ICBV Office Update

March 28, 2017

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**\*\*1** Calendar of Events

**April 18-21. 2017**

**NAMA and NFBEI/RSA Training in Vegas**

From Terry Smith, NFBEI - Mark your calendars now! The NFBEI and the RSA Management Group will be conducting a half-day training for Randolph-Sheppard stakeholders in conjunction with the NAMA One Show in Las Vegas April 18-21.

**April 22, 2017 Saturday**

The **Illinois Association of Blind Students**, the student chapter of the NFB of Illinois, presents a **2017 Student Spring Seminar:** BEATING the BARRIERS

WHERE? Holiday Inn Midway: 6624 S. Cicero Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

SAVE THE DATE:

**May 4 – 6 2017**

**Illinois BEPB/ICBV Spring Election Committee Meetings**

Abe Lincoln Hotel, Springfield IL

SUBJECT: Upcoming ICBV Meeting, Election and Training Conference

We are looking forward to meeting with all of you at the upcoming Training Conference being held at the President Abraham Lincoln (Doubletree Hilton) Hotel in Springfield, Illinois. The telephone number is 217-544-8800.

On Friday, May 05, 2017 the Illinois Committee of Blind Vendors (ICBV) will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

On Friday, May 05, 2017 starting at 7:00 p.m. the ICBV will hold their annual election. A roll call of attendance will be conducted. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. and we expect to have the election completed by 9:00 p.m. Attached is a copy of the 2017 Illinois Committee of Blind Vendor’s list of Incumbents and Nominee form. We will be conducting a general business meeting and distributing trust fund checks at the conclusion of the election.

On Saturday, May 06, 2017 registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a roll call of attendance at 9:00 a.m. and a half day training session.

Illinois Members - Please remember that your attendance at our annual training session is required and part of your ongoing certification.

SAVE THE DATE:

**September 12-15, 2017**

**NABM BLAST 2017**

Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel

Tradeshow September 13th

Mark Your Calendars Now!!!!

Visit [www.blindmerchants.org](http://www.blindmerchants.org) for more information as it becomes available. For more information, contact Nicky Gacos at [nickycolorado@netscape.net](mailto:nickycolorado@netscape.net) or call him at (908) 464-5359 or contact Terry Smith at [terrysmith@epbfi.com](mailto:terrysmith@epbfi.com) or 865-599-7148.

**July 17-28 2017**

The National Federation of the Blind is excited to offer its **Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning Program,** BELL, this summer in Illinois. This is a great opportunity for Braille skills to be addressed in a fun and new environment.

Where: The Chicago Lighthouse 1850 W. Roosevelt Rd. Chicago, Il 60608

When: Monday- Friday, July 17-28 2017

Times: 8:30-3:30

Cost: $50

For more information please visit: <https://nfb.org/BELL-academy>

**July 31- August 4, 2017**

The National Federation of the Blind is excited to offer its **Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning Program**, BELL, this summer in Illinois. This opportunity will be a weeklong residential program on Illinois State University’s campus.

Where: Springfield, IL

Who: Blind child/Parent pairs

Cost: $50

For more information please visit: <https://nfb.org/BELL-academy>

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**\*\*2** Shared by Commissioner John Fritchy - **Don't let your unpaid taxes get sold!**

**The April 3rd Tax Sale - What You Need to Know**

Please make sure that you are up to date on your property taxes. Homeowners whose delinquent taxes are sold will need to pay their bill with high interest, fees and penalties. If the property owner doesn't pay the taxes before the deadline - usually 2.5 years - the tax buyer can go to court and obtain ownership of your property. Owners of commercial and industrial properties may only have six months.

The Annual Tax Sale is an auction of unpaid taxes that the Treasurer's Office is required to conduct by state law. The 2015 Tax Sale begins this year on April 3, 2017.

My office has been sent a list with hundreds of properties in the 12th District that are at risk of having their taxes sold at this upcoming sale. Some of these homeowners may have already received notice from the Treasurer's office that their taxes could be sold, but in some cases, the notice letters sent by the Treasurer were returned as undeliverable by the post office.

If you would like more information, please see below.

What’s a Tax Sale?

By law, the Cook County Treasurer’s Office is required to put delinquent taxes–but not the property–up for auction.

The April 3, 2017 Tax Sale is for taxes that weren’t paid when due on

March 1 and/or August 1, 2016.

It is called the 2015 Annual Tax Sale because taxes imposed in 2015 are collected in 2016.

What happens at the Tax Sale?

