



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACTS:
Mary Kay Marquisos - MPEA
(312) 791-6237 (office)
Jon Kaplan -Navy Pier
(312) 791-6319 (office)

NEW AND EXCITING SHOPS AND EATERIES
COMING TO NAVY PIER®

Visitors can “GO A LITTLE OVERBOARD” with new food and clothing tenants when they visit the Midwest’s top tourist attraction!

CHICAGO – Historic Navy Pier continues to offer visitors something new and exciting to see or do every time they come to the Midwest’s top tourist and leisure destination. The Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) – the owner and operator of Navy Pier – today approved four new tenants to provide new and unique food and clothing options for Navy Pier guests. This includes new concepts for two current retailers.

“This Board action today underscores our desire to provide our visitors with an exciting mix of food and retail options,” said Theodore R. Tetzlaff, Chairman of the MPEA. “Navy Pier continues to be a fun, exciting, affordable getaway for Chicagoans and tourists.”

Opening by the summer of 2009, the new retailers – *Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar*, *DogEworks*, *Garrett Popcorn Shop*, *Navy Pier Signature Store*– along with the new concepts of two current retailers - *Oh Yes Chicago!* and *Life In the Windy City* - offer visitors even more to enjoy during their trip to Navy Pier.

“These new tenants will enhance the customer experience for visitors to Navy Pier,” said Juan A. Ochoa, Chief Executive Officer of the MPEA. “We are pleased to enter a partnership with such experienced, high-quality merchants.”

“Navy Pier looks forward to welcoming these new businesses,” added Marilyn Gardner, Navy Pier’s General Manager. “As we finalize our exciting programming plans for the summer of 2009, we believe our visitors will enjoy the food and products they’ll offer.”

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar will be located in the retail space formerly occupied by *Joe’s Be Bop* Restaurant. It is one of the Top 10 Fastest-Growing Restaurant Chains in the country, with more than 550 stores. This casual sit-down, family-friendly restaurant and sports bar, features chicken wings with signature sauces and pub food such as salads, ribs, burgers and sandwiches.

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NEW SHOPS AND EATERIES AT NAVY PIER – ADD 1

Garrett Popcorn Shop has been a “Chicago tradition since 1949”. *CaramelCrisp, Inc.* currently owns and operates nine locations, including two stores in New York City, and two at O’Hare airport. The Navy Pier information booth staff reports that the most frequently asked question is, “Where is the Garrett Popcorn store?” Now, they can find one conveniently located near our food court. *Garrett Popcorn* has been featured on the *Oprah* show and *Gourmet* magazine named its popcorn “a perfect food”.

Navy Pier Signature Store (NPSS) is owned and operated by *Paperweight, Inc.* This company has been in business for 29 years, operating 21 retail stores throughout Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Locally, it operates nine stores, mostly known as *Accent Chicago*. (current locations include Water Tower, Hancock Center, Woodfield Mall, Yorktown Mall, Northbridge Mall, Sears Tower and Michigan Avenue). **NPSS** will sell apparel, accessories, and gifts with Navy Pier-themed appeal, including unique images of Navy Pier attractions, including the Ferris wheel, Carousel and Wave Swinger.

Oh Yes Chicago!, a current Navy Pier vendor, is a woman-owned company that has been a tenant at Navy Pier for 13 years. The new, larger space, with a new concept and design, focuses on unique and original designs of quality, Chicago-themed souvenir apparel and merchandise. The new store will include components of The Grand Avenue Gourmet Store offering iconic Chicago products and brands, along with private label goods.

DogEworks, a new boutique store within **Oh Yes Chicago!**, will occupy approximately 200 to 300 square feet of the space. This is a high-quality, canine-themed retail experience. The pet business is a \$44-billion industry. This store will be a one-stop shop for canine accessories, including organic treats, toys, pet apparel, leashes and collars.

Life In The Windy City, a temporary tenant for the past two years at Navy Pier, will relocate its store. *Color Inc.* is a woman-owned company, operating since 1976 with more than 50 stores nationwide. The store offers “*Life is Good*” merchandise and other fun, playful, items. “Life Is Good in the Windy City” merchandise will depict Chicago and Windy City topics such as boating, wind-sports, swimming, fishing and overall city fun.

These new retailers add even more variety to the more than fifty shops and vendors at Navy Pier. For more information as plans become finalized, please visit the Navy Pier website at www.navy pier.com.

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