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Walt Disney World Resort Extreme Vacation Guide for Kids, Kathleen M. Reilly, Quinn Reilly, Griffin Reilly, Polka Dot Suitcase, 2010, 0982990375, 9780982990377, . When kids find out they're going to Walt Disney World, they're excited. Then they find out they have to wait a little bit, and they get...well, a little Goofy. This book will give them something to do with that wiggly extra energy. With more than 30 projects to pick from, kids will find ways to earn souvenir money, make useful projects to bring with them, explore the science behind Walt Disney World, learn about the attractions, and make projects to capture their memories, too..

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You're going to Disney World! -- Planning your trip -- Making money for your trip -- Stuff to make for your trip -- Exploring the science of Walt Disney World -- On the way -- Magic Kingdom -- Epcot -- Disney's Hollywood Studios -- Disney's Animal Kingdom -- Other things to see and do -- Showcase your memories.

DisneyParks Blog - It's hard to believe but each November our Magic Kingdom Park goes from being decorated for Halloween to Christmas in just days. The transformation is fast and precise. As quickly as a jack-o-lantern is wrapped up for the year, an ornament goes up. And what may look like chaos to you and me, is actually a "choreographed dance" because planning begins in June. Here's a behind-the-scenes peek at how it happens.

Everything PR - Good news for Disney fans – the company's store already announced its Black Friday and Cyber Monday deals. The company prepares to open more than 130 stores (locate a store here) across the US at midnight on "Magical Friday" Nov. 26 (Black Friday), that will dazzle guests with a wide range of exclusive Disney toys, seasonal décor, hand-crafted ornaments, and stocking stuffers for the entire family. An interesting twist for family shopping, that gives 20% off all items and deals as low as \$5 – the only difference is that the time frame is midnight to 10 a.m.

We usually don't shop with our children at night, and definitely we don't take them among dangerous crowds. With such massive discounts, the Disney stores can expect a great influx of shoppers at midnight – since the best deals come in limited numbers. The stores already expect around 10 million guests this Black Friday.

"More than 95% of Disney Store product is exclusive to the store – items you can't find anywhere

else. Shoppers will get special deals on the hottest assortments—all inspired by hit Disney entertainment such as this year’s blockbuster Toy Story 3 and Tangled which releases Thanksgiving week,” said Jim Fielding, president of Disney Stores Worldwide.

There are at least ten great gift ideas provided by Disney to help you find the best gift, including Disney’s newest collection of Tangled role-play dresses, dolls, playsets, and plush (the Rapunzel Classic Doll, the Rapunzel and Flynn Rider Celebration Set, the Tangled Deluxe Figure Set, etc); the Disney Store Singing Dolls – seven dolls that each sing the signature song from their movies including Rapunzel, with Mandy Moore singing “When Will My life Begin”, and Tiana, with Anika Noni Rose singing “Almost There.” The exciting Disney-Pixar Toy Story Assortment, with Buzz, Woody and Jessie Talking Action Figures and the Toy Story 3 Deluxe Figurine Play Set are also some of the most popular choices, followed by the Disney-Pixar Cars Assortment with the Tokyo Drift Dragon Lightning McQueen RC Vehicle and the Cars Toon Rescue Squad Helicopter Die Cast Carrier Play Set. The list could go on and on.

Vanity Fair - This week, Disney released the trailer for its new film, Prom, a Lars von Trier–helmed biopic of savage war criminal Wilhelm Schultheiss-Prommersberger. Your VF Daily blogger, who (full disclosure) did not care much for this trailer, has arranged all 23 sentences of dialogue in order from least irritating to most irritating, similar to the way in which Wilhelm Schultheiss-Prommersberger would arrange his detainees from shortest surname to longest surname.

DisneyParks Blog - Several avid golfers got to hit some special shots recently during the PGA Tour golf tournament at Walt Disney World Resort. The handful of golfers, who came from as far away as Missouri and Virginia, were treated to a one-of-a-kind golf clinic with a Disney teaching pro and NBA legend Julius “Dr. J” Erving.

Disney artist John Quinn, who conceived the line's toothpick-thin mouse-as-muse, Skinny Minnie, whipped up drawings for guests in the back of the store, while attendees accosted a candy bar. (A gaggle of giddy girls nearly mobbed Miss J., begging for photos with the host and runway coach — he had to retreat to a VIP room periodically).

The N.B.T. winner, who will be announced Dec. 3 after listeners nationwide cast their votes, will kick off the concert and sing a full performance set after the 7 p.m. snowfall. After the 8 p.m. snowfall, Allstar Weekend will take the stage to sing the band’s hits, including “Dance Forever” and “Come Down With Love,” as well as popular holiday songs.

Disney News - Work will soon begin on a completely re-imagined Pleasure Island and other one-of-a-kind experiences as Walt Disney World Resort continues to bring new stories to life at Downtown Disney. Combined, the projects are expected to create an estimated 1,200 new jobs over the next three years.

“We have made great progress since first announcing our vision to bring new shopping, dining and entertainment experiences to Downtown Disney, many of which can’t be found anywhere else and have already become guest favorites,” said Keith Bradford, vice president of Downtown Disney. “We look forward to providing even more ways for our guests to enjoy Downtown Disney, while at the same time creating new jobs for Central Floridians.”