Investors called “tax buyers” bid on the right to pay the overdue taxes. This is called “buying the taxes.”

What should you do?

Check to see if your property taxes are going up for sale.

Go to <http://cookcountytreasurer.com/> to look up your Property Index

Number (PIN). Use the website to look up your property or see the list of properties with delinquent taxes.

Call the Treasurer’s Office at (312) 443-5100

Visit the office at Room 112, 118 N. Clark St., Chicago, Illinois 60602.

What if your property taxes are going up for sale?

By law, the only way to avoid the sale is to pay all taxes and interest due before the Tax Sale.

How do you pay?

Until April 1, the most efficient and fastest way to pay is at

<http://cookcountytreasurer.com/>.

If you are not paying online, all payments in person must be made by: Certified check, Cashier’s check, Money order, or Cash

What if you think there is an error?

Call the Treasurer’s Office at (312) 443-5100 or visit the office with proof of payment.

What if your lender is supposed to pay the taxes?

Contact your lender to request proof of payment. Make sure the PIN is correct.

What if your taxes have already been sold?

After a tax sale, to avoid a loss of property, the owner must repay the Cook County Clerk the back taxes, interest and fees. This is called “tax redemption.”

The Cook County Clerk is located at 118 N. Clark, Room 434, or you can visit their website at CookCountyClerk.com.

How can you lose your property?

If the property owner doesn’t pay the taxes before the deadline, usually 2½ years, the tax buyer can go to court and obtain ownership of your property. For commercial properties, the deadline typically is just six months.

Note from me, Kathy - I tried to do a search of the 50,000 plus entries on the list of homeowners at risk, I am happy to report that I did not find any ICBV members on the list. But PLEASE if there is any chance you or anyone you know still have outstanding property taxes in Cook County that you address it before April 3, 2017

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**\*\*3** From Tom Cullen, **Cullen & Associates Session Update**

The Illinois House adjourned on Thursday, and the Senate was not in session this week.  Both Chambers will reconvene Tuesday, March 28th at 12 p.m.  One week remains to consider substantive House bills in House committees.  Friday, March 17th was the deadline to pass substantive Senate Bills out of Senate committees; however, the Senate extended deadlines on 340 substantive Senate Bills still pending at the committee level.

House members have been asked to prioritize House bills for floor consideration to ensure each member has the opportunity to present their priority bills prior to the Third Reading deadline on April 28th.  Members are being asked to submit their top 3 priorities.

The Illinois Senate is likely to consider its Grand Bargain legislation again, possibly as early as next week.  Senator Cullerton filed two amendments to the Senate’s Grand Bargain pension legislation late last week.  [SB 0016 (SFA 0003)](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=16&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=98859&SessionID=91) removes the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund from provisions authorizing specified pension funds to establish certain benefits if the governing body of the unit of local government adopts those benefits by resolution or ordinance.  [SB 0016 (SFA 0004)](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=16&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=98859&SessionID=91) deletes inseverability language from provisions that make funding changes and that establish defined contribution plans for certain Tier 1 employees.  Both amendments have now been referred directly to the Senate floor for consideration. Senator Connelly’s pension reform legislation ([SB2173](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2173&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=106372&SessionID=91&GA=100) and [SB2172](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2172&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=106371&SessionID=91&GA=100) ) has been assigned to the Senate Executive Committee, but not yet scheduled for a hearing.

Senator Heather Steans and Representative Kelly Cassidy filed companion amendments ([SB 0316 (SFA 0001)](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=316&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegId=100256&SessionID=91) and [HB 2353 (HCA 0001)](http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2353&GAID=14&DocTypeID=HB&LegId=102973&SessionID=91)) to create the Cannabis Regulation and Taxation Act, which would legalize cannabis in Illinois.  The bills would make it legal for adults 21 and older to possess, grow, and purchase limited amounts of marijuana.  The State would license and regulate businesses that cultivate, process, test, and sell marijuana to adults.   The legislation also proposes taxing marijuana at a rate of $50 per ounce at the wholesale level, with retail sales subject to the State’s standard 6.25% sales tax.   SB 316 FA # 1 is pending in the Senate Assignments Committee.  HB 2353 CA#1 is pending in the House Rules Committee.

HB3393 (Welch) passed the House Revenue Committee on a partisan roll call. The legislation imposes a privilege tax at a rate of 20% on partnerships and S corporations engaged in the business of conducting investment management services, until such time as a federal law with an identical effect has been enacted.  An amendment clarified that the privilege tax will be on the fees earned from the investment strategy of an investment manager.  The Act does not take effect at all unless the states of Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York enact laws having an effect identical to this Act.  HB 3393 is now on 2nd Reading in the House.

