

Volume 2

June 11, 1973

Number 23

acts named

Last week the Circus Hall of Fame, at Sarasote, Fla., announced it had signed a contract with George Hubler to produce its annual summer circus season. Shows will be presented on a daily basis from June 5 to Sept. 3rd, under the direction of George Hubler, while June Mills will serve as aerial director.

Acts set for the Hall of Fame circus include:

- Adonis Duo - perch and acrobats
- The Bale Sisters - equestrians
- Alf Landon - producing clown
- The Millet Sisters - aerial ballet
- George Wallace - musical director
- Trevor Bale - trained animals
- Mills & Mammel - tight wire
- The Marconi Trio - comedy trapeze
- Doug Mentor - comedy king
- Royal Continental Lipizzan horses

evan's concert

All those who attended the recent Merle Evans concert in Georgia agree that it was a really great event. The big free concert was presented at the Clayton County College on Sunday, May 13th.

A special banquet was arranged for the evening of May 12th. Then following the concert itself a picnic was scheduled after which circus films from 1939, 1941 and 1943 were screened.

Visitors from Alabama, Georgia, Ohio Indiana and Maryland were registered for the two day program.

NOTICE!

Word has just been received that the Clark & Walters Circus and Fisher Bros. have merged to create a new and bigger Fisher Bros. Circus

Both shows were owned by the Silver lake family. The surviving show is currently operating in Oklahoma.

Fair SHOW

This year, for the first time, the Alameda County Fair, at Pleasanton, Cal., will be charging admission for a portion of its stage shows. The move is obviously an attempt to regain the cost of bringing in some top name people.

The admission fee shows will feature Bobby Vinton and The Snyder Bros. on July 2-5; and Ken (Festus) Curtis, plus the Margo Dancers and Lou Jacklich, accordionist on July 9-11. The prices of admission for these shows is \$1.50 for adults and \$1.00 for children, with shows set for 7 and 9 p.m.

Other special shows, which will be offered on a free basis, will feature: The Bright Side, Mike Caldwell and The Wheelers (merimbas) on July 6-8; with the Pierce Sisters, Ricky Dunn and Dwight Moore's Mongrel Review on July 12-15.

Special attractions announced for the fair feature: Princess White Buffalo and Allen's Petting Zoo on July 1-8, followed by the Happytime Circus on July 9-15. There will be a horse pulling contest on July 8th, with a Destruction Derby set for July 15th. Prices of admission for the Derby are: \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

18 BUFFALO COURIER-EXPRESS, Tuesday, May 15, 1973

Worker Badly Hurt By Circus Elephant

Courier-Express Correspondent

FORT ERIE, Ont. — An animal checker with a circus was critically injured Monday when he was crushed and tossed by an elephant in a railroad boxcar here.

The employe, Donald Harris, 24, of Terre Haute, Ind., was taken to Douglas Memorial Hospital in critical condition with internal injuries and possible fractures of the ribs, arm and shoulder.

Attacks at Border

Niagara Regional Police said the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus had finished an engagement in Kitchener, Ont.,

and was waiting at the border for clearance to cross when the elephant, John-John, attacked.

Authorities said Harris was in the car with eight elephants to help with quarantine inspection requirements, when the eight-year-old bull elephant crushed him against a wall of the circus car and slung him over its back.

Alerts Others

Circus officials said that John-John had been restless in recent weeks, and had given his handlers trouble.

Harris apparently was able to alert others outside who helped rescue him from the car. The circus train continued on to Boston, Mass.

YEARS AGO

The Ringling Bros. Circus of 1915 was featuring the following Side Show line-up:

Kaso, the Missing Link; Artie Ather-ton, skeleton man; Capt. Frank Walters, the Blue Man; Miss Elizabeth Trucki and Joe Liffin, Albinos; Miss La Verne, snake woman; Capt. George Dowling, English giant; Grace Gilbert, Bearded Lady; Adm. Thumb, midget; Millie Gabrielle, the half girl; Steve Wagner, tattooed boy; Alastair Mac Wilkie, long beard; strong man; wire haired man and the Minstrels.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED - CIRCUS LITHOGRAPHS for my collection. Truck and Railroad Shows. Shows most wanted: Mighty Haeg, Gollmar, Christy Bros., Sparks, Sells-Floto and Gentry Bros. Will pay premium price. R. G. Gore, 332 West 23rd St., Jacksonville, Fla.

