a lot of discussions and great friendship with Michael over the years and now with his son Patrick at the helm, Severn-Lamb continues to help us with a variety of projects on the park and

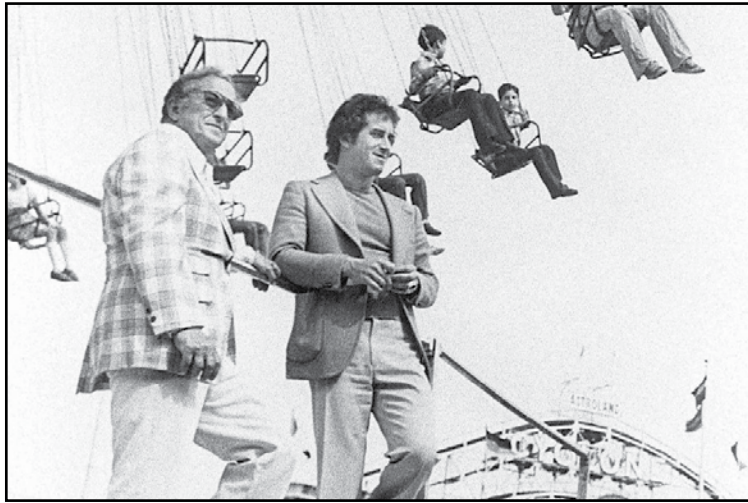


Michael Severn Lamb
1948 - 2012

with various service and maintenance contracts. Our families always had a connectivity and continue to do so through the work they do for us."

Michael leaves his wife, Francoise, two sons, Patrick and Richard, and two grandchildren, Harrison and Olly.

Coney Island pioneer Jerome Albert dies at 74



This Astroland file photo, dated 1976, shows Jerome Albert, right, on the steps of the park's Wave Swinger ride with his father Dewey. COURTESY CONEY ISLAND HISTORY PROJECT

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Legendary Coney Island entrepreneur **Jerome Albert** passed away in his Manhattan home on March 15 due to complications from Parkinson's disease. He was 74.

Along with his father, Dewey, and a number of

business associates, Jerome opened and operated Astroland Amusement Park in 1962. This pivotal move breathed new life into the Coney Island amusement scene, which at that time was quickly fading into obscurity.

When Steeplechase park and other longtime Coney Island landmarks closed and were removed, Astroland and its space age theming became the amusement zone's anchor. It sported a number of flat rides as well as a log flume, Deep Sea Diving Bells and the Astrotower.

In 1975, Jerome and his father assumed operation of the ailing Cyclone wooden roller coaster across the street from Astroland. After leasing the ride from the city, the Alberts restored and reopened the iconic ride to the public. They are credited with saving the Golden Age treasure.

With his father's death in 1992, Jerome found his own health deteriorating. He turned over management of the park to his wife, Carol, who operated it through 2008. Along with his family, Jerome will be remembered as one of Coney Island's most dedicated champions.

Jerome is survived by his wife, Carol; son, Bradley; and a grandson.



In 2004 Carol Hill Albert and Jerome (Jerry) Albert founded the Coney Island History Project in memory of Dewey Albert. COURTESY CONEY ISLAND HISTORY PROJECT



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Reporter's Notebook

Harold Workman announces retirement

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — After more than 42 years in state government, Kentucky State Fair Board President Harold Workman announced last month he plans to retire as the fair board president and CEO, a post he has held since 1993, at the end of 2012.

Workman made his announcement during a meeting of the fair board, which voted to extend his contract six months to Dec. 31, 2012. His contract had been set to expire at the end of June.

Workman, 66, a native of Western Kentucky, told local reporters afterward that he was not pushed to retire and said he came to the decision in part due to personal reasons, which he did not discuss.

In recent months, Workman has been involved in controversies over the firing of Louisville's KFC Yum! Center general manager Ted Nicholson.

Quoted

"It will affect everyone when we reapply. No one is safe."

—James Judkins, president, JKL Workforce Agency said on the new regulations laid out for the H-2B temporary work program as it relates to carnivals

Houston Livestock Show sets new single day attendance mark

March 17 saw 153,159 guests visit the Reliant Park grounds

STORY: Pam Sherborne
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

HOUSTON, Texas — Records were set this year at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, most notably the overall paid rodeo attendance with 1,283,419, beating out 2011's 1,255,323 and 2010's 1,264,074.

