

**Ark  
Restaurants  
Corp.**

**2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

## The Company

We are a New York corporation formed in 1983. As of the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013, we owned and/or operated 20 restaurants and bars, 22 fast food concepts and catering operations through our subsidiaries. Initially our facilities were located only in New York City. As of the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013, five of our restaurant and bar facilities are located in New York City, three are located in Washington, D.C., seven are located in Las Vegas, Nevada, three are located in Atlantic City, New Jersey, one is located at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Connecticut and one is located in the Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston, Massachusetts.

In addition to the shift from a Manhattan-based operation to a multi-city operation, the nature of the facilities operated by us has shifted from smaller, neighborhood restaurants to larger, destination properties intended to benefit from high patron traffic attributable to the uniqueness of the location. Most of our properties which have been opened in recent years are of the latter description. As of the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013, these include the operations at the 12 fast food facilities in Tampa, Florida and Hollywood, Florida, respectively (2004); the Gallagher's Steakhouse and Gallagher's Burger Bar in the Resorts Atlantic City Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey (2005); The Grill at Two Trees at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Connecticut (2006); Durgin Park Restaurant and the Black Horse Tavern in the Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston, Massachusetts (2007); Yolos at the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada (2007); Robert at the Museum of Arts & Design at Columbus Circle in Manhattan (2010); Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine in Manhattan (2012); and Broadway Burger Bar and Grill in the Quarter at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey (2013).

The names and themes of each of our restaurants are different except for our two Gallagher's Steakhouse's and our two Broadway Burger Bar and Grill's. The menus in our restaurants are extensive, offering a wide variety of high-quality foods at generally moderate prices. The atmosphere at many of the restaurants is lively and extremely casual. Most of the restaurants have separate bar areas, are open seven days a week and most serve lunch as well as dinner. A majority of our net sales are derived from dinner as opposed to lunch service.

While decor differs from restaurant to restaurant, interiors are marked by distinctive architectural and design elements which often incorporate dramatic interior open spaces and extensive glass exteriors. The wall treatments, lighting and decorations are typically vivid, unusual and, in some cases, highly theatrical.

We will provide, without charge, a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013, including financial statements, exhibits and schedules thereto, to each of our shareholders of record on February 10, 2014 and each beneficial holder on that date, upon receipt of a written request therefore mailed to our offices, 85 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003 Attention: Treasurer.

February 17, 2014

Dear Shareholders:

This was an okay year in terms of EBITDA production. Some influences on business were not in our control. Hurricane Sandy highlighted a year of uncooperative weather. In addition we received an unwanted bid for our company, and as always there was continued upward pressures on operating expenses. These factors attenuated our ability to deliver a better performance and restricted cash flow into the company. Sandy closed many of our Northeast restaurants, some for as much as a week, and in the case of Sequoia and Red the time remaining on their leases and the damage incurred led to the decision to not reopen. The bid for our company by another restaurant enterprise and our subsequent rejection of that bid was an expensive excursion.

Obviously, outside influences do not give management permission to ignore some core problems. We remain committed to our restaurant Clyde's but are still suffering substantial losses while trying to find an economic and marketing equation that works. This year was better for Clyde's than last and there is progress but losses are never comfortable. Also, we are finding it difficult to increase revenues in operations outside New York. Las Vegas is a big footprint for our company and remains a challenging environment. Customer counts are flat or slightly in the negative, and without pressure from demand we are not confident to increase pricing. We need price increases to maintain operating profits. Despite our efforts to control operating costs they inevitably have the wind at their back and head higher. Our Florida operations had their first down year in revenue after years of double digit increases in comparative sales. The casinos we service in Florida changed their policy on couponing meals which had a negative impact. Our restaurants in Washington D.C. and Boston saw slight sales declines as well. And finally in the last couple of years we have lost some restaurants that were EBITDA productive as the term on leases ran out and we were unable to renegotiate to keep us in those locations.

This all leads to related questions. The first, what was the economic justification to turn away a bid for our company and does management have a sufficient level of confidence in the assets of the company that further lends support to its decision. The second is if the business is not for sale at the current market capitalization what is the plan going forward.

For fiscal 2013 we had operating income at the restaurants of approximately \$21 million (this is before depreciation and General and Administrative costs). Most of this operating income came from leases that have reasonable term remaining. Of the \$21 million approximately \$8.7 million is generated from Las Vegas which has been under revenue pressure for the last six years. We believe that a new development project underway at New York New York in Las Vegas will bring that property new relevance and increased demand for our operations. We therefore are projecting better results in Vegas once the construction is completed albeit not a full recovery to the 2007 level. Not being in the fortune telling business it is somewhat difficult to forecast the liquidity of assets in our portfolio at any moment in time but economic returns do have value to rational buyers. We have strong long term tenant leases in New York, Vegas and Florida. We believe those leases which come with substantial operating profit would be of greater value if sold to a rational buyer than the bid for the entire company which we rejected. Further we strongly believe that other assets held have promise to deliver additional shareholder value and the combination of these factors more than suggested that the proposed bid for our company was inadequate.

Operating profits from leases are not always depreciating values subject to discounting when real estate values and rents are relatively stable. In such an economic environment leases that come due can generally be extended at reasonable rents. But when commercial real estate pricing outperforms our ability to increase pricing for our products then a discount applied to operating profits is totally appropriate in assessing the value of leases to ownership. In the past two fiscal years lease terms offered by landlord/developers for renewal of several of our operations were decisively onerous which led us to shrink our portfolio. As we remain conservative it is increasingly difficult to find opportunities where rents fit our equation and allow

expansion of our portfolio with a favorable risk reward ratio. Despite our current losses at Clyde's the saving grace is an exceptionally favorable rent which allows us the time to work at it.

The reality of escalating market rents has altered our thought process and guided us to look at our business differently. We have proceeded on two new ventures that represent a rethinking of how we should proceed to add value. We have closed on a limited partnership in which we are an 11.6% partner for the operation of the New Meadowlands Racetrack in northern New Jersey. We did this with the expectation, not the certainty, that this location has an opportunity to be granted a casino license in the next several years. If a casino license is granted to this limited partnership our 11.6% partnership interest will likely be diluted as substantial additional capital will be needed for construction. However we strongly believe that this partnership interest will be of significant value. Also as a condition to our investment in the limited partnership we received exclusive rights to the food and beverage operations in the casino if it becomes a reality. This exclusive is subject to one exception. Hard Rock is also a partner in the venture and will operate a Hard Rock Café. The Limited Partnership has a favorable 40 year lease with the State of New Jersey and our leases for the casino's food and beverage operations will fit well within the parameters of our conservative thinking. In addition to the New Meadowlands Racetrack partnership we presently have a signed contract for the purchase of the Rustic Inn in Fort Lauderdale Florida. This has been a successful business for decades and comes with hard working and intelligent management. The purchase price includes the ownership of the land and buildings as well as the restaurant operation. We believe that the success of the Rustic Inn can be extended to other locations in the Florida market.

To the extent that we succeed in these ventures our future operating profits should be more reliable and not subject to the discounted valuations we face with shorter term leases. The lease at the racetrack with the State of New Jersey is of a longer term than any lease in our current portfolio. Owning the property of the Rustic Inn eliminates future renegotiation of lease terms. Obviously we are interested in securing more situations that give us longer term expectations. These will be hard to find but we have found two so I suspect there are more to come. We want to be working for the long term interest of our shareholders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Weinstein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Weinstein,  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

## **ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.**

### **Corporate Office**

Michael Weinstein, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Robert Stewart, President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer  
Vincent Pascal, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer  
Paul Gordon, Senior Vice President-Director of Las Vegas Operations  
Walter Rauscher, Vice President-Corporate Sales & Catering  
Nancy Alvarez, Controller  
Marilyn Guy, Director of Human Resources  
Jennifer Sutton, Director of Operations-Washington D.C.  
Donna McCarthy, Director of Operations – Atlantic City  
Scott Moon, Director of Catering-Washington D.C.  
Andrea O'Brien, Director of Tour and Travel  
John Oldweiler, Director of Purchasing  
Luis Gomes, Director of Purchasing – Las Vegas Operations  
Linda Clous, Director of Facilities Management  
Evyette Ortiz, Director of Marketing  
Veronica Mijelshon, Director of Architecture and Design  
Oona Cassidy, Counsel and Secretary  
Teresita Mendoza, Controller – Las Vegas Operations  
Craig Tribus, Director of Operations – Las Vegas Operations  
Welner Villatoro, Director of Maintenance – Las Vegas Operations  
Nicole Calix Coy, Director of Human Resources – Las Vegas Operations

