

## Top Stories in Retail July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

### **Report: Walgreens to expand work-site health clinics**

**New York City (July 2, 2009)** Walgreen Co. may open "several thousand" work-site health clinics in upcoming years to take advantage of the estimated \$7.3 billion market for employer-provided care, according to Bloomberg.com.

### **Ex-CEO seeks changes to Children's Place Board**

**New York City (July 2, 2009)** Things are getting heated at The Children's Place. A group of shareholders that owns about 22% of The Children's Place Retail Stores and is led by its former CEO made another pitch to shareholders Thursday in support of its three nominees to the retailer's board.

### **Crabtree & Evelyn file Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection**

**New York City (July 1, 2009)** Crabtree & Evelyn Ltd. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Wednesday, according to Craine's New York.

### **Rite Aid regains compliance with NYSE share price list ruling**

**Camp Hill, Pa. (July 1, 2009)** Rite Aid Corp. received notice from the New York Stock Exchange that the company has regained compliance with the exchange's share price listing requirement.

### **Sears adopts universal login standard technology**

**Hoffman Estates, Ill. (July 1, 2009)** Sears Holdings Corp. announced Wednesday that it is implementing a universal login standard, called Open ID, that enables visitors to consolidate their Internet identity by providing them a single login for all of their online interactions.

### **Wal-Mart supports employer-mandated health coverage**

**Bentonville, Ark. (June 30, 2009)** Wal-Mart Stores said on Tuesday that it supports President Barack Obama's push to require large employers to offer health insurance to workers.

### **Sears offers some customers payment relief**

**Hoffman Estates, Ill. (June 30, 2009)** Sears will announce Tuesday that it is giving appliance purchasers a break on payments if they lose their jobs, according to a Monday report in the Chicago Tribune.

### **Blue Nile terminates ties with N.C. affiliates**

**Seattle (June 30, 2009)** Online jeweler Blue Nile has cut its ties with North Carolina affiliates over pending legislation, according to a report in the Puget Sound Business Journal.

### **The Pantry completes its purchase of 38 c-stores**

**Sanford, N.C. (June 30, 2009)** The Pantry said Tuesday it has completed its acquisition of 38 convenience stores from Herndon Oil Corp.

### **Best & Co. files for bankruptcy**

**New York City (June 29, 2009)** Best & Co. filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection Friday.

### **Barnes & Noble launches Apple app**

**New York City (June 29, 2009)** Barnes & Noble has launched a Barnes & Noble Bookstore application on the Apple App Store.

### **San Francisco passes mandatory food composting law**

**San Francisco (June 29, 2009)** San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom has signed legislation that will require both city residents and businesses, including restaurants, to compost food scraps, beginning this fall.

### **Survey: Shoppers to buy store brands after recession ends**

**New York City (June 29, 2009)** New consumer polling data shows that an overwhelming majority of U.S. supermarket shoppers will continue purchasing store brand products after the recession is over.

### **Report: Court reserves union ruling at Canadian Wal-Mart store**

**Regina, Saskatchewan (June 29, 2009)** A Canadian court has overturned United Food and Commercial Workers certification granted to workers at a Wal-Mart location in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, according to a Retailer Daily report.

### **Study: Self-service kiosk transactions expected to exceed \$775B in '09**

**Franklin, Tenn. (June 29, 2009)** As North American consumers continue to embrace self-service technology, transactions at self-service kiosks are expected to surpass \$775 billion in 2009, and grow to more than \$1.6 trillion by 2013, according to a new research study conducted by the IHL Group.

### **In SEC filing, Tim Hortons wants to reorganize as Canadian firm**

**New York City (June 29, 2009)** Tim Hortons said Monday that it has started to take steps to try to reorganize as a Canadian public company.

### **Red Lobster to remodel 50 locations**

**New York City (June 26, 2009)** Despite the recession, Red Lobster is moving ahead aggressively with makeovers for its restaurants.

### **Starbucks launches new green store design strategy**

**New York City (June 26, 2009)** Coffee chain Starbucks Coffee Corp. on Thursday announced a new global design strategy that seeks to reinvigorate its in-store experience.

### **EEOC sues Kmart for alleged disability discrimination**

**Washington, D.C. (June 26, 2009)** The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is suing Kmart for employment discrimination, alleging that the company fired an employee because he used a cane.

### **Foot Locker hires J.C. Penney's Ken Hicks as CEO**

**New York City (June 26, 2009)** Foot Locker on Thursday announced that its board of directors has elected Ken Hicks, J.C. Penney president and chief merchandising officer of J.C. Penney, to become its president and CEO, effective Aug. 17.

### **Report: May savings outpace spending**

**Washington, D.C. (June 26, 2009)** The Commerce Department said Friday that consumer spending rose 0.3% in May, in line with expectations.

### **Report: Target joins Ariz. market for office furnishings**

**(June 25, 2009)** Target Corp. is expanding its office-furnishings store format in the Phoenix area, according to The Arizona Republic.

### **Kroger president to retire**

**Columbus, Ohio (June 25, 2009)** The president of Kroger Co. said Thursday that he is retiring after more than 30 years with the company.

### **Report: Best Buy to open 40 mobile-phone stores**

**Minneapolis (June 25, 2009)** Best Buy Co. aims to open 40 standalone mobile-phone stores in fiscal 2009, according to the Wall Street Journal.

### **J.C. Penney president and chief merchandising officer resigns**

**Plano, Texas (June 25, 2009)** J.C. Penney announced late Thursday that Ken C. Hicks has resigned from his position as president and chief merchandising officer, effective July 6, to accept the position of CEO with a publicly traded specialty retailer.

