

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *www.IowaABD.com* | *Lynn M. Walding, Administrator* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| abdblue.jpg - 2723 Bytes |  e - NEWS |
| *September 14, 2007* |

**I.** [**NATIONAL NEWS.**](#I)

1.[We Don’t Serve Teens Week Starts Today](#wedontserve)

2. [Fine Wine Enters the Mainstream via Target](#finewineenters)

# 3. [Vin & Spirit takes Absolute to the Disco](#vinandspirittakes)

# 4. [Fortune Brands CEO Holds Meetings on Absolute](#fortunebrands)5. [Pernod Quiet on Stolichnaya Acquisition Battle Talk](#pernodquietonsto)

# 6. [The Barroom Brawl Over Patrón](#thebarroombrawl)

# 7. [Two Buck Chuck takes a Bite out of Napa](#twobuckchuck)

# 8. [Anger at Cut-Price Alcopops](#angeratcutprice)9. [Rémy Cointreau on Hunt for Distributors](#remycointreau)

# 10. [UBS Weather Report (Beer Industry): Weather is Better, Beer is Back](#ubsweather)

**II.** [**INTERNATIONAL.**](#II)

11. [Scotland: Scots May Outlaw Cut-Price Alcohol](#scoutlandscotsmay)

**III.** [**IOWA NEWS.**](#III)12. [Not Quite Capone, but Bootlegging Abounds](#notquitecapone)

13.[3 Die, 4 Injured in Early a.m. Crash](#threedie)

14. [Motions Filed in Police Chief's Case](#motionsfiledin)
15. [Huntrods Kicked off Iowa Football Team](#huntrodskicked)

16. [Coalition: Let Cities Regulate Smoking](#coalition)

17. [Truce Reached in Smoking Fight at Condo Building](#truce)

18. [Residents Dislike Ordinance Restricting Smoking Areas](#residents)
19. [Lives Lost to Tobacco Motivate Activist's Quest to Help Others](#liveslostto)

20. [A New Smoking Ban Takes Effect in Des Moines Today](#anewsmoking)

21. [Beer Draws Crowd](#beerdraws)

22. [Uof I Smoking Ban Waived for Kinnick Crowd](#uofi)

**IV.** [**OTHER STATE NEWS.**](#IV)

23. [Guest Opinion: Alcohol Energy Drinks Come With Risk (Arizona)](#guestopinion)

24. [Sam's Club Liquor Store Opens (Arkansas)](#sams)

25. [Panel Approves Wine Regulations (Arkansas)](#panelapproves)

26. [Mondavi Launches "Affordable Californian Wine" (California)](#mondavi)

27. [Tougher Parental Teenage Drinking Bill Signed into Law (Illinois)](#tougherparental)

28. [New Drivers License Design helps Limit use of Fake IDs (Indiana)](#newdrivers)

29. [Parent: School Bus Drivers Smell of Alcohol (Indiana)](#parentschoolbus)
30. [Voters Reject Alcohol Sales in 4 Precincts (Kentucky)](#votersreject)

31. [Council approves expanded Sunday alcohol sales 10-4 (Kentucky)](#councilapproves)

32. [Smuggling of Out-of-State Cans into Michigan Costs State $10 Million (Michigan)](#smugglingout)

33. [Wine Bar to Pull out all the Stops with New Technology (Minnesota)](#winebartopull)

34. [Ole Miss Alcohol Rules Put to Test (Mississippi)](#olemiss)

35. [Sheehy Leads Fight Against Underage Drinking (Nebraska)](#sheehy)

36. [Nebraska Dumps $140,000 Worth Of Wine (Nebraska)](#nebraska)

37. [New Jersey: $1.7 Mil for a Liquor License (New Jersey)](#newjersy)

38. [5 Atlantic City Casinos Going Smoke-Free (New Jersey)](#fiveatlanic)

39. [New Tool To Stop Teens From Drinking, Driving (North Carolina)](#newtool)

40. [Mary Easley, Surgeon General Focus on Teen Drinking (North Carolina)](#mary)

41. [Will New Law Harvest Change or Sour Grapes? (Oklahoma)](#willnew)

42. [National Speaker on Alcohol Abuse on Campus (Oregon)](#national)

43. [Fire Company Named in Suit over Bar Brawl Death of Fire Chief (Pennsylv](#firecomapna)ania)

44. [Law Takes Aim at Underage Drinking (South Carolina)](#lawtakesaim)

45. [Lexington Blue Laws Likely to End (South Carolina)](#lexington)

46. [Alcohol, Speed Caused Fatal Wreck, Police Say (Tennessee)](#alcoholspeed)

47. [Alcohol Sales Top Issue on Ballots (Texas)](#alcoholsalestopi)

48. [Attorney General wants Flavored Alcohol Drinks Taken off Shelves (Utah)](#attorneygeneral)

49. [Effort Targets Underage Drinking (Virginia)](#efforttargetsunderage)

50. [Alcohol Charges up During Game Days (Virginia)](#alcoholchargesupdruing)

51. [Beer Delivered (Virginia)](#beerdelivered)
52. [Panels to Highlight Evolving Beer Industry at NBWA's 70th Annual Convention and Trade Show (Virginia)](#panelstohighlight)

**I.** **NATIONAL NEWS

1.** **We Don’t Serve Teens Week Starts Today**

*www.dontserveteens.gov*
September 10, 2007

The FTC has designated September 10-15, 2007 as National We Don't Serve Teens Week. Don’t Serve Alcohol to Teens. It’s unsafe. It’s illegal. It’s irresponsible.

During We Don't Serve Teens Week, public and private entities from across the country, including many state Governors and Attorneys General, will spread the word that serving alcohol to teens is unsafe, illegal, and irresponsible.

Most teens who drink get alcohol from “social sources” — at parties, from older friends, from their parents’ cabinet. Teen drinking is linked to injury and risky behavior. We can reduce teen drinking by stopping teens’ easy access to alcohol. Help us achieve this goal. Please click here for the campaign materials you may use to help get the word out.

<http://www.dontserveteens.gov/>

**2.** **Fine Wine Enters the Mainstream via Target**

*Star Tribune*September 5, 2007

Once a niche product for only the most serious wine connoisseurs, Riedel wine glasses are now being sold at Target stores, showing just how mainstream fine wine has become and marking another coup for the family-owned Austrian glass company.

A well-designed glass can't make a bad wine taste better, but it can help a good wine express itself to the fullest.

"We can't change the wine, but we can change the perception," explains Georg Riedel of stemware titan Riedel Glassworks. "The wine is the music, and the glass is the loudspeaker. If the music is awful, the loudspeaker cannot make you dance, but if the combination between the music and the loudspeaker is great, it touches your emotions."

And just as some speakers are better tailored to rock music, others are better suited for classical. Riedel built his family's company into a formidable worldwide concern by developing a broad spectrum of function-driven wine-glass shapes that are intended to flatter the wide variety of wines in the world. Georg Riedel credits his father, Claus, with steering the company away from making frilly crystal and toward making the function-driven glasses that have become so popular with wine drinkers.

Georg Riedel, current majority owner and 10th-generation glass maker, joined the family business in 1973 and established Riedel America in 1979, just as the fledgling American wine business was beginning to spread its wings. In 2004 Riedel acquired Nachtmann Glass, a company that makes a broad array of high-end crystal products, from plates and glasses to candlesticks.

As part of that purchase, Riedel also acquired Spiegelau, a glass factory that had been competing against Riedel with excellent-quality, lower-priced knockoffs of Riedel's classic designs.

Georg Riedel says that at first he didn't know what to do with Spiegelau, but that it has turned out to be a good addition to the portfolio. "Riedel starts at $10 [per glass] and goes up, and the main part of Spiegelau is from $15 and down. Spiegelau covers the more modest segment, and I'm very happy with it."

Riedel recently scored a major hit with the introduction of its "O" line of glasses, stemless glass tumblers conceived by Georg's son Maximilian, head of Riedel's American division. The O glasses may have struck a chord with Americans because the squat, but well-designed shapes seems less pretentious.

"The consumer was looking for something that made his wine enjoyment easier, and having a glass that doesn't break as easily because there's no stem" worked, says Georg Riedel. The tendency of the O glass to roll instead of crash and shatter when bumped is certainly another perk of the design.

**A move to Target**

After years of offering its products primarily through wine-centric specialty retailers and mail-order catalogs, Riedel recently started selling its wine glasses at Target stores, an indication of the brand's mainstream appeal and also of the steadily growing popularity of wine in America. Georg Riedel said the venture was initiated by Target.

He was pleasantly surprised, as well as initially concerned, about how selling glasses through Target might impact the brand's cachet.

George Riedel said he did hear some complaints from other retailers who didn't appreciate the competition. "We made an offer available to Target that was made to other retailers in the same way. We are not doing anything different for Target -- we're maintaining the same price. We package the goods differently, and that's it."

Target is carrying a wide range of Riedel glasses, from several styles of wine stemware to martini, cognac and double old-fashioned glasses and decanters. Prices are about $10 apiece.

At least symbolically, the move into Target stores represents another big step for the Riedel family business, but Georg Riedel still sees his company's glass as a niche product for those who appreciate quality. "My approach is extremely modest. I believe that at the end of the day, the glass is only a small mosaic stone in the whole environment. It's my company and my life, but I understand the size and the importance of it."

Tim Teichgraeber is a San Francisco entertainment attorney and wine critic.

<http://www.startribune.com/438/story/1403507.html>

**3.** **Vin & Spirit takes Absolute to the Disco
Vin & Sprit has unveiled a disco-themed extension for its Absolute vodka brand.**

*Just-Drinks*September 10, 2007

Vin & Sprit has unveiled a disco-themed extension for its Absolut vodka brand.

The mirror ball-inspired Absolut Disco is set to launch in selected markets from next month, the Swedish company said today (10 September). The one-litre gift pack consists of a mirrored bottle covered in 1,000 reflecting prisms.

"The Absolut Disco gift pack predecessor from 2006, Absolut Bling Bling, became an instant success with its golden touch and is now a sought-after object on online trading places like eBay," said Katarina Nielsen, international marketing director, V&S Absolut Spirits. "Absolut Disco is a natural follow-up where we have further extended the possibilities of what a gift pack can offer the consumers."

The brand extension will launch in global travel retail, the UK and US from next month, with other priority markets, including Canada, Germany, Mexico and Brazil, taking delivery in November, a spokesperson for Absolut told just-drinks today.

Absolut Disco will be backed by a dedicated website - \www.absolut.com/disco - which is launching this month.

"The campaign website with its hand disco video generator is truly interactive and lets the visitors create their own disco moves", added Christina Bergman, communications manager for V&S Absolut Spirits.

<http://www.just-drinks.com/article.aspx?id=91478>

**4.** **Fortune Brands CEO Holds Meetings on Absolute**

Sven Nordenstam *Reuters*September 12, 2007

Top executives of Fortune Brands (FO.N: Quote, Profile, Research) visited Stockholm this week to talk to a "broad constituency" of interested parties as Sweden drew closer to a planned sale of state-owned Absolut vodka maker Vin & Sprit.

At a news conference on Wednesday where he extolled the virtues of a merger, Fortune Brands Chief Executive Norman Wesley declined to say if executives had met officials handling the V&S sale, which analysts say could fetch about $6 billion.

"It's owned by the state and parliament controls the process and we have not come here to try to influence them to do anything but to try to anticipate what might happen," Wesley told reporters.

V&S is the crown jewel in Sweden's largest-ever push to privatise state assets -- a process Financial Markets Minister Mats Odell said on Monday was entering a "transaction phase".

However, the government has not yet detailed how or when it will sell the spirits maker or the other assets on the block -- two other state-held companies and stakes in three public ones.

The list of potential V&S buyers includes French player Pernod Ricard (PERP.PA: Quote, Profile, Research), UK-based Diageo (DGE.L: Quote, Profile, Research) and privately held Bacardi, but Fortune Brands is the only one that does not already have a big vodka brand in its portfolio.

Wesley said this could mean fewer antitrust hurdles for a union between the Swedish spirits maker and Fortune Brands.

"We're the only one that is not listed as a competitor in the annual report," he said.

"Others have conflicts. Diageo has Smirnoff, Pernod has Stoli (Stolichnaya) and Bacardi has Grey Goose. The antitrust authorities will decide how big those issues are."

Wesley said a Fortune Brands-V&S (VSG.UL: Quote, Profile, Research) merger would be a "natural extension" of their current relationship, which includes distribution deals for Absolut.

These agreements, which carry hefty fees for premature termination, could serve as an effective poison pill by deterring other suitors, industry analysts have said.

Earlier this year, French wine and spirits group Remy Cointreau (RCOP.PA: Quote, Profile, Research) took a 241 million-euro provision to quit Maxxium, the distribution pact between it, Fortune Brands, V&S and Scotland's Edrington Group.

Fortune Brands and V&S are also intertwined through Future Brands, which distributes Absolut in the United States.

Wesley declined to comment on the scale of the fees V&S would have to pay if it left Maxxium and Future Brands, saying the contract arrangements are confidential.

He said another buyer would probably opt out of the deals.

"My assumption is that they would want to remove it (Absolut) from our distribution arrangements," he said.

Wesley said he was confident Fortune Brands would be able to fund a purchase of V&S, despite current credit market turmoil, and pledged to keep vodka production in Sweden.

<http://today.reuters.com/news/articleinvesting.aspx?type=comktNews&rpc=33&storyid=2007-09-12T180020Z_01_L12925899_RTRIDST_0_FORTUNE-ABSOLUT.XML>



**5.** **Perod Quiet on Stolichnaya Acquisition Battle Talk***Just-Drinks*

September 12, 2007

Pernod Ricard has remained silent on local reports suggesting a Russian oligarch may be looking at buying Russian vodka brand Stolichnaya.

Press speculation in the country this week has claimed that Oleg Deripaska, who was ranked at number 62 in Forbes' World's richest people chart last year, may look to buy Stolichnaya from current Russian owner Yuri Shefler.

Pernod handles the distribution of Stolichnaya outside Russia for Shefler's SPI Group, and is in talks with the company to acquire the vodka brand outright.

When contacted by just-drinks today (12 September), a spokesperson for Pernod's Stolichnaya Brand Organisation declined to comment on the claims.

