

ARK RESTAURANTS CORP  
Form 10-Q  
February 12, 2013

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF  
1934

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended December 29, 2012

Commission file number 1-09453

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| New York  | 13-3156768                              |
| (State or other jurisdiction of<br>incorporation or organization) | (I.R.S. Employer<br>Identification No.) |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 85 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York      | 10003      |
| (Address of principal executive offices) | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 206-8800

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") during the preceding 12 months (or for shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes S No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes S No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☒

Accelerated filer ☒

Non-accelerated filer ☒ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller Reporting  
Company S

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes ☒ No S

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

| Class                           | Outstanding shares at February 6, 2013 |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (Common stock, \$.01 par value) | 3,244,845                              |

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

On one or more occasions, we may make statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q regarding our assumptions, projections, expectations, targets, intentions or beliefs about future events. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included or incorporated by reference herein relating to management's current expectations of future financial performance, continued growth and changes in economic conditions or capital markets are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Words or phrases such as "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "plans," "predicts," "projects," "targets," "result," "hopes," "will continue" or similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed. We caution that while we make such statements in good faith and we believe such statements are based on reasonable assumptions, including without limitation, management's examination of historical operating trends, data contained in records and other data available from third parties, we cannot assure you that our projections will be achieved. Factors that may cause such differences include: economic conditions generally and in each of the markets in which we are located, the amount of sales contributed by new and existing restaurants, labor costs for our personnel, fluctuations in the cost of food products, adverse weather conditions, changes in consumer preferences and the level of competition from existing or new competitors.

We have attempted to identify, in context, certain of the factors that we believe may cause actual future experience and results to differ materially from our current expectation regarding the relevant matter or subject area. In addition to the items specifically discussed above, our business, results of operations and financial position and your investment in our common stock are subject to the risks and uncertainties described in "Item 1A Risk Factors" in Part I of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012 as updated by the information contained under the caption "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in Part II of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

From time to time, oral or written forward-looking statements are also included in our reports on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K, our Schedule 14A, our press releases and other materials released to the public. Although we believe that at the time made, the expectations reflected in all of these forward-looking statements are and will be reasonable; any or all of the forward-looking statements may prove to be incorrect. This may occur as a result of inaccurate assumptions or as a consequence of known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many factors discussed in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, certain of which are beyond our control, will be important in determining our future performance. Consequently, actual results may differ materially from those that might be anticipated from forward-looking statements. In light of these and other uncertainties, you should not regard the inclusion of a forward-looking statement in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or other public communications that we might make as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved, and you should not place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

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We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. However, your attention is directed to any further disclosures made on related subjects in our subsequent periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K and Schedule 14A.

Unless the context requires otherwise, references to “we,” “us,” “our,” “ARKR” and the “Company” refer specifically to Ark Restaurants Corp., and its subsidiaries, partnerships, variable interest entities and predecessor entities.

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**Part I. Financial Information****Item 1. Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements****ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS**

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

|   | December<br>29, <u>2012</u><br>(Unaudited) | September<br>29, 2012<br>(Note 1) |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| <b><u>ASSETS</u></b>  |  |                                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>  |  |                                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents (includes \$418 at December 29, 2012 and \$714 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)                     | \$ 5,336                                   | \$ 8,705                          |
| Short-term investments in available-for-sale securities   | 75   | 75                                |
| Accounts receivable (includes \$147 at December 29, 2012 and \$1,776 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)                         | 2,647                                      | 3,790                             |
| Employee receivables  | 339  | 339                               |
| Inventories (includes \$16 at December 29, 2012 and \$28 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)                                     | 1,538                                      | 1,567                             |
| Prepaid and refundable income taxes (includes \$149 at December 29, 2012 and \$235 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)           | 858  | 985                               |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets (includes \$9 at December 29, 2012 and \$13 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)        | 902  | 1,087                             |
| Total current assets  | 11,695                                     | 16,548                            |
| FIXED ASSETS - Net (includes \$186 at December 29, 2012 and \$3,189 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)                          | 25,264                                     | 26,194                            |
| INTANGIBLE ASSETS - Net   | 1,019                                      | 1,021                             |
| GOODWILL  | 4,813                                      | 4,813                             |
| TRADEMARKS  | 721  | 721                               |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAXES   | 5,980                                      | 4,960                             |
| OTHER ASSETS (includes \$71 at December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)  | 907  | 907                               |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>   | <b>\$ 50,399</b>                           | <b>\$ 55,164</b>                  |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>   |  |                                   |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>   |  |                                   |
| Accounts payable - trade (includes \$60 at December 29, 2012 and \$153 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)                       | \$ 2,306                                   | \$ 2,729                          |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities (includes \$629 at December 29, 2012 and \$1,950 at September 29, 2012 related VIEs) | 7,733                                      | 8,873                             |
| Current portion of note payable   | 1,063                                      | 885                               |
| Total current liabilities   | 11,102                                     | 12,487                            |
| OPERATING LEASE DEFERRED CREDIT   | 4,565                                      | 4,650                             |

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|  |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| NOTE PAYABLE, LESS CURRENT PORTION   | 974       | 1,240     |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES  | 16,641    | 18,377    |
| COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES  |           |           |
| EQUITY:  |           |           |
| Common stock, par value \$.01 per share - authorized, 10,000 shares; issued, 4,601 shares at December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012, respectively; outstanding, 3,245 shares at December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012, respectively | 46        | 46        |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 21,825    | 23,410    |
| Retained earnings  | 21,569    | 22,372    |
|  | 43,440    | 45,828    |
| Less treasury stock, at cost, of 1,356 shares at December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012, respectively  | (13,220 ) | (13,220 ) |
| Total Ark Restaurants Corp. shareholders' equity   | 30,220    | 32,608    |
| NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS  | 3,538     | 4,179     |
| TOTAL EQUITY   | 33,758    | 36,787    |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY   | \$ 50,399 | \$ 55,164 |

See notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)**

(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

|  | 13 Weeks Ended    |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | December 29, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|  |                   | (Note 1)          |
| <b>REVENUES:</b>   |                   |                   |
| Food and beverage sales  | \$31,029          | \$ 32,603         |
| Other revenue  | 307               | 258               |
| Total revenues   | 31,336            | 32,861            |
| <b>COSTS AND EXPENSES:</b>                                       |                   |                   |
| Food and beverage cost of sales                                  | 7,749             | 8,358             |
| Payroll expenses   | 10,845            | 10,707            |
| Occupancy expenses   | 4,535             | 4,458             |
| Other operating costs and expenses                               | 4,339             | 4,032             |
| General and administrative expenses                              | 2,410             | 2,781             |
| Depreciation and amortization                                    | 1,176             | 938               |
| Total costs and expenses   | 31,054            | 31,274            |
| <b>OPERATING INCOME</b>  | 282               | 1,587             |
| <b>OTHER (INCOME) EXPENSE:</b>                                   |                   |                   |
| Interest expense   | —                 | 1                 |
| Interest income  | —                 | (1 )              |
| Other income, net  | (79 )             | (33 )             |
| Total other income, net  | (79 )             | (33 )             |
| <b>INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES</b>                  | 361               | 1,620             |
| Provision for income taxes                                       | 114               | 378               |
| <b>INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>                         | 247               | 1,242             |
| Loss from discontinued operations, net of income tax benefits    | —                 | (127 )            |
| <b>CONSOLIDATED NET INCOME</b>                                   | 247               | 1,115             |
| Net income attributable to non-controlling interests             | (239 )            | (29 )             |
| <b>NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.</b>          | \$8               | \$ 1,086          |
| <b>AMOUNTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.:</b>            |                   |                   |
| Income from continuing operations                                | \$8               | \$ 1,148          |
| Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax                    | —                 | (62 )             |
| Net income   | \$8               | \$ 1,086          |
| <b>NET INCOME (LOSS) PER ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. COMMON SHARE:</b> |                   |                   |
| From continuing operations:                                      |                   |                   |
| Basic  | \$0.00            | \$ 0.34           |
| Diluted  | \$0.00            | \$ 0.33           |

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From discontinued operations:

|         |     |            |
|---------|-----|------------|
| Basic   | \$— | \$ (0.02 ) |
| Diluted | \$— | \$ (0.02 ) |

From net income:

|         |        |         |
|---------|--------|---------|
| Basic   | \$0.00 | \$ 0.32 |
| Diluted | \$0.00 | \$ 0.31 |

WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:

|         |       |       |
|---------|-------|-------|
| Basic   | 3,245 | 3,432 |
| Diluted | 3,322 | 3,449 |

See notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Unaudited)**

**FOR THE 13 WEEKS ENDED DECEMBER 29, 2012 AND DECEMBER 31, 2011**

(In Thousands)

|  | 13 Weeks Ended    |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | December 29, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
| Consolidated net income                                      | \$247             | \$ 1,115          |
| Other comprehensive income, net of taxes:                    |                   |                   |
| Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities             | —                 | 1                 |
| Total other comprehensive income, net of taxes               | —                 | 1                 |
| Comprehensive income   | 247               | 1,116             |
| Comprehensive loss attributable to non-controlling interests | (239)             | (29 )             |
| Comprehensive income attributable to Ark Restaurants Corp.   | \$8               | \$ 1,087          |

See notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY (Unaudited)****FOR THE 13 WEEKS ENDED DECEMBER 29, 2012 AND DECEMBER 31, 2011**

(In Thousands)

|   | Common<br>Shares | Stock<br>Amount | Additional<br>Paid-In<br>Capital | Accumulated<br>Other<br>Comprehensive<br>Income | Retained<br>Earnings | Stock<br>Option<br>Receivable | Treasury<br>Stock | Total<br>Ark<br>Restaurants<br>Corp.<br>Shareholders'<br>Equity | Non-<br>controlling<br>Interests | Total<br>Equity |
|---|------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| BALANCE -<br>October 1, 2011                              | 4,601            | \$46            | \$23,302                         | \$ 3  | \$20,128             | \$(29 )                       | \$(10,095)        | \$33,355  | \$4,831                          | \$38,186        |
| Net income  | —                | —               | —                                | —   | 1,086                | —                             | —                 | 1,086   | 29                               | 1,115           |
| Unrealized gain<br>on<br>available-for-sale<br>securities | —                | —               | —                                | 1   | —                    | —                             | —                 | 1   | —                                | 1               |
| Write-off of stock<br>option receivable                   | —                | —               | —                                | —   | —                    | 29                            | —                 | 29  | —                                | 29              |
| Purchase of<br>treasury stock                             | —                | —               | —                                | —   | —                    | —                             | (3,125 )          | (3,125 )  | —                                | (3,125 )        |
| Distributions to<br>non-controlling<br>interests          | —                | —               | —                                | —   | —                    | —                             | —                 | —   | (555 )                           | (555 )          |
| Payment of<br>dividends - \$0.25<br>per share             | —                | —               | —                                | —   | (811 )               | —                             | —                 | (811 )  | —                                | (811 )          |
| BALANCE -<br>December 31,<br>2011                         | 4,601            | \$46            | \$23,302                         | \$ 4  | \$20,403             | \$—                           | \$(13,220)        | \$30,535  | \$4,305                          | \$34,840        |
| BALANCE -<br>September 29,<br>2012                        | 4,601            | \$46            | \$23,410                         | \$ —  | \$22,372             | \$—                           | \$(13,220)        | \$32,608  | \$4,179                          | \$36,787        |
| Net income  | —                | —               | —                                | —   | 8                    | —                             | —                 | 8   | 239                              | 247             |
| Purchase of<br>member interests<br>in subsidiary          | —                | —               | (2,685 )                         | —   | —                    | —                             | —                 | (2,685 )  | (280 )                           | (2,965 )        |
| Tax benefit of<br>purchase of                             | —                | —               | 1,020                            | —   | —                    | —                             | —                 | 1,020   | —                                | 1,020           |

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|  |       |      |          |      |          |      |            |          |         |          |  |
|--|-------|------|----------|------|----------|------|------------|----------|---------|----------|--|
| member interests<br>in subsidiary                |       |      |          |      |          |      |            |          |         |          |  |
| Stock-based<br>compensation                      | —     | —    | 80       | —    | —        | —    | —          | 80       | —       | 80       |  |
| Distributions to<br>non-controlling<br>interests | —     | —    | —        | —    | —        | —    | —          | —        | (600 )  | (600 )   |  |
| Payment of<br>dividends - \$0.25<br>per share    | —     | —    | —        | —    | (811 )   | —    | —          | (811 )   | —       | (811 )   |  |
| BALANCE -<br>December 29,<br>2012                | 4,601 | \$46 | \$21,825 | \$ — | \$21,569 | \$ — | \$(13,220) | \$30,220 | \$3,538 | \$33,758 |  |

See notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)**

(In Thousands)

|  | 13 Weeks Ended    |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | December 29, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>   |                   |                   |
| Consolidated net income  | \$247             | \$ 1,115          |
| Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |                   |                   |
| Write-off of notes receivable from former president  | —                 | 66                |
| Loss on closure of restaurants   | 256               | 365               |
| Stock-based compensation   | 80                | —                 |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 1,176             | 957               |
| Operating lease deferred charge (credit)   | (85 )             | 25                |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities:   |                   |                   |
| Accounts receivable  | 1,143             | (368 )            |
| Inventories  | (62 )             | (17 )             |
| Prepaid, refundable and accrued income taxes   | 127               | (531 )            |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets  | 185               | (106 )            |
| Other assets   | —                 | 14                |
| Accounts payable - trade   | (423 )            | 212               |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities   | (1,140)           | (1,034 )          |
| Net cash provided by operating activities  | 1,504             | 698               |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>   |                   |                   |
| Purchases of fixed assets  | (409 )            | (2,389 )          |
| Purchase of management rights  | —                 | (200 )            |
| Loans and advances made to employees   | (35 )             | (45 )             |
| Payments received on employee receivables  | 35                | 25                |
| Purchase of member interests in subsidiary   | (2,965)           | —                 |
| Purchases of investment securities   | —                 | (301 )            |
| Proceeds from sales of investment securities   | —                 | 320               |
| Net cash used in investing activities  | (3,374)           | (2,590 )          |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>   |                   |                   |
| Principal payments on notes payable  | (88 )             | (58 )             |
| Dividends paid   | (811 )            | (811 )            |
| Purchase of treasury shares  | —                 | (1,000 )          |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests   | (600 )            | (555 )            |
| Net cash used in financing activities  | (1,499)           | (2,424 )          |
| <b>NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>   | <b>(3,369)</b>    | <b>(4,316 )</b>   |
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning of period</b>  | <b>8,705</b>      | <b>7,780</b>      |

|  |         |          |
|--|---------|----------|
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End of period | \$5,336 | \$ 3,464 |
|--|---------|----------|

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION:

Cash paid during the period for:

|   |         |          |
|---|---------|----------|
| Interest  | \$—     | \$ 1     |
| Income taxes  | \$51    | \$ 874   |
| Non-cash investing activity:                                |         |          |
| Note payable in connection with purchase of treasury shares | \$—     | \$ 2,125 |
| Tax benefit of purchase of member interests in subsidiary   | \$1,020 | \$ —     |

See notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 29, 2012

(Unaudited)

**1. CONSOLIDATED CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The consolidated condensed balance sheet as of September 29, 2012, which has been derived from audited financial statements included in the Form 10-K, and the unaudited interim consolidated and condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). All adjustments that, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair presentation for the periods presented have been reflected as required by Regulation S-X, Rule 10-01. Such adjustments are of a normal, recurring nature. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted. These consolidated condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company’s annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 29, 2012. The results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the operating results to be expected for the full year or any other interim period.

**PRINCIPLES OF CONSOLIDATION** — The consolidated condensed interim financial statements include the accounts of Ark Restaurants Corp. and all of its wholly-owned subsidiaries, partnerships and other entities in which it has a controlling interest. Also included in the consolidated condensed interim financial statements are certain variable interest entities (“VIEs”). All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

**RECLASSIFICATIONS** — Certain reclassifications of prior period balances have been made to conform to the current period presentation. In connection with the planned or actual sale or closure of various restaurants, the operations of these businesses have been presented as discontinued operations in the consolidated condensed financial statements. Accordingly, the Company has reclassified its consolidated condensed statement of income for the prior period presented. These dispositions are discussed below in “Recent Restaurant Dispositions.”

**SEASONALITY** — The Company has substantial fixed costs that do not decline proportionally with sales. The first and second fiscal quarters, which include the winter months, usually reflect lower customer traffic than in the third and fourth fiscal quarters. In addition, sales in the third and fourth fiscal quarters can be adversely affected by inclement weather due to the significant amount of outdoor seating at the Company’s restaurants.

**FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS** — The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents, investments, receivables, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximate fair value due to the immediate or short-term maturity of these financial instruments. The fair value of notes payable is determined using current applicable rates for similar instruments as of the balance sheet date and approximates the carrying value of such debt.

**CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS** — Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits with banks and highly liquid investments generally with original maturities of three months or less. Outstanding checks in excess of account balances, typically vendor payments, payroll and other contractual obligations disbursed after the last day of a reporting period are reported as a current liability in the accompanying consolidated condensed balance sheets.

**Available-for-Sale Securities** — Available-for-sale securities consist primarily of United States Treasury Bills and Notes, all of which have a high degree of liquidity and are reported at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses recorded in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income. The cost of investments in available-for-sale securities is determined on a specific identification basis. Realized gains or losses and declines in value judged to be other than temporary, if any, are reported in Other (Income) Expense, Net. The Company evaluates its investments periodically for possible impairment and reviews factors such as the length of time and extent to which fair value has been below cost basis and the Company's ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time which may be sufficient for anticipated recovery in market value.

**CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK** — Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents. The Company reduces credit risk by placing its cash and cash equivalents with major financial institutions with high credit ratings. At times, such amounts may exceed Federally insured limits.

For the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012, the Company made purchases from two vendors that accounted for approximately 22% of total purchases. For the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011, the Company made purchases from one vendor that accounted for approximately 13% of total purchases.

**SEGMENT REPORTING** — As of December 29, 2012, the Company owned and operated 19 restaurants and bars, 22 fast food concepts and catering operations, exclusively in the United States, that have similar economic characteristics, nature of products and service, class of customers and distribution methods. The Company believes it meets the criteria for aggregating its operating segments into a single reporting segment in accordance with applicable accounting guidance.

**RECENTLY ADOPTED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS** — In June 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued new accounting guidance on the presentation of other comprehensive income. The new guidance eliminates the current option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in equity. Instead, an entity has the option to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. The new accounting guidance is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011, with early adoption permitted. Full retrospective application is required. The adoption of this guidance in the current quarter did not have a material impact on the Company’s financial statements, and the statements of comprehensive income were presented as a separate consecutive statement following the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income.

**NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS NOT YET ADOPTED** — In December 2011, the FASB issued amended standards to increase the prominence of offsetting assets and liabilities reported in financial statements. These amendments require an entity to disclose information about offsetting and the related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. These amendments will enhance disclosures by requiring improved information about financial instruments and derivative instruments that are either offset or subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar agreement. This information will enable users of an entity’s financial statements to evaluate the effect or potential effect of netting arrangements on an entity’s financial position, including the effect or potential effect of rights of setoff associated with certain financial instruments and derivative instruments. These revised standards are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. An entity should provide the disclosures required by those amendments retrospectively for all comparative periods presented. These amended standards may require additional footnote disclosures for these enhancements; however, they will not affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

## **2. VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES**

Upon adoption of the new accounting guidance for VIEs on October 3, 2010, the Company determined that it was the primary beneficiary of two VIEs which had not been previously consolidated, *Ark Hollywood/Tampa Investment, LLC* and *Ark Connecticut Investment, LLC*, as the new guidance requires that a single party (including its related parties and de facto agents) be able to exercise their rights to remove the decision maker in order for the “kick-out” rights to be considered substantive. Previously, a simple majority of owners that could exercise kick-out rights was considered a substantive right. This change resulted in the need for consolidation.