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HEADLINES

Acts featured on the TV show "Rockin' The Palace" on Saturday, June 2nd were:

Dwight Moore - Mongrel Review
Cathy Rigby - acrobat
The Harpsmiths - harmonicas
Miss Kari and Tika, the baby elephant

canadian tour

All reports indicate the Hubert Castle Circus has had a successful tour in Canada. Attendance has been above that of last year, with advance sales described as being "very good."

Tentative dates have been signed for 1974, thus assuring the show of another Shrine sponsored tour. The circus, which started its season at Grand Rapids, Mich. on Jan. 22nd, will be back in the states at the end of the month. They'll continue touring until late October.

The program as presented at Regina, Sask. (May 7-10) featured:

Roger Smith - wild animals
The Young Duo - aerial cradle
Eduardo's crazy Continental car
The Ponce Bros. - perch pole
The Pablos - perch pole
The Zavattas - unsupported ladders
Clowns - atomic slim jimmer
Lee Marx - clown juggler
Sylvia Trio - rola bola
The Cycling Wizards
Herman & Petunia - comedy riding
Miss Evita - single trapeze
Arturo - head balance on trapeze
Rudolfo Alles - tight wire
Bert Pettus - camels and llamas
Charmaine's Playmates (dogs and monkey)
Mel Hall - monkeys
The Trio Angelos - aerial motorcycle
The Flying Lions -
Clowns - boxing number
Cardenal - equilbrist
Cristina - acrobatics
The Janmar elephants (Bert Pettus)
Kassle's bears
Clowns - the bath tub
Hernandez Troupe - teeterboard
Sanchez Troupe - teeterboard
Bounding Plunketts - trampoline
Roger Zoppe Arabian riders

show on tour

The new International Apollo Circus opened its season at East Brunswick, N.J. on May 31-June 3, writes John Phillips. They have a nice looking show and business was quite good. They played at Freehold, N.J. on June 7-10.

The show has a walk-thru red trailer for its ticket office and entrance. It is something like Kelly-Miller used to have, and when the walk-thru ramps are folded up equipment can be loaded inside.

They don't have a tent, but sidewall it, with red and white striped canvas. There are five seat wagons, each about 40 ft. long with a seating capacity of 330 people. They also have a concession wagon and two trucks, plus the performers' equipment and trailers.

The show uses one ring and a stage, plus a cat cage. Music was provided by an organ.

The opening show featured:

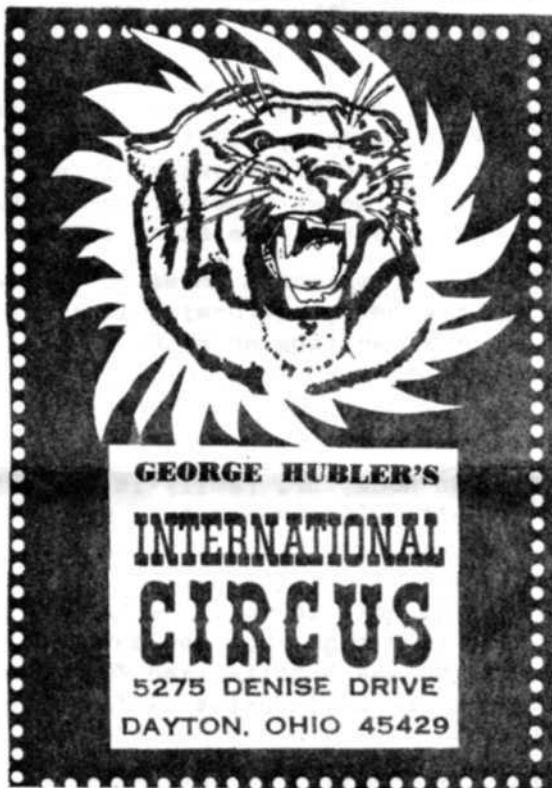
The Clowns - A Prelude
 Overture - Circus musical salute
 Guy Gossing - tigers
 Miss Rene - aerial magic
 The Fentons - acrobats
 Clowns - Magical moments
 The Bonnets - trampoline
 Vidbel's elephants
 -- Intermission --
 Clowns - Balloonerama
 Rejanine Duo and Aerial Delaneys
 Clowns - laughs galore
 Vidbel's liberty ponies
 Songseyings - audience and cast
 The Starlettes - artistry in motion
 Clowns - The walk-a-round
 The Flying Armors -
 Finale

CLOWNS

Clowns currently appearing with the Hubert Castle Circus include:

Rex Young, producing clown; Jimmy Armstrong, Lee Marx, Shelly Green, James and Jeffrey Plunkett.

