

# Welcome To IAAPA Expo

Welcome To IAAPA Expo!

As we unwind from the busy 2019 season and we begin the process of planning for 2020, it is important to consult your fellow NEAAPA member suppliers and member constituents as there is a tremendous amount of experience and expertise to be shared among us from this great organization that we are all apart of.

NEAAPA is very well known for its networking, comradery and top notch social events and I ask all members to share this information with any new contacts that are not yet informed on what NEAAPA can do for them.

Growth of NEAAPA is imperative to continue to Proudly Support the Business of Fun in New England since 1913. Information on becoming a member can be picked up at the NEAAPA booth (3126) this week during expo.

I hope that everyone has a great experience at IAAPA Expo and I look forward to seeing many of you at the famous "Tom Morrow Social" Wednesday evening.

Yours in NEAAPA,  
Eric Anderson, president



**Orange County Convention Center hosts 2019 IAAPA Expo.**

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**Next Edition:**  
**2020 Annual Meeting**

# NEAAPA Past President Chiecko Is Now At The Helm Of OABA

By Ron Gustafson  
Editor *New England News*

WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. - Greg Chiecko seems to be right at home, and for good reason since being named president and CEO of the Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA).

Taking the helm at OABA this past February, Greg is a seasoned veteran of the industry, having served as director of sales at the Eastern States Exposition (ESE) here for 24 years. ESE is the location of The Big E, the seventh largest fair in the nation, as well as more than 100 other annual events.

"I was liaison for the midway provider as well all of those years," he said from his OABA office near the sprawling exposition grounds. "I really got interested in the business years ago when I was chairman of the junior fair board at ESE while in high school. We were assigned different projects and were able to work during the fair."



**Greg Chiecko**



The 58-year-old executive said he learned a lot about the carnival industry while The Big E was cranked up for its annual run. The huge midway was provided by the former Conklin Shows of Canada, which eventually merged with today's supplier, North American Midway Entertainment (NAME).

"Conklin has just come into contract a few years before I started," Greg recalled.

During the fair he walked the midway frequently and enjoyed "the multitude of generations having a good time. The merry-go-round was the best place for seeing that."

While with ESE he was also president of the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (NEAAPA) 2011 and 2012.

## The Shoes He Filled

Filling the position of retiring OABA President Bob Johnson earlier this year, Greg expressed great admiration for Johnson, who headed up the organization for a quarter-century.

"He took the industry in leaps and bounds in terms of credibility and professionalism," Greg noted. "Bob stayed on for three months while I got acclimated to the position."

In the meantime, the OABA offices in Winter Park, Fla., transitioned to West Springfield, Mass., to accommodate the new president.

## Speaking On The Issues

According to Greg, the biggest issue facing the industry today is the H-2B visa program, which temporarily allows foreign workers into the United States.

"It predominates our time, energy and money," he said of the continuing battle with the federal government to secure enough workers to fill industry needs. "Our industry has been using it (H-2B program) for 15-20 years and it's the legal way to have foreign workers come here. It's not a path to citizenship, but a way for them to come and work."

Most OABA members from carnivals, circuses to independent food concessionaires use H-2B workers. Some amusement park operations also depend on foreign staff during the height of the season.

Earlier this year numerous carnival operators reported difficulty moving and setting up their shows due to a

(See CHIECKO, Page 3)

## 90 Attend Summer Meeting At Southwick's Zoo



NEAAPA photo

MENDON, Mass. – The 106th Anniversary Summer Meeting of the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (NEAAPA) was held July 23 at Southwick's Zoo here with 90 members and guests in attendance.

The day-long event kicked off with a continental breakfast at the zoo's Galliford's Restaurant, located near the main entrance of the 300-acre property.

Morning rain gave way to partly sunny skies before noon, allowing tours and other activities in the wooded park, owned and operated by the Brewer family, to take place as scheduled. Among the slated events were giraffe encounters (feeding) and a behind-the-scenes look at the zoo with Dr.

Peter Brewer, president and veterinarian.

[See Photo Highlights On Pages 4 & 5](#)

Many association members took advantage of the pleasant weather following lunch to walk the spacious grounds, enjoying the extensive zoological collection that consists of more than 800 animals.

Other highlights of the afternoon included rides on the thrilling Soaring Eagle Zip Line, Skyfari sky ride, and North American Exhibit train.