During the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012, the Company purchased an additional 14.39% of the membership interests of *Ark Hollywood/Tampa Investment, LLC*, directly from the individuals that held such interests, for an aggregate consideration of \$2,964,512. In connection with this transaction, the Company recorded a reduction to additional paid-in capital of \$2,684,896 representing the excess of the amount paid over the carrying value (\$279,616) of the non-controlling interests acquired as the acquisition of an additional interest in a less than wholly-owned



subsidiary where control is maintained is treated as an equity transaction. In addition, the Company also recorded an increase to additional paid-in capital in the amount of \$1,020,261 representing the related deferred tax benefit of the transaction.

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As a result of the above, *Ark Hollywood/Tampa Investment, LLC* is no longer considered a VIE as the Company now owns 64.39% of the voting membership interests. Accordingly, the following disclosures associated with the Company's VIEs do not include *Ark Hollywood/Tampa Investment, LLC* as of December 29, 2012:

|   | December<br>29,<br>2012 | September 29,<br>2012 |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|   | (in thousands)          |                       |
| Cash and cash equivalents                         | \$418                   | \$ 714                |
| Accounts receivable                               | 147                     | 1,776                 |
| Inventories                                       | 16                      | 28                    |
| Prepaid income taxes                              | 149                     | 235                   |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets         | 9                       | 13                    |
| Due from Ark Restaurants Corp. and affiliates (1) | 427                     | 288                   |
| Fixed assets, net                                 | 186                     | 3,189                 |
| Other long-term assets                            | 71                      | 71                    |
| Total assets                                      | \$1,423                 | \$ 6,314              |
| Accounts payable                                  | \$60                    | \$ 153                |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities            | 629                     | 1,950                 |
| Total liabilities                                 | 689                     | 2,103                 |
| Equity of variable interest entities              | 734                     | 4,211                 |
| Total liabilities and equity                      | \$1,423                 | \$ 6,314              |

(1) Amounts Due from Ark Restaurants Corp. and affiliates are eliminated upon consolidation.

The liabilities recognized as a result of consolidating these VIEs do not represent additional claims on our general assets; rather, they represent claims against the specific assets of the consolidated VIEs. Conversely, assets recognized as a result of consolidating these VIEs do not represent additional assets that could be used to satisfy claims against our general assets.

### 3.RECENT RESTAURANT EXPANSION

On March 18, 2011, a subsidiary of the Company entered into a lease agreement to operate a restaurant and bar in New York City named *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*. In connection with the agreement, the landlord has agreed to contribute up to \$1,800,000 towards the construction of the facility (of which \$1,500,000 was received as of December 29, 2012 and is being deferred over the lease term), which totaled approximately \$7,000,000. The initial term of the lease for this facility expires on March 31, 2027 and has one five-year renewal. This restaurant opened during the second quarter of fiscal 2012.

#### **4.RECENT RESTAURANT DISPOSITIONS**

*Lease Expirations* – On July 8, 2011, the Company entered into an agreement with the landlord of *The Grill Room* property located in New York City, whereby in exchange for a payment of \$350,000 the Company vacated the property on October 31, 2011. Such payment and the related loss on closure of the property, in the amount of \$179,000, are included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011. This lease was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2011.

The Company was advised by the landlord that it would have to vacate the *America* property located in Washington, DC, which was on a month-to-month lease. The closure of this property occurred on November 7, 2011. The related loss on closure of this property, in the amount of \$186,000, is included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011.

*Discontinued Operations* – Effective March 15, 2012, the Company vacated its food court operations at the *MGM Grand Casino at the Foxwoods Resort Casino* in Ledyard, CT. The Company determined that it would not be able to operate this facility profitably at this location at the current rent.

The results of discontinued operations were as follows:

|                          | 13 Weeks<br>Ended<br>December<br>29, 31,<br>2012 2011<br>(In thousands) |
|--------------------------|---|
| Revenues                 | \$ — \$ 507   |
| Costs and expenses       | — 673   |
| Loss before income taxes | — (166 )  |
| Income tax benefit       | — (39 )   |
| Net loss                 | \$ — \$ (127 )  |

*Other* – On October 29, 2012, the Company suffered a flood at its *Red* and *Sequoia* properties located in New York, NY as a result of a hurricane. The Company did not reopen these properties as the underlying leases were due to expire in the second quarter of fiscal 2013. Losses related to the closure of these properties, in the amount of \$256,000, are included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012.

## 5. INVESTMENT SECURITIES

The fair values of the Company's investment securities are determined in accordance with GAAP, with fair value being defined as the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. As such, fair value is a market-based measurement that should be determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. As a basis for considering such assumptions, the Company utilizes the three-tier value hierarchy, as prescribed by GAAP, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

Level 1 - inputs to the valuation methodology are quoted prices (unadjusted) for an identical asset or liability in an active market.

Level 2 - inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for a similar asset or liability in an active market or model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs are observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement of the asset or liability.

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The following available-for-sale securities (which all mature within one year) are re-measured to fair value on a recurring basis and are valued using Level 1 inputs:

|                                |                | Gross<br>Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Losses | Fair<br>Value |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---|--|---------------|
|                                | (In thousands) |                            |   |  |               |
| At December 29, 2012           |                |                            |   |  |               |
| Available-for-sale short-term: |                |                            |   |  |               |
| Government debt securities     | \$ 75          | \$                         | —\$                                     | —  | \$ 75         |

|                                |                | Gross<br>Amortized<br>Cost | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Gains | Gross<br>Unrealized<br>Holding<br>Losses | Fair<br>Value |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---|--|---------------|
|                                | (In thousands) |                            |   |  |               |
| At September 29, 2012          |                |                            |   |  |               |
| Available-for-sale short-term: |                |                            |   |  |               |
| Government debt securities     | \$ 75          | \$                         | —\$                                     | —  | \$ 75         |

At December 29, 2012, all of the Company's government debt securities mature within fiscal year 2013.

Proceeds from the sale and redemption of investment securities amounted to \$0 and \$320,000 for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. No realized gains or losses were included in Other Income (Expense), net for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

## 6. NOTE PAYABLE FOR TREASURY STOCK REPURCHASE

On December 12, 2011, the Company, in a private transaction, purchased 250,000 shares of its common stock at a price of \$12.50 per share, or a total of \$3,125,000 (\$2,037,000 outstanding at December 29, 2012). Upon the closing of the purchase, the Company paid the seller \$1,000,000 in cash and issued an unsecured promissory note to the seller for \$2,125,000. The note bears interest at 0.19% per annum, and is payable in 24 equal monthly installments of \$88,541, commencing on December 1, 2012.