### **Corporate Executive Chef**

David Waltuck

### **Executive Chefs**

Damien McEvoy, Las Vegas  
Sergio Soto, Atlantic City, NJ

### **Restaurant General Managers-New York**

Ruperto Ramirez, Canyon Road  
Dianne Ashe-Giovannone, El Rio Grande  
Donna Simms, Bryant Park Grill  
Ana Harris, Robert  
Jennifer Jordan, Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine  
Bridgeen Rice, Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine

### **Restaurant General Managers-Washington D.C.**

Bender Gamiao, Thunder Grill & Center Café  
Maurizio Reyes, Sequoia

### **Restaurant General Manager-Atlantic City, NJ**

Rosalina Iannucci, Gallagher's Steakhouse and Gallagher's Burger Bar

### **Restaurant General Managers-Las Vegas**

Charles Gerbino, Las Vegas Employee Dining Facility  
John Hausdorf, Las Vegas Room Service

**Restaurant General Managers-Las Vegas (continued)**

Geri Ohta, Director of Sales and Catering  
Kelly Rosas, America  
Mary Massa, Gonzalez y Gonzalez  
Craig Tribus, Gallagher's Steakhouse  
Ivonne Escobedo, Village Streets  
Jeff Stein, Broadway Burger Bar & Grill  
Fidencio Chavez, Venetian Food Court  
Christopher Waltrip, V-Bar  
Staci Green, Yolos Mexican Grill

**Restaurant General Manager-Boston**

Patricia Reyes, Durgin-Park

**Restaurant Chef-Boston**

Melicia Phillips, Durgin-Park

**Restaurant General Managers-Florida**

Darvin Prats, Tampa Food Court

**Restaurant General Manager-Foxwoods**

Matilda Santana, Manager of Connecticut Operations  
Keri House, The Grill at Two Trees

**Restaurant Chefs-New York**

Fermin Ramirez, El Rio Grande  
Ruperto Ramirez, Canyon Road Grill  
Gadi Weinreich, Bryant Park Grill  
Louisa Fernandez, Robert  
Armando Cortes, Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine

**Restaurant Chefs-Washington D.C.**

Michael Foo, Thunder Grill & Center Café  
Fanor Baldarrama, Sequoia

**Restaurant Chefs-Las Vegas**

Jerome Lingle, America  
Paul Savoy, Gallagher's Steakhouse  
Richard Harris, Banquets  
Steve Shoun, Las Vegas Employee Dining Facility  
Sergio Salazar, Gonzalez y Gonzalez  
Justin Vega, Yolos Mexican Grill  
Adam Payne, The Sporting House  
Bernard Camat, Broadway Burger Bar & Grill

**Restaurant Chefs-Florida**

Artemio Espinoza, Hollywood Food Court  
Nolberto Vernal, Tampa Food Court

**Restaurant Chef-Foxwoods**

Rosalio Fuentes, The Grill at Two Trees

## Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

### Overview

As of September 28, 2013, the Company owned and operated 20 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 fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 included 52 weeks.

#### *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 \$6,606,000 for the year ended September 28, 2013 decreased 33.9% compared to operating income of \$9,991,000 for the year ended September 29, 2012. This decrease resulted from a combination of factors including: (i) decreased traffic at our properties in Washington, DC due to poor weather and increased competition, (ii) increased competition and a decrease in the usage of complimentary services by the ownership of the casinos at our Florida properties, (iii) professional fees related to the unsolicited bid made for the Company by Landry's, (iv) the negative impact of additional competition without a corresponding increase in overall traffic in Las Vegas, (v) the closure of our properties Red and Sequoia located in New York, NY in October 2012 as a result of a hurricane, and (vi) early operating losses in the amount of \$100,000 at our new restaurant, *Broadway Burger Bar*, at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ, all partially offset by strong catering revenues in NY combined with a significant improvement in the performance of Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine, which opened in March 2012.

The following table summarizes the significant components of the Company's operating results for the years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively:

	Year Ended		Variance	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012	\$	%
	(in thousands)			
REVENUES:				
Food and beverage sales	\$ 129,122	\$ 136,914	\$ (7,792)	-5.7%
Other revenue	1,476	1,114	362	32.5%
Total revenues	<u>130,598</u>	<u>138,028</u>	<u>(7,430)</u>	<u>-5.4%</u>
COSTS AND EXPENSES:				
Food and beverage cost of sales	32,791	35,157	(2,366)	-6.7%
Payroll expenses	42,488	43,406	(918)	-2.1%
Occupancy expenses	17,533	17,702	(169)	-1.0%
Other operating costs and expenses	17,085	17,915	(830)	-4.6%
General and administrative expenses	9,792	9,368	424	4.5%
Impairment loss	-	379	(379)	-100.0%
Depreciation and amortization	4,303	4,110	193	4.7%
Total costs and expenses	<u>123,992</u>	<u>128,037</u>	<u>(4,045)</u>	<u>-3.2%</u>
OPERATING INCOME	<u>\$ 6,606</u>	<u>\$ 9,991</u>	<u>\$ (3,385)</u>	<u>-33.9%</u>

## Revenues

During the Company's year ended September 28, 2013, revenues decreased 5.4% compared to the year ended September 29, 2012. This decrease is primarily due to: (i) a net decrease in same store sales of \$3,827,000, as discussed below and (ii) the closure of our properties *Red* and *Sequoia* located in New York, NY in October 2012 as a result of Hurricane Sandy, partially offset by revenues related to our new restaurants in New York City, *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine* (opened in March 2012), and Atlantic City, NJ, *The Burger Bar and Grill* at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino (opened in June 2013).

### *Food and Beverage Same-Store Sales*

On a Company-wide basis, same store food and beverage sales decreased 3.0% for the year ended September 28, 2013 as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012 as follows:

	<b>Year Ended</b>		<b>Variance</b>	
	<b>September 28, 2013</b>	<b>September 29, 2012</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
	(in thousands)			
Las Vegas	\$ 55,100	\$ 57,150	\$ (2,050)	-3.6%
New York	31,413	29,128	2,285	7.8%
Washington, DC	14,744	16,506	(1,762)	-10.7%
Atlantic City, NJ	3,078	3,485	(407)	-11.7%
Boston	3,767	3,792	(25)	-0.7%
Connecticut	3,751	3,855	(104)	-2.7%
Florida	13,739	15,503	(1,764)	-11.4%
Same store sales	<u>125,592</u>	<u>129,419</u>	<u>\$ (3,827)</u>	<u>-3.0%</u>
Other	<u>3,530</u>	<u>7,495</u>		
Food and beverage sales	<u>\$ 129,122</u>	<u>\$ 136,914</u>		

Same store sales in Las Vegas decreased by 3.6% in fiscal 2013 compared to fiscal 2012 primarily as a result of the negative impact of additional competition without a corresponding increase in overall traffic. Same-store sales in New York (which exclude the Red and Sequoia properties as they were closed in October 2012) increased 7.8% as a result of strong catering revenues. Same-store sales in Washington, DC decreased 10.7% primarily as a result of decreased traffic due to poor weather as compared to last year and increased competition. Same-store sales in Atlantic City decreased 11.7% due to the continued decline in overall traffic in Atlantic City, NJ. Same-store sales in Boston were consistent from year to year as expected. Same-store sales in Connecticut decreased 2.7% due to declining traffic at the Foxwoods Resort and Casino where our properties are located. Same-store sales in Florida decreased 11.4% due to increased competition at one of our properties combined with 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.

Our restaurants generally do not achieve substantial increases in revenue from year to year, which we consider to be typical of the restaurant industry. To achieve significant increases in revenue or to replace revenue of restaurants that lose customer favor or which close because of lease expirations or other reasons, we would have to open additional restaurant facilities or expand existing restaurants. There can be no assurance that a restaurant will be successful after it is opened, particularly since in many instances we do not operate our new restaurants under a trade name currently used by us, thereby requiring new restaurants to establish their own identity.

### *Other Revenue*

The increase in Other Revenue for fiscal 2013 as compared to fiscal 2012 is primarily due to an increase in purchase service fees.