NEAAPA's Board of Directors held a 4 p.m. meeting with regional legislation and industry safety standards as topics of discussion.

The day concluded with a beer and wine reception and buffet dinner at the restaurant. Sponsors of the meeting were Premier Rides, Baltimore, Md., and Dippin' Dots, Paducah, Ky.

### Chiecko

(Continued From Page 2)

lack of foreign workers. Some of the pressure was eased when the government finally released more work visas in the spring.

As for other issues, OABA monitors all legislation at state and federal levels that might impact the industry. Greg noted that the summer months are generally quiet on the lawmakers' front as most are away on recess.

#### Safety A Paramount

Safety is at the forefront of all business associated with OABA.

"It's always on the top of the list," he said of the association's agenda. "We promote it during numerous seminars and also educate our membership with Virtual Online Training (VOLT)."

"VOLT is used to train employees in different aspects of the job and the employer can then issue certificates of completion for each phase. It's another way of increasing industry-wide safety," Greg asserted.

#### Fewer Carnivals Than In The Past

There are around 300 carnivals operating across the nation today, he said of the business. At one time the number exceeded 600.

"There are fewer today for different reasons," he explained. "Smaller carnivals, as with any small business, have a harder time keeping their heads above water. Also, generationally, some have gone out of business because no one in the family will take it over. Others have quit because of the H-2B visa issue."

#### Getting Social

Greg was quick to admit that social media has been a game-changer throughout the industry.

"As in industry, we're pretty much on top of using social media as a tool. Instead of a lot of posters promoting an event, you can do that on Facebook and with Tweets," he said of the applications. "Many are doing online ticketing - some using very sophisticated means. The takeaway from a lot of this is very successful advance promotion and ticket sales."

(Continued On Page 6)



# Photo Highlights From NEAAPA's



**Ready To Soar....**



**Registering For The Day ...**



**Second Thoughts?...**



**Giraffe Encounter Was Enjoyed By All...**



**Settling In For Board Meeting...**





# July Meeting At Southwick's Zoo

## NEAAPA Hosts

Family-owned and operated Southwick's Zoo, Mendon, Mass., hosted the NEAAPA summer meeting. The Southwick's crew (from the left): Cindy Brewer-Lavoie, CFO; Luke Weatherhead, assistant curator; Julia Weatherhead; Justine Brewer, treasurer; Peter Brewer, DVM, president; Jean Brewer. (NEAAPA photos)



NEAAPA Secretary Ed Hodgdon welcomed everyone to the dinner at Southwick's Zoo.



**Dinner Crowd With 90 In Attendance.**

# Another Record Run For Big E



WEST SPRINGFIELD, Mass. – For the third consecutive year, The Big E set an all-time attendance record with 1,629,527 persons passing through the gates during its Sept. 13-29 run.

The new attendance mark surpassed 2018's record of 1,543,470. In 2017 the exposition saw a record 1,525,553 visitors.



**Crowd along The Avenue Of The States at The Big E. (NEAAPA photo)**

## Chiecko

(Continued From Page 3)

There are a lot of benefits in belonging to OABA, according to Greg.

"We are the largest trade organization for carnivals, circuses and independent operators. We provide professional stability when the (operators) need it. Be it H-2B, or should an incident occur, they have somewhere to turn in regard to advocacy for the entire industry," he pointed out.

Of the 2,000 current members, OABA represents large carnivals down to single employees.

"A large chunk of our membership includes single employees, company executives and even H-2B visa workers," he asserted.

## The New Post

In reflecting on his new position with the organization, Greg said, "every day amazes me. What other industry unites families face-to-face in and at the same time provides millions and millions of dollars to non-profits (fairs, fire departments, rotary clubs etc.) across the country?"

"It's a fun business, but a very serious business," he added. "People entrust in us to be safe and we do have an outstanding safety record. We're that piece of Americana that you can still hold on to."

For more information about the Outdoor Amusement Business Association, visit <https://www.oaba.org/>

"As our event continues to grow, I

am overwhelmed by the outpouring of support we receive, and I want to thank everyone in this region who supports us by attending The Big E!" President and CEO Eugene J. Cassidy said. "Your support allows our mission of agriculture and education to thrive, to grow, and to have a national impact."

