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An official publication of the Associated Food Dealers of Michigan and its affiliate, Package Liquor Dealers Association

Working hard for our members.

September 1999

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Proposed rules for WIC vendor participation

• See page 18

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Southfield's Mega Market opens to rave reviews

See page 32

Taste of the Nation benefits hunger relief

A benefit event, complete with a premier wine tasting, inturant walk-around and live amerianment will take to on Thursday, October 7, 1999 at the Rattlesnake Club and Strob River Place Arimns.

Proceeds from the event pain Share our Strength. For time information and to purchase tickets, please call lidie at Gleaners Community Rund Bank (313) 923-3535.

Beverage Journal Boliday Show offers special deals

Dan't look new, but it's to begin planning for the budiday nales. AFD's leverage Journal Holiday Show can help you put it all together. Plus, the show offers special deals, new products and discounts. Be sure to check it out! It takes place lunday and Wednesday, September 21 and 22 at hurton Manor. See the aformation beginning on page 28 for show specials and discounts.

AFD negotiates higher commissions from Michigan Lottery

By Bill Viviano th AFD Chairman W

After several meetings with Lottery Commissioner Don Gilmer and his marketing director, Tom Egan, AFD and the Michigan Lottery have developed a program that we believe will be beneficial to our members.

As a pilot project, beginning October 1, 1999 and continuing through September 30, 2000, the lottery will pay a commission of seven percent on all \$2 instant games. Currently \$2 instant games account for 40 percent of all instant ticket sales. We believe that the higher commission on \$2 instant games will raise an additional \$4 million for retailers in the next twelve months. If the project is successful, it is our hope that

the seven percent commission will be passed on to all instant games next year.

In addition, the lottery has agreed, beginning January 1, 2000, to pay a \$2,000 commission to retailers that

sell a winning ticket over \$100,000. This incentive is new but one which we have lobbied for many years.

AFD is pleased to be in the forefront of helping retailers increase their lottery income. We also extend our thanks to Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Egan for their partnership and cooperation. This is certainly a step in the right direction.



AFD Fantasy Football

Did you ever wish there was an extra set of eyes to keep watch on the "game" that goes on daily in your store?

Team AFD came up with some referees to help you make the right call during this busy time of the year.

Be a good sport and turn to page 12!

Are you Y2K ready?

Use the article on page 16 as a guide

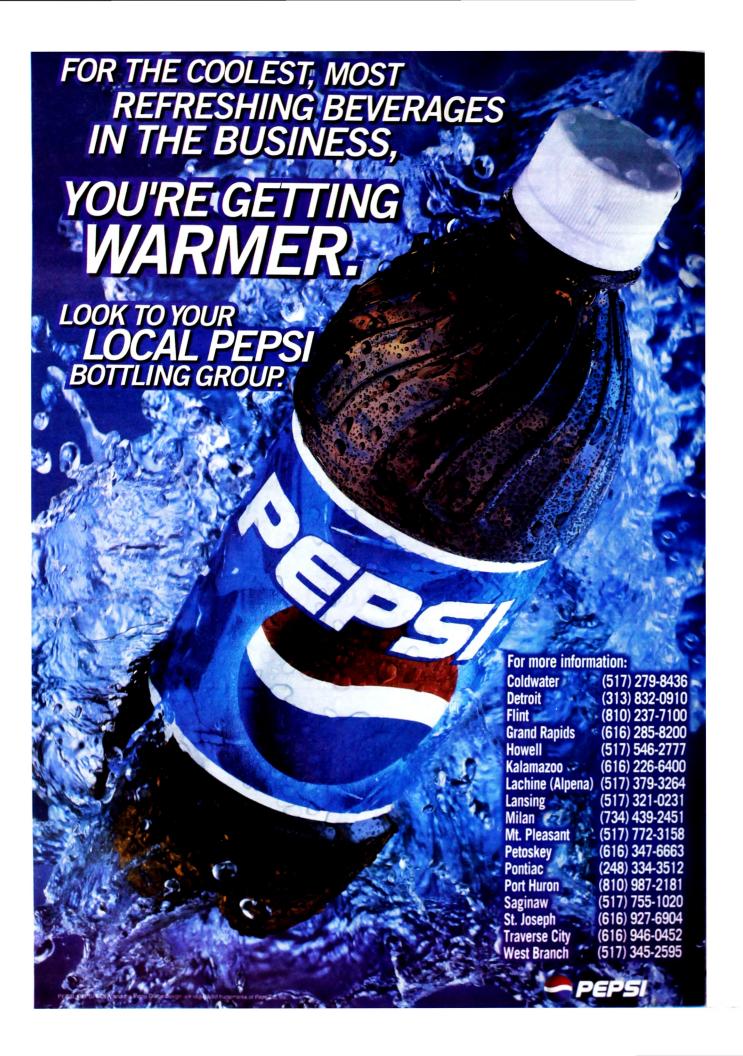


Take a walk down the Y2K path shown above and you'll emerge with a plan.

A great day for golf...



Lang-time returning sponsors, American Bottling/7UP
Detroit and guests (I to r) Ron Larkin and Jerrs Yurgo of
J&J Fondcenters, Joe O'Bryan from 7UP, and Jim Hooks
of Metro Food Land, have a little fun on the course at the
AFD Scholarship Golf Outing, July 22.
More photos beginning on page 34.



Soft drink shells disappearing

ed Daily, Vice Chair, Future Planning m Dallo, Vice Chair, Legislation In 'N' Out Foods, Region 4 Farida, Vice Chair, Membership Gary Davis, Treesurer Tom Davis & Sons Davy Co. Ronnie Jamil, Secretary

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By Bill Viviano AFD Chairman

A recent decision by the major soft drink bottlers in Michigan to eliminate the deposit on their plastic shells appears to be having a costly effect.

Shells are the plastic holders that contain the two-liter bottles into cases of eight bottles and the 20-ounce bottles into cases of 24. They are used to safely transport soft drinks to retail outlets. Until recently retailers paid a deposit on shells so that the bottlers were assured that they would be returned

Earlier this year, The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Michigan eliminated their shell deposit, an action that was immediately followed by

Pepsi-Cola of Michigan.

According to various soft drink officials, the removal of the shell deposit was primarily intended to be a benefit for the retailer by reducing paperwork. This also eliminated the need for the retailer to have money tied up in deposits

However, the soft drink companies are concerned that shells are starting to disappear at an alarming rate. Since the removal of the deposit, there have been numerous incidents of the shells being placed in unsecured areas outside stores, where they disappear before the driver can pick them up. Employees have also taken shells home for personal use and shells are being thrown in with the trash or materials for recycling

If the trend of disappearing shells continues, the soft drink companies will have to replace them with new shells, resulting in additional costs that will certainly be passed along to retailers and ultimately to consumers

There is a simple solution to the problem. Retailers should simply handle shells in the same manner as when there was a deposit on them,

By David Coverly

stacking them in a secure area of the store until the driver picks them up. This will reduce the need for the soft drink companies to buy a large amount of replacement shells, and will eliminate the possibility of the shell deposit being reinstated. If all retailers treat shells properly, there will be no need for the deposit and everyone benefits.

USDA regulatory advisory:

They're checking for nutrition posting

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be conducting audits beginning this month to ensure that the supermarket industry is complying with USDA guidelines regarding the posting of point of purchase nutrition information for raw meat and poultry products

This upcoming survey is inresponse to previous store audits which USDA has stated showed that fewer than 60 percent of grocery stores actually provided current meat. and poultry nutrition information USDA regulations stipulate, that if significant participation (60 percent of stores surveyed are providing 90. percent of the required information) is not met, the Agency will initiate proposed rulemaking to require nutrition labeling on single ingredient, raw meat and poultry

While we do not yet know the details of USDA's proposed rule, it is critical the industry make an all outeffort towards this next round of surveys beginning this month. (September). A successful audit could greatly impact the direction that USDA intends to take regarding mandatory labeling regulations for fresh products

No new nutrition data have been issued since the last surveys were conducted. Color posters and brochures of the charts may be obtained through EML - Publication Sales Department at (202) 439 3066 These charts are also available on IMI's Web site, www.fna.org/ consumer/nutrifacts

Please be sure that your stores have this information posted.

The Grocery Zone









Service spells success for Security Express

by Michele MacWilliams

What do you get when you take a group of good products, add in personalized customer service and mix it with a lot of hard work and a healthy dose of commitment? For the Zeer brothers, this is the recipe for their highly successful Security Express company.

Spend any time talking to Eddie or Kenny Zeer and the first thing you learn about Security Express is that customer service is paramount.

Started in 1990, Security Express is a financial management company that makes it possible for retailers to provide services to their customers. These services include money orders, gift certificates, cashier's checks, electronic utility payments and a host of others.

Security Express is the only Michigan company licensed in the state to provide these services. According to the Zeers, this is one important edge they have over their competition. "We're in Metro Detroit, with most of our customers. If they have a question, they call and a person answers, not a voice mail. We understand the market and the needs of our customers. We can proudly say that there are less than 40 money order companies in the world and Michigan has one of them."