## Costs and Expenses

Costs and expenses from continuing operations for the years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 were as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended September 28, 2013		Year Ended September 29, 2012		Increase (Decrease)	
	\$	% to Total Revenues	\$	% to Total Revenues	\$	%
Food and beverage cost of sales	\$ 32,791	25.1%	\$ 35,157	25.5%	\$ (2,366)	-6.7%
Payroll expenses	42,488	32.5%	43,406	31.4%	(918)	-2.1%
Occupancy expenses	17,533	13.4%	17,702	12.8%	(169)	-1.0%
Other operating costs and expenses	17,085	13.1%	17,915	13.0%	(830)	-4.6%
General and administrative expenses	9,792	7.5%	9,368	6.8%	424	4.5%
Impairment loss from write-down of long-lived assets	-	0.0%	379	0.3%	(379)	-100.0%
Depreciation and amortization	4,303	3.3%	4,110	3.0%	193	4.7%
	<u>\$ 123,992</u>		<u>\$ 128,037</u>		<u>\$ (4,045)</u>	

Food and beverage costs as a percentage of total revenues for the year ended September 28, 2013 decreased as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012 as a result of improved menu costing partially offset by higher commodity prices.

Payroll expenses as a percentage of total revenues for the year ended September 28, 2013 increased as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012 due primarily to severance payments to employees of closed properties.

Occupancy expenses as a percentage of total revenues for the year ended September 28, 2013 increased as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012 as a result of lower sales at properties where rents are relatively fixed partially offset by a reduction in costs related to properties that were closed (as discussed above) due to flooding from Hurricane Sandy.

Other operating costs and expenses as a percentage of total revenues for the year ended September 28, 2013 remained static as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012. A slight decrease in total costs were the result of: (i) non-recurring expenses in the prior period associated with one of our properties, and (ii) a reduction in other operating costs and expenses related to properties that were closed (as discussed above) due to flooding from Hurricane Sandy, partially offset by losses related to the closure of the two properties in New York combined with expenses associated with the opening of *Clyde Frazier's Wine & Dine* in March 2012.

During the year ended September 29, 2012, the Company recorded a charge of \$379,000 to impair the leasehold improvements and equipment of an underperforming restaurant.

General and administrative expenses (which relate solely to the corporate office in New York City) as a percentage of total revenues for the year ended September 28, 2013 increased as compared to the year ended September 29, 2012 primarily as a result of share-based compensation and professional fees related to the unsolicited bid made for the Company by Landry's, Inc. partially offset by the inclusion of our former President's severance in the prior period in connection with his resignation in December 2011.

## **Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes reflects federal income taxes calculated on a consolidated basis and state and local income taxes which are calculated on a separate entity basis. Most of the restaurants we own or manage are owned or managed by a separate legal entity.

For state and local income tax purposes, certain losses incurred by a subsidiary may only be used to offset that subsidiary's income, with the exception of the restaurants operating in the District of Columbia. Accordingly, our overall effective tax rate has varied depending on the level of income and losses incurred at individual subsidiaries.

Our overall effective tax rate in the future will be affected by factors such as the level of losses incurred at our New York City facilities which cannot be consolidated for state and local tax purposes, pre-tax income earned outside of New York City and the utilization of state and local net operating loss carry forwards. Nevada has no state income tax and other states in which we operate have income tax rates substantially lower in comparison to New York. In order to utilize more effectively tax loss carry forwards at restaurants that were unprofitable, we have merged certain profitable subsidiaries with certain loss subsidiaries.

The Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 provides tax credits to us for FICA taxes paid on tip income of restaurant service personnel. The net benefit to us was \$531,000 and \$564,000 in fiscal 2013 and 2012, respectively.

## **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; however, in recent years, we have utilized bank and other borrowings to finance specific transactions.

Net cash flow provided by operating activities for the year ended September 28, 2013 was \$13,059,000, compared to \$13,423,000 for the prior year. This decrease was primarily attributable to the decrease in operating income as discussed above, partially offset by changes in net working capital.

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended September 28, 2013 was \$10,380,000 and resulted primarily from the purchases of fixed assets at existing restaurants, the construction of the *Broadway Burger Bar and Grill* in Atlantic City, NJ, the purchase of the Florida membership interests and the investment in New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC.

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended September 29, 2012 was \$5,862,000 and resulted from the purchases of fixed assets at existing restaurants and the construction of *Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine* in New York City offset by net proceeds from the sales of investment securities.

Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended September 28, 2013 of \$2,636,000 resulted from the payment of dividends, principal payments on notes payable and distributions to non-controlling interests offset by proceeds of \$3,000,000 from the issuance of a note payable to a bank.

Net cash used in financing activities for the year ended September 29, 2012 of \$6,636,000 was principally used for the payment of dividends, purchase of treasury stock and distributions to non-controlling interests.

The Company had a working capital surplus of \$306,000 at September 28, 2013 as compared to a working capital surplus of \$4,061,000 at September 29, 2012. We believe that our existing cash balances, cash provided by operations and availability of bank borrowings, as needed, will be sufficient to meet our liquidity and capital spending requirements at least through the next 12 months.

On December 28, 2012, April 4, 2013, July 2, 2013 and October 8, 2013, the Company paid quarterly cash dividends 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

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 was been paid as of September 29, 2012 and is included in Intangible Assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 29, 2012). Under the terms of the agreement, the owner of the property was to construct the facility at their expense and the Company was to pay the owner an annual fee based on sales, as defined in the agreement. As of September 28, 2013, the owner had not delivered the facility to the Company and the parties executed a promissory note for repayment of the \$1,000,000 exclusivity fee. The note bears interest at 4.0% per annum and is payable in 48 equal monthly installments of \$22,579, commencing on December 1, 2013.

### **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 contributed \$1,800,000 towards the construction of the property (which has been 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 and, as a result, the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012 includes approximately \$1,800,000 of pre-opening and operating losses related to this property.

On November 28, 2012, a subsidiary of the Company entered into an agreement to design and lease a restaurant at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. The cost to construct this restaurant was approximately \$1,500,000. The initial term of the lease for this facility expires June 7, 2023 and has two five-year renewals. The restaurant, *Broadway Burger Bar and Grill*, opened during the third quarter of fiscal 2013 and, as a result, the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 28, 2013 includes approximately \$100,000 of pre-opening and early operating losses related to this property.

On November 22, 2013, the Company, through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Ark Rustic Inn LLC, entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with W and O, Inc. to purchase the Rustic Inn Crab House, a restaurant and bar in Dania Beach, Florida, for \$7,500,000 plus inventory. The acquisition is scheduled to close on or before February 28, 2014, subject to satisfactory completion of due diligence, execution of employment and non-competition agreements, Florida Liquor Authority approval and customary closing conditions.

The opening of a new restaurant is invariably accompanied by substantial pre-opening expenses and early operating losses associated with the training of personnel, excess kitchen costs, costs of supervision and other expenses during the pre-opening period and during a post-opening "shake out" period until operations can be considered to be functioning normally. The amount of such pre-opening expenses and early operating losses can generally be expected to depend upon the size and complexity of the facility being opened.

Our restaurants generally do not achieve substantial increases in revenue from year to year, which we consider to be typical of the restaurant industry. To achieve significant increases in revenue or to replace revenue of restaurants that lose customer favor or which close because of lease expirations or other reasons, we would have to open additional restaurant facilities or expand existing restaurants. There can be no assurance that a restaurant will be successful after it is opened, particularly since in many instances we do not operate our new restaurants under a trade name currently used by us, thereby requiring new restaurants to establish their own identity.

We may take advantage of other opportunities we consider to be favorable, when they occur, depending upon the availability of financing and other factors.

## **Cost Method Investment**

On March 12, 2013, the Company made a \$4,200,000 investment in the New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC (“NMR”) through its purchase of a membership interest in Meadowlands Newmark, LLC, an existing member of NMR. In conjunction with this investment, the Company also entered into a long-term agreement with NMR to provide food and beverage services for the new racing facilities at the Meadowlands Racetrack in northern New Jersey. NMR has a long-term lease with the State of New Jersey and the new facility opened in November 2013. The Company’s agreement extends to any future development at the race track site. On November 19, 2013, the Company invested an additional \$464,000 in NMR through a purchase of an additional membership interest in Meadowlands Newmark, LLC, resulting in a total ownership of 11.6%.

## **Recent Restaurant Dispositions and Charges**

*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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012. 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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012.

*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. As a result, the Company recorded a disposal loss in the amount of \$270,000, which was recorded during the second quarter of fiscal 2012, as well as operating losses of \$155,000 for the year ended September 29, 2012, all of which are included in discontinued operations, net of tax, in the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012. Included in Net Income Attributable to Non-controlling Interests in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012 are losses of \$33,000 attributable to the limited partners in this property.