Local reports have also suggested that Deripaska, who made his millions from aluminium in Russia, could be acting in the interests of state-owned Soyuzplodoimport, which holds the Stolichnaya trademark in Russia. Soyuzplodoimport has been fighting to regain control of the global rights since it sold the brand to SPI for US$300,000 in 1997.

<http://www.just-drinks.com/article.aspx?ID=91504&lk=fs>



**6.** **The Barroom Brawl Over Patrón
While the founder and Bacardi vie for control of the tequila, a charity is caught in the middle***Business Week*September 17, 2007

In its elegant decanter, Patrón tequila is an icon of the good life. It costs $45 a bottle in stores, much more for the Wall Street sophisticates who sip it by the glass in nightclubs. But there's nothing genteel about the legal melee that has broken out over the billion-dollar brand. Patrón Spirits Co. co-founder John Paul DeJoria is battling rum giant Bacardi Ltd. for control. In the middle of their fight stands an unlikely party: a charity formed to educate the world's poor children.

The ferocity of the battle is a reflection of the rising importance of premium liquor. Americans are drinking more booze, and nearly all the growth has come from the top shelf. Last year, sales of liquor priced under $12 a bottle inched up just 0.3%, according to the Distilled Spirits Council trade group. Sales of brands priced $40 and up jumped 23%. Bacardi wants to add a 50% stake in Patrón to its liquor cabinet, especially if it can enforce a three-year-old contract to buy it at what now seems like a bargain price. But DeJoria, who owns half of the company, is fighting for the other half.

Most people think of DeJoria as the man in black in the ads for Paul Mitchell hair-care products. They have long featured the ponytailed 63-year-old entrepreneur, sometimes along with his 50-year-old wife, Eloise, a former Playboy Playmate. DeJoria believes that Patrón is worth more than his $800 million-a-year hair-care business. "I'm probably worth more than Donald Trump," he says.

The story behind the current legal battle begins, appropriately enough, over margaritas. One night in 1989, DeJoria was having drinks with Martin Crowley, an architect working on his Malibu (Calif.) estate. Unhappy with the tequila they were drinking, DeJoria challenged Crowley to find a good bottle on his next trip south. Crowley located a distillery in a small town in the Mexican state of Jalisco. The duo liked the product so much, they asked the owners if they could sell it in the U.S. under their own label. They picked the name Patrón: "He's the boss, the cool guy," DeJoria says.

Before Patrón came on the scene, tequila in the U.S. was mostly a cheap buzz, gulped by college students on spring break. The low-priced tequilas sold here were a mixture of agave cactus juice and other spirits. Patrón was made entirely from agave, giving it a smoother taste. "They positioned themselves to be the BMW (BMW ) of tequila," says Marc N. Scheinman, a professor of marketing at Pace University.

With DeJoria overseeing John Paul Mitchell Systems, Crowley ran Patrón. In April, 2003, he died at his home in the Caribbean island of Anguilla. Divorced and childless, Crowley left his estate to a trust dedicated to educating the poor children of the world. An agreement the pair signed in 1996 gave each the option to buy the other out. But in 2002 DeJoria and Crowley changed the corporate ownership structure for Patrón and didn't update their 1996 agreement to reflect the modification--an oversight that threw the validity of their deal into doubt.

An appraisal after Crowley's death valued his half of Patrón at $43 million. The trustees for the charity asked an Anguillan court to decide if the 1996 agreement with DeJoria was still valid. As that case was working its way to trial, Bacardi made an unsolicited offer for the business. In September, 2004, the trustees agreed to sell their half to Bacardi for $175 million. The deal was contingent on their winning the case against DeJoria. In the meantime, the brand got hot and Patrón's sales and profits soared.

After the trustees for Crowley's estate won an initial verdict and an appeal that declared the 1996 agreement invalid, DeJoria tried another strategy. At the same time he appealed the lower court rulings, he offered a "settlement" of $755 million for Crowley's half-interest. The trustees gladly accepted the higher price, arguing that they had a fiduciary duty to do so. But Bacardi quickly got an injunction in Anguilla to prevent the sale. "The trustees made a very good deal" in 2004, Bacardi lawyers said in court. "Now they want to...accept an even better offer.

<http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/07_38/b4050072.htm?campaign_id=rss_magzn>

**7.** **Two Buck Chuck takes a Bite out of Napa**Joel Stein
*Business 2.0 Magazine*September 7, 2007

Fred Franzia, the man behind America's favorite bargain vino, has a big mouth and an even bigger winemaking empire - one that's scaring the bejeezus out of his elitist rivals.

|  |
| --- |
| fred_franzia.03.jpg |
| Fred Franzia: taking a bite out of Napa. |

There's a war on bluster, and Fred Franzia is losing. Sure, the CEO of Bronco Wine, the nation's fourth-largest wine company, tells me repeatedly that only a sucker would pay more than $10 for a bottle of wine - including his own $35 Domaine Napa. And that Napa's and Bordeaux's claims about their special soils are bogus: "We can grow on asphalt. Terroir don't mean sh\*t." After relieving himself by the side of his Jeep, Franzia recounts a trip to Burgundy where, after an elaborate tasting, he told the winemaker at Château Haut-Brion, "You can bottle gasoline if you can sell that."

Franzia, who rose to fame several years ago when he started selling a $2 bottle called Charles Shaw, calls winemakers "bozos in a glass." He really goes off on wine critic Robert Parker, who, he says, likes tannic wines that make people gag. He mocks my college ("We buy wineries from guys from Stanford who go bankrupt. Some real dumb-asses from there"), my religion ("A Jew who eats ribs? You impress me"), and my job ("Business 2.0? Hell no, I've never heard of it").

When I ask him about the community service he did after pleading guilty in 1993 to conspiracy to defraud (he sold 5,000 tons of cheap grapes by mislabeling them and sprinkling zinfandel leaves on top), he says of the mentoring of single mothers he was ordered to do: "I picked up on young girls."

But Franzia gets soft real quick. As he drives his Jeep around the vineyards at Bronco's headquarters in Ceres, Calif., a tiny Central Valley town outside Modesto, Franzia admits he'd much rather buy out of bankruptcy court than directly from my hurting fellow alumni, since "it's less emotional."

He keeps stopping the car to look at grape plants like a puttering gardener. He shows me the land where he plans to build his house, complete with a bowling alley for his granddaughter. Looking up at a hawk flying high over his fields, he wonders whether it doesn't have a better life than we do. He tells me he has trouble sleeping. I find, on the passenger side of his Jeep, an Enya CD, which he claims one of his many girlfriends left there. I deeply consider giving him a hug.

<http://money.cnn.com/2007/09/05/news/companies/Two_Buck_Chuck.biz2/?postversion=2007090703>

**8.** **Anger at Cut-Price Alcopops**

*Bay of Plenty Times*September 11, 2007

Alcoholic drinks are being advertised for as little as $1 in Tauranga, angering alcohol rehabilitation workers who say it's "cheaper than Coke" and encourages young people to binge drink.

Two liquor stores visited by the Bay of Plenty Times sold premixes - known as ready to drink or RTDs - at four for $4 while another sold 24 rum premixes for $24.

A standard 5 per cent alcohol RTD has a similar alcohol content to the average can of beer.

The sales pitch has provoked outrage from people trying to combat alcohol abuse.

Dave Ludlow from Drug-Arm Tauranga said it was a deliberate attempt from the alcohol industry to groom kids to graduate from soft drinks to alcoholic drinks.

"It's ridiculous, it's cheaper than Coke. Why would our kids want to buy a soft drink when they can buy RTDs illegally?" he said.

"They're very sweet, it's like drinking pop."

Mr Ludlow said with such cheap RTDs it was easy for underage people to access alcohol on a limited budget.

He said most did not have a problem buying it.

"When you see the massive volume and production of RTDs, the liquor industry probably wouldn't admit to it but it is aimed at the younger end of the market. For $10 they can get really drunk and they can afford to do that Friday, Saturday, Sunday."

Mr Ludlow said tax should be increased on alcohol to prevent young people from being able to afford it and help pay for the problems alcohol caused in the community.

"I think we need to look at probably doubling the cost of alcohol ... for the amount that it's cost for the problems in our community."

Mr Ludlow would also like to see alcohol removed from places young people frequented like The Warehouse and supermarkets. He also called for a ban on advertising alcohol.

David Benton, the director of the Hanmer Clinic - a Bay drug rehabilitation centre - agreed cheap booze encouraged binge drinking.

"Anything that caters to the general pattern of binge drinking in New Zealand concerns me," he said. "It's certainly making alcohol readily available at a pretty cheap cost - it's cheaper than a bottle of milk or a can of Coke."

Mr Benton said New Zealand's drinking culture meant it was socially acceptable to drink to excess.

"[The prices are] pandering to a market that wants to buy cheap alcohol and buy a lot of it," he said.

Mr Benton pointed out there was considerable research that showed how alcohol advertising influenced children and young people with positive perceptions of alcohol.

"Alcohol advertising and other marketing is reaching children and teenagers under the age of 18, whether or not this is intended by advertisers or the alcohol industry," he said.

Sergeant Nigel McGlone from Western Bay of Plenty Liquor Licensing Unit said there were issues around the promotion of alcohol that police were looking at.

"I know there are some outfits where you can buy a single one, single beers or single RTDs which to me doesn't really comply with the spirit of the [Liquor Licensing] Act," he said.

"We're working on things with off licences and how they're run and community issues as well, not just on a compliance level, things they have to do, but on what they can do."

Mr McGlone said police could not get involved in setting prices for alcohol but could suggest what action liquor stores should take.

"If they run a promotion which could be seen to be geared towards young people, they're not the sort of promotions that should be done," he said.

"Everything comes down to being responsible and having a bit of forethought."

But Tauranga liquor stores selling cheap RTDs have defended their actions.

The Mill Liquorsave general manager Stephen Fromont said he did not believe selling or advertising cheap RTDs encouraged underage people to drink.

"There's not a lot we can do about that morally. All we can do is try and police the Sale of Liquor Act.

"We have a moral obligation to police it - it's up to Parliament ... we support that, we are very strong advocates [of the act]."

Brookfield Liquor King manager Jason Torrance acknowledged the store's billboard advertising $1 RTDs could appeal to youth but was not specifically aimed at them.

"It's quite possible that it would encourage young people but it's not put out there solely for the younger people," he said.

"It's a deal that we have out there to get people into the shop."

Mr Torrance said when the shop gets good deals from suppliers he likes to be able to pass that on to customers.

However, Lion Nathan Corporate Affairs Director Liz Read said suppliers did not set the price and retailers could sell RTDs as cheaply or expensively as they chose.

"In many instances they (retailers) set the price that's lower than the price we charge them," she said.

She pointed out it was the responsibility of the retailer to maintain the requirements of the Liquor Licensing Act.

"The issue with price doesn't change the access that underage people might or might not have to alcohol."

<http://www.bayofplentytimes.co.nz/localnews/storydisplay.cfm?storyid=3748095&thesection=localnews&thesubsection=&thesecondsubsection>=

**9.** **Remy Cointreau on Hunt for Distributors**

Jessica Harvey
*Just-Drinks.com*
September 12, 2007

Rémy Cointreau has confirmed that it is looking for new deals in readiness for its exit from Maxxium.

The company, which owns an equal share in the global distribution network with Beam\_Global Spirits & Wine, The\_Edrington\_Group and Vin & Sprit Group, announced late last year that it will pull out of the venture. The departure, scheduled for 2009, reportedly cost Rémy EUR240m.

Speaking to just-drinks yesterday (11 September) Patrick Mariuz, the international ambassador for Rémy's Cognac brand Rémy Martin, said: "We are already creating our own distribution company in China and we are looking for some agreements with distribution companies in Europe and Asia for when we leave Maxxium in 2009."

Mariuz also hinted at a possible renewal of the relationship with Maxxium following the split. "Maybe there will be some agreement that will be continuing with Maxxium, even though we will no longer be a partner," he said.

When asked about speculation that Rémy may be grooming itself for acquisition, Mariuz declared: "We are seriously thinking about having meetings. There is a goal to have the widest presence in markets such as Japan and Russia."

Last July, analysts told just-drinks that Diageo might be interested in the French group, due to its presence in the Cognac category being limited to a 34% stake in Moët Hennessy. Speculation has also centred on Bacardi, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands and Fortune\_Brands as being potential suitors for the French company.

<http://www.just-drinks.com/article.aspx?id=91503&lk=sd02>

**10.** **UBS Weather Report (Beer Industry): Weather is Better, Beer is Back
Dry and Hot End to Summer in the U.S., Reversing July Trends**

*UBS*September 12, 2007

August precipitation levels decreased year-on-year with A-B down 21.6%, Miller down 17.9%, and Coors down 17.6%. Temperature levels for all three brewers were up 1%-2% year on year. We believe these favorable weather trends are impacting sales positively as A-B recently noted 3Q STRs are up 2.4% through August and IRI data showed positive STR growth for TAP as well.

**Lack of Precipitation in Canada, Could Lead to More Beer Consumption**

Average precipitation in Canada declined 35.4% year on year in August while temperatures increased 1.3%. We expect continued dry weather in Ontario and Quebec, and the usual summer promotional activity, should drive strong volume growth for TAP. We expect Coors Light's 2Q momentum to continue into 3Q, and we remain of the view that TAP is nearing or at an inflection point in Canada.

**U.K. Rains Clear, Time to Drink Some Beer**

In the U.K., August precipitation levels were 23% drier than last year and 15% drier than the long-term historical average. This is a welcome change, given the record rain in the U.K. the prior two months. We believe continued dry weather should be a positive for both TAP and BUD, as both cited the heavy summer rain in poor 2Q and July U.K. results.

**Maintain Buy on TAP, Neutral on BUD**

We rate TAP shares a Buy as they continue to steadily grow volume in the U.S., improving trends in Canada, and strong FCF growth. For BUD, we expect sequential volume improvement in the coming quarters, but maintain a Neutral rating.

**II.** **INTERNATIONAL NEWS.

11.** **Scotland: Scots May Outlaw Cut-Price Alcohol**[*Financial Times*](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f6b57f1e-5bfe-11dc-bc97-0000779fd2ac.html)
September 5, 2007

Scotland's new nationalist government intends to make cut-price and free alcohol offers in Scottish shops illegal in an attempt to tackle the nation's "destructive" drinking culture.

