

# Retail World Insights

The Single Source for Retail Intelligence

Summer 2008

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## Grocery Channel News

**Affiliated Foods Cooperative, Inc.** (Norfolk, NE) is planning to open a 700,000 sq. ft. distribution center in Kenosha, WI. Early reports indicate the company is looking to complete construction on the site by September 2008.

**Aldi USA, Inc.** (Batavia, IL) is building a 500,000 sq. ft. distribution center in Denton, TX to serve stores in Oklahoma and Texas; the site is expected to be completed by November 2009. Aldi does not currently operate any Texas stores but is planning to open 25 over the next few years.

**B & R Stores, Inc.** (Lincoln, NE) agreed in June to acquire independent supermarket **Grand Central Apple Market** (Kearney, NE).

**Bashas' Inc.** (Chandler, AZ) eliminated its grocery home delivery service in May in an effort to "streamline our operations due to the current economic turndown" per president and ceo Mike Proulx. However, the company will continue to offer delivery to houseboats on Lake Powell from its Page, AZ store.

In May, **BI-LO LLC** (Greenville, SC) debuted a new no-frills Food\$mart banner in Lenoir, SC.

**Certified Grocers Midwest, Inc.** (La Grange, IL) and **Central Grocers Cooperative, Inc.** (Franklin Park, IL) in May announced plans to merge their operations into a new 920,000 sq. ft. facility in Joliet, IL in the first quarter of 2009. Central Grocers will absorb Certified's customer contracts and its ceo Jim Denges will head the newly organized company. The agreement is subject to approval by both companies' shareholders.

Four-store chain **Fairway Food Inc.** (New York, NY) announced plans to open a store in Westchester County in 2009. This will be Fairway's sixth store; its fifth will open in New Jersey later this year.

**Fareway Stores Inc.** (Boone, IA) will open its first Minnesota store by the end of the year. The company currently has locations in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska.

**The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, Inc.** (Montvale, NJ) will convert eight of its 13 Superfresh stores and 16 Pathmark stores in the Philadelphia, PA-area to the new Pathmark Sav-A-Center banner. These stores will be a price impact format.

Key Account Profiles are now available!

See page 8 for more details.

Prepared exclusively for distribution to Nielsen clients

**GROCERY CHANNEL NEWS** *continued from page 1*

In 2008, **HAR Grand Corp.** (Lyndhurst, NJ), operator of H Mart and Super H Mart supermarkets, plans to open eight new stores including two in Georgia and single stores in California, Massachusetts, Nevada, New York, Texas and Virginia.

**Houchens Industries, Inc.** (Bowling Green, KY) acquired 22-store chain **Buehler Foods, Inc.** (Jasper, IN) in June. All stores are expected to remain open and retain their current banner.

**Loblaw Companies, Ltd.** (Brampton, ON) is revamping its SaveEasy supermarkets in Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. The remodeled value-oriented format will focus on "fresh food and personalized customer service."

In June, **Nash Finch Company** (Minneapolis, MN) debuted its new Family Fresh Market banner in Wisconsin. The new store offers an emphasis on lower prices and fresh items.

**No Frills Supermarkets, Inc.** (Omaha, NE) company chairman and ceo Richard Juro agreed in May to sell the company to seven members of its current management team including Fred Witocy, Steven Moskovits, Lonnie Eggers, Kevin Hennessy, Joe Bosco, Bill Brewer and Calvin McWilliams.

**Pro Ranch Markets** (Ontario, CA) opened its first store in New Mexico in June. It now operates ten stores: four in California, four in Arizona, and one each in New Mexico and Texas.

**Publix Super Markets, Inc.** (Lakeland, FL) agreed in June to acquire 49 supermarkets in Florida from **Albertsons LLC** (Boise, ID). All acquired stores will eventually be remodeled. The transaction is expected to close in September 2008.