*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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 28, 2013.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

Our significant accounting policies are more fully described in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements. While all these significant accounting policies impact our financial condition and results of operations, we view certain of these policies as critical. Policies determined to be critical are those policies that have the most significant impact on our consolidated financial statements and require management to use a greater degree of judgment and estimates. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

We believe that given current facts and circumstances, it is unlikely that applying any other reasonable judgments or estimate methodologies would cause a material effect on our consolidated results of operations, financial position or cash flows for the periods presented in this report.

Below are listed certain policies that management believes are critical:

### *Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The accounting estimates that require our most difficult and subjective judgments include allowances for potential bad debts on receivables, inventories, the useful lives and recoverability of our assets, such as property and intangibles, fair values of financial instruments and share-based compensation, the realizable value of our tax assets and other matters. Because of the uncertainty in such estimates, actual results may differ from these estimates.

### *Long-Lived Assets*

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. In the evaluation of the fair value and future benefits of long-lived assets, we perform an analysis of the anticipated undiscounted future net cash flows of the related long-lived assets. If the carrying value of the related asset exceeds the undiscounted cash flows, the carrying value is reduced to its fair value. Various factors including estimated future sales growth and estimated profit margins are included in this analysis.

Management continually evaluates unfavorable cash flows, if any, related to underperforming restaurants. Periodically it is concluded that certain properties have become impaired based on their existing and anticipated future economic outlook in their respective markets. In such instances, we may impair assets to reduce their carrying values to fair values. Estimated fair values of impaired properties are based on comparable valuations, cash flows and/or management judgment. During the year ended September 29, 2012, the Company recorded a charge of \$379,000 to impair the leasehold improvements and equipment of an underperforming restaurant. No impairment charges were necessary for the year ended September 28, 2013.

### *Leases*

We recognize rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term, including option periods as described below. Within the provisions of certain leases there are escalations in payments over the base lease term, as well as renewal periods. The effects of the escalations have been reflected in rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term, which includes option periods when it is deemed to be reasonably assured that we would incur an economic penalty for not exercising the option. Percentage rent expense is generally based upon sales levels and is expensed as incurred. Certain leases include both base rent and percentage rent. We record rent expense on these leases based upon reasonably assured sales levels. The consolidated financial statements reflect the same lease terms for amortizing leasehold improvements as were used in calculating straight-line rent expense for each restaurant. Our judgments may produce materially different amounts of amortization and rent expense than would be reported if different lease terms were used.

### *Deferred Income Tax Valuation Allowance*

We provide such allowance due to uncertainty that some of the deferred tax amounts may not be realized. Certain items, such as state and local tax loss carryforwards, are dependent on future earnings or the availability of tax strategies. Future results could require an increase or decrease in the valuation allowance and a resulting adjustment to income in such period.

### *Goodwill and Trademarks*

Goodwill is recorded when the purchase price paid for an acquisition exceeds the estimated fair value of the net identified tangible and intangible assets acquired. Trademarks, which were acquired in connection with the *Durgin Park* acquisition, are considered to have an indefinite life. Goodwill and trademarks are not amortized, but are subject to impairment analysis at least once annually or more frequently upon the

occurrence of an event or when circumstances indicate that a reporting unit's carrying amount is greater than its fair value. At September 28, 2013, the Company performed both a qualitative and quantitative assessment of factors to determine whether further impairment testing is required. Based on the results of the work performed, the Company has concluded that no impairment loss was warranted at September 28, 2013. Qualitative factors considered in this assessment include industry and market considerations, overall financial performance and other relevant events, management expertise and stability at key positions. Additional impairment analyses at future dates may be performed to determine if indicators of impairment are present, and if so, such amount will be determined and the associated charge will be recorded to the Consolidated Statements of Income.

#### *Share-Based Compensation*

The Company measures share-based compensation cost at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and recognizes it as expense over the applicable vesting period using the straight-line method. Excess income tax benefits related to share-based compensation expense that must be recognized directly in equity are considered financing rather than operating cash flow activities.

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. During fiscal 2012, options to purchase 251,500 shares of common stock 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 Company did not grant any options during fiscal 2013. The Company generally issues new shares upon the exercise of employee stock options.

#### **Recent Developments**

On November 22, 2013, the Company, through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Ark Rustic Inn LLC, entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with W and O, Inc. to purchase the Rustic Inn Crab House, a restaurant and bar in Dania Beach, Florida, for \$7,500,000 plus inventory. The acquisition is scheduled to close on or before February 28, 2014, subject to satisfactory completion of due diligence, execution of employment and non-competition agreements, Florida Liquor Authority approval and customary closing conditions.

On November 19, 2013, the Company invested an additional \$464,000 in the New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC ("NMR") through a purchase of an additional membership interest in Meadowlands Newmark, LLC, an existing member of NMR, resulting in a total ownership of 11.6%.

On December 4, 2013, the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.25 per share on the Company's common stock to be paid on December 30, 2013 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 16, 2013.

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

See Notes 1 and 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of recent accounting pronouncements, including those adopted in 2013 and the expected dates of adoption and the anticipated impact on the Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### **Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Not applicable.

## Market For The Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

### Market for Our Common Stock

Our Common Stock, \$.01 par value, is traded in the over-the-counter market on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "ARKR". The high and low sale prices for our Common Stock from October 2, 2011 through September 28, 2013 are as follows:

<u>Calendar 2011</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Fourth Quarter	\$ 14.64	\$ 12.70
<u>Calendar 2012</u>		
First Quarter	16.40	13.30
Second Quarter	16.20	14.09
Third Quarter	16.85	14.13
Fourth Quarter	17.14	15.61
<u>Calendar 2013</u>		
First Quarter	21.64	16.77
Second Quarter	21.97	20.23
Third Quarter	22.25	20.05

### Dividend Policy

On December 7, 2011, March 7, 2012, May 29, 2012, September 4, 2012, November 29, 2012, March 6, 2013, June 12, 2013 and September 17, 2013 our Board of Directors declared quarterly cash dividends in the amount of \$0.25 per share. We intend to continue to pay such quarterly cash dividends for the foreseeable future; however, the payment of future dividends is at the discretion of our Board of Directors and is based on future earnings, cash flow, financial condition, capital requirements, changes in U.S. taxation and other relevant factors.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders  
Ark Restaurants Corp.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Ark Restaurants Corp. and Subsidiaries as of September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended September 28, 2013. Ark Restaurants Corp. and Subsidiaries' management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Ark Restaurants Corp. and Subsidiaries as of September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, and their consolidated results of operations and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended September 28, 2013 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ CohnReznick LLP

Jericho, New York  
December 23, 2013

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents (includes \$637 at September 28, 2013 and \$714 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	\$ 8,748	\$ 8,705
Short-term investments in available-for-sale securities	-	75
Accounts receivable (includes \$317 at September 28, 2013 and \$1,776 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	2,712	3,790
Employee receivables	346	339
Inventories (includes \$16 at September 28, 2013 and \$28 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	1,579	1,567
Prepaid and refundable income taxes (includes \$163 at September 28, 2013 and \$235 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	567	985
Prepaid expenses and other current assets (includes \$13 at September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	1,038	1,087
Current portion of note receivable	226	-
Total current assets	15,216	16,548
FIXED ASSETS - Net (includes \$89 at September 28, 2013 and \$3,189 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	25,017	26,194
NOTE RECEIVABLE, LESS CURRENT PORTION	774	-
INTANGIBLE ASSETS - Net	13	1,021
GOODWILL	4,813	4,813
TRADEMARKS	721	721
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES	4,806	4,960
OTHER ASSETS (includes \$71 at September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	5,098	907
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 56,458</b>	<b>\$ 55,164</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Accounts payable - trade (includes \$70 at September 28, 2013 and \$153 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	\$ 2,758	\$ 2,729
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities (includes \$140 at September 28, 2013 and \$1,950 at September 29, 2012 related to VIEs)	9,275	8,873
Dividend payable	814	-
Current portion of notes payable	2,063	885
Total current liabilities	14,910	12,487
OPERATING LEASE DEFERRED CREDIT	4,606	4,650
NOTES PAYABLE, LESS CURRENT PORTION	1,594	1,240
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>21,110</b>	<b>18,377</b>
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>		
<b>EQUITY:</b>		
Common stock, par value \$.01 per share - authorized, 10,000 shares; issued, 4,610 shares at September 28, 2013 and 4,601 shares at September 29, 2012; outstanding, 3,254 shares at September 28, 2013 and 3,245 shares at September 29, 2012	46	46
Additional paid-in capital	22,978	23,410
Retained earnings	22,950	22,372
	45,974	45,828
Less treasury stock, at cost, of 1,356 shares at September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012	(13,220)	(13,220)
Total Ark Restaurants Corp. shareholders' equity	32,754	32,608
NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS	2,594	4,179
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>35,348</b>	<b>36,787</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$ 56,458</b>	<b>\$ 55,164</b>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**  
(In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

