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VIRGINIA'S NEWS LEADER

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Monday, October 14, 2024

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THIRD-PARTY DELIVERY SERVICES



MIKE KROPP, TIMES-DISPATCH

Javier Gonzalez, general manager at Casa Del Barco, packages a delivery order. Use of third-party food delivery services has skyrocketed since the pandemic, despite high costs associated with the services.

MEAL MARKUP\$

Adding up the costs for deliveries from Uber Eats, DoorDash

COLLEEN CURRAN
Richmond Times-Dispatch

At dinner time, it's easy to open a food delivery app like Uber Eats or DoorDash and presto! Dinner is at your door. All is well, until you check the bill. And you wonder how a \$10 order of a burger and fries suddenly became \$20. The service fees on food delivery apps really add up. You're not just paying a driver. You're paying a service fee for using the service. And a delivery fee. And a tip. And paying higher prices for the food than you would if you ordered it at the restaurant. Many food delivery apps charge restaurants a commission rate of 20% to 30% for using its services. Restaurants have to hike up their prices in order to recoup the commission costs. "It's a deeply flawed system. It used to be, if you wanted to order take-out, you'd go to your drawer with all the menus and order something from one of those restaurants. Now, you open the app and flip through that. And if your restaurant isn't on the app, (the consumer) isn't going to think about you,"

Please see PRICES, Page A9



VIEW: To watch a video where Colleen Curran discusses the high cost of convenience on food delivery apps, point your smartphone at the QR code then click the link. **NEWSVU**

\$\$\$

How third-party service fees add up

Many food delivery apps charge extra service fees and costs, which are passed onto customers. Here are three meals that show how those add up.

PICCOLA'S

Large cheese pizza:

UberEats.....	\$19
Delivery fee.....	\$2.49
Taxes and other fees...	\$6.34
21% tip for the driver..	\$5.86
Total.....	\$33.69

In-house delivery

Tax & fee	\$2.71
21% tip to the driver.....	\$3.72
Total.....	\$21.43

BEAUVINE BURGER CONCEPT

Beauvine burger:

UberEats	\$10.50
With delivery fee	\$3.49
Taxes & other fees.....	\$4.83
Suggested tip	\$5
Total	\$23.82

In-house order

Fees	\$3.12
Tax	\$1.29
Tip.....	\$3.41
Total	\$17.32

SHAKE SHACK

Double-burger and fries:

DoorDash	\$16.98
Delivery fee	\$1.99
Service fee.....	\$3
Tax	\$1.02
Dasher tip.....	\$4
Total	\$26.99

In-house order

Tax	\$1.45
Total	\$15.93

Thank you for shopping!!!

ELECTION 2024

Va. voter challenges rare to see

Not just anyone can see state voting list; process is regulated

DAVE RESS
Richmond Times-Dispatch

Back in 1891, a former Union Army captain named Henry De B. Clay, who worried that challenges had removed Black voters from the voter list for the 1st District in Newport News, asked the Warwick County registrar if he could copy the list. The registrar said no, and the Virginia Supreme Court said he was right to do so. Clay (not to be confused with Hanover County-born Henry Clay, who served as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives) was trying to prevent efforts like those reported this

Please see CHALLENGES, Page A2



MORE ONLINE:

Aim your smartphone camera at this code and tap the link to see our guide to voting in Virginia, with information about key races and early voting details. **NEWSVU**

MOBILE NEWSROOM Times-Dispatch Mobile Newsroom headed to Fulton

The Times-Dispatch Mobile Newsroom is traveling to Richmond's Fulton neighborhood. Journalists will be at the Neighborhood Resource Center of Greater Fulton, 1519 Williamsburg Road, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Residents are encouraged to stop by and share their story ideas with Times-Dispatch reporters Thad Green, Em Holter and Chelsea Jackson. And check back Tuesday for the first in our series of stories about the Fulton community. The Mobile Newsroom travels to different Richmond-area neighborhoods each month. Visit go.richmond.com/mobile-newsroomstories to see previous Mobile Newsroom stories.



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SpaceX pulls off bold test flight of enormous Starship rocket

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