Kenny MacAskill, the justice secretary, said he would extend recent licensing legislation to outlaw irresponsible promotions and pricing in off-sales outlets. Shops would also be required to have separate alcohol display areas, to challenge the perception that alcohol was in the same category as fruit juice or water.

He said: "This is immediate action to kick-start a long-term drive to change Scotland's culture - to help make sure drinking to get drunk is simply no longer seen as acceptable. To end the days of 'buy two, get one free' type promotions reducing the cost of beer to as little as 43p a pint."

The Scottish National party minister said the Scottish government was taking legal advice on how it could end the practice of retailers discounting alcohol. He told Alcohol Focus Scotland's annual conference: "By taking action today to turn off the tap of cheap drink, to end irresponsible promotions wherever alcohol is sold, and making sure alcohol isn't sold at every turn in the supermarket, I believe we can turn this around."

However, the Scottish Grocers' Federation said ending multi-pack promotions would lead to shops competing purely on price, which could lower rather than raise the cost of alcohol. It also questioned the legal basis on which discounting could be controlled by Holyrood.

Alex Salmond, the first minister, later told MSPs that his minority administration would ask Holyrood to support 11 bills in the new parliamentary session. But he acknowledged that the SNP would need to persuade other parties and seek to find shared values and objectives. The proposed bills include the abolition of road bridge tolls, scrapping the endowment charge paid by graduates, budget legislation, modernisation of the courts system and reform of the law on rape.

Mr Salmond said: "In truth, most people already believe there is too much legislation and yearn for a more considered and more restricted approach. I embrace that sense of legislative restraint."

That "restraint" has been forced on Mr Salmond by his lack of an overall majority. But the first minister appears confident he will be able to construct majorities for each piece of legislation. He said: "We believe also that the people of Scotland want a government based on principle but able to move with mainstream opinion to build consensus in the public interest."

But Cathy Jamieson, the deputy Labour leader at Holyrood, said: "Perhaps the most significant things are not what is in the statement but what isn't. Despite the blizzard of briefing, it's now clear the SNP has no intention of actually delivering on its manifesto promises."

<http://cachef.ft.com/cms/s/0/f6b57f1e-5bfe-11dc-bc97-0000779fd2ac.html>

**III. IOWA NEWS.

12.** **Not Quite Capone, but Bootlegging Abounds**

Abby Harvey
*Daily Iowan*September 6, 2007

It's more than a simple night of making a few hundred bucks from charging your friends for beer - it is a crime that carries a maximum fine of $1,875 for first-time offenders (plus court costs) and a year in prison.

Even though the brunt of the Iowa City police is stationed downtown on weekend nights, officials say they are aware of the numerous house parties occurring off campus. And they say party hosts should be aware that they can face charges for selling cups or booze at the door. The citation for doing so is the age-old offense of "bootlegging."

By definition in the Iowa Code, bootlegging is "the prohibited 'sale' of beer, wine, or liquor," but it can be described in more familiar terms as simply selling a red plastic keg cup at a house party for $5 a pop.

"The only way you can legally sell alcohol in the state of Iowa is with a state liquor license," said Lynn Walding, the administrator of the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division.

UI students may be unaware of the offense because bootlegging arrests around Iowa City are somewhat rare - the last complaint was made at a tailgating party around three years ago.

"The tailgating season is when we tend to hear more about bootlegging," said Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay. "We don't really hear about it
when it's going on, but we hear about it either being advertised, or more likely after the fact. A neighbor calls in the next day and says, 'You know, there are 12 empty kegs in the backyard; what's going on with that?' "

If police can gather enough evidence, people can be charged with illegally selling liquor the next day, Kelsay said.

Although bootlegging charges have been few thus far in Iowa City, the offense has seen more attention on other campuses. The Cedar Falls police have made seven bootlegging arrests at the University of Northern Iowa since school started in mid-August.

"In the fall, the weather's nice, people want to have parties, celebrate coming back, and what they do is make the mistake of actually selling alcohol," said Cedar Falls Police Chief Rick Ahlstrom.

Kelsay said the Iowa City police often opt for different methods in addressing the problem.

House-party-attendees and hosts could be charged with any combination of the following: PAULA, disorderly house, and providing alcohol to a minor.

However, with the downtown bar capacities reaching 6,000 to 7,000 people per night, the trouble house parties present for police seem slim in comparison.

"If people don't complain, if it's not thrown out into the street, or if it's not causing a disturbance, officers are not going to go door to door looking for these things," Kelsay said.

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/topics/Cedar%20Falls>

**13.** **3 Die, 4 Injured in Early a.m. Crash
A Single-Vehicle Crash In Southeast Des Moines Early Monday Left Three People Dead And Four Others Injured.**Nigel Duara
*Des Moines Register*September 3, 2007

Former Hoover High School student Stephanie J. Gray, 17, and North High School junior Matthew Tesch were killed about 4:30 a.m. Monday when the driver of a 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe lost control of the vehicle on a curve and crashed into a tree at Southeast 16th Court and Indianola Avenue, police said.

The 22-year-old driver, who was not identified by police, also died in the crash.

Tesch's brother Joshua, 16, a sophomore at North High School, was injured in the accident. He was in fair condition at Iowa Methodist Medical Center on Monday night, where Lincoln High School freshmen Ivan Tapia, 14, and Glen Romero, 14, also were being treated.

Tapia was in serious condition; Romero was in fair condition. A fourth passenger injured in the crash was in serious condition. A police spokesman said authorities don't know the female's identity or age because she had several aliases.

Alcohol and speeding are possible causes of the crash, said Des Moines police spokesman Vince Valdez. Police found broken beer bottles in the SUV and a beer can on the road near the crash site.

Valdez said authorities won't know the driver's blood-alcohol level until an autopsy is performed. Autopsy results will be available today or Wednesday, he said.

Valdez said the crash site is known among authorities to be a dangerous curve.

Details of the crash, such as seat belt use, won't be released until police have finished the investigation, Valdez said.

"When the investigators arrived on scene, two of the fatalities were inside the vehicle," Valdez said. "Everyone else was outside the car. Some people were able to walk or crawl out of the vehicle."

The Tesch brothers' mother was extremely distraught, said North High School Principal Vincent Lewis. She called family in Texas and is worried that she doesn't have the money to bury her son.

Today will be a chance to grieve and cope with the accident and deaths at North High School.

A crisis team of about seven social workers, counselors and psychologists employed by the school district will wait in the school's library for students and staff members, whether they want to talk about the accident or have some time alone, said crisis team coordinator Michael Munoz.

The team will address staff before school starts, Munoz said, then teachers will give details of the accident to students shortly after the first bell.

Staff at North will be watching for students who don't ask for help but may need to take a break or "get out of the structured class environment for a while," Lewis said.

The accident comes less than three days after Amy Larson, 14, was killed in Fayette County on Friday night. Four other teenage girls were injured in the accident after their minivan veered off the road, rolled several times and landed in a ditch. None of their conditions were available Sunday night.

Four other fatal accidents involving teenagers have occurred so far this year.

Kalita Moore, 17, Chris Lowe, 21, and Jolynn Kimball, 25, were killed June 13 on U.S. Highway 34 near Creston after their vehicle was pushed under a semitrailer truck.

Dalton Baumann, 15, of Bloomfield died May 15 in a single-vehicle accident.

Bricy Christine Sturgeon, 15, died Jan. 27 outside of Exira. Sturgeon was not wearing a seat belt and was pinned beneath her car after sliding into a ditch.

Jacob Giles, 15, died Jan. 15 in a head-on collision in Cedar Rapids.

Former Hoover High School Principal Connie Cook did not recall knowing Gray, who was enrolled at the school until last year. That doesn't take away from the impact on the Hoover students who knew her and will be receiving counseling, Cook said.

"It's really hard for a lot of kids. This will be the first death of a young person that they've dealt with," said Cook, now associate superintendent for the district. "Sometimes they've had relatives like grandmas, aunts and uncles, but to have somebody who's young is really harder for kids. When you're young, you think death is far, far away and that it'll never happen to you.

"Students just like to have somebody to talk to. Frankly, it helps to have someone who isn't connected, who is sort of an objective party," she said. "Some kids really respond positively to that, while other students will want to talk to a counselor in the building."

Regardless, students who come together to forge through tragedy can be inspirational, Cook said.

"I think students really turn to each other," she said. "I know we've had situations where someone was injured or died and the kids kind of rally together. It can be kind of a unifying experience for kids too."

Register staff writers Abby Simons and Sarah Lefeber contributed to this article.

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070903/NEWS/70903007/1001/OPINION03>

**14.** **Motions Filed in Police Chief's Case**

*Daily Nonpareil*September 5, 2007

The attorney for Missouri Valley Police Chief Ed Murray has asked the court to suppress evidence in Murray's OWI case.

|  |
| --- |
| bilde?Site=D2&Date=20070903&Category=NEWS&ArtNo=70903007&Ref=AR&Profile=1001&maxw=264 |

Joe Hrvol filed the motion Aug. 27 in Pottawattamie County District Court, asking the court to suppress evidence seized and statements made after a Pottawattamie County deputy sheriff responded to a report of a disturbance on Interstate 80 near Underwood on June 29.

Murray has pleaded not guilty to the OWI charge and also to having an open container in his vehicle.

According to the deputy's report, Murray refused to submit to a field sobriety test or preliminary breath test. The report further stated the deputy smelled alcohol on Murray's breath and that his eyes were bloodshot.

Hrvol stated in his motion that evidence was illegally obtained because the deputy searched Murray's car without probable cause, had no search warrant and had no reasonable grounds to believe Murray was operating under the influence. He further claims information was obtained in violation of Murray's right to remain silent.

A hearing on the motion is scheduled for Oct. 11 in Pottawattamie Court.

Murray remains as Missouri Valley's chief pending resolution of the case.

<http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18786462&BRD=2703&PAG=461&dept_id=555107&rfi=6>

**15.** **Huntrods Kicked off Iowa Football Team**

Randy Peterson
*Des Moines Register*September 10, 2007

University of Iowa football player Clint Huntrods has been dismissed from the Hawkeye football team, university officials said.

Huntrods, 22, was charged with interference with official acts, public intoxication, and urination in public on Thursday. The arrest occurred at Prentiss and Dubuque streets in Iowa City, according to arrest records.

According to a police report, an officer spotted Huntrods urinating on a sidewalk. Huntrods ran after being told to stop, then was caught. The report says Huntrods had poor balance, red watery eyes, an odor of alcohol, and slurred speech.

Huntrods, a 6-5, 270-pound senior long snapper, was dismissed for violating a “number of team rules," officials said. There was no additional information on that statement.

He was a two-time letterman from Collins and handled all Iowa snaps on points after touchdowns and field goals.

Iowa is 2-0 and travels to Iowa State on Saturday.

<http://www.indianolarecordherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070910/SPORTS020502/70910011/1003&lead=1>



**16.** **Coalition: Let Cities Regulate Smoking**
**Central Iowa Tobacco-Free Partnership wants Waukee and other cities to pass the measure to help sway state legislators.**Grant Schulte
*Des Moines Register*September 10, 2007

A coalition of health groups is launching a statewide effort, starting with Waukee, to unite cities behind a measure that would allow local governments to ban smoking in restaurants and other public places.

The Central Iowa Tobacco-Free Partnership sent an e-mail Thursday to the Waukee City Council, seeking its support for a nonbinding resolution intended to help restrict smoking throughout Iowa.

The campaign stops short of requesting a citywide ban, which the Iowa Supreme Court ruled was unconstitutional in 2003. Instead, the coalition - including the American Lung Association, American Cancer Society, and American Heart Association - wants Waukee and other cities to pass the symbolic measure asking the Iowa Legislature to give cities more power to regulate smoking.

"While the resolution is nonbinding, it sends a powerful message as leaders of this community," spokeswoman Kari Swenson wrote. "You are collectively voicing your support of having the ability to propose and implement a smoke-free ordinance. Signing the resolution shows our state legislators and governor that this council would like to have local control restored."

Kerry Wise, a spokeswoman for the American Lung Association, said the measure would give her group "some ammunition to take with us when we go to visit state legislators" once they convene in January.

Anti-smoking advocates suffered a setback with the 2003 court decision, preventing local governments from enacting smoking rules stricter than state law. The ruling invalidated local smoking bans in Ames and Iowa City, drawing cheers from some restaurant and bar owners who feared they would lose business.

The American Lung Association hopes to persuade Iowa lawmakers to either tweak the law, allowing cities and counties to decide for themselves, or approve a statewide smoking ban, Wise said. Right now, she said, the group is focusing its efforts on central Iowa.

Allowing cities to set smoking policies could create confusion if cities with easy-to-miss borders - like Waukee, Clive and West Des Moines - enact different policies.

Still, Waukee City Council member Donald Bailey Jr. said he expected the nonbinding resolution to pass without controversy.

"There's health problems associated with smoking, we all know that," he said. "I just can't imagine that the council wouldn't approve it."

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070910/NEWS/709110353/-1/BUSINESS04>

**17.** **Truce Reached in Smoking Fight at Condo Building**

Marc Hansen
*Des Moines Register*
August 30, 2007

It didn't make the headlines, but peace and understanding seem to be breaking out between the smoking and nonsmoking factions at 3663 Grand.

The détente is momentary, I'm guessing, as the tobacco wars continue to escalate in this country. But it's nice, for a change, to see smokers and nonsmokers living in harmony.

Earlier this summer, the West Grand Towers board of directors got the residents riled up by going into closed, executive session and banning smoking throughout the condominium complex - individual units included.

Not just on the grounds and in the common areas anymore, but in living rooms and kitchens as well. With no grandfather clause for the smokers who arrived when smoking was permitted.

One of the veteran smokers I talked to had just moved in. He and his wife, he said, felt as if they'd been "bushwhacked."

They weren't the only ones who criticized the decision. Many of the nonsmokers even thought it was an extreme move.

Before you start bossing folks around, telling them what they can and can't do in the privacy of their homes, you'd better have a life-or-death reason. At the very least, they said, put it to a building-wide vote.

The board members at 3663, to their credit, listened to the objections and agreed to suspend the policy until July 30. In the meantime, they would consider all options and suggestions.