Two bills creating prohibitions for “expatriate corporations” have been approved by substantive committees.  SB 1978 (Hastings) and HB 3419 (Andrade), introduced on behalf of the Illinois Treasurer's Office, prohibit "expatriate corporations" from bidding on state contracts and forbid state pension funds from investing in "expatriate companies."  An expatriate company must operate in a "foreign tax haven," which includes Andorra, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cook Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, Dominica, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guernsey-Sark-Alderney, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montserrat, Nauru, Netherlands Antilles, Niue, Panama, Samoa, Seychelles, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Tonga, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Vanuatu.  In addition, the Department of Revenue can add to the list of countries by administrative rule.

HB 2957 (Fine/Mulroe), the negotiated medication synchronization bill, recently passed the House and was assigned to Senate Assignments this week.  The bill provides for the coordination of medication refills for a patient taking 2 or more medications for one or more chronic conditions so a patient’s medications are refilled on the same schedule.

Democratic State Senator Daniel Biss announced his candidacy for Governor this week.  Biss, who is the first legislator to announce a Gubernatorial bid, joins a growing list of Democrats who hope to win the party’s nomination to challenge first-term Republican Governor Bruce Rauner in the November 2018 election.

Governor Rauner and the Department of Innovation & Technology announced a plan for state cybersecurity for the State of Illinois. The plan outlines five strategic goals with action plans to protect state operations and the personal information of Illinois residents. The goals include protecting State of Illinois information and systems, reducing cyber risk, providing best-in-class cybersecurity capabilities, instituting an enterprise approach to cybersecurity, and having a cyber secure Illinois.  The cybersecurity plan would only directly cover executive branch state agencies.

The Illinois Supreme Court ruled 7-0 to overturn a 2016 lower court’s ruling that had previously declared unconstitutional the 2012 Illinois law regarding not-for-profit hospitals and property tax exemptions.  Citing a legal technicality, the Court declined to rule on the merits for and against the constitutionality of the 2012 law, leaving open the option to consider that issue in the future.  The Court said that the 4th District Appellate Court lacked “appellate jurisdiction” to review the Champaign County Circuit Court’s summary judgement in favor of Carle Hospital.  The Court overturned the Appellate Court decision and returned the case back to the Circuit Court for further proceedings.    Since January 2016, approximately 100 exemption requests by hospitals have been put on hold pending the outcome of this case. A copy of the Supreme Court’s ruling is [here.](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/Opinions/SupremeCourt/2017/120427.pdf)

MEDICAID

The Department of Healthcare and Family Servies is opposing any legislation that would affect Medicaid managed care organizations in light of the RFP issued last month that seeks to provide capitated managed care statewide.  Due to this opposition, many bills are being held at the committee level or on the Order of Second Reading.  Managed care organizations that attended the mandatory bidders conference earlier in the month include:  Addus HomeCare, Aetna Better Health of Illinois, Agilon Health, AltaStaff LLC, Anthem Inc., Beacon Health Options, BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois, Canary Telehealth, Cigna HealthSpring, Community Care Alliance of Illinois, CountyCare/CCHHS, Engaging Solutions LLC, Family Health Network, Fineline Printing Grou,p FoCoS Innovations, Harmony/WellCare, Humana, Illinicare Health, MCNA Insurance Co, Molina Healthcare, Meridian Health Plan, NextLevel Health Partners Inc., Trusted Health Plan, United Healthcare Community & State, United Health Care & Community State/Optum, and Valence Health/Evolent Health.  The State will choose 3-5 statewide plans and 1-2 Cook County only plans.

**Total Care Coordination Enrollment for All Programs - as of February 1, 2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Program** | **February 2017** | **January 2017** | **February 2016** |
| **Total ICP Enrollment** | 114,544 | 112,855 | 119,761 |
| **Total MMAI Enrollment** | 47,492 | 45,511 | 49,238 |
| **Total FHP/ACA Enrollment** | 1,777,029 | 1,772,723 | 1,896,329 |
| **Total MLTSS Enrollment** | 27,680 | 27,720 | - |
| **Total** | 1,966,745 | 1,958,809 | 2,065,328 |

**Total Enrollment for Primary Care Case Management Program -** **as of January 1, 2017**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Program** | **February 2017** | **January 2017** | **February 2016** |
| **Total PCCM Enrollment** | 321,542 | 322,193 | 330,721 |

This week, the federal Health and Human Services Department launched a new page on [HHS.gov](http://hhs.gov/) highlighting the regulatory and administrative actions the Department is taking to relieve the burden of the current healthcare law and support a patient-centered healthcare system.   “We’re taking action to improve choices for patients, stabilize the individual and small-group insurance markets, and expand access to more affordable coverage,” said Secretary Tom Price, M.D. “This page will be the place to go for updates on our ongoing efforts.”   The actions are part of a broader plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.   
  