Thanks to summer-like weather throughout much of the event, The Big E also set an all-time single day attendance record when 176,544 visitors passed through the turnstiles on Saturday, Sept. 21. Five other daily attendance records were set: Sept. 19, 85,698; Sept. 21, 176,544; Sept. 25, 89,124; Sept. 27, 112,988 and Sept. 28, 173,112.

Headline performances at The Big E Arena, sponsored by MGM Springfield, included AJR, Loverboy, Skillet, A Flock of Seagulls, Naked Eyes, Missing Persons, Sugar Ray, Sesame Street Live, Collective Soul, Carly Rae Jepsen and Foreigner.

North American Midway Entertainment provided a huge midway with more than 50 rides.

The Big E is America's only multi-state fair celebrating the rich history, culture and traditions of the six New England states. As the principal event of Eastern States Exposition, The Big E has presented the finest livestock, agriculture, innovative commercial, industrial, and artistic developments, and the highest caliber of varied entertainment to the people of the northeastern United States for more than a century. The 17-day event has grown to become the largest fair in the Northeast.

The 2020 edition of the fair is slated for Sept. 18 to Oct. 4.

For more information visit [www.thebige.com](http://www.thebige.com)

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## Manufacturers & Suppliers News

### Triotech, CL Corp. Join Forces

MONTREAL—Ernest Yale, founder, president and CEO of Triotech, and Christophe Lucchini, founder and CEO of CL Corp., have announced that the companies will join forces multiplying their ability to create amazing media-based experiences for the attractions industry.

Each company brings 20 years of experience in design and deployment of attractions, rides, and experiences for amusement parks, family entertainment centers, museums, zoos, and other tourist destinations. Together, they will bring the widest range of products and services in the entertainment industry. “CL Corp brings impressive technology and know-how as well as a solid presence in Europe, but most of all, a great imagination and an ability to develop custom solutions for clients rapidly. I am thrilled that we will be joining forces to develop new experiences and strengthen our position as key players in the attractions world,” said Yale.

With this move, CL Corp gains access to Triotech’s world leading interactive technology and in-house animation studio. CL Corp will also be able to leverage Triotech’s full-scale production facility and 200 employees in Canada as well as their Beijing, China office.

### Hays Named To S&S Post

LOGAN, Utah — S&S Worldwide has announced that Josh Hays has joined their team as the executive director of sales and marketing. Josh is familiar with the amusement and attractions industry being raised around it by his father, Larry Hays, who has sold amusement attractions for more than 30 years.



**Josh Hays**

Josh first entered the industry five years ago as the director of sales for Setpoint and JR Automation Setpoint. With that he brings to S&S an in-depth knowledge of sales operations and strategies. He received a BA from the University of Utah and an MBA from Westminster College. He has participated in industry events such as IAAPA, the TEA Summit and Thea Awards.

Josh and his wife, Jill, have been married for 18 years and have six children, ages 7-15. He is an avid skier and golfer and enjoys coaching various sports for his kids.

S&S President and CEO Tim Timco said “We are very pleased to have Josh join our team and oversee our sales and marketing efforts. His skill set and prior accomplishments provide us with a great deal of confidence in taking our organization to new heights.”



### New Ride From SBF/Visa

Italian ride manufacturer SBF/Visa Group has introduced a new ride titled Moto Shot, based off its Airborne Shot platform. Instead of the traditional seats with shoulder restraints, Moto Shot incorporates motorcycles with lap bars to secure riders.

Rides-4-U, Somerville, N.J., represents SBF/Visa in North America.

### Name Change For Business

BEDFORD, N.H. - Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast is the new name for the independent franchise bottler formerly known as Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Northern New England. The firm has been in business for 42 years and is among the largest Coca-Cola bottlers in the nation.

The company has dozens of facilities, including state-of-the-art production centers in New Hampshire and Connecticut,



## Manufacturers & Suppliers News

### AIMS Honors Gary Slade

ATHOL, Idaho— Gary Slade, founder and publisher of industry trade magazine *Amusement Today*, was the recipient of the AIMS Lifetime Contribution Award during the Golden Ticket Awards at Silverwood Theme Park here.

AIMS International is a non-profit 501(c)(6) association dedicated to improving amusement industry safety through leadership in education.

"I was certainly surprised and honored to receive this accolade," Slade told NEAAPA.