Both Eddie and Kenny began their careers in the retail food industry and they understand the business from the retailer's point of view

They began Security Express because they saw a niche that they could fill.

"There were two national companies – American Express and Travelers – with most of the money order business," says Kenny. "When we came along, things changed. Competition heated up and prices dropped." According to Kenny, today Metro Detroit enjoys some of the lowest money order prices in the country.

In addition to a high level of customer service, another primary reason that retailers choose Security Express is that their products are totally automated.

"Our money orders are sold by vending machines," explains Kenny. "The store employee simply takes the money from the customer, inputs the information and out comes the money order. It's easy and fast."



Eddie Zeer

Kenny adds that the checks also look professional and the numbers on the money orders carry a copyright, which makes them difficult to duplicate.

"One of the big features of our money order system is that the machines give a running total for record-keeping. Retailers can look back year-to-year or check on any particular money order, no matter when it was written. The system also has a built-in check and balance to back up the record keeping.

According to the Zeers, this has made Security Express the second largest money order company in Southeast Michigan, behind Travelers.

"Money orders are a customerdriven commodity," says Kenny. "Studies have shown that the store that doesn't provide this service is losing grocery sales. People want to go to a store where they can do it all...one stop shopping."

Checking out checks

Check eashing is another business draw for retailers and security Express offers an automated system that is savvy to fraudulent check writers. The system assigns an ID to a customer. Then their thumb print, photo and signature are taken when their check is cashed. This information goes into a database that is shared by all stores on the system. Every two hours the system checks for fraud.

"A person who is writing fraudulent checks will typically go

from store-to-store cashing them," Eddie explains. "Our system monitors all check-cashing activity and will catch the person with duplicate checks."

Quick cash

For its customers, Security Express offers a cash advance program that can greatly assist the retailer with cash flow. Security Express will give its customers cash for their checks immediately. Banks typically want to hold the money for at least 24 hours to make certain that checks clear before cashing them.

"This really helps the store owner who has a good deal of money tied up in checks but needs cash in his register," says Kenny. "Typically they come to us in the afternoon to get the cash they need for the remainder of the day. With more cash on hand, they are able to cash more checks and bring in more money to their store."

Prepaid phone cards

Security Express also sells prepaid phone cards at competitive rates. "Phone cards are very popular," Kenny adds. "In Metro Detroit, over 50,000 activations are recorded in a single day."

Both the Zeer brothers are very active in AFD functions and they offer special rates on their services to AFD members.

What is next for Security
Express? "The company will
introduce the only online utility and
payment system to debit payment
instantly," says Kenny. The
company is also introducing money
transfers to more than 10 countries
and the Zeers are taking their
personalized service into Ohio,
Indiana, Illinois and several
European, African and Middle
Eastern countries.

"We offer our products with dignity and a high degree of service. We have been successful here and believe we'll be just as successful in the urban areas of our bordering states," Eddie enthuses.

The Zeers are proof that hard work, a good knowledge of the needs of the retail market and exceptional customer service all blend to make the perfect recipe for success in the financial management business.

Calendar

September 21-22
Beverage Journal Holiday Trade
Show, Sponsored by AFD
Burton Manor, Livonia
(248) 557-9600

October 2-6 National Frozen Food Convention Boston, Massachusetts (703) 821-1350

October 3-5
Human Resources/Training &
Development Conference
Atlanta, GA
(202) 429-8479

November 7-9
Retail Food Safety Conference
Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel
Baltimore, MD
Fax (202) 429-4529

November 9-10 Supermarket Foodservice Short Course O'Hare Hilton Hotel, Chicago (202) 862-1498

November 23
AFD Annual Turkey Drive
AFD & its members give turkeys
to needy families across Metro
Detroit
(248) 557-9600

Statement of Ownership

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AFD works closely with the following associations:



Introducing Finlandia® Arctic Cranberry Vodka

Crisp Taste. Cutting-Edge Look "Cosmic" Profits.

Finlandia Arctic Cranberry Vodka is the extraordinary marriage of crisp, pristine Finlandia. Vodka and natural cranberry flavor. Dressed up in an all new "glacial" bottle, this sensational spirit from the top of the world is bracing for a blizzard of sales. Here's why:

THE CRANBERRY FACTOR

Consumers are mad about cranberry, it's refreshing, distinct and superb in cocktails. In fact, vodka and cranberry is the third favorite vodka drink! Finlandia lets you tap into this trend with Arctic Cranberry, a naturally flavored vodka unlike any other.

IMPECCABLE TASTE

Ultimately, taste conquers all. The vodka made from pure glacial spring water meets the tart, luscious qualities of natural cranberry to achieve a flawless balance of flavors.

EXTREME VERSATILITY

Arctic Cranberry sparks cocktail creativity! It's great chilled straight, on-the-rocks, in martinis, with soda, tonic and fruit juices, reincamating old favorites, concocting new ones...

STUNNING LOOKS

While natural cranberry produces a gorgeous, ruby-like color in the glass, the new "glacial" bottle, reflecting Finlandia's arctic origins, is irresistible on the shelf.



In a past life I was pure, glacial spring water.



R.M. GILLIGAN

At the New

AFD/Beverage Journal Holiday Show!

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Allied Domeca

Austin Nichols

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- Newly Representing PIRAT VODKA. Code number 8860-0. Shelf Price \$23.44. Selling Price \$24.85!

| | CODE | PRODUCT | SIZE | SHELF | SELLING |
|------------------|---|---|--------|---------|---------|
| HOLIDA' | 72467 | BEEFEATER WITH SLANTED GLASS | 750 ml | \$16.79 | \$17.80 |
| HOLIDA | | COURYOISIER VSOP WITH FLASK | 750 ml | 39.95 | 42 35 |
| ALCOHOL: DEPOSIT | 74627 | SAUZA CONMEMORATIVO WITH MARTINI GLASS | 750 ml | 19.97 | 21.13 |
| GIF | 76217 | SAUZA HORNITOS MARTINI PACK | 750 ml | 20.96 | 22.22 |
| | /251/ | KAHLUA WITH 2 MUGS | 750 ml | 18.97 | 20.1 |
| 50.000 | 72503 | KAHLUA WITH 1 MUG | 375 ml | 10.48 | 11.1 |
| PACK | 8 | CAROLANS WITH GLASSES | 750 ml | 12.99 | 13.7 |
| IAGIN | 72207 | TIA MARIA WITH MARTINI GLASS | 750 ml | 12.47 | 13 22 |
| | | HW PEPPERMINT WITH MUG | 750 ml | 6.93 | 7 35 |
| | 72477 | COURVOISIER WITH HOLDER | 750 ml | 25.95 | 27.5 |
| | | COURVOISIER VSOP WITH 2 SNIFTERS | 750 ml | 39.95 | 42.35 |
| | 72497 | COURVOISIER XO WITH SNIFTERS | 750 ml | 129.97 | 137.77 |
| | 72487 | COURVOISIER VSOP WITH CORDIAL GLASS | 750 ml | 39.95 | 42.35 |
| | 70337 | CANADIAN CLUB WITH GLASS | 750 ml | 12.99 | 13 77 |
| | 72637 | TEQUILA ROSE WITH DRINK GLASSES | 750 ml | 18.84 | 19 97 |
| | 72627 | McCORMICKS IRISH CREAM WITH ROCKS GLASSES | 750 ml | 10.92 | 11.58 |
| | 73677 | BORU IRISH VODKA WITH GLASSES | 750 ml | 21.97 | 23 29 |
| | | FLOR de CANA RUM WITH ROCKS GLASSES | 750 ml | 27.61 | 29 27 |
| | | CUERVO 1800 ART LABEL | 750 ml | 20.96 | 22 22 |
| | | SMIRNOFF NUTCRACKER DECANTER | 750 ml | 9.96 | 10 56 |
| | | *CRISTALL VODKA WITH GLASS | 1.0 L | 23.62 | 25 04 |
| A | | ARROW 50ml HOLIDAY CANDY CANE | 50 ml | 3.42 | 3 63 |
| (A) | 79480 | TRADICIONAL WITH SHOT GLASS | 375 ml | 12.47 | 13 22 |
| | 79887 | AGUARDIENTE CRISTAL WITH GLASSES | 750 ml | 14.98 | 15 88 |
| | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | CARDENAL MENDOZZA WITH SNIFTERS | 750 ml | 157.40 | 166 84 |
| LLANN I | | New Low Pricel Same Price as 750 ml. | | | |

for all your Holiday Needs: 248-553-9440.

Edison Offers Energy Expertise to Save You Money

Operators have many concerns and mass to consider when trying to decide what equipment they will appd:

What is the cost of the equipment? How will the equipment fit into our space? Does it require ventilation? Can I use one piece of equipment to an multiple tasks? Will this equipment increase labor? Will I be able to reduce labor! How much training will it require? Is it easy to maintain! How about cleaning? What is the performance of the equipment? Will I need additional air conditioning?

If an operator is adding or changing any sort of foodservice outlet, there are many issues to consider.