Lee Marx is also listed in the program as doing a juggling number.



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BOOK

A new book "The Domeliners" describes the unique penthouses that were operated on all of America's railroads. The trains, their equipment, maps, routes, and timetables are presented in detail along with an appendix which lists every dome car built in the U.S.

If you are a rail buff this is a book you'll want to add to your collection.

To order the book send \$11.95 (this is a saving over the later price) to: Superior Publishing Co., Box 1710, Seattle, Washington - 98111.

show Family

Late last month the United Press carried a feature story about The Nocks, who are with the Ringling-Barnum Circus. It's a family that works together and looks out for each other, the story said.

The Nocks represent three generations who are currently performing in the circus, with a heritage of eight generations under the big top. They are from Switzerland, where an uncle still operates a circus under the family name.

The Pio Nock, Jr. family is traveling with Ringling-Barnum and they appear in six show numbers. His high wire ride on a bicycle across a cage full of lions is the feature act. In March he fell 19 ft. into the lion cage, but got out safely. However, he was hospitalized for several weeks because of injuries suffered in the fall.

The Nock family, in this country, includes: Pio Jr., and his wife Katy; a son Tony; a daughter, Isabella, who is married to Mario Cort. There are also two children, Alexandria Nock, daughter of Pio, Jr. who is 10 months old, and Sascha, daughter of the Cortes. She is 6 yrs. old and already has started learning to walk the high wire.

A CFA MEET

Members and guests of the Bette Leonard CFA Tent (Wichita, Kans.) will hold a dinner meeting in conjunction with the George Matthews Circus this next weekend. The group will be meeting at the home of Mrs. Geraldine Aikman, a home that was designed and built by the late famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Ronnie Beady, of Salina, will show movies of the Milwaukee Circus parade, while Mrs. Aikman will show films of past CFA get-to-gethers.

Also planned is a program of old-time acts including the Juggling Bernards and Aden W. Lowry, who will present his tambourine number. Other special guests will include Mickey Hansen, the Kansas City clown; Bette Leonard and Harry Peebles, an agent at Wichita.

Sawdust Trail....M. L. Dupont

Walter G. Heist, Jr., editor of "The Little Circus Wagon" publication of the Circus Model Builder, reports the April-May issue will be late. It's going to be a 40 page issue this time, he says.

Word received by this reporter has it there is an outside possibility that the Silverlakes, owners of Clark & Walters Circus and Fisher Bros. Circus, may combine their shows due to advance agent problems and help. Both shows have been enjoying good business.

Circus Williams is playing in Ohio, and is looking for help as well as acts for the season.

Farrow Amusements played a first in Monroe, La., during the week of May 21-27. They were set up on the parking lot at the Civic Center Arena and Complex and enjoyed good business. The city advertised it as the Spring Fair.

Dixiana Circus, in a report to this writer, says that with all the flooding and bad weather across the area they had planned to route the show, they feel lucky they cancelled their scheduled opening this spring.

Dorney Park, at Allentown, Pa. has recovered from their recent fire and is back in full operation. In Mid-July they will feature a Circus Week with exhibits by many model builders and on July 19th, the Royal Ranch Wild West Circus will be playing there.

Southern Sawdust, the circus pictorial published four times a year by L. W. Poarch, has announced a price increase in its subscription rates.



After attending a World War II air show at Galveston, Texas, Joe Varnado, reports he saw the Clark & Walters Circus equipment at a nearby beach area. Later, I caught the show, Joe adds. It was playing at Winne then.

They had a program at 6 and 8 p.m., and business was good at both shows. The people on the show were all very nice and (Continued on Page 6)

ROUTES

Ali Ghan Shrine Circus
June 15-16 Cumberland, Md.

Allen's Petting Zoo
June 13-17 San Jose, Cal.