Coffee retailing giant Starbucks Corporation (Seattle, WA) closed its locations within 45 **Save Mart Supermarkets** (Modesto, CA) sites in April and May. Starbucks reportedly did not give a definitive reason as to the reason for the discontinuation of its licensee agreements with the supermarket chain but did indicate it was not due to lack of traffic at the shops.

In May, **Sprouts Farmers Markets** (Phoenix, AZ) increased its annual expansion plans to 15+ stores a year with a five-year plan to operate more than 100 stores.

In April, **SUPERVALU INC.** (Eden Prairie, MN) debuted a new natural food private label brand called Wild Harvest at

a number of both its company-owned and supplied stores. The line will initially offer approximately 150 items, such as crackers, cookies, pasta and juice, but could grow to between 250 and 300 items over time. In other news, in May, subsidiary **bigg's SUPERVALU INC.** (Milford, OH) closed one of its 12 hypermarkets because it did not fit the company's future business plans.

**Tesco USA** (El Segundo, CA) in April revealed it will take a three-month break from U.S. expansion. The company has opened 61 stores since its U.S. debut in November 2007, and plans to operate approximately 200 by February 2009. However, this "pause" has not stopped the development of future stores, with Tesco having already identified 25 future sites in the Las Vegas, NV area. The break also did not prevent the chain from announcing it would add more than 250 new Fresh & Easy branded products to its stores, including yogurt, prepared meals, tea and juice.

Wholesaler **Unified Grocers** (Los Angeles, CA) in May created Natural Directions, a new natural and organic private label line. Initially, the line will feature 120 items in the grocery, refrigerated and frozen categories with plans to expand it over the next few months to additional categories.

**United Natural Foods, Inc.** (Dayville, CT) agreed to lease a 675,000 sq. ft. York, PA warehouse facility in April to replace its existing New Oxford, PA site. This will be United's largest distribution center.

**Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.** (Bentonville, AR) launched a new website – [www.marketside.com](http://www.marketside.com) – in June for its new small grocery store format of the same name that focuses on fresh foods and meal solutions. Marketside is said to be designed as competition for the **Tesco USA** (El Segundo, CA) Fresh 'N Easy format. The 15,000 sq. ft. Marketside stores will debut in Arizona this fall. Also, Wal-Mart subsidiary **SAM'S Club** (Bentonville, AR) is opening its new SAM's Club Business Center that offers bulk food and office supplies to restaurants, convenience stores and offices in July 2008.

**Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.** (Rochester, NY) is exploring the possibility of expanding its corporate headquarters by constructing a new 400,000 sq. ft. office building on the same road. The company is currently awaiting the plans' approval.

**Whole Foods Market Inc.** (Austin, TX) merger with Wild Oats Markets was once again challenged in April by the Federal Trade Commission in appeals court despite the fact that it closed in August 2007. The FTC argued that the integration is not yet complete and that Whole Foods is still in the process of closing stores.

## Convenience Channel News

**Albertsons LLC** (Boise, ID) agreed to sell its 72 convenience stores in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada and Texas to **Valero Energy Corporation** (San Antonio, TX) in April. The stores will be converted to Valero's Corner Store banner and offer its namesake fuel. August 2008 is the expected completion date for the transaction.

**Alimentation Couche-Tard, Inc.** (Laval, QC) agreed to acquire 83 convenience stores from **Convenient Food Mart, Inc.** (Painesville, OH) in May. The transaction includes stores in the St. Louis and central Illinois area, and is expected to close in July. In other news, Couche-Tard and **Irving Oil Corp.** (Portsmouth, NH) have expanded their partnership to include an additional 252 stores. Under the agreement, Couche-Tard will operate the Irving Oil-owned stores, which are located in Atlantic Canada and New England. Irving Oil will continue to supply petroleum products, and the stores will operate under the Couche-Tard brand.

**Alliance Energy Corp.** (Lexington, MA) acquired 24 Mr. Mike's Markets in June from **Peterborough Oil Company, Inc.** (Leominster, MA).