"I've always been an advocate of safety within our industry and put heavy emphasis on it in our publication."

The AIMS Lifetime Contribution Award was created in 2018 to recognize an individual or organization with outstanding dedication and service to AIMS International.

Gary began his career at Six Flags Over Texas in 1978. Following many years of personally promoting the industry, he founded *Amusement Today* in 1997 and has continually provided timely industry news to manufactures and the industry at large.



**Gary Slade**

### Company President Named

MONTOURSVILLE, Pa. — Seth E. Alberts has been named president of the Ralph S. Alberts Co., Inc., succeeding his father, Ed Alberts, who will remain active on the company's board of directors. The Alberts family founded the custom molded foam and plastics business in 1963, and Seth is a third generation owner. He joined the company in 2005 as director of sales and marketing after earning a degree in Accounting and Management from the University of Kentucky.



**Seth E. Alberts**

### Ride Entertainment Stays Busy

STEVENSVILLE, Md. - Ride Entertainment Systems' installation division was busy with refurbishment work this year at Castle Park, Riverside, Calif., on its Fabbri Spinning Coaster and at Six Flags America, Largo, Md., on its Vekoma Suspended Looping Coaster.

In addition, the company erected the new 242-foot Funtime StarFlyer at Six Flags Darien Lake, Corfu, N.Y.



**New Funtime StarFlyer.**

### IAAPA Hosts Advocacy Days

ORLANDO, Fla. — The International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA), the global association for the attractions industry, hosted



**IAAPA**  
The Global Association  
for the Attractions Industry

its annual IAAPA U.S. Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C. More than 38 U.S. attractions leaders met with

representatives from 66 congressional offices to discuss the industry's legislative priorities and regulatory issues.

The two-day event offered IAAPA U.S. members a unique opportunity to interact with influential members of Congress and discuss pressing issues affecting the U.S. attractions industry.

"This year marked another successful IAAPA U.S. Advocacy Days, bringing leaders together to share the attractions industry's voice on Capitol Hill," said Randy Davis, senior vice president of safety and advocacy at IAAPA. "As part of IAAPA's ongoing U.S. advocacy efforts, this event provides an important opportunity for members to discuss with policy makers the key issues impacting the industry. We are pleased with the informative conversations that took place during the meetings with lawmakers from around the U.S."



## N.H. Gov. Sununu To Speak At IAAPA Expo On School Start Date Legislation

ORLANDO, Fla. – New Hampshire Gov. Christopher T. Sununu will be speaking at a panel discussion regarding post-Labor Day school start date legislation during the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) Expo here.

The session will take place at 2 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 21 in room S330AB in the Orange County Convention Center.

Sununu will be joined by Henry Veilleux of Sheehan Phinney Capitol Group, Brian Gottlob of PolEcon Research, and Erika Scheffer, director of state advocacy at IAAPA.

NEAAPA, IAAPA, and several New Hampshire-based organizations are currently working on this state legislation.



**Gov. Sununu**

## Story Land Earns Certified Autism Center Designation

GLEN, N.H. - Story Land amusement park here, nestled in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, recently earned the Certified Autism Center (CAC) designation from the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES).



This certification demonstrates Story Land's dedication to provide a space where guests will be supported by staff who have completed training to accommodate needs specific to those with autism and other sensory disorders.

Beyond the 20 beloved rides, Story Land also offers unique dining experiences, shows, story time with Mother Goose in her manor, photo opportunities with storybook characters, carnival

style games, and Los Bravos Silver Mine for emerging explorers.

The designation earned by Story Land is in-line with efforts made over the past few seasons to provide a balanced and well-rounded experience for all guests as they bring fairy tales to life. Story Land offers a Calming Room, a sensory sensitive environment for those who need a break, as well as a designated Quiet Dining area.

"Sensory Sensitive Weekends" are also offered where park and ride music is turned down, ride announcements are at a lower decibel, certain geysers/water features are also turned off and MAP (Medical Access Pass) passes are made available to those who cannot wait in line for rides and food.

"Story Land has been actively making modifications to the park over the last few seasons and we are thrilled to become an official Certified Autism Center. From adding a Calming Room to our Sensory Sensitive Weekends to expanding on employee training, we are dedicated to providing every guest the very best experience," said Lauren Hawkins, Story Land's director of marketing.

