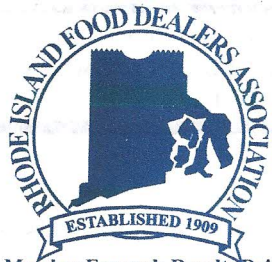


RHODE ISLAND FOOD DEALERS ASSOCIATION

* AUGUST 2012 - OCTOBER 2012 MEETINGS & ANNUAL EVENTS * 2012 RIFDA CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATES * RHODE ISLAND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE * SUPPORT YOUR INDUSTRY PAC *



Member Focused; Results Driven

Mark your Calendars 2012 August - October Meetings and Annual Events

- August 7 & 8, 2012 Bozzuto's Merchandising Show at MGM at Foxwoods
- August 13, 2012 Victory Day Holiday - Office Closed
- August 23, 2012 WIC Meeting @ 9:30
- September 3, 2012 Labor Day Day - Office Closed
- September 10, 2012 RIFDA Charity Golf Event
- September 12, 2012 Sen. Reed Trip to Washington
- September 19, 2012 Exec Comm Meeting @ 7am
- September 19, 2012 Board of Directors 3rd Quarter Meeting @ 8am
- October 4, 2012 RIFDA PAC Networking Evening
- October 8, 2012 Office Closed - Columbus Day
- October 10, 2012 Food Safety Comm Meeting
- October 17, 2012 Exec Comm Meeting @ 7:30am
- October 18, 2012 WIC Meeting 9:30am - tentative
- October 31, 2012 Legislative Comm Meeting
- December 1, 2012 Annual Meeting & Holiday Gala
- March 7, 2013 RIFDA Annual Trade Day

Sign Up Today!

2012 RIFDA CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Benefiting the 2013 RIFDA Scholarship Fund



- #### Golf Tournament Updates
- ◆ Once again a Nike Gift Certificate will be offered to all players
 - ◆ Redeemable at the Nike Shopping Tent outside the Pro-Shop
 - ◆ Shoes, men's & women's apparel, clubs, bags, accessories
 - ◆ Also "Daily Specials"
 - ◆ Registration @ 10:30am ample time to shop, Lunch at 11:30am



When: Monday September 10, 2012
Where: Kirkbrae Country Club - Lincoln, RI

RI Legislative Update

Although the RI General Assembly is currently in recess we still have been active in dealing with several issues – including the recent local legislation submitted in Barrington and Warren.

The movement in Warren for a plastic bag ban has lost momentum but this issue has resurrected itself in the town of Barrington. Most recently there was a hearing in Barrington on this proposal and it was ultimately decided by a 3 – 2 vote - after much debate - to hold a workshop to further investigate the pluses and minuses of this legislation and deal with the proposal again after that. It is anticipated that would be sometime in the fall.

This legislation calls for a ban on plastic bags in the town – all plastic bags – covering all classes of trade. There were strong supportive arguments and opposition arguments submitted to the town council. The association presented its position on behalf of the industry opposing the ban. Sighting a number of points including the fact that the industry has been proactive on this issue as part of its environmental program for a number of years we also provided documentation showing that the actual use of plastic bags has been declining significantly over the past four years. Additionally, we pointed out the fact that these bags are being recycled (including being reused in bag production process) and the fact that these bags are being reused by a number of consumers. Our bottom line position on this is that consumers should have the option of what bag they use – while providing options for the bags to be returned or otherwise reused. Tony Fonseca, our legislative committee chair, was very helpful in supporting our industry position with a well-documented fact based letter of oppositions submitted to the town council that further supported our position. A more significant point that we need to act on is that any type of legislation that is proposed on the city or town level is of great concern. Should this pass we could easily see other cities and towns look at similar bills and also open the door for legislation in other areas (menu labeling, producer responsibility, etc.) that would be detrimental to our industry.

Please go to <http://www.rifda.com/current-legislative-update/> to review this update in its entirety

Support Your Industry Pac

To RIFDA Members:

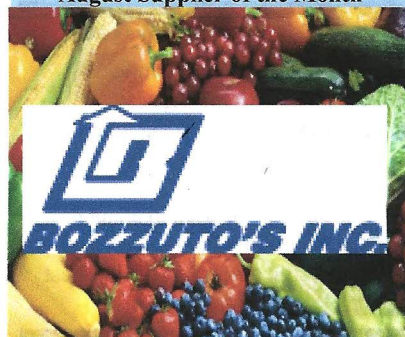
Please join us for an evening of food, cocktails, and significant networking as we hold our Third Annual After Hours PAC event. Share in the opportunity of getting together in a social environment to discuss the results of some of our legislative efforts this year and the opportunities and objectives for next year.

One hundred percent of the proceeds collected from this will go to our PAC fund, for the purpose of helping to support candidates or initiatives that are in the best interest of the food industry in the state of RI.

Please support the RIFDA - October 4, 2012 - F/S Capital Consulting, LLC - Across from the State House - The Westin Providence - One West Exchange Street - 3rd Floor - Providence, RI 02903 - Any questions please call 401-431-0880 - More Details to Follow Soon.