Energy is viewed as a major expense but in reality it is a very mall portion (an average of 3 to 4) nercent) of your entire cost. Recent studies have shown food and labor are sour major expenses. If an efficient layout or a new technology caneliminate labor, or give you a larger purtion size, then you are saving money. It a piece of equipment. muures less maintenance and labor. then it saves you money. If a fryer can estlend oil life two or three days and chiminate cracked frypots, then you me saving money. For these reasons, the quantity of energy used is a small purt of your cost saving and profit

Working with a qualified dealer or manufacturer's representative can provide the foodservice operator with a competitive edge. Detroit lidison trade allies have access to the blectric Fundservice Council, the Electric Funer Research Institute, the National Amortation of Foodservice Injurpment Manufacturers, and other organizations to provide a wealth of financies to help the foodservice customer save money.

Who can you call for assistance?

Donna Zalewski of the Partners in Extellering program at Detroit Edison can also you to such services as

- * energy audits, performance contracts, and engineering specification reviews
- dema facilities to test/meter
 transporter
- · information/testing on operating

cost, equipment cost, maintenance

- · lighting services
- information about new efficient, energy-saving technologies
- training seminars many with CE credits (CFSP, HACCP, Servsafe and many others)
- air conditioning services
- · heat pump/water heater services
- · geothermal services

• automatic bill payment plans

Many of these services are available to foodservice customers free of charge. The information and assistance you deserve are just a phone call away. To reach your maximum profitability it is important for you to take advantage of this free resource. For more information about how Detroit Edison can help you with your foodservice program call 313-235-7744. Or visit us on the web at http://www.detroitedison.com.

Detroit Edison staffers will also be on hand to answer your questions at the Michigan Restaurant Association trade show October 19 & 20, Look for Booth #508.



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When You Go Back,

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Contact your 7 Up Representative for more details on 7 Up "Back-To-School" Favorites!

Debit card acceptance update

Debit cards have finally taken off. Over the past several years, the electronic payments industry, especially debit card payments, has grown and changed significantly. Today, point-of sale (POS) debit transactions are the fastest growing electronic payment type. POS debit transactions have doubled from 1995. This rapid growth is expected to continue. While over one-half of American households have debit

cards today it is predicted to expand to two-thirds of American households during the year 2000.

Debit cards, originally developed for ATM use, have expanded this use to include purchase capabilities. There are two types of debit cards in the market place: "On-line" debit which uses consumer's Personal Identification Number (PIN) security and "Off-line" debit which looks and acts like a traditional credit card and

requires a customer signature. Online cards are ATM/purchase cards for which transactions are generally routed through regional debit networks such as, MAC, Star, Magic Line and NYCE. On-line cards can be used at merchant locations equipped with PIN pads. Off-line debit is presented with Visa or MasterCard logos and transactions are routed through their networks. Offline cards can be used everywhere Visa and MasterCard are accepted and are billed to merchants at their Visa and MasterCard rates.

Overall, on-line (PIN) and off-line debit transactions represent 35% to 50% of convenience store and supermarket electronic transactions; thus, debit card transactions are a very significant portion of your current or potential customer sales.

It is a good time to review your acceptance procedures and debit card capabilities, following are some items to consider:

Customer Convenience

Whether it is on-line or off-line debit or credit card acceptance, offer your customers payment options of their choice, don't lose customers by not accepting their preferred payment type. Provide the cash back option with PIN debit an overwhelming 81% of consumers consider cash back a valuable service; thus, increasing their shopping frequency.

Lower Costs

AFD members benefit from AFD's member program with MBS; however, further savings can typically be realized by converting off-line debit and credit card transactions to on-line debit transactions. Some simple ways to promote on-line debit include; displaying signage, coaching your sales team: "Is this your ATM card?," "Would you like to enter your PIN number?" and enabling and promoting cash back service.

Debit Network Coverage

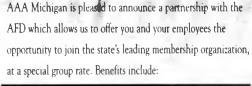
There are several regional debit networks; such as, MAC, Star, Magic Line and NYCE offering coverage throughout the United States along with national coverage provided by Visa and MasterCard. The majority of your debit transactions will be processed through the major regional network(s) within your geographical market. However, due to our mobile society and network overlap it is important to verify that you have coverage for multiple networks. AFD/ MBS merchants can call (800) 848-3213 to review the network connections for your account(s)

It's a good time to review your debit card acceptance capabilities. If you don't accept on-line (PIN) debit you may want to consider it. Let MBS help you develop the best solution for your debit and credit card transactions. If you have any questions or you are interested in accepting on-line cards call us today at (800) 848-3213.

Group Savings Individual Service

Individual Service





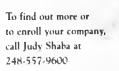
For Your Business

 A highly-perceived employee benefit at no administrative cost to you

For You and Your Employees

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 via convenient automatic account deductions
- ▶ 24-hour, prepaid Emergency Road Service
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- Exclusive savings of up to 20% or more at thousands of retailers across Michigan and the U.S.

In partnership with





*Insurance underwritten by Auto Club Insurance Association family of companies

Available from Anheuser-Busch...



Fantasy Football

Football Season is one of the busiest times for retailers as it is the kick-off for holiday planning and shopping. You could us extra help. How about a referee to supervise your business?

In our fantasy football game, the *AFD Food & Beverage Report* has made some suggestions to help you get through this shopping season with humor. Take time out to see if any of these commonly used signals would be a help in your store!



Clipping: What coupon savers do a lot of...



Touchdown: Your store sells a winning \$10 million lottery ticket.



Delay of game:
Scanners down



Offside: Customer parks in two spaces.



Illegal motion: Customer passes a bad check.



Intentional grounding:
Someone fakes a slip and fall.



Loss of down: Your insurance company loses the slip and fall case.



procedure: When you open a second lane and someone from behind jumps to the front.



Ineligible receiver: Minor attempts to purchase cigarettes

Tempted by the natural flavours and beauty of Pelee Island?





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Pelee@mnsi.net



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I am pleased to announce that Party Time Ice Company 15 now the exclusive distributor of "Ryan's Express" premium packaged firewood.

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I am prepared to offer the following firewood proposal:

- A) •Price of \$3.59 per unit
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 - •Pre-priced @ \$5.99/each=40%
- B) •Price of \$3.99 per unit
 - •1/2 Pallet minimum (30 units)
 - •Pre-priced @ \$5.99/each=33%
- Delivery available as of September 13, 1999

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers for their continued patronage. Sincerely,

Martin G. McNulty

V.P./Sales







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Four Sizes Available:

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| 750 ML | 8463-0 | 16.07 | 0.63 | 16.38 | 19.25 |
| 375 ML | 8456-0 | 8.31 | 0.66 | 8.47 | 9.96 |
| 50 ML | 8651-3 | 0.80 | 0.73 | 0.82 | 0.96 |

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See us at the AFD/Beverage Journal

Holiday Show!

J. Lewis Cooper Co



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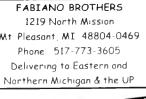
ARE PLEASED 70 REPRESENT...

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| | | | | | | | | |
| | CUTTY | SARK (Sc | otch) | | DRAMBI | JIE (Scot | ch based L | .iqueur) |
| | 1650-1 | 80.0 | 1000ml | 12 | 6403-3 | 80.0 | 375ml | 24 |
| | 1650-3 | 80.0 | 375ml | 24 | 6403-7 | 80.0 | 750ml | 12 |
| | 1650-7 | 0.08 | 750ml | 12 | 8849-3 | 0.08 | 50ml | 120 |
| | 1650-8 | 0.08 | 1750ml | 6 | 9719-6 | 80.0 | 200ml | 24 |
| | 8588-3 | 0.08 | 50ml | 60 | 7064-7 | 80.0 | 750ml | 6 w/Decanter |
| | 8702-0 | 80.0 | 200ml | 24 | | | | |
| | 7177-7 | 0.08 | 750ml | 6 w/Decanter | GLENRO | THES (1 | 5 Year Old | Scotch) |
| | | | | | 8326-0 | 86.0 | 750ml | 12 |
| | CAMPA | RI APERI | TIVO (Itali | an Liqueur) | | | | |
| | 6374-7 | 48.0 | 750ml | 12 | MOLIN | ARI SAM | BUCA (Ita | alian Liqueur) |
| | 8508-3 | 48.0 | 50ml | 60 | 6469-7 | 840 | 750ml | 12 |
| | 7774-7 | 48.0 | 750ml | 6 w/Water | | | | |

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Y2K Compliance: Getting Started

A practical path for retailers

Step 1: Owner awareness

What is the year 2000 (Y2K) problem, anyway?

Many computers, software programs and embedded microchips have been designed to register dates only in two digits, such as "98" instead of "1998"

So what?

So computers themselves may lose track of the century date and give wrong information to programs running on them. Programs may cease to run at all, or worse, may continue on and create corrupted data. Microchips may malfunction and equipment stops working.

Can't this be easily fixed by changing to 4-digit date

Unfortunately not. The problem occurs at many levels. And software programs are riddled with date fields and date calculations. While there are many tools and techniques to help programmers locate and fix data calculations, there is no magic "silverbullet" which can go in and fix everything in one fell swoop.