Beatty-Cole Circus
June 11 Williamsport, Pa
12 Scranton
13 Easton
15 Peekskill, N.Y.
16 Norwalk, Conn.
17 Bayonne, NJ

Carson & Barnes Circus
June 9 Valentine, Nebr.

Hubert Castle Circus
June 12 Williams Lake BC
13 Kamloops
14 Penticton
15-17 Vancouver

Circus Kirk
June 11 Berwyn, Pa.
13 Doylestown
14 Quekertown
15 Nazareth
16 Windgap
17 Wilson

Clyde Bros. Circus
June 11 Kearny, Nebr.
12-14 Hastings
15-16 Grand Island
17 Lexington

El Kalah Shrine Circus
June 15-16 Salt Lake City

Fisher Bros. Circus
June 11 Apache, Okla.
12 Anadarko
13 Carnegie
14 Sentinel
15 Sayre
16 Brick

George-Matthews Circus
June 14-15 Joplin, Mo.

Hamid-Morton Circus
June 15-16 Cumberland, Md

Happytime Circus
June 13-17 Hanford, Cal.

Keys Continental Circus
June 8-12 Denver, Colo.

Knights of Columbus Circus
June 16-17 San Francisco

Polack Bros. Circus
June 16 Odessa, Texas

Ringling's Blue Unit
June 15-17 Lubbock, Texas

King Bros. Circus
Jun 11 Elgin, Ill.
12 Berrington
13 Oak Lawn
14 Delavan, Wisc.
15 Freeport, Ill.
16 Dubuque, Iowa

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Jun 11 Bloomington, Ill.
12 Danville
13 Indianapolis, Ind.
14 Anderson
15 Richmond
16 Marion, Ohio

Lewis Bros. Circus
June 11 Newman, Ill.
12 Atwood
13 Shelbyville
14 Assumption
15 Witt
16 Benld

Miller-Johnson Circus
Jun 10-12 Darisburg, Mich.
13-16 Wayne County
17 Jackson

Roysen Bros. Circus
June 12 Castalia, N.C.
14 Red Oak
15 Rocky Mount

Rudy Bros. Circus
thru Jun 17 Boston, Mass.

Sells & Gray Circus
June 11 Norristown, Pa.
12 Riverside, N.J.
13 Palmyra
14 Williamstown
15 Penns Grove
16 Rosenhoy

Shrine Circus
June 22-23 San Angelo, Tex

John Strong Circus
Jun 11 Tonopah, Nev.
12-13 Eli
14 Cedar City, Utah
15 Off
16 Flagstaff, Ariz.
17 Off

Voorheis Bros. Circus
June 16 Athens, Mich.

Wallace & Rogers Circus
June 14-15 Mt. Lake Terrace
Wash.

.... FAIRS

Burke County Fair
June 14-16 Flexton, N. D.

Kings County Fair
June 13-17 Hanford, Calif.

Colusa County Fair
June 14-17 Colusa, Calif.

Mid-South Fair
June 14-24 Houston, Texas

..... CARNIVALS

American Eagle Shows
June 14-17 Tekamah, Nebr.

Del & Travers Shows
June 12-16 Staunton, Va.

Don's Amusements
June 11-13 Anata, N. D.
14-16 Finlay

James H. Drew Shows
June 11-16 Grundy, W. Va.

Bob Hammond Shows
June 14-21 Wichita Falls, Tex.

Johnny's United Shows
June 11-16 Winchester, Tenn.

D. L. Manning Shows
June 11-16 Claysville, Pa.

Mid-South Shows
June 11-16 Dyersburg, Tenn.

Myers Amusement Corp.
June 11-16 McKenzie, Tenn.

Pleasureland Shows
June 11-16 Shelby, N.C.

Reithoffer Shows
June 14-17 Hyattsville, Md.

Rose City Rides
June 11-13 Owensville, Mo.
15-17 New Haven

Toby's Amusements
June 11-16 Nevada, Mo.

.... OTHER ROUTES

Allusionairs (Magic Show)
June 11 Concord, Calif.
12 Santa Rosa

Peggy Fleming Ice Show
June 12-16 Garden State, N.J.

Small World (Disney)
thru Jun 24 Los Angeles, Cal.

Three Caballeros (Disney)
June 13-17 Phoenix, Ariz.
19-24 Tucson

PATTER

Phone rooms will no longer be permitted to operate in Beaverton, Oregon. The announcement was made last week by the City Council.