The board also established a smoking committee, whose members sit around all day and chain smoke. No, not really. They address smoking-related concerns and issues.

The immediate goal is reaching a reasonable compromise when it comes to tackling the smoking problem in their building.

It's an elegant-looking place in a tree-lined west-side location. But it's pushing 45, and the second-hand smoke has been known to seep into nearby units.

Several owners told me they could run from the stench but they couldn't hide. They'd throw towels over the vents. They'd hunker down in the bathroom. Nothing worked.

This week, the smoking committee made its suggestion to the board:

Forget the ban. Forget about having the owners vote on extending the no-smoking policy to the individual units. Let the committee handle issues as they arise.

Encourage offending smokers to equip their homes with air purifiers. Proceed with plans to have an expert look at the heating, ventilating and air-conditioning system.

Next month, the board will discuss and consider those suggestions and decide how to proceed.

Smoking ban advocate John Viars senses an improvement already.

"I got off the elevator," he said, "and sniff, sniff, sniff, couldn't detect any smoke."

Could it be? The smokers are being more considerate?

Viars, a board member, also submitted his resignation. He and his wife are moving. Not because of the smoke, he said, but because they want a place with more room when the grandkids visit.

It wasn't a decisive victory for the smokers, but it wasn't a loss. And maybe that's the headline here.

Eventually, the way the growing nonsmoking majority is ganging up on the shrinking minority, there will be a vote and the smokers will lose.

Smoking condo seekers around the country will be turned away like high-risk loan applicants. If not, simple attrition will get them in the end.

Most smokers have given up the fight. They know the game is lost. They don't need a no-smoking sign. They wouldn't dare smoke in your home and a growing number won't even smoke in their own.

You still run into tobacco-cured warriors like Richard Maynard, the Iowa coordinator for the Smokers' Club Inc.

You give him the surgeon general's data on the hazards of second-hand smoke. He directs you to tobacco analysis.blogspot.com and tells you to Google a Dr. Michael Siegel, who says, "Science used to set the agenda. Now, the agenda is dictating the science."

Maynard makes some interesting points, but even he knows he's an endangered species, like smoking itself.

It was a different world 50 years ago when smoking was the national pastime, when physicians and star athletes appeared in cigarette ads.

Now, in the 21st century, athletes who shoot steroids wouldn't think of lighting up. Smoking has been deemed unhealthy, unsightly and worse. It could ruin their image.

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070830/NEWS/708300390/1001/SPORTS05>

**18.** **Residents Dislike Ordinance Restricting Smoking Areas**

Lacey Jacobs
*Ledger*
September 11, 2007

After making it through two readings, an ordinance restricting smoking in some public areas failed to go any further Monday night.

The proposed ordinance was referred back to the Fairfield City Council Environmental and Franchise Utilities Committee without coming to a vote on the final reading.

The decision to table the ordinance came after listening to several members of the community.

Nonsmoker Dawn McKay said there is no question smoking is bad. But where do people's freedoms begin and end, she asked.

"Any smoking that is not welcome in a public arena can be taken care of by requests, not by force," she said.

Nonsmoker Michael McKay echoed his wife's sentiments, saying he is opposed to the ordinance for four reasons.

Such an ordinance is a slippery slope leading to greater regulation of personal-choice issues, he said. The ordinance also makes Fairfield unwelcoming to tourists, he continued, and he believes it is neither enforceable nor necessary.

Former occasional smoker Stephen Kelley said the issue is not about smoking, but about people's liberty.

However, ordinance proponent Mike McConeghey encouraged the council to pass the ordinance, saying public health is a major concern.

Councilwomen Connie Boyer and Christy Welty said they had both received negative feedback regarding the ordinance.

<http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18805198&BRD=1142&PAG=461&dept_id=567522&rfi=6>

**19.** **Lives Lost to Tobacco Motivate Activist's Quest to Help Others**Jody Gifford
*Des Moines Register*September 12, 2007

Tobacco use took the lives of three of her family members, including her father, before she was a teenager.

|  |
| --- |
| bilde?Site=D2&Date=20070912&Category=LIFE02&ArtNo=309120010&Ref=AR&maxw=264 |
| Lorene Mein, Mercy Clinic practitioner and co-leader of the Central Iowa Tobacco Free Partnership Coalition. On her laptop is part of her presentation. |

Lorene Mein, 36, is an advanced-practice registered nurse with Mercy QuickCare and a co-leader of the Central Iowa Tobacco-free Partnership. She can't bring her family members back, but she's trying hard to keep others from suffering similar losses.

"I would do anything to have my dad back," Mein said. "I'd give anything to hear his voice, to see him and hug him....

"There are 300,000 kids in this country in the same situation I was. We need to stop that from happening to them or anyone else."

Mein talked recently about her quest for a tobacco-free central Iowa.

Q. What is the Central Iowa Tobacco-free Partnership?

A. The coalition is funded through the Iowa Department of Public Health. Its mission is to reduce the numbers of deaths and diseases caused by tobacco in central Iowa because of secondhand smoke. ... We're talking about family-oriented places like bowling alleys, restaurants, parks, places like the zoo, public areas that anyone would be at. We want to make sure we're protecting people's health.

Q. How do you do accomplish the goals of the coalition?

A. We have three sections: education, advocacy and outreach. Our advocacy group is trying to promote its stuff with legislators. Outreach is working in schools, and education is trying to develop quick, easy-to-read information that can be given out at our events.

Q. How widespread is tobacco use in Iowa?

A. In Iowa, about 20 percent of adults are using some form of tobacco products, specifically cigarettes. The numbers go down with chewing tobacco, cigars and pipes.

The share of smokers who want to quit cigarettes ranges between 70 percent and 80 percent. When you look at cigars, chewing tobacco, you see numbers go down. I think that's because we don't have as much education out there that says these are not safe. No form of tobacco is safe in the way it's being used at this time.

Q. How has tobacco use affected your life?

A. My father had his first heart attack when I was 7. He would develop blood clots, and by the time I was 12, he had three to four heart attacks. He ended up having bypass surgery, and on Dec. 21, 1983, he died of heart disease from tobacco use.

I lost my maternal grandfather to tobacco-related heart disease when I was 5. He had multiple heart attacks. I lost an uncle, too. He had a massive heart attack and died, and I can tell you that is not usual.

People think tobacco is just going to kill you. It doesn't. It makes you suffer, and it can make you suffer for a long time, and that's what I saw with my dad.

Q. How did you choose nursing?

A. When I was in first grade, the year before my father had his first heart attack, our teacher gave us a sheet of paper with photos of different professions and we had to choose one. One of the people on the page was a nurse with her little cap and little white dress. I don't know what struck me about that.

When my dad was in the hospital back in the '70s, he was in ICU for extended periods of time and we weren't allowed in. We were too young. When he went to a floor, you had to be 14, but the nurses were so good with him and they knew that he needed to see us, so they broke the rules and let us in.

The nurses were great. They told him jokes; they laughed with him; they consoled when they needed to. They were just empathetic through the whole situation, and I just remember that they were really cool, and I never ever wanted to be anything else.

Q. What sort of advice can you give to people who use tobacco and want to quit?

A. The best thing you can do is ask yourself, "Am I ready to quit?"

If you can say, "I am" - without putting a "but" on the end of it - you're probably ready.

Don't wait until you're sitting in a health care provider's office being told to quit or this is going to kill you.

The first thing to do is decide you're going to do it. It is an addiction - not a habit - and it needs to be treated as an addiction. That may mean that you need counseling or need to be on meds.

When you're ready to do it, talk to a health care provider. If you decide to quit cold turkey, make sure you have someone who can be your support system and not lecture you. Take every advantage of the resources out there.

Jody Gifford is a freelance writer from West Des Moines.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007309120010>

**20.** **A New Smoking Ban Takes Effect in Des Moines Today***Associated Press*
September 4, 2007

A new smoking ban takes effect in Des Moines today.

The City Council approved an ordinance in August barring smokers from lighting up at some parks and public areas.

The rule prohibits smoking within 25-feet of playgrounds, wading pools, enclosed park shelters, community centers and golf course club houses. It's also not allowed at city swimming pools, Gray's Lake beach, Cownie baseball and soccer parks as well as Western Gateway and Westchester parks.

Some outdoor city sponsored activities will also be smoke-free.

The city says it will post signs to identify non-smoking zones.

<http://www.whotv.com/Global/story.asp?S=7023420&nav=menu100_2>

**21.** **Beer Draws Crowd**

Brian Morelli
*Iowa City Press-Citizen*
September 10, 2007

Graham Jensen and Joe Tinker set their alarms for before the sun came up Monday morning so they could drive to Iowa City, do some biking and drink microbrews.

They left Des Moines at about 4 a.m. on their way to the Old Capitol Brew Works and Public House for a coffee stout and a breakfast sandwich. It may sound a little strange, but some Iowans are that excited for New Belgium Brewing’s Iowa debut Monday, and particularly the Fat Tire Amber Ale.

“I’ve been excited for it to come to Iowa for a couple of years. I missed Saturday’s event,” Tinker, 24, said of a New Belgium bike ride in Des Moines. “So we decided we had to come out for this.”

Jensen and Tinker joined about 25 others, who began arriving at the 525 S. Gilbert St. brew pub around 6:30 a.m. About an hour later, they biked in a procession led by an Elvis impersonator riding a red Fat Tire cruiser to deliver a ceremonial first case of Fat Tire to John’s Grocery, 401 E. Market St.

Fat Tire with its quirky label that displays a red bike with swollen tires has made a mark amongst cyclists, college students, craft beer lovers and environmentalists, among others.

Starting when the parade arrived and then throughout the dreary Monday, John’s sampled the three varieties that are now being sold in the state – Fat Tire Amber Ale, a light Belgian-style beer with mild hops and malt; 1554, a black ale; and Mothership Wit, an organic Belgian wheat — and collected entry forms for the red bicycle giveaway.

“I am just happy I will not have to keep telling people why they can’t have Fat Tire,” John’s Grocery “bier guy” Doug Alberhasky said while pouring for the early morning crowd.

sold in 22 ounce bottles, costing about $3 up to about $8 in bars and restaurants. In about three months, kegs and six packs will also be distributed.

The small employee-owned brewing company based in Fort Collins, Col. makes seven beers, plus seasonal varieties. Started in 1991, the company grew slowly and strategically, which they say is the reason it took so long John’s is one of about 40 retailers in the area including grocers, bars and restaurants that will carry the popular beers. Initially, the beers will only be to begin distributing in Iowa.

Before Fat Tire came to Iowa, fans traveled 100s of miles to pick up cases from other states like Missouri, Nebraska and Illinois.

“First of all it is a really good beer,” said Ray Bennett, 35, who took part in the morning ride. “I don’t drink a lot of beer, but I enjoy drinking New Belgium products. I am really into the New Belgium lifestyle. They are a green company. They walk the walk.”

The North Liberty resident is part of a group that has been taking turns driving to Hannibal, Mo. for the last two years to bring back several cases at a time to share.

Adam Blake, 22, heard about the hubbub through Geoff’s Bike and Ski, 816 S. Gilbert St., where he works as a bike mechanic. That shop assembled the cruiser that was given away.

“I think it’s great if you can get people together at 6:30 a.m. It sets a great pace for the day,” the Iowa City resident said.

<http://www.press-citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070910/NEWS01/70910012/1079>

**22.** **Uof I Smoking Ban Waived for Kinnick Crowd**

Dave Franzman
*KCRG*
September 7, 2007

No smoking may be the campus-wide rule at the University of Iowa now. But football fans who smoke will find a game-day exception at Kinnick Stadium.

 Beginning July 1st, smoking was banned at the U of I campus within 25 feet of any building, parking garage or athletic facility. But when it came to Kinnick Stadium, the decision was to use the same rules in place last year. Smokers can light up in four open air corners of the stadium.

Since fans can't leave during the game, and get back in, the feeling was strictly enforcing the campus-wide smoking ban would make too many fans unhappy. Paula Jantz, associate athletic director, said "that was something we took into consideration . Again, we support the campus-wide no smoking policy."

However, the 25-foot rule does apply before and after the game. So fans can't smoke within 25 feet of the stadium itself.

<http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/9652417.html>

**IV.** **OTHER STATE NEWS.

23.** **Guest Opinion: Alcohol Energy Drinks Come With Risk (Arizona)**
Terry Goddard
*Tuscon Citizen*September 5, 2007

Terry Goddard is the Arizona attorney general.

Seeking to capitalize on the growing popularity of nonalcoholic energy drinks, many beverage companies are now selling versions that contain alcohol.

They have rolled out major marketing campaigns that portray the drinks as a great way to increase stamina and party till dawn.

One company trumpets its product as "a new power source for the 21st century."

"Who's up for staying out all night?" asks another ad.

Says another, "Say hello to an endless night of fun."

Such advertising, aimed at young people, suggests that the drinks have a safe, energizing effect while failing to mention the potentially severe, harmful consequences of mixing caffeine and other stimulants with alcohol.

That's why I recently joined attorneys general from 29 states in a letter asking the federal government to investigate advertising claims made by the makers of these products.

We're asking the U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau to take appropriate enforcement action against companies that make misleading health-related statements about the drinks.

These drinks present a significant health and safety risk for America's youth. Alcohol is the country's No. 1 drug problem among young people. The three leading causes of teen death - auto crashes, homicides and suicides - all are strongly associated with alcohol.

A recent medical study tested the interaction of alcohol and energy drinks. It found that caffeine and other stimulants did nothing to reduce the negative effects on people's motor skills and visual reaction times, but it did reduce their perception of alcohol intoxication.

The study makes it clear that people who consume these beverages will often falsely believe they can continue to drink and function without impairment, even behind the wheel of a car.

On the state level, I'm working with Jerry Oliver, director of the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control, to see that the alcohol drinks are not marketed in ways that allow them to be mistaken for nonalcoholic versions.

More specifically, we are asking distributors and retailers to keep nonalcoholic and alcohol versions separate and clearly labeled in stores, to review training procedures for clerks to make sure they know which energy drinks contain alcohol and to program cash registers so clerks will ask for proof of age before selling the alcohol drinks.

