



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

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Thorvig Named MGA Chairman

St. Paul, MN – The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) is pleased to announce Craig Thorvig of Chris' Food Center in Sandstone was named Chairman of the MGA. He took over the position on Aug. 1, 2010, from Kim Mackenthun of Mackenthun's Fine Foods in Waconia. Mackenthun was honored for his two-year term as chair at the MGA's Annual Convention in Brainerd, Minn., an event attended by more than 400 members of the food industry.

Thorvig is a second-generation independent grocer who operates Chris' Food Center, an institution in Sandstone for more than 30 years. He grew up in the grocery business and was once one of the MGA's Champion Best Baggers, a proud tradition at Chris' Food Center, which is home to ten state bagging champions.

He is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas with a degree in business finance. Craig was a partner in a commercial real estate firm before returning home in 2003 to take over the family business.

Craig has successfully met the challenges of our industry by keeping his store innovative while continually looking forward. He understands the key to success is dependability, consistency and integrity. He is a pillar of the community in Sandstone and has served on the MGA Board of Directors since 2004.

Thorvig's dedication to the vitality of the retail food industry and community service will be the cornerstone of his two year term as MGA Chairman. He is a strong advocate for the MGA's legislative agenda. Thorvig is committed to working with grocers across the state to educate elected officials on the critical role grocers play in the states economy, with a focus on the great careers the industry offers as well as the value of our community efforts. Thorvig will engage the support of all MGA industry partners to educate consumers in the areas of sustainability, food safety and social responsibility.

The MGA is a state trade association representing the food retail industry since 1897. We have over 200 retail members with nearly 1,100 stores statewide, as well as approximately 100 distributors and manufacturers. Our member companies employ over 122,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

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