

LEGISLATIVE WONDERLAND

By Bryan Wachter

AS WE MOVE AWAY FROM THANKSGIVING AND INTO THE

Holiday Season it's hard not to contemplate the deep meanings behind everyday life. For those of us involved in government affairs in Nevada that rings true, especially for last month's election. The question on everyone's mind is "What does it mean?" and for the first time in a while it's hard to answer with our usual cynicism.

To recap, the voters in Nevada retained the Democratic Majority in the State Senate. With five very heavily competitive seats at play, Republicans needed to win four of the five to takeover and ultimately, on Election Day only secured three. Senator Mike Roberson (R LV-SD20) was selected to lead the Republican Minority opposite Senator Mo Denis (D LV-SD2) who commands an 11-10 Democratic lead in the upper house.

While the leadership in the State Senate was more or less expected it was a different story for the Assembly. In the State Assembly, Republicans lost a seat, largely seen as the result of redistricting, to bring their minority status to 15 members compared with the

Democratic 27. The current Assembly Democratic Caucus leader and Majority Floor Leader Marcus Conklin lost his bid for reelection (to Wesley Duncan R-LV) and caused a reshuffling in leadership. Ultimately, Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D NLVL- AD1) was chosen as the caucus leader and becomes the presumed Speaker (the position is voted upon on the Floor of the Assembly by all 42 members) when the 77th Nevada Legislative Session begins in February. Pat Hickey (R-Reno-AD25), who led the Assembly Republicans through the 2012 election cycle, remained leader of his caucus.

The Nevada Legislature will be in the hands of four very interesting individuals. Each of the caucus leaders are generally seen as more moderate than other members of their caucuses and are chiefly seen as less political and more policy oriented. For our members this turn of events brings about the hope of an opportunity to accomplish much needed goals without the threat of an outrageous tax package clouding an otherwise productive policy discussion.

So what does it mean? It means that the potential for change is more present than it has been for a long time. Can the legislature take down their

partisan blinders and focus on passing legislation designed not to prolong our economic woes, but to pull our great state back into economic prosperity? Or will the excitement of new legislative faces and ideas give way to stagnant procedure and the old ways of thinking? On February 4th, your Association will be there representing you with the same tenacity and dedication as always; using tested tools (like www.rannv.org) and new innovations (follow us on twitter for live legislative updates @NVretail) and we'll be sure to let you know which Legislature shows up — a more moderate policy-oriented legislative branch or the same political show we've come to expect. ■

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MARY LAU GIVES WELCOMING SPEECH



AN CEO MARY LAU GAVE THE WELCOMING ADDRESS TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LICENSE

Compliance Professionals (NALCP) in October.

After welcoming the group to Las Vegas, Mrs. Lau went on to discuss the importance of being involved with the regulatory process in order to address compliance issues before those rules are initially created.

The NALCP provides networking and support for licensing compliance professionals in the U.S. restaurant and hospitality industry as well as those operating retail outlets. The membership specializes in liquor licensing and other such licensing requirements. The members of the NALCP operate hundreds of businesses and hire millions of workers in every state including Nevada. ■

RENO REMOVES BIG BOX BARRIER

By Lea Tauchen

THE RENO CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED AN ORDINANCE TO

eliminate the requirements for reoccupation of vacant large retail establishment structures.

The Planning Commission advised the Council that current design standards mandated improvements be made to the sites and created a barrier. Hopefully, this change will encourage more retailers to move into these properties in Reno.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Lea Tauchen at lea@rannv.org or (775) 882-1700. ■

LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS: RENO/SPARKS/WASHOE

By Lea Tauchen

AN WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL OF OUR

newly elected local officials. We look forward to working with each of them.

Reno City Council

The Reno City Council replaced four of seven office holders this election cycle. The newly elected members were sworn-in and took their seats on November 14, 2012.

The Council is comprised of the mayor, five ward representatives, and one city at large representative. Terms

are four years. Term limits are twelve years. Three outgoing council members, Dave Aiazzi, Jessica Sferrazza, and Pierre Hascheff, had reached their term limits, while Dan Gustin chose not to run for reelection. Mayor Bob Cashell and council members Dwight Dortch and Sharon Zadra will be termed out in 2014.