[Click here to see the newly launched webpage explaining the Department’s actions](http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTcwMzIwLjcxMzIwMjIxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE3MDMyMC43MTMyMDIyMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3Mzk4OTc4JmVtYWlsaWQ9bW1hcnRpbmlsQG1zbi5jb20mdXNlcmlkPW1tYXJ0aW5pbEBtc24uY29tJmZsPSZleHRyYT1NdWx0aXZhcmlhdGVJZD0mJiY=&&&101&&&https://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/empowering-patients/providing-relief-right-now-for-patients/index.html).  
  
New measures will be announced as soon as is allowable by law. In particular, future actions will:

Lower costs and increase choices by providing relief from the burdensome regulations and fostering competition in insurance markets;

Work to ensure a stable transition period;

Offer states greater flexibility of their Medicaid programs to meet the needs of their most vulnerable populations; and

Increase the opportunities for patients to get the care they need when they need it.

**Key 2017 Session Dates:**

March 31st – Deadline to pass House Bills out of House Committee

April 4th – Municipal Election

April 28th – Third Reading Deadline, both Chambers

May 12th – Deadline to pass House Bills out of Senate Committee

May 19th – Deadline to pass Senate Bills out of House Committee

May 26th – Third Reading Deadline, opposite Chamber

May 29th – Memorial Day – Session scheduled for both Chambers

May 31st – Scheduled Adjournment

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**\*\*4 IAMC Legislative Report** (areas not covered above)

On Friday House Republican Leader Durkin called on Speaker Michael Madigan and the House Democrats to join the House Republicans in passing comprehensive pension reform that includes $215 million to the Chicago Public Schools for a one time pension parity payment. Durkin said he has 26 votes for the proposal and called on Madigan to provide the other 34 votes needed to move the bill forward. However, Senate President John Cullerton, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and CPS have said they want permanent CPS pension funding in exchange for permanent pension reforms. The provisions of HB 4027 include:

Senate President Cullerton’s “consideration model” that would require members of TRS, SURS, SERS, GARS, and CTPF to exchange their Tier 1 COLA for the right to have future raises to be counted as pensionable, or keep their COLA and sacrifice future raises as pensionable.

Provides a one-time normal cost payment to the Chicago Teachers’ Pension Fund of $215.2 million for FY 17.

Closes new member participation in GARS.

Offers Tier 1 TRS, SURS, SERS and GARS employees the option to participate in a defined contribution plan.

Creates a voluntary Tier 3 hybrid defined benefit/defined contribution plan for new Tier 2 employees under TRS, SURS, and certain SERS members who do not participate in Social Security.

On Wednesday the Senate Appropriations I and II Committees held a joint hearing in Chicago to discuss the status of the Illinois economy, state deficit and FY18 budget. Testimony was presented by Thomas Walstrum of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and Laurence Msall of The Civic Federation. According to Walstrum, traditionally, Illinois used to be a relatively low-expenditure, low-revenue state. Starting in the mid-1990s, Illinois’ spending consistently outpaced its revenues. Particularly, the accumulation of pension liabilities has become a major source of Illinois’ fiscal problems. Also, pension spending in Illinois is a significant part of spending compared to other states. Economic growth alone is not going to solve the budget hole because debt is too high. Msall said that negative consequences of not having a budget are such things as higher debt payments, social costs, higher interest rates, uncertainty, economic impact, etc. His recommendations: Broaden the income tax (raise the rate and tax retirement income) and sales tax (lower the rate and expand to services) bases, expand the earned income tax credit to low income residents, borrow to pay down bill backlog, consolidate local governments, limit state spending growth to 1.7% through FY22 and take steps to address the state’s pension crisis.