Amusement Parks: Some Not Wanted

(AP) — City fathers, their eyes aglow with dollar signs, generally jump with glee. But one Maryland county said thanks, but no thanks: We plain don't want a giant amusement park here. The dollars can go elsewhere.

The amusement park boom, accelerating since 1971, brings a boost to the economy in most places, along with higher taxes, exaggerated land values and massive traffic jams. Employment benefits go mostly to high school and college students hired as tour guides and ticket sellers.

The general attitude of city government has been that if the locals don't like it, they can up and move to a spot where nobody wants to raise Six Flags over anything in particular and where Mickey Mouse would not wish to live.

Parks have found happy homes near such cities as Nashville, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Houston, St. Louis, Dallas and Kissimmee, the nearest town to Mickey's new home in Florida.

But Howard County, Maryland, between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, gave a firm thumbs down to the Marriott Corp., a large hotel chain that plans to sink \$120 million into the amusement-theme park industry.

The city of Pleasanton, Calif. also said thumbs down in 1969 to a Six Flags amusement park proposed for the community. Opponents said that even if the park was the cleanest, nicest and best-maintained ever, the honky-tonk parasites that follow the parks would settle in, too. Therefore, they said, they could do without either and turned down the rezoning request. It's the quality of life, not the almighty dollar, that matters, argued a citizenry affluent enough to afford that kind of argument.

"There is an undeniable cash benefit to the county government, but the issue is: Do you want to put a price tag on the quality of life in the county?" asked Stephens Sachs, former U.S. attorney for Maryland and one of the leading opponents of the project. "Cash benefit doesn't automatically equal progress."

Marriott, which announced its intentions of moving into the industry over a year ago, now has three theme parks under way, one in Santa Clara, Calif., one between Chicago and Milwaukee and one, once again, outside of Washington. This time it's Prince William County, Va.

All three won rezoning requests, the firm reports.

As approved, the three parks will open in 1975, or 1976 at the latest. Two of the plots — the ones in the Chicago and Washington areas — will each sprawl over 550 acres and the one in Santa Clara will encompass about 500 acres.

The biggest economic boom for the new amusement parks came as the magic name of Disney moved to Florida. The nearest town, Kissimmee, doubled its population — all the way up to 14,000 — and its size. An acre once suitable only for citrus trees sold for \$300. Now that it has been demonstrated that gas stations, restaurants and motels grow well and profitably in that soil, it's worth \$30,000 an acre.

The Disney parks are the only two that the industry labels as "destination" parks, the goal of major family trips. The other parks, now called "theme" parks to distinguish them from the old Coney Island parks where a mass of rides and hot dog stands were tossed together haphazardly, draw 80 per cent of their customers from a 50-mile

radius, a spokesman for the Marriott Corp. explained.

Disney World, a \$400 million investment that opened Oct. 1, 1971, created 10,000 new jobs in mid-Florida, an exception to the general employment picture the parks cause. Usually, there are a few hundred permanent jobs and the rest, about 1,000 to 1,500, are filled by high school and college students.

The opening of Disney World in Florida also put the local Salvation Army \$19,000 into debt as dreamers with visions of a Fantasia lined with gold poured into the area without a job offer in sight. And it put anything but magic into the lives of people like Mike Smith.

A retired gas station operator, Smith picked a nice quiet spot to live some 13 years ago, the town of Kissimmee. Then Disney moved in next door.

"It turned into a goldfish bowl, the tourists own main street," Smith griped. "It used to be a real nice place to live. Now stacks of buses start whizzing by at 6:30 a.m. You can't get out of your driveway — there are hundreds and hundreds of cars. We don't even go out to eat anymore. It's not worth trying." So Smith moved.

"Taxes went to hell," he added, noting that 10 years ago he paid \$109 in property taxes for his small tract of retirement land. Current taxes: \$600.

The granddaddy of the park boom was the one, and only Disneyland, a park that put the Southern California city of Anaheim on the map and drastically changed the rural setting into which it moved back in 1955. When Disney bought in the early 50's, the land cost \$5,000 an acre. That same acre will cost \$100,000 now.

NOTES

The DeWayne Bros. and Gatti-Charles Circus both played at Yakima, Wash. on May 29th.

Polack Bros. Circus will be back at Sacramento, Calif. to play at the State Fair in Sept.