The candidates for the Reno City Council were impressive. Jenny Brekhus overcame Bernie Carter for Ward 1. Oscar DelGado beat Cliff Young for Ward 3. Neoma Jardon won over Kitty Jung for Ward 3. Hillary Schieve defeated

David Ward for city at large.

Sparks City Council

The Sparks City Council had three members up for reelection this cycle. They all ran unopposed for another four year term. Julia Ratti will continue to represent Ward 1. Ron Smith will continue to represent Ward 3. Ron Schmitt will continue to represent Ward 5. They will return to join Mayor Geno Martini and fellow council members Mike Carrigan and Ed Lawson.

Washoe County Commission

The Washoe County

Commission will swear-in two new members in January to begin their four year terms. Marsha Berkgigler defeated Andrew Diss to represent District 1. Current Commissioner John Breternitz opted not to run for reelection. For District 4, Vaughn Hartung went into the general election without an opponent, as he beat his rival, Jesse Gutierrez, by more than 50 percent of the vote during the primary election. He will replace Bob Larkin, who reached his term limit. ■



2012 NEVADA DRUG SUMMIT

By Liz MacMenamin

THE NEVADA STATEWIDE COALITION PARTNERSHIP,

a collaborative effort of community partners involved in substance abuse prevention, sponsored this year's Summit in Reno.

The purpose of the gathering was to present information on marijuana, prescription drugs, and synthetics from national, state, and local experts to medical professionals in the community.

The primary goals of

the drug summit were to increase awareness about the magnitude of the prescription drug problem in Nevada and to understand the connection between prescription drug abuse and other substances of abuse.

Other goals of this coalition meeting were to educate key stakeholders about the impact of the decriminalization of marijuana and legislation to establish medical marijuana dispensaries in Nevada, and understand

the impact of prescription drugs and marijuana on our youth.

The coalitions are made up of concerned citizens, city officials, business leaders, school district personnel, members of law enforcement and many others. The Statewide Coalition Partnership and each of its members are nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organizations.

Attorney General Catherine Masto delivered the opening speech at the Summit and First Lady

Kathleen Sandoval spoke to the attendees during the luncheon on the first day. Experts from different states made presentations about prescription drugs and marijuana.

If you have any questions regarding the Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership or would like more information about the Drug Summit, you may contact Director Linda Lang at **775-841-4730**.

FDA DISCUSSES POSSIBLE RESCHEDULING OF HYDROCODONE COMBINATION PRODUCTS AS SCHEDULE II DRUGS

By Liz MacMenamin

ON OCTOBER 29 AND 30, 2012, THE FOOD AND

Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee met to discuss the potential for abuse of hydrocodone combination products in order to reach a recommendation regarding whether the drugs should be reclassified as Schedule II.

The committee focused on four questions during the meeting:

1. Is the pharmacology and epidemiological data sufficient to demonstrate that abuse potential is equal to Schedule II products?
2. Do they have recommendations for implementing approaches to reduce abuse and misuse?
3. What is the impact

of rescheduling on appropriate patient access?

4. Should the product be rescheduled?

The advisory committee's decisions will form or contribute to the FDA's ultimate recommendation to the Assistant Secretary of Health. A scientific and medical evaluation and scheduling recommendation for drugs

containing hydrocodone either combined with other analgesics or as an antitussive, was requested of FDA by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), as the agency is considering whether to reschedule the products to Schedule II under the Controlled Substances Act. Currently hydrocodone combination products are Schedule III drugs. ■



JUDGE TOSSES EDUCATION INITIATIVE AS “DECEPTIVE”

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR APPEAL

By Bryan Wachter

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE JAMES E. WILSON RULED LAST

month that the Education Initiative’s description of effect is “incomplete, deceptive, misleading and therefore, invalidates the Petition.” The Judge’s order bars the Secretary of State from presenting the margin tax Petition to the Legislature in 2013 and prevents the Petition from being placed on the ballot in 2014.

In his ruling, Judge Wilson determined that the Petition did not violate the

single subject rule, but that the description of effect was misleading because it failed to note the total amount of funds the tax would raise, and that funds generated from the margin tax could be used for non-education purposes. The Judge noted that the effect of the petition is to “free up funds for the Legislature to use as it wishes, for education or non-education purposes.”

The Judge also cited several other aspects of the “description of effect” as misleading, including the fact that millions of dollars of the tax would be directly

sent to the Department of Taxation to cover the costs of administering the tax. Additionally, the description of effect does not specify that the tax would also be levied against businesses that are operating at a loss. The Judge noted that such an effect would have a major impact on businesses, and should have been specified in the Petition’s description.