## 7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company's former President and Chief Operating Officer resigned effective January 1, 2012. In connection therewith, the Company forgave loans due totaling \$66,000 (\$29,000 for stock option exercises receivable and \$37,000 for other loans) and has recorded additional compensation in the amount of \$475,400 in accordance with his separation agreement and release. Such amounts are included in General and Administrative Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011.

Employee loans totaled approximately \$339,000 at both December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012. Such amounts are payable on demand and bear interest at the minimum statutory rate (0.19% at December 29, 2012 and September 29, 2012).

## 8. ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accrued expenses and other current liabilities consist of the following:

|  | December<br>29,<br>2012 | September<br>29,<br>2012 |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | (In thousands)          |                          |
| Sales tax payable                              | \$687                   | \$ 852                   |
| Accrued wages and payroll related costs        | 1,188                   | 1,475                    |
| Customer advance deposits                      | 1,538                   | 2,811                    |
| Accrued occupancy and other operating expenses | 4,320                   | 3,735                    |

\$7,733 \$ 8,873

## 9.COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

**Leases** — The Company leases its restaurants, bar facilities, and administrative headquarters through its subsidiaries under terms expiring at various dates through 2032. Most of the leases provide for the payment of base rents plus real estate taxes, insurance and other expenses and, in certain instances, for the payment of a percentage of the restaurants sales in excess of stipulated amounts at such facility and in one instance based on profits.

In February 2010, the Company entered into an amendment to its lease for the food court space at the New York-New York Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Pursuant to this amendment, the Company agreed to, among other things; commit no less than \$3,000,000 to remodel the food court during 2012. In exchange for this commitment, the landlord agreed to extend the food court lease for an additional four years. As of December 29, 2012, the Company has spent approximately \$2,300,000 related to this commitment.

On November 28, 2012, the Company entered into an agreement to design and lease a restaurant at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. The initial term of the lease for this facility will expire 10 years after the date the property first opens for business to the public following its current refurbishment and will have two five-year renewals. The Company anticipates the cost to construct this restaurant will be approximately \$1,000,000 and it will open during the third quarter of the 2013 fiscal year.

**Legal Proceedings** — In the ordinary course of its business, the Company is a party to various lawsuits arising from accidents at its restaurants and worker's compensation claims, which are generally handled by the Company's insurance carriers. The employment by the Company of management personnel, waiters, waitresses and kitchen staff at a number of different restaurants has resulted in the institution, from time to time, of litigation alleging violation by the Company of employment discrimination

laws. Management believes, based in part on the advice of counsel, that the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Other** — On June 7, 2011, the Company entered into a 10-year exclusive agreement to manage a yet to be constructed restaurant and catering service at *Basketball City* in New York City in exchange for a fee of \$1,000,000 (all of which has been paid and is included in Intangible Assets in the accompanying Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets). Under the terms of the agreement, the owner of the property will construct the facility at its expense and the Company will pay the owner an annual fee based on sales, as defined in the agreement. The Company expects to begin operating this property within the next 12 months.

## 10. STOCK OPTIONS

The Company has options outstanding under two stock option plans, the 2004 Stock Option Plan (the "2004 Plan") and the 2010 Stock Option Plan (the "2010 Plan"), which was approved by shareholders in the second quarter of 2010. Effective with this approval the Company terminated the 2004 Plan. This action terminated the 400 authorized but unissued options under the 2004 Plan, but it did not affect any of the options previously issued under the 2004 Plan. Options granted under the 2004 Plan are exercisable at prices at least equal to the fair market value of such stock on the dates the options were granted. The options expire ten years after the date of grant.

The 2010 Stock Option Plan is the Company's only equity compensation plan currently in effect. Under the 2010 Stock Option Plan, 500,000 options were authorized for future grant. Options granted under the 2010 Plan are exercisable at prices at least equal to the fair market value of such stock on the dates the options were granted. The options expire ten years after the date of grant.

During fiscal 2012, options to purchase 251,500 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$14.40 per share were granted and are exercisable as to 50% of the shares commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant and as to an additional 50% commencing on the second anniversary of the date of grant. The grant date fair value of these stock options was \$2.57 per share. The fair value of each of the Company's stock options is estimated on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses assumptions that relate to the expected volatility of the Company's common stock, the expected dividend yield of our stock, the expected life of the options and the risk free interest rate. The assumptions used for the 2012 grant include a risk free interest rate of 1.67%, volatility of 36.2%, a dividend yield of 6.1% and an expected life of 6.25 years. No options were issued during the 13-week period ended December 29, 2012.

A summary of stock option activity is presented below:



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|   | 2013     | Weighted<br>Average<br>Exercise<br>Price | Weighted<br>Average<br>Contractual<br>Term | Aggregate<br>Intrinsic<br>Value |
|---|----------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Shares  |          |  |  |                                 |
| Outstanding, September 29, 2012                     | 648,100  | \$ 19.56                                 | 6.50 Years                                 |                                 |
| Options:  |          |  |  |                                 |
| Granted   | —        |  |  |                                 |
| Exercised   | —        |  |  |                                 |
| Canceled or expired                                 | (8,500 ) | \$ 13.71                                 |  |                                 |
| Outstanding and expected to vest, December 29, 2012 | 639,600  | \$ 19.59                                 | 6.25 Years                                 | \$1,436,666                     |
| Exercisable, December 29, 2012                      | 396,600  | \$ 22.83                                 | 4.25 Years                                 | \$810,641                       |

Compensation cost charged to operations for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011 was \$80,000 and \$0, respectively. The compensation cost recognized is classified as a general and administrative expense in the Consolidated Condensed Statements of Income.

As of December 29, 2012, there was approximately \$458,000 of unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested stock options, which is expected to be recognized over a period of approximately 1.5 years.

## **11.INCOME TAXES**

The Company's provision for income taxes consists of U.S. Federal, state and local taxes in amounts necessary to align the Company's year-to-date provision for income taxes with the effective tax rate that the Company expects to achieve for the full year. The income tax provision on income from continuing operations for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011 reflect effective tax rates of approximately 32% and 23%, respectively. The Company expects its effective tax rate for its current fiscal year to be significantly lower than the statutory rate as a result of the inclusion of tax credits and operating income attributable to the non-controlling interests of the VIEs that is not taxable to the Company. The final annual tax rate cannot be determined until the end of the fiscal year; therefore, the actual tax rate could differ from current estimates.