Alcohol energy drinks come with significant risks. Consumers, and young people especially, need to know much more than the extravagant and sometimes misleading claims made by the advertisers.


<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/daily/opinion/62015.php>

**24.** **Sam's Club Liquor Store Opens (Arkansas)
Arkansas Liquor Store Attached to Sam's Club Opens in Fayetteville**

*Associated Press*
September 11, 2007

 A liquor store attached to a Sam's Club in Fayetteville opened this week, despite a continuing legal battle over whether the store's sale of spirits violates state law.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which owns the members-only Sam's Club warehouse stores, received a permit from the state's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division in July. The permit was opposed by the Arkansas Beverage Retailers Association.

A Sam's Club membership is not required to shop at the liquor store, which is located near the interchange of Interstate 540 and Arkansas 112.

The alcohol retailers group had argued the Sam's Club liquor store violates state law, which says liquor stores can sell only alcohol and related items. But the Fayetteville Sam's Club is designed so that the liquor store is walled off from the rest off the store and will operate separately.

The lawsuit was originally dismissed by Pulaski County Circuit Judge Ellen Brantley, but later reinstated by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Arguments are scheduled for Oct. 26 in Brantley's court in Little Rock.

Wal-Mart has said the Fayetteville liquor store would hold Wal-Mart's only permit to sell liquor in Arkansas. A state law bars permit holders from having more than one permit.

Andrew Johnson, an employee at The Spirit Shop in Fayetteville, said he doesn't expect the Sam's Club store to affect sales much at his liquor store.

"We have a loyal clientele and offer speedy service. If we see someone we know pulling through the drive-through, we have their order ready at the window," he said. "I don't see someone driving down the road to save 30 cents on a case of beer."

<http://www.katv.com/news/stories/0907/454545.html>

**25.** **Panel Approves Wine Regulations (Arkansas)**

Rob Moritz
*Arkansas News Bureau*

September 7, 2007

A Legislative panel Thursday endorsed rules and regulations implementing a law enacted this year which affects how small wineries in Arkansas sell their products in grocery and other retail stores.

Also, without discussion, the committee adopted a rule allowing patrons at the state's two pari-mutuel race tracks to consume free alcoholic drinks in either facility's gambling areas.

"Amazing how that works," one lawmaker said later about the lack of discussion on providing alcohol drinks to people in the gambling areas at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs and Southland Greyhound Park.

The Legislative Council's Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations considered a variety of rules and regulations cobbled together by various state agencies in response to requests and legislation approved during this year's regular session. Some of the new rules simply deleted obsolete language.

Several of the proposed guidelines were in response to Act 668, the wineries law sponsored by Rep. John Paul Wells, D-Paris.

Wells said after Thursday's meeting that the regulations are designed to put the state's wine laws into compliance with a 2005 U.S. Supreme Court ruling which struck down a Michigan law that prohibited the state from giving preferential treatment to in-state wine producers over out-of-state wineries.

He also said Act 688 is designed to address issues raised in a federal lawsuit filed in 2005 by a Little Rock man who claimed Arkansas' laws prevented him from ordering wines directly from out-of-state wineries.

The state Attorney General's Office has asked U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright to dismiss the lawsuit.

During Thursday's committee meeting, state Alcoholic Beverage Control Director Michael Langley said one of the new regulations changes the time that small local wineries in Arkansas can begin selling wine from 9 a.m. to noon.

Stores currently cannot begin selling out-of-state wine until noon.

Langley said the rule was changed because of the federal court lawsuit.

"The crux of that lawsuit is the particular statute that we're talking about here, which is when a local, in-state winery can sell," Langley said.

If the state loses the lawsuit, in-state wines will be available for purchase only in liquor stores.

The state also could be asked to pay about $1 million in attorneys' fees if the lawsuit is lost, he said.

If the state wins the lawsuit, Langley said, rules and regulations could be changed to allow in-state wineries to return to selling wine at 9 a.m.

At Wells' request, Langley later agreed to pull a proposed regulation that would prohibit in-state wineries from actually setting their wines on the shelves at stores. The regulation would allow the wineries to restock only floor displays.

Wells said the regulation would hurt small store owners with few employees.

"This would hurt the mom and pop stores that don't have enough employees to do this," Wells said. "I think it would hurt small vendors the most."

After that regulation was pulled, the committee endorsed all the other ABC rules and regulations unanimously with little discussion.

Later Thursday, Jerry Cox, president of the Arkansas Family Council, said his group, which opposes giving free alcoholic drinks at Oaklawn and Southland, decided not attend Thursday's meeting because he doubted it would have made a difference in the panel's decision to endorse the rules.

"I'm very disappointed in the ABC board," Cox said. "They have demonstrated such a lack of responsibility. What this rule does ... is allow people that run the gambling establishments to create hazards in the community by getting people drunk and then sending them off out onto the highways after they've lost their money gambling."

<http://www.swtimes.com/articles/2007/09/08/news/news16.txt>

**26.** **Mondavi Launches "Affordable Californian Wine" (California)**

*Just-Drinks*

September 13, 2007

Mondavi has launched a new line of Californian wines for the US purporting to combine both quality and affordability.

The Constellation-owned company said today (13 September) that its Robert Mondavi Private Selection offers the consumer "reasonable pricing without compromising quality" by using grapes from the company-owned central and north coast California vineyards.

"To us, it looks like the best of both worlds," the company said. "By carefully selecting their grapes from company-owned ... vineyards, the Mondavi winemakers have been able to keep costs down without sacrificing quality."

The Robert Mondavi 2005 Private Selection shall include a Merlot, a Pinot Noir, a Zinfandel a Chardonnay and a Riesling. The series will retail at US$11 per bottle, the company said.

<http://www.just-drinks.com/article.aspx?ID=91521&lk=np>

**27.** **Tougher Parental Teenage Drinking Bill Signed into Law (Illinois)**

*Lake County News-Sun*September 5, 2007

Gov. Rod Blagojevich on Friday signed into law a bill sponsored by state Sen. Susan Garrett, D-Lake Forest that creates a felony offense for parents if bodily harm occurs as a result of underage drinking in their home.

Garrett said the bill "unfortunately" was inspired by the teen drinking party at the Deerfield home of Jeffrey and Sara Hutsell last Oct. 13 which ended when two 18-year-olds died in a car crash at the end of the driveway.

Garrett said the incident triggered "many calls from law enforcement, mayors and citizens from across the state" who urged toughening up the law. "Tools like this are really needed." The bill was unanimously supported in both chambers.

"Parents shouldn't look the other way when underage kids are in their home drinking," Garrett said. "Hopefully, this law will be a deterrent.

"By and large, parents try to do the right thing. They need help in not sending a mixed message," she said. "They can't control teens who want to drink and leave. Parents legally are not allowed to constrain teens from leaving a home."

Garrett added, "I hope this law will be another milestone to ensure cooperation between parents, teens and law enforcement when it comes to underage drinking. Our goal is to keep our communities stronger, our parents more involved and our teens safer."

Current law carries a Class A misdemeanor charge if parents allow underage drinking.

While the bill's intention is to deter parents from serving underage teens in their homes, it also sends a strong message that the state intends to be vigilant when it comes to drinking and driving, Garrett said.

"I am pleased that the governor signed this critical legislation at the beginning of the Labor Day weekend," she said.

The Labor Day weekend is among the most deadly, for alcohol-related traffic deaths, according to the Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the National Traffic Safety Administration.

[http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/news/541850,5\_1\_WA05\_DRINKLAW\_S1.article](http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/news/541850%2C5_1_WA05_DRINKLAW_S1.article)**28.** **New Drivers License Design helps Limit use of Fake IDs (Indiana)**

Mike Westervelt
*Exponent*
September 9, 2007

Sam Petry, a senior at Jefferson High School, jumps out of a fake television screen as part of the Haunted Feargrounds, located at the Tippecanoe Co. Fairgrounds.

It's been about two months since Indiana rolled out its new drivers licenses, which could reduce underage drinking in the coming months.

The new design has added security measures that adds a challenge for fake ID makers. The new license also comes in two versions, a vertical format for minors and horizontal for those over 21.

However, it may take some time before every Hoosier carries the new design.

Dennis Rosebrough, communications director for the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, says it could take years until the version becomes mainstream.

"Everybody's drivers license expires on his or her birthday and of course the renewal is every six years," said Rosebrough. As citizens continue to renew their licenses, the new versions will become more popular.

Although Rosebrough couldn't comment on all the security features of the new licenses, he said: "What I can tell you, there are embedded codes on the license and that makes them very difficult to duplicate or create counterfeits."

Although mass counterfeit distributions of the new ID haven't been uncovered, Lt. Michael Rosemeyer of the Indiana State Excise Police said other fake IDs are continuing to be an issue in West Lafayette and also across the state.

"We broke up a pretty major false ID ring with (Indianapolis University) last spring," he said. Rosemeyer hopes the new security features will reduce such operations.

He said his agency will continue to educate alcohol establishment owners and bar doorpersons about the security features of the most recent IDs.

"Here in West Lafayette, we do a good job and we'll continue to work with them and ensure they understand what to look for," said Rosemeyer.

As of yet, the manager for Bar Barry Liquors on Northwestern Avenue hasn't seen any fakes of the new version.

"The new Indiana (licenses) actually have the person's birthdate encoded and can only be seen under UV light," said Ben Reiling.

He says fake IDs still come steaming in at a steady pace, especially at the beginning of the semester. Reiling takes about three or four fake IDs per weekend and adds them to his binder.

## So far, during a 15-year time span, the liquor store has collected about 500 false IDs.

## grapes<http://www.purdueexponent.org/index.php?module=article&story_id=6894> 29. Parent: School Bus Drivers Smell of Alcohol (Indiana)

Carmen McCollum
*Times*September 9, 2007

Although he's skeptical about a parent's allegations that some bus drivers are coming to work with alcohol on their breath, school Superintendent Tony Lux said the district is investigating the claim.

Parent Philip Martin told board members Tuesday that some parents with whom he has spoken claim to have smelled alcohol on the breath of their children's bus drivers. Martin also said students are allowed to "hang out the windows and smoke on the bus." He said some drivers talk on their cell phones while driving buses and drive at excessive speeds.

Martin and his wife have five children who are home-schooled, though they said their oldest son, a high school senior, has been a student in the district every fall semester for the past three years.

Martin, who admits he has no direct knowledge of bus drivers with alcohol on their breath, said he was chosen by parents to speak on their behalf because he has no children currently in the system and would not have to worry about repercussions.

School Board President Mark Lucas said he is very concerned by Martin's statements and board members have children who also ride the school buses.

Lux said he will investigate the complaints, and anyone who is caught with alcohol or smelling of alcohol will automatically be suspended and could ultimately be terminated.

"Anyone who has that kind of information is doing a terrible disservice if they are not coming forward to report specific information," Lux said.

Lux said the district would take severe action against anyone who is aware of these activities and doesn't report it.

In the last four years, four drivers were released for alcohol or drugs in their system, Lux said. He said annual test results are audited by the Indiana State Police.

Lux said there was one case last school year in which a substitute bus driver came to work with alcohol on his breath and "he was identified and dismissed immediately."

<http://www.thetimesonline.com/articles/2007/09/09/news/lake_county/doc6dd195120666338686257350007d9068.txt>

**30.** **Voters Reject Alcohol Sales in 4 Precincts (Kentucky)**

**'We're just elated,' ban supporters say**

*Courier-Journal – Excerpt*
September 11, 2007

Alcohol sales will soon be a thing of the past in part of far western Louisville.

In a special election yesterday, 86 percent of voters backed banning liquor and alcohol sales in four precincts that take in a large portion of the Shawnee neighborhood and a sliver of Portland.

That means no new liquor licenses will be issued in any of those precincts for at least three years. Businesses that now hold licenses there will be required to stop selling liquor within 60 days of certification of the results.

The results could be certified and sent to the secretary of state as soon as tomorrow, election officials said.

Supporters of the ban were jubilant tonight after hearing news of the victory at the Spirit of Love Center, which served as their headquarters during the election.

"We're just elated. The community is sending a message that we want to improve our quality of life," said Metro Councilwoman Cheri Bryant Hamilton, who helped spearhead the anti-liquor effort. "It's going to have a ripple effect on the community in terms of positive things - employment, housing, economic development.

"This is just the first step. We're getting ready to roll out a lot of things."

At least some of the five businessmen affected by the results were more subdued.


<http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070912/ZONE07/709120836>

**31.** **Council approves expanded Sunday alcohol sales 10-4 (Kentucky)
Bottles of wine, pints of bourbon and six-packs of beer can be sold on Sundays in Lexington starting Dec. 16.**

*Herald Leader*September 13, 2007

By a 10-4 vote, the Urban County Council Thursday approved a proposal allowing the widespread sale of by-the-drink and packaged liquor on Sundays.

Currently, Sunday alcohol sales in Lexington are limited to by-the-drink sales of beer, distilled spirits and wine from 1 to 11 p.m. at restaurants that seat 100 or more customers and generate more than half their revenue from food sales. Racetracks, convention centers and some hotels also are allowed to sell on Sundays.

The vote means that any retail establishment with a liquor license can sell alcohol on Sundays. The ordinance takes effect Dec. 11, but Dec. 16 is the first Sunday when expanded sales will be allowed.

Bars, liquor stores, restaurants of all sizes, and convenience and grocery stores will be allowed to sell alcohol on Sundays. All alcohol, including beer, distilled spirits and wine, can be sold both by-the-drink, as well as in a package sale.

The approval of expanded Sunday sales didn't come easily, and many council members spoke of the difficulty of the decision. Several mentioned that they or their families had been personally affected by alcoholism.

Councilwoman Andrea James, the most vocal council opponent of the proposal, tried to table the measure and send it back to committee for more study, but her motion failed.

She then pleaded with fellow council members to delay the vote, which she said would affect quality of life in the community. She said the measure needed more discussion - as evidenced by the large crowds the issue has drawn recently. The council chambers were packed Thursday night, as they were at a public hearing earlier in the week.

"It's been rushed, and I don't know why," she said.

James, who represents the urban 1st District, said some alcohol is already available on Sundays, and there's no need for expanding sales further. "I still haven't seen a report for how Lexington will benefit economically."

