



THE RIDER REPORT

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1
JUNE 2015

A PUBLICATION OF RIDER & ASSOCIATES, INC. REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES

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Hot Summer Tunes

It's been almost 45 years ago to the day that British rock band, Mungo Jerry, released its one-hit, wonder "In the Summertime," arguably one of the most memorable summer tunes to the Baby Boomers.

Good times, summer and music come together like sand and surf, and no doubt everyone has his or her favorites growing up. This year Edison Research and Sean Ross, vice president of programming, have rolled out their pre-season contenders. They are:

- Iggy Azalea & Britney Spears "Pretty Girls"
- Justin Bieber, Skrillex & Diplo "Where are U Now"
- Maroon 5 "This Summer's Gonna Hurt"
- Major Lazer & DJ Snake "Lean On"
- Omi "Cheerleader"
- Taylor Swift "Bad Blood"
- Nicki Minaj "The Night is Still Young"
- Wiz Khalifa & Charlie Puth "See You Again"

Though Memorial Day is the official start of the summer songfest, Ross says that it's difficult for a song to have staying power for the entire season. "You're looking for a song that will stand out," he says.

Going back over the years, here are some tunes that struck high notes on those hot summer nights, according to Billboard Magazine:

- 1965: Satisfaction**..... Rolling Stones
- I Can't Help Myself** The Four Tops
- Mr. Tambourine Man** The Byrds
- 1975: I Can't Give You Anything** The Stylistics
- Barbados** Typically Tropical
- Sailing** Rod Stewart
- 1985: Shout** Tears for Fears
- Everytime You Go Away**..... Paul Young
- The Power of Love** Huey Lewis & The News
- 1995: Waterfalls**..... TLC
- Don't Take It Personal**..... Monica
- One More Chance/Stay with Me** The Notorious B. I. G.
- Kiss From A Rose** Seal
- 2005: We Belong Together** Mariah Carey
- Hollaback Girl** Gwen Stefani
- Don't Cha** The Pussycat Dolls featuring Busta Rhymes
- Behind These Hazel Eyes**..... Kelly Clarkson



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Home Cost Improvements that Pay

In its 2015 Cost Vs. Value report, *Remodeling Magazine* claims only four positive projects in the 36 home improvement projects it studied, that improves the economic value of the home for its homeowners. In the Great Northwest corridor, they would be:

- ▶ Replacing the entry door with a steel door (+5.4%)
- ▶ Garage door replacement (+5.7%)
- ▶ Roofing replacement (+5.9%)
- ▶ Vinyl siding replacement (+3.2%) ■



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Don't Lose the Kids!

Vacations mean parents and their children mixing up among teeming crowds and amusements. A parent's biggest nightmare is to lose track of his/her child. Pattie Fitzgerald, founder of the safety advocacy program "Safely Ever After," has tips to keep families together among the distractions:

- 1. Wear Bright Colors:** Making a fashion statement never came so easy. Wild colors and patterns can distinguish your kids from the crowd. Dressing the kids in the same style can help them recognize each other when they stray, too.
- 2. Head Games:** Getting younger kids to stay with their parents can be a bore. But if parents decide to make a math game out of it – be no more than three giant paces away from a parent or make a head count of relatives and friends every 15 minutes – can make staying near less tedious.
- 3. Keep Phone Numbers Near:** Programmed cell numbers or numbers written on a piece of paper can serve as good back-up in case someone gets lost.
- 4. Tether Together:** While not exactly a pet leash, backpacks with tethers actually give younger children more freedom to move about as they please.
- 5. Plan of Action:** Go over with your children what to do if they get lost. Instead of encouraging them to try and find the parents car in a parking lot, tell them to freeze and yell the parents' names or to find another mom with a kid. It's a safer place to be.
- 6. Say "Cheese!":** Take a family photo just before embarking on the adventure. It's a smart way to show others what your children look like in the event of an MIA. ■