Families seeking information on the many ways in which Story Land serves guests on the autism spectrum are encouraged to visit the park website at <http://www.storylandnh.com/> for more detailed information.

Parents with children on the autism spectrum often find new experiences and traveling to new destinations a challenge due to sensory needs, dietary restrictions and safety concerns. For almost 20 years, IBCCES has been the industry leader in autism training for licensed healthcare professionals.

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# Several New Attractions Coming,

Member NEAAPA properties shared news about their new and upcoming attractions. Here is a round-up of the latest news:

## **Supergirl Sky Flyer**

Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass., will have a unveil Supergirl Sky Flyer, a new thrill ride for 2020.

The circular attraction will seat 24 guests in open-air vehicles and soar nearly 70 feet above the park.

"Innovation is part of our DNA here at Six Flags New England and Supergirl Sky Flyer delivers breathtaking new thrills," said Park President Pete Carmichael. "The renowned DC-branded attractions are extremely popular with our guests and we are excited to add this cutting-edge attraction bearing Supergirl's name to our epic lineup of world-class attractions."



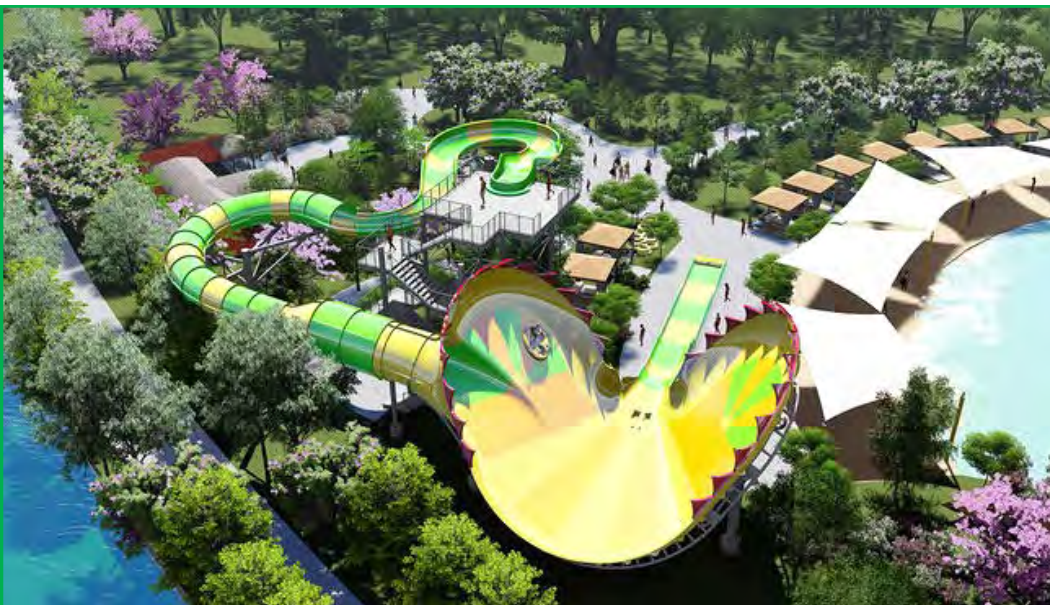
**Rendering of the Supergirl Sky Flyer coming to Six Flags New England.**

## **Water Attraction At Lake Compounce**

Venus Vortex will be the newest waterpark attraction at Lake Compounce, Bristol, Conn., for 2020.

Standing six stories tall, Venus Vortex at the park's Crocodile Cove will provide a unique ride experience reportedly never before seen in New England.

Themed like the carnivorous mouth of a hungry Venus flytrap ready for its next meal, this slide tempts brave prey to navigate twists, turns and sudden drops. After journeying through a dark tunnel, riders will experience weightlessness as they suddenly plummet down the near-vertical drop into the jaws of the hungry creature.



"Venus Vortex will be Lake Compounce's largest and most thrilling slide to date," said Jerry Brick, Lake Compounce general manager. "This addition will further solidify our park as the go-to waterpark in Southern New England."

Venus Vortex will be located right alongside the lake, next to Bayou Bay Wave Pool and across from Johnny Rockets, and is scheduled to open to guests Memorial Day Weekend.