Vice Mayor Jim Gray said that the council had given the proposed ordinance serious thought and consideration, and had listened to many viewpoints. He said that there was no evidence that the level of alcohol abuse would increase because of its availability on any particular day - a sentiment echoed by several other council members.

Gray said he supported the expansion of sales as a matter of fairness. Right now, some businesses and restaurants can sell alcohol on Sundays, while small restaurants and other establishments can't.

Other council members said they didn't see a groundswell of demand for changing Sunday drinking hours. Councilman Kevin Stinnett said he struggled with the decision, but pointed out that large groups of citizens weren't pushing for the change.

People have "adapted to the current law, and they are satisfied," said Stinnett, who voted against the measure.

The council held one public hearing on the alcohol ordinance. During that hearing on Tuesday, opponents, many of them pastors or church members, shared stories of family members who had been killed by drunken drivers or beaten by spouses who drank. They said expanding Sunday hours would lead to more alcoholism, alcohol-related crashes and hungover employees who would not arrive to work on time on Mondays. It would also lessen the respect for the Lord's Day, they said.

Supporters, including business organizations and supporters of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, said expanding the Sunday hours is needed to remain competitive with Louisville and Northern Kentucky, which already have longer Sunday sales hours and allow package sales. It's also an issue of fairness because some businesses are allowed to sell alcohol while others can't.

They said there are many religions in Lexington, not just Christianity, and Sunday isn't the Lord's Day for everyone.

Those sentiments were restated by both sides before Thursday night's vote. The council allowed one speaker on each side to comment for 10 minutes apiece.



**32.** **Smuggling of Out-of-State Cans into Michigan Costs State $10 Million (Michigan)**

*Detroit News*

September 6, 2007

The smuggling of illegal out-of-state bottles and cans into Michigan so they can be redeemed at retailers for a dime apiece is a $10 million annual problem that is hurting state businesses and environmental cleanup efforts, according to a bipartisan group of lawmakers who this morning announced legislation to cut down on the problem.

"This is smuggling, plain and simple, robbing Michigan one can at a time," said Rep. Steve Bieda, D-Warren, a sponsor of the two-bill package. He was joined by more than a dozen lawmakers and environmental advocates at a news conference in the state Capitol.

The problem is particularly troublesome along Michigan's southern border because Ohio and Indiana are among the states that do not charge a bottle deposit.

The lawmakers said that people from those neighboring states will purchase beer and pop in their home state and later make the short drive to Michigan to collect the deposit. A 2000 study by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality estimated that 100 million cans and bottles are illegally returned to Michigan stores each year, at a cost of $10 million.

Mike Miller, CEO of Floral City Beverage, a Monroe-based beer distributor, said the smuggling ranges from the person who cashes in an out-of-state 12-pack to more organized efforts in which pickup trucks filled with empty out-of-state bottles and cans pull up to Michigan stores to collect the 10-cent redemptions.

He said it causes a "significant negative cash flow problem" for Michigan retailers and wholesalers. He said that Michigan retailers along the Indiana border have seen more than a 17 percent decline in sales due to Michigan residents going across the border to make purchases and later returning the empties at Michigan stores. Indiana taxes are also lower, creating a further incentive to buy goods there, he said.

Under the proposed legislation, a drink manufacturer would be required to place special labels on bottles and cans sold in Michigan. It would also require reverse vending machine manufacturers to upgrade their equipment to be able to readily identify cans and bottles that were sold in other states so they couldn't be redeemed in Michigan. Violators of either measure would be subject to a $10,000 fine and/or 180 days in jail.

Michigan voters overwhelmingly approved the bottle deposit law in 1976, becoming one of the first states in the nation to do so. The law has been heralded as the chief reason why roadside litter of empty bottles and cans has virtually vanished in Michigan.


<http://detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070906/UPDATE/709060458/1003/METRO>**33. Wine Bar to Pull out all the Stops with New Technology (Minnesota)**

*St. Paul Business Journal*September 7, 2007

|  |
| --- |
| 96338-120-0 |

Blue Skies will be the first Minnesota restaurant with the Enomatic system, which preserves wine for several weeks after a bottle is opened.

Brian Gruis and Brent Mayes, partners in Cesare's Wine Bar in Stillwater, are bringing a new, technologically advanced wine bar to northeast Minneapolis.

Blue Skies will feature the Enomatic, an Italian wine-serving system that will allow customers to sample 100 different wines in portions as small as an ounce, not just by the glass or bottle. The device, which looks like a high-tech espresso machine, uses nitrogen-infusion technology to preserve wine for several weeks after a bottle is opened, allowing the restaurant to offer the smaller portions without worrying about waste.


<http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/stories/2007/09/10/story9.html>

**34**. **Ole Miss Alcohol Rules Put to Test (Mississippi)**

*Daily Journal*
September 9, 2007

Saturday's football game between the University of Mississippi and the University of Missouri was a hurdle for Ole Miss' new alcohol and tobacco policies.

After years of official but widely flouted prohibition, Ole Miss, in response to new state legislation, has begun allowing liquor and wine on campus. In accordance with Lafayette County's local option, beer still is illegal.

With the new legal status for alcohol, campus police and security personnel were focused on "underage drinking and flagrant display of alcohol, because then the assumption is that it is being distributed," said Jeff Alford, associate vice chancellor of university relations. "What we want to limit is open bars, open containers available to anybody, public displays of alcohol."

**Controlling the flow**

During the game, when much of the crowd moves to the stadium, police checked coolers that were left unattended and unlocked, pouring out gallons of beer and liquor.

"If it's unattended, it's open for anybody to drink," said one police officer who identified himself as Officer Lee. "We're trying to keep it out of kids' hands."

Some applauded the new measures.

"Everybody's nice today," said James H. Robinson, of Grenada. "Used to, you'd come in here and see all kinds of drunk people." He said in the past years he's often seen children and young adults stealing alcohol from unattended tents.

Some Mizzou fans learned that beer is illegal only after boarding the game day shuttle.

"I was just trying to be hospitable," said one.

A woman from Augusta, Ga., watched police confiscating other people's beer and said, "To me, that's going into someone's private property."

"They're going to go into some prominent alumnus' cooler, and all hell's going to break loose," her husband added.

Bubba Lindseay of Somerville, Tenn., took it in stride when he returned from the game and found his party's beer and liquor poured out.

"Whatever," he said with a shrug. "As long as they left our food, we're happy."

Ole Miss freshman Brooke Barnett of Tupelo said the county-imposed beer ban didn't necessarily make sense.

"We should be able to drink beer before we can drink harder stuff."

**Smoking 'em out**

Smoke was less evident among tailgaters Saturday, days after Ole Miss restricted tobacco use to 30 designated spots on campus, but it wasn't absent.

"I was surprised I couldn't smoke out here," said Rob Snell of St. Louis, who had been enjoying a cigar in the Grove before he was informed it was off-limits.

Others were defiant.

"I don't give a damn," said Chris Steiner of Oxford, who puffed a stogie in the Grove. "I just smoke on special occasions, and this is a special occasion."

**Score not in**

Ole Miss police can't release figures on Saturday's arrests and incidents until Monday or Tuesday, and Oxford's Saturday arrest figures were not available at press time. Oxford Police Chief Mike Martin said, however, that Friday night seemed fairly quiet for a home game weekend at Ole Miss.

"Friday nights are usually heavier than Saturday nights," he said after Saturday's game. "We'll hope for a peaceful night tonight, but we're ready."

<http://www.djournal.com/pages/story.asp?ID=251133&pub=1&div=News>

**35.** **Sheehy Leads Fight Against Underage Drinking (Nebraska)**

*KETV*September 12, 2007

Nebraska's lieutenant governor on Wednesday put out a plea to stop drunken driving among the state's youth before homecoming season gets started.

Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy said underage drinking is a big problem across the entire state, and it'll take the community to change those habits. Nebraska is in the top 10 for underage drinking violations in the nation.

"This is not a good top 10 to be in," Sheehy said, speaking the law enforcement and parents. "Alcohol causes accidents, and we want people to be safe. So we want people to make good decisions this weekend."

Dianne Riibe, with the advocacy group Project Extra Mile, said parents should reinforce an anti-drinking message in their homes.

"We know there has to be solid laws and policies in place and they have to be enforced solidly," Riibe said.

Local law enforcement will have more patrols out over the homecoming weekends.

Sheehy said the state is in a new grant cycle, and now that leaders have identified how big the underage drinking problem is, they can put more money towards coalitions and groups like Project Extra Mile.

Riibe said solid laws and strong enforcement seem to be putting a dent in the problem, but there's still work to do.

<http://www.ketv.com/news/14100999/detail.html?subid=10102001>

**36.** **Nebraska Dumps $140,000 Worth Of Wine (Nebraska)***Associated Press*
August 30, 2007

The state has dumped about $140,000 worth of wine that had belonged to a man accused of vandalizing a winery near North Platte.

The Nebraska Liquor Control Commission says it couldn't identify exactly where the wine came from or whether it would pass safety standards.

It had belonged to a former Feather River Vineyards employee, David Jurena.

Jurena has been charged with burglary and criminal mischief and faces trial next month.

He is accused of draining more than 300 gallons of wine from winery tanks last October.

Authorities say he ruined the wine by putting in too much sulfur dioxide, then dumped it to avoid being caught.

<http://www.ktiv.com/News/index.php?ID=16502>

**37.** **New Jersey: $1.7 mil for a Liquor License (New Jersey)
Do I hear $1.7 million?**

Michael Klein
*Philly Inquirer Columnist*August 30, 2007

The partners of Swanky Bubbles paid $1.6 million for their liquor license as they took over the former Olive on Evesham Road in Cherry Hill. This may be an all-time U.S. record, if lawyers who watch such issues are correct.

Also significant is that Swanky Bubbles is not some deep-pocketed chain. Besides the Cherry Hill operation, the partnership has a Swanky Bubbles in Old City and Macs in Somers Point, N.J.

The license held by Brio Tuscan Grille, an Ohio-based Italian chain that opened this week at the old Garden State Park site, cost $1.5 million.

Licenses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey are sold on the open market, subject to supply and demand.

Top prices in Philadelphia are about $70,000, while the most anyone can recall paying for one in the Pennsylvania counties is $350,000.

<http://www.philly.com/inquirer/food/20070830_Table_Talk____1_7_mil_for_a_liquor_license.html>

**38.** **5 Atlantic City Casinos Going Smoke-Free (New Jersey)**

Wayne Parry
*Associated Press*September 12, 2007

Smokers may soon be out of luck: At least five of Atlantic City's casinos are making gambling areas smoke-free.

The move comes in response to a law passed in February requiring gambling floors to be at least 75 percent smoke-free. The city's 11 casinos must tell the state by Saturday how they plan to comply with the law.

Harrah's Entertainment Inc., which owns four casinos here — Harrah's Atlantic City, the Showboat Casino-Hotel, Bally's Atlantic City and Caesars Atlantic City — said Tuesday it will spend $7 million to open smoking lounges ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 square feet apiece. Tropicana Casino and Resort has a similar plan.

That would leave the gambling floor totally smoke-free; patrons would have to enter one of the lounges in order to light up.

"We are committed to improving the work environment for our employees," said J. Carlos Tolosa, Harrah's eastern division president. "I believe this smoke-free ordinance provides our industry with a fair transitional guideline for better workplace conditions."

Resorts Atlantic City and the Atlantic City Hilton Casino Resort plan to hedge their bets by creating a smoking lounge at each casino, along with one slots area and one table games area at each casino that will be set aside for smokers.

"We have customers who are very vocal on both sides," said Tony Rodio, regional president for Resorts Atlantic City and the Atlantic City Hilton. "A number of customers are very frustrated, who say that if they can't smoke, they won't come here. I also have customers who tell me if it was 100 percent smoke-free, I'd come here all the time."

The City Council in Atlantic City had been set to ban smoking in all the casinos earlier this year but relented under fierce pressure from the industry, which said it feared losing 20 percent of its revenue and thousands of jobs if it was banned. The law requires physical barriers to prevent smoke from bothering customers and employees in non-smoking areas.

Some casinos have not yet said definitively what they plan to do.

Tom Hickey, a spokesman for Trump Entertainment Resorts, said enclosed smoking areas will be built at each of the company's three Atlantic City casinos — Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort and Trump Marina Hotel Casino. But he would not say whether they would be gambling areas or smoking lounges where gambling is not offered.

The Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa had no immediate comment on its plans Tuesday evening.

Michele Holcomb, a spokeswoman for the American Cancer Society, said she is encouraged by the trend away from smoky gambling pits.

"People want smoke-free entertainment venues," she said. "You go to a casino to gamble and dine. You don't go somewhere to smoke."

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation/AP/story/234250.html>

**39.** **New Tool to Stop Teens From Drinking, Driving (North Carolina)**

*Eyewitness News*September 8, 2007

The Mecklenburg County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board is taking its fight against underage drinking straight to students.

Friday night, officials were at the Myers Park Mallard Creek game.

They took along the first marked ABC car in North Carolina, reminding students just how serious they are about underage drinking.

The Mecklenburg ABC and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Drug Free Coalition want students to have fun, legally.

"Alcohol's not needed to have a good time. Enjoy football Friday night. Do it safely, and do it without alcohol," said Mary Ward with the Mecklenburg County ABC.

Throughout the fall, the ABC will be visiting other high school football games.

<http://www.wsoctv.com/news/14071417/detail.html>

**40.** **Mary Easley, Surgeon General Focus on Teen Drinking (North Carolina)**

*News Observer*September 12, 2007

Middle school students across the state will get lessons in how to analyze ads and other media messages that promote drinking, First Lady Mary Easley and the acting U.S. surgeon general announced today.

The program, developed with state funding, is designed to make middle school students more media savvy and less susceptiable to alcohol advertising. Teachers in Chapel Hill-Carrboro and Chatham schools already are using the curriculum.

Easley has long been active in efforts to raise awareness of underage drinking. Acting U.S. Surgeon General Kenneth Moritsugu joined her in today's news conference.

"What motivates me more than anything is tackling something that is interrupts a child's full potential," Easley said. "Alcohol does that."

The curriculum, called "Media Ready," includes 10 lessons for middle school students.

The N.C. Teacher Academy, the professional development arm of the State Board of Education, will hold a series of two-day workshops to train middle school literacy coaches and Safe and Drug Free Schools coordinators from each school district. The coaches and coordinators will in turn train teachers in their districts.