## **12.INCOME PER SHARE OF COMMON STOCK**

Net income (loss) per share is calculated on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each period plus, for diluted net income per share, the additional dilutive effect of potential common stock. Potential common stock using the treasury stock method consists of dilutive stock options.

For the 13-week period ended December 29, 2012, options to purchase 165,100 shares of common stock at a price of \$12.04 and options to purchase 245,500 shares of common stock at a price of \$14.40 were included in diluted earnings per share. Options to purchase 139,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$29.60 and options to purchase 90,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$32.15 per share were not included in diluted earnings per share as their impact was antidilutive.

For the 13-week period ended December 31, 2011, options to purchase 166,100 shares of common stock at a price of \$12.04 were included in diluted earnings per share. Options to purchase 140,500 shares of common stock at a price of \$29.60 and options to purchase 90,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$32.15 per share were not included in diluted earnings per share as their impact was antidilutive.

## **13.DIVIDENDS**

On December 28, 2012, the Company paid a quarterly cash dividend in the amount of \$0.25 per share on the Company's common stock. The Company intends to continue to pay such quarterly cash dividend for the foreseeable future, however, the payment of future dividends is at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and is based on future earnings, cash flow, financial condition, capital requirements, changes in U.S. taxation and other relevant factors.

## **14.SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On February 6, 2013, the Company received an unsolicited offer to purchase all of its outstanding capital stock for \$22 a share in cash from Landry's, Inc. The Company's Board of Directors is reviewing such offer.

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**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

**Overview**

As of December 29, 2012, the Company owned and operated 19 restaurants and bars, 22 fast food concepts and catering operations, exclusively in the United States, that have similar economic characteristics, nature of products and service, class of customer and distribution methods. The Company believes it meets the criteria for aggregating its operating segments into a single reporting segment in accordance with applicable accounting guidance.

*Accounting Period*

Our fiscal year ends on the Saturday nearest September 30. We report fiscal years under a 52/53-week format. This reporting method is used by many companies in the hospitality industry and is meant to improve year-to-year comparisons of operating results. Under this method, certain years will contain 53 weeks. The periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011 included 13 weeks.

*Reclassifications*

Certain reclassifications of prior period balances have been made to conform to the current period presentation. In connection with the planned or actual sale or closure of various restaurants, the operations of these businesses have been presented as discontinued operations in the consolidated condensed financial statements. Accordingly, the Company has reclassified its consolidated condensed statement of income for the prior period presented. These dispositions are discussed below in "Recent Restaurant Dispositions."

*Seasonality*

The Company has substantial fixed costs that do not decline proportionally with sales. The first and second fiscal quarters, which include the winter months, usually reflect lower customer traffic than in the third and fourth fiscal quarters. In addition, sales in the third and fourth fiscal quarters can be adversely affected by inclement weather due to the significant amount of outdoor seating at the Company's restaurants.

*Results of Operations*

The Company's operating income of \$282,000 for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 decreased 82.2% compared to operating income of \$1,587,000 for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011. This decrease resulted primarily from: (i) the negative effects of Hurricane Sandy on our businesses located in New York, Atlantic City, NJ and Washington, DC and the losses associated with the closure of our properties *Red* and *Sequoia* located in New York, NY as a result, totaling approximately \$900,000 which includes approximately \$256,000 of assets written off that were destroyed as a result of the hurricane, (ii) operating losses in the amount of approximately \$600,000 related to our new restaurant in New York City, *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*, which opened in March 2012, and (iii) the negative impact of additional room capacity in Las Vegas, NV, all partially offset by the absence of a non-recurring expenses in the amount of \$500,000 recorded in the quarter ended December 31, 2011 related to the resignation of the Company's former President.

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The following table summarizes the significant components of the Company's operating results for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively:

|                                     | Year Ended        |                   | Variance  |         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|
|                                     | December 29, 2012 | December 31, 2011 | \$        | %       |
|                                     | (in thousands)    |                   |           |         |
| REVENUES:                           |                   |                   |           |         |
| Food and beverage sales             | \$31,029          | \$ 32,603         | \$(1,574) | -4.8 %  |
| Other revenue                       | 307               | 258               | 49        | 19.0 %  |
| Total revenues                      | 31,336            | 32,861            | (1,525)   | -4.6 %  |
| COSTS AND EXPENSES:                 |                   |                   |           |         |
| Food and beverage cost of sales     | 7,749             | 8,358             | (609 )    | -7.3 %  |
| Payroll expenses                    | 10,845            | 10,707            | 138       | 1.3 %   |
| Occupancy expenses                  | 4,535             | 4,458             | 77        | 1.7 %   |
| Other operating costs and expenses  | 4,339             | 4,032             | 307       | 7.6 %   |
| General and administrative expenses | 2,410             | 2,781             | (371 )    | -13.3 % |
| Depreciation and amortization       | 1,176             | 938               | 238       | 25.4 %  |
| Total costs and expenses            | 31,054            | 31,274            | (220 )    | -0.7 %  |
| OPERATING INCOME                    | \$282             | \$ 1,587          | \$(1,305) | -82.2 % |

## Revenues

During the Company's 13-week period ended December 29, 2012, revenues decreased 4.6% as compared to revenues in the 13-week period ended December 31, 2011. This decrease resulted primarily from: (i) the negative effects of Hurricane Sandy on our businesses located in New York, Atlantic City, NJ and Washington, DC and the related closure of our properties *Red* and *Sequoia* located in New York, NY in October 2012 as a result, and (ii) the negative impact of additional room capacity in Las Vegas, NV, partially offset by revenues related to our new restaurant in New York City, *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*, which opened in March 2012.

## Food and Beverage Same-Store Sales

On a Company-wide basis, same store sales decreased 4.6% during the first fiscal quarter of 2013 compared to the same period last year as follows:

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|                         | 13 Weeks Ended |          | Variance  |         |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------|-----------|---------|
|                         | December       | December |           |         |
|                         | 29,            | 31,      | \$        | %       |
|                         | 2012           | 2011     |           |         |
|                         | (in thousands) |          |           |         |
| Las Vegas               | \$13,497       | \$14,359 | \$(862)   | -6.0 %  |
| New York                | 7,191          | 7,044    | 147       | 2.1 %   |
| Washington, DC          | 3,137          | 3,340    | (203)     | -6.1 %  |
| Atlantic City, NJ       | 538            | 787      | (249)     | -31.6 % |
| Boston                  | 960            | 971      | (11)      | -1.1 %  |
| Connecticut             | 876            | 916      | (40)      | -4.4 %  |
| Florida                 | 3,357          | 3,569    | (212)     | -5.9 %  |
| Same Store Sales        | 29,556         | 30,986   | \$(1,430) | -4.6 %  |
| Other                   | 1,473          | 1,617    |           |         |
| Food and beverage sales | \$31,029       | \$32,603 |           |         |