	Year Ended	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
<b>REVENUES:</b>		
Food and beverage sales	\$ 129,122	\$ 136,914
Other revenue	1,476	1,114
Total revenues	<u>130,598</u>	<u>138,028</u>
<b>COSTS AND EXPENSES:</b>		
Food and beverage cost of sales	32,791	35,157
Payroll expenses	42,488	43,406
Occupancy expenses	17,533	17,702
Other operating costs and expenses	17,085	17,915
General and administrative expenses	9,792	9,368
Impairment loss from write-down of long-lived assets	-	379
Depreciation and amortization	4,303	4,110
Total costs and expenses	<u>123,992</u>	<u>128,037</u>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	<u>6,606</u>	<u>9,991</u>
<b>OTHER (INCOME) EXPENSE:</b>		
Interest expense	62	23
Interest income	-	(33)
Other income, net	(508)	(454)
Total other income, net	<u>(446)</u>	<u>(464)</u>
<b>INCOME BEFORE PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES</b>	7,052	10,455
Provision for income taxes	1,941	3,013
<b>INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>	5,111	7,442
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	-	(292)
<b>CONSOLIDATED NET INCOME</b>	5,111	7,150
Net income attributable to non-controlling interests	(1,286)	(1,661)
<b>NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.</b>	<u>\$ 3,825</u>	<u>\$ 5,489</u>
<b>AMOUNTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ARK RESTAURANTS CORP.:</b>		
Income from continuing operations	\$ 3,825	\$ 5,748
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	-	(259)
Net income	<u>\$ 3,825</u>	<u>\$ 5,489</u>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) PER ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. COMMON SHARE:</b>		
From continuing operations:		
Basic	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.75
Diluted	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.73
From discontinued operations:		
Basic	\$ -	\$ (0.08)
Diluted	\$ -	\$ (0.08)
From net income:		
Basic	\$ 1.18	\$ 1.67
Diluted	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.65
<b>WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:</b>		
Basic	3,246	3,292
Diluted	3,371	3,327

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
(In Thousands)

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	Year Ended	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
Consolidated net income	\$ 5,111	\$ 7,150
Other comprehensive loss, net of taxes:		
Unrealized loss on available-for-sale securities	-	(3)
Total other comprehensive loss, net of taxes	-	(3)
Comprehensive income	5,111	7,147
Comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests	(1,286)	(1,661)
Comprehensive income attributable to Ark Restaurants Corp.	<u>\$ 3,825</u>	<u>\$ 5,486</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 AND SEPTEMBER 29, 2012**  
(In Thousands)

	Common Stock Shares	Amount	Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	Stock Option Receivable	Treasury Stock	Total Ark Restaurants Corp. Shareholders' Equity	Non- controlling Interests	Total Equity
BALANCE - October 1, 2011	4,601	\$ 46	\$ 23,302	\$ 3	\$ 20,128	\$ (29)	\$ (10,095)	\$ 33,355	\$ 4,831	\$ 38,186
Net income	-	-	-	-	5,489	-	-	5,489	1,661	7,150
Unrealized loss on available-for-sale securities	-	-	-	(3)	-	-	-	(3)	-	(3)
Write-off of stock option receivable	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	29	-	29
Purchase of treasury stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,125)	(3,125)	-	(3,125)
Stock-based compensation	-	-	108	-	-	-	-	108	-	108
Distributions to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,313)	(2,313)
Payment of dividends - \$1.00 per share	-	-	-	-	(3,245)	-	-	(3,245)	-	(3,245)
BALANCE - September 29, 2012	4,601	46	23,410	-	22,372	-	(13,220)	32,608	4,179	36,787
Net income	-	-	-	-	3,825	-	-	3,825	1,286	5,111
Exercise of stock options	9	-	121	-	-	-	-	121	-	121
Tax benefit on exercise of stock options	-	-	44	-	-	-	-	44	-	44
Purchase of member interests in subsidiary	-	-	(2,685)	-	-	-	-	(2,685)	(280)	(2,965)
Tax benefit of purchase of member interests in subsidiary	-	-	1,080	-	-	-	-	1,080	-	1,080
Elimination of non-controlling interest in discontinued operation	-	-	691	-	-	-	-	691	(691)	-
Stock-based compensation	-	-	317	-	-	-	-	317	-	317
Distributions to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,900)	(1,900)
Paid and accrued dividends - \$1.00 per share	-	-	-	-	(3,247)	-	-	(3,247)	-	(3,247)
BALANCE - September 28, 2013	4,610	\$ 46	\$ 22,978	\$ -	\$ 22,950	\$ -	\$ (13,220)	\$ 32,754	\$ 2,594	\$ 35,348

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(In Thousands)

	Year Ended	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Consolidated net income	\$ 5,111	\$ 7,150
Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Impairment loss from write-down of long-lived assets	-	379
Write-off of notes receivable from former president	-	66
Loss on closure of restaurants	256	365
Loss on disposal of discontinued operation	-	270
Deferred income taxes	1,234	2,293
Stock-based compensation	317	108
Depreciation and amortization	4,303	4,110
Operating lease deferred charge (credit)	(44)	1,409
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	1,078	(112)
Inventories	(103)	(232)
Prepaid, refundable and accrued income taxes	418	(1,129)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(51)	(675)
Other assets	109	(14)
Accounts payable - trade	29	207
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	402	(772)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>13,059</u>	<u>13,423</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Purchases of fixed assets	(3,283)	(7,995)
Purchase of management rights	-	(400)
Loans and advances made to employees	(124)	(175)
Payments received on employee receivables	117	87
Purchase of member interests in subsidiary	(2,965)	-
Purchase of member interest in New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC	(4,200)	-
Purchases of investment securities	-	(441)
Proceeds from sales of investment securities	75	3,062
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(10,380)</u>	<u>(5,862)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of note payable	3,000	-
Principal payments on notes payable	(1,468)	(78)
Dividends paid	(2,433)	(3,245)
Proceeds from issuance of stock upon exercise of stock options	121	-
Excess tax benefits related to stock-based compensation	44	-
Purchase of treasury shares	-	(1,000)
Distributions to non-controlling interests	(1,900)	(2,313)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(2,636)</u>	<u>(6,636)</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	43	925
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning of year	8,705	7,780
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End of year	<u>\$ 8,748</u>	<u>\$ 8,705</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURES OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION:</b>		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 62	\$ 23
Income taxes	\$ 379	\$ 2,363
Non-cash investing activity:		
Note payable in connection with purchase of treasury shares	\$ -	\$ 2,125
Tax benefit of purchase of member interests in subsidiary	\$ 1,080	\$ -
Liquidation of non-controlling interest in discontinued operation	\$ 691	\$ -
Conversion of intangible asset to note receivable	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Non-cash financing activity:		
Accrued dividend	\$ 814	\$ -

**ARK RESTAURANTS CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**1. BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As of September 28, 2013, Ark Restaurants Corp. and Subsidiaries (the “Company”) owned and operated 20 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.

The Company operates five restaurants in New York City, three in Washington, D.C., seven in Las Vegas, Nevada, three in Atlantic City, New Jersey, one at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Connecticut and one in Boston, Massachusetts. The Las Vegas operations include five restaurants within the New York-New York Hotel & Casino Resort and operation of the hotel's room service, banquet facilities, employee dining room and six food court concepts; one bar within the Venetian Casino Resort as well as three food court concepts; and one restaurant within the Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino. In Atlantic City, New Jersey, the Company operates a restaurant and a bar in the Resorts Atlantic City Hotel and Casino and a restaurant and bar at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino. The operation at the Foxwoods Resort Casino consists of one fast food concept and a restaurant. In Boston, Massachusetts, the Company operates a restaurant in the Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The Florida operations under management include five fast food facilities in Tampa, Florida and seven fast food facilities in Hollywood, Florida, each at a Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.

**Basis of Presentation** — The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). The Company's reporting currency is the United States dollar.

**Accounting Period** — The Company’s fiscal year ends on the Saturday nearest September 30. The fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 included 52 weeks.

**Use of Estimates** — The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The accounting estimates that require management’s most difficult and subjective judgments include allowances for potential bad debts on receivables, inventories, the useful lives and recoverability of its assets, such as property and intangibles, fair values of financial instruments and share-based compensation, the realizable value of its tax assets and other matters. Because of the uncertainty in such estimates, actual results may differ from these estimates.

