



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: **Gamble** (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:

Report: Jack in the Box courting potential buyers

November 29, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Mike Freeman, The San Diego Union-Tribune) - Shares of Jack in the Box surged nearly 6 percent Thursday after reports the San Diego fast food chain was exploring strategic options, including a possible sale. The 2,237-restaurant firm began talking to potential buyers this month, according to Reuters, which cited unnamed sources. There is no certainty that a deal will be reached, Reuters reported. A Jack in the Box spokesman said the company does not comment on rumors. The chain has been under pressure in recent months, however, as activist investors Jana Partners and Blue Harbour have acquired ownership stakes.

[Click here to read the article in The San Diego Union Tribune](#)

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U.S. online grocery retail market worth \$26.87 billion by 2025

December 2, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Anne Marie Mohan, Packaging World) - A new report from Hexa Rearch indicates the U.S. online grocery retail market size is expected to reach \$26.87 billion by 2025. The growth of the market is attributed to increasing adoption of advanced technology, access to high-speed Internet, and easy online availability of various products. The rising number of online grocery shoppers is expected to further drive market expansion. For instance, the number of American households buying online grocery products has increased by about 14% from 2014.

[Click here to read the article in Packaging World](#)

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How 200-Year-Old Brooks Brothers Is Embracing AI And Millennials -- And Why It May Cozy Up To Amazon

November 30, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Andria Cheng, Forbes) - Brooks Brothers , the clothier that's dressed numerous American presidents and celebrated its 200th birthday this year, is making sure it stays fresh and relevant. With fashion companies hoping artificial intelligence will help them study data to meet the personalized demands of shoppers, Brooks Brothers is working with AI firm ORS Group to help it figure out everything from how many shirts it should have in stock at each store to how much a promotion drives sales. It also plans to adopt blockchain technology that ORS is testing and working with MIT professors on across its supply chain, the parties said in a presentation on Thursday at Brooks Brothers' five-story flagship on New York's Madison Avenue.

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

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Is Resy Acquiring Reserve A Win For Restaurants?

November 30, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Lizzy Saxe, Forbes) - Before apps like Resy came on the scene, OpenTable was the only viable online reservation system. It had a monopoly. But its competition is growing. Earlier this month, an important development in that growth happened when Resy acquired one of its major competitors, Reserve. Both companies had been going after similar customers in different markets, so the transition should be relatively seamless and will allow Resy access to not only new restaurants but also the technology that made Reserve's app such a force.

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

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Captain D's Plans Southeast Expansion with New Deals

November 29, 2018

UNITED STATES - (QSR) - Captain D's, the nation's leading fast casual seafood restaurant, announced the signing of two franchise development agreements that will expand its footprint in key target markets throughout the Southeast, as well as mark the brand's entry into the South Florida market. This surge in franchise development is a reflection of the brand's aggressive growth strategy and is fueled by the ongoing success Captain D's has experienced over the past several years. This success coupled with the rollout of a new royalty incentive program earlier this year has continued to attract experienced multi-unit operators interested in joining the growing brand.

[Click here to read the full press release](#)

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Officials say Detroit restaurant scene is strong despite recent high profile closures

November 29, 2018

DETROIT - (Syma Chowdhry, WXYZ Detroit) - In a little more than two weeks, two big named restaurants in downtown Detroit announced they're closing up shop. This has some concerned about the state of the food and beverage industry in the city. But some economic experts say the restaurant needs in the city are great. The Hard Rock Cafe announced that after 15 years, it will be closing its doors. This after Cheli's Chili Bar closed this past weekend. Pierre Batton of the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation said, "We are doing a great job in relation to food across the city of Detroit."

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

China's retail industry at turning point: PwC

November 29, 2018

CHINA- (Ding Yining, Shine) - Professional Services Network PwC estimates that China's overall retail sales will reach US\$6.77 trillion in 2019. E-commerce retail sales will increase 21 percent from a year ago to US\$1.25 trillion, with overall retail sales growing 9 percent. China's overall online retail transactions on Singles Day, November 11, this year hit a new record high of more than 300 billion yuan (US\$43.14 billion), according to the Ministry of Commerce. But growth will plateau in the coming years.

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

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How Eco-Friendly Restaurants Are Shaking Up Food Industry

November 28, 2018

UNITED KINGDOM- (Olivia Petter, Independent) - In 2018, sustainability is more than just a pursuit - it's a trend. In a bid to appeal to eco-conscious millennials, savvy marketers are attaching the term to almost everything, from soap to sunglasses. But this buzzword is more than just a hashtag. Numerous scientific studies have highlighted the impact our diets have on the environment, touting the benefits of sourcing food ethically and locally to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, so it was only a matter of time until the restaurant industry took notice.

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

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CVS, Aetna complete \$70 billion merger

November 28, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Nathaniel Weixel, The Hill) - CVS completed its acquisition of Aetna on Wednesday, officially creating a health-care powerhouse. The deal between one of the country's largest insurers and one of the largest pharmacy benefit managers was a year in the making. The companies said the merger will usher in a new era of reduced costs to patients.

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

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Global Reservation Platform Tock Announces \$9.5M in Growth Funding

November 28, 2018

CHICAGO - (Business Wire) - Tock, Inc., the most innovative global reservations platform for restaurants, wineries, and pop-ups, today announced that it has closed an oversubscribed \$9.5 million funding round to accelerate its already rapid growth in the hospitality industry. The round was led by Valor Equity Partners, notable for its early investments in Tesla and SpaceX, and by Origin Ventures which also led Tock's Series A. Restaurant industry luminaries reinvesting this round included famed multiple three-starred Michelin chef Thomas Keller, and Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises which operates over 120 restaurants across the country.

[Click here to read the full press release](#)

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Retailers At War Over The Value Of Salespeople

November 27, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Jon Markman, Forbes) - The branding is perfect: No lines, no checkouts, no registers. Retail is going people-less. Technology can replace cashiers, and companies are racing to get there first. The trend began with Amazon.com. Bloomberg reported in September that the ecommerce giant might open 3,000 cashier-less "Amazon Go" convenience stores by 2021. And Amazon has been setting trends since Jeff Bezos, founder and chief executive officer, moved his family from New York to Seattle to start the company.

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

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