A Cook County judge ruled on Thursday that Illinois General Assembly members must be paid on time despite not having a budget in place. Last year, then-Comptroller Munger put lawmaker paycheck in line with other past due bills in an effort to make them feel the pain of the budget stalemate. Several Democratic legislators sued Munger, claiming she was in violation of the Illinois Constitution through executive branch interference with the legislature. Cook County Circuit Judge Rodolfo Garcia ruled current Comptroller Mendoza needs to pay up, citing a 2014 law passed after former Governor Quinn withheld paychecks over pension reform. Mendoza said she will comply with the order and would also ask her lawyers to appeal the judge’s ruling. Munger, who is now deputy governor, issued a statement saying that the victory by legislators was an example of lawmakers putting their own paychecks ahead of taxpayers, human services and those in need.

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**\*\*5 Shared by Denise Avant, President NFBI**

Here is a recent message from President Riccobono in the President's

Notebook for the week of March 20, 2017. Please read.

**Call to Action: Opposition to H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017:**

As you know, we ask members from time to time to contact their representatives in Congress in support of legislation that would benefit the blind community. But today I am calling upon all Federationists to contact their representatives in opposition to H.R. 620. The phone number for the

Capitol switchboard is (202) 224-3121. From there, simply ask to be connected with your representative. In addition, please call the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Robert Goodlatte, at (202) 225-5431.

Here are some brief talking points to share with the offices of your representative and Chairman Goodlatte:

(1) the ADA was enacted in 1990, so covered entities have had ample time to learn about and comply with the law;

(2) the ADA already contains an "undue burden" provision to protect covered entities when the costs of making facilities accessible are too high; and

(3) Title III of the ADA (which applies to public accommodations) does not allow monetary damages for noncompliance.

The National Federation of the Blind has joined with 216 other allied civil rights organizations in opposing this bill. You can read our joint letter at

<https://nfb.org/images/nfb/documents/pdf/sign-on-letters/comments_on_hr620_03162017.pdf>

If you want to know how this bill would affect us, consider internet access guaranteed under the ADA and our comments filed with DOJ last October as just one example.

<https://nfb.org/ada-title-ii-internet-regulations-joint-sanprm-comments>

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**\*\*6** This week on Eyes On Success

1713 **Ultra Sports Challenges** (Mar. 22, 2017)

Erik Weihenmayer, the first blind person to summit Mount Everest, has released a new book called ?No Barriers: A Blind Man?s Journey to Kayak the Grand Canyon?. Hosts Nancy and Peter Torpey talk with him about his adventures and about ?No Barriers?, an organization he co-founded whose mission is to help people with challenges face barriers head on.

The audio and show notes for this episode can be found at:

[www.EyesOnSuccess.net](http://www.EyesOnSuccess.net) The podcast can also be found on iTunes.

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**\*\*7** From **Hadley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

Seminars@Hadley Presents: **Meet Amazon Echo and Alexa**

Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM CDT; 15:00 GMT

Interested in bringing a little of that “Jetson-esque” type technology into your home? Then meet Amazon Echo and Alexa! Experience how the Echo device, connected with Alexa, plays music and Audible books, reports information, news, weather and more with only a voice command.

Join Seminars@Hadley as presenters Vivian Seki and Patrick Sturdivant give a demonstration of what this tabletop device can do. Dawn Turco, a member of the Seminars@Hadley team, will moderate this 30-minute discussion. Register now for Meet Amazon Echo and Alexa. <http://hadley.edu/SeminarDetails.asp?sid=359>

NEW PLATFORM: This seminar will be brought to you in the Seminars@Hadley new platform, Blackboard Collaborate Ultra. Please review the Technical Assistance page carefully prior to the seminar. <http://hadley.edu/Seminar_BB_Help.asp>

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**\*\*8** From Vending Market Watch - **Flexibility Granted For Cook County, IL Vending Operators Regarding Sweetened Beverage Tax** MAR 27, 2017 SOURCE: NAMA

In a recent letter to NAMA members, Eric Dell senior vice president of government affairs, explained the update in compliance following the passage of Cook County, IL's sweetened beverage tax.

Excerpt from the letter: Following outreach and education by NAMA and Chicago convenience services industry leaders, we are happy to announce that the Cook County Department of Revenue has provided flexibility for certain vending operators to register as a distributor and remit the County's sweetened beverage tax payments directly.

Following the passage of the Cook County sweetened beverage tax, NAMA began seeking compliance flexibility for vending operators and distributors. Following strong advocacy and education efforts with the Cook County Department of Revenue, which included an in-person visit to AH Management Group, Inc., flexibility to remit the tax was granted.