In April, **BP** (Naperville, IL) discontinued its gas sales in North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

**ExxonMobil Corporation** (Irving, TX) will sell its company-owned gas stations within the next few years; the stations are not profitable enough. Following this announcement, Gulf Oil LP expressed interest in buying some stations located in the markets in which it operates.

**Gas Mart USA Inc.** (Overland Park, KS) in June entered talks to buy an undisclosed number of convenience stores from **Harper Oil, Co.** (Springfield, IL).

**Irving Oil Corp.** (Portsmouth, NH) purchased eight retail locations from **Rice Oil Co., Inc.** in June (Greenfield, MA). The stores were rebranded to the Irving logo.

**Jared Enterprises**, (Springfield, MO) operator of Cody's Convenience Stores, acquired **Four St. Louis Corporation** (Joplin, MO) and its Snak Atak stores in April. Jared Enterprises is re-branding the stores to the Cody's banner; the company also opened two new stores the same month.

**Kum & Go, L.C.** (West Des Moines, IA) is auctioning off 21 of its smaller convenience stores located in Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska and Wyoming. The company wants to focus on building larger stores, and

plans to open an additional 27 convenience stores in its core markets by the end of the year.

**Lil Cricket Food Stores, LLC** (Spartanburg, SC) was acquired by **Worsley Companies, Inc.**, (Wilmington, NC) in May, which was itself acquired in April by Sun Capital Partners, Inc. (Boca Raton, FL).

**Lukoil** (Moscow, Russia) will sell 162 gas stations in the United States to an undisclosed buyer. Included in the sale are the Pennsylvania and New Jersey-based Mobil stations that it acquired in 2004.

**The Pantry, Inc.** (Sanford, NC) in May revealed it will stop any additional acquisitions for the rest of the year, and exit all its gasoline hedging activities. The company wants to focus on improving its productivity until the high crude oil prices decline and the overall retail environment improves.

**The Procter & Gamble Company** (Cincinnati, OH) plans to franchise a new premium carwash and convenience store concept, under the name Mr. Clean Performance Carwash. The company has been testing two carwashes in suburbs outside of Cincinnati, and both have exceeded sales projections. The company has plans for at least five to seven more units.

In May, **7-Eleven, Inc.** (Dallas, TX) began the conversion of approximately 475 company-operated stores in central Florida to franchised operations.

**Uni-Marts, LLC** (State College, PA) filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy in June. The company plans to close 45 underperforming stores, and operate the rest while re-organizing under bankruptcy protection.

**Verc Enterprises, Inc.** (Duxbury, MA) will convert 14 of its locations from Exxon to Gulf gas by the end of the year.

**Vintners Distributors** (Fremont, CA), operator of 12 convenience stores, acquired 20 Shell branded locations in Sacramento, CA in May.

**Workman Oil** (Forest, VA) acquired **Thomas Investments, Inc.** (Beattyville, KY) and its 15 convenience stores in June. The stores will be rebranded to the Apple Market name.

## Alternate Channel News

**Abercrombie & Fitch Co.** (New Albany, OH) is planning to open two international flagship stores in Denmark and Tokyo in 2009.

In April, **Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.** (Union, NJ) announced 2008 expansion plans that included 50 to 55 namesake stores, 12 Christmas Tree Shops and several buybuy BABY stores. The company also selected 12 new sites in Canada and is considering another 12 sites. In other news, the chain opened two stores in Mexico as part of a joint venture with Mexican home products retailer Home & More SA de CV. The stores operate under the Home & More banner.

**Belk, Inc.** (Charlotte, NC) will launch a new women's apparel and handbag line designed by actress Kristin Davis, best known for her role in the HBO series *Sex and the City*. Items will be priced between \$38 and \$240, and will debut in fall 2008.

