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VT Pulse, October 4, 2017: Tragedy In Las Vegas

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Greetings Samantha,

Brad Weissberg, *Venues Today* senior writer, flew to Las Vegas the day after the mass murders at the Route 91 Harvest festival. His reports from the front lines follow. Our fervent hope is that there is never another such senseless tragedy and that we put it behind us while staying vigilante that it never happens again. See something, say something. Let's look out for each other.



Deserted and eerily quiet, the north end of Mandalay Bay Road is still cordoned off by yellow police-tape, three days after the horrific mass shooting from the 32nd floor of the Las Vegas strip hotel.

Vegas Hotels Institute Bag Searches

By Brad Weissberg and Linda Deckard

Following the horrific mass shooting from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel & Casino, several Las Vegas hotels are testing new security measures for all guests entering the property: bag searches using metal detectors. Security experts are divided on the effectiveness of the drastic new policy; some suggest the practice will make guests more nervous than comforted.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“People started running, pushing, ducking for cover and I kept hearing gunshots. A lot of gunshots. It would get quiet for a minute and then a new round would start. I started moving with the crowd toward a fence; I thought I could climb it and get out.”

— *Anthony Doccozi, a survivor of the mass shooting at Route 91 Harvest festival, from his Desert Springs, Las Vegas, hospital bed.*

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Windows smashed out of the 32nd floor suite of crazed gunman Stephen Paddock, who went on a rampage, killing 58 people attending the Route 91 Harvest festival and wounding 527 more.



Life Is Beautiful Is in the Black

By Gil Kaufman

Life Is Beautiful festival, Las Vegas, may have dodged a bullet. New information suggests that the Route 91 Harvest madman targeted the downtown Las Vegas festival before moving his sights to the now-fatal site on the Las Vegas strip where Route 91 Harvest was held.

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Laurene Powell Jobs Purchases Stake in Monumental



LA County Fair Concert Series A Hit

By Mary Wade Burnside

By Tim Newcomb

Steve Job's billionaire widow now owns part of Capital One Arena, Washington, D.C., the NBA Wizards and the NHL Capitals, among other properties. Powell Jobs has bought a 20-percent stake in Monumental Sports & Entertainment, becoming the second largest shareholder behind Ted Leonsis.

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Triple-digit heat and high humidity during the first 10 days of the Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona, didn't take the air out of the fair; only a six-and-a-half percent decrease in attendance was recorded. A successful concert series helped draw more customers in the evenings and in the latter weeks of the Sept. 1-24 fair, making up for the rough start.

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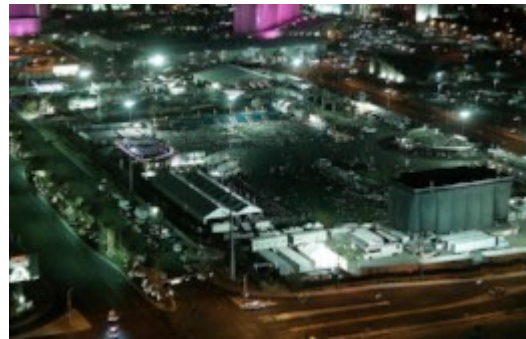


One Day Later, Mandalay Bay Quiet

By Brad Weissberg

Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, the hotel where Stephen Paddock shot and killed 59 people and wounded countless more, was eerily quiet 24 hours after the massacre, with only a handful of guests and gamblers scattered throughout the massive casino floor. Many of the customers were in the casino when gunshots rang out and police stormed the building Sunday night.

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A Survivor's Harrowing Story

By Brad Weissberg

Anthony Doccozi thanks two anonymous strangers with saving his life after he was shot at the Route 91 Harvest festival. Doccozi's harrowing night started when he was shot twice; he was saved by the good samaritans as he was crawling toward an exit.

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Dunham Is No Dummy

Comedian Jeff Dunham and puppet friends entertained a full house for two shows, Sept. 6 and 13, at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas. The shows grossed a total of \$370,000 with ticket prices ranging from \$50-\$80.

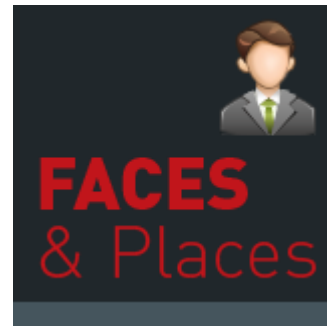
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IAFE; XLIVE; Western Fairs Coming

IAFE Convention & Trade Show, Paris Hotel & Casino, Nov. 26-29; XLIVE Annual Conference, Mandalay Bay Hotel, Dec. 10-13; Western Fairs Association Convention, Anaheim (Calif.) Marriott, Jan 3-6.

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Newton named CEO at Carolina Theatre, Durham

Carolina Theatre of Durham, N.C., has named Chapel Hill businesswoman and artist Rebecca Newton its president and CEO. Newton was formerly the chief innovation officer at Carolina Partners in Mental HealthCare, PLLC.

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SHORT TAKES

FutureTix Symposium Cancelled

In the wake of Hurricane Irma, FutureTix has canceled its symposium, which had been set for Nov. 5-7. The event was due to take place at Marriott at Biscayne Bay, Miami, Fla., which remains closed after sustaining significant damage from the devastating hurricane.

DNT Acquires Wilken Weather Technologies

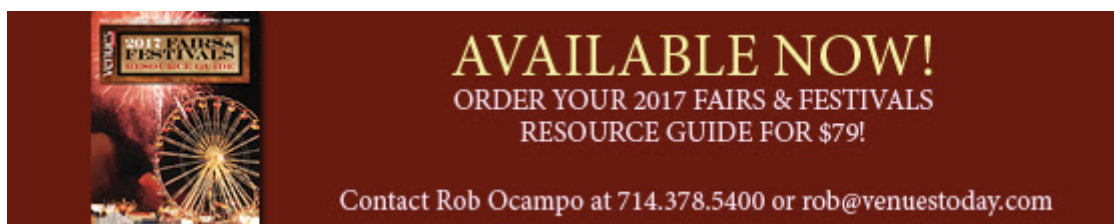
DTN, the independent provider of information and actionable insights in agriculture, weather, refined fuels and trading, has announced that it has acquired Wilkens Weather Technologies, a Houston-based weather company, from Rockwell Collins, Inc. (NYSE: COL). Wilkens Weather Technologies provides weather forecasting services to customers in the offshore/maritime industry, particularly oil and gas. Terms of the transaction were not released.

Chesney Lends Support to Virgin Islands Disaster Relief

Country star Kenny Chesney is lending support to Virgin Islands disaster relief through his charity, Love for Love City, which identifies pressing local needs, creates opportunities for companies to donate supplies, food, physical goods or transport and encourages people to contribute to the ongoing rebuilding of the islands.

Hall & Oates Donate To Hurricane Victims

Daryl Hall & John Oates will be donating a portion of their ticket sales from select North American tour dates to the Red Cross to benefit those in need following the twin hurricanes in Florida and Texas. The Southern leg of their tour will wrap at North Charleston Coliseum, N.C., Sept. 30.



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