The flexibility provides that retailers (vending operators) who meet the following criteria are permitted to register with the Department and remit monthly tax returns in the same manner as a distributor:

(1) The retailer is not also a distributor by definition (further clarification provided below);

(2) The retailer has multiple (more than 2) retail locations, both inside and outside of Cook County;

(3) The retailer stores product it purchases from other businesses in a retail distribution center; and

(4) The retailer transports product from its retail distribution center to its retail locations, both inside and outside of Cook County.

"This common-sense flexibility will provide savings to vending operators and distributors while also streamlining the process for the Cook County Department of Revenue." We appreciate the Cook County Department of Revenue taking time to visit our location and educate themselves on the industry." said Linda Furlano, V.P. of Administration at AH Management Group, Inc. and Vice President of the Illinois Automatic Merchandising Council (IAMC).

"This is yet another example of how results are achieved when industry leaders and NAMA partner to protect the industry. This is a big win." said Donnie Anderson, Chairman of Illinois Committee of Blind Vendors who assisted in this effort.

The Cook County notice on this flexibility can be found by clicking here. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/g4lq8b8jko93pud/sweetened-beverage-tax-regulation-2017-1.pdf?dl=0>

We would like to thank the IAMC and the nearly 40 companies that signed the letter seeking this flexibility. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/w73l9nkjx1vbpfj/NAMA%20Letter%20to%20Cook%20County%20re%20Penny%20Per%20Tax_Final.pdf?dl=0>

Note from me, Kathy - Once again, our one and only Donnie Anderson out of all of the Vending Operators out there; he is one of the only two pictured and mentioned in this very important effort being worked out in Cook County. Thank you Donnie Anderson.

For the link to full article and picture click this link: <http://www.vendingmarketwatch.com/news/12319707/flexibility-granted-for-cook-county-il-vending-operators-regarding-sweetened-beverage-tax?utm_source=VMW+Today&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=AUTM170321002&rdx.ident%5Bpull%5D=omeda%7C0441H3984723J8E>

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**\*\*9 Broker News, Patterson, INC Cathy Aldredge**

**Snackwells** Buy two, get one free

Item # 34004 Snackwells Cookie Vanilla Crème Sandwich Cookie

Item # 34007 Snackwells Cookie Chocolate Crème Sandwich Cookie

You must call Cathy direct 847-744-0399 and have her prebook the order for you.

**Little Debbie** – Try a new variety of Little Debbie vend products and you can save up to 3 cents per unit. Items included in this promotion are: Fudge Round, Nutty Buddy Bars, Zebra Cakes, and Marshmallow Treats. Available on products that operator has not purchased in the last 6 months. You must call Cathy direct 847-744-0399 and have her prebook the order for you.

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**\*\*10** **RSA Management Group Information**

Don't forget - This is the last week for all March deals. Have a great week!

RSA Management Purchase Power Deals

Earn Extra Rebates on the following:

NEW DEALS THIS WEEK

GRAZE SNACKS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

8% per case Graze Snacks – All Products

LIFESTYLE FOODS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

5% per case Lifestyle Foods Fresh Food – All Products

Deals ending in March

CHEESEWICH

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.44 per case Cheesewich Meat and Cheese Snacks– All Products

FOLGERS

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case Folger’s Vacket - All Products

$3.00 per case Folger’s Filter and Frac Packs – All Products except Premium

$4.00 per case Folger’s Premium Filter and Frac Packs – Café Bustelo Regular and Decaf, Black Silk Frac or Filter, Folger’s Classic Roast Filter, Folger’s 100% Colombian Fitler. \*\*\*Purchase 50 Premium Tier Cases and receive a $200 bonus\*\*\*

FRITO LAY – ITEMS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL MARKETS

Deal Date: MARCH 5, 2017- APRIL 2, 2017 – TAKE DELIVERY BY APRIL 15, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.92 per case Sunchips – Whole Grain Harvest Cheddar (44427)

$1.92 per case Sunchips – Whole Grain Garden Salsa (44428)

$1.92 per case Smartfood Popcorn – Sea Salt (62147)

$1.92 per case Ruffles – Cheddar and Sour Cream Baked Potato (44400)

$5.00 per case Harvest Nuts – Mixed, Cashews, Toffee Glazed Mix, Fruit and Nuts, Premium Almonds

$2.40 per case Munchies Crackers – Cheese Peanut Butter and Toast Peanut Butter

FRITO

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 5, 2017 - DELIVERY BY MARCH 18, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.92 per case Rold Gold and Rold Gold Thins – ALL FLAVORS