The Nevada State Education Association (NSEA) appealed Judge Wilson’s decision to the Nevada Supreme Court that will hear the case on December

5th. Meanwhile the NSEA collected and submitted nearly twice the amount of signatures needed to qualify the petition. The Secretary of State certified the signatures and said the raw count was sufficient.

Should the Supreme Court uphold the district court decision, the petition would be put to rest. If the Supreme Court reverses the decision, upon validation of the signatures, the petition will be submitted to the Nevada Legislature for an up or down vote by March 15th. ■

LIQUOR LICENSE CHANGES IN RENO

By Lea Tauchen

THE RENO CITY COUNCIL HAS SPENT SEVERAL

months discussing increasing the city’s liquor license fees by 30%, 50% or 100%. RAN participated in all stakeholder meetings and hearings. After much negotiation, the Council passed a resolution to increase the liquor license fees in five percent increments. The first increase takes effect on January 1, 2013. After that,

increases will take place on July 1 of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. All future increases will then be based on the Consumer Price Index. Prior to this, they had not raised fees since 1997. In addition, the Finance Department will create a sub account in the General Fund for liquor license fees so that the Council may track where the funds are being allocated on an annual basis.

The Council also

passed an ordinance to require an application fee for all new package liquor licenses and on-premise full alcohol licenses. The new charge will be two times the annual cost of the liquor license fee and will cover up to two licensee background checks and all other applicable reviews and inspections. Businesses that move physical locations or that add on to their existing businesses will be exempt from the

fee. This addresses Council member concerns that it was too easy to obtain a liquor license in Reno. Their argument was that a more significant initial investment would create value and encourage licensees to avoid poor management practices.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Lea Tauchen at lea@rannv.org or (775) 882-1700. ■



GALLUP EXPECTS MODEST GAINS IN HOLIDAY SPENDING

RAN PREDICTIONS SLIGHTLY MORE OPTIMISTIC THAN NATIONAL OUTLOOK

B LACK FRIDAY HAS COME AND GONE, BUT RETAILERS and consumers still have 30 shopping days until Christmas, a relatively long time due to the 2012 calendar. Early reports are indicating that while foot traffic was up Friday, consumer spending was down slightly on what has traditionally been the biggest shopping day of the year. Several large retailers began their sales events at 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day this year; additionally, retail outlets competed with online promotions that are no longer waiting until "Cyber Monday" to take effect. With the holiday shopping season in full swing, consumers who were waiting for more sales are likely to start fulfilling their

loved ones' gift wish lists and spending more than last year while at it. According to the latest survey results by Gallup, U.S. consumers are expecting to spend an average of \$770 on holiday gifts, a 0.8-percent increase from the \$764 expected last year. Notable increases include a 4-percentage point jump in the number of shoppers planning to spend \$1,000 or more, up to 30 percent from the 26 percent reported last year. While Gallup projects 2.7-percent more spending per person than The National Retail Federation (NRF), which expects \$749.51 per shopper, both surveys yield similar projections for sales in Nevada, where holiday spending is expected to total \$1.6 billion.

Both the NRF and Gallup predict that nationwide holiday spending growth, while continuing to trend positive, will lag behind last year's growth rate of 5.6 percent. The NRF predicts a 4.1-percent increase in nationwide holiday sales, while Gallup predicts an increase between 3.5 percent and 3.7 percent. In Nevada, the Retail Association of Nevada (RAN) continues to expect holiday spending to increase by 6.8 percent compared to last year based on strong, consistently improving taxable retail spending figures in the state. Gallup said the lingering status of the fiscal cliff may be preventing additional spending this holiday season. However, the state of the U.S. economy has been declining

in importance with respect to consumers' intentions to spend, according to the latest NRF consumer surveys, with 52.3 percent of consumers saying the economy was impacting their spending in 2012, down from 62.2 percent in 2011. Mary Lau, president of RAN noted, "Although certainly still a factor, economic uncertainty may take a back seat to the desire to celebrate and indulge in the joys of life with family and friends this year. Recession-fatigue and spending-restraint-fatigue, along with political-ad-fatigue following the 2012 election season, may all work to lessen consumer restraint, leading to some surprisingly positive results for retailers in Nevada this season." ■

Source: Gallup; figures not inflation-adjusted

Gallup Poll Results Average Holiday Spending Estimates





Nevada Notes

IS IT THE MALL OR THE MOUSE?