How will that affect my store business?

- •What if your tank-level monitor shuts down and disrupts gas flow to the dispenser?
- •What if your dispenser or card readers malfunction?
 - •What if your coolers shut down?
- •What if your EPOS system linkup is down and you are not able to access credit?

The business questions for you then become:

·If my tank monitoring system were to fail as a result of the Year 2000 problem, would I still be able to dispense fuel to my customers?

•Will I have adequate cash flow to operate my business, if my credit and debit cards cannot be processed and credited to my account in a timely manner?

·If my suppliers cannot supply product to me, whether fuel, groceries or parts, if even for a couple days, what will be the impact on my business?

Exactly how many items in my store could be Y2K sensitive?

Sindies have shown that the typical convenience store has 35 plus items that require Y2K validation. Some items are critical and others are less critical, but all must be identified and validated. You must fix what you can fix and make contingency plans for possible

By now, you probably have a good idea that you should prepare for Y2K.

Here are several strong recommendations to owners:

- 1. Owners should run the Year 2000 (Y2K) project. There is no substitute for top-level support and involvement. Please do Not delegate it to Computing or Operations or Finance. Include them all and manage it yourself.
- 2. Focus on the whole picture (as outlined in the steps in this article), not just the computer issues. Make "millennium viability" your goal not just technical compliance. Viability means being able to conduct business.
- 3. Form a team with representatives from across your organization - even if you are small and follow the leadership path (see diagram on cover).
- 4. Start now. Don't wait until everyone is competing with you for resources you may need.
- 5. Make contingency plans in case unforeseen things go awry-and

Step 2: Business Process Map

In developing your business process map, take a "whole business" approach. For example, put your customer first and ask "what absolutely must continue to function?" Because the weakest link in the business chain is what can cause it to break, you must consider

- · Where do you get your products and components?
- How are they shipped to you? How "Y2K viable" are those suppliers and shippers? How vulnerable are these links?
- What core processes do you employ to add value?
- · What could fail and who in your organization owns the process?

To assess Y2K store vulnerabilities, break your store into manageable parts or "zones" NACS tree video does a walk-through of store vulnerabilities (See order

- 1. Divide your facility down into logical zones.
- Hoeus on each zone one at a time
 - 3. For each zone, identify and list

- Equipment which might have embedded systems in them.
- Interfaces with other systems which might pass date-sensitive
- All suppliers and business partners.

Step 3: Store **Operations Analysis**

Examine your facilities and processes and identify possible Y2K vulnerabilities in:

- · Equipment and systems
- Product
- At-risk suppliers

(During this audit, apply red dot stickers to all Y2K sensitive items. Record the make, model, manufacturer and operating system. The red dot reminds you to inquire with the manufacturer about the compliance of this item.)

- Assessment has 3 parts:
- · Asess severity of impact of each item if it fails, then prioritize the items
- · Investigate each item's actual Y2K status
- · Determine how to mitigate Scope of mitigation required (in terms of cost, time, resources)

Many things will need to be taken into account:

- · Select and sequence items to mitigate
- · Create a plan to mitigate impacts
 - Assign and schedule the work The "3-R's"
 - · Repair
 - · Replace
 - · Retire

(Apply green dot stickers to indicate you've either ruled out the problem or fixed (t.)

Create contingency plans

· Contingency planning should be proactive.

For the most likely and most serious remaining failure points, create written contingency plans.

You might anticipate 2-day, 2week, and 2-month outage scenarios for key critical items.

- Specific contingency options might include:
- · Alternative low-tech procedures simple "work-arounds"
- Stockpiling of key materials, supplies, and components
- Training personnel in Manual
- Pre-positioning key personnel and supplies
- · Fast switchover to pre-approved alternative suppliers, etc.

Step 4: Computing Systems

Questions you need to ask computer and equipment vendors:

- 1. Will what you provide us work through and into the next century? If not yet, by when will it be compliant
- 2. What have you done to ensure that your product will perform?
- 3. Can we see your test protocols and results?
- 4. How can we test it in our environment?

The date-sensitivity problem can exist in three areas: core computing systems, PC & network systems, and exchange data.

1. Core computing systems:

The fundamental business-softw systems which you use to run your business. These typically include your financial software, etc. they also often include any transaction softwa and databases which link to these.

2. PC & Network Systems:

These may be stand-alone or networked, or integrated into an enterprise-wide architecture Typically these are productivityfocused systems - i.e. helping people and departments work more effectively. However, they may also include applications which are "mission-critical."

3. Exchanged data:

Data which is passed between programs internally, and data which is passed to and from outside entities i.e. suppliers, government agencies, business partners, banks, etc.

With a solid Y2K plan of action, your business will be ready for a smooth transaction into the new millennium. -NACS

Y2K help

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) web site has information on the Y2K Help Center for Small Businesses. The help center provides small businesses with assistance in such areas as Y2K self-help tool support and sources for compliance information. including equipment manufacturers' and vendors' websites, telephone numbers and databases that contain Y2K compliance information for various products

The Y2K Help Center for Small Business can be reached by calling 1-800-Y2K-7557 or visit, their website at www y2khelp hist at



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But enough talk. Who's ready for seconds?

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WIC food delivery systems proposed rule for governing vendor participation

In June, USDA issues a proposed rule that if finalized, would substantially change the rules governing vendor participation in the WIC program. Comments are due to the agency by September 14. 1999. The following is a summary of some of the key provisions of the rule.

Monitoring vendors and identifying high-risk vendors

State agencies would be required to implement high-risk vendor identification criteria, although the criteria would be kept secret.

State agencies would be required to conduct compliance buys or inventory audits for all high-risk vendors up to the 10 percent minimum.

Routine monitoring would no longer be required.

Vendor claims

State agencies must develop and implement a system to identify overcharges and other errors.

Proposal confirms State's authority to withhold or collect from vendors the entire redemption value of food instruments that include an overcharge, as opposed to the current practice of denying payment for, or collecting, only the amount of the overcharge itself.

USDA "encourages State agencies to exercise their authority" in this regard.

Vendor sanctions

Proposal reiterates final vendor sanction rules published in March, 1999.

USDA refuses to consider comments on this issue.

Vendor agreement specifications

Vendors may accept food instruments only from participants or their proxies;

Vendors would be prohibited from substituting other foods, nonfood items or cash in lieu of supplemental food listed on the instrument, i.e. no refunds, exchanges, or store credit—may only exchange for identical item.

Vendors must ensure the actual purchase price is entered on the food instrument prior to signature by participant or proxy;

Vendors may not charge State agencies more than the price charged customers;

Vendors subject to contract prices would not be able to exceed contract prices;

Prohibits vendors from seeking restitution from participants for food instruments not paid by the State or local agency;

Vendors required to retain inventory records and allow access to State agency;

Vendors must notify State when it ceases operations or changes ownership or location 45 days prior to effective date of the change.

Vendor appeals

The proposal would limit the types of State agency actions subject to review to the following:

- Denial of authorization based on selection criteria or the State agency's determination that the vendor is attempting to circumvent a sanction;
- Termination of agreement for cause;
 - 3. Disqualification;
- Imposition of a fine or a civil money penalty in lieu of disqualification;

The proposal would establish abbreviated administrative review procedures for the following adverse actions:

Continued on next page.

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New members join AFD

The Associated Food Deulers of tichigan welcomes these new -tail members who have joined in pril through June 1999.

9 and 30 Gas & Food Mart 77 Party Store Airport Grocery Al's Total, Inc. & H Market sig M Beer & Wine Bills Market Bobs Foodland Butchers Choice Meats Center Ave Rebel Food Store Olmok's Service Country Store Emissionads Mobil Mart Daves Party Store Della Prescription Center Dennis Parish Drakes Marketplace, Inc. **Dudek Foods** Fenno Foods Economy, Inc. Bareka Gas & Market Farmington Hills Wine & Liquor Ford West Party Store Gould's Mini Mart Inc Grahum & Parts Store Health Foods Intl. Holdens Party Store Howard Park Hardware & General Store Incks Family IGA lake's Food Market Josper Food & Fuel Johnny's Superette Joys Food Mart, Inc. IP Discount & Beverage Kings Cove LaCalera Gricery LaRosa Market Latchfield Thriftway Market Maria s Italian Bakery Mary's Party Store McHride Country Store Mike Pirrone Produce

WIC. continued from previous page

- 5. Denial of authorization based on cartain vendor selection criteria.
- 6. Denial of authorization based on State agency's limiting criteria.
- 7. Denial of authorization because application submetted outside of acceptable time frame
- 8. Termination of an agreement because of change in ownership or location of cessation of operations.
- 9. Disqualification based on the imposition of an ESP civil money prenalty for hardship.

Relax review time frames. States most still give vendors only 15 days notice of an adverse action, but will test areed to notify vendors of the appeal decision for 90 days (currently a 60 day requirements

Nominations for AFD board elections are being accepted now

It is time to begin the process of choosing our new AFD board of directors for 2000. Any voting member of the association may be nominated to sit on our board.