**Rendering of the Venus Vortex to be built at Lake Compounce.**



# Others Rolled Out At Properties

## Tidal Wave To Hit Quassy

Quassy Amusement & Waterpark, Middlebury, Conn., will see its ship come in for 2020.

The lakeside property will have a new giant swinging vessel themed Tidal Wave which will be placed in the heart of the park, replacing the Galleon Pirate Ship.

Tidal Wave will seat 32 guests and reach a height of more than 30 feet. The attraction is currently being built in Italy by SBF/Visa Group, which is represented in North America by Rides-4-U of Somerville, N.J.

Quassy expects to have the new ride operational for its 112th season, which opens April 25.

## Dome Completed

After 42 years, the Astrosphere at Funtown Splashtown USA, Saco, Maine, has been re-born.

The ride itself is an Eli Bridge Scrambler inside a dome with lights, lasers, pictures, fog, all while the song Fire on High by ELO (Electric Light Orchestra) plays. Not only is it a favorite among the guests, but also the hundreds of team members that have had the privilege of operating the attraction.



ing, and energy industries.

Using the same footprint as the original, the dome was completed in about two months. Instead of a thin piece of vinyl, four inches of insulation, concrete, and rebar create the new skin of the dome.



Newest water attractions at Canobie Lake Park. (Submitted photo)



Quassy's Ship Will Come In For 2020 Season. (Submitted photo)

With the air dome at the end of its lifespan, the park chose to go in a different direction by having a solid structure. The park contracted with Dome Technology of Idaho Falls, Idaho, to design and construct a concrete dome for the Astrosphere. This was the company's first foray into the attractions industry. The primary use of their domes is in the agriculture, min-

## Water Attractions At Canobie Lake Park

The 2019 season at Canobie Lake Park, Salem, N.H., provided the opportunity for the property to showcase its newest water attractions at Castaway Island.

The centerpiece is the Tidal River, one of only a few tidal rivers ever created. Guests enter a zero-entry wave pool before making their journey to the entrance of the river. As they glide past the Tiki Guardian, waves are formed every 10 seconds propelling riders through a tranquil island oasis around Slide Island.

(See WATER, Page 12)



## Southwick's Zoo To Present Winter Wonderland

MENDON, Mass. - Southwick's Zoo's will be serving up some holiday fun with its upcoming Winter Wonderland attraction.

Guests can ride Santa's Train and marvel at spectacular light displays, find Rudy the reindeer in the adventure maze, meet Santa's furry friends in the petting zoo, enjoy a memorable visit with Santa Claus, and more.

Visitors can also purchase some sweet treats in the Gingerbread Bakery and ornaments and other holiday souvenirs in the Purple Peacock Gift Shop.

Winter Wonderland will be open 4:30 to 9:30 p.m., Friday-Sunday, Nov. 29-Dec. 29. For more information: [www.southwickzoo.com/winter-wonderland](http://www.southwickzoo.com/winter-wonderland)



**Visits with Santa Claus will be part of Winter Wonderland.**

(Submitted Photo)

## Edaville Family Theme Park Hosts Cranberry Festival



CARVER, Mass - Edaville Family Theme Park hosted its famous Cranberry Festival Oct. 12 and 13, featuring live entertainment, a variety of vendors, crafters, artisans, and excitement for all ages.

Nancy Bailey, assistant manager, of Edaville Family Theme Park, said, "The Cranberry Festival is a wonderful event, where guests can learn about the cranberry harvest, and Edaville's history while enjoying the fall foliage, seasonal food and beverages, and craftsmanship of an array of local crafters, artisans and vendors."

The Cranberry Festival took place inside Edaville's events field, where guests enjoyed a collection of vendors and crafters that offer hand-made and homemade items that included candles, jams and jellies, stained glass, specialty clothing.

The event also featured educational lessons, seasonal apple cider, baked goods from the famous Montilio's bakery, an assortment of food trucks, and more.

