



Innovation Capital

Investment Bankers

Restaurant & Retail Newsweekly
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This publication is a compilation of weekly restaurant and retail-related news provided by Innovation Capital, a leading boutique investment bank dedicated to representing mid-market clients in the gaming, leisure, restaurant and retail industries.

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Newsweekly Archive

You can now access Innovation Capital's Newsletter archive on the firm's website [here](#). This feature is password protected--this month's password is: **Dice** (case sensitive).

Restaurant & Retail Industry Public Company & High Yield Data:

[**Public Company Trading Comparables**](#)

[High Yield Bond Trading Levels](#)

Restaurant & Retail Executives and Investors Group



Looking to connect with other Restaurant & Retail executives to share ideas and best practices? Seeking ways to increase your brand visibility or grow your business? This is the place to bridge those contacts! An exclusive group for executives in the Restaurant & Retail industries and institutional investor groups to network and discuss trends & ideas.

To join, click [here](#) or the image above.

Featured Article:

Kraft Heinz considering Breakstone's sale

March 13, 2019

PITTSBURGH - (Patty Tascarella, Pittsburgh Business Times) - Kraft Heinz Co. could put its Breakstone's brand cottage cheese and sour cream business on the block, CNBC reported, citing people familiar with the situation. The food giant, jointly based in Pittsburgh and in Chicago, hired the Royal Bank of Canada to review options for the business, which has revenue of about \$400 million, according to CNBC. Kraft Heinz (Nasdaq:KHC) declined comment on Thursday. Last month, CNBC reported that Kraft Heinz was considering selling its Maxwell House brand coffee business.

[Click here to read the full article in Pittsburgh Business Times](#)

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Corona maker Constellation nearing deal to sell some wine brands

March 15, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Reuters) - Corona beer maker Constellation Brands Inc is in advanced talks to sell some of its low-end wines to privately held E.&J. Gallo Winery, CNBC reported on Friday, citing people familiar with the situation. In early February, Constellations said it was looking to sell some of its lower-end wine brands, as it doubles down on more profitable high-end segment and shift towards beer and cannabis products that target a younger demographic. The sale could fetch around \$2 billion or less, the CNBC report said, adding that the talks are still ongoing and could fall apart.

[Click here to read the full article in Reuters](#)

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Hudson Yards-hailed as retail's future-has its skeptics. Proving them wrong will take a while

March 15, 2019

NEW YORK- (Lauren Thomas, CNBC) - Will it really work? That's the question some people are asking as the Hudson Yards development comes to life in New York this week. The retail and restaurant portion of the 18-million-square-foot project opens on Friday, including shops ranging from Louis Vuitton and Neiman Marcus to Lululemon and H&M. Online brands like men's activewear retailer Rhone and shoe maker M.Gemi will find a home there. And eateries include those from celebrity chefs Thomas Keller and David Chang, in addition to local favorites like Blue Bottle Coffee and Shake Shack, and a massive Spanish-themed food hall.

[Click here to read the full article in CNBC](#)

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Macy's plans additional Backstage stores

March 15, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Tory N. Parrish, Newsday) - Remember back in the day when shopping at an off-price department store meant there was a good chance that you would end up weighing the pros and cons of buying a shirt with mismatched sleeve lengths, a missing button or a collar that looked like it had been sewn on by a middle-school student having a bad day in home economics class? That's not the case these days, as off-price chains such as TJ Maxx, Burlington and Marshalls are growing, spurred by customer demand for their high-quality, sometimes name-brand goods, which require no "adjustments" at home. Now Macy's is planning to get a bigger slice of the off-price market by opening 50 more Macy's Backstage outlets this year inside existing Macy's stores, including in Roosevelt Field mall in Garden City and Smith Haven Mall in Lake Grove this spring.

[Click here to read the full article in Newsday](#)

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Papa John's Extends Delivery Reach, Partners With DoorDash

March 15, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Darren Tristano, Forbes) - Papa John's, the fourth largest U.S. pizza chain behind Domino's, Pizza Hut and Little Caesar's, has partnered with third-party delivery service DoorDash. The partnership is expected to extend the reach of existing in-store direct delivery by leveraging a deeper reach into suburban and rural locations using the "dasher" network. Consumers who were currently outside of delivery zones will now have greater opportunity to get the pizza delivered to their home, business or off-premise location.