Black Friday versus Cyber Monday really comes down to a sleeping bag in front of Target or sneaking clicks on company time. If it concerns an unheard of deal, shoppers will find a way to justify either. Sometimes both.

According to Georganne Kizer of consumer trend professional speaking duo Kizer & Bender, deciding between Black Friday and Cyber Monday comes down to expectations.

Shoppers who stay loyal to Black Friday tend to enjoy the thrill of pursuing the deal. For them, a bargain is top priority. Cyber Monday shoppers, on the other hand, are looking to avoid the people, parking and panic associated with Black Friday. Convenience clearly reigns supreme for them. But there's one more benefit to shopping digital: discipline.

Snacks and cartoons for kids are offered. Best Buy, she says, has been known to play movies on big screens outside for patient customers. It's the battle of the early birds against the procrastinators. When it comes to Black Friday and Cyber Monday, it can be a battle of the sexes.

LVRJ

SANDOVAL MARKS 'SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY'

Republican Gov. Brian Sandoval urged Nevadans to support local, small businesses during the holiday shopping season.

Sandoval signed a proclamation designating Nov. 24 as "Small Business Saturday" in Nevada. The day coincided with one of the busiest shopping weekends of the year, coming right after Thanksgiving.

The small business promotion was established in 2010 and takes place the day after Black Friday, the traditional start of the holiday shopping season. It is intended to encourage shoppers to patronize independent local businesses.

AP

WAL-MART SUPERCENTER PLANNED FOR SOUTHWEST LAS VEGAS

After sitting out the worst of the recession, Wal-Mart is again expanding its presence in the Las Vegas Valley.

The Arkansas-based retail giant plans to build a 169,000-square-foot "supercenter" at the corner of South Rainbow Boulevard and Blue Diamond Road. An opening date has not been set, but it usually takes between 10 and 12 months to build a new store, company spokeswoman Delia Garcia said.

Wal-Mart already has about 20 locations in the valley. Garcia said the new store would provide fresh groceries to an underserved area of Las Vegas.

The most recent Wal-Mart stores in the valley opened in 2008, at 3075 E. Tropicana Ave. and 7200 Arroyo Crossing Parkway, Garcia said. The Arroyo Crossing store is just three

miles north of the planned supercenter.

VegasInc.

ALMOST 4,000 POUNDS OF FOOD DONATED TO HELP THE NEEDY

The season for giving seemed to start early this year as a motley array of dancers with bulging muscles, TV personalities and children gathered to pile high food for the needy.

Mary Vail organized the food drive at the Smith's in Summerlin for the 14th time. For her many years of organizing events to help the less fortunate, she received an honorary key to Las Vegas. As food flowed in from gracious donors Sunday, Vail was easy to spot –she was boxing cans, jars and bottles.

It takes a huge community to make this happen. That community rallied at 2211 N. Rampart Blvd. to summon nearly 4,000 pounds of food for the Las Vegas chapter of the Salvation Army food bank. Some people brought a can or two; others brought entire carts filled with food. It all makes a difference, Vail said.

LV Sun

REPORT: RECYCLING FRAUD COSTS CALIFORNIA MILLIONS

Rampant fraud within California's recycling redemption program is costing the state millions of dollars, as scammers drive trucks full of cans across the border from Nevada and Arizona to collect

nickels on deposits that were never paid.

Government officials recently estimated the fraud at \$40 million a year, and an industry expert told the L.A. Times it could exceed \$200 million. The state's \$1.1 billion recycling fund paid out \$100 million more in expenses last year than it took in from deposits and other sources, the Times said.

Under a 25-year-old recycling law, California charges consumers a deposit on most beverage containers sold in the state. Anyone who brings empty containers back to one of about 2,300 privately run recycling centers can collect 5 cents for most cans and bottles and 10 cents for larger containers. Only cans sold in California are eligible, but many recycling centers don't ask where they come from. As a result, thousands of cans are arriving from out of state. Gov. Jerry Brown signed a law last month that will require those importing more than 25 pounds of aluminum or plastic or 250 pounds of glass to declare at the border what their purpose is and the source and destination of the material, the Times reported.

