SEPTEMBER 2026

PNC Food & Beverage Advisory

Monthly News Brief

Date	Source	Article	Summary
9/1/2026	Food Processing	Chobani to Acquire, Invest $1.2 Billion in KDP Plant in Pennsylvania	Chobani will take over the five-year-old facility as part of an expanded partnership with Keurig Dr Pepper, and KDP sells back its $800 million investment in Chobani
9/1/2026	C-Store Dive	Shell to Acquire Tri Star Energy	The oil giant will purchase 320 Tri Star c-stores and supply agreements with 552 dealer-owned locations as it significantly grows its retail footprint in the Southeast
9/2/2026	WSJ	Mac-And-Cheese Disruptor Goodles to Be Acquired by Barilla	The maker of flavors like Here Comes Truffle will remain as a stand-alone brand within Barilla Group
9/4/2026	CNBC	THC Drinks Could Soon Be Harder to Find as Congress Delays Hemp Ban Again	THC drinks are booming, but a looming federal crackdown threatens the industry
9/11/2026	C-Store Decisions	Ready-to-Drink Beverages Become a 'Must Have' for C-Stores	Retailers are expanding RTD assortments and rethinking shelf space as consumer demand grows across liquor and malt-based offerings
9/14/2026	AP	Global Customers Crave Texture, Challenging Companies to Make Crispier, Gooier, Chewier Foods	Texture is having a crunchy, gooey moment in the food and beverage industry
9/16/2026	Restaurant Dive	Why Multi-Unit Restaurant Franchisee Bankruptcies Are Surging in 2026	High labor and food costs and slumping sales have caused franchisee bankruptcies to reach pre-pandemic levels, but various strategies could help mitigate the problem
9/17/2026	CNBC	How Record Diesel Prices Will Rip Through the U.S. Economy. Trucks, Rails Are Only the Start	The list of impacted goods and services will only grow the longer diesel stays high, with grocery prices, delivery fees, and anything seasonal likely to experience price impacts
9/19/2026	WSJ	The Race to Save Florida Orange Industry from Total Collapse	After groves were ravaged for decades by a disease, new EPA-approved genetic technologies are giving citrus growers a chance to rebuild
9/21/2026	Grocery Dive	Number Sense: Major Grocers See Identical-Store Sales Growth Wither Away	The nation's largest supermarket operators have all struggled to maintain momentum over the past few quarters, underscoring the tough conditions the industry is facing
9/22/2026	AP	California Farmers Are Struggling to Sell Grapes as Demand for Wine Drops	Many growers are struggling to sell their grapes as changing drinking habits have caused demand to plunge. The decline is forcing some growers to tear out vineyards that their families have grown for generations
9/22/2026	Food Business News	Whey Suppliers Racing to Catch Up with Protein Demand	The US whey protein ingredients business is experiencing record high prices because of demand. In response, there is an unprecedented amount of growth in investment to manufacture more
9/25/2026	Restaurant Dive	How McDonald's Plans to Reactivate 150M Infrequent Loyalty Guests	The Golden Arches will add rewards tiers, tie-ups with other major brands and increased personalization to its loyalty system
9/25/2026	Meat + Poultry	Retail Strategies Evolve as Club Stores Gain Ground	Shoppers are combining strategies, such as switching to lower-price brands, shopping more often at discount or value retailers, buying more private label and stocking up when preferred items are on sale
9/30/2026	WSJ	Hormel Foods to Buy Brakebush Brothers for About $1.06 Billion	The parent of Spam lunch meat and Skippy peanut butter expects the Brakebush acquisition will expand its position in value-added chicken

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