GATORADE (Through Participating Bottlers Only)

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH, 2017 –DELIVERED BY APRIL 7, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.50 per case 20 oz. Gatorade and G2 – ALL FLAVORS

LIFE WTR

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$3.00 per case 1L Single Serve and 700 ML Sports Cap – ALL FLAVORS

PEPSI INNOVATION PRODUCTS (Through Participating Bottlers Only)

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.00 per case Kickstart 12 oz. Hydration Raspberry Citrus

$1.00 per case Kickstart 16 oz. Mango Lime

$1.00 per case Propel 20 oz. Watermelon Flavored Water

$1.00 per case Lipton 20 oz. Mango Tea

$1.00 per case Lipton Pure Leaf 18.5 oz. Pomegranate or Mint Flavored Tea

PEPSI (Through Participating Bottlers Only)

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH, 2017 –DELIVERED BY APRIL 7, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case 16 oz. Kickstart 12 count – ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case Lipton Tea 24 count– ALL FLAVORS AND BRANDS

$1.50 per case 20 oz. Sierra Mist – ALL FLAVORS

PEPSI – NEW PRODUCTS (Through Participating Bottlers Only)

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH, 2017 –DELIVERED BY APRIL 7, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case 16 oz. Mountain Dew Spiked Raspberry and Lemonade 12 count

$2.00 per case 12 oz. Can 1893 Black Currant and Citrus Cola – 12 count

$2.00 per case 12 oz. Izzi Fusions Orange Mango, Lemon Lime or Strawberry Melon

$2.00 per case 14 oz. Lipton Tea House 12 count– ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case 12 oz. Lemon Lemon 12 count – ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case 20 oz. Gatorade FLOW 24 count – ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case 16.9 oz. Gatorade Organic 12 count – ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case 20 oz. Propel Infused 12 count – ALL FLAVORS

SMUCKER’S SUGARS

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case 400 ct. Sweet n Low Tabletop box - 4 pack

$2.00 per case 200 ct. Sugar in the Raw Tabletop box - 2 pack

$3.00 per case 200 ct. Stevia in the Raw Tabletop box – 2 pack

$4.00 per case 1000 ct. Sugar in the Raw Organic White Balk Pack

STARBUCKS – NEW ITEMS

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH, 2017 –DELIVERED BY APRIL 7, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case 13.7 oz. Frappucino 12 count – ALL FLAVORS

$2.00 per case 11 oz. Doubleshot with Protein 12 count– Caramel Flavor

$2.00 per case 6.5 oz Doubleshot Espresso - Espresso and Salted Caramel

$2.00 per case 11 oz. Cold Brew 12 count

WOLFGANG PUCK COFFEE PODS

Deal Date: THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case Wolfgang Puck Coffee Pods – All Products

Deals ending in April

OTIS SPUNKMEYER

Deal Date: THROUGH APRIL 30, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.20 per case 4 oz. Wild Blueberry, Banana Nut and Chocolate Chip Muffin 24 ct.

Deals ending in June

OREO

Deal Date: DELIVERY JUNE 30, 2017

Rebates Products

$0.2 per unit Oreo Chocolate Bar

Deals ending in December

HINT WATER

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$1.00 per case Hint 100% Natural Goodness Water – ALL FLAVORS

KLEMENT’S MEAT SNACKS

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

10% per case Klement’s Meat Snacks – All Products

NY DELI (RAYBERN’S)

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

14% per case 5.0-6.5 oz Heat n Serve Premium Wrapped Frozen Sandwiches – All Products

PLANTERS

Deal Date: DELIVERY BY DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$2.88 per case 2 oz. Planters Peanuts

$1.44 per case Planters Trail Mix Nut and Chocolate

POPZ CUP (FORMELY INTERNATIONAL CUP CO.)

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$3.29 per case 12 oz. Single Poly Vending Paper Hot Cup – 1500 ct.

$3.20 per case 8.25 oz. Single Poly Vending Paper Hot Cup – 2000 ct.

$1.51 per case 12 oz. Black Lids for Vending Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

$1.17 per case 8.25 oz. Black Lids for Vending Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

$3.22 per case 16 oz. Single poly Manual Paper Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

$2.55 per case 12 oz. Single poly Manual Paper Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

$2.26 per case 10 oz. Single poly Manual Paper Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

$1.81 per case Black Lids for all Manual Paper Hot Cups – 1000 ct.