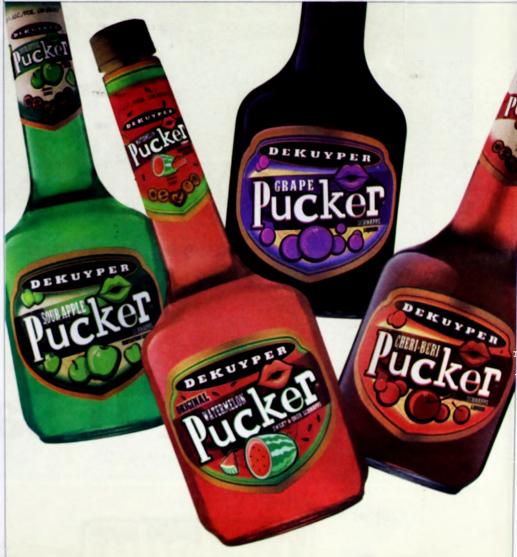
In order to be eligible, you must be a member in good standing for no less than the prior 12 months and you must be nominated, in writing, no later than October 1,1999. All nominations require the support of 25 other members in good standing or a

majority vote by the nominating committee. If you are a retail member, you must seek a retail position on the board. If you are a general member, you must be nominated to stand for a general director's position.

In addition, the AFD will accept nominations for regional directors' positions for regions 3 and 4. Please send your nominations with supporting signatures to the AFD

Nominating Committee, 18470 West Ten Mile Road, Southfield. Michigan, 48075.

Our board of directors sets policies by which the AFD is governed. We urge all AFD members to get involved by nominating candidates you feel will devote their time and talent to represent the food industry with professionalism and integrity.



A chip off the old blockbuster.

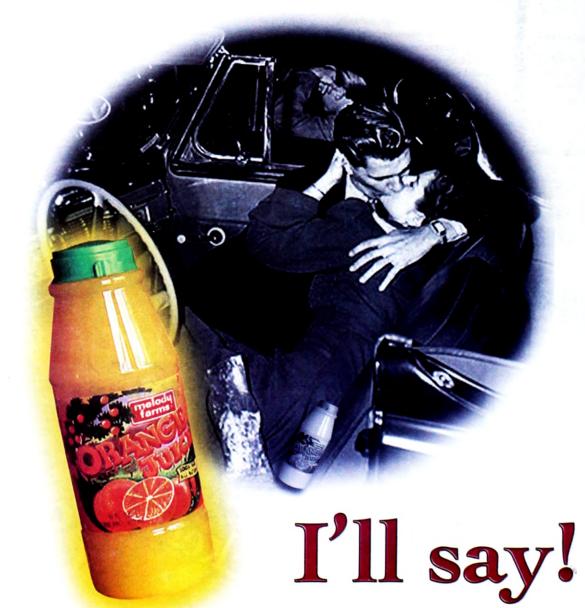
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Thanks from our scholars

Dear Associated Food Dealers and Scholarship Sponsors:

I would like to thank Crossmark for sponsoring my Associated Food Dealers of Michigan scholarship. The scholarship will be beneficial towards my tuition payments. It is good to know that the industry I work in believes in rewarding its employees.

Thanks again, Adam Romoslawski

Thank you so much for the generous AFD scholarship you have bestowed upon me. Your generosity through this program covers not only the cost of college payments for myself and the other recipients, but more importantly helps us begin the path to creating and fulfilling our dreams and continuing the greatest gift of all: our education. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and am forever grateful for it. Thank you once again for this excellent program.

Sincerely, Katharine Sophiea

I would like to sincerely thank you for your kind gesture in assisting me with my college funds. Your contribution to the AFD Scholarship is appreciated greatly. Once again 1

thank you for your generosity and hope you will continue to support this cause in the future.

Sincerely, Kimberly Stanisky

Thank you so much for the AFD Scholarship. I appreciate your confidence in me and assure you your investment in my education will prove justified. I plan to pursue a degree in horticulture at MSU, and I am truly grateful for your financial help. Thank you for your encouragement, support, kindness and generosity.

Sincerely, Dru Bernthal

I wish to express my gratitude for the scholarship I was awarded by the AFD. Without a doubt, these funds will ease my financial demands of attending college.

I also appreciate the time and effort it takes to prepare the presentation dinner.

Sincerely, Erik Ripley

I would just like to thank you in this manner for your commitment to find sponsors for your AFD scholarship. Lappreciate it greatly as it will aid me and my family in paying for my college tuition.

Thanks again, Lauren Ahro

Thank you very much for sponsoring me through the AFD. The scholarship is a great financial help in getting me through college. Thank you again. The aid is greatly appreciated.

. Sincerely, Miriam Asadi I am writing to thank you for my scholarship. I am sure you know the money will be put to good use. This fall I will be taking most of my general education classes at Michigan State. I am planning on becoming a communications major in the future.

Thank you again, James Stanis

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Hope to see you at the AFD Holiday Show being held at Burton Manor on September 21st and 22nd. We will be featuring some outstanding promotions for the upcoming Back-to-School, Halloween and Winter Holidays. Hours will be 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on tuesday the 21st and 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday the 22nd. Stop by and help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary!



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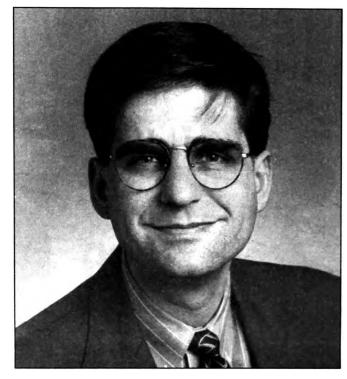
State Representative Jason Allen serves his district and his country

by Kathy Blake Serving his district comes naturally for former Boy Scout Jason Allen, the state representative for Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties. Allen became an Eagle Scout at age 13 and remains active in scouting, serving on the Scenic Trails Boy Scout Executive Board and teaching merit badge classes. Growing up as a Boy Scout with parents who kept active in public service, Allen grew into a civicminded individual. Allen is a longtime resident of Traverse City, a community that he says has historically held a lot of political leadership.

Representative Allen says his district is mostly agricultural with some areas becoming more populated. "Traverse City is getting a great deal of growth especially with retirees from the Detroit area. Statewide, by the year 2015, 15 to 16 percent of the population will be over 65 years old. Leelanau County will have more than 20 percent over 65, said Allen. "The Baby Boomer generation will be the richest retirees yet and are creating a mailbox society." Seniors are now able to receive retirement benefits through the mail and are free to live wherever they choose.

"The highest and best use of farmland is driving the cost of agriculture up," says Allen. "This is detrimental for passing the farm on to the next generation because the tax assessors will assess at current market value driving the taxes up." Another problem in the district is the rising cost of growing cherries and apples, especially due to competition in countries like China which can use pesticides. "The federal pesticide regulations are putting American growers out of business," says Allen.

Representative Allen, a freshman Republican, is chair of the House Education Committee and serves on the Tax Policy, Great Lakes & Tourism and Veterans Atfairs Committees. He worked on the income tax reduction law, which reduces personal income taxes by one-tenth of one percent per year, over the next five years and elimination of the single business tax



which effects companies with a payroll of \$250,000 and over. It reduces the single business tax by one tenth of one percent over the next 23 years until it is eliminated.

As chair of the Education committee, he worked on the Detroit School takeover, merit scholarships for MEAP scholars, school violence issues and charter school issues.

On the Great Lakes & Tourism committee, Allen worked on making the Friday before Labor Day a state holiday. It passed the committee and will go to the House.

On the Veterans' Affairs committee, he helped to get a Veteran's Hospital designation so that veterans can receive basic care at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City.

Allen became active in
Republican politics in high school
A veteran campaigner, he has
assisted on many city commission
and school board races. Allen has
been a Republican precinct delegate
for many years, served on the Grand
Traverse Executive Committee, and
was the Grand Traverse Chairman
for Bob Dole's campaign in 1996.

Representative Allen graduated from Traverse City High School in

1981 and continued his education at Northwestern Michigan College. He graduated from Miami University of Ohio, with a Bachelor's degree in finance and a minor in fashion merchandising in 1986.

He went to work at his family's menswear business, Captain's Quarters with his father, Mauric. He also entered the National Guard. His former scoutmaster stepped down from the Grand Traverse County Commission and Allen followed in his footsteps, successfully running to fill the vacancy.

As a commissioner representing Traverse City and part of East Bay township, Allen advocated neighborhood support and improvement. He worked with neighborhood associations to install historic lighting along their streets. He also worked on neighborhood policing programs with the sheriff's deputies and supported expanding hike and walking paths for pedestrian accessibility.

"Being a commissioner was a generalist's job, doing a little bit of everything. It was a great training ground," said Allen.

He served on the Great Lakes Community Health Board from 1991 to 1998, most recently as Treasure, overseeing a \$12 million budget. When the state closed Traverse City's mental hospital, the patient had nowhere to go. As treasurer, one of Allen's jobs was to come up with funds for hospitalizing these people. He spearheaded the successful Grand Traverse Medical Care millage in 1996.

