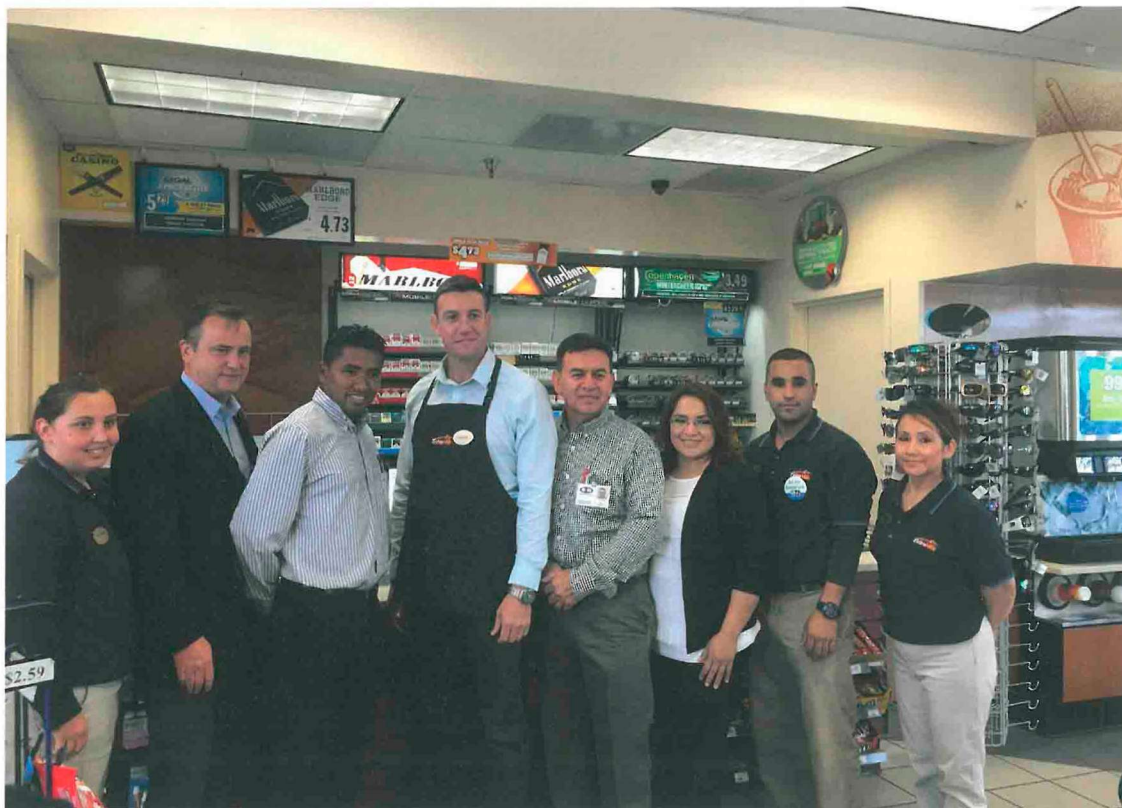


Inside Washington

BRINGING CONGRESS IN STORE

Successful NACS In Store program puts members of Congress behind the register and in front of their constituents.

BY ANNA READY



U.S. Representative Duncan Hunter (R-CA-50) visited a Chevron ExtraMile store, operated by G&M Oil Company in San Marcos, California. Hunter (center), wearing a name badge and apron, was eager to get behind the counter, acknowledging that whenever he stops to get gas, he always goes inside the store.

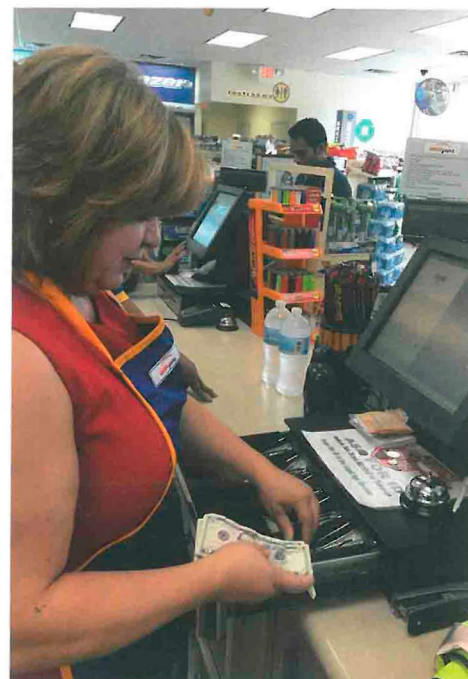
Last year, NACS launched an important new grassroots initiative – NACS In Store – to connect members of Congress with retailers in their home districts for a fully immersive convenience store experience. The In Store program has quickly become a key tool in NACS advocacy efforts. What better way to educate legislators about the

issues affecting our industry than to bring them *into* the store?