A nostalgic yet modern take on an early 20th century port city and amusement pier will evolve Pleasure Island into “Hyperion Wharf.” By day, the bustling port district will draw guests in with its stylish boutiques and innovative restaurants and by night, thousands of lights will transform the area into an electric wonderland.

Taking its name from Hyperion, the Greek god of light, as well as the street on which Walt Disney built his first major animation studio, the wharf district will also feature a relaxing lakeside park and enhanced pedestrian walkways. Its diverse eateries will expand dining availability at Downtown Disney by more than 25 percent.

“Hyperion Wharf will offer guests of all ages a vibrant atmosphere and new experiences that can be enjoyed by day or by night,” said Bradford. “Whether looking for a great place to dine with the whole family or a place to relax and enjoy live music, Hyperion Wharf will provide the perfect setting for guests to make new memories with us.”

Disney is quoted as saying, “We felt that the public, and especially the children, like animals that are cute and little. I think we are rather indebted to Charlie Chaplin for the idea. We wanted something appealing, and we thought of a tiny bit of a mouse that would have something of the wistfulness of Chaplin — a little fellow trying to do the best he could. When people laugh at Mickey Mouse, it’s because he’s so human; and that is the secret of his popularity. I only hope that we don’t lose sight of one thing — that it was all started by a mouse.”

Orlando Sentinel - There’s a new Disney World guidebook on the shelves, and it really does have a different angle than most of the books aimed at vacationing with kids. “Walt Disney World Resort: Extreme Vacation Guide For Kids” gives the younger set concrete ways to help plan and prepare for their upcoming trips to Orlando.

For older entrepreneurs, there is a chapter on making money to finance souvenirs and snacks at Disney World. The authors — Kathleen M., Quinn and Griffin Reilly — suggest jobs that can be marketed safely to friends and family: pet- and baby-sitting, baking, making jewelry, designing T-shirts and more. The chapter offers a timeline and specific ways to turn creativity into cash.

“Walt Disney World Resort: Extreme Vacation Guide For Kids” focuses on projects that kids can make to count down to the big trip and practical creations to use on vacation. Some of my favorites are in the “Exploring the Science of WDW” chapter, which takes a look at hydroponics at Epcot, animation at Hollywood Studios, the wave pool at Typhoon Lagoon, fiber optics in parades and more.

The fun starts with our new digital Passport Stamps. Hundreds of locations within Disney Parks will feature these exclusive Stamps created by Gowalla – it’s the largest number of custom Stamps ever developed for a brand. The Stamps can be collected and kept as a virtual scrapbook by using Gowalla and checking-in around the parks. Take a look at some of my favorites.

According to two sources who've been briefed on the film, the studio is working on a live-action techno-thriller titled "Hovercar" -- a movie about a hovercar racer (yes, it's a real job) tasked with escorting an informant to safety as the two come under fire from corrupt government operatives (a setup that will no doubt allow for plenty of "Tron"-like chase scenes).

Based on an online serial that turned into a popular young-adult book series from the Australian novelist Matthew Reilly , the property was actually set up at Disney six years ago with the creators responsible for "Smallville," who remain involved. But "Hovercar" has now been restarted and put back on track, with all the attendant puns that implies.

Reilly's story lines, developed over the course of several books, contain a series of discrete challenges and adventures that some fans have compared to Harry Potter. Which, given the mad dash in Hollywood to find a replacement for that franchise, we suppose provides "Hovercar" with a different type of logic.

The game will be based on the world and events of all four films, however, promising over 70 characters and more than 20 levels. It'll also have a 2-player co-op mode so that players can adventure through levels together, and players also have the option of a "freeplay mode" which lets them revisit cleared areas for new items

"The action-packed world of Pirates of the Caribbean is a perfect fit for LEGO video games," says TT Games Publishing managing director Tom Stone, Managing Director of TT Games Publishing. "With so many wonderful characters, in such amazing environments, our teams are having great fun

-- and we're sure that players will, too."

US LStar I LLC, an entity related to San Antonio-based USAA Real Estate Co., bought the 384-unit Patterson Court complex in the Little Lake Bryan development Oct. 29 from Alta Cast Housing LLC, an entity related to Atlanta-based developer Wood Partners, Orange County and state records showed. The apartments, built in 2008, are leased to a "large institutional tenant," USAA said in a news release. Several Disney employee websites and online forums said the property is used to house cast members from the Disney international, career start, college and culinary programs.

DisneyParks Blog - Just last month I had the unique opportunity to sit down with a few of my fellow colleagues and some very special guests, who were all "ears" when it came to talking about the 55th Anniversary of the Mickey Mouse Club. I thought I'd share a few of the highlights from our conversation with you.

Sherry: My brother Roy was a drummer. He was auditioning and the director asked if he could play another instrument, because they already had Cubby playing the drums. Roy said no, but I have a little sister that can play the trumpet and do a tap dance at the same time. The next day I went to the studio, played the trumpet, did my tap dance and almost knocked out all of my teeth. But I got the job!

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