

# THE VENDING MACHINE

Dispensing news and views of the vending industry

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 "adopt a pet today" 

by Tony L. Buckholz

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!!!

We would like to wish all of our clients, suppliers, and friends the very best holiday season. Our past, present, and future success lies in the quality of the relationships we have forged with all of you. You are the greatest people in the world! We thank you for your support and wish you luck, prosperity, and happiness in the coming New Year.

## IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

During the holidays every year, one judge in Columbia City, Tenn, who loves Christmas carols, allows minor traffic offenders to pay their fines with a holiday song, rather than a check.

Most of the offenders who sing are embarrassed to do it, but as one of them admitted, it was better than paying \$160.

## HOLIDAY STATISTICS

While you are sipping your eggnog, take a few minutes to ponder the following:

- ~ Christmas tree sales by tree farmers will pass \$477 million.
- ~ The U.S. toy industry sold \$31.3 billion in products in 2008.
- ~ 71 million people shopped online from work in 2008.
- ~ Last year there were 17 decorated trees in the White House.
- ~ There is only one place in the United States named Christmas, and it's in sunny Florida.

## BAH HUMBUG

Over the past few years, January has become the month when most of our suppliers announce price increases. We have come to dread January because we never know what we are in store for. Well, the notices have started already. So far, we know of quite a few product increases, and of course Healthcare, Auto, and Workers Compensation insurance continue to skyrocket.

We expect to hear from many of our suppliers over the next month or so. As you know we try to absorb increases when ever we can. We will let you know if any changes have to be made once we know where we stand and "dreaded" January comes to an end.

## FINGER PRINTS AND LUNCH

According to an MSNBC.com story, children in Rome, GA., can now pay for their lunches with their fingers. The school system there is switching to a system that uses finger scans. In order to use the system, the children have to have their fingerprints scanned. Some parents say this makes them nervous. They are worried about the information and how is it secured.

School administrators say the new system will make lunch lines go faster. In a related story it was announced that finger prints are not yet needed to use Goodman Vending machines....just a few quarters will work nicely.

## FOR STRONG BONES, DRINK YOUR.....BEER??

Hallelujah!!! Can beer really build strong bones? According to Katherine Tucker, associate professor of Nutrition Science and policy at Tufts University, beer contains a high level of silicon, which allows the deposit of calcium and other minerals into bones.

Tucker says the benefit is there whether you drink light or dark beer, but that people should follow the consumption guidelines recommended by most experts. Two beers per day for men, and one for women.

## BITS & PIECES

- The average American drinks about 30 gallons of soda a year.
- The legal speed limit in Austria is 81 miles per hour. Germany and India do not have speed limits. Contrary to popular belief, the legal speed limit in Pennsylvania is not 90 !!!!
- Only one in five people eat their corn on the cob side to side. Most eat it in circles
- You will eat approximately 1,500 pounds of candy in your lifetime. (Hopefully you buy all of it from our machines).

Lincoln once said you can't fool all of the people all of the time...

Do you think Abe ever looked at the directions for assembling Christmas toys???