Recent dates for the Royal Lipazzen Stallion Show included: Omaha, Neb. May 20-21 and St. Paul, Minn. June 1-3.

A Shrine Circus was held at Jackson, Miss. on May 28-29.

Circus Fans in Australia held a convention at Albury, NSW on April 20-22.

Lewis Bros. Circus has some former Kelly-Miller show trucks. All equipment is painted orange.

Broadway Bookfinders, 1966 Broadway, NYC, has a book on circus freaks which sells for \$6.55

Perry's Circus, in Australia, has announced new reduced prices. \$1.00 for adults and 50¢ for the children.

Some 52 phones are being used to sell tickets for the Oakland, Calif. Police sponsored "Grand Ole Opry" show which is coming to the local Coliseum.

CLARK & WALTERS CIRCUS (Continued) they told me that business thus far has been good.

At Batson, Texas, they ran into a little problems when pickets arrived to protest against the circus' sponsor. But I never really figured out what it was all about.



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525 Oak Street, El Cerrito, Calif.

Amusement Park

The Anaheim Chamber of Commerce volunteers that Disney speeded the city's growth by 20 years. In 1955, Anaheim had a population of 30,000 and covered about 4½ square miles. Today, the population is over 184,000 and the city covers 36 square miles, soon to be up to 50 square miles. Pre-Disney, there were three motels and 87 rooms. Now there are 144 motels and hotels, and 7,000 rooms. In 1955, there were 34 restaurants. Now, take your pick from 312.

Six Flags over Mid-America, outside St. Louis, opened in 1971 and its first year was a good one as three million tourists went through the gate. But most of them probably did not set out on long trips specifically to see Six Flags. It was just a stop along the way in a vacation, or perhaps a day's excursion. Therefore, the number of new businesses are not there. Only two, both restaurants, opened after the park did.

There was some land speculation, according to Leon Kircher, nearby Eureka's planning and zoning board president.

"A lot of land is changing hands and plans are being made, but there's no development," he said.

Frank Antonio, a land appraiser for St. Louis County, said he wasn't aware of any impact the park may have made.

"I haven't seen anyone breaking doors down to buy land. The average investor may go out there and take options on land, but there won't be any sales until he is sure of the park's success," Antonio said.

On the other hand, a 73-acre amusement park that straddles the North Carolina-South Carolina state line has sent land values skyrocketing.

The project is called Carowinds and opened

March 31. Eventually, it will represent a \$250-million investment.

The York County, S.C., tax assessor, Ike L. Oates, said an acre cost between \$350 and \$400 before Carowinds came to call. Now that acre goes for \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Nashville's new amusement area, Opryland, opened last May and its promoters claim that it caused people to look at Nashville in a way other than the "hillbilly capital of the world." So far, though, there has been no real evidence of the economic impact, although Holiday Inns said it would put a giant facility five minutes away, and campgrounds have been popping up nearby.

Land values jumped drastically, largely because the land was rezoned from agricultural to commercial. The old assessment was \$200 an acre. At commercial rates, it's \$2,000 an acre.

The only negative reaction came from area history buffs and merchants near the Grand Ole Opry House in downtown Nashville. The merchants say their profits will be hurt significantly if it is torn down and a new one built at Opryland.

Besides not always helping the area, not all of the attractions can help themselves. Busch Gardens, an \$11-million, 40-acre park which opened in 1971 in Houston, was a disaster. It announced recently it was shutting down most of its operations due to high costs and low attendance. The owner, Anheuser-Busch Inc., has similar, but successful, operations in Los Angeles and Tampa, Fla. The brewery people lost \$4 million on the project in a recent fiscal quarter.

A Houston neighbor, Astroworld, is faring much better. The \$24-million, 54-acre park across a freeway from the Astrodome opened in 1968.

In Lebanon, Ohio, outside of Cincinnati, King's Island opened a year ago April and the two million visitors it had anticipated came. Motels and hotels, also felt the impact of the park and a real estate operator said the park has spurred activity in food and lodging industries, as well as in residential property in the area.

Six Flags over Texas came to Arlington, Tex., in 1961. The population of Arlington, 16 miles from Dallas and Fort Worth, has since doubled.