[Click here to read the full article in Forbes](#)

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Newell Brands CEO Michael Polk to retire at end of second quarter

March 14, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Christine Wang, CNBC) - Newell Brands announced Thursday that President and CEO Michael Polk will retire at the end of the second quarter. As Newell approaches the end of its "accelerated transformation plan," it and Polk agreed that it "is the right time for a management transition." The company, which owns consumer brands like Rubbermaid, said it has begun to look for Polk's successor and has retained executive search firm Heidrick & Struggles. "I am proud of the progress we have made since 2011 transforming the portfolio and building a set of competitively advantaged capabilities in innovation, design and eCommerce," Polk said in a statement.

[Click here to read the full article in CNBC](#)

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Kimbal Musk leaves Chipotle board

March 14, 2019

UNITED STATES - (Jeremy Owens, MarketWatch) - Kimbal Musk will not stand for re-election to the Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. CMG, -0.51% board, which means the only public-company board Musk will soon sit on will be his brother Elon Musk's car company, Tesla Inc. TSLA, -4.92%. Chipotle said that it is appointing two new board members, Patricia Fili-Krushel and Scott Maw, and that Musk would not seek a new term in May. "Kimbal has served on the Chipotle Board of Directors since 2013, and we extend our most sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for the tremendous contributions he has made to our success," Chipotle Chief Executive Brian Niccol said in a statement.

[Click here to read the full article in MarketWatch](#)

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Mastercard Takes a Giant Step Into the Retailer-Customer Relationship With New Rules

March 14, 2019

UNITED STATES- (Tony Marks, Forbes) - Mastercard announced a new policy that will require certain businesses that offer free trials for subscription goods and accept Mastercard to obtain explicit cardholder approval in order to begin recurring billing once the free trial has ended. Franchisors whose systems offer subscription programs need to take note of the changes to the Mastercard rules and ensure that their company-operated and franchisee-operated units timely comply with these rules by adopting new procedures and changes to their operations manuals.

[Click here to read the full article in Forbes](#)

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Rite-Aid plans to lay off 400 workers, get a new CEO

March 13, 2019

PENNSYLVANIA - (The Associated Press, Penn Live) - Rite Aid is laying off hundreds of people and getting a new CEO, it announced Tuesday. It says it is reducing management and consolidating roles, eliminating about 400 full-time positions - more than 20 percent of the corporate positions at the company's headquarters in East Pennsboro Township, Pa., and across the organization. Approximately two-thirds of the reductions will take place immediately, with the balance by the end of fiscal 2020.

[Click here to read the full article in Penn Live](#)

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San Antonio investor Sardar Biglari once again blasting Cracker Barrel

March 13, 2019

TEXAS- (Patrick Danner, San Antonio Express-News) - Even though San Antonio activist investor Sardar Biglari has been unloading shares of Cracker Barrel Old Country Store Inc., he isn't letting up on his criticism of the company. In a fiery letter to Cracker Barrel CEO Sandra Cochran, Biglari - the company's largest shareholder - said Cochran should sell the fledgling Holler & Dash Biscuit House, a fast-casual restaurant chain that serves Southern food. It has seven locations.

[Click here to read the full article in San Antonio Express-News](#)

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Germany's Lidl seeks \$9.5M from Pa. for six grocery stores, including Northeast Philly site

March 12, 2019

PHILADELPHIA- (Jacob Adelman, The Inquirer Daily News) - German grocer Lidl is seeking a combined \$9.5 million in state redevelopment grants for six stores across Pennsylvania, including a location along the Roosevelt Boulevard in Northeast Philadelphia that had not been previously disclosed. Lidl U.S. Operations LLC's applications for state Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funding include \$2 million requests for each of the three stores that it wants to build in Philadelphia, according to the Pennsylvania Budget Office.

[Click here to read the full article in The Inquirer Daily News](#)

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