Even though the 2011 overall attendance to the event of 2,262,834 still holds the record, this year's attendance was pretty good and officials were definitely pleased. Overall attendance this year was 2,257,970.

A one-day total attendance record was also set on Saturday, March 17, when 153,159 visitors found their way to Houston's Reliant Park. A record 260,033 people attended the World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest to help kick off the show.

"Mostly beautiful weather, spring break, amazing athletes, superstar concerts, unique family entertainment, and the world's best livestock show — we've created the winning formula for fun," said Skip Wagner, president of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. "Thanks to the help of 26,000 volunteers, we are able to produce an incredible entertainment and educational venue."

Ray Cammack Shows, Laveen, Ariz., provided 74 rides for the midway this year. New rides to the show this year were the Rave Wave and Wild River, by Reverchon.

Some show highlights included the Downtown Rodeo Parade on Feb. 25; the ConocoPhillips Rodeo Run with 15,001 athletes, including Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo President Skip Wagner and Houston Texans President Jamey Rootes; the 2,474 registered international guests from 65 countries, including large delegations from Mexico, Guate-

▶ See HOUSTON, page 48



The 2012 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, held Feb. 28-March 18, was definitely a success setting several records including overall paid rodeo attendance. Ray Cammack Shows, Laveen, Ariz., top, provided the midway with 74 rides. That included booking in Steve Vandervorste's Windstorm roller coaster, right. RCS brought its Le Grand Wheel, bottom, manufactured by Carousel Holland. COURTESY JASON KNUTSON



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**Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
Fun Facts**

- More than 120,000 visitors slid down the giant slides.
- More than 110,000 visitors rode the Ferris wheel.
- More than 71,000 people rode the the Skyride.
- More than 50,000 people participated in scheduled school tours and field trips.

Food Facts

- 146,000 babecue sandwiches
- 50,000 pounds of potatoes
- 30,000 tamales
- 23,000 cinnamon rolls
- 10,000 orders of chicken fried bacon

Top 10 Grossing Rides

1. **Windstorm**, SDC, owned by SJ Entertainment
2. **Rave Wave**, Cosmont Mfg.
3. **G Force**, KMG
4. **La Grande Wheel**, Carousel Holland
5. **Skyride 2**, Seatrek
6. **Wild River**, Reverchon
7. **Crazy Coaster**, Zamperla
8. **Euroslide**, SBF-Visa Group
9. **Sky Flyer**, Zamperla
10. **Mega Drop**, Fabbri

HOUSTON
Continued from page 47

mala, Honduras and Venezuela; Rodeo Rockstar, a new singing competition featuring 116 entries; the Versatility Ranch Horse and Cowboy Mounted Shooting World Shows on March 1, with 3, 2012 guests; the more than 300,000 visitors who utilized the Show's Rodeo Express and METRO Park & Ride locations; and the Capital One Bank AGventure Birthing Center, where 74 piglets, 26 lambs and 21 calves were born during the show. In the Poultry Exhibit, more than 960 chicks hatched.

The combined total of the show's and entertainers' merchandise sales reached more than \$2 million in 2012.

Other highlights included the show's annual Gold Buckle Foodie Awards, awarded to concessionaires in eight differ-

ent categories.

Following are the 2012 winners:

- **Best Breakfast Food:** Burton Sausage, Classic Breakfast Taco;
- **Best Value Food:** Ranch House Meat Company, Pork Rib Plate;
- **Best Food-on-a-Stick:** Burger Joint RCS Carnival, the Big Rib Classic Fair Food, Saltgrass Steakhouse, BBQ Pulled Pork Stuffed Baked Potato;
- **Most Creative Food:** Custom Confections, Lemon Cream Frost Bite;
- **Best Fried Food:** Far Fix Trinity LLC, Fried Red Velvet Cake;
- **Best New Flavor:** Aunt Edmore's Cookies, Fried Cookie Dough on a Stick; and
- **Best Dessert:** Stubby's Cinnamon Roll, Cinnamon Roll with "The Works."



Another popular ride this year on the midway of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo provided by Ray Cammack Shows was the Sky Flyer, manufactured by Zamperla. COURTESY JASON KNUTSON

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This view from inside Cleveland's I-X Center shows just a few of the 55 total rides that make up the 20-acre Indoor Amusement Park. Bates Brothers Amusements brings 35 rides to the event, while NAME brings the rest of the ride mix. Bates supplies the food, and NAME supplies the games. The event draws more than 150,000 guests annually. AT/DAN FEICHT

I-X Center's Indoor Amusement Park a good fit for Bates Amusements

STORY: Pam Sherborne
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Eric Bates, Bates Brothers Amusements, has found that playing the I-X Center's Indoor Amusement Park for the past 23 years has made for a good kick-start to his season.