LV Sun

LAS VEGAS COUNCIL APPROVES FOOD TRUCK DISTANCE RULE

Food trucks prowling Las Vegas city streets will need to stay at least 150 feet from restaurants under an ordinance

Continued on page 9



National Notes

LAYAWAY LEADS TO EARLY RUSH ON HOLIDAY TOYS

Some Christmas toys got scarce sooner, in part because of new, earlier layaway plans and programs that let parents reserve what are expected to be hot sellers.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Toys "R" Us Inc. launched their layaway programs in September, more than a month earlier than last year, after parents told the retailers they wanted more time to pay off their purchases.

Both companies also tweaked their service fees. Toys "R" Us dropped its \$5 layaway service fees. Wal-Mart charges \$5, but refunds the amount in a Wal-Mart gift card when customers pick up their merchandise.

Toys "R" Us for the first time is letting shoppers reserve any of the 50 toys on its hot list. It said it already has had to stop taking reservations for several brands of kids electronic tablets until it receives additional shipments.

A Depression-era relic, layaway plans allows customers to set aside items, paying in installments. Layaway faded away as credit cards were embraced, but made a comeback during the economic downturn in 2008. Their increasing popularity reflects consumers' growing inability or reluctance to buy on credit. Some shoppers also use the program to snag popular gifts without worrying about possible holiday shortages.

WSJ

GIFT CARDS: THE SEASON'S HOTTEST GIFT, ACCORDING TO NRF

It's the win-win gift for givers and receivers, and this holiday season, shoppers plan to spend more than ever on the most flexible and convenient of gifts: a gift card. With retailers providing increasingly creative ways for gift cards to be personalized and delivered, NRF's 2012 holiday consumer spending survey conducted by BIGinsight shows that 81.1 percent of shoppers will purchase at least one gift card and will spend an average of \$156.86 on gift cards, the highest amount in the survey's 10-year history. Total spending on gift cards will reach \$28.79 billion.

NRF Press Release

WAL-MART, TARGET: A TALE OF 2 DISCOUNTERS

This holiday season, the biggest discount chains in the U.S. will tell the tale of two very different shoppers: those who have and those who have not.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, acknowledged that its low-income shoppers continue to struggle in the economy and issued an outlook for the fourth quarter — which encompasses the holiday shopping period — that falls below Wall Street estimates. On the same day, its smaller rival Target Corp., which caters to more affluent shoppers, said it expects results during the quarter to exceed projections.

The two discounters offer valuable insight into

how Americans will spend in November and December. Some merchants depend on the holiday shopping season for up to 40 percent of their annual sales, but economists watch the period closely to get a reading on the overall mood of American consumers.

The forecasts seem to confirm a trend that has taken shape during the economic downturn. Well-heeled shoppers spend more freely as the economy begins to show new signs of life, while consumers in the lower-income brackets continue to hold tight to their purse strings even as the housing and stock markets rebound.

Wal-Mart, which says its customers' average household income ranges from \$30,000 to \$60,000, hammers its low-price message and focuses on stocking such basics as T-shirts and underwear along with household goods. But Target, whose customers have an income of \$64,000 a year, is known for carrying discounted designer clothes and home decor under the same roof as detergent and dishwashing liquid.

AP

FDA TAKES ACTION AGAINST THOUSANDS OF ILLEGAL INTERNET PHARMACIES

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in partnership with international regulatory and law enforcement agencies, took action against more than 4,100 Internet pharmacies

that illegally sell potentially dangerous, unapproved drugs to consumers. Actions taken include civil and criminal charges, seizure of illegal products, and removal of offending websites.

This year's effort — Operation Pangea V — operated between Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 and resulted in the shutdown of more than 18,000 illegal pharmacy websites and the seizure of about \$10.5 million worth of pharmaceuticals worldwide.

The goal of this annual effort, which involved law enforcement, customs and regulatory authorities from 100 countries, is to identify producers and distributors of illegal pharmaceutical products and medical devices and remove these products from the supply chain.

The FDA encourages consumers to report suspected criminal activity at www.fda.gov/oci. The IIWA is a collaboration between FDA, INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, Permanent Forum of International Pharmaceutical Crime, Heads of Medicines Agencies Working Group of Enforcement Officers, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency of the United Kingdom, the Irish Medicines Board, the London Metropolitan Police, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Center for Safe Internet Pharmacies, and national health and law enforcement agencies from 100 participating countries.

