

## More Foodservice News

### [This Week in Foodservice](#)

Joseph M. Carbonara

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- **Jamba opened a second robotic smoothie kiosk at a Love's Travel Stop location.** Located in Corning, Calif., the self-operating kiosk will allow motorists to customize their smoothie orders around the clock. Users can order on-site or in advance via an app and schedule a pickup time.
- **Chicago's hottest new burger restaurant is in a gas station?** That's right, according to a report in the Sun Times. The burgers are made on-premises in a restaurant that sits just in front of the gas station's carwash and next to rows of snacks and a pair of slot machines. In many parts of the country, gas stations or the c-stores operating from those properties, are known for having good food but that's generally not the case in Chicago.
- **Steve Weiss is calling it a career.** After a stint as a professional windsurfer, and product manager for a windsurfing company Weiss went on to 39-year career in the HVAC-R industry as vice president of sales and marketing for [Weiss Instruments, Inc.](#), a manufacturer of temperature and pressure instruments and controls, and five years with Emerson Climate Technologies. From 2010 to 2016 Weiss served as chairman of the NAFEM Technical Liaison Committee dealing with the challenges of the food service appliance industry, interacting with UL, NSF, DOE, EPA Energy Star.
- **Luxury brands continue to expand their place in the restaurant industry.** The latest example is Ralph's Coffee, the highly photographed caffeine fueled concept from fashion icon Ralph Lauren. Already a staple in New York City, [Ralph's Coffee](#) is now available in Chicago, operating from the company's location on the Magnificent Mile. Design elements of the 16-seat shop include herringbone wood floors, wainscoting, tufted banquettes and a fireplace and large windows overlooking Michigan Avenue.
- **Are buffets back? Yes, according to Pizza Ranch's chief development officer,** per a report in FSR Magazine. Pizza Ranch's Mark Souba estimates that buffets now account for 75% of the chain's revenue, which is down only 5% from pre-pandemic levels. Pizza Ranch has units in 14 states and its growth plans target 10 new states. The chain plans to open 7 to 12 locations in 2023 and the new units will include Pizza Ranch's sibling concept known as FunZone Arcade.
- **Growth Chains: Salad and Go** plans to open five locations in the Dallas, Texas, market before the end of 2022. Colorado-based **Ziggi's Coffee** inked development deals that will lead to eight new locations in the coming year spread across the following states: Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, New Hampshire, New York and South Dakota. Ziggi's has more than 60 locations spanning 12 states. Florida-based fast-casual chain **Island Fin Poké Co.** opened a restaurant Clarksville, Tenn., marking its 26th location and the first in the Volunteer State. Fast-casual