

**COBA Research Day 2018 – March 20th -Torian Auditorium from 10am-Noon
NASBITE 2018 International Student Case Competition -March 21th-23rd
Baltimore Maryland**

• **Amazon’s cashierless “Go” convenience store set to open**

Amazon Go, the online retailer’s cashierless convenience store, is slated to finally open to the public on Monday, after a yearlong delay during which the company trained the store’s algorithms to account properly for customers and their habits. The technology inside Amazon’s new convenience store enables a shopping experience like no other; “Grab and go” is the premise of Amazon’s new vision for grocery convenience stores. You walk in, pick up a few items, and walk out — all without standing in a checkout line or swiping your debit card.

Source: The Wall Street Journal/ Logistics News Jan 21, 2018

• **Closing of 63 Sam’s Club stores**

Wal-Mart announced that it would be closing 63 of its under-performing Sam’s Club stores at various locations throughout the country. While most of the news centered on the thousands of employees that would be affected by the decision, there’s also another significant group of people that will also be negatively impacted: hundreds, even thousands of local small businesses.

Source: The Washington Post Jan 15, 2018

• **Hospitals plan to produce generic drugs in bid to fix troubled market**

Four major U.S. hospital systems are planning to launch a nonprofit company to produce generic drugs, in what they called a bid to fix a market where soaring prices and shortages have hampered medical care. The firm will seek Food and Drug Administration approval to manufacture and market generic drugs. Hundreds of hospitals owned by Intermountain and its partners will be possible customers for the new drug company, but it will be open to others.

Source: The Wall Street Journal / Logistics News Jan 18, 2018

• **Canadian oil shippers appear to be on board the Keystone XL pipeline**

The oil companies are on board to ship 500,000 barrels a day for 20 years, creating new flows to Gulf Coast refineries and bolstering oil distribution channels roiled by changes in energy markets. The pipeline investment comes as oil transport across North America

has faded, hit by growing competition from natural gas and safety concerns arising from derailments in recent years. Carloads of petroleum products on U.S. railroads fell 12.2% last year, according to the Association of American Railroads, and a slight 0.7% year-over-year increases in December ended 31 straight months of declining traffic.

Source: The Wall Street Journal / Logistics News Jan 19, 2018

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