"This curriculum is effective in reducing underage drinking because it was developed by leading child clinical and developmental psychologists who are also substance abuse prevention scientists and experienced educators," Easley said.

Also today, Moritsugu is scheduled to speak as part of N.C. State University's Millennium Seminar Series, which allows NCSU students to interact with national and world leaders. Easley, who teaches in the Administrative Officers' Management Program at NCSU, coordinates the seminar series.

Moritsugu speaks at 2:30 p.m. in the Stewart Theater on campus. The presentation is open to students, faculty, staff and the public.

Moritsugu has been pushing for a reduction in underage drinking. Earlier this year, he laid out recommendations for government, schools, parents and others to prevent drinking by adolescents.

People who start drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to have alcohol-related problem later in life, Moritsugu says. He also cites research indicating that alcohol may harm the developing adolescent brain.

While tobacco and illicit drug use among teens has been declining, underage drinking remains at high levels, according to the surgeon general's office. The 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health estimates there are 11 million underage drinkers in the United States. Nearly 7.2 million are considered binge drinkers, and more than 2 million are classified as heavy drinkers.

Public parking for the seminar today is available in the parking deck at the corner of Cates Avenue and Jeter Drive. Stewart Theater is on the second floor of the Talley Student Center west of the Coliseum Deck.

**41.** **Will New Law Harvest Change or Sour Grapes? (Oklahoma)**

Jennifer Mock
*News OK*

September 9, 2007

When a bill allowing Oklahoma wineries to ship to out-of-state customers goes into effect Nov. 1, it won't lead to a drastic change.

Wineries already are allowed to ship to the 38 states that legally allow it.

Oklahoma isn't one of them, meaning wineries will continue to ship to other states. But wineries won't be able to send a bottle within Oklahoma's borders.

The new law will allow the selling of wine to customers in "direct shipment" states. Though nothing forbids a winery from shipping to other states, some feared the vagueness of the law and didn't risk it, said Gary Butler, president of the Oklahoma Grape Growers and Wine Makers Association. The new law will allow wineries to be able to ship to states that allow it without fear they are breaking the law.

But that is just a small victory, Butler said. The real fight is still fermenting.

**Hindering growth?**

Oklahoma wineries want to make Oklahoma a "direct shipment" state, allowing them to send wine to the homes of in-state customers. The change also would open the state up to other wineries, which could then ship into Oklahoma. Currently, all Oklahomans must buy wine in person, either at a winery or in a liquor store.

Allowing wineries to ship into Oklahoma would bypass the wholesalers who are responsible for selling wine to the liquor stores. It is a move most wholesalers have fought for years.

"Oklahoma wineries are really handicapped by not being able to tap into the shipping market," said Butler, who is the owner of Summerside Vineyards, Winery & Inn. "In the world of the Internet, people are used to buying products from all over the world, but unfortunately wine is tightly controlled and industry rules can get in the way of the industry growing."

Wine only can be sold through wholesalers in Oklahoma, but there is no law requiring them to carry any certain wine. If a wholesaler won't buy an Oklahoma wine, the winery has no way to sell it outside of direct sales on its premises.

Wholesalers argue there is no way to ensure minors won't be buying wine over the Internet and say the demand is not there for Oklahoma wine.

"This is a demand problem, not a supply problem," said Chad Alexander, a spokesman for several Oklahoma wholesalers. "If the demand is there, the supply will be, too."

**Compromises discussed**

Rep. Trebor Worthen, author of House Bill 1753 allowing wineries to ship out of state, said the measure helps the wine industry, but admits it doesn't solve the overall problem of direct shipment into Oklahoma. A compromise could come in the next legislative session, but it will take lawmakers from both political parties to realize they won't get all they want in a deal, he said.

One direction a compromise may go is allowing direct shipment from wineries with only a limited volume, which would include most of the small Oklahoma wineries. But even that solution has some kinks because some of the most exclusive and expensive wine comes from wineries that make only 500 cases a year, Worthen said.

Winery owner Butler acknowledges Oklahoma wineries are not the true threat in the fight - they are too small to make a huge sales impact with wholesalers - but if Oklahoma wines are allowed to ship in-state, out-of-state wineries must be allowed to ship in as well.

Before June 15, Oklahoma law allowed in-state wineries to sell directly to liquor stores, bypassing the wholesalers. But that law was thrown out, with a federal district court saying it violated the U.S. Constitution's commerce clause by giving an unfair advantage to in-state wineries not afforded to those outside Oklahoma. So any compromise would have to encompass both in-state and out-of-state wineries.

Butler said he is polling his members and hopes to talk with wholesalers before next session to see if there are areas of agreement. He said Oklahoma wineries are not opposed to the wholesaler system in general, but for smaller wineries, it isn't cost effective for wholesalers or owners.

"We want to find some middle ground that gives them the protection they are looking for and gives the small winery the ability to grow until we need the wholesalers to help sell our product," he said. "Once volume reaches a certain point, the wholesaler system will be a useful tool we will need to tap into."

<http://newsok.com/article/3122468/1189399225>

**42.** **National Speaker on Alcohol Abuse on Campus (Oregon)**

Lindsey Mullens
*Pacific Univ. Network News*September 10, 2007

PUCC and the Division of Student Life are pleased to host national alcohol abuse speaker Mike Green who will speak on campus on Tuesday, September 18 at 8:00 p.m. in the UC Commons. Don't miss this entertaining and thought-provoking presentation!

Students raved about Mike Green four years ago when he spoke on Pacific's campus. In response we have brought him back this year for another generation of students to hear his important message about taking care of yourself and your friends. Mike Green promotes safety and responsible drinking and his presentation is one you won't want to miss. Plan to join us for this entertaining lecture and Q & A afterwards.

<http://www.pacificu.edu/news/detail.cfm?NEWS_ID=3612&CATEGORY_ID=1>

**43.** **Fire Company Named in Suit over Bar Brawl Death of Fire Chief (Pennsylvania)**

Kathy Mellott

*Tribune*August 29, 2007

The Nanty Glo Fire Company has been named as a codefendant in a lawsuit seeking monetary damages in the barroom brawl death of a Tyrone firefighter.

Blair County Judge Daniel Milliron is allowing the Nanty Glo Veterans of Foreign Wars to bring in the fire company as a codefendant. The wife and two minor children of the late Ray Stringer sued the VFW a year ago.

Stringer, 43, chief of Tyrone’s Nepture Volunteer Fire Company, was drinking at the Nanty Glo VFW on Aug. 19, 2005, during the Central District Firemen’s Convention when he was struck by patron George Lightcap IV.

The family contends that Lightcap was served alcohol at the VFW bar while he was visibly intoxicated.

The VFW maintains in recent court documents that it was not alone in serving alcohol to Lightcap, and that both he and Stringer also had been served by the fire company at the fire hall and a tent near the VFW.

“If the VFW saw that Lightcap was intoxicated, the fire company should have also,” Joseph Massaro, the VFW’s Pittsburgh attorney, said in court documents.

Nanty Glo fire Chief Joseph Lamantia Jr. on Wednesday referred comment to company President Jim Campbell, who could not be reached for comment.

The suit says Stringer could have lived another 35 years. It asked for unspecified damages but noted that Stringer had been earning $72,400 annually at PPG Industries in Tipton.

<http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/local_story_241233740.html?keyword=topstory>

**44.** **Law Takes Aim at Underage Drinking (South Carolina)**

*Charleston Post*

September 10, 2007

Families and communities across this state have all experienced pain and tragedy as a result of underage drinking. The bottom line is that too many South Carolina teenagers are experimenting with alcohol, some are becoming binge drinkers, and sadly, kids are dying.

Information compiled by the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation indicates cause for alarm. Of those surveyed in grades 9-12, close to three out of four have experimented with some form of alcohol, 43 percent had at least one drink in the last 30 days, and 24 percent had five or more drinks in the last month.

This year, the S.C. Legislature took the issue head on. In June, a comprehensive bill was passed that significantly strengthened our laws related to underage drinking and imposed severe penalties for those that provide or sell alcohol to minors.

The writing of this new law began last fall when we convened a series of meetings to better understand the weaknesses in current laws, and to see what could be done to address this problem. We were fortunate to have many advocacy groups, alcohol prevention and treatment organizations, law enforcement and private industry at the table. The result was new legislation that was introduced at the beginning of session - "The Prevention of Underage Drinking and Access to Alcohol Act."

Over the next six months, the bill gained overwhelming bipartisan support and passed the Legislature. Gov. Sanford signed it into law on June 15.

Here is a brief summary of the changes:

For those under the age of 21, it is not only illegal to purchase or possess alcohol, this same prohibition now applies to those who attempt to purchase or consume alcohol. Fines and driver's license suspensions have been increased, and most importantly, a provision has been added requiring all teenagers convicted of these charges to attend an alcohol education and intervention program.

It was imperative to provide an opportunity for youth to better understand the consequences of alcohol, have access to treatment and to turn their lives around.

Fines have also been increased for merchants who sell alcohol to those under the age of 21. Additionally, there is a new requirement that these merchants attend an approved merchant education program to train them on the proper screening procedures to prevent underage purchases. And now, minors can legally assist law enforcement in testing the compliance of retailers.

A key provision of the bill, and one that our friends in law enforcement feel very strongly about, is beer keg registration. Beginning Jan. 1, anyone who purchases a keg of beer will be required to fill out a short form with the retailer and the keg will be marked with an identification tag. These steps will assist police officers in determining, and ultimately charging, the person who bought the beer when they break up a keg party where minors are drinking.

The new law is a big step forward in reducing underage drinking, but legislation alone won't solve this problem. There is a misconception that kids are naturally going to drink, and this is just a rite of passage.

As parents and as a community, we must begin to deal with this crisis in a whole different way. We have to do a better job of educating our kids about the dangers of alcohol, and continuously reinforce our stance against underage drinking.

Now that schools have started back, you will hear more about law enforcement's efforts to crack down on underage drinking. On a recent weekend in Columbia, more than 70 arrests were made for this offense alone.

Sure, on the surface, it is good to know that the new law has given our law enforcement more tools to deal with this issue.But what we are really after, and what will truly define progress, is a decline in teenage drinking and alcohol-related fatalities. Protecting, educating and guiding our children should be our top priority.

<http://www.charleston.net/news/2007/sep/10/law_takes_aim_at_underage_drinking15426/>

 **45.** **Lexington Blue Laws Likely to End (South Carolina)
County poised to meet tax standard**

Clif LeBlanc
*The State*
September 9, 2007

The change will force a shift in lifestyles in the conservative county, challenging Christian traditions of a Sabbath set aside for church, family and rest.

This fiscal year, Lexington likely will meet a state standard that automatically eliminates Sunday sales restrictions without a vote by anyone, officials said last week.

A 1985 set of laws governing sales on Sundays, commonly called blue laws, requires a county to lift restrictions if its accommodations tax collections reach $900,000 during any fiscal year.

Lexington collected $843,306 from customers at motels, campgrounds and other kinds of lodging during its fiscal year that ended June 30, according to the state tax agency.

That is $56,694 short of the legal trigger to override sales restrictions that county voters approved in 1996. The sales ban affects thousands of items and keeps many stores closed until 1:30 p.m.

Restrictions on Sunday alcohol sales would remain in place regardless of changes in store hours.

Tourism and motel promoters say the rising tide of accommodations tax collections is coming from more visitors filling rooms, increasing room rates and construction of more lodging.

“While I breathe, I’m working very hard to make it happen,” Miriam Atria, president of Lake Murray Country, said of the prospect of lifting blue laws after July 1, 2008.

Critics says the restrictions are confusing. For example, they prohibit buying shoes before 1:30 p.m. on Sundays but allow buying hosiery all day. Many necessities cannot be bought but souvenirs and novelties can be sold.

But eliminating Sunday sales restrictions rings like heresy in some quarters.

“The Fourth Commandment is to remember the Sabbath,” said the Rev. Ben Sloan of Lake Murray Presbyterian Church. “The whole idea of the Sabbath has been whittled down to just a few hours.

“To those people it’s merely an inconvenience,” Sloan said of sales restrictions. “But to Christians, it is a matter that goes to their souls, and it creates a real tension for us.”

But advocates of commerce say attractions such as Lake Murray, large Columbia-area malls, Riverbanks Zoo, major interstates and aggressive marketing, which has attracted sporting tournaments, have combined to pay financial dividends.

“I would be very surprised if we did not hit (the $900,000 standard) this fiscal year,” said state Rep. Ted Pitts, R-Lexington, a longtime advocate of eliminating sales restrictions.

Pitts said the change would not keep anyone from attending church services.

But to many in the religious community, unlimited sales would bring stark and sweeping changes.

“We value things more than we value our souls and ourselves,” Sloan said.

“People moved to South Carolina to get away from the busyness and the rush of the world,” the minister said. “It’s a way of life that we’re losing.”

**Who’s Paying?**

Eight counties have lifted Sunday sales restrictions, most by reaching the $900,000 trigger, the S.C. Association of Counties said.

Spartanburg and Pickens are the only counties to vote to lift the restrictions.

Eleven years ago, Lexington voters maintained the restrictions by a 52-47 percent vote.

Richland County lifted the ban by meeting the $900,000 trigger.

The accommodations tax is set at 2 percent by state law. It is added to sales taxes when customers check out.

Tourism-rich counties such as Horry, Charleston and Beaufort collect millions yearly.

Counties that are lesser tourist destinations have to wait and work to reach the tax trigger.

That’s been the case in Lexington.

Lexington’s estimated 32 motels have reached an average occupancy rate of almost 70 percent, figures from Smith Travel Research, a widely cited travel and tourism analysis company, show.

The number of Lexington lodgings that charge accommodations tax, including bed-and-breakfast establishments and tourist camps, has held between 55 and 65 for five years, according to the S.C. Revenue Department.

However, Lexington’s motel occupancy rates rose 13.4 percentage points between 2002 and 2006, Smith Travel reports.

On the Columbia side of the river, occupancy rates in Richland County, which has twice as many motels and hotels, grew by 2.4 percentage points during those five years.

