



Europe bowling distributor Bowltech opened its new office in Finland on March 4. It's located in Tuusula, a municipality not far from Helsinki, and the strategic expansion solidifies the company's presence across the entire Scandinavian region. Bowltech Finland Oy will be formed by the acquisition of the bowling business operations of Tarmin Oy, Pearlized Wave Oy and Oiler Oy. "We are thrilled to take this important step in our expansion strategy by opening our doors in Finland," said Hans Krol, CEO and founder of the Bowltech Group. The company's new website for Finland can be accessed at bowltech.fi.

bowling community for more than 40 years, and will continue to be involved during the transition, David as a consultant and Patricia with phone support. Joe Jozwik's journey in the industry spans more than two decades,



Susan and Joe Woznik

including time with QubicaAMF, Columbia 300 and as a pro shop operator. He spent four years managing DiLaura Brothers before acquiring the company in 2020. Sue Jozwik's background is in corporate human resources.

Las Cruces to Get Huge BEC Courtesy Local Burger 'King'

A "full-size" bowling venue is returning to the New Mexico community of Las Cruces with the unveiling of plans for a massive 92,000-square-foot facility to be known as Elite Family Entertainment Center. And it comes with another return for locals: a new Burger Time restaurant. The man behind the venture

is Kevin McGrath, who owned the 11-restaurant chain since the mid-1980s. He had a plan of succession in place, but both principals — first a brother and then a nephew — passed away before the torch could be passed. That's when McGrath decided to gradually wind down operations; the final location closed in 2020. McGrath's new business, in partnership with Michael Parker, will be housed in former Kmart and 99-Cent Store locations, with the FEC

filling the Kmart space and the Burger Time restaurant in the 99-Cent Store's footprint. According to the Las Cruces Bulletin, plans call for 30 lanes of bowling (including six specifically for children), the city's first indoor pickleball courts, laser tag, virtual reality, bumper cars, sports simulators, a sports bar, a restaurant and community space. The developers are targeting a summer opening.

Nancy Schenk Succeeds John LaSpina as BVL Board Chair

BPAA past President Nancy Schenk of Fayetteville, North Carolina, has been named Board Chair of the Bowlers to Veterans Link, the charity dedicated to funding recreation therapy programs that address the emotional and physical needs of veterans and active-duty military personnel. Schenk, who joined the BVL Board in 2022,

is the owner and general manager of B&B Bowling Lanes in Fayetteville. She joined her father, Howard Baum, in the BPAA Hall of Fame in 2022 when she received the Victor Lerner Memorial Medal. Baum served in the military, and Fayetteville is the home of Fort Liberty (formerly Fort Bragg), headquarters of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. "I understand what veterans have done for this country and they deserve our unwavering support and gratitude," Schenk said. "It's a privilege to be part of BVL's mission to always be there for those who have served... (and) an honor to be selected to chair the BVL Board. She succeeds John LaSpina of Long Beach, New York, who joined the BVL Board in 2012 and served as Chair from 2014 to 2023. LaSpina remains on the BVL Board as a BPAA representative. Others on the board: Amy Arcuri (BPAA), Darlene Baker (USBC), Jay Buhl (at-large), Lisa Ciniello (BPAA), Anthony Colangelo (USBC), Corey Dykstra (at-large), Dennis Hacker (USBC), Keith Hamilton (at-large), Chrissy Lee (USBC) and Wally Hall (director emeritus).

Pro Shop Operator Magazine Gets New Editor: Brettingen

Patrick Brettingen has been named editor of Pro Shop Operator magazine,



Strike Ten Entertainment President John Harbuck and NFL legend DeMarcus Ware share the good news of bowling during the Super Bowl Bowling Classic, sponsored by Pepsi, held at the South Point Bowling Plaza during Super Bowl week in Las Vegas.