FDA Press Release



RETAIL ISSUES IN PLAY AS OBAMA WINS SECOND TERM, CONGRESS REMAINS SPLIT

By Craig Shearman, Washington Retail Insight

AFTER \$6 BILLION IN CAMPAIGN SPENDING

and a barrage of political ads in an election that hinged largely on jobs and the economy, and which will impact a wide variety of public policy issues important to the retail industry, Americans woke up to a familiar government.

President Obama won a clear victory over former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, with a 50-48 percent lead in the popular vote and a total of 303-206 electoral votes, but voters left Congress divided.

While Obama's win was decisive, it was built on slim majorities in just a handful of battleground states, and he is the first president since Woodrow Wilson to be reelected with a smaller margin in the Electoral College than his first-term election.

This year's election came as NRF conducted a "Retail Means Votes" initiative intended to encourage retailers to take an active role in the election campaigns and encourage candidates to address issues on the retail industry's pro-growth, pro-jobs agenda. Initial results showed that 86 percent of candidates supported by

RetailPAC won. "The top issue facing our nation the day after the election is the same as it was the day before the election – the economy," NRF President/CEO Matthew Shay said. "The U.S. needs public policy that encourages economic growth and removes barriers to job creation. As the industry that supports one out of every four U.S. jobs, retailers look forward to continuing to work with President Obama and the new Congress toward the goal of putting Americans back to work and ensuring that our economy remains the strongest in the world." The election outcome will affect retail issues in a number of ways:

Health Care Reform — His party will see Obama's reelection as validation for the Affordable Care Act, and implementation of the ACA will speed up.

Labor — Reelection will likely mean a more active labor agenda ahead. The outcome gives more opportunity for labor decisions and actions by the Administration and the National Labor Relations Board that will affect retailers. Some of the more controversial approaches taken by the NLRB on ambush elections, micro-unions and union access to workplaces are already under legal

challenge as is the challenge to the makeup of the actual board. A decision on the constitutionality of the board makeup is expected in 2013. The Department of Labor is expected to issue regulations restricting employers' ability to seek labor-related advice from attorneys, consultants and other experts by the end of the year.

Tax — Tax issues are ultimately tied to what Congress does or doesn't do during the lame duck session in order to avoid the "fiscal cliff" of tax hikes and federal spending cuts scheduled to take effect on January 1.

Sales Tax Fairness — A new bipartisan sales tax fairness bill, granting states' authority to require online sellers to collect sales tax on all sales if certain simplifications are adopted, is expected to be released by cosponsors reconciling differences between the current House and Senate versions.

Privacy — The focus on privacy, data security and cybersecurity issues is expected to remain front and center in 2013. This includes the administration's efforts on the Consumer Privacy Bill of Rights, examination of mobile app privacy policies by the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information

Administration, and the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace.

Cybersecurity — Obama is expected to issue an executive order on cybersecurity in the coming days, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., has indicated he plans to consider cybersecurity legislation on the Senate Floor during the lame duck. ■

RENO WILL MOVE TO SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING

By Lea Tauchen

The Reno City Council approved a new residential franchise agreement with Waste Management that will provide for single-stream recycling. Residents will no longer have to sort their recyclable materials. They will throw all approved recyclables into one bin beginning next year.

The Council also approved an extension of the current commercial franchise agreement with a few minor amendments.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Lea Tauchen at lea@rannv.org or (775) 882-1700.



SMITH'S DONATES \$200,000 TO ST. ROSE DOMINICAN PEDIATRIC UNIT

SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG STORES HAS DONATED \$200,000 TO

St. Rose Dominican Health Foundation in support of charity care for needy children who suffered from traumatic injury or illness and whose families need help meeting their medical expenses.

The funds have come from Smith's associates' contributions, customer donations at the check stands and from Smith's annual vendor golf tournament.

As Southern Nevada's only Children's Miracle Network hospital partner, St. Rose Dominican Hospitals treats over 40,000 children every year. One hundred percent of the funds raised in Southern Nevada stays in the area to provide the very best care for families who need it the most.

Last year, Smith's presented St. Rose Dominican Health Foundation with a check for \$130,000 to assist with the hospital's estimated annual pediatric charity care-cost of \$5 million dollars. That contribution helped to assist many families who were struggling to pay their child's medical costs after trauma or serious illness.