For the last few years, the average number of those attending the annual indoor event has ranged from 150,000 to 185,000.

"The first year we did this, we did it over a Thanksgiving weekend," Bates said. "We were completely overwhelmed at the attendance. It took some time to iron everything out, but when finally we started doing this in the spring, it has turned out to be

a very good idea."

The midway portion of the annual event at the I-X Center is about 20 acres in size. Bates said this year there was a total of 55 rides, with him supplying 35 rides and North American Midway Entertainment, Farmland, Ind., bringing in the rest of them.

"We do the food and NAME brought in the games," Bates said.

Bates' daughter, Michelle Bates-Dallman, her husband, Brad Dallman and her sister, Amy Bates are responsible for managing the midway of the Indoor Amusement Park.

"Also, this year Amusements of America brought in their Crazy Coaster," Michelle Bates-Dallman said. "Jeff

▶ See I-X CENTER, page 50

Seminole County group trying to lure county fair, midway rides to area

SANFORD, Fla. — A group of Seminole County, Fla., residents is teaming up in efforts to bring a local county fair to the county. The group, mostly from Sanford, Fla., is already making fund raising plans, according to a local newspaper story. The group wants the fair to include traditional carnival rides and vendors, alongside competitions, animal exhibitions and showcases of local agriculture and craftsman.

Additionally, it will showcase local art, bakers and schools. While the location for the fair has not yet been determined, the group is hoping to solidify a permanent venue within the next few years if not sooner.

Currently, the group has formed as the "Seminole County Expo and Youth Fair," because the name "Seminole County Fair" is already taken by a carnival company, Strates Shows, based in Orlando, Fla. Strates Shows presents the Seminole County Fair at the Seminole Towne Center Auto Mall.

The group has not reached out to government entities for any financial support as of yet, but hopes to in the near future.

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ARM RIDES

I-X CENTER

Continued from page 49

Brady (Playworld Amusements, Alma, Mich.) brought in his Wacky Worm (manufactured by Fajume)."

In addition, the I-X Center purchased a Chance Giant Wheel 20 years ago.

"To get the wheel inside, they had to cut a hole in the ceiling," she said. "They made an atrium over it so when you are at the top, you can see outside."

Bates Brothers Amusements brought in two new A.R.M. rides this year, the Vertigo and Shock Drop.

"This is a really nice event for us," Michelle Bates-Dallman said. "And, as far as I can tell, our attendance has been pretty typical. We don't ever really know how we are doing until at the end of the show."

Fortunately, attendance is not affected by the weather. If fact, Bates said they really don't want good weather at the time of the Indoor Amusement Park.

"We sort of want bad weather then because then people want to be indoors," he



said. "Our weather, though, has been pretty good."

The event includes not only the 20-acre under-roof midway, but also other entertainment such as miniature golf, live musical entertainment and costume-character visits. There are the Big Cat Encounter lion and tiger show, which runs daily, as well as the La Fiesta Latina, a Latin festival held on two nights during the event.

New this year was another daily show called Cirque Shanghai, featuring world-class Acrobats from China.

Traditionally the event tries to cover the dates when

Bates Brothers Amusements brought in two new A.R.M. rides this year to the IX Center, including this version of their popular Vertigo swing tower. Due to the ceiling height in the IX Center, the ride is not outfitted with its flags atop the tower's main structure.

AT/DAN FEICHT

the local schools are on spring break and Easter holiday. But, since that changes every year, the dates also change. This year it ran from March 23 through April 15. For the first two weeks the Indoor Amusement Park operates every day. For the last part of the opera-



tion, it closes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The date changing every year is a little challenging, Bates said, especially when Easter comes later than normal.

The midway, Big Cat Encounter and Cirque Shanghai

are all covered in a pay-one-price admission. This year that cost was \$24 when purchased at the box office and \$21 when purchased online.

Bates said there were ample coupons at participating local businesses providing additional discounts of \$2 or \$4.