The In Store program goes beyond a store tour, giving a member of Congress a hands-on learning experience that includes We Card and employee training, working behind the register, assisting with food prep and even restocking shelves. Most members even dress the part and become a part of the team by wearing the host retailer's uniform shirt, apron and name badge. Throughout the



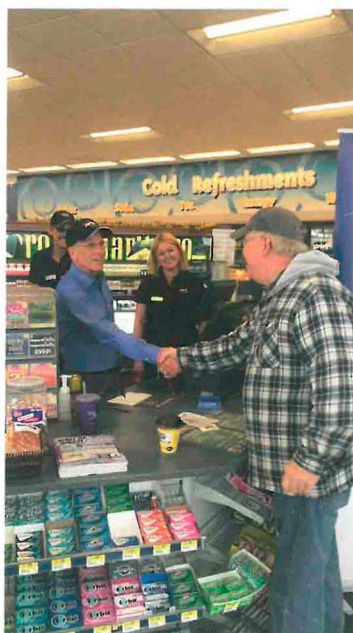
U.S. Representative Frank Guinta (R-NH-1) visited a Cumberland Farms store in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Guinta said that he is a Cumberland Farms regular and has the company's SmartPay mobile app on his phone — which he later used to purchase a cup of coffee. He assured us that his time at Cumberland Farms would help him more thoroughly consider future actions back on Capitol Hill.



U.S. Representative Linda Sanchez (D-CA-38) was fascinated by the extensive employee training at the South El Monte, California, J&T Management store. Sanchez commented that she spends a lot of time in convenience stores with all of the traveling she does. The store manager showed her how to work the register, which she picked up quickly. She even sold a lottery ticket to a customer!



U.S. Representative Mimi Walters (R-CA-45) visited a J&T Management store in Irvine, California. During the store tour, Walters conveyed that she is frustrated by all of the government regulations retailers face daily. She was especially impressed by the loyalty of employees after learning that one employee has worked in the convenience store industry for more than 30 years.



U.S. Representative Peter Welch (D-VT) visited his local Jiffy Mart, operated by Champlain Oil, in West Rutland, Vermont. At the cash register, Welch — a supporter of the Durbin Amendment and debit card reform — noted the high cost of credit and debit transactions and the burden it places on retailers. He also filled up his tank using his Jiffy Mart rewards card.



U.S. Representative Joe Heck (R-NV-3) visited a Green Valley Grocery store Henderson, Nevada. But this wasn't his first time working at a convenience store. Heck's first job was at a 7-Eleven when he was 14 years old. While working behind the counter, he proved to be a seasoned professional, even asking customers for their rewards card. Having been a part of the industry, Heck said he recognizes how regulations are a huge burden on convenience store owners.

Inside Washington



A Green Valley Grocery store in North Las Vegas, Nevada, hosted **U.S. Representative Cresent Hardy** (R-NV-4), who once worked in a service station digging holes for underground storage tanks. He was excited to spend the afternoon with the store employees and even presented them with a certificate of excellence, showing his appreciation for their well-run local business. After Hardy left, the Green Valley Grocery employees expressed they never knew how approachable a member of Congress could be!

experience, a retailer is able to develop their own personal anecdotes about the issues affecting our industry such as card fees, menu labeling, online gaming and data security.

This April and May, NACS facilitated seven events in New Hampshire, Vermont, California and Nevada.

To see where we are headed in June, July and August, stay connected with the NACS In Store team and follow us on Twitter: @NACSONline, @KellyFink_NACS, @CQuat_NACS using the #nacsinstore and #nacsgr hashtags. **NACS**

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NACSPAC was created in 1979 by NACS as the entity through which the association can legally contribute funds to political candidates supportive of our industry's issues. For more information about NACSPAC and how political action committees (PACs) work, go to nacsonline.com/nacspac or contact Political Engagement Manager Caroline Quat at cquat@nacsonline.com. NACSPAC contributors who made contributions from April 1-30, 2015:

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