Same-store sales in Las Vegas decreased 6.0% in the first fiscal quarter of 2013 compared to 2012 primarily as a result of the negative impact of additional room capacity without a corresponding increase in overall traffic. Same-store sales in New York (which excludes the *Red* and *Sequoia* properties as they were closed in October 2012) increased 2.1% during the first quarter of

fiscal 2013 compared to 2012 primarily as a result of strong catering revenues. Same-store sales in Washington, DC decreased 6.1% in the first fiscal quarter of 2013 compared to 2012 primarily as a result of increased competition. Same-store sales in Atlantic City decreased 31.6% in the first quarter of fiscal 2013 compared to 2012 due to the negative effects of Hurricane Sandy. Same-store sales in Connecticut decreased 4.4% in the first quarter of fiscal 2013 compared to 2012 due to declining traffic at the Foxwoods Resort and Casino where our properties are located. Same-store sales in Florida decreased 5.9% in the first quarter of fiscal 2013 compared to 2012 due to a decrease in the usage of complimentary by the ownership of the casinos where our properties are located. Other food and beverage sales consist of sales related to new restaurants opened during the applicable period and sales related to properties that were closed during the period due to lease expiration and other closures and therefore not included in discontinued operations.

## Costs and Expenses

Costs and expenses from continuing operations for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in thousands):

|                                     | 13-Weeks<br>Ended<br>December 29,<br>2012 | %<br>to Total<br>Revenues |   | 13-Weeks<br>Ended<br>December 31,<br>2011 | %<br>to Total<br>Revenues | Increase<br>(Decrease)<br>\$            % |         |       |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|---|---------------------------|---|---------|-------|---|
| Food and beverage cost of sales     | \$ 7,749                                  | 24.7                      | % | \$ 8,358                                  | 25.4                      | %   | \$(609) | -7.3  | % |
| Payroll expenses                    | 10,845                                    | 34.6                      | % | 10,707                                    | 32.6                      | %   | 138     | 1.3   | % |
| Occupancy expenses                  | 4,535                                     | 14.5                      | % | 4,458                                     | 13.6                      | %   | 77      | 1.7   | % |
| Other operating costs and expenses  | 4,339                                     | 13.8                      | % | 4,032                                     | 12.3                      | %   | 307     | 7.6   | % |
| General and administrative expenses | 2,410                                     | 7.7                       | % | 2,781                                     | 8.5                       | %   | (371)   | -13.3 | % |
| Depreciation and amortization       | 1,176                                     | 3.8                       | % | 938                                       | 2.9                       | %   | 238     | 25.4  | % |
|                                     | \$ 31,054                                 |                           |   | \$ 31,274                                 |                           |   | \$(220) |       |   |

Food and beverage costs as a percentage of total revenues for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 decreased as compared to the same period of fiscal 2012 as a result of improved menu costing partially offset by higher commodity prices.

Payroll expenses for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 increased slightly as compared to the same period of fiscal 2012 as a result of payroll incurred at our new restaurant in New York City, *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*, which opened in March 2012, partially offset by a reduction in payroll expenses related to properties that were closed (as discussed above) due to flooding from Hurricane Sandy.



Occupancy expenses for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 increased as compared to the same period of fiscal 2012 as a result of occupancy expenses incurred at our new restaurant in New York City, *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*, which opened in March 2012, partially offset by a reduction in occupancy expenses related to properties that were closed (as discussed above) due to flooding from Hurricane Sandy.

Other operating costs and expenses for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 increased as compared to the same period of fiscal 2012 due to the opening of *Clyde Frazier's Wine & Dine* in March 2012, losses related to the closure of two properties in New York as a result of Hurricane sandy, in the amount of \$256,000, partially offset a reduction in other operating costs and expenses related to properties that were closed (as discussed above) due to flooding from Hurricane Sandy.

General and administrative expenses (which relate solely to the corporate office in New York City) for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012 decreased compared to the same period of fiscal 2012 primarily as a result of the inclusion of the former President's severance in the prior period in connection with his resignation in December 2011.

### **Income Taxes**

The Company's provision for income taxes consists of U.S. Federal, state and local taxes in amounts necessary to align the Company's year-to-date provision for income taxes with the effective tax rate that the Company expects to achieve for the full year. The income tax provision on income from continuing operations for the 13-week periods ended December 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011 reflect effective tax rates of approximately 32% and 23%, respectively. The Company expects its effective tax rate for its current fiscal year to be significantly lower than the statutory rate as a result of the inclusion of tax credits and operating income attributable to the non-controlling interests of the VIEs that is not taxable to the Company. The final annual tax rate cannot be determined until the end of the fiscal year; therefore, the actual tax rate could differ from current estimates.

The Company's overall effective tax rate in the future will be affected by factors such as the level of losses incurred at the Company's New York facilities, which cannot be consolidated for state and local tax purposes, pre-tax income earned outside of New York City, the utilization of state and local net operating loss carryforwards and the utilization of FICA tax credits. Nevada has no state income tax and other states in which the Company operates have income tax rates substantially lower in comparison to New York.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our primary source of capital has been cash provided by operations. We utilize cash generated from operations to fund the cost of developing and opening new restaurants, acquiring existing restaurants owned by others and remodeling existing restaurants we own.

Net cash used in investing activities for the 13-week period ended December 29, 2012 was \$3,374,000 and resulted primarily from purchases of fixed assets at existing restaurants and the purchase of the Florida membership interests.

Net cash used in investing activities for the 13-week period ended December 31, 2011 was \$2,590,000 and resulted primarily from purchases of fixed assets at existing restaurants and the construction of *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine* located at the New York City.

Net cash used in financing activities for the 13-week period ended December 29, 2012 of \$1,499,000 was principally used for the payment of dividends and distributions to non-controlling interests.

Net cash used in financing activities for the 13-week period ended December 31, 2011 of \$2,424,000 was principally used for the payment of dividends, purchase of treasury stock and distributions to non-controlling interests.

The Company's working capital surplus of \$593,000 at December 29, 2012, decreased by \$3,468,000 as compared to a working capital surplus of \$4,061,000 at September 29, 2012 resulting primarily from the purchase of Florida membership interests. We believe that our existing cash balances, investments and cash provided by operations will be sufficient to meet our liquidity and capital spending requirements at least through the next 12 months.

On December 28, 2012, the Company paid a quarterly cash dividend in the amount of \$0.25 per share on the Company's common stock. The Company intends to continue to pay such quarterly cash dividend for the foreseeable future, however, the payment of future dividends is at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and is based

on future earnings, cash flow, financial condition, capital requirements, changes in U.S. taxation and other relevant factors.