**The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc.** (Milwaukee, WI) closed its Green Bay, WI distribution center in May 2008. Current sites in Rockford, IL; Fairboro, OH; and Whitehall, PA are assuming its operations. The same month, the chain announced the September 2008 launch of its new Victor by Victor Alfaro private label line, which will include women's apparel, accessories, jewelry, shoes and handbags.

**Borders Group, Inc.** (Ann Arbor, MI) opened its second U.S. stand-alone Paperchase store in April; the store is Borders' stationery concept. The 1,925 sq. ft. site is in Glendale, CA; the first Paperchase is located in Massachusetts.

**Circuit City Stores, Inc.** (Richmond, VA) received a purchase offer of 1.3 billion dollars from Blockbuster Inc. (Dallas, TX) in April. The following month, Circuit City opened its financial books to Blockbuster after some initial wariness due to concerns about Blockbuster's ability to secure financing for the acquisition. Its concerns were allayed by a promise from Blockbuster's largest shareholder Carl Icahn to purchase the company if Blockbuster was unable to secure financing. However, by the end of June, Blockbuster walked away from the deal.

**Dillard's, Inc.** (Little Rock, AR) launched its new Pink Twill women's apparel private label in April. The line – offering apparel in sizes 4 to 14 – is available at over 250 company stores and online.

**Gap Inc.** (San Francisco, CA) will hold off on opening new stores and instead use its existing real estate to create

smaller stores. Gap stores will be 6,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. vs. the current 12,500 sq. ft. while Old Navy stores will be 14,000 to 15,000 sq. ft. vs. the current 20,000 sq. ft. In addition, Gap will begin combining several concepts like Gap, Gap Body, Gap Kids, Gap Maternity and baby Gap into single stores.

**Goody's Family Clothing, Inc.** (Knoxville, TN) filed chapter 11 bankruptcy in June and announced plans to shutter a total of 103 stores – 69 of which it has already identified – in 2008 as part of its restructuring.

In April, **J.C. Penney Corporation, Inc.** (Plano, TX) revealed a reduction in growth plans for 2008. The company will open 36 new stores and remodel 20; in 2007, its announced expansion plans were 50 new stores and 65 remodels. J.C. Penney is also launching a new home furnishings line dubbed Linden Street in July 2008. It will be available in stores, online and through its catalog.

**Linens 'N Things** (Clifton, NJ) is reportedly considering the sale of its 40 Canadian stores. It is also rumored that rival home, bed and bath chain **Bed Bath & Beyond Inc.** (Union, NJ) may have an interest in the sites. In June, Linens filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy and announced plans to close 120 underperforming stores.

In May, **Kohl's Corporation** (Menomonee Falls, WI) detailed plans to open 70 to 75 new stores in 2008 and an Ottawa, IL distribution center in October 2008.

**Macy's, Inc.** (Cincinnati, OH) will partner with **FAO Schwarz Inc.** (New York, NY) to open in-store toy stores within its department stores. Approximately 275 stores (200 will be 200 to 300 sq. ft.; the remainder will be 1,000 to 3,500 sq. ft.) will be open by fall 2008 with plans to have 685 open in the next two years. Macy's.com will also sell FAO Schwarz products. Macy's also announced plans to discontinue its Bloomingdale's mail catalog by early 2009. Finally, in June, Macy's revealed plans to partner with New York-based girls' retailer LittleMissMatched to open store-within-a-store boutiques inside 85 Macy's stores nationwide by September 2008.

By August, **Petco Animal Supplies, Inc.** (San Diego, CA) will take over a 506,240 sq. ft. building in Braselton, GA, which will serve as its newest distribution facility to more than 200 Southern-area stores.

Canadian home improvement chain **Rona Inc.** (Boucherville, QC) launched RONA ECO, in April, its first eco-friendly private label line consisting of cleaning products and biodegradable bags.

**Spartan Stores, Inc.** (Grand Rapids, MI) agreed to sell its 14 The Pharm drug stores in April; **Rite Aid Corporation**

**ALTERNATE CHANNEL NEWS** *continued from page 4*

(Harrisburg, PA) picked up 12 locations, and the remaining two stores were expected to be sold in separate transactions.