**Cranberry Festival at Edaville Family Theme Park.**  
(Submitted photo)



## Water

(Continued From Page 11)

By taking the River Bridge over Tidal River, guests can experience three new slides on Slide Island. One slide is entirely open at the top, while second slide is entirely enclosed so you feel like your traveling through a dark tunnel. The third slide gets wide, then skinny, then wide, then skinny, causing you to whip through the experience



# Parks Pitch In For Worthy Causes

## Coasting For Kids →

Coasting For Kids came to Story Land in Glen, N.H., this summer and raised more than \$7,000 for Give Kids The World Village in Kissimmee, Fla. Give Kids the World President & CEO Pam Landwirth was on hand and presented Top Individual and Top Team fundraiser plaques to the participants who earned them. Every dollar raised went directly to Give Kids the World's mission to provide cost-free, weeklong vacations to critically ill children and their families. (Submitted photos)



## ← School Supply Drive

Six Flags New England, Agawam, Mass., celebrated National Roller Coaster Day in August with a School Supply Drive to "Help Keep Kids on Track" this school year. The park partnered with the United Way of Greater Springfield, Mass., and filled a coach bus with more than 18,000 items. Guests were invited to donate 20 or more school items in exchange for free admission. The United Way stuffed more than 2,500 backpacks with supplies and granted them to disadvantaged children in the Springfield and Holyoke areas.

## Christmas In July Toy Drive →

Quassy Amusement & Waterpark employee Brendan Wilmot is shown with a box filled with toys, which was part of the Middlebury, Conn., property's Christmas In July Toy Drive. The initiative at Quassy was set up this summer through the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) in Newington as well as Christmas Wish CT, a charity committed to sharing the spirit of Christmas 365 days a year. The park's Quassy Cares program joined the campaign and for each toy brought in by a park employee, Quassy matched the contribution. This past spring the family-owned business also put together a service cart which occasionally cruises along the Middlebury Greenway, a leisure trail where the electrified trolley line that serviced the park in its early days once stood. Quassy employees help pick up any debris found along the paved greenway and dispose of it.





## Halloween Spooky Zoo Held At Roger Williams

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—Roger Williams Park Zoo held its daytime Halloween Spooky Zoo in late October.

Kids and adults alike enjoyed a packed schedule of seasonal activities including animal encounters, meet and greet with costumed characters, hands-on crafts, and free trick-or-treat bags.

Entrance to Spooky Zoo was free with zoo admission. For more information visit [rwpzoo.org](http://rwpzoo.org)



Youngsters enjoy Spooky Zoo activities. (Submitted photo)

## Lewis Teams Up With Intercard

ST. LOUIS — Intercard has allied with party specialist Dorothy Lewis, who contributed to the development of Intercard's Shindigger party planning and reservation software.

Lewis will provide installation and product support for Shindigger, which operators can use with or without an Intercard cashless technology system. She will also offer consulting services on the party and event business at a special discount to Shindigger customers.

Lewis, a past president of NEAAPA, has worked in the amusement industry for more than 25 years and began her career with the legendary Al Kress, co-founder of Benchmark Games, before going on to work with Fun Station Associates and others.

During her 20-year tenure as vice president of marketing at Fun Station, Lewis oversaw thousands of parties and events that expanded overall business by as much as 25 per cent at some locations.

"Shindigger is priced to beat competing systems, and subscribers will also get a party business pro as a valuable additional resource," says Lewis. "There's so much that Shindigger can do beyond just booking reservations. I will help operators get up to speed and use it to the fullest."



**Dorothy Lewis**

**Sponsored By *Amusement Today***

## NEAAPA Newsletter Now Available Online

*New England News*, the official newsletter of the New England Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (NEAAPA), is now available for viewing on NEAAPA's website.

Archived issues of the newsletter dating back to 2011 can be accessed with the click of

the mouse, thanks to the sponsorship of industry publication *Amusement Today* of Arlington, Texas.

"Gary Slade, publisher of *Amusement Today*, came to us with the idea of making our newsletter available to members not located in the region," NEAAPA President Eric Anderson said of the initiative. "Since hard copies are distributed three times a year during NEAAPA meetings, putting them online was the best solution to making them available to everyone. We greatly appreciate Gary's support of the project."

*New England News* may be viewed online at: [neaapa.com/pages/new-england-news-archive](http://neaapa.com/pages/new-england-news-archive)

NEAAPA members are welcome to submit articles and photos for consideration to news editor Ron Gustafson at [ron@quassy.com](mailto:ron@quassy.com) and Secretary Ed Hodgdon at [secretary@neaapa.com](mailto:secretary@neaapa.com).

The next edition of *New England News* will be published for NEAAPA's Annual Meeting slated for March.