"Our associates and customers are often touched by the care provided by UNMCH," said Mark Tuffin, Smith's president. "This hospital is a pillar of hope and healing, and we are happy to give our support."

St. Rose Dominican Hospitals is the only Children's Miracle Network hospital system in Southern Nevada and 100 percent of every dollar raised in the community stays right here to provide



(L to R) Debi Walsh, Director of Children's Miracle Network, Teresa Conley, chief operating officer of St. Rose Dominican Hospitals, joins with Mark Tuffin, Smith's President in presenting the donation check to Chares Guida, President of St Rose Dominican Health Foundation. Photo Credit: Smith's.

pediatric equipment, charity care, and health education for children treated at St. Rose. To learn more about Children's Miracle Network's partnership with St. Rose Dominican Hospitals, visit www.supportstrose.org.

Smith's is a division of the Kroger Co. (NYSE:KR), one of the nation's largest grocery retailers, operates 133 stores in

seven western states. Smith's charitable giving, in partnership with 15,600 associates, generous customers and suppliers, totaled \$9.5 million in cash and food products to local organizations in 2011. For more information: www.smithsfoodanddrug.com

Nevada Notes *Continued from page 7*

approved Wednesday by the City Council.

The council voted 5-1, with Councilman Steve Ross against, in favor of the ordinance, which has been the subject of debate for more than a year.

It appeared all but dead in September when the council tabled it after members couldn't agree on an

appropriate distance. But Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian called it back to the agenda as a way to prevent open-air food vendors from putting out unsightly tents, tarps, cords and pipes. Regulations for the open-air vendors, which operate in parking lots out of trailers, were added to the proposed

ordinance for food trucks. Restaurants have pushed for a distance buffer, saying food trucks are poaching business. Food truck owners have pushed back, saying they should be free to compete for customers.

After voting on motions to add the open-air vendor regulations covering

tarps, umbrellas and cords supporting small trailers and stalls in parking lots, the council approved a second motion to update the ordinance with the requirement that trucks on public property stay 150 feet away from restaurants.



Important Information for SIG Members

The NRS governing self insured groups requires notifying members of all new members to the Nevada Retail Network Self Insured Group. New members for NRNSIG from October 1, 2012 to November 30, 2012 are listed below.

- Aztec Motors, LLC dba Baja Auto Sales
- BRC Coach & Transit
- Capstone Risk Management Services
- Carson Valley Newspaper Agency, LLC
- Choozi Entertainment, LLC
- Exclusive Investigations
- Jackpot Bail Bonds, LLC
- Jeffery Suffoletta DMD
- Joas Services LLC
- KKM Precision
- Market Grille Café LLC
- Minoli Plastic Surgery Clinic
- Nevada Adult Day Healthcare Centers, Inc.
- Pride House Transport
- Quick Auto Repair Services LLC
- Tres Amigos Carniceria, Inc.
- Valley View Home Health Care LLC

NRNSIG members who wish to register a negative vote on a new group member, please write NRNSIG at 575 S. Saliman Road, Carson City, NV 89701, indicating which member and the reason(s) for the negative vote.

TOP TOYS

According to NRF's holiday survey, 45.1 percent of consumers plan to buy toys this holiday season.

2012 Top Toys for Boys

1. LEGO
2. Video Games
3. Hot Wheels
4. Cars (generic)
5. Xbox 360
6. Nintendo Wii U
7. Transformers
8. Remote Controlled Vehicles
9. Furby
10. Trucks (generic)

2012 Top Toys for Girls

1. Barbie
2. Dolls (generic)
3. Furby
4. Monster High Dolls
5. Disney Princess
6. American Girl
7. Video Games
8. Dora the Explorer
9. Apple iPad
10. Apparel

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR WORKERS' COMP COST

Be Part of...
The Nevada Retail Network
Certificate #5004



• **Self Insured Group** •
• Membership in RAN Required •

- Greater management control that cuts overhead costs
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410 South Minnesota Street
Carson City, NV 89703-4272

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Find out more about RAN's self insured group. Call Mike Olson, **800-859-3177**, or the RAN office at **775-882-1700** (toll free in Nevada 800-690-5959). Don't forget to check out our website, **www.RANNV.org**.