Previously, he served as the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee on the Great Lakes Health Board, overseeing the \$100 million dollar county budget. He also served as Chairman of the Physical Resource Committee and the Veterans Affairs Committee on the board.

In 1997, he was elected to Chairman of the Northwestern Michigan Council of Governments, a ten county multi-jurisdictional agency dedicated to law enforcement, planning and economic development.

Allen ran for his state representative seat when predecessed Michelle McManus was finishing her last term due to the new term limits. "I knew I would eventually run for a position in state government," said Allen. It was a natural turn of events for him since he is an individual dedicated to public service and civic involvement.

Representative Allen keeps very involved with community activities. He is a member of Central Methodist Church, the Traverse City Rotary Club, and the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce—He is also a member of the Michigan Conservation Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Michigan Whitetails, the Ruffled Grouse Society and the American Legion.

The representative is married to Suzanne Miller and they have a five-month-old baby. He still works at the family menswear business and for fun, they go hiking, backpacking and canoeing.

To reach the representative, call (517) 373-1766 or write State Representative Jason Allen, State Capitol, PO Box 30014, Lansing MI 48909-7514

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To help you battle the millennium bug. the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is offering a free kit to help small businesses assess their readiness and implement solutions. To order the kit, visit the website:http://www.y2khelp.nist.gov or call 1-800-Y2K-7557.



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North Pointe Insurance thanks members for its success

North Pointe Insurance Co. would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Associated Food Dealers for their long and loyal support. While North Pointe continues to write approximately 40 percent of all liquor liability policies in the state of Michigan, we never stop trying to be the best at what we do. This dominant position was achieved by paying attention to detail, and providing outstanding service to our insureds.

Being a niche company has allowed North Pointe to excel in areas that we can specialize in such as liquor liability, bowling centers, party stores, and special events. Dealing with quality organizations, such as the Associated Food Dealers, has made our job easier and has created strong relationships to build upon into the future. While many different insurance carriers come and go by

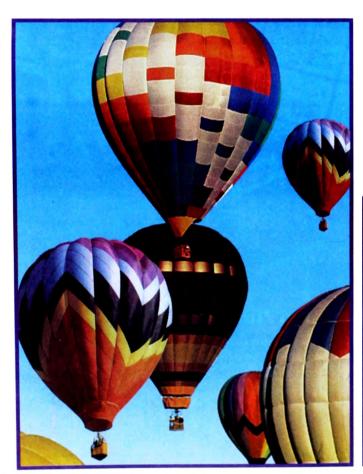
jumping in and out of the marketplace, North Pointe is a stabilizing force in an otherwise unstable insurance climate

With just one phone call you can reach anyone in our Southfield office: liquor liability service, claims, underwriting, or even our CEO.

North Pointe Insurance Co. has remained number one in Michigan for many different reasons. Fair, aggressive claims handling has become a North Pointe trademark. Proper underwriting techniques have allowed us to remain and service accounts for the long term.

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For additional information or assistance regarding liquor liability insurance, please contact Jim Holycross at (248) 358-1171



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Merchandising tips from Josulete Wine, Inc.



What makes you pick up that bottle if wine, instead of just glancing at it and moving on? Was it the label that might your attention? Or the special lighting catching the bottle, or maybe it was the special feature, or possibly the recommendation of the salesperson?

There is no one factor to selling a ne in a retail store, but many components that combine to make the merchandising of wine successful. One thing is certain, and that is that creating a distinctive style is an emportant part of building a loyal sine clientele. Much depends on the community where a store is located because it will depend on the style. and the atmosphere of the store, not to forget which wines are displayed there in the store. Some recommend classifying the wines by varietal only, to that a client can shop the world for, as an example, Merlot for any one particular wine type). Other people may be more inclined to support a certain region or country more than a specific varietal, and therefore preferthe traditional grouping by countries. to try a selection of wines. But central to all stores are several important factors of the layout that draws the customers into the store, with products that are easy to find, and others that are just plain eye-catching

The image is a combination of the name, the logo and the storefront to create an overall look. The presentation of the showcases entices and encourages customers to buy the product, while the products themselves also need silent communicators to grab the attention of the potential client as they browse. A display will stimulate the nature of the presentation and create exciting product arrangements. In-store events entertain and leave a lasting suspression to take home, and bring the client back.

When one considers that 50 percent of sales are impulse purchases, careful attention should be focused on the density of the merchanics on the selling flow. Account life, the ability to siew and purchase the wine is crucial, since South Americans like to see and link the products they are smadering purchasing. The total

purchasing experience should be one that is both entertaining, and informative to draw people in, and back again by being appealing. Compatible or complimentary services leave definite, lasting impressions and are most likely to be talked about when recommendations about a wine are made.

Jakob Haag, President of Josulete Wine Incorporated, exclusive importers of Pelee Island Wine says it is also important to not only experiment with the layout, but also to provide some non main-stream wines. People like to shop a store and therefore are always looking for a wine that is unusual or of a limited release. When stocking your wine department look for good solidly priced quality wines that will give you the repeat business you are looking for but also look for those wines that will make your store interesting to shop at. For example offering a Canadian wine, even

though Canadian wines are not well known, gives you an opportunity to: expand the world of wine for your clients; and tell your clients that you will shop the world to bring the very best wines to their neighborhood.

While you have gone to great lengths to create the ideal setting to market wine from around the world, keep in mind that your wine

See Wine page 37

In More Ways Than One.

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New Products and Show Specials

All these specials will be available at the AFD/Beverage Journal Holiday Show on September 21, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. & September 22, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Burton Manor in Livonia,

Purchase a security system from ADT Security Systems and receive a free hold up alarm button, along with a free hi-lo temperature sensor for coolers (value \$120.00).





BACARDI-MARTINI U.S.A., INC.

Bacardi Martini U.S.A. is introducing Bacardi 8, the world's first premium, aged rum. Until now, the aged rum has been reserved strictly for the Bacardi family. Also look for a new product called Tropico, which is a gold rum based liqueur with a blend of tropical flavors.



Coca-Cola Bottling Company introduces DASANI, a purified water enhanced with minerals for taste.



EQUIPMENT INCORPORATED

DCI Food Equipment will be displaying their frozen cocktail products. Buy a machine at the show, and you will receive enough free product to pay for it! DCI is also introducing their new computerized register system, which gives you the controls you need to help run your business profitably.



General Wine & Liquor Company will be displaying Cooks Sparkling Millennium Packages and Great Western Holiday Packages



Grandma Shearer's will be sampling their new Cheesy and Spicy Nacho's.

Great Lakes Marketing will be sampling a variety of new products: 99 Blackberries which is a clear product with the luscious smell and taste of ripe blackberries, Chi Chi's Pina Colada, a schnapps from Gaetano called Apple Head, and Pellegrino Lemoncello which is an Italian lemon flavored liqueur. Also look for four new products from Merrys: Butterscotch Cream, Irish Cream, White Chocolate Cream, and Irish Whiskey.

Hammell Music is proud to introduce the Yamaha GranTouch baby grand piano with a piano bar.

Purchase the certified **Honeywell** "Clean Air Program" for 20% off the suggested list price. You can also lease to own for only \$55.00 per month which includes full service maintenance.



J. Lewis Cooper and E & J. Gallo proudly present a wild new taste in wine: Blackberry Merlot, Strawberry White Zinfandel, and Peach Chardonnay.



Jim Beam Brands is introducing a world class bourbon called Distillers' Masterpiece - an 18 yearold Straight Bourbon finished in French limousine oak cognac casks Production is limited to 6,000 bottles. Also, make sure you sample the newest Dekuyper flavor - Watermelon Pucker.

"Josulete Wines, Inc. will be sampling their legendary Icewine, which is a holiday dessert wine. They are also introducing two new products imported from Germany: Fuldi Sparkling Mineral Water, and Fuldi Vital & Fit which is an orange, apple, carrot and lemon juice drink.



Local Color Brewing Company will be sampling their Corporate Jim Pale Ale, and Rug Rat Root Beer.

MSI/Bocar Store Fixtures is offering a show special on Metro Shelving (wire wine shelving): 30% off warehouse list price.



National Wine & Spirits is representing five new products:
Meukow Cognac with an elegant package and dominant taste. Van Gogh Gin a masterpiece Gin from Holland, Kelt Cognacs "Tour du Monde" (around the world) champagne Cognac, Boru Vodka which is hand-crafted from Ireland, and Inferno Vodka which is quadrupled distilled pepper pot Vodka.



Equipment orders placed during the show with North American Interstate, will receive free delivery and set up, all parts and labor, and a free evaluation every six months.



ORECK

Oreck Floor Care Center will be introducing the latest floor care equipment. Get more information on the XL2100 commercial eight pound upright series, and the Hoky Restaurateur wet/dry sweeper with patented Rotorblade wipers.



Seagram Americas

Seagram Americas will be sampling the delicious new Absolut Vodka flavor, Absolut Mandrin Various holiday gift items will also be available - look for Chivas Regal 18 year-old Scotch Whiskey.



