



SUPERMARKETER

Jake Tavello is more than just the boss' kid. The 31-year-old vice president of Stew Leonard's in Paramus—and grandson of Stew Leonard Sr.—is one of 25 individuals across the country to receive a 2019 GenNext Award from *Progressive Grocer*, a supermarket industry trade publication. Tavello has been training

in the family business since he was 15, working as an intern and eventually a store director at the grocer's Connecticut location before being promoted to VP of the franchise's seventh store in Bergen County. In true millennial fashion, Tavello focuses mostly on the digital aspects of the business, prioritizing e-commerce and growing the brand's social media presence to make it easier for customers to shop for groceries online. "One of the hardest things in a family business is to pass on the passion for fresh food retailing," says CEO Stew Leonard Jr., Jake's uncle. "I'm happy to see that Jake has caught the bug for the industry!"

■ Stew Leonard's, 700 Paramus Park, Paramus, 201.649.0888; stewleonards.com



CULINARY CORNER

We're thankful that Turkish chef Yusuf and his wife moved from Texas to New Jersey to be closer to their families, because that means we have some amazing new authentic Turkish food to enjoy. The husband-and-wife-owned **El Turco Grill** in Hackensack offers "a modern twist" on traditional Turkish delicacies, with Mediterranean favorites such as kebabs, bourekas, calf's liver and stuffed eggplant. Yusuf also takes pride in his lamb dishes; he hand-selects the lamb and slices and dices it so that it tastes extra meaty and delicious. Portions are relatively large here, so we recommend splitting the mixed kebab plate with your dining companion.

■ El Turco Grill, 270 Main St., Hackensack, 201.880.7450

—Franklin Lakes needed a cool bar where residents could hang out and grab a drink, and now it's here. **Five 13 Liquor Lounge** opened in Franklin Lakes Town Square, giving patrons that chill NYC lounge feel closer to home. Craft brews, specialty cocktails and wines from around the world are on offer, and management has plans for live entertainment on select nights (it's open Tuesday–Saturday nights only). Bonus: If you're hungry, customers may also order in from new Italian restaurant Pazza, which is right next door.

■ Five 13 Liquor Lounge, 794 Franklin Ave., Franklin Lakes, 201.848.0513

—The Woodcliff Lake restaurant Blue Moon closed unexpectedly late last year. But now we can welcome **Sol Restaurant**, another Mexican eatery that has taken its place on Kinderkamack Road. Opened since President's Day weekend, Sol features a completely renovated interior and a menu similar to Blue Moon's, with traditional Mexican apps and entrées as well as other innovative dishes such as paella, seafood and steak inspired by the owners' Spanish and Argentinian roots.

■ Sol Restaurant, 42 Kinderkamack Rd., Woodcliff Lake, 201.746.9363; solrestaurantnj.com

KUDOS: WE'LL DRINK TO THIS INVENTION

How annoying is it when you're at a liquor store and the glass bottles roll around the cart and nearly shatter? Wyckoff couple Thomas and Charlotte Santolli have a solution. The pair designed the "Wine and Cheer" shopping cart, which, unlike regular shopping carts, has a foldable basket with 16 metal rings that hold all types of bottles upright. After patenting the product and doing market research in the Midwest for almost four years, they now manufacture the Wine and Cheer cart nearby in Newark. It can be found in liquor stores in three "R" towns: Ramsey Liquors, Super Cellars in Ridgewood and Mason's Cellars in Rutherford. "We're also in the Hillsdale and Lyndhurst ShopRite liquor stores as of this month," says Charlotte; her husband adds that the ShopRite version of the cart has a slightly smaller footprint to accommodate narrower aisles. "We're hoping to expand with some of the bigger chains too, as there has been a lot of demand," he says. The Santollis say the cart appeals to everyone from rosé-loving millennials to seniors, who appreciate not having to lean deep into the cart to reach the bottles when at the register.



DID YOU KNOW?

March is Women's History Month, and then there's International Women's Day on March 8. And here's a fun fact: An official New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail runs throughout the state. The Bergen County stop on this trail is the Women's Federation Memorial in the Alpine section of Palisades Interstate Park. After the Civil War, locals argued with stone quarries over whether to preserve the region's natural cliffs and waterfalls. In 1894, the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs joined others to fight for legislation to protect the Palisades, and by 1900 the governors of New York and New Jersey had formed a commission to keep the Palisades intact. The Women's Federation played a key role in the land's preservation, so we have those brave ladies to thank for the stunning 2,500 acres of parks and shoreline we have there today.