Since 2002, Lexington rented 30,180 more rooms yearly than did Richland even though the average number of rooms available daily was 2,566 in Lexington and 7,307 in Richland, Smith Travel reports.

“The smaller county is actually selling more rooms,” Smith Travel spokesman Jan Freitag said.

Average daily room rates in Lexington have risen 17 percent during the same period, compared with 21 percent in Richland.

The demand for lodging in Lexington is driving developers to add about 250 more rooms with three motels under construction or about to break ground along I-20 or U.S. 378, said Tom Sponseller, president of the S.C. Hospitality Association.

In addition, a more than $10 million renovation of a Radisson, at I-20 and Bush River Road, and significant improvements at a Holiday Inn, near

Columbia Metropolitan Airport, indicate more visitors are expected, Sponseller said.

Many visitors passing through the capital city area stop in Lexington County because of the convenience of motels along three interstates.

But attractions such as sporting and fishing tournaments also bring thousands for longer stays.

About 8,900 competitors from 21 states, Japan and Canada participated in Lake Murray fishing tournaments in 2002 and last year, said Atria, whose organization promotes the 78-square-mile lake.

She said about 45,000 people will attend an international tournament slated for August 2008.

Softball tournaments drew 750 teams and 11,250 participants last year, according to the county recreation commission. Most came from elsewhere.

**Political Land Mines**

While the money is sweet, all the visitors inadvertently are affecting the county’s traditions in a way that elected officials have avoided.

State law allows county councils to lift the sales restrictions, but such a vote puts politicians between religious and retail constituents.

Lexington County Council has never taken a vote on blue laws, said council’s most senior member, John Carrigg.

Last spring, the S.C. House bucked a tendency to be politically safe. It agreed to a bill that would have eliminated sales restrictions statewide.

Lexington’s delegation, except Pitts, voted against the House bill.

For his vote, Pitts said he was portrayed by critics as putting commerce over God, a politically risky position in a Bible Belt state. “It’s probably hurt (my re-election chances), to be honest with you.”

Gov. Mark Sanford vetoed the bill, and the House upheld his veto in June.

Eliminating sales restrictions without a vote by residents eats at critics like the Rev. Sloan.

“Not giving the people a vote in this is, in my mind, manipulative. It’s just a sad way of imposing their will.”

But, he added, “I just feel a little helpless.”

<http://www.thestate.com/news/story/168202.html>

**46.** **Alcohol, Speed Caused Fatal Wreck, Police Say (Tennessee)**

Christian Bottorff
*Tennessean*September 9, 2007

Metro police are blaming alcohol use and excessive speed for a wreck that killed a 79-year-old man Sunday night on Trinity Lane.

Kermit Z. Smith, of Vailview Drive, died around 11 p.m. while driving his 1991 Ford Escort east on Trinity Lane near Dickerson Pike, Metro police said.

His car left the road and hit a utility pole, police said.

Smith was taken to Skyline Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead, police said.

Police found alcohol evidence at the scene, police said in a news release.

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070910/NEWS09/70910015/1001/NEWS>

**47.** **Alcohol Sales Top Issue on Ballots (Texas)
Mesquite, Rockwall, Fate, Royse City to decide on plans Nov. 6***The Dallas Morning News*September 14, 2007

Alcohol issues will dominate local elections Nov. 6 in eastern Dallas County and Rockwall County, ballots for which were finalized last week.

Voters in Mesquite, Rockwall, Fate and Royse City will consider proposals to allow beer and wine sales in stores. Mesquite and Rockwall voters also will consider whether to lift the requirement that restaurants be private clubs in order to serve alcoholic beverages.

Rockwall County Commissioner Jerry Wimpee said he wasn't sure why three cities in his county were having alcohol elections at the same time but said it could have to do with a desire to promote economic development and attract businesses.

"It could be a Chamber of Commerce-type approach that maybe each city is not competitive," Mr. Wimpee said. "Of course, it may be something as wholesome as wanting to let people exercise their right to be heard."

The Rockwall County town of Mobile City has allowed alcoholic beverage sales since 1990, and Rowlett began allowing beer and wine sales in stores in 2004. Royse City and Fate officials have long sought to attract a grocery store, and some think the prospect of beer and wine profits might help.

Other ballot issues include a property tax rollback in the Royse City school district, filling a City Council vacancy in Sachse and city charter amendments in Royse City.

In Mesquite, a group called Save Our Stores collected more than 8,000 voter signatures on petitions to put the two alcohol-related measures on the ballot; each required 7,584 signatures.

Save Our Stores says Mesquite needs alcohol sales to be economically competitive and to generate sales taxes for city services. The group's members believe sales are being siphoned off to neighboring Garland, which approved beer and wine sales in stores and lifted the private club requirement for restaurants in 2005, and to Balch Springs, which approved similar measures in 2006.

An opposing group, Save Our Community, contends that the measures would harm Mesquite's family-friendly atmosphere and give teenagers greater access to alcohol, in part by enabling beer and wine to be sold near schools.

Save Our Community also was active in adjacent Sunnyvale, where a petition drive for an election to allow beer and wine sales in stores fell short. Sunnyvale businessman Pat Wiley, who led that petition drive, said he would try again in the future.

**48.** **Attorney General wants Flavored Alcohol Drinks Taken off Shelves (Utah)**
*ABC 4 News|*September 13, 2007

Get the flavored alcohol drinks off our grocery shelves! That's the message Attorney General Mark Shurtleff delivered to the state's Alcohol Commission Tuesday.

Shurtleff and others want these drinks out of the grocery and convenience stores and into the state liquor outlets. These drinks - also called "Alcopops" - are things like Mike's Hard Lemonade or Bacardi Silver. Shurtleff says these drinks are popular among teens and can become gateway drinks to harder alcohol.

And today he told the state Alcohol Commission that it's time to act. But those behind these drinks were also at Tuesday's meeting. And one spokesman said the amount of alcohol in these drinks is similar to the alcohol in flavorings like vanilla or even rum raisin ice cream.

The Alcohol Commission did not make a decision on this issue which could also surface when the legislature meets in January.

**49.** **Effort Targets Underage Drinking (Virginia)**

*In Rich*September 6, 2007

Henrico County police are dubbing programs targeting underage drinking "a huge success" and yesterday announced a new initiative called Operation SUDS, Stop Underage Drinking and Sales.

"If we can save even one young life, then all the effort is worthwhile," Police Chief Henry W. Stanley Jr. said in a statement.

Programs designed to deter driving under the influence -- including Henrico's Party Crashers -- got under way in September 2006 and have resulted in more than 400 charges of underage possession or consumption in Henrico. The programs have resulted in more than 1,000 total arrests, Stanley said.

Stanley pointed out that throughout the prom season, spring break, beach week and graduation, no lives were lost in the county that could be linked to underage drinking.

The same day Operation SUDS was kicked off, though, Henrico police announced the arrest of an off-duty state trooper, Mark L. James, who tested at more than twice the legal limit of alcohol after he was involved in a three-vehicle accident yesterday morning on Skipwith Road.

James was driving his personal vehicle, police said.

Stanley said the new initiative will involve local law-enforcement agencies in the region as well as state police and the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

An anonymous tip line will remain in operation 24 hours a day: (804) 614-2923.

<http://www.timesdispatch.com/cva/ric/news/community/henrico.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2007-09-06-0214.html>

**50.** **Alcohol Charges up During Game Days (Virginia)**

*Collegiate Times*September 10, 2007

The return of football season at Virginia Tech brings with it an increase in alcohol charges among students.

Between the Tech Police Department and the Blacksburg Police, there were 29 arrests for public intoxication and 12 arrests for underage possession of alcohol on Sept. 1, the day of the first home football game against East Carolina.

Lt. Kit Cummings of the Blacksburg Police said that although the number of arrests on Sept. 1 is high for a typical weekend, it's on par for what they expect on game days.

"We're actively on patrol during these events," Cummings said. "We try to do what we can to stop it, but also try to make the game safe for everyone."

"That's the biggest goal of alcohol-related law enforcement, more than the punitive aspect. We want to make sure people are safe with their actions."

Cummings said there are certain triggers of drunken behavior that draw an officer's attention.

"We're looking for someone being disorderly, loud or arguing with someone," Cummings said.

"We're also looking for people drinking from an open container of alcohol in a public place, which is illegal … but the most obvious thing we're looking for is obvious and debilitating intoxication."

On game days alcohol is permitted in designated parking areas to allow for tailgating, but all alcohol must be consumed in those lots before entering Lane Stadium. Failure to abide by these rules can lead to a public intoxication charge and a $100 fine.

The punishments for underage drinking are more severe. People under 21 caught consuming or possessing alcohol can be fined up to $2500, imprisoned, and/or required to serve up to 50 hours of community service. They may also have their Virginia driver's license suspended for up to a year. Additionally, judicial sanctions from the university follow.

Aside from the police, another group is actively patrolling football games. Representatives from the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control work as undercover agents searching for public safety concerns. Their duties range from checking IDs to issuing summons for underage possession of alcohol or public intoxication.

Beth Straeten, public relations specialist for ABC, said the main focus of these agents is to make sure the game is enjoyable for everyone.

"They want to make sure the area stays safe so that students and visitors can continue to enjoy football games throughout the next week, year and the next 30 years afterward," Straeten said.

Freshman Angel Wilkins, animal and poultry science major, said drinking at football games is not only dangerous but also gives Tech a bad name.

"It looks really bad on the school," Wilkins said. "And people should want to represent their school in a good way."

Wilkins said she was surprised by the number of arrests on Sept. 1 and had anticipated it to be much higher.

"I'm sure many more than that were drunk or carrying alcohol," Wilkins said. "They were just lucky enough not to get caught."

on Trail, an attendant at the Campus Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center, agreed.

"That's not surprising," Trail said, in response to the number of arrests. "Out of 60,000 people there, probably about 40,000 of them were drinking. The most important thing is to be responsible. And to know you don't need to drink to enjoy the game."

Lane Stadium also saw a high number of arrests on Thursday, Sept. 6, at Concert for Virginia Tech featuring Phil Vassar, Nas, John Mayer and Dave Matthews Band. Officers arrested 41 people for public intoxication, seven people for underage possession of alcohol and two people for possessing someone else's driver's license. Two of the people who were arrested for underage possession of alcohol were also arrested were also charged for public intoxication.

<http://www.collegiatetimes.com/stories/2007/09/10/alcohol_charges_up_during_game_days>

**51.** **Beer Delivered (Virginia)
Next time you want pizza and beer for the big game, you may not have to leave your house.**

*WHSV*September 12, 2007

A new state law allows businesses to deliver beer and wine, and some stores are already signing up. The Midtowne Market in Harrisonburg just started delivering beer and wine to doorsteps throughout the city. While the owner, Chris Straub, says it will be great for his business, there are some concerns of having this service in a college town and he will have to be careful.

"Fortunately we'll be taking just credit cards, so that way we're going to have automatically going to have two forms of ID to check when we show up there," says Straub. "The first thing, we check that person who made the order and anyone who is in the vicinity and anyone that's underage we can't do it anymore, that's too bad."

Co-owner David Miller says his delivery workers learned some obvious signals to watch for when it comes to checking a person's legal ability to purchase alcohol.

"Cracks and peeling in the lamination. If you have multi-layers under the ID, all these things, the ABC is really good about providing us with enough information to make sure that we are in compliance, and the same tactics are employed when on the road," says Miller.

While delivering alcohol may be seen by some as promoting drinking, it does have at least one advantage when it comes to drivers on the roads.

"At the same time, we're keeping drunks off the road by going over and bringing the beer to them. So if people run out of beer, they're not going to feel pressured to get on the roads to come get it," says Straub.

"There's always going to be that 16 year old out there trying to find a way to get alcohol. We're just not going to be the ones helping them," says Miller.

There is a four-case maximum on how much beer can be delivered, and the store has to report the amount of purchases to the ABC once a month. And even though getting a license to deliver beer took a little bit of time, some paperwork, and a $65 fee, Miller believes it will be worth it.

**52.** **Panels to Highlight Evolving Beer Industry at NBWA's 70th Annual Convention and Trade Show (Virginia)***NBWA*September 13, 2007

Two timely discussion panels - Putting Distributors First: What Does That Mean? and Future Fabric of America: The Changing Faces of Beer - will round out an impressive schedule at the National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA) 70th Annual Convention and Trade Show. The premiere event in the beer industry will take place September 30-October 3, 2007, in exciting Las Vegas at the Bally's and Paris Hotels.

"The beer industry is constantly evolving, and it's crucial for distributors to keep pace with everything that is happening around them," said NBWA President Craig Purser. "We're excited to offer attendees a spectacular lineup of speakers, panels and education seminars to help them stay on the cutting edge."

Putting Distributors First: What Does That Mean? will take a close look at how NBWA and beer distributors are shifting strategies and tactics in order to address efforts to deregulate alcohol and ensure that alcohol control remains in the hands of the states. Steve Lytle, president and CEO of Mt. Hood Beverage in Oregon, will moderate this panel of beer distributors, regulators and control advocates.

**Panelists will include:**

John Dickerson, Dickerson Distributing Co.

Phillip Terry, Monarch Beverage Inc.

Lynn Walding, Iowa Department of Alcoholic Beverages

Future Fabric of America: The Changing Faces of Beer, moderated by Bump Williams of Information Resources Inc. (IRI), will bring together a distinguished panel of experts from the area of marketing, finance, retail and beer distribution to discuss the demographic and cultural changes that are currently affecting the American beer market.

**Panelists will include:**

Kevin Bartholomew, Ben E. Keith Co. Distributing

Jennifer Elena, Crosby-Volmer International Communications

Kaumil Gajrawala, UBS Investment Research

Robert Gulley, BP

The Convention's General Session will also feature Miller Brewing Company CEO Tom Long as well as Daniel Pink, the best-selling author of A Whole New Mind. Pink is an expert on innovation, competition and the changing world of work. Political power couple James Carville and Mary Matalin will speak on October 2; they will provide an overview of the current state of politics from both the left and right sides of the aisle and share their predictions for the 2008 elections.

Additionally, more than 250 exhibitors are looking forward to sharing information about their products and services with distributors at the Trade Show. The Trade Show floor will be packed with companies offering products and services to help streamline beer distributor operations, as well as promoting new innovative beverages and, of course, beer.

www.nbwa.org