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Above, Shock Drop, an A.R.M. Super Shot tower was new at the I-X Center as was the Crazy Coaster, below, operated by Amusements of America. The Shock Drop tower is A.R.M.'s newest version, designed to fit on one trailer during transport. AT/DAN FEICHT



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New H-2B regulations confusing for carnival owners

STORY: Pam Sherborne
psherborne@amusementtoday.com

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Members of the mobile outdoor amusement industry were already kicking into full gear when the U.S. Department of Labor was to have put into effect its new regulations for the H-2B temporary work program last month.

The exact date had been set for April 23.

Those new regulations, if not changed or temporarily held, will, say some industry experts, effectively make the H-2B temporary work program just about unusable for the carnival industry.

"We (carnival industry) are the football getting kicked around in the political arena," said James Judkins, president, JKJ Workforce Agency, a company that recruits workers. "These new regulations will make the program not workable and they know that."

Judkins used to be employed by the Carson & Barnes Circus. He began recruiting foreign labor for them in 1978. He began recruiting for carnivals about 12 or 13 years ago.

For the most part, those employers in the industry using temporary foreign labor under the H-2B program will not be affected for the 2012 season. But, that will change for the 2013 season.

"It will affect everyone when they reapply," Judkins said. "No one is safe. Everyone will be injured."

The H-2B visa program of the Immigration and Nationality Act was created in 1990 to allow short-term international workers to fill temporary jobs when no other workers can be found. In order to qualify for the program, an employer must be approved by four government agencies and must prove that the business has a need for temporary workers, extensive recruitment for workers was unsuccessful, and the position offers no less than the federal prevailing wage.

It permits employers to hire foreign workers to come temporarily to the U.S. and perform temporary nonagricultural services or labor on a one-time, seasonal, peakload or intermittent basis.

The new regulations can be downloaded and printed, some 575 pages or close to 300 in smaller type.

John Hanschen, Thomas Carnival, Austin, Texas, printed out the 300-page version, but admits he still hasn't read the entire thing.

"And, to be honest," he said, "I probably never will have time to read and digest the entire thing. The over-

all perspective I am getting, though, is that the administration is trying to make this program unusable for us."

Judkins said there are an abundance of issues with the new regulations.

"I could go through this and point them all out, but there are just so many," he said. "For example, the new regulations state that U.S. employers must keep their

recruitment of U.S. workers open until 21 days before the day of need. It used to be 120 days, which was barely time enough. There just aren't enough days on the calendar between the start of the foreign labor recruitment to the day of need to even get your workers here on time. In addition, they have reduced the number of months the foreign workers can work here from

10 months to nine. So, those employers that need them for 10 months have to decide if they are going to be short workers at the beginning of their season or the end."

In addition, Judkins said even if an employer were able to get through the maze of regulations, the Department of Labor can come back in two or three years and con-

► See H-2B, page 52

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►H-2B

Continued from page 51

duct an audit.

"They can tell them they were doing it wrong all along and fine them," he said. "It feels like a trap."

Chris Lopez, Ray Cammack Shows, Laveen, Ariz., said his show is the second largest user of foreign workers under the H-2B program, second only to North American Midway Entertainment. He does plan to try to work with the government for the program, even it means having to jump through the additional hoops.

"We use upwards to 200 workers under this program," Lopez said. "We have been using this program since it started. Some of our workers have been with us for that long. It just seems for many years, we sort of flew under the radar, but now we are in the focus, in the thick of things. They have been tinkering with this program for the past six years."

Lopez said he is very frustrated and discouraged. He, like his colleagues, continues to make the changes required, but it doesn't seem it is ever enough.

"Unfortunately, we don't have the Americans that want to do these jobs," he said.

OABA President Bob Johnson agrees.

"We have our challenges," Johnson said. "It is a hard business. Many people don't want to travel. They don't want to work nights or weekends, and those are the things they have to do."

Lopez said where his show finds problems with the U.S. workers are with the locals.

"Many have some very bad habits," he said. "But, I have to respond to everyone that puts in a resume. And, I have to be able to prove that I did this. In the past years, I think I have had four em-



James Judkins, far right, JKJ Workshop Agency, recruits foreign workers for many of this nation's carnivals. He is just as frustrated about the constant and newest changes to the U.S. Department of Labor's H-2B temporary worker program. Shown here, starting far left, Mitchell Kaliff, Kaliff Insurance, San Antonio, Texas; former U.S. Representative Henry Gonzalez (D-Texas), and Nancy Bishop, Bishop Enterprises, another recruiter. COURTESY JAMES JUDKINS

ployees that actually qualified. But, as it ended up, two couldn't pass the drug testing. With one of them, we had problems with the background check. And, the fourth, I had to hand it to him; he worked a whole day, then came back and turned everything back into us. He said, 'You guys just work way too hard.'