**Principles of Consolidation** — The consolidated 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 financial statements are certain variable interest entities (“VIEs”). All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

***Non-Controlling Interests*** — Non-controlling interests represent capital contributions, income and loss attributable to the shareholders of less than wholly-owned and consolidated entities.

***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 values of notes receivable and payable are 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 balance sheets.

***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 years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, the Company made purchases from one vendor that accounted for approximately 12% and 13%, respectively, of total purchases in each year.

***Accounts Receivable*** — Accounts receivable is primarily comprised of normal business receivables such as credit card receivables that are paid off in a short period of time and amounts due from the hotels operators where the Company has a location, and are recorded when the products or services have been delivered. The Company reviews the collectability of its receivables on an ongoing basis, and provides for an allowance when it considers the entity unable to meet its obligation.

***Inventories*** — Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out) or market, and consist of food and beverages, merchandise for sale and other supplies.

***Revenue Recognition*** — Company-owned restaurant sales are comprised almost entirely of food and beverage sales. The Company records revenue at the time of the purchase of products by customers. Included in Other Revenues are purchase service fees which represent commissions earned by a subsidiary of the Company for providing purchasing services to other restaurant groups.

The Company offers customers the opportunity to purchase gift certificates. At the time of purchase by the customer, the Company records a gift certificate liability for the face value of the certificate purchased. The Company recognizes the revenue and reduces the gift certificate liability when the certificate is redeemed. The Company does not reduce its recorded liability for potential non-use of purchased gift cards. The Company also issues

gift cards to service providers and to others for no consideration. Costs associated with these issuances are recognized at the time of redemption.

Additionally, the Company presents sales tax on a net basis in its consolidated financial statements.

**Fixed Assets** — Leasehold improvements and furniture, fixtures and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation of furniture, fixtures and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets (three to seven years). Amortization of improvements to leased properties is computed using the straight-line method based upon the initial term of the applicable lease or the estimated useful life of the improvements, whichever is less, and ranges from 5 to 30 years. For leases with renewal periods at the Company's option, if failure to exercise a renewal option imposes an economic penalty to the Company, management may determine at the inception of the lease that renewal is reasonably assured and include the renewal option period in the determination of appropriate estimated useful lives. Routine expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense when incurred. Major replacements and improvements are capitalized. Upon retirement or disposition of fixed assets, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any resulting gain or loss is recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

The Company includes in construction in progress improvements to restaurants that are under construction. Once the projects have been completed, the Company begins depreciating and amortizing the assets. Start-up costs incurred during the construction period of restaurants, including rental of premises, training and payroll, are expensed as incurred.

**Intangible Assets** — Intangible assets consist principally of purchased leasehold rights, operating rights and covenants not to compete. Costs associated with acquiring leases and subleases, principally purchased leasehold rights, and operating rights have been capitalized and are being amortized on the straight-line method based upon the initial terms of the applicable lease agreements, which range from 9 to 20 years. Covenants not to compete arising from restaurant acquisitions are amortized over the contractual period, typically five years.

**Long-lived Assets** — Long-lived assets, such as property, plant and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. In the evaluation of the fair value and future benefits of long-lived assets, the Company performs an analysis of the anticipated undiscounted future net cash flows of the related long-lived assets. If the carrying value of the related asset exceeds the undiscounted cash flows, the carrying value is reduced to its fair value. Various factors including estimated future sales growth and estimated profit margins are included in this analysis. No impairment charges were necessary for the year ended September 28, 2013. See Note 6 for a discussion of impairment charges for long-lived assets recorded in fiscal 2012.

**Goodwill and Trademarks** — Goodwill is recorded when the purchase price paid for an acquisition exceeds the estimated fair value of the net identified tangible and intangible assets acquired. Trademarks, which were acquired in connection with the *Durgin Park* acquisition, are considered to have an indefinite life. Goodwill and trademarks are not

amortized, but are subject to impairment analysis at least once annually or more frequently upon the occurrence of an event or when circumstances indicate that a reporting unit's carrying amount is greater than its fair value. At September 28, 2013, the Company performed both a qualitative and quantitative assessment of factors to determine whether further impairment testing is required. Based on the results of the work performed, the Company has concluded that no impairment loss was warranted at September 28, 2013. Qualitative factors considered in this assessment include industry and market considerations, overall financial performance and other relevant events, management expertise and stability at key positions. Additional impairment analyses at future dates may be performed to determine if indicators of impairment are present, and if so, such amount will be determined and the associated charge will be recorded to the Consolidated Statements of Income.

**Leases** — The Company recognizes rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term, including option periods as described below. Within the provisions of certain leases there are escalations in payments over the base lease term, as well as renewal periods. The effects of the escalations have been reflected in rent expense on a straight-line basis over the expected lease term, which includes option periods when it is deemed to be reasonably assured that the Company would incur an economic penalty for not exercising the option. Tenant allowances are included in the straight-line calculations and are being deferred over the lease term and reflected as a reduction in rent expense. Percentage rent expense is generally based upon sales levels and is expensed as incurred. Certain leases include both base rent and percentage rent. The Company records rent expense on these leases based upon reasonably assured sales levels. The consolidated financial statements reflect the same lease terms for amortizing leasehold improvements as were used in calculating straight-line rent expense for each restaurant. The judgments of the Company may produce materially different amounts of amortization and rent expense than would be reported if different lease terms were used.

**Occupancy Expenses** — Occupancy expenses include rent, rent taxes, real estate taxes, insurance and utility costs.

**Defined Contribution Plans** — The Company offers a defined contribution savings plan (the "Plan") to all of its full-time employees. Eligible employees may contribute pre-tax amounts to the Plan subject to the Internal Revenue Code limitations. Company contributions to the Plan are at the discretion of the Board of Directors. During the years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, the Company did not make any contributions to the Plan.

**Income Taxes** — Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method whereby deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for future tax consequences attributable to the temporary differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in the period that includes the enactment date. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

The Company has recorded a liability for unrecognized tax benefits resulting from tax positions taken, or expected to be taken, in an income tax return. It is the Company's policy to recognize interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as a component of

income tax expense. Uncertain tax positions are evaluated and adjusted as appropriate, while taking into account the progress of audits of various taxing jurisdictions.

Non-controlling interests relating to the income or loss of consolidated partnerships includes no provision for income taxes as any tax liability related thereto is the responsibility of the individual minority investors.

***Income Per Share of Common Stock*** — Basic net income per share is calculated on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during each period. Diluted net income per share reflects the additional dilutive effect of potentially dilutive shares (principally those arising from the assumed exercise of stock options).

***Share-based Compensation*** — The Company measures share-based compensation cost at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and recognizes it as expense over the applicable vesting period using the straight-line method. Upon exercise of options, excess income tax benefits related to share-based compensation expense that must be recognized directly in equity are considered financing rather than operating cash flow activities.

During fiscal 2012, options to purchase 251,500 shares of common stock were granted at an exercise price of \$14.40 per share 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. Such options had an aggregate grant date fair value of approximately \$646,000. The Company did not grant any options during the fiscal year 2013. The Company generally issues new shares upon the exercise of employee stock options.

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 the Company's 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 6.13% and an expected life of 6.25 years.

***New Accounting Standards Adopted in Fiscal 2013*** — In June 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the "FASB") issued new accounting guidance on the presentation of other comprehensive income. The new guidance eliminated the 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 became 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 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 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 revised standards are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013,

and interim periods within those annual periods are to be retrospectively applied. These amended standards may require additional footnote disclosures for these enhancements; however they will not affect our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

In February 2013, the FASB issued guidance for the recognition, measurement, and disclosure of obligations resulting from joint and several liability arrangements for which the total amount of the obligation is fixed at the reporting date, except for obligations addressed within existing guidance. This guidance is effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2014 and is required to be applied retrospectively to all prior periods presented for those obligations that existed upon adoption. The Company does not expect the adoption this guidance to have a significant impact on its consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In July 2013, the FASB issued new accounting guidance which requires entities to present unrecognized tax benefits as a reduction of a deferred tax asset for a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward, except to the extent the net operating loss carryforwards or tax credit carryforwards are not available to be used at the reporting date to settle additional income taxes, and the entity does not intend to use them for this purpose. The new accounting guidance is consistent with how the Company has historically accounted for unrecognized tax benefits, therefore the Company does not expect the adoption of this guidance to have a significant impact on its consolidated financial statements.

## **2. CONSOLIDATION OF VARIABLE INTEREST ENTITIES**

Upon adoption of the 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 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 year ended September 28, 2013, 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 \$1,079,591 representing the related deferred tax benefit of the transaction.