Thank you

August Supplier of the Month





Member Focused; Results Driven

Thank you
August Retailer of the Month

Dave's
Fresh marketplace
Better Food, Better Service

HELPFUL INDUSTRY LINKS

FMI National Legislative Updates

<http://www.fmi.org/gr/>

RI Legislative Info

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/genmenu/>

RI Pending Bills and Calendar

<http://dirac.rilin.state.ri.us/billstatus/webclass1.asp>

RI News and Press Releases
From the House and Senate

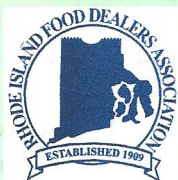
<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/news/>

Don't miss out! Tickets are
already selling!

Please Join Senator Jack Reed
and Members of the Rhode
Island Business Community
for

Rhode Island Business Day
2012 in Washington, DC -
hosted by RIFDA

Wed. September 12, 2012



National Legislative Update * Industry News* Helpful Links * Bozzuto's Merchandising Show at MGM Grand Foxwoods * Join Senator Jack Reed & Members of the RI Business Community, Washington, DC September 12, 2012, hosted by RIFDA

National Legislative Update

Menu Labeling Law Introduced:

FMI and other groups praised a bipartisan bill that would protect supermarkets from a requirement in the health care law that grocers provide the same nutrition labeling as restaurants.

Excerpts from FMI and Gov.com: On July 24, Rep. John Carter (R-TX) and a bipartisan group of cosponsors introduced legislation to reform the restaurant menu labeling requirements of the health care law and ensure that FDA does not broaden its scope in its rulemaking to include grocery stores and other food retailers. This bill aims to protect grocery stores from certain regulatory burdens and costs. The menu labeling provision was passed as part of the health care law to provide uniform, federal menu labeling regulations for chain restaurants, not grocery stores. The menu labeling reform bill, entitled the *Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act of 2012* (H.R. 6174), currently has 23 cosponsors.

Rep. Carter held a press conference outside the Capitol in the 95+ degree July heat, to coincide with the bill introduction alongside some of the bill cosponsors and food industry representatives. It was noted that over 95% of food items in grocery stores already provide nutrition labeling. FMI has a grassroots letter template that you can use to send to your Representative. It is available on their website (fmi.org).

The National Grocers Association (NGA) also has expressed interest and supported this bill.

Quote taken from NGA Newsletter:

"NGA commends Rep. Carter for his leadership to ensure that the FDA does not exceed its authority under the statute by expanding this provision beyond chain restaurants," explained NGA President and CEO Peter J. Larkin.

The grocery industry group maintains that grocery stores aren't comparable to chain restaurants, where menus and ingredients are uniform across the chain. By contrast, grocery stores' ingredients and menus often change daily, according to the availability of fresh ingredients and products in their stores, so subjecting grocery stores to a law meant for chain restaurants doesn't make sense, according to NGA.

Industry News

Food Inflation:

USDA predicts strong food price inflation as drought continues

Consumers can expect to pay 3% to 4% more for groceries in 2013 as a result of this year's persistent drought and lack of feed to produce milk, eggs, beef, poultry and pork. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is predicting substantial food price increases in 2013, if not sooner, due to the on-going drought now affecting more than half of all US farmland.

For more information please go to

<http://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Market/USDA-predicts-strong-food-price-inflation-as-drought-continues>

Higher prices squeeze O.J. sales

Sales of orange juice dropped 5.4% by volume in the four weeks that ended July 7, as prices increased 5%. Sales of from-concentrate fell 11% by volume, while sales by volume were flat for not-from-concentrate juice. Fox Business/Dow Jones Newswires

Estimated retail sales of packaged foods free of gluten are approaching \$2 billion a year in the U.S., according to a report from Frost & Sullivan, and retailers and manufacturers are realizing it makes business sense to address the needs of those with celiac disease. General Mills developed baking mixes and versions of Chex cereal without gluten, and sales rose 13% in the past year or so, as more gluten-free versions of the cereal debuted, reported *Minnesota Public Radio*.

Bozzuto's Merchandising Show at the MGM Grand @ Foxwoods

Join Bozzuto's in celebrating Merchandising Marketplace - Bozzuto's 20th food show at the MGM Grand at Foxwoods! The upcoming two-day fall selling event is being held August 7-8, 2012, at the MGM Grand at Foxwoods in Ledyard, Connecticut. The industry is buzzing over the exciting, jam-packed agenda filled with amazing deals and product sampling throughout two full showroom floors.

In addition to having the opportunity to network with other industry associates, Bozzuto's is pleased to announce the return of the ever-popular Bozzuto's Comedy Club. After a day of exploring the trade show floors, relax and enjoy an evening of laughter. And on Wednesday morning, don't miss the Bozzuto's Battle of the Bags at the Best Bagger Competition being held in the Grand Pequot Ballroom.