"I don't know what these people decide to do," Lopez said. "I guess sit home and collect unemployment."

Lopez said about four years ago, he, Johnson and others from the carnival industry flew to Chicago for a meeting with representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor, other federal employees, as well as representatives from other industries, which also utilize the H-2B program.

"We were in a large room full of people," Lopez said. "We thought we were there to talk about and lobby for the program. After about four and one-half hours of the Department of Labor people asking us questions and such, the lead attorney for the department stood and told the room full of people that they weren't there to abolish the program. He stood up and

said to the entire room 'You guys will just need to leave the program voluntarily.' That was very discouraging."

Because of constant changes to the program over the past years, the number of foreign workers working in all applicable industries has dropped. Johnson said there were only about 40,000 workers in the H-2B program last year. The cap for the number of foreign workers under the program is 66,000. Yet, many of the larger carnivals rely on their foreign employees, especially those that return year and year.

In January, Mary Talley, Talley Amusements, Fort Worth, Texas, was already worrying about what the new regulations will do to her business.

"The workers I have from this program have been here for years," she said. "They know what they are doing, they are reliable and friendly. I get a lot of compliments about how friendly all my employees are. Basically, these new regulations will just make it almost impossible for me to get most, if not all, of my foreign labor back. It is just too much."

"I am a fourth generation

in the carnival industry," she continued. "But, my husband and I have talked about it – if this continues to happen, we will just get out of the business."

Hanschen said Thomas Carnival hires between 40 to 50 foreign workers a season, which adds up to be between 30 to 40 percent of their workforce.

"We just need to raise money and go to our congressman and ask them for their help," he said. "We just need to make our voices heard."

Judkins agrees. He even hoped, during the second week of April, that they would be able to get a temporary injunction against the new regulations by April 23.

Johnson said the OABA has been lobbying and are in litigation with another aspect of the program, the Wage Methodology.

According to information on the website of U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio (D-Springfield), who applauded the Department of Labor's (DOL) decision to make changes to the H-2B temporary worker program, the changes were made after "an Office of Inspector General (IG) report found federal stimulus funds were awarded to contractors in Oregon who underbid competition by using foreign laborers."

The information states that: "DeFazio initiated the IG investigation after the Bend Bulletin reported that several companies awarded Forest Service contracts filed H-2B applications to use foreign workers rather than Oregon workers."

This led to the changes that Johnson called more "onerous and more dangerous for our industry than ever before."

"They are really putting our employers through the wringer," Johnson said.

How these issues will play out is still in question.

AT had to go to press for the May issue before the April 23 implementation of the program. Whether or not industry members were able to temporarily suspend implementation before then by going to court and getting a temporary injunction was not known.

And, whether or not industry members will be able to succeed in having anything changed in the new regulations in the coming months is also, of course, not known. But, what is for certain, they will try.

"My foreign workers are truly the best of the best," Lopez said. "They come here legally, work for the season and return home to their families. They pay taxes here from their checks and they pay social security, all of which they will never see or benefit from. And, they can't even get a jay walking ticket here or their status in the program will change."



Chris Lopez of Ray Cammack Shows, Laveen, Ariz., is moving along with the 2012 season knowing that the 2013 season will bring more hardships, challenges and frustrations as he begins the process of hiring in his long-time foreign workers under the H-2B program. He describes his foreign labor as "the best of the best."

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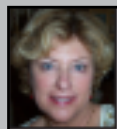
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MIDWAYLIGHTS

COMPILED: Pam Sherborne, psherborne@amusementtoday.com

After a five-year absence, the county fair will return to Anderson, S.C., this month. Dates were set for May 2-6 at the **Anderson (S.C.) Sports and Entertainment Complex**.

Georgia-based **JRM Management** will operate the fair this year, replacing **James E. Strates Shows**, the company that brought the fair to Anderson three decades ago.

Jimmy Drew of **James H. Drew Exposition** will be responsible for the midway at the fair.

Fair officials expect about 65,000 people to attend this year's event fair.

A major component of the now bankrupt **Virginia State Fair** is going to Rockingham County.