TAYLOR CANDY

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

4% per case Taylor Candy – All Products

SPLENDA

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$3.30 per case Splenda 4/400 ct. Sweetener Packets

$3.00 per case Splenda 2000 ct. Bulk and 12/50 ct. Sweetener Packets

$2.60 per case Splenda 12/100 ct. Sweetener Packets

$1.25 per case Splenda 500 ct. Bulk Sweetener Packets

WELCH’S

Deal Date: DELIVERY BY DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

$.01 per unit Welch’s, Gummi Factory, Sour Jacks, Sun-Maid, Fisher – ALL FLAVORS

Indefinite End Date

BEANITO’S

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.00 per case Bean Chips and Puffs - ALL FLAVORS

BOLTHOUSE FARMS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$2.20 per case Bolthouse drinks - ALL FLAVORS

COLD STONE CREAMERY

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.50 per case All Flavors of Milk Shakers

COOL HAUS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

20% per case Choco. Chip, Van Bean, Snickerdoodle, Salted Caramel Ice Cream

DAISY’S BAKERY, INC

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

8% per case Individually Wrapped Muffin, Cake, Brownie, Pie, Cookie – ALL FLAVORS

FERRERO

Deal Date: THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

Rebates Products

10% per case Tic Tacs – All Products

10% per case Ferrero Rocher– All Products

10% per case Raffaello – All Products

10% per case Nutella – All Products

10% per case Nutella and Go– All Products

HP HOOD DAIRY

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$0.96 per case 12 oz. Hershey’s Low Fat Milk and Low fat Chocolate Milk

$0.96 per case 12 oz. Hershey’s Creamy Chocolate, Cookies n’ Crème and Strawberry Milkshake

$1.20 per case 10 oz. Almond Breeze Vanilla and Chocolate Almond Milk

JJ’s PIES

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.80 per case JJ’s Bakery Boxed Pies – ALL FLAVORS

J&J FOODS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

5% per case Kim & Scott’s IW Flavored Soft Pretzels and IW Pretzel Melts

5% per case Mary B’s IW Biscuit Breakfast Melts

5% per case Corazona’s HeartBar Oatmeal Squares

HiBALL ENERGY AND ALTA PALLA

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$5.00 per case HiBall Energy – 24 ct. case – ALL FLAVORS

$2.50 per case Hi Ball Energy – 12 ct. case – ALL FLAVORS

$2.50 per case Alta Palla – 24 ct. case – ALL FLAVORS

HARVEST HILL

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

12% per case Juicy Juice, Veryfine Juice and Fruit2O – All flavors

HORIZON

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case Horizon Organic Cheese and Stick Bites – All Products

J&J FOODS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

5% per case Kim & Scott’s IW Flavored Soft Pretzels and IW Pretzel Melts

5% per case Mary B’s IW Biscuit Breakfast Melts

5% per case Corazona’s HeartBar Oatmeal Squares

JIMMY BARS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

15% per case Jimmy Bars - All Products

LUCY’S COOKIES

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.15 per case Choco Chip, Cinnamon Thin, Ginger Snap and Brownie Crisp Cookie

SEAPOINT FARMS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

10% off per case Dry Roasted Edamame

$1.00 per case Beanitos and Beanitos Puffs

SILK ALMOND MILK

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$3.00 per case Silk Almond Milk – All Products

STEAZ TEA

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.50 per case ALL FLAVORS

STOK COLD-BREW COFFEE

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$3.00 per case 13.7 oz Stok Cold Brew Coffee – ALL FLAVORS

TAMPICO DRINKS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.00 per case Tampico Drinks - All Products

TITAN TEA

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.50 per case Titan Teas - ALL FLAVORS

UMPQUA OATS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$2.00 per case Umpqua Oatmeals - ALL FLAVORS

VITA COCO – ORDER THROUGH AUTHORIZED DPSG ONLY

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$1.00 per case 11.1 oz. Vita Coco– ALL FLAVORS

$1.50 per case 17 oz. Vita Coco – ALL FLAVORS

WELCH’S FRUIT SNACKS

Deal Date: THROUGH INDEFINITE

Rebates Products

$2.88 per case Buddy Bears, Sour Jacks, Nuclear SQWorms, Sun Maid Chocolate covered Raisins and Fisher Chocolate covered Peanuts.

$1.44 per case Welch’s School Items – ALL FLAVORS

$0.96 per case Welch’s Fruit Snacks – ALL FLAVORS except school items

$0.96 per case Gummi Factory – ALL FLAVORS

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