

2022 Business Spotlight Review

S&A Liquor
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Here is a true American success story, going from rags to riches with determination, perseverance, strength, dedication, and a lot of hard work...to achieve the American dream!

Sahar Shamami is the owner of S&A Liquor. "Sahar" meaning (early morning), was born in her native country of Iraq in a small village called Telkeef. She grew up with a family of 4 brothers and 2 sisters.

In the year 1999, Sahar at the tender age of 20 decided she wanted a better life for herself and her son. She would travel for 2 years with Saevin across three middle Eastern & European countries to finally reach the United States in 2001. Coming over to the US, Sahar only knew her native language and did not know how to speak or read English, so she studied for her citizenship while going to school to get an education. In 2006 she would receive her GED Certificate and after waiting 9 long years, in 2010 Sahar would become a US Citizen.

Over the next few years between 2010 and 2012, Sahar would work many miscellaneous jobs which included working 6 nights a week as a cashier part-time at St. Clair Liquor and Manager at Sam's party store in Algonac. She would sacrifice family time to learn the party store business and develop her management & organizational skills. Sahar knew she had to be strong and educated to enter a tough man's world in the liquor business.

In 2014 Sahar, wanting her own business, was referred to her current location to purchase the old pharmacy store building. She worked with the previous owner and made a financial agreement. This would enable her with perfect timing and opportunity to purchase the building, products, and goods to sell to open her own Party Store. This was very satisfying to be able to justify all the tireless sacrifices!

On September 4th, 2014, S&A Liquor would open its doors for the first time. Wanting the store's name to have special meaning and a personal touch, Sahar named the store after her two precious boys, Saevin and Avery.

Today, S&A Liquor has been serving our St. Clair and surrounding communities for 8 years and offers fine wines, specialty liquor, beer, and exceptional merchandise to accommodate her client's needs!
Sahar has a unique way of connecting and relating with her customers, they call her the Sand Queen of St. Clair with her flair for designer wear!

She is gearing up for the summer of July's festivities by buying extra merchandise and plans on having a special raffle for the boat races. Also, be watching out for the life-size Snoop Dogg bobblehead coming soon and with a Corona purchase, you can take a selfie with the famous Rapper.

Sahar's future goal is to maintain her reputation & values, putting her boys first and setting a great example and environment for raising her boys into successful men.

Her personal dream and mission going forward are to remodel the store and expand with tasty food choices and unusual items to make the S&A Liquor store a must-stop and-see destination!

Bryan Ulatowski – President
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Kim Herndon – Administrative Assistant
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