

Flight Trampoline Center: Safe, healthy fun

By CHARLES PAULLIN
STAFF WRITER

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is to create a family entertainment center.

Flight Trampoline Center, 140 Production Court, is achieving that goal by providing safe, healthy, family fun for children, teenagers, parents, adults and anyone else willing to jump up and down for a few hours.

"It's very much a part of our mission statement to not only benefit from the community but also give back to the community," said general manager of the park, Marcus Diggle. Diggle's company — which owns five similar parks in Canada and six across the United States — purchased the park a few years ago.

The 15,000-square-foot facility features a huge floor with more than 40 trampolines. Basketball lanes are set up so attendees can "dunk like a superhero," said Diggle, and a dodgeball court is available. Guests can buy tickets for one or two hours or longer.

The park is set up with a separate kids zone with



Wesley Bunnell | Staff

Party Coordinator Savanna Costa, Manager Marcus Diggle and Court Monitor Victoria Tanguay of Flight Trampoline Park.

children's decorations and the park's mascot Jet — a monkey wearing a jet pack — for those 6 and younger. On Monday night, the park features family nights with reduced ticket prices, Diggle said.

"Really, we have something to offer for everybody in the family," said Diggle. For adults, the park hosts fun fitness courses, which burn an "insane" amount of calories — up to 1,000 in an hour, said Diggle, while being kinder on the body's joints.

Diggle said the safety of

all park patrons is his first priority.

"As with any sporting activity there are some inherent risks," said Diggle, but he likened the risk of physical contact and injury to playing soccer. In any event, Diggle added the staff on hand is trained to handle any injury that may occur.

"We like to say what we do is make happy, tired kids," said Diggle, of the opportunity for parents to bring kids for a weekend or weeknight.

Hartford Flight Parks

has a partnership with Angelos for pizza, as well as an a la carte catering menu to meet a variety of dietary desires for birthday parties.

Staff members are trained to specifically interact with kids, as others will perform tricks out on the park, adding to the nearly perfect five-star reviews the park has on Facebook.

"We like to say there's always something of added value when you come to Flight, there's always something extra going on," said Diggle.

The park also is eager to partner with other local businesses — as they are doing with Stew Leonard's grocery store to provide free doughnuts over the Thanksgiving weekend. A guide to help with fundraising events is also available.

"We want to make it clear to the local schools that if we can support them, we will. They should ask us for support, because, we don't just want to benefit from, we

want to be a part of, the community."

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