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. However, the Company continues to consolidate this entity as a result of its majority ownership. Accordingly, the following disclosures associated with the

Company's VIEs do not include Ark Hollywood/Tampa Investment, LLC as of September 28, 2013:

	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
	(in thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 637	\$ 714
Accounts receivable	317	1,776
Inventories	16	28
Prepaid income taxes	163	235
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	13	13
Due from Ark Restaurants Corp. and affiliates (1)	157	288
Fixed assets, net	89	3,189
Other long-term assets	71	71
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,463</u>	<u>\$ 6,314</u>
Accounts payable	\$ 70	\$ 153
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	140	1,950
Total liabilities	<u>210</u>	<u>2,103</u>
Equity of variable interest entities	1,253	4,211
Total liabilities and equity	<u>\$ 1,463</u>	<u>\$ 6,314</u>

(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 the Company's 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 the Company's 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 contributed \$1,800,000 towards the construction of the property (which has been 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 and, as a result, the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012 includes approximately \$1,800,000 of pre-opening and early operating losses related to this property.

On November 28, 2012, a subsidiary of the Company entered into an agreement to design and lease a restaurant at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. The cost to construct this restaurant was approximately \$1,500,000. The initial term of the lease for this facility expires June 7, 2023 and has two five-year renewals. The restaurant, *Broadway Burger Bar and Grill*, opened during the third quarter of fiscal 2013 and, as a result, the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 28, 2013 includes approximately \$100,000 of pre-opening and early operating losses related to this property.

#### 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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012. This lease expired 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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012.

**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. As a result, the Company recorded a disposal loss in the amount of \$270,000, which was recorded during the second quarter of fiscal 2012, as well as operating losses of \$155,000 for the year ended September 29, 2012, all of which are included in discontinued operations, net of tax, in the Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012. Included in the Net Income Loss Attributable to Non-controlling Interests in the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012 are losses of \$33,000 attributable to the limited partners in this property.

The results of discontinued operations were as follows:

	Year Ended	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
	(In thousands)	
Revenues	\$ -	\$ 910
Costs and expenses	-	1,335
Loss before income taxes	-	(425)
Income tax benefit	-	(133)
Net loss	\$ -	\$ (292)

**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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 28, 2013.

## 5. COST METHOD INVESTMENT

On March 12, 2013, the Company made a \$4,200,000 investment in the New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC (“NMR”) through its purchase of a membership interest in Meadowlands Newark, LLC, an existing member of NMR. In conjunction with this investment, the Company also entered into a long-term agreement with NMR to provide food and beverage services for the new racing facilities at the Meadowlands Racetrack in northern New Jersey. NMR has a long-term lease with the State of New Jersey and the new facility opened in November 2013. The Company’s agreement extends to any future development at the race track site.

This investment has been accounted for based on the cost method and is included in Other Assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet at September 28, 2013. The Company periodically reviews its investments for impairment. If the Company determines that an other-than-temporary impairment has occurred, it will write-down the investment to its fair value. No indication of impairment was noted as of September 28, 2013.

## 6. FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets consist of the following:

	<b>September 28, 2013</b>	<b>September 29, 2012</b>
	(In thousands)	
Leasehold improvements	\$ 41,987	\$ 41,028
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	33,249	34,161
	75,236	75,189
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	50,219	48,995
	<u>\$ 25,017</u>	<u>\$ 26,194</u>

Depreciation and amortization expense related to fixed assets for the years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 was \$4,295,000 and \$4,102,000, respectively.

Management continually evaluates unfavorable cash flows, if any, related to underperforming restaurants. Periodically it is concluded that certain properties have become impaired based on their existing and anticipated future economic outlook in their respective markets. In such instances, we may impair assets to reduce their carrying values to fair values. Estimated fair values of impaired properties are based on comparable valuations, cash flows and/or management judgment. During the year ended September 29, 2012, the Company recorded a charge of \$379,000 to impair the leasehold improvements and equipment of an underperforming restaurant. No impairment charges were necessary for the year ended September 28, 2013.

## 7. NOTE RECEIVABLE

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 was paid as of September 29, 2012 and is included in Intangible Assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheet as of September 29, 2012). Under the terms of the agreement the owner of the property was to construct the facility at their expense and the Company was to pay the owner an annual fee based on sales, as defined in the agreement. As of September 28, 2013, the owner had not delivered the facility to the Company and the parties executed a promissory note for repayment of the \$1,000,000 exclusivity fee. The note bears interest at 4.0% per annum and is payable in 48 equal monthly installments of \$22,579, commencing on December 1, 2013.

## 8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets consist of the following:

	<u>September 28, 2013</u>	<u>September 29, 2012</u>
	(In thousands)	
Purchased leasehold rights (a)	\$ 2,343	\$ 2,343
Operating rights (b)	-	1,000
Noncompete agreements and other	283	283
	<u>2,626</u>	<u>3,626</u>
Less accumulated amortization	<u>2,613</u>	<u>2,605</u>
Total intangible assets	<u><u>\$ 13</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,021</u></u>

(a) Purchased leasehold rights arose from acquiring leases and subleases of various restaurants.

(b) Amounts paid in connection with *Basketball City* agreement and converted to a note receivable in fiscal 2013 – see Note 7.

Amortization expense related to intangible assets for each of the years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 was \$8,000.

## 9. ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accrued expenses and other current liabilities consist of the following:

	<u>September 28,</u> <u>2013</u>	<u>September 29,</u> <u>2012</u>
	(In thousands)	
Sales tax payable	\$ 783	\$ 852
Accrued wages and payroll related costs	1,435	1,475
Customer advance deposits	3,356	2,811
Accrued occupancy, gift cards and other operating expenses	<u>3,701</u>	<u>3,735</u>
	<u>\$ 9,275</u>	<u>\$ 8,873</u>

## 10. NOTES PAYABLE

**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. 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. As of September 28, 2013, the outstanding note payable balance was approximately \$1,240,000.

**Bank** – On February 25, 2013, the Company issued a promissory note, secured by all assets of the Company, to a bank for \$3,000,000. The note bears interest at LIBOR plus 3.0% per annum, and is payable in 36 equal monthly installments of \$83,333, commencing on March 25, 2013. As of September 28, 2013, the outstanding balance of this note payable was approximately \$2,417,000. The agreement provides, among other things, that the Company meet minimum quarterly tangible net worth amounts, as defined, and minimum annual net income amounts, and contains customary representations, warranties and affirmative covenants. The agreement also contains customary negative covenants, subject to negotiated exceptions, on liens, relating to other indebtedness, capital expenditures, liens, affiliate transactions, disposal of assets and certain changes in ownership. The Company was in compliance with all debt covenants as of September 28, 2013.

As of September 28, 2013, the aggregate amounts of notes payable maturing in the next three years are as follows:

2014	\$ 2,063
2015	1,174
2016	<u>420</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,657</u>

## 11. 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.

As of September 28, 2013, future minimum lease payments under noncancelable leases are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Amount</b> (In thousands)
2014	\$ 8,289
2015	7,623
2016	7,056
2017	5,811
2018	3,929
Thereafter	<u>22,538</u>
Total minimum payments	<u>\$ 55,246</u>

In connection with certain of the leases included in the table above, the Company obtained and delivered irrevocable letters of credit in the aggregate amount of approximately \$388,000 as security deposits under such leases.

Rent expense from continuing operations was approximately \$14,117,000 and \$14,619,000 for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively. Contingent rentals, included in rent expense, were approximately \$4,811,000 and \$5,055,000 for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively.

**Legal Proceedings** — In the ordinary course 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.

## 12. 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 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. No options were granted during the fiscal year ended September 28, 2013.

