March 2022 Newsletter

In this month's newsletter, we discuss updates for local deliveries, new products, and vaping legislation....

Local Delivery

As many of you know, we offer local delivery within a certain radius of the store. Since we first began offering this service, fuel prices per gallon have more than doubled and are expected to double again within the next few months. Therefore, effective immediately, the new local delivery fee is \$10 - this is simply to cover the rising fuel costs. We have also shortened the service area to 24 zip codes.

And remember, deliveries are conducted Monday-Saturday 12pm-6pm only. Any orders received after these hours will be added to the next delivery day. Click <u>HERE</u> to read our *Shipping/Delivery* web page for **ALL** info. As always, curbside pick-up is still available.

New Products

We have added several new flavors & nicotine levels to our e-liquid menus. We'd like to thank everyone who participated in our taste-test sampling and highlighted their favorite flavor. Some of the new flavors have already arrived and others are forthcoming. So be sure to check out the website or in-store menus.

Legislative News

In previous newsletters, we have reported the struggles, at both the state/county levels, to keep our industry alive. The current Maryland legislative session ends in early April and so far, there is only one proposed bill that affects our industry. We are fervently working with our legislators to discourage this bill from becoming legislation. As time progresses, we will keep you informed on any/all state legislation.

On the federal level, things are much more dire. The most recent Omnibus Bill, passed on March 11, a rider was again snuck in that gives FDA authority over non-tobacco-based nicotine flavors (synthetic & organic). According to our sources at the Capitol, Senators Richard Burr (R-NC), Dick Durbin (D-III.) and Patty Murray (D-Wash), along with Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ), led the effort to get the language into the omnibus. The measure is similar to language presented by Senator Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ) in the "Clarifying Authority Over Nicotine Act of 2021 (HR 6286)".

The goal of the rider was to take down companies manufacturing high nicotine disposable vape products commonly found in convenience stores and gas stations. Data suggests these products are most popular among youth. Intended to punish bad actors, **the bill now punishes small and mid-sized e-liquid manufacturers** that switched to synthetic nicotine after September of 2021's mass issuance of MDO's, which forced nearly 100% of flavored e-liquid products off the legal market. Once again, legislators jammed a rope through the eye of a needle and placed the greatest burden on small businesses – many of whom helped to put them in office in the first place. As final interpretations and restrictions of this bill are released, we will keep you updated.

Stay informed, ALL updates are available on the News/Events page on our website (vapechalet.com).