**Staples, Inc.** (Framingham, MA) introduced its new M by Staples private label brand in May, which offers stylish office supplies like stationery, folders and travel cases. In June, **Staples** agreed to purchase office supply wholesaler Corporate Express. The deal is expected to close in July 2008.

**Target Corp.** (Minneapolis, MN) in May added the new Sami Hayek for Target home furnishings line. Line offerings include bedding, furniture and stationery.

**Walgreen Company** (Deerfield, IL) will open three stores in Alaska in 2009. This will place Walgreen-owned stores in all 50 states, Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico.

## On The Move

Merchandising vp for the Food Basics banner Tony Morello left **A & P Canada Co.** (Etobicoke, ON) in June.

**Advance Auto Parts, Inc.** (Roanoke, VA) welcomed Chas Scheiderer as senior vp of supply chain in May.

**Ahold USA, Inc.** (Quincy, MA) subsidiary **Giant Food LLC** (Hyattsville, MD) named Gerry Adams senior vp of construction and real estate in May, succeeding retiring vp of construction and real estate Thom McIntosh. The following month, **The Stop & Shop Supermarket Company** (Quincy, MA) promoted Jim Wonderly to vp of pharmacy and Joel Berman to vp of pharmacy operations.

**Barneys New York, Inc.** (New York, NY) ceo Howard Socol retired in June; no replacement has been named.

**Belk, Inc.** (Charlotte, NC) named John Thomas executive vp and gmm of women's apparel in April, taking over for recently retired Paul Thum Suden.

In April, **Best Buy Co., Inc.** (Minneapolis, MN) appointed James Muehlbauer its new cfo and executive vp. He had been serving as interim cfo since September 2007.

**Big Y Foods, Inc.** (Springfield, MA) promoted Frank J. Horacek to vp of development and real estate in May, and Anthony P. Coppola to director of facilities management.

In June, **C & S Wholesale Grocers, Inc.** (Keene, NH) named Tracy Moore its new senior vp of merchandising, supply chain and trade relations.

**Chevron Corp.** (San Ramon, CA) in June named Louie Ehrlich cio and president of Chevron information technology, and Melody Meyer president of Chevron energy technology.

**CVS/Caremark Corp.** (Woonsocket, RI) announced the June retirement of corporate executive vp and health care services president Chris Bodine.

In April, Dollar General Markets senior vp Wayne Gibson and merchandising division president Beryl Buley resigned from **Dollar General Corporation** (Goodlettsville, TN). Also, president and coo David Bere added the additional responsibilities of chief strategic officer.

**Delhaize America Inc.** (Salisbury, NC) subsidiary **Sweetbay Supermarket** (Tampa, FL) ceo Shelley Broader left the company in mid-June. Michael Vail was named her replacement the same month. Also, the company promoted Steve Smith to senior vp of communications and marketing, and named Lori Malcolm vp of human resources.

**Duane Reade Inc.** (New York, NY) named John Lederer chairman and ceo in April.

**ExxonMobil Corporation** (Irving, TX) senior vp J. Stephen Simon retired in May.

**Family Dollar Stores, Inc.** (Matthews, NC) in June promoted Jacob J. Modla to vp and deputy general counsel.

Eric J. Anderson and Todd O. Perry were named co-presidents of **Fresh Encounter, Inc.** (Findlay, OH) in April. Anderson will oversee marketing and merchandising while Perry tackles operations.

**Hannaford Bros. Co.** (Scarborough, ME) cio William Homa left the company on July 1; a replacement has yet to be named.

Frank Bifulco joined **The Home Depot, Inc.** (Atlanta, GA) in April as chief marketing officer and senior vp.

