



# **Innovation Capital**

*Investment Bankers*

**Restaurant & Retail Newsweekly**  
For the week ended September 2nd, 2018

*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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For securities-related inquiries, please contact an Innovation Capital banker.

## **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: **morning** (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:

### Why Coke is getting into the restaurant business

August 31, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Danielle Wiener-Bronner, CNN Money) - Coca-Cola is betting coffee shops will bring it closer to total beverage domination. On Friday, the company announced that it has agreed to buy UK coffee chain Costa Coffee for \$5.1 billion. It's an unusual move. Traditionally, big beverage companies build up their portfolios by investing in promising startups. Coke recently took a stake in sports drink maker BodyArmor to compete with Gatorade, and Pepsi announced that it is snatching up DIY seltzer maker SodaStream.

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

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## Innovation Inquiry

Each week, we will be conducting an anonymous poll from our database of Restaurant/Retail and Newsweekly readers to highlight topical industry news that matters most to you. This week's Innovation Inquiry is:

**Is Coke getting into the restaurant business a good move?**



## 'Welcome to Davenportillo's:' Portillo's coming to Davenport in 2019

August 31, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Sarah Ritter, Quad-City Times) - Portillo's officials announced Thursday it will open a Davenport restaurant in 2019. The fast-casual restaurant chain, known for Chicago-style hot dogs and Italian beef, unveiled more plans for a restaurant, complete with a design rendering with a "Welcome to Davenportillo's" sign. It'll be the company's first Iowa location, located across from Costco Wholesale, between the intersections of 53rd Street and Elmore Avenue, and 53rd and Lorton Avenue.

[Click here to read the full article in Quad-City Times](#)

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## Restaurant Group commits to more digital investments

August 31, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Ben Sillitoe, Essential Retail) - Restaurant Group, which runs Frankie and Benny's, Chiquito, Garfunkel's and several other pubs and eateries, has said it is "focused on building a digital platform" that enables its customers to better engage with its brands online.

The business has highlighted how it wants customers to be able to order, pay and feedback digitally, "at home, en route to, or in restaurant, making the customer experience faster, easier and more intuitive".

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

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## Nestle and Starbucks sign global expansion plan

August 30, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Fast Casual) - Nestlé and Starbucks have signed a deal granting Nestlé the perpetual rights to market Starbucks' consumer packaged goods and foodservice products globally, outside of Starbucks locations, according to a press release. The two companies will work closely together on the existing Starbucks range of roast and ground coffee, whole bean, along with instant and portioned coffee.

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

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## Developers eyeing downtown New Baltimore property

August 30, 2018

BALTIMORE- (Katelyn Larese, Digital First Media) - Plans to build multi-story, mixed-use developments along a block of Washington Street in downtown New Baltimore are being presented to city officials. Two offers have been submitted to the city to purchase six parcels between Main and Front streets and construct retail, office and residential spaces, waterfront restaurants and shared parking areas on the site. Each includes an alternative plan that features space for a city recreation center.

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

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## **Papa John's criticizes founder for restaurant merger meeting: letter**

August 30, 2018

UNITED STATES- (Jessica DiNapoli, Reuters) - Papa John's International Inc (PZZA.O) has publicly criticized founder John Schnatter for attending a meeting in July about a potential deal with a competitor without its CEO, the latest salvo in a feud for control of the company.

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

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## **Kohl's cuts 60 corporate tech jobs**

August 29, 2018

MILWAUKEE- (Dan Alaimo, Retail Dive) - Kohl's cut 60 jobs from its corporate technology ranks as it seeks to gain efficiencies by increasing automation, according to Retail Info Systems (RIS). This restructuring of the technology team and operating model at the chain's Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, headquarters involves migrating most tech platforms to the cloud, Kohl's spokesperson Jen Johnson told the Milwaukee Business Journal.

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

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## **Union: Sprint/T-Mobile merger would kill 28,000 jobs, including 4,500 at HQ sites**

August 28, 2018

KANSAS CITY- (Elise Reuter, Kansas City Business Journal) - The Communications Workers of America estimated a Sprint/T-Mobile merger would result in 28,000 job cuts, including a reduction of 4,500 jobs at the companies' headquarters. Two other organizations also expressed their disapproval of the merger for very different reasons.

[Click here to read the full article in the Kansas City Business Journal](#)

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## **With \$15B takeover of Chicago's GGP, Brookfield bets against retail apocalypse**

August 28, 2018

TORONTO- (Bloomberg) - Brookfield Asset Management Inc. is betting against the retail apocalypse with its takeover of GGP Inc., slated to close Tuesday. The Toronto-based firm is paying about \$15 billion for the second-largest mall owner in the U.S. as investors-and shoppers-shun brick-and-mortar retail. Brookfield, which already owned a third of GGP, was the only bidder that showed up when the company put itself on the block last year.

[Click here to read the full article in Crain's Chicago Business](#)

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## **Fazoli's Restaurant Rolls Out Crossmatch® Fingerprint Biometrics to Improve Operational Efficiency and Reduce Fraud**

August 27, 2018

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla.- (PRNewswire) - Crossmatch®, a globally-recognized leader in biometric identity management and secure authentication solutions, today announced that Fazoli's Restaurants, the leading quick-service Italian restaurant chain in the U.S., completed its rollout of Crossmatch U.are.U® fingerprint readers. Each of the over 200 Fazoli's corporate and franchise locations across 26 states were upgraded to use biometrics at the point-of-sale (POS) to improve efficiency, ensure correct staffing levels and reduce fraud.

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

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