The following table summarizes stock option activity under all plans:

	2013			2012		
	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding, beginning of year	648,100	\$ 19.56		396,600	\$ 22.82	
Options:						
Granted	-			251,500	\$ 14.40	
Exercised	(9,300)	\$ 13.11		-		
Canceled or expired	(15,700)	\$ 17.87		-		
Outstanding and expected to vest, end of year (a)	<u>623,100</u>	\$ 19.69	<u>\$3,264,802</u>	<u>648,100</u>	\$ 19.56	<u>\$ 1,415,116</u>
Exercisable, end of year (a)	<u>503,950</u>	\$ 20.95	<u>\$ 2,396,199</u>	<u>396,600</u>	\$ 22.82	<u>\$ 798,941</u>
Weighted average remaining contractual life	5.5 Years			6.5 Years		
Shares available for future grant	248,500			248,500		

(a) Options become exercisable at various times and expire at various dates through 2022.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding as of September 28, 2013 (shares in thousands):

Range of Exercise Prices	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable		
	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining contractual life (in years)	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining contractual life (in years)
\$12.04	158,300	\$ 12.04	5.6	158,300	\$ 12.04	5.6
\$14.40	238,300	\$ 14.40	8.7	119,150	\$ 14.40	8.7
\$29.60	136,500	\$ 29.60	1.2	136,500	\$ 29.60	1.2
\$32.15	90,000	\$ 32.15	3.2	90,000	\$ 32.15	3.2
	<u>623,100</u>	\$ 19.69	5.5	<u>503,950</u>	\$ 20.95	4.7

Compensation cost charged to operations for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 for share-based compensation programs was approximately \$317,000 and \$108,000, respectively. The compensation cost recognized is classified as a general and administrative expense in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

As of September 28, 2013, there was approximately \$221,000 of unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested stock options, which is expected to be recognized over a period of approximately one year.

### 13. INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes attributable to continuing operations consists of the following:

	Year Ended	
	September 28, 2013	September 29, 2012
	(In thousands)	
Current provision:		
Federal	\$ 518	\$ 469
State and local	188	251
	<u>706</u>	<u>720</u>
Deferred provision:		
Federal	984	3,140
State and local	251	(847)
	<u>1,235</u>	<u>2,293</u>
	<u>\$ 1,941</u>	<u>\$ 3,013</u>

The effective tax rate differs from the U.S. income tax rate as follows:

	<b>Year Ended</b>	
	<b>September 28, 2013</b>	<b>September 29, 2012</b>
	(In thousands)	
Provision at Federal statutory rate (34% in 2013 and 2012)	\$ 2,398	\$ 3,555
State and local income taxes, net of tax benefits	265	312
Tax credits	(531)	(565)
Income attributable to non-controlling interest	(437)	(576)
Other	246	287
	<u>\$ 1,941</u>	<u>\$ 3,013</u>

Deferred income taxes reflect the net effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting and tax purposes. Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	<b>September 28, 2013</b>	<b>September 29, 2012</b>
		(In thousands)
Long-term deferred tax assets (liabilities):		
State net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,357
Operating lease deferred credits	974	1,069
Depreciation and amortization	(464)	(358)
Deferred compensation	1,524	1,431
Partnership investments	(460)	(413)
Other	95	108
Total long-term deferred tax assets	5,334	5,194
Valuation allowance	(528)	(234)
Total net deferred tax assets	<u>\$ 4,806</u>	<u>\$ 4,960</u>

In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, Management considers whether it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income. The deferred tax valuation allowance of \$528,000 and \$234,000 as of September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively, was attributable to state and local net operating loss carryforwards which are not realizable on a more-likely-than-not basis.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits excluding interest and penalties is as follows:

	<u>September 28, 2013</u>	<u>September 29, 2012</u>
	(In thousands)	
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 209	\$ 209
Reductions due to settlements with taxing authorities	(31)	-
Reductions as a result of a lapse of the statute of limitations	(16)	-
Interest accrued during the current year	-	-
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 162</u>	<u>\$ 209</u>

The entire amount of unrecognized tax benefits if recognized would reduce our annual effective tax rate. As of September 28, 2013, the Company accrued approximately \$96,000 of interest and penalties. The Company does not expect its unrecognized tax benefits to change significantly over the next 12 months. Inherent uncertainties exist in estimates of tax contingencies due to changes in tax law, both legislated and concluded through the various jurisdictions' tax court systems.

The Company files tax returns in the U.S. and various state and local jurisdictions with varying statutes of limitations. An examination of the Company's Federal tax returns for the fiscal years 2008 and 2009 was recently completed by the Internal Revenue Service and did not result in a material adjustment to the Company's consolidated financial position or results of operations. The 2010, 2011 and 2012 fiscal years remain subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The 2009 through 2012 fiscal years generally remain subject to examination by most state and local tax authorities.

#### 14. OTHER INCOME

Other income consists of the following:

	<u>Year Ended</u>	
	<u>September 28, 2013</u>	<u>September 29, 2012</u>
	(In thousands)	
Video arcade sales	\$ 22	\$ 74
Other rentals	5	35
Insurance proceeds	393	325
Other	88	20
	<u>\$ 508</u>	<u>\$ 454</u>

## 15. INCOME PER SHARE OF COMMON STOCK

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of the basic and diluted per share computations for the fiscal years ended September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012 follows:

	<b>Net Income (Loss) Attributable to Ark Restaurants Corp. (Numerator)</b>	<b>Shares (Denominator)</b>	<b>Per Share Amount</b>
(In thousands, except per share amounts)			
<b>Year ended September 28, 2013</b>			
From continuing operations:			
Basic EPS	\$ 3,825	3,246	\$ 1.18
Stock options	-	125	(0.05)
	<u>3,825</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>1.13</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ 3,825</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>\$ 1.13</u>
From discontinued operations:			
Basic EPS	\$ -	3,246	\$ -
Stock options	-	125	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>-</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
From net income:			
Basic EPS	\$ 3,825	3,246	\$ 1.18
Stock options	-	125	(0.05)
	<u>3,825</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>1.13</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ 3,825</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>\$ 1.13</u>
<b>Year ended September 29, 2012</b>			
From continuing operations:			
Basic EPS	\$ 5,748	3,292	\$ 1.75
Stock options	-	35	(0.02)
	<u>5,748</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>1.73</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ 5,748</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>\$ 1.73</u>
From discontinued operations:			
Basic EPS	\$ (259)	3,292	\$ (0.08)
Stock options	-	35	-
	<u>(259)</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>(0.08)</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ (259)</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>\$ (0.08)</u>
From net income:			
Basic EPS	\$ 5,489	3,292	\$ 1.67
Stock options	-	35	(0.02)
	<u>5,489</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>1.65</u>
Diluted EPS	<u>\$ 5,489</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>\$ 1.65</u>

For the year ended September 28, 2013, options to purchase 158,300 shares of common stock at a price of \$12.04 and options to purchase 238,300 shares of common stock at a price of \$14.40 were included in diluted earnings per share. Options to purchase 136,500 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 would be anti-dilutive.

For the year ended September 29, 2012, options to purchase 166,100 shares of common stock at a price of \$12.04 and options to purchase 251,500 shares of common stock at a price of \$14.40 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 would be anti-dilutive.

## **16. 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 Statement of Income for the year ended September 29, 2012.

Receivables due from the former President, excluding stock option receivables, totaled \$37,000 at October 1, 2011. Such amount was forgiven during the year ended September 29, 2012 in connection with his resignation. Other employee loans totaled approximately \$346,000 and \$339,000 at September 28, 2013 and September 29, 2012, respectively. Such amounts are payable on demand and bear interest at the minimum statutory rate (0.16% at September 28, 2013 and 0.19% at September 29, 2012).

## **17. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

On November 22, 2013, the Company, through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Ark Rustic Inn LLC, entered into an Asset Purchase Agreement with W and O, Inc. to purchase the Rustic Inn Crab House, a restaurant and bar in Dania Beach, Florida, for \$7,500,000 plus inventory. The acquisition is scheduled to close on or before February 28, 2014, subject to satisfactory completion of due diligence, execution of employment and non-competition agreements, Florida Liquor Authority approval and customary closing conditions.

On November 19, 2013, the Company invested an additional \$464,000 in the New Meadowlands Racetrack LLC ("NMR") through a purchase of an additional membership interest in Meadowlands Newmark, LLC, an existing member of NMR, resulting in a total ownership of 11.6%.

On December 4, 2013, the Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.25 per share on the Company's common stock to be paid on December 30, 2013 to shareholders of record at the close of business on December 16, 2013.

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## **CORPORATE INFORMATION**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Michael Weinstein**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

**Robert J. Stewart**

President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

**Vincent Pascal**

Senior Vice President --- Chief Operating Officer

**Paul Gordon**

Senior Vice President --- Director of Las Vegas Operations

**Marcia Allen**

Chief Executive Officer, Allen & Associates

**Bruce R. Lewin**

Chairman and President, Continental Hosts, Ltd.

**Steve Shulman**

President, Managing Director, Hampton Group Inc.

**Arthur Stainman**

Senior Managing Director, First Manhattan Co.

**Stephen Novick**

Senior Advisor, Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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New York, NY 10003  
(212) 206-8800

### **AUDITORS**

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1212 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036

### **TRANSFER AGENT**

Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company  
17 Battery Place  
New York, NY 10004