In April, **J.C. Penney Corporation, Inc.** (Plano, TX) promoted Steven Lawrence to executive vp and gmm of the men's division, and Clark McNaught to senior vp and gmm of the children's division. In May, chief procurement officer, senior vp and controller William Alcorn retired. Penney also promoted four executives including Robert Johnson to vp and director of budgeting, forecasting and planning; Bruce Kilkowski to vp and director of procurement; Dennis Miller to senior vp and controller; and Philip Sanchez to vp and director of investor relations. In

**ON THE MOVE** *continued from page 5*

June, the company announced the retirement of company executive vp and JCPenney Direct president John W. Irwin.

**The Kroger Co.** (Cincinnati, OH) replaced retired William T. Boehm with Calvin Kaufman, who is now corporate group vp and Kroger manufacturing president. The company also tapped Angel Colon to head its multi-cultural business development sector. Both moves occurred in April. In June, Kroger subsidiary **Kwik Shop, Inc.** (Hutchinson, KS) welcomed Brian Fisher as vp of operations.

**Loblaw Companies, Ltd.** (Brampton, ON) announced the April departures of cfo William Wells and vp of food Petro Satriano. It also promoted deputy chairman Alan Leighton to president, and executive vp of general merchandise Frank Rocchetti to cmo.

Roger Adams joined **Lord & Taylor LLC** (New York, NY) as chief marketing officer and senior vp in April.

In June, **Love's Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc.** (Oklahoma City, OK) promoted David Carter to district manager and Jerry Hamm to marketing manager of loyalty and media productions.

**Macy's, Inc.** (Cincinnati, OH) named Amy Hanson senior vp of property development in May.

**Metro, Inc.** (Montreal, QC) made three April executive appointments: Eric LaFleche to ceo, Martin Allaire to vp of engineering and real estate, and Richard Beaubien to vp of Food Basics operations. In May, the company appointed Christian Bourbonniere to interim senior vp of the Quebec division.

**Michaels Stores, Inc.** (Irving, TX) executive vp and managing director Harvey S. Kanter left the company in May. No replacement was named; in the interim, the merchandising department will report to ceo Brian Cornell. In June, the chain appointed Shelley Broader president and coo. She formerly worked at **Delhaize America Inc.** (Salisbury, NC) subsidiary **Sweetbay Supermarket** (Tampa, FL).

**Niemann Foods, Inc.** (Quincy, IL) promoted Jim Cox to senior vp of operations and Ron Cook to vp and director of marketing, both in May.

In May, **Pep Boys - Manny, Moe & Jack** (Philadelphia, PA) appointed Raymond L. Arthur its new cfo. He replaced Harry F. Yanowitz, who resigned.

**PetSmart, Inc.** (Phoenix, AZ) cfo Raymond Storck retired in June. The company decided against filling the post and handed over that position's duties to cfo Lawrence Molloy.

**Publix Super Markets, Inc.** (Lakeland, FL) replaced retired ceo Charlie Jenkins Jr. with former president Ed Crenshaw in April. Todd Jones stepped into the president role vacated by Crenshaw. Two months later, Publix replaced the retiring vp of risk management Ed Shivers with Marc Salm.

**Redner's Markets, Inc.** (Reading, PA) made five executive appointments in April: John W. Sweigart to vp of IT; Cory Deily to director of loss prevention and security; Nicholas Hidalgo to director of IT; Michael J. Mowad to senior deli merchandiser and category manager; and David D. Peterson to senior meat and seafood merchandiser and category manager.

In June, **Roche Bros. Supermarkets, LLC** (Wellesley Hills, MA) partner and vice chairman Jay Roche left the company.

**Safeway Inc.** (Pleasanton, CA) said goodbye to president of perishables Des Hague in April. He was replaced by Kelly Griffith, who formerly served as Portland division president, a position now filled by former Texas division president Steve Frisby. Tom Schwilke replaced the newly appointed Frisby.