Vineyards Fine Wines is the exclusive Michigan distributor for a new product called Millennium Champagne - a perfect way to ring in the new year

Reminder: September is Food Safety Month!



Lottery Lowdown

By Commissioner Don Gilmer

Instant Tickets Take Center Stage

With less than six months left until the year 2000, the Michigan Lottery is gearing up for the turn of the century with the introduction of its fourth \$10 instant game ticket -"Millennium Millions!" With the success of the holiday-themed "\$1,000,000 Gift" (introduced in November 1997 and again in October 1998) and "Casino Fortune"

(introduced in March 1998), we decided to try our luck with another exciting \$10 offering.

"Millennium Millions" hit ticket counters all across Michigan on September 7. The game offers up to 14 different ways to win on one ticket, with a top prize of \$1,000,000! Other big payouts the game offers include \$10,000 and \$100,000 prizes. The Michigan Lottery is supporting the launch of this ticket with a wide variety of point-of-sale materials. I encourage all retailers to prominently display these items in high-traffic areas throughout your stores, because I'm sure "Millennium Millions" will be a big seller!

Big sales of "Millennium Millions" tickets not only mean increased opportunities for customers to win big prizes, but money-making opportunities for you as well. Each "Millennium Millions" ticket sold brings in a 60cent sales commission, which will generate more than \$2 million in total retailer commissions!

Instant tickets have played a large part in the Lottery's solid

performance over the past couple of years, and they are continuing to grow in popularity among customers. Your friendly customer suggestions to try th new games have led to phenomenal sales - a trend we expect to continue in the coming months.

With the Lottery's fiscal year set to wrap up on September 30, instant ticket sales are on track to post a better than five-percent increase over fiscal 1998. This increase is, in large part, a result of your consistent effort to educate our players on the great Lottery products available.

In addition to "Millennium Millions," there are three more instant tickets you will want to have on hand this month. The \$2 "Michigan Rummy" goes on sale September 13, with a top prize of \$20,000. Players will soon be filling their pockets with the red hot cash they are winning on "Football Fever," a new \$1 ticket hitting stores on September 20, with prizes up to \$6,000. Finally, the \$1. "1,2,3,4,5" — featuring a series of five different tickets - debuts on September 27 offering a top prize of \$2,000.



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Mega Market proves that bigger can be better

New Southfield price-driven store opened to rave reviews July 15

by Michele MacWilliams The view has changed on Greenfield Road in Southfield. A new food store impressively dominates the landscape. It's called Mega Market, and the name aptly fits the new super-sized supermarket, at 9 1/2 Mile.

The building's brick exterior is classic American in design. Its slate-shingled roof, white Doric columns and three large copper cupolas give permanence to the building; as if it has been there for decades. However, the stately exterior provides little clue as to what is to be found inside the store.

It is big, really big, 67,000square-feet - 3 1/2 football fields big! The store's 30-foot ceilings and open areas give it a light, bright atmosphere. The floor plan is laid out like a traditional supermarket; it's just that every department is at least twice the size of a normal grocery store. According to Fred Najor and Faris Naimi, Mega Market directors, savings are big as well. Because the store buys in large quantities, it can afford to sell for

"Mega Market is a price-driven food store," says Naimi. "It deals in volume 1

"The store also benefits from efficiencies that were built into the system," Najor adds. Mega Market's large aisles, 1-1/2 times the width of typical supermarket aisles, are both spacious and convenient. Everything about the store was created with efficiency and cost savings in mind. Three truck bays allow semi trucks to unload into the back warehouse area by pallets that can be brought directly into the sales area. The state-of-the-art scanning and receiving system, 16 registers and electronically interfaced credit/ debit system were designed for

smooth, cost-efficient transitions from product ordering, to shipping, stocking, pricing and check-out.

Mega Market carries a wide variety from around the world, but more than half of the fruits and vegetables come directly from the field to the store. Produce is displayed in bulk for convenience and cost savings.

Massive displays of breads, cakes and cookies draw customers to the in-store bakery adjacent to the produce section. Varieties of baked goods are limited, again for cost savings, but popular items are produced in high volume. A cake decorator is on hand and Mega Market's bakery is equipped with a machine that can take a photo and reproduce its image in frosting for the top of a special cake.

The deli features mounds of shaved and sliced lunchmeat. All slicers are automatic and the deli makes pizzas made to order. High volume in the seafood section means that Mega Market can offer a large variety with low prices.

Along the back wall, the meat section is the largest in the area. In addition to the traditional grocery section, Mega Market also features a Wall of Value, an area that features manufacturers' deal items. There is also an extensive Non-food/Health and Beauty Care department. A Standard Federal Bank branch. complete with an automatic teller machine, will soon occupy space inside Mega Market.

Although Mega Market is new to Metro Detroit, there are a total of 14 stores in Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas and now Michigan. The concept for Mega Market began 16 years ago in Memphis, Tennessee. Malone and Hyde Grocery Company developed and designed the first Mega Market with the objective of



Fred Najor (left) and Farts Naimi are the proud owners of the new Mega Market.

being the low price leader in a given market area while maintaining high quality. The Fleming Company purchased Malone Hyde in 1989 and expanded the Mega Market franchise

Mega Markets achieve their lowprice objective through volume discounts and manufacturers' deals. The Mega Market stores are all built with efficiency in mind. The electrical system reduces energy costs, high technology scanning equipment reduces product handling



Mega Market sported a Mega truck at its front door the day before opening.

and Mega Market spends considerably less on advertising than a traditional supermarket. "In everything we do, cost savings is a major consideration," says Faris Naimi.

The partners designed Mega Market with their customers, their employees and their suppliers in mind. For customers, the low prices, numerous and quick registers, and large selection were important factors. For employees' convenience, they designed two break rooms, one at each end of the building. A special no-slip. flooring is beautiful, safe and easy on the legs. The atmosphere is congenial Suppliers find covered delivery docks, plenty of room to unload and separate entrances for produce, groceries and meats.

Large displays are built using

palletized, module or find bins that come directly from the manufacturer processing facility. Smaller items - like bully food - are placed on the shelves in cut-away care which requires much len handling and maintenant than placing each jar onto shelf individually.

"If there is an item 🖦 don't carry, we're happy stock it at the customer's request," Faris Naimi Mega Market is a

protected trademark and each location must comply with strict specifications in order to meet the necessary pricing and quality requirements. Stores are typically 60,000- to 67,000 square feet and approximately 80 to 85 percent d the total square footage is dedicated as sales floor.

Fred Najor and Faris Naimi ham been in the retail food industry for over 30 years. When the Southfill location became available, both knew it was a perfect area for the

Mega Market concept.

"Because we've worked in this field for our entire working careers, we know our customers will love the store," says Najor. "There is nothing like # in the area.

The Southfield Downtown Developme Authority was instrumental in

influencing the store's exterior design. "We wanted a building im was going to stand as a fixture and example of growth in the area." Tom Tanghe, DDA executive director. "Mega Market, with its brick masonry and copper towers in a beacon of permanence. I expect # to set the tone and build enthusumm for development in the district. The architecture speaks of the quality of products offered and the commitment of Fred and Faris to Southfield and to their customers

Fred Najor and Fans Naimi like to think of Mega Market as a Big Box Concept" store that competes in price and quality with warehouse clubs. The difference is, instead of a big, boxy, cinder block warehouse of a store, "our big box' is beautiful." Najor adds with a smile.



The expansive new Meya Market on Greenfield Road in Southfield

MDA recognizes Kroger for \$1 million in donations

The Michigan Kroger may recently speed \$1 million in to the Meetle Dystruphy meention over the past

Since 1989, Kruger as apported MDA with a senety of programs actions product sales wd Kroger suppliers and as Nabisco, A&W and 7LIP, mections; and a aparate lock-up, in

ach officials are "jailed" and secure mittons for MDA during their

Emper stores in southeastern Shamrocks and Distriphy in February and and Stars during August. The sognomotions raised almost \$86,000 # MDA in 1998.

Freds from Michigan Kroger's support MDA's clinical ersur programs at Children's bental of Michigan, the Michigan University Clinical Center and Michigan Institute for ical Disorders, research at the University of Michigan State University and Wayne State University, three mer camp sessions in antern Michigan, and other final programs and support groups

Michigan Kruger is being a gained for their efforts on the the Day Jerry Lewis Telethon

FMI's MARKETECHNICS conference

FMI is lividing a conference hil Leveraging Opportunity h Technology February 20-2. 3000 The conference will be ld at Mincome Convention ser in San Francisco,

To regions for the conference, # (202) 452-8444, est. 536 or the website at http:// the finding. The conference cost \$250 to \$300 for FM1 kers limit \$400 to \$450 for n-Member Retailed Market and \$250 to \$100 for MARKETH HNK'S SKE \$600 to \$600 for nor/Non-Exhibiting afacturers.

For a map of hotel locations and property descriptions, visit the Food Marketing Institute's both site at www.fmi.org or call Mary fax-on-demand service at 1-509-890-SHOW (7469),



Matt Ross, a local MDA child, (left) and his father Mike (right) present a hanner from MDA to Michigan Krieger President Marnette Perri (middle).



