



Inside Towers

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[Grammy-Nominated Crop Duster Pilot Killed After Plane Hits Tower Wire](#)

John Allen Seay, Jr. died May 14, when the crop-dusting plane he was flying near West, TX crashed after it hit a guy wire on a cell tower. He died Saturday afternoon after being ejected from the aircraft. Waco's KWTX-TV website showed a seared aircraft in pieces in an open field.

The station reported the 75-year-old pilot was a Grammy-nominated musician who had a long career as a singer and songwriter. He performed under the name Johnny Sea and began his entertainment career when he was 17.

His family told KWTX after years of performing, Seay spent more than 30 years of flying a crop duster and logged in more than 18,000 hours of flying time. He walked away from a crash in July 1983.

"Our hearts are completely broken," noted Seay's daughter on the website. "The greatest man I ever knew, died on the afternoon of Saturday, May 14th doing what he loved. He was in a plane crash while crop-dusting in West, TX."

Seay leaves behind nine children and 14 grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time.



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[Qualcomm, T-Mobile Launch Four LTE-U Test Sites](#)

One is at T-Mobile's Bellevue, WA headquarters and the others are in Simi Valley, CA, Richardson, TX, and Las Vegas. The testing comes after the FCC signed off on the pair's LTE-U product development request, a second such approval for Qualcomm, which inaugurated its testing with Verizon Wireless on 30 small cells and access points within macro cell coverage networks in Raleigh, NC, and Oklahoma City. The latest round with T-Mobile will focus on up to 10 small cells and access points with mobile units at 5 GHz but are able to transmit on LTE Band 4, according to *radiomagazine.com*.

The testing should provide insight on technical performance of pre-commercial LTE-U equipment, operating in downlink-only mode in the UNII-1 and UNII-3 portions of the 5 GHz band, in a highly controlled field environment in

order to assist in the ultimate development of commercial products, the news site reported. This testing is not the same as Qualcomm's planned testing with WiFi Alliance regarding concerns within the WiFi community that LTE-U will unduly interfere with WiFi at 5 GHz.

Garden City, NY To Hold Hearing for Antenna Building Law Tonight



The Long Island village is encouraging residents to attend its 8 pm meeting when the Board of Trustees is set to discuss a new regulation for tower and rooftop antennas. The Trustees are expected to adopt the regulation which will regulate any new projects and procedures, according to the *Garden City News*.

This law stems from several months of controversy over Crown Castle's proposals for locations in East Garden City and the outcry of residents, the newspaper reported. Residents have complained about the usual health concerns – RF emissions and the antennas proximity to their bedrooms. Many of the residents have been campaigning to get other residents to attend tonight's meeting.

With the proposed ordinance, a colocation for an antenna is defined as “the installation of a new antenna or antennas on an existing tower or a structure already being used as an antenna site to support wireless services,” notes the *Garden City News*. The paper reported “the ordinance differentiates the DAS proposed for the Garden City locations by Crown Castle, the successor to NextG which created a stir with its proposed installations in 2010 and 2011.”



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Tower Ticker

May 18, 2016 at Close

SYMBOL	TIME & PRICE	CHG & % CHG		DAY'S LOW & HIGH		VOLUME	
AMT	04:03pm EDT	104.55	-0.81	-0.77%	103.41	105.44	1,641,803
AMX	04:00pm EDT	12.68	-0.19	-1.48%	12.60	12.87	3,895,362
CCI	04:02pm EDT	90.49	+0.37	+0.41%	89.40	91.10	3,749,245
CTL	04:01pm EDT	26.88	-0.57	-2.08%	26.75	27.61	5,799,479
DY	04:02pm EDT	69.44	0.00	0.00%	67.80	70.56	453,575
ERIC	04:00pm EDT	7.58	+0.04	+0.53%	7.53	7.68	4,237,141
FTR	04:00pm EDT	5.02	-0.12	-2.33%	4.96	5.18	17,627,620
LVL	04:02pm EDT	51.93	+0.16	+0.31%	51.41	52.36	1,634,550
S	04:03pm EDT	3.58	+0.06	+1.70%	3.45	3.62	17,231,223
SBAC	04:00pm EDT	98.45	-0.75	-0.76%	97.09	99.25	745,190
T	04:00pm EDT	38.45	-0.66	-1.69%	38.27	39.15	25,108,164
TMUS	04:00pm EDT	40.68	-0.04	-0.10%	40.28	41.12	5,004,176
VZ	04:00pm EDT	50.39	-0.51	-1.00%	50.06	51.03	10,331,711
ZAYO	04:01pm EDT	27.65	+0.71	+2.64%	26.77	27.87	2,851,442