**Saks Incorporated** (New York, NY) announced the retirement of executive vp of stores Carolyn Biggs on January 31, 2009. As a result, the company made three executive appointments: Jennifer de Winter to senior vp and gmm of jewelry, handbags, soft accessories and shoes; Cody Kondo to senior vp and gmm of food, gifts, home and menswear; and Tom Ott to vp and dmm of men's tailored apparel and personal furnishings.

**Save Mart Supermarkets** (Modesto, CA) made three May appointments: Steve Junquero to coo; Mike Silveira to cfo; and Steve Ackerman to acting cfo. Ackerman will assume the financial responsibilities handled by the retiring cfo and senior vp Ron Riesenback.

In April, **Sears Holdings Corporation** (Hoffman Estates, IL) appointed John W. Froman to the position of president of lawn, garden and tools operations while Douglas T. Moore took over as president of appliances. Two months later, Sears chief marketing officer and senior vp Bill Stewart left the company.

In May, **Stein Mart, Inc.** (Jacksonville, FL) named Glori Katz senior vp of advertising and marketing.

**ON THE MOVE** *continued from page 6*

**Sunoco, Inc.** (Philadelphia, PA) senior vp and president of SunCoke Energy Inc., Michael Dingus, retired in May. Michael Thomson, current executive vp and coo of SunCoke Energy Inc. succeeds him.

In June, **SUPERVALU INC.** (Eden Prairie, MN) added Steve Michaelson as chief marketing officer.

**Susser Holdings Corporation** (Corpus Christi, TX) named Steven DeSutter company executive vp, and president and ceo of the Stripes brand in June. DeSutter comes from fast casual chain The Quizno's Master, LLC where he served as interim executive vp.

**The Talbots, Inc.** (Hingham, MA) made four June appointments: John Fiske to executive vp of administration and human resources; Julie Lorigan to senior vp of investor and media relations; Avra Myers to senior vp and gmm of the J. Jill brand; and Carol Stone to senior vp of finance.

**Target Corp.** (Minneapolis, MN) promoted Kathee Tesija to vp of merchandising in April.

**Tesco USA** (El Segundo, CA) added Jeff Adams as executive vp of operations in May.

**Tops Markets, Inc.** (Buffalo, NY) made ten executive appointments in April: Kevin Darrington to cfo and senior vp; Pat Curran to senior vp of merchandising and sales; Karl Oesterle to director of advertising; Gary Geitter to director of asset protection; Ken Schaeffer to director of budgets and finance; Kristine Wydro to director of human resources; Jim Lane to director of meat and seafood; Dave Bordonaro to director of non-perishables; Frank Wolff to director of pharmacy; and Katie McKenna to communications and public relations manager. The following month, Patrick Curran joined Tops as senior vp of merchandising and sales.

**Tree of Life, Inc.** (Saint Augustine, FL) named Greg Leonard senior vp in April.

**Walgreen Company** (Deerfield, IL) made four May executive appointments: Kenneth E. Amos to divisional vp of loss prevention; William T. Grayson to vp of pharmacy acquisitions; Wade D. Miquelon to cfo and vp; and William M. Rudolphsen to chief risk officer and senior vp. The following month, Sona Chawla joined the chain as senior vp of e-commerce.

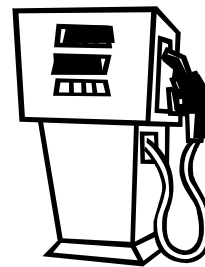
Stephan Fanderl took over as president of emerging markets (east) for **Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.** (Bentonville, AR) in April.

In April, **Weis Markets, Inc.** (Sunbury, PA) tapped Bob Mawyer for its vp of IT post.

**The Wet Seal, Inc.** (Foothill Ranch, CA) cmo Dyan Jozwick resigned in May to pursue other business opportunities.

**Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc.** (Jacksonville, FL) made five executive appointments in April: Mark Tanis to vp of benefits and compensation; Matt Gutermuth to vp of center store; Joe McKie to vp of corporate brands; Jim Carrado to vp of neighborhood marketing; and Chris Vukich to vp of pricing.

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