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AFD on the Scene

A great day for golf

Scenes from the AFD Scholarship Golf Outing July 22 at Wolverine Golf Club



Touch Down!



1999 AFD Golf Champions (1 to r) Gary Mexicotte, Nick Nicolay, and David Thorn



The "Jim Bellanca Putting Challenge helped raise money to support AFD's worthwhile causes. (I to i) Jim Bellanca and Sam Dallo



Clockwise from top left. The Miller Team, Yvonne Stark, Amy McAllister. Mike Bonanno and Marion Body, have a little fun on the course



Jerry Rabban of Food Value (r) poses with Coke bottle and the Coke team of golfers



Conference call? (1 to v) Sam Dallo, Vince Saputo, John Manni and Jamie Ponder



Hard at work, our co-chairs, Jay Donaldson and Ronnie Jamil



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A special thanks to long time AFD supporters Robert Gilligan (1) and Craig Gilligan (r. center). Also pictured are Mark Wilson and

side. SDD/SDM 84 x 30 ft. In busin years. Established neighborhood clic Serious inquiries only. Please ask for L (313) 898-5559.

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PARTY SHOPPE-Beer & wine grocery, with frozen Coke, money orders fax Store and S10,000/week Lottery sales \$3,800 and Business \$160,000 w \$80,000 down \$1,425/month lease Call (248) 545-3500

FOR SALE—Bayel & Donut shop Troy am (19 Mile & Dequindre). All new equipment. Tim key operation, just wall in and take over the register to start making money today! Adap S84,861. Terms available. Call Foster Reality in (810) 463-1000

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MARKET DELI FOR SALE-3,300 ag ft. Am Arbor, central University of Michigan carrellocation, student clientele. Owner is retiring. M newly remodeled including new equipment. Cal (734) 741-8303, ask for Bill

FOR SALE— 2 each, walk-in codiers, § 1 10'—\$1500 8' x 14'—\$2500 Bernie's County Store (517) 592-8221.557-9600

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FOR SALE—Chester Fried Ventions Fryer (older model) \$2500, (4) door reach-in cooler \$1200, (4) door reach-in cooler \$500. Cell Sheena al (248) 288 4774

ESTABLISHED PARTY STORE—Port MI Highly populated high traffic area, 800, SDM and Lotte. Owner retiring. Call (810) 5702, leave message

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AFD on the Scene



John Arcori thanks golfers for participating in the V.O.S. Golf Outing on August 16 Proceeds help fund Rose Hill.



Volunteers help John Arvors distribute door prizes to guesti at the VOS golf outing



Merchandising ideas calendar

As fall begins, here are a few ideas to group and sell products:

September

Rosh Hashanah Great American Breakfast National Chicken Month

Honey Month

National Cholesterol Month

National Rice Month October

Oktoberfest Calumbus D

Columbus Day National Pasta/Pizza Month

National Pork Month National Scafood Month

Child Health Day Halloween

Sweetest Day

November

Veteran's Day Peanut Butter Month Home Baking Month Make-a-Sandwich Month

Thanksgiving

December.

Christmas Hanukkah

Boxing Day

New Year's Eve

Millennium

Y2K





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More scenes from the AFD Scholarship Golf Outing



Tom Davis & Sons' Lemon Chill provided great relief from the heat.



Team Petitpren



Team CrossMark going for the one putt!



AFD board member Barbara Wetss-Street from UDV-North America was on hand with her TGI Fridays promotions staff at the TGIF sampling station.



Fun in the sun with Drambuie on ice.



Hey batter, batter, batter, swing!



Now that's teamwork!



'entral Distributors' team (1 to r) Dan Johns, Bill Bailey, Doug Bryant and Jim Calego



Some big hitters! AFD president Joe Sarafa (l) and AFD Chairman Bill Viviano (r) award the two longest drive winners, State Senator Shirley Johnson and Gary Mexicotte



Who is that man with the TV3



AFD thanks its committee members for all their help (1 to r facing)

Joe O Bryan, Lorring King, Ron Paradoski, Nick Bontomasi.



Behind the scenes at ALD's goodie bag stuffing



Victor Poole from Frito with Kenny Atchoo: Brandon Atchoo, Marsann Atchoo and Priscilla Mosley Atchoo, one of the AFD wholars



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Air Quality Products



MLCC takes action

Under the Chairmanship of Commissioner Jackie Stewart, the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) has instituted a number of initiatives to expand its normal "control" function. Among those initiatives are ones under which the MLCC is cooperating with the Department of Treasury to collect over \$7,000,000 in back taxes from licensees, a program which encourages police departments to seize alcoholic liquors being smuggled into Michigan; and, a joint effort with the Detroit Police Department to stop illegal sales to minutes.

Under the first initiative referenced above, nine of the licensees paid as soon as they received the notice from Treasury that the MLCC was being notified. For the other 65 in early March of 1999, the MLCC sent notices that unless the licensees paid the amounts owed to the Department of Treasury or made arrangements for those payments their liquor licenses would not be renewed. For the most part this tactic worked, with 55 of the licensees either paying or making arrangements to pay prior to the May I renewal deadline. According to officials at the MLCC, nearly all of the 10 remaining delinquent licensees are making the necessary arrangements.

Under the second initiative, every police department who confiscates illegal spirits will be paid the "wholesale" price of the spirits by the commission

In yet another initiative, the MLCC has targeted underage purchases in Detroit. Under a joint decoy operation with the Detroit Police Department, more than 564 attempted purchases were made between January and March of 1989. As a result of the stings, over 283 violation charges of selling to minors were made. Of those persons who did make the illegal sales, only 55 asked to see the minors identification. The joint effort by utilizing MLCC investigators and decoys frees up Detroit Police officers from having to draft complaints and attend the hearings, thereby allowing them time for more important tasks. Today's Wholesuler

Wine, continued from page 27

distributors have at their disposal additional marketing tools. Good examples of these would be: shelf-talkers, often referred to as silent salesmen, posters, wine profiles, food matching point-of-sale material etc. This material can be a great help. The drawback is when these marketing items become so numerous in your store that it actually detracts from the wine.

Of all the beverage products sold today, wine is by far the fastest expanding beverage of choice. In order to take advantage of this retail growth you must understand your neighborhood, observe trends in the wine business and most of all continue to offer your clients the very best wines from around the world. This variety will give them another reason to return to your store over and over again to shop for wine and not to simply pick up a bottle of wine.

Raw sprouts advisory

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an updated health advisory to make the public aware of the risks associated with the consumption of raw sprouts (e.g. alfalfa, clover, radish). FDA advises that people who wish to reduce the risk of foodborne illness should not eat or consume raw sprouts. This is particularly important for persons at high risk of developing serious illness due to foodborne disease (i.e., children, the elderly, and persons with weakened immune systems).

Since 1995, raw sprouts have emerged as a recognized source of foodborne illness in the United States. These illnesses have involved the pathogenic bacteria Salmonella and E. coli O157. Alfalfa and clover sprouts have been involved most often, but all raw sprouts may pose a risk...



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| & Sausage | (313) 532-1181 | Karen's Kafe at North Valley | | Booth Newspapers | | Quality Inventory Services | (810) 771.9 |
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| Awrey Bakeries, Inc | | Penna's of Sterling | | Young Country Radio | (249) 700 0624 | REA Marketing | (517) 386-9 |
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| Bellino Quality Beverages, Inc | | FRESH PRODUCE: | | Germack Pistachio Co | | Refrigeration Engineering, Inc | |
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| Central Distributors | . (313) 946-6250 | • | (313) 239-6941 | Kar Nut Products Company | | TOMRA Michigan | |
| Coca-Cola Bottlers of MI Auburn Hills | - (249) 272 2652 | ICE PRODUCTS: | | Nikhlas Distributors (Cabana) | | WHOLESALERS/FOOD DIS | TRIBUTOR |
| | | Midwest Ice Co | (313) 868-8800 | Rocky Peanut | (313) 871-5100 | Capital Distributors | . (313) 369-2 |
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| Josulete Wines, Inc L & L Wine World | | Gadaleto, Ramsby & Assoc | | Promotions Unlimited 2000 Stanley's Advertising & Dist | | Hammell Musk, Inc | |
| Metro Beverage Inc. | | Golden Dental | | Stephen's Nu-Ad, Inc. | | I & K Distributing | |
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| Nestle Beverages | | IBF Insurance Group, Inc | | | /240) 222 1700 | J.F. Walker | |
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| Pabst Brewing Co Pepsi-Cola Bottling Group | . 1-000-055 | Rocky Husaynu & Associates | | SERVICES: | | Kehe Food Distributors | |
| - Detroit | . 1-800-368-9945 | Willis Corroon Corp. of M1 | (248) 641-0900 | AAA Michigan | | Kramer Food Co. | |
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| J.B. Novak & Associates | | Camaria Mant Darkana | (517) 269-8161 | Great Lakes Data Systems | (248) 356-4100 | Eivernous-Davison Florist Minnich's Bouts & Motors | (2.88) 352 00 |
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