### **Kroger CEO wants 'balance' in labor talks**

**Cincinnati (June 25, 2009)** Kroger Co. CEO David B. Dillon said both sides must find a balance as the grocery store chain faces tough union negotiations.

### **Bed Bath & Beyond posts profit on cost cuts**

**New York City (June 25, 2009)** Bed Bath & Beyond on Wednesday posted an unexpected rise in quarterly profit by cutting costs to offset slumping demand for home furnishings.

### **Walgreens to expand renovation program**

**New York City (June 24, 2009)** Based on the performance of a 35-store pilot program, Walgreen Co. will expand its customer-centric retailing initiative chainwide through 2010, according to GlobeSt.com.

### **Jewel-Osco opens second green store in Chicago**

**Itasca, Ill. (June 24, 2009)** Jewel-Osco, a division of Supervalu, expands its commitment to environmentally friendly building design with the opening of its store at Marshfield Commons, a new center in Chicago, on Thursday.

### **Walgreens goes green with nation's first LEED-registered drug store**

**Deerfield, Ill. (June 24, 2009)** Walgreens on Wednesday opened the nation's first drug store built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification standards.

### **New CEO set to take helm at Best Buy**

**Minneapolis (June 24, 2009)** Brian Dunn is set to become the next CEO of Best Buy Co. on Wednesday. Dunn, 49, succeeds retiring CEO Brad Anderson to become the third person to lead the nation's largest consumer electronics chain.

### **Carl's Jr. signs on for digital TV network**

**Dallas (June 24, 2009)** Indoor Direct announced Tuesday that it has signed an agreement with Carl's Jr. to bring its restaurant digital TV network to 133 locations of the burger chain.

### **Rite Aid narrows Q1 loss, but lowers 2010 forecast**

**Camp Hill, Pa. (June 24, 2009)** Rite Aid Corp. said Wednesday it narrowed its fiscal first-quarter loss by closing stores and trimming costs, but it expects a greater deficit for the year due to refinancing expenses.

### **Saks CEO reduces orders to boost profits**

**New York City (June 23, 2009)** Saks CEO Stephen Sadove said Monday that the company is aiming to order at least 20% less from its vendors in 2009 and forecasts a subsequent jump in gross margin, according to a report by Bloomberg.

### **TJX reaches data theft settlement**

**Framingham, Mass. (June 23, 2009)** TJX Cos. said Tuesday it will pay \$2.5 million to create a data security fund for states, as well as a settlement amount of \$5.5 million and \$1.75 million to cover expenses related to the states' investigations.

### **Office Depot gets \$350M investment**

**Boca Raton, Fla. (June 23, 2009)** Office Depot said Tuesday that private-equity firm BC Partners has made a \$350 million investment in the company.

### **Survey: Weekly retail sales fall 0.9%**

**New York City (June 23, 2009)** The International Council of Shopping Centers and Goldman Sachs report for chain-store sales for the week ended June 20 showed a drop of 0.9% from the year-ago period.

### **RadioShack names senior VP/CIO**

**Fort Worth, Texas (June 23, 2009)** RadioShack Corp. said Monday it had appointed Sharon Stufflebeme senior VP and CIO.

### **Survey: Shoppers splurge on their homes**

**Granville, N.Y. (June 23, 2009)** A survey conducted by an outdoor furniture manufacturer found that 44% of shoppers who agree they want to splurge, want to do so on their homes.

### **Wal-Mart names Cole Brown as chief diversity officer**

**Bentonville, Ark. (June 22, 2009)** Wal-Mart has appointed L. Mecole "Cole" Brown to serve as chief diversity officer.

### **Barnes & Noble names exec VP across channels**

**New York City (June 23, 2009)** Barnes & Noble said Tuesday it has named Jamie Iannone as executive VP, shopping, Barnes & Noble.com and Barnes & Noble digital.

### **Abercrombie & Fitch to debut Epic Hollister format**

**New York City (June 23, 2009)** Abercrombie & Fitch said Tuesday it will open a Hollister Co. flagship, called Epic Hollister, in downtown Manhattan on July 16.

### **Report: July 4 holiday to bring out consumers**

**Washington, D.C. (June 22, 2009)** More people will celebrate the July 4 holiday this year than last year, according to the National Retail Federation's 2009 Independence Day Consumer Intentions and Actions Survey, conducted by BIGresearch.

### **Dunkin' Donuts plans a dozen Dayton stores**

**Canton, Mass. (June 22, 2009)** Dunkin' Donuts plans to open a dozen locations in the Dayton, Ohio area over the next seven years, according to the *Dayton Business Journal*.

### **Anchor Blue to close 46 underperforming stores**

**Ontario, Calif. (June 22, 2009)** Anchor Blue, a specialty retailer of casual apparel and accessories for the teenage and young adult markets with 177 stores across 12 states, is closing 46 underperforming stores nationwide as part of its overall restructuring plan.

### **Walgreen profit drops on reorganization costs**

**(June 22, 2009)** Walgreen Co. said Monday its profit fell 9% in the fiscal third quarter despite improving sales -- as greater expenses, including its reorganization efforts, reduced its income.

### **Jack in the Box to sell 55 c-stores**

**San Diego (June 19, 2009)** Jack in the Box Inc. announced Friday it has entered into an agreement to sell 55 of its 61 Quick Stuff convenience stores and gas stations to an undisclosed buyer.

### **Tommy Hilfiger to open global flagship in Manhattan**

**Seattle (June 19, 2009)** Tommy Hilfiger Group has announced the September 2009 opening of its global flagship, located on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue.

### **Barnes & Noble scales back 2009 openings**

**New York City (June 19, 2009)** Even with a store opening celebration under way Friday in Manhattan, Barnes & Noble said it will reduce its store openings for the rest of the year, according to a report in the *Wall Street Journal*.