



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Navy Pier Staff Member Will Attempt to Break the Guinness World Record for Longest Ferris Wheel Ride May 17-19

CHICAGO – Join Navy Pier and its very own Pier Park Operations Manager, Clinton, as he attempts to break the Guinness World Record for *longest marathon on a fairground or theme park attraction* on Navy Pier's Ferris wheel May 17-19!

Clinton will try to shatter the current record of 30 hours and 35 seconds by riding for a full 48 hours, and he will be doing it on Navy Pier's iconic Ferris wheel.

Clinton's journey begins when he **boards the Navy Pier Ferris wheel at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 17**, and rides for more than 30 hours, with no sleep during the attempt. Clinton will aim to break the record at 8:30 p.m. on **Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 18**. A spectacular **Navy Pier fireworks display** will light the night sky once the record is officially broken! He will stay on the Ferris wheel, even after the record has been broken, in his quest to reach 48 hours.

"I congratulate Pier Park Operations Manager Clinton Shepherd on his efforts to break the World Record for the longest Ferris wheel ride," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. "This achievement highlights Navy Pier as the number one tourist attraction in the Midwest and serves as a great attraction as the City of Chicago honors the men and women of the Armed Forces."

The gondola Clinton will be riding in will be outfitted by **HGTV star Frank Fontana** to salute the military and Clinton's father who was in the Marines. The interior design will include a flat screen TV, cushions, curtains and a removable table. Meals will be brought to Clinton throughout his journey by Navy Pier and Chicagoland eateries.

“Navy Pier is excited to host Clinton’s world record attempt,” said Marilynn Gardner, President and CEO of Navy Pier, Inc. “We support his commitment to bringing the world record to the city of Chicago where the first Ferris wheel was built in 1893 and we are proud to partner with him to dedicate his ride to the men and women of the armed forces.”

In addition to hosting the world record breaking attempt, **on Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.**, Navy Pier will offer **free and discounted entertainment** to all active military men and women as well as their families! All military guests who **check-in at the USO office inside Navy Pier** will receive a family fun pack and wristbands that will entitle them to several free and discounted offers from Navy Pier vendors.

This includes **FREE rides on all Pier Park attractions** (Ferris wheel, Wave Swinger, Mini Golf, Carousel and the Lighthouse Ride), **FREE admission to the Chicago Children’s Museum** for active military and their family members (up to 4 people), **FREE tours on Shoreline Sightseeing cruises** for active military and up to 3 family members and **FREE rides aboard Seadog for active military** and ½ off for their guests. Plus, the fun pack for military guests will include a \$10 parking voucher.

Navy Pier and the USO will formally salute the men and women who bravely serve our country in a **ceremony on Saturday, May 18 at noon** on Navy Pier’s grand staircase.

For more information regarding the world record attempt and Armed Forces Day please visit us at www.navypier.com or www.facebook.com/navypier.

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NAVY PIER

A Chicago landmark since 1916, Navy Pier has evolved from a freight passenger ship docking facility to the #1 tourist attraction in the Midwest, drawing more than eight million visitors annually. Navy Pier currently encompasses more than fifty acres of parks, gardens, shops, restaurants, family attractions and exhibit facilities, making it a tourist and visitor hub. For more information, visit our website at www.navypier.com