"We'd love to take credit for every bit of it, but we can't," said a Six Flags spokesman. In the intervening years the area saw a build-up of an industrial center, the development of a giant airport, the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, and more and more amusement industries, including The Southwest Historical Wax Museum, an inland marine speculator called Seven Seas, and the newest of the Lion Country Safaris. The drawing boards include two inland surfing parks, a Texas Sports Hall of Fame and a multimillion-dollar religious walk-through called "The Way."

Another park whose economic impact seems negligible is Magic Mountain, north of Los Angeles. The park opened in May of 1971 and its first year was a financial failure. No new businesses jumped on that bandwagon.

The existing businesses, however, say they feel Magic Mountain has brought in some additional revenues, but they don't plan on revitalizing anything. The park was sold by Sea World, Inc., of San Diego after its first year and bought by Newhall Land and Farming, which already owned most of the surrounding land. It sunk millions into improvements and the second year was a bit more successful.

Six Flags Over Georgia

PEOPLE

ROSE ANN and JACK BATY of #888's Red Unit are the parents of a son (Jeffrey) born last month.

JOHN HERRIOTT is breaking a six horse liberty act for a date at Storyland USA (Lake George, N.Y.)

M. L. DUPONT (Dodo, the Clown) has been working dates in the Monroe, La. area.

TERRELL JACOBS, Jr. recently completed a series of school shows with his trained animals.

HERB REED is director of marine mammal training at Marine World in Redwood City, Calif.

TOM UPTON joined the clowns on John Strong's Circus all last week.

DAVID SLUSSER (Hi Ho, the Clown) worked the Porterville, Calif. Fair on May 18-19 and then went into the Army.

BOB EMRICO, clown and magician, got a full page of photos in the Medford Mail Tribune (Medford, Ore) on Mar. 4, 1973.

PHIL and FRANCINE aerialists, will be working dates on the West Coast in August.

HARRY and PEGGY BAKER, jugglers, visited the John Strong Circus at Manteca, Calif. on May 31.

LYLE F. SCOTT recently visited the Rudy Bros. and John Strong Circus when they played Santa Rosa, Calif. last month.

DICK CROSS, organist, recently bought himself a brand new truck.

CHET SLUSSER visited the Royal Int'l Circus at Visalia, Calif on May 23rd.

opened near Atlanta in 1967 and since then the population of the two nearby communities, Austell and Mableton, has grown by about 2,000. Land that was worth \$6,000 to \$10,000 when the park was built is up to \$15,000 to \$30,000 an acre, but local realtors say this is just general growth.

PAUL VAN POOL missed the Miller Johnson Circus when it was in his area. He has been visiting with MERLE EVANS.

winter plans

Some new shows are being developed for the upcoming Christmas season under the direction of James Hargrove, well-known national promoter. The shows will be playing sponsored dates in virtually every part of the country, and will bring new acts to the various areas.

Opening in Chicago, Ill. early in the holiday season will be a unit headed by Murray Hill. This show will tour in the eastern states.

Covering the mid-west area will be a show called "Big John's International Circus." Opening date for this unit has been tentatively set for Dec. 15th at Kansas City, with Chester Cable and the Wal-Tims featured in the program.

On the west coast, a new show, as yet un-named, will play a series of indoor dates. This unit will be headed by Ruth Strong and Betty Wendany, and is to feature Bob Rawls and Steve Baker from the King Bros. Circus.

Special

The following AGVA meetings have been announced for this month.

- June 12 - Montreal, Ontario
- June 13 - Toronto

A Musical festival

Members of the Windjammers group got together at Corydon, Ind. last month (May 25-26) for a series of concerts and a banquet. The concert was held under a big tent on Ward Staugh's farm, while the banquet was held at the Corydon Country Club

Among those who attended the duo program, from out-of-state, were: Bob Hills, Charlie Bennett, Art Foster and Paul Fitzpatrick. Also attending and taking part in the activities was Dr. Dettman, of Fort Meyers, Fla., who frequently plays in the band on King Bros. and the Beatty-Cole show.

Most of the music played at the concert consisted of numbers that have not been recorded. However, tapes were made so this music, and that of the recent Merle Evans concert, could be added to the library of the Windjammers.

date change

The Ringling-Bernum Blue Unit cancelled its June 15-17 date at Lake Charles, La. Several shows have already played this area and it was felt that business would not be up to expectations.

The show thus switched over its proposed route and is now going to play Lubbock, Texas on those dates.