The statewide youth livestock event, once held at the Virginia State Fair, will now move to the **Rockingham County Fairgrounds**, Harrisonburg, Va., this fall.

The event will be called the **Virginia Junior Livestock Expo** and will be held October 11-14 with beef cattle, pigs, sheep and goats being shown at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. Dairy animals will be shown in Blacksburg at Virginia Tech.

The Rockingham County Fair Association told local news agencies it had been in negotiations for weeks to bring the livestock event to Rockingham County.

In 2011, more than 400 youth showed 940 animals at the state fair, previously held as part of the Virginia State Fair in Doswell, Virginia.

Officials of the **San Diego County Fair**, Del Mar, Calif., are already investigating ways to expand its parking when it loses spaces due to a requirement imposed by the state to turn an area of the existing parking lot into wetlands in four years.

The requirement comes as part of a settlement with the California Coastal Commission approved two months ago to make good on 20 years of alleged Coastal Act violations by the fairgrounds. It had built unauthorized temporary concert stages and athletic tents and used its overflow lots for events. The fairgrounds will make \$4.5 million of environmental improvements to the venue through 2020.

Last year's fair attracted a record 1.4 million visitors during its 22 days. That's an average daily crowd of 63,636 people. The fairgrounds' 13,500 spots traditionally fill up quickly, just like Qualcomm Stadium's, which has 18,500 spots and a trolley.

The fair will need to use about 1,250 spaces for the wetlands.

The 2012 dates for the fair with its independent midway are June 8-July 4.

Even though talks continue regarding moving the **Arkansas State Fair** from where it has been for more than 70 years in Little Rock, **Ralph Shoptaw**, the fair's general manager, feels it will be a while before anything happens.

He told a local news agency that the talks have been going on for about four years. Currently, the Arkansas State Fair is located on 96 acres. Shoptaw said the average state fair has upwards to 400 acres.

The fair is now landlocked and the area surrounding the fairgrounds has become more crime-ridden over the past years.

North Little Rock has expressed interest in

having the fair as has the city of Jacksonville.

While Shoptaw said he believes it is too lofty an idea at the present time to build a new fairground site, there are actions that could be taken now to improve the current facilities. There are some vacant lots in the area, which they would like to acquire. The fair board would also like to renovate and improve existing facilities.

Kentucky State Fair Board officials are reviewing proposals to develop a luxury hotel with at least 600 rooms just east of Gate 1 of the Kentucky Exposition Center.

The fair board had set a March 21 deadline for companies interested in developing the hotel to make their proposals. Board President Harold Workman said the project could cost more than \$100 million and the hotel will be connected by a skywalk to the exposition center's South Wing.

The hotel would be built on about seven acres leased to the hotel company. The land is now occupied by an office building that was abandoned several years ago by the Louisville district of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. The request for proposals, which was sent to 30 hotel-development companies, specified a minimum of 600 rooms and an array of full-service amenities, including a ballroom, meeting rooms, restaurant, and bar and indoor pool.

The respondents had to propose what share of revenue — from rooms, food and beverage and ancillary income — would be given to the fair board as lease payments.

Once the proposals have been evaluated, the fair board will release the information.

State legislators are taking another stab at reorganizing the **Tennessee State Fair** under the state Department of Agriculture with a bill that would create a new commission to run the event.

Senate Bill 3603, which is winding its way through the legislature, would create a "state fair and exposition commission" that includes the dean of the University of Tennessee extension service, the president of the Tennessee Farm Bureau and a member chosen by the mayor of the county where the fair is held, currently Davidson County.

The state commissioners of agriculture, tourism and economic development would also have oversight.

Lawmakers have been trying for more than a year to reorganize the state fair after Metro Nashville government decided to get out of the business and looked at redeveloping the fairgrounds. The fair is currently operated under a contract with the nonprofit Tennessee State Fair Association.

Faced with thinning reserve funds, Tennessee State Fair Director **Buck Dozier** is hoping for \$245,000 in Metro dollars to sustain operations, an allocation that would represent the city's first-ever fairgrounds subsidy.

Revenue collected from fairgrounds events — the annual state fair, auto-racing events and flea markets — has historically provided the financial backing to run the city-owned fairgrounds. But Dozier told Nashville Mayor **Karl Dean** and his administration that the fairgrounds would need to find a place within Metro's operating budget to ensure its short-term welfare.



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