

# THE VENDING MACHINE

Dispensing news and views of the vending industry

May 20, 2009

 "adopt a pet today" 

by Tony L. Buckholz

## IT'S POST CARD TIME !!!

Please think of us while you are on vacation this summer. Send us a postcard while vacationing and we will give you a six-pack of TastyKakes. Also, whoever sends in a card from the farthest away place wins a gumball machine and gumballs. Postcards must be postmarked by August 31, 2009. Don't forget to include your name and where you work. The only rules are that you must work where we have our vending machines, and only one six pack per person. Send your postcards to us at 1000 Commons Boulevard, Reading, PA 19605.

## OBESITY- LET'S EAT EVERYTHING

It is recently being reported that obesity in children under four years of age has increased dramatically. Now there is a problem that cannot be blamed on vending machines for a change! Then again, maybe someone is making vending machine installations in cribs, nurseries, and day care facilities across the country. Either that, or maybe our nations' toddlers have an "eat everything" conscience.

We believe it's not always what you eat, but how much you eat. Do you remember the saying "eat everything on your plate"? or "Don't you know the people in (pick a location) are starving?"...or maybe you were threatened with "no dessert until you clean your plate".

And now, generation after generation have passed, and we, the once little kids are now the parents and maybe saying the same exact things to our children. As adults in restaurants we are full of guilt when we cannot clean our plate because we think it's better to have food in our belly. How do we rate the success of a big dinner? Part of that would be the good conversation around the table; the other part would be how much everyone ate. If you stuff yourself and can't move dinner was wonderful, everyone is happy, and the world is a good place. Except for the fact we are becoming obese, and suffering from an "eat everything" mentality. And that, cannot be blamed on the vending machines of the world.

## WHERE'S MY CHOCOLATE???

This is the time of the year when we start listening to the weather forecasts and prepare for the inevitable rising temperatures. Warm weather means we have to be careful when it comes to chocolate candy. The lower the melting temperature, the smoother the chocolate tastes. Confectioner's chocolate (the yummy stuff) contains cocoa butter. It not only melts faster than chocolate, but also if it gets too warm, the cocoa butter will separate, rise to the top, and turn a grayish color. Consumers refer to this as "old" or "stale" candy. The other type of chocolate is composition chocolate, and is used mostly as a warm weather replacement. Some popular bars that

are covered with composition chocolate are Baby Ruth, Butterfingers, and Peanut Chews.

Because there is air-conditioning in many locations, we will be using more confectioner's chocolate this spring and summer. We will try to transport it in coolers in our trucks.

If there is no air-conditioning in your location, we will continue to do as in the past- a few more jellies, hard candies, and licorice, along with the popular composition chocolate bars.

## VACATION SERVICE

Surprise, we go on vacation too! Over the next few months you may notice a different person servicing your machines. Although we go to great lengths to see that our service continues uninterrupted, we occasionally make minor mistakes. Maybe you will get too many Bar-B-Que chips instead of your favorite pretzels, or something like that. Just bear with us and be consoled in the fact that the fill-in-person found your machines, as well as your building (and your town, for that matter!!!!)

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ? The parachute was invented by DiVinci in 1515.
- ? Ants never sleep.
- ? Whitby, Ontario has more donut shops per capita than any other place in the world.
- ? Mosquitoes have 47 teeth.
- ? Ernest Vincent Wright wrote a novel with over 50,000 words, none of them contained the letter E.

## ABSENTEEISM

Sometimes you just don't feel like going to work. In a recent survey by CareerBuilder.com, it was reported that 33% of employees skipped work last year, telling their bosses they were sick when they really were not. Here are some of the more notable excuses:

- One employee hit a turkey while riding a bike to work.
- Another worker said his dog was stressed out after a family reunion.
- Another reported swallowing too much mouthwash.
- And perhaps the best one, one worker said his wife had burned all his clothes and he had nothing to wear to work.