NEVADANS SPENT ROUGHLY 13.5 MILLION ON THANKSGIVING

By RAN Staff

THIS THANKSGIVING NEVADANS GAVE THANKS

for many things, including the fact that the price of their meal increased only slightly when compared to last year. According to the 27th annual American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) price survey, the nationwide average cost of a traditional Thanksgiving dinner increased 28 cents, or 0.6 percent, compared to 2011. With local trends

expected to roughly mirror national averages, spending on holiday feasts in Nevada will have reached \$13.5 million this Thanksgiving.

A feast for 10 is expected to cost \$49.48, or \$4.95 per person, up slightly compared to the \$49.20 reported last year. After experiencing a dramatic 13.2-percent cost increase in 2011, consumers welcomed relatively stable pricing this year. Mary Lau, President

of the Retail Association of Nevada, commented, "Not only are consumers happy, but Nevada retailers are thankful they were able to keep prices stable on Thanksgiving necessities as we entered the 2012 holiday season."

The most expensive item, a 16-pound turkey, reported the largest price increase this year and contributed the most to the rise in the cost of a feast. The price of the main dish increased 66 cents,

or 3.1 percent, to \$22.23 in 2012. The AFBF notes that the price increase is attributable to a moderate increase in demand for turkey.

Each year, food banks around Nevada work hard to bring Thanksgiving meals to those in need. Last year, Three Square Food Bank in Las Vegas, distributed two tractor-trailers full of 12 to 15-pound turkeys to families throughout the area. ■

"TOBACCO PARAPHERNALIA" RETAILERS IN RENO

By Lea Tauchen

THE RENO CITY COUNCIL PASSED AN ORDINANCE

regulating the sale and display of "tobacco paraphernalia." Their action was in response to concerns that many residents had regarding tobacco paraphernalia being openly displayed in convenience stores, gift shops, and other small businesses that are visited by minors and tourists. The ordinance defines

tobacco paraphernalia as cigarette papers or wrappers, pipes, holders of smoking materials of all types, cigarette rolling machines, and any other item designed for the smoking, preparation, storing or consumption of tobacco products. Tobacco paraphernalia retailers may not employ a juvenile (under 18) to sell such merchandise. In addition, tobacco paraphernalia must be kept in a designated part of the

business so that it cannot be seen or accessed by juveniles. The entrance to such designated area shall have a sign posted indicating that juveniles are not allowed. Furthermore, tobacco paraphernalia retailers will be required to obtain a privileged license, in addition to their business license. The privileged license will cost \$165 per quarter. City staff have identified approximately 35 businesses will need to

acquire the license to sell tobacco paraphernalia.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Lea Tauchen at lea@rannv.org or (775) 882-1700. ■

Happy Holidays!





Retail Association of Nevada
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NEVADA NEWS

Nevada News is published by the Retail Association of Nevada, a nonpartisan, nonprofit corporation founded in 1969 representing the Retail Community, the Chain Drug Council and the Grocery Industry Council.

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WASHINGTON RETAIL INSIGHT

NATIONAL RETAIL FEDERATION STATEMENT ON THE ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS REGULATIONS

THE NATIONAL
 RETAIL
 FEDERATION
 RELEASED THE

following statement from NRF Vice President and Employee Benefits Policy Counsel Neil Trautwein:

“Action on these regulations by the Administration marks a more definitive step toward building a business case for compliance options regarding the practical implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

“Understanding the future cost of benefits will

• certainly help businesses plan in advance of 2014.

• “It remains critically important that core benefits be affordable as well as obtainable.

• “We appreciate the Administration’s outreach and general restraint in these proposed regulations. It is important that essential health benefits echo available market coverage today.

• More extensive but unaffordable coverage would help no one in the end.

• “We look forward

• to offering constructive comments on today’s proposal and will continue to work with the White House and Congress to help keep coverage affordable for employers and employees.”

• As the world’s largest retail trade association and the voice of retail worldwide, NRF represents retailers of all types and sizes, including chain restaurants and industry partners, from the United States and more than 45 countries abroad. Retailers operate more than 3.6

• million U.S. establishments that support one in four U.S. jobs — 42 million working Americans. Contributing \$2.5 trillion to annual GDP, retail is a daily barometer for the nation’s economy.

• NRF’s Retail Means Jobs campaign emphasizes the economic importance of retail and encourages policymakers to support a Jobs, Innovation and Consumer Value Agenda aimed at boosting economic growth and job creation. ■