In February 2010, the Company entered into an amendment to its lease for the food court space at the New York-New York Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Pursuant to this amendment, the Company agreed to, among other things; commit no less than \$3,000,000 to remodel the food court during 2012. In exchange for this commitment, the landlord agreed to extend the food court lease for an additional four years. As of December 29, 2012, the Company has spent approximately \$2,300,000 related to this commitment.

On November 28, 2012, the Company entered into an agreement to design and lease a restaurant at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. The initial term of the lease for this facility will expire 10 years after the date the property first opens for business to the public following its current refurbishment and will have two five-year renewals. The Company anticipates the cost to construct this restaurant will be approximately \$1,000,000 and it will open during the third quarter of the 2013 fiscal year

On June 7, 2011, the Company entered into a 10-year exclusive agreement to manage a yet to be constructed restaurant and catering service at *Basketball City* in New York City in exchange for a fee of \$1,000,000 (all of which has been paid and is included in Intangible Assets in the accompanying Consolidated Condensed Balance Sheets). Under the terms of the agreement, the owner of the property will construct the facility at its expense and the Company will pay the owner an annual fee based on sales, as defined in the agreement. The Company expects to begin operating this property within the next 12 months.

#### Recent Restaurant Expansion

On March 18, 2011, a subsidiary of the Company entered into a lease agreement to operate a restaurant and bar in New York City named *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine*. In connection with the agreement, the landlord has agreed to contribute up to \$1,800,000 towards the construction of the facility (of which \$1,500,000 was received as of December 29, 2012 and is being deferred over the lease term), which totaled approximately \$7,000,000. The initial term of the lease for this facility expires on March 31, 2027 and has one five-year renewal. This restaurant opened during the second quarter of fiscal 2012.

## Recent Restaurant Dispositions

**Lease Expirations** – On July 8, 2011, the Company entered into an agreement with the landlord of *The Grill Room* property located in New York City, whereby in exchange for a payment of \$350,000 the Company vacated the property on October 31, 2011. Such payment and the related loss on closure of the property, in the amount of \$179,000, are included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011. This lease was scheduled to expire on December 31, 2011.

The Company was advised by the landlord that it would have to vacate the *America* property located in Washington, DC, which was on a month-to-month lease. The closure of this property occurred on November 7, 2011. The related loss on closure of this property, in the amount of \$186,000, is included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 31, 2011.

**Discontinued Operations** – Effective March 15, 2012, the Company vacated its food court operations at the *MGM Grand Casino at the Foxwoods Resort Casino* in Ledyard, CT. The Company determined that it would not be able to operate this facility profitably at this location at the current rent.

The results of discontinued operations were as follows:

|                          | 13 Weeks<br>Ended<br>December<br>29, 31,<br>20122011<br>(In thousands) |
|--------------------------|--|
| Revenues                 | \$ — \$ 507  |
| Costs and expenses       | — 673  |
| Loss before income taxes | — (166 )   |
| Income tax benefit       | — (39 )  |
| Net loss                 | \$ — \$ (127 )   |

**Other** – On October 29, 2012, the Company suffered a flood at its *Red* and *Sequoia* properties located in New York, NY as a result of a hurricane. The Company did not reopen these properties as the underlying leases were due to expire in the second quarter of fiscal 2013. Losses related to the closure of these properties, in the amount of \$256,000, are included in Other Operating Costs and Expenses in the Consolidated Condensed Statement of Income for the 13-weeks ended December 29, 2012.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

The preparation of financial statements requires the application of certain accounting policies, which may require the Company to make estimates and assumptions of future events. In the process of preparing its consolidated condensed financial statements, the Company estimates the appropriate carrying value of certain assets and liabilities, which are not readily apparent from other sources. The primary estimates underlying the Company's consolidated condensed financial statements include allowances for potential bad debts on accounts and notes receivable, leases, the useful lives and recoverability of its assets, such as property and intangibles, fair values of financial instruments, the realizable value of its tax assets and other matters. Management bases its estimates on certain assumptions, which they believe are reasonable in the circumstances, and actual results could differ from those estimates. Although management does not believe that any change in those assumptions in the near term would have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial position or the results of operations, differences in actual results could be material to the consolidated condensed financial statements.

The Company's critical accounting policies are described in the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended September 29, 2012. There have been no significant changes to such policies during fiscal 2013 other than those disclosed in Note 1 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

## **Recently Adopted and Issued Accounting Standards**

See Note 1 to the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements for a description of recent accounting pronouncements, including those adopted in fiscal 2013 and the expected dates of adoption and the anticipated impact on the Consolidated Condensed Financial Statements.

### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

The Company purchases commodities such as chicken, beef, lobster and shrimp for the Company's restaurants. The prices of these commodities may be volatile depending upon market conditions. The Company does not purchase forward commodity contracts because the changes in prices for these items have historically been short-term in nature and, in the Company's view, the cost of the contracts is in excess of the benefits.

The Company's business is also highly seasonal and dependent on the weather. Outdoor seating capacity, such as terraces and sidewalk cafes, are available for dining only in the warm seasons and then only in clement weather.

### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

#### *Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

Under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this quarterly report as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Based on this evaluation, our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 29, 2012 to ensure that all material information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to them as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and that all such information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

#### *Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting*

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) that occurred during the first quarter of fiscal 2013 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

#### *Limitations of the Effectiveness of Internal Control*

A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the internal control system are met. Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control system, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, if any, within a company have been detected.

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## **PART II**

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

#### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

The Company is not subject to other pending legal proceedings, other than ordinary claims incidental to its business, which the Company does not believe will materially impact results of operations.

#### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

The most significant risk factors applicable to the Company are described in Part I, Item 1A (Risk Factors) of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 29, 2012 (the "2012 Form 10-K"). There have been no material changes to the risk factors previously disclosed in the 2012 Form 10-K. The risks described in the 2012 Form 10-K are not the only risks facing the Company. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to management may materially adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, and/or operating results.

#### **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

None.

#### **Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities**

None.

#### **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

Not Applicable.



**Item 5. Other Information**

None.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

31.1 Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

31.2 Certification of Principal Financial Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

32 Certificate of Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

101.INS\* XBRL Instance Document

101.SCH\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CAL\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.DEF\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

101.LAB\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PRE\* XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

\*Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the Interactive Data Files on Exhibit 101 hereto are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, are deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and otherwise are not subject to liability under those sections.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: February 12, 2013

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.**

By: /s/ Michael Weinstein  
Michael Weinstein  
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

By: /s/ Robert J. Stewart  
Robert J. Stewart  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Authorized Signatory and Principal  
Financial and Accounting Officer)

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