New Jersey Common Pension Fund D Ups Position In Crown Castle



The State of New Jersey's Common Pension Fund D increased its stake in Crown Castle (NYSE: CCI) by 59.09% based on its latest 2016 first quarter filing Q1 with the SEC. The Pension Fund bought 260,000 shares as the company's stock rose 1.30% with the market. *CCHDaailynews.com* reported the investor held 700,000 shares of the real estate investment trust company at the end of 2016Q1, valued at \$60.55 million, up from 440,000 at the end of the previous reported quarter. The fund had been investing in Crown Castle shares for a number of months, and appears to be bullish on the \$30.40 billion market cap tower operator.

SBA Communication To Announce Q2 Earnings in July

SBA Communications Corp. (NASDAQ:SBAC) is expected to announce second quarter financial results after market close on July 28, 2016.

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Zoning & Moaning

Residents Of Charlotte Suburb To Meet With Crown Castle Reps Tonight

Folks from Piper Glen held a protest rally Friday (May 13) to raise awareness about Crown Castle's plans to erect four Verizon Wireless towers in their neighborhood.

"They are in front of people's lawns," Ali Martinez, who helped lead the protest told the Charlotte Observer.

Piper Glen residents have asked the city for help, but the city has said there isn't much it can do, the newspaper reported. The city must approve permits for the towers, but the FCC has the ultimate control over the towers. Crown Castle and Verizon will meet with residents tonight for two hours beginning at 6:30 p.m. at 9009 Bryant Farms Road.

Tinley Park, IL, High School May Receive National Wireless Ventures Tower

Two years ago, residents of Tinley Park, IL, helped to vanquish possible tower plans at two local schools with a petition of more than 800 signatures. Now, Consolidated School District 230 is speaking with National Wireless Ventures to build a tower on Andrew High School property, and the residents' feelings are much the same. Those in opposition claim possible diminished property values, and they're upset that the school district would try again when the residents have made their feelings known.

The Chicago Tribune reported yesterday (May 18) that this tower "would extend an existing 80-foot pole holding the overhead lights for the football field to a 125-foot pole with wireless antennas and equipment." While not finalized, early predictions suggest the pole would produce \$2,000 monthly revenue for the district.

John Lavelle, District 230's assistant superintendent for business services, started negotiations with the Board of Education last month, and he said that the tower could be a benefit to an area that currently has bad reception. He told the *Tribune*, however, that the district does not want to get into a battle with residents, and he invited them to reach out to the district in any way possible and to attend pertinent meetings.

There is an existing tower near the softball field disguised as a flagpole that earns the district \$22,000 annually. Negotiations for the new tower are in preliminary stages, according to the district.



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California City's Council Denies Verizon Tower Conditional Use Permit

Hanford City, CA, will not be getting a 78-foot tower in the 484-square-foot Hidden Valley Park property. Residents' dander is up due to the close proximity of the planned tower to homes. The Hanford City Council met May 17, and denied 3-2 Verizon's application for a conditional use permit for the tower that would have been disguised as a pine tree.



The *Valley Voice* reported the tower would have sat on nine cell blocks of cement and surrounded by a 10-foot high chain link fence topped with barbed wire. The standing-room only council meeting hosted eight speakers, residents who all opposed the tower, and Verizon employees who offered their side of the story, which included a need for coverage with other towers being at capacity. One resident, according to the *Valley Voice*, said the tower should not be exempt from a California Environmental Quality Act review. He also said that “the tower did not qualify as an infill development as Hanford staff claimed because it was not unused or underutilized land. The tower also was not consistent with Hanford’s general plan.”

Robin Mattos of the Hanford Environmental Action Team (HEAT), said in the meeting that “this was a completely inappropriate use of Hidden Valley Park and that the tower would be 10-to-12 feet higher than any of the trees. He argued that the tower would not be a good use of the minimal park space available in Hanford. Mickey Stoddard, a Parks and Recreation Commissioner, said that the tower plans had not been brought before his department, which violated city municipal code. However, City Manager Darlene Mata said that conditional use permit requests are not required to be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Department. It is unclear if Verizon will appeal.

Cell-ebrations

Akron, OH City Council Approves Plan for 100' Verizon Tower



Although the May 16, vote was 10-3 in favor, many councilmen expressed reluctance to approve the project. The tower’s location will be west of the city’s downtown district, a spot several residents and businesses opposed.

The *Akron Beacon Journal* reported Councilman Rich Swirsky said the council was concerned about legal action from Verizon if the project was rejected. Swirsky voted against the tower and represents the area. Swirsky’s fellow councilman, Jeff Fusco, said the council felt as if they were forced to vote in favor of the tower because municipalities have limited oversight on where towers are placed.

According to its members, the Akron City Council plans to modify the planning process as it pertains to towers. In the meantime, there is no date set for starting construction.

AT&T Upgrades Cell Sites in South Florida



The carrier made the announcement yesterday (May 18) and *The Palm Beach Post* reported more than 170 locations received improvements. Enhancements were necessary to handle more network traffic as mobile usage in the region expands.

The focus of the upgrades are cities in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade

counties. Freshly modified towers can be found in Boca Raton, Delray Beach, and West Palm Beach, as well as other nearby cities.

These upgrades demonstrate AT&T's commitment to provide a proper network for its customers. According to AT&T Florida President Joe York, "That's why we continue to invest in our South Florida networks."

A banner for the Wireless Infrastructure Show. On the left is a logo with a globe and the text "WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE SHOW MAY 23-26, 2016 | DALLAS, TX". In the center, it says "THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT FOR MOBILE NETWORK SOLUTIONS" above a yellow "REGISTER NOW" button. On the right is a partial image of a person working on a device.

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Small Cells

Creativity, Flexibility Key To Small Cell/DAS Success, Panel Says

The tower industry must be flexible and creative to meet the changing tide of innovation with Small Cells networks and DAS, Crown Castle VP Danny Albertini told a panel discussing the subject this week in Las Vegas. Others sitting along side him represented a wide swath of a changing industry and they agreed companies have reformulated how costs are shared and how deployment challenges are met. The panel, speaking at this week's DAS and Small Cell Congress, shed light on what enterprises outside the traditional tower industry need and want in order to build networks, reported *RCRWireless*.

Sometimes it's a matter of changing the lexicon, offered Cris Kimbrough, PhD, PMP, Managing Director of CBRE Telecom Advisory Services, *RCRWireless* reported Kimbrough suggested the telecom industry take a step back from its acronym-heavy lingo and focus on what small cell and DAS technology can do for business operators and their businesses. [Continue Reading](#)

International

Sabotage Suspected In Snapped Swedish TV Tower

Swedish authorities believe a 1,080-foot TV tower in Stockholm that snapped in half may have been the work of saboteurs. The Associated Press reported that the top portion of the mast near Boras in southwestern Sweden broke off late Sunday and slammed into the surrounding pine forest. No injuries were reported but TV and radio transmissions in the area were knocked out, the AP said.

Swedish prosecutors said Wednesday they are investigating the incident as suspected sabotage but said they have no suspects. Security has been increased at other TV tower locations around Scandinavia.

It was the first time since the 1980s that a TV tower in Sweden has snapped, according to tower operator Teracom, reported AP.



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Photos contributed by Michael Landa